

No. 704,757.

Patented July 15, 1902.

J. W. REYNOLDS.

DEVICE FOR DELIVERING MAIL POUCHES TO RAILWAY CARS.

(Application filed Jan. 14, 1902.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

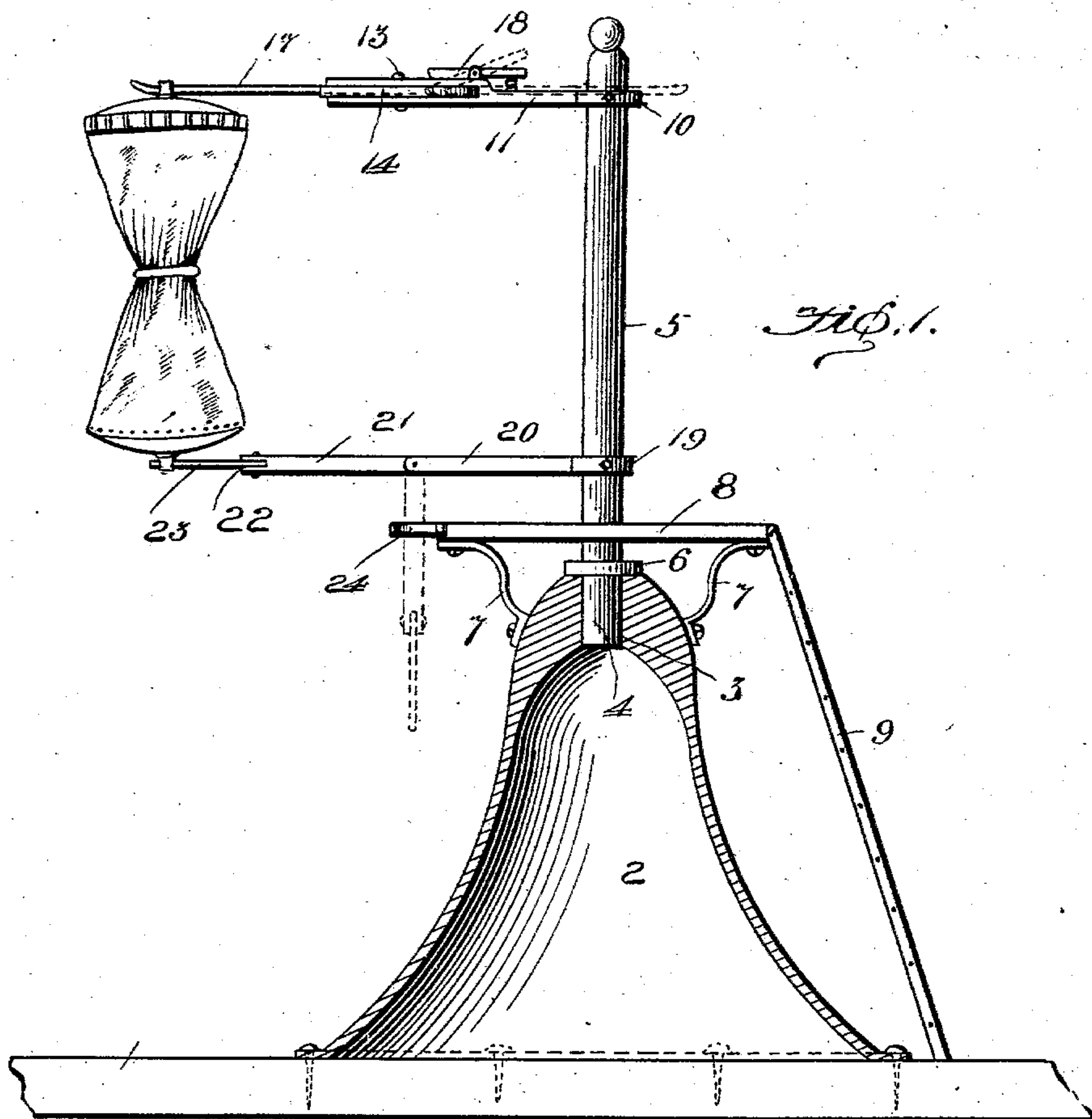


Fig. 1.

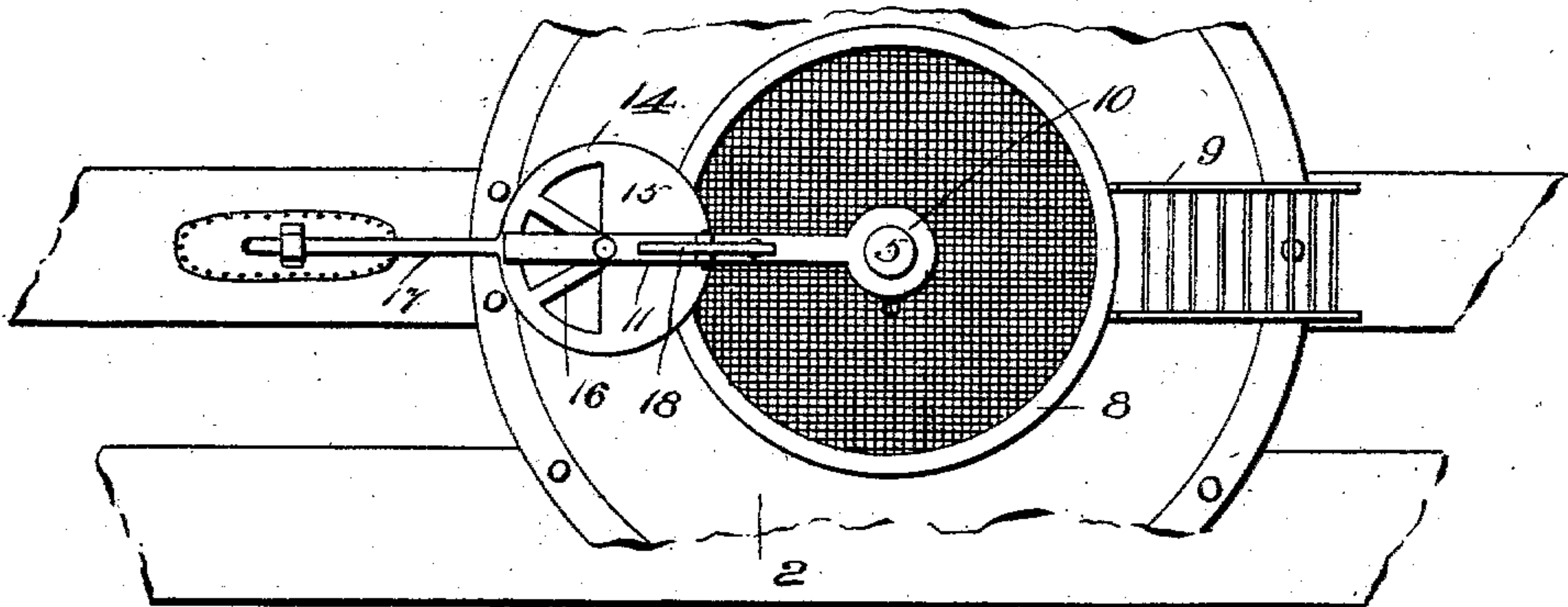


Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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Fig. 3.

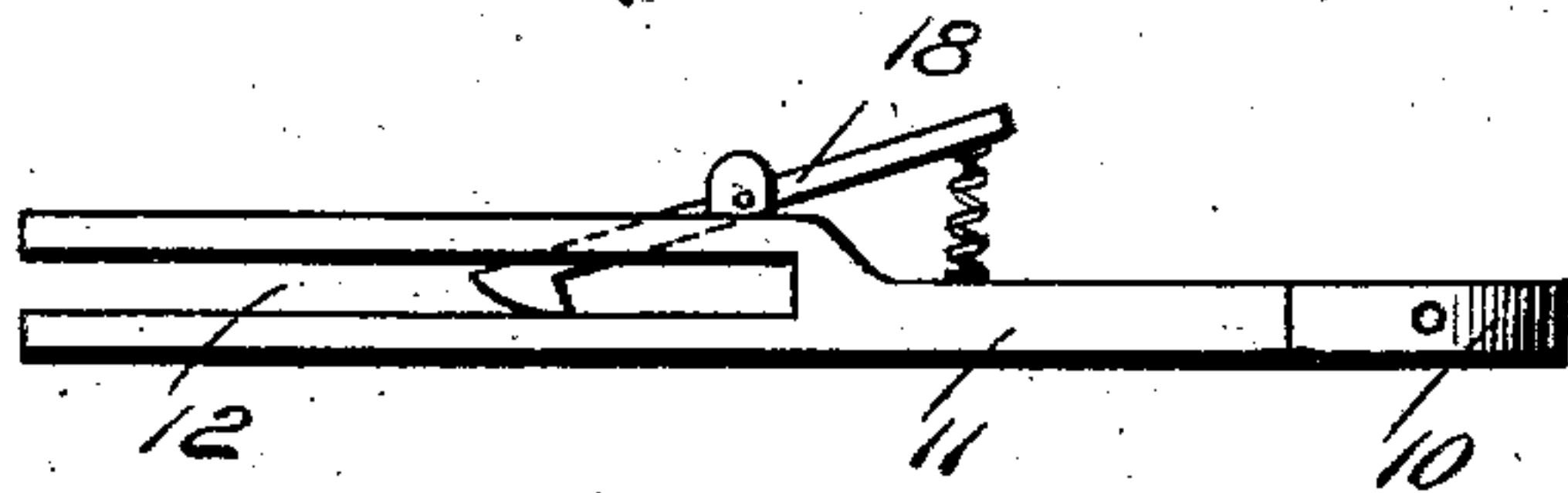


Fig. 4.

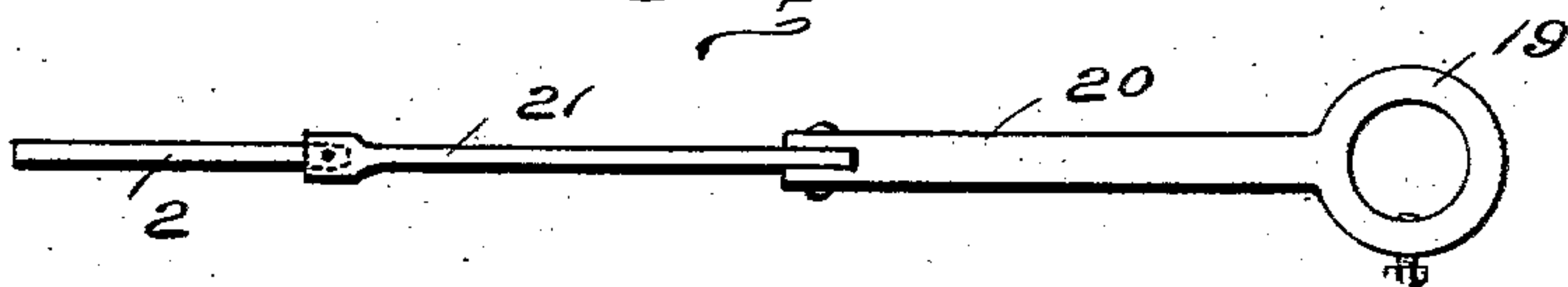


Fig. 5.

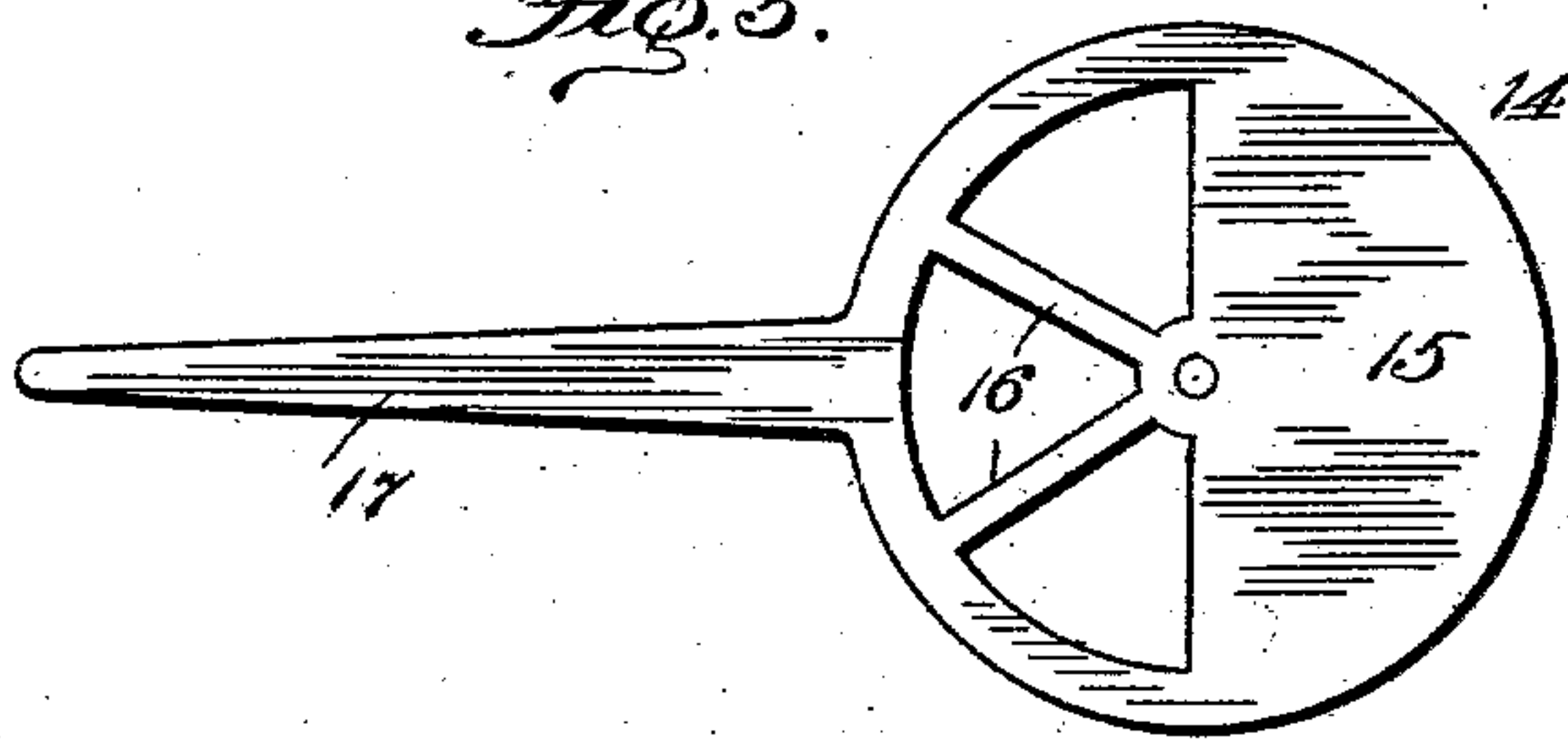
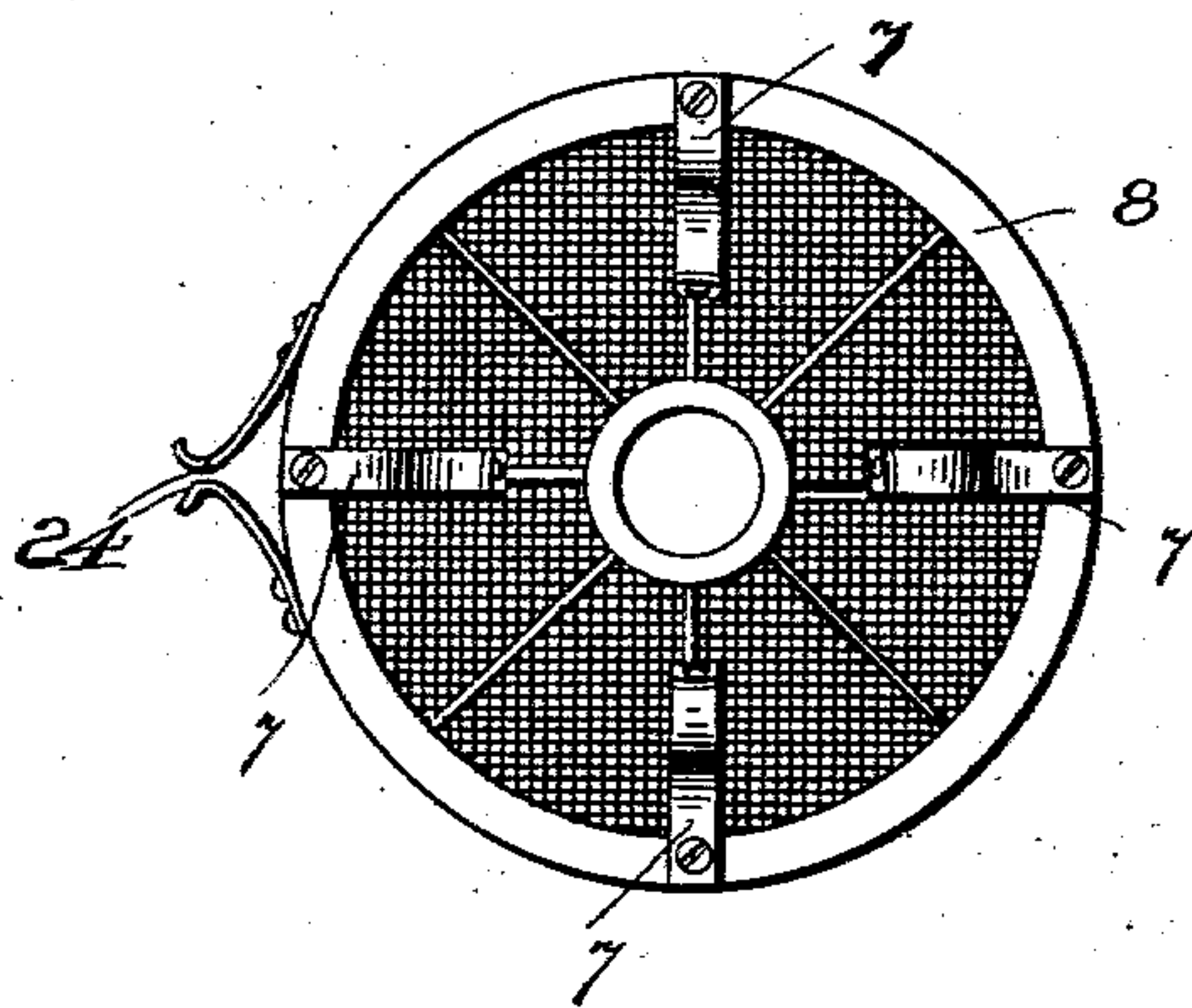


Fig. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. REYNOLDS, OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

## DEVICE FOR DELIVERING MAIL-POUCHES TO RAILWAY-CARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 704,757, dated July 15, 1902.

Application filed January 14, 1902. Serial No. 89,644. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES W. REYNOLDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Duval and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Delivering Mail-Pouches to Railway-Cars, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for delivering mail-pouches to railway-cars; and the main object of my invention is the provision of a device which is readily operated and which is more durable than the one now in use, thus producing one which is cheaper in the end and more practical.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a stationary standard upon which is mounted adjustably means for holding the mail-pouches, which are easily attached and detached from said holding means.

To attain the desired objects, the invention consists of a mail-pouch-holding apparatus embodying novel features of construction and combination of parts, substantially as disclosed herein.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the invention with a mail-pouch in position to be delivered, dotted lines denoting the position of the holding-arms after the pouch has been delivered. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the upper arm and its connections removed from operative position. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the lower arm. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the upper arm's pivotal end. Fig. 6 is a bottom plan view of the grated platform.

Referring by numerals to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates a cross-tie to which is connected the base of the hollow bell-shaped support or frame 2, which is cast from a single piece of metal, preferably. In the apex of the support is a vertical opening 3, in which is adapted to fit the lower end 4 of the vertical cylindrical metallic post 5, which is provided with the rim or bead 6 to prevent the entire post from entering the support. Connected to the bell-shaped support by means of the brackets 7, and also surrounding the post is the grated circular platform 8, which acts as an auxiliary steadying-support for the post. Leading from the platform to the ground is a

ladder 9, in order that a person may operate my invention. Mounted adjustably upon the upper end of the post, by means of a set-screw or other well-known clamping means, is a ring or band 10, carrying the upper dead arm 11, which is provided with the slotted end 12, in which is revolubly mounted, by means of the pin 13, the wheel or circular disk 14. This disk is provided with the half-solid portion 15 and the spokes 16 and also the upper live arm 17, upon which the upper end of the mail-pouch is hung. Mounted in the dead arm are the spring-actuated catches 18, which are adapted to engage the disk between its spokes as the live arm is swung around after delivering a mail-pouch. This is done to prevent the live arm from striking any of the cars after the mail-pouch is delivered. Mounted adjustably, by means of a set-screw, upon the post below the upper dead arm is a ring or band 19, which carries the lower stationary or dead arm 20, which is pivoted so as to have a vertical swinging movement upon its outer end, the lower pivoted or live arm 21, which is provided with the longitudinal slot 22 in its end, and pivoted in this slot so as to have a horizontally-swinging movement is trip-lever 23, which is adapted to engage the strap upon the lower end of the pouch and allow the pouch to be snatched from the crane and lessen the jar, so that the strain and wear and tear upon the strap are reduced. In order to hold the lower live arm out of the way of any moving object when not in use, I provide a spring-catch 24, secured to the outer periphery of the platform.

From the foregoing description the operation of my improved crane and means for holding and delivering a mail-pouch will be readily understood and its numerous advantages fully appreciated; but the operation, briefly stated, is as follows: The operator ascends the ladder to the grated platform, where he places the upper end of the pouch into engagement with the outer end of the upper live arm. The catch is then released and the live arm swung outward, carrying the pouch. The operator now descends to the ground, where he raises the lower live arm and connects its trip-lever with the lower end of the pouch, thus leaving the pouch in the proper position to be snatched by the passing



train. As the arm upon the mail-car engages the pouch both arms are moved slightly in the direction of the moving train, when the trip-lever releases the lower end of the pouch and the pouch is slid from off the end of the upper live arm. The lower live arm drops and is engaged by its spring-catches and is held out of the way, while the upper live arm continues in its movement until the spring-catches carried by its dead arm engage the disk by entering one of the spaces between the spokes, thus holding the upper live arm to one side and out of the way of any other moving train.

As the entire mechanism is made of metal, it will be seen that the parts will be very durable, and this continual repairing of the cranes, as I have noticed for many years, will be dispensed with.

It is evident that I provide a crane and mechanism for holding and delivering mail-pouches which are very simple, durable, and comparatively inexpensive, thus producing a thoroughly efficient and practical improvement.

What I claim is—

1. In combination with a suitable support, of a pair of vertically-adjustable dead arms arranged one above the other, a horizontally-swinging live arm carried by the upper dead arm, and a vertically-swinging live arm carried by the lower dead arm.

2. In combination with a suitable support, of an upper dead arm, a horizontally-swinging disk carrying an arm mounted in said dead arm, means for holding the same to either side carried by the dead arm, and a lower dead arm carrying a vertically-swinging live arm.

3. In combination with a support, of an upper dead arm, a horizontally-swinging live arm carried thereby, and a lower dead arm, having a vertically-swinging live arm, said live arm having a laterally-swinging trip-lever to engage the pouch.

4. In combination with a suitable support, of an upper dead arm, a horizontally-swinging disk carrying an arm mounted in said dead arm, means for holding the same to either side carried by the dead arm, a lower dead arm, a vertically-swinging live arm carried by said lower dead arm, and a laterally-swinging trip-lever carried by said lower live arm.

5. In combination with a bell-shaped base and a vertical post, of a pair of vertically-adjustable dead arms arranged one above the other, a horizontally-swinging live arm carried by the upper dead arm, and a vertically-swinging live arm carried by the lower dead arm.

6. In combination with a bell-shaped base and a vertical post, of an upper dead arm mounted on the post, a horizontally-swinging disk carrying an arm mounted in said dead arm, means for holding the same to either side carried by the dead arm, a lower dead arm

mounted upon the post, and a vertically-swinging live arm carried by said lower dead arm.

7. In combination with a bell-shaped base and a vertical post, of an upper dead arm, a horizontally-swinging live arm carried thereby, a lower dead arm mounted on the post, a vertically-swinging live arm carried by the lower dead arm, and a laterally-swinging trip-lever carried by said lower live arm.

8. In combination with a bell-shaped base and a vertical post, of an upper dead arm, a horizontally-swinging disk carrying an arm mounted in said dead arm, means for holding the same to either side carried by the dead arm, a lower dead arm, a vertically-swinging live arm carried by said lower dead arm, and a laterally-swinging trip-lever carried by said lower live arm.

9. In combination with a bell-shaped base, a vertical post mounted therein, a platform surrounding said post, and brackets to secure the platform to the base and brace the post, of vertically-adjustable dead arms mounted upon said post, and swinging live arms carried by said dead arms for holding and delivering the mail-pouch.

10. In combination with a bell-shaped base, a vertical post mounted therein, a platform surrounding said post, and brackets to secure the platform to the base and brace the post, of a pair of vertically-adjustable dead arms arranged one above the other on the post, a horizontally-swinging live arm carried by the upper dead arm, and a vertically-swinging live arm carried by the lower dead arm.

11. In combination with a bell-shaped base, a vertical post mounted therein, a platform surrounding said post, and brackets to secure the platform to the base and brace the post, of an upper dead arm mounted on the post, a horizontally-swinging disk carrying an arm mounted in said dead arm, a lower dead arm mounted upon the post, and a vertically-swinging arm carried by said lower dead arm.

12. In combination with a bell-shaped base, a vertical post mounted therein, a platform surrounding the post, and brackets to secure the platform to the base and brace the post, of an upper dead arm mounted on the post, a horizontally-swinging live arm carried thereby, a lower dead arm mounted on the post, a vertically-swinging live arm carried by the lower dead-arm, and a laterally-swinging trip-lever carried by said lower arm.

13. In combination with a bell-shaped base, a vertical post mounted therein, a platform surrounding said post, and brackets to secure the platform to the base and brace the post, of an upper dead arm mounted on the post, a horizontally-swinging disk carrying an arm mounted in said dead arm, a lower dead arm, a vertically-swinging live arm carried by said lower dead arm, and a laterally-swinging trip-lever carried by said lower live arm.

14. In combination with a bell-shaped base, a vertical post mounted therein, a platform



5 surrounding said base, means to connect the platform and base and brace the post, and a spring-catch carried upon the forward part of the platform, of an upper dead arm carried by said post, a swinging live arm connected thereto, spring-catches for holding the live arm out of use, a lower dead arm mounted on the post, and a swinging live arm carried by the lower dead arm and adapted to be en-

gaged by the spring-catch of the platform so when the live arm is out of use.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES W. REYNOLDS.

Witnesses:

J. DOUGLAS WETMORE,  
GOOD L. FORRIS.