

No. 703,984.

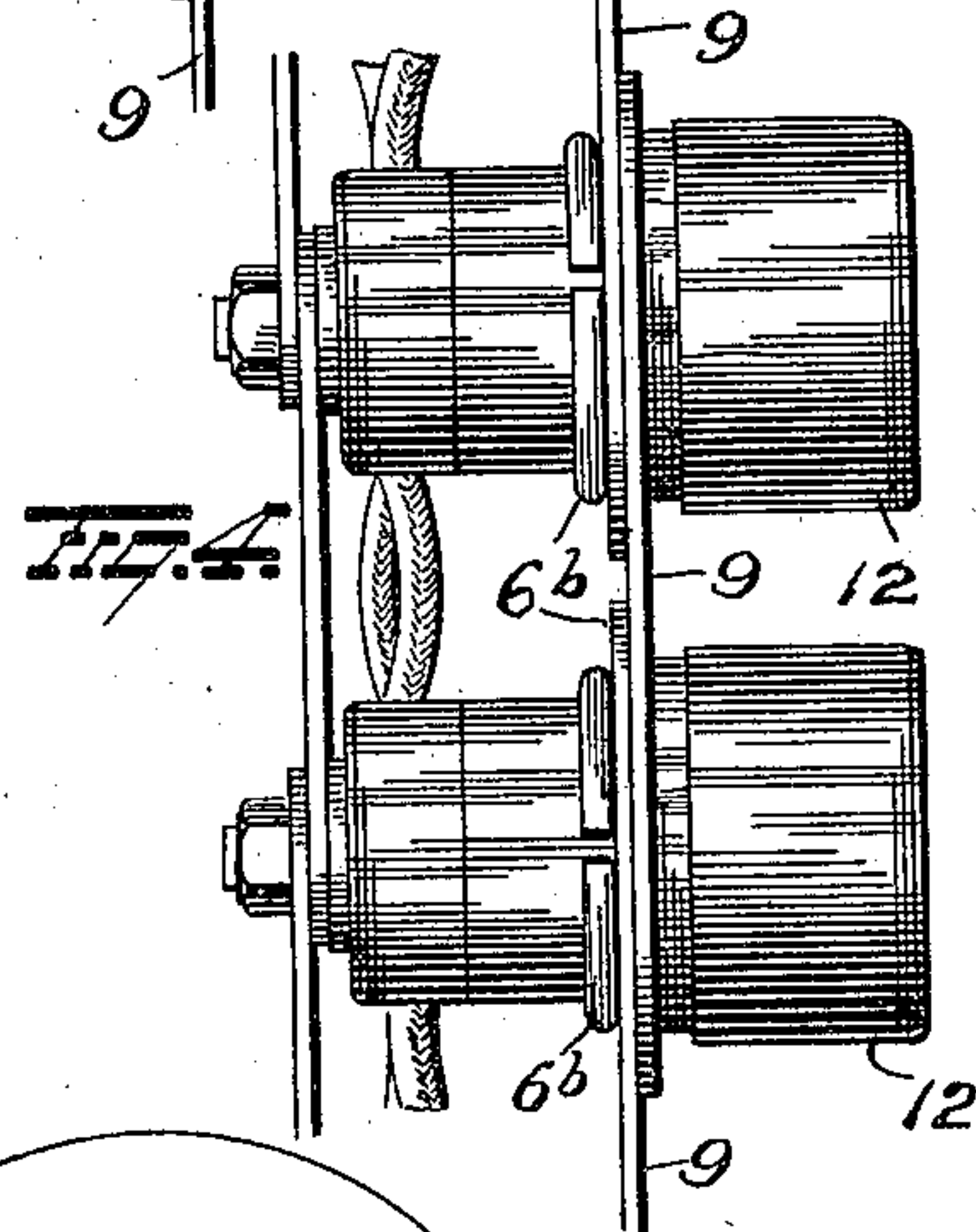
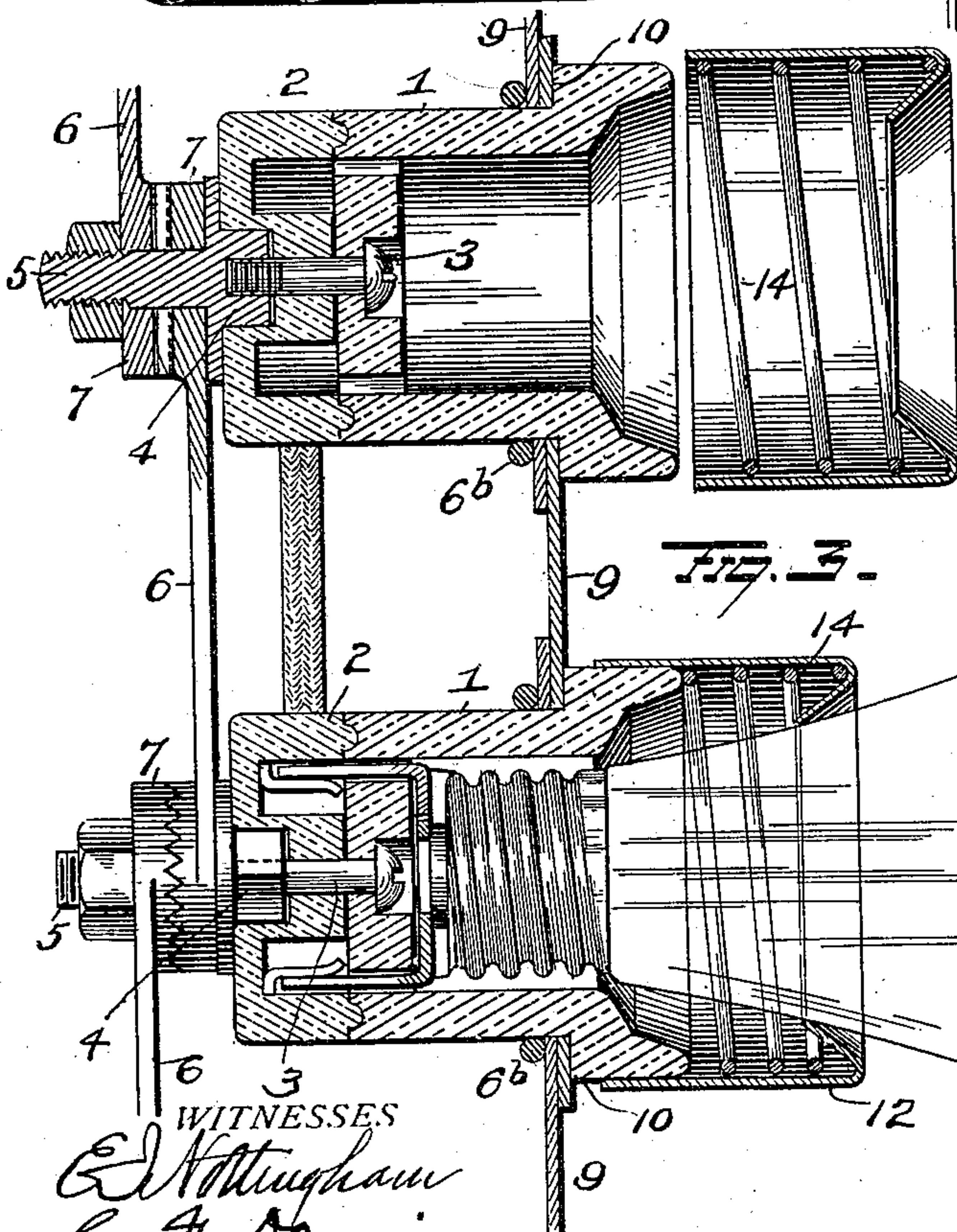
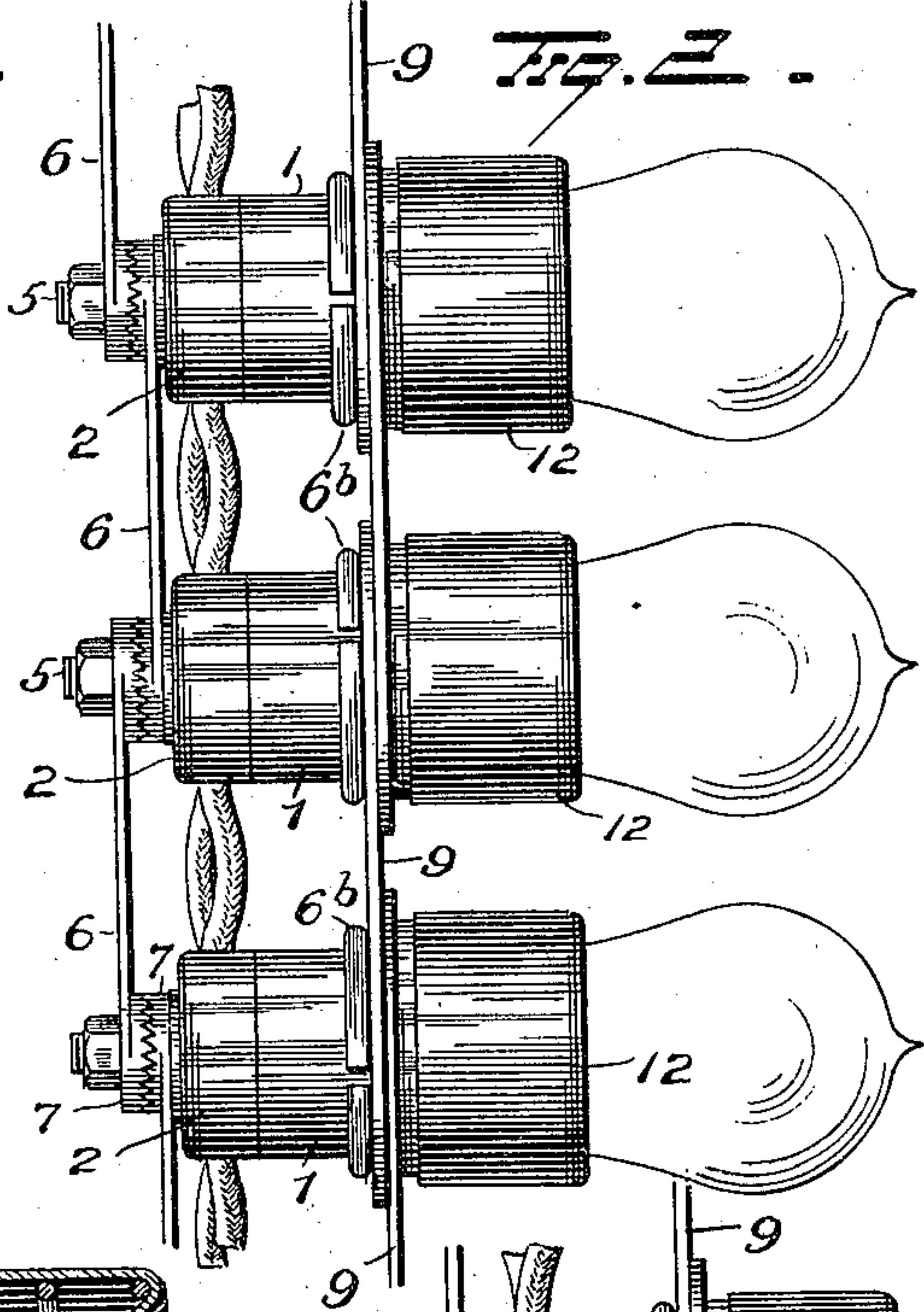
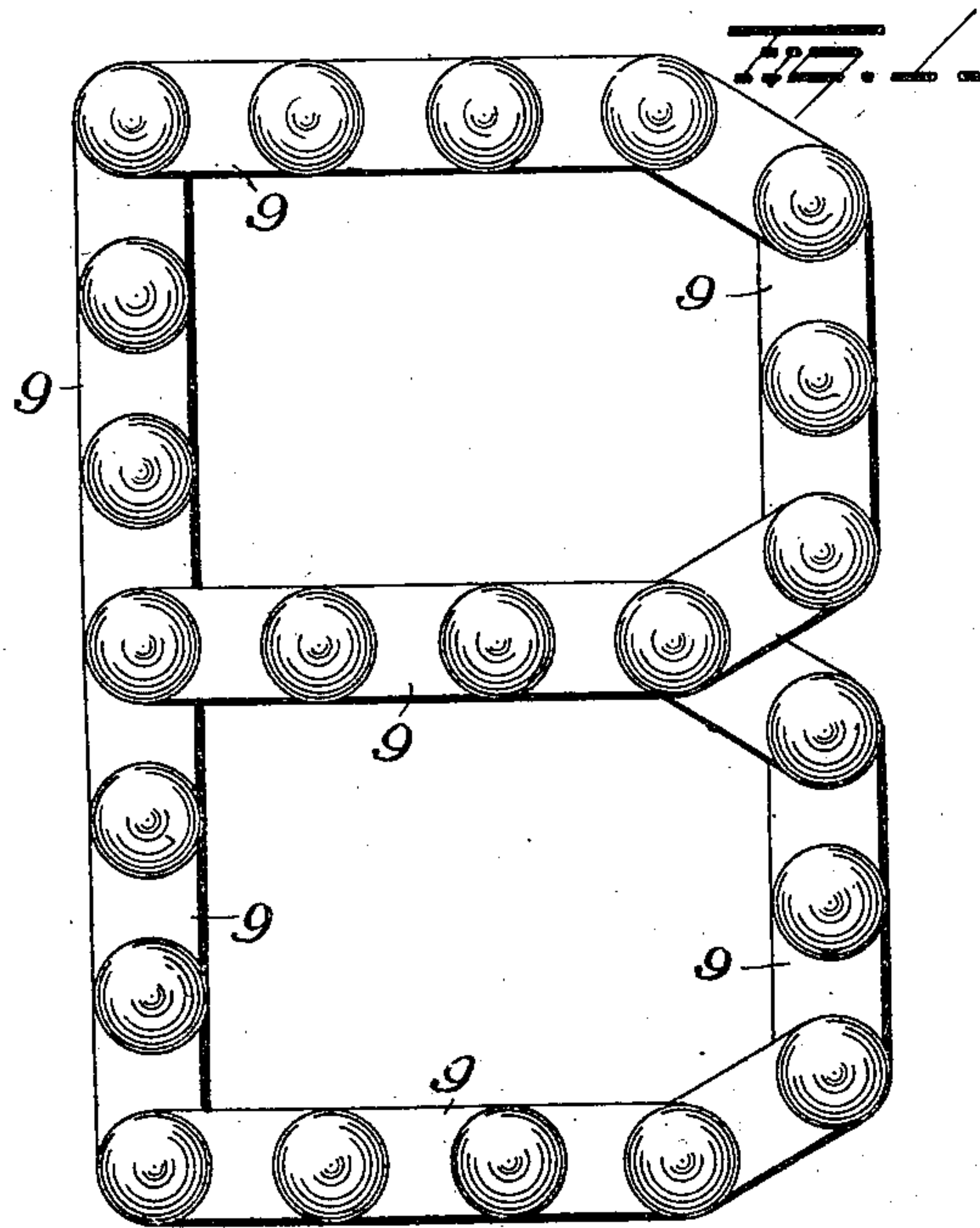
Patented July 8, 1902.

W. F. BREWSTER.

SUPPORTING DEVICE FOR ELECTRIC LAMPS.

(Application filed Dec 19, 1901.)

(No Model.)



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SUPPORTING DEVICE FOR ELECTRIC LAMPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 703,984, dated July 8, 1902.

Application filed December 19, 1901. Serial No. 86,554. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. BREWSTER, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain
5 new and useful Improvements in Supporting Devices for Electric Lamps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as
10 it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in supporting devices for electric lamps, the object being to provide suitable supporting devices for electric lamps which may be rear-
15 ranged at pleasure to permit of a change in the design formed by the group of lamps, combined with devices connected to the lamp-receptacles, and which present in daylight a neat and clearly-distinguishable outline of
20 the design or letter or group of letters formed by the series of lamps.

With these ends in view my invention consists in a series of lamp sockets or receptacles, adjustable connecting devices uniting
25 the several sockets, front strips or plates having polished, bright, or colored surfaces that will contrast with surrounding objects also connecting the several lamps and covering the connecting devices, and a guard or sleeve
30 surrounding the outer ends of the receptacles and also provided with bright, polished, or colored surfaces, whereby the complete outline of the design, word, or words will be clearly visible and distinguishable in the day-
35 light.

My invention further consists in the parts and combinations of parts, as will be more fully explained, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is
40 a view in elevation of a letter made up of a series of incandescent lamps and having my improvements applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation of same. Fig. 3 is a view in section through two lamps, showing
45 the manner of securing the lamp sockets or receptacles to the holders and the relative location of the flat strips to the said holder, and Fig. 4 is a similar view of a modification.

1 and 2 represent the two parts of the lamp
50 receptacle or socket, preferably made of porcelain and preferably mechanically united by the small screw 3, which latter passes through the base of part 1 of the receptacle,

through the part 2, and into a threaded opening in the head 4 of screw 5. The head of
55 this bolt 5 rests within a socket in the rear or outer face of part 2 of the receptacle or socket, with its screw-threaded shank or stem projecting therefrom for the attachment of the
60 supporting-links 6. These links are preferably flat, as shown, and of any desired length, and each is provided at its ends with an enlarged head, the enlargements of both heads projecting from the same side of the link in the
65 form of circular disks 7. The outer faces of these disks are toothed or serrated, so as to interlock with one another, and each is provided with a central aperture for the passage
70 of the bolts 5, which, as before stated, are firmly secured to the rear or outer face of the part 2 of the lamp receptacle or socket. The teeth of the disk 7 of one link 6 are adapted to mesh with the teeth of another link.
Hence when two disks are coupled up, as
75 shown in Fig. 3, and locked in position by a winged nut 8 on bolt 5 it will be seen that the links are held against the possibility of slipping on one another and a solid and firm support provided for the lamp-sockets. By
80 providing short links for connecting the lamps, that they can be assembled to form letters or words or even intricate designs, and by supporting the lamp receptacles or sockets at the junctures of the links the lamps also form a skeleton outline of the same design
85 as the supporting-links.

While I prefer to employ links having serrated interlocking heads to prevent the possibility of the links accidentally changing or
90 shifting their relative positions after having been once adjusted, I may employ plain flat links without serrations, as shown in Fig. 4, and in a great many instances such devices will be as effective as the serrated links and at the same time be decidedly less expensive
95 and lighter in weight.

One of the principal features of my invention is in the plates or strips supported by the several receptacles or sockets and covering and concealing the links and conductor
100 wires when the design is viewed from the front and presenting in the daylight the true and complete outline of the letter or design formed by the assembled lamps. These plates or strips 9 are preferably made of aluminium,
105 or they may be made of any suitable mate-

rial silvered, colored, enameled, burnished, or otherwise treated to present a contrasting surface with surrounding objects or one that can be readily seen at a distance and in the daylight, and each is provided near its ends with an opening of a size sufficient to receive the inner end of part 1 of the receptacle or socket, the said plate embracing said part between the shoulder 10, formed on part 1 of the receptacle, and the link 6 and held against displacement by these parts and also by the split rings 6^b, embracing the sockets behind the plate. With these plates or strips connecting all the lamps constituting the letter or design it will be seen that they will form a perfect outline of the entire letter or design when viewed from the front, thus rendering the design or sign nearly as prominent in the daytime as it is at night when illuminated. To still further assist in making the outline of the letter or design visible or prominent in the daytime, I provide the front end of each receptacle or socket with a sleeve or rain-guard, also preferably having a surface corresponding with that of the plate and preferably made of aluminium. These sleeves or rain-guards 12 are cylindrical in form and of a diameter sufficient to snugly embrace the outer exposed portions of the receptacles, and each is preferably punched or spun, so as to be without seam or joint, and is provided at its outer end with an inwardly-projecting depressed integral flange, which latter is adapted to engage the lamp near its neck and form, in effect, a reflector therefor. These guards are yieldingly held outwardly, with their flanges in contact with the lamps, by the springs 14, which latter bear at one end against said flanges and at their other ends against the outer faces of the receptacles or sockets and are retained in position on said receptacles by the lamps.

With a sign or design formed of a series of lamps supported by a frame made up of a series of short links and connected by the plates or strips and the exposed portions of the receptacles also covered by a sleeve forming a rain-guard I secure neat and plain letters or designs which are readily distinguishable in the daytime and which make the design as effective as an advertising medium in the daylight as well as when the lamps are illuminated.

It is evident that many slight changes might be made in the relative arrangements of parts herein shown and described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. Hence I would have it understood that I do not wish to confine myself to the exact construction of parts shown and described; but,

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles, and a series of separate adjustable receptacle-supporting devices connect-

ing said lamp-receptacles, of independent plates or strips also connecting the several receptacles and located in front of the adjustable connecting devices. 70

2. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles and a series of adjustable links connecting said receptacles, of independent plates or strips connecting the several receptacles and covering the links and wire conductors. 75

3. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles, and a series of adjustable links connecting said receptacles, of independent plates or strips connecting the several receptacles and covering the links and wire conductors, and sleeves over the outer ends of the receptacles. 80

4. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles, a series of flat links each having serrated ends and means for adjustably connecting the links to the receptacles, of plates connected to the several receptacles and covering and concealing said links from the front. 85 90

5. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles, a series of links and means for adjustably connecting the links to the receptacles, of plates supported by the receptacles in front of the links, and sleeves or guards covering the exposed front ends of the receptacles. 95

6. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles, a series of links, and means for adjustably connecting the links to the receptacles, of plates supported by the receptacles in front of the links, and spring-pressed sleeves or guards embracing the outer exposed ends of the receptacles. 100 105

7. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles, a series of links and means for adjustably connecting the links to the receptacles, of plates supported by the receptacles in front of the links, and spring-pressed sleeves or guards embracing the outer exposed ends of the receptacles, each sleeve or guard having an inwardly-projecting flange at its outer end. 110

8. The combination with a series of lamp-receptacles and a sectional and adjustable supporting-frame therefor, of a spring-pressed sleeve or guard embracing the outer end of each receptacle and provided at its outer end with an inwardly-projecting flange adapted to bear against the lamp. 115 120

9. The combination of a series of lamp-receptacles, a series of links each having interlocking serrated or toothed ends, and means connecting said links with the lamp-receptacles. 125

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM F. BREWSTER.

Witnesses:

W. L. MURRAY,

A. W. SEXTON, Jr.