No. 709,462. Patented Sept. 23, 1902.

E. BOLLINGER.

MERRY-GO-ROUND.

(Application filed Feb. 17, 1902.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

FIG. 1.

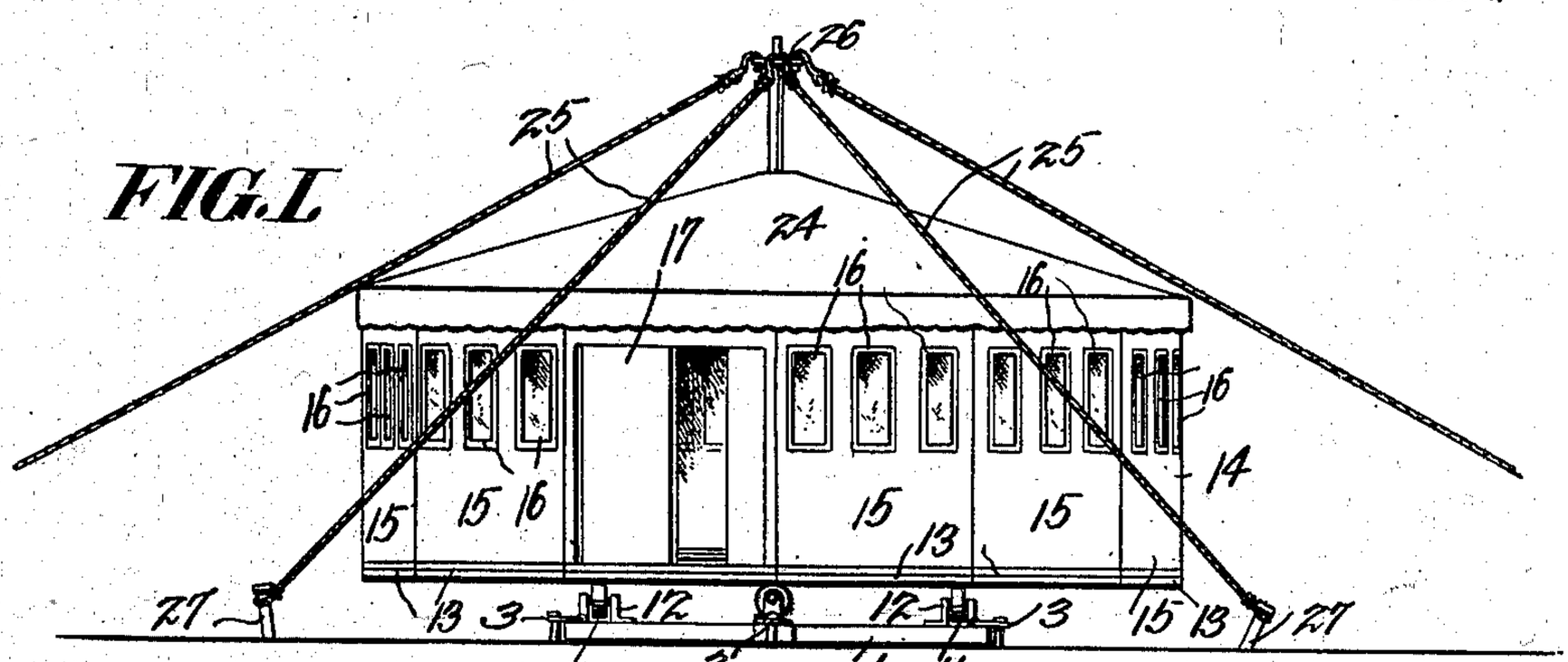
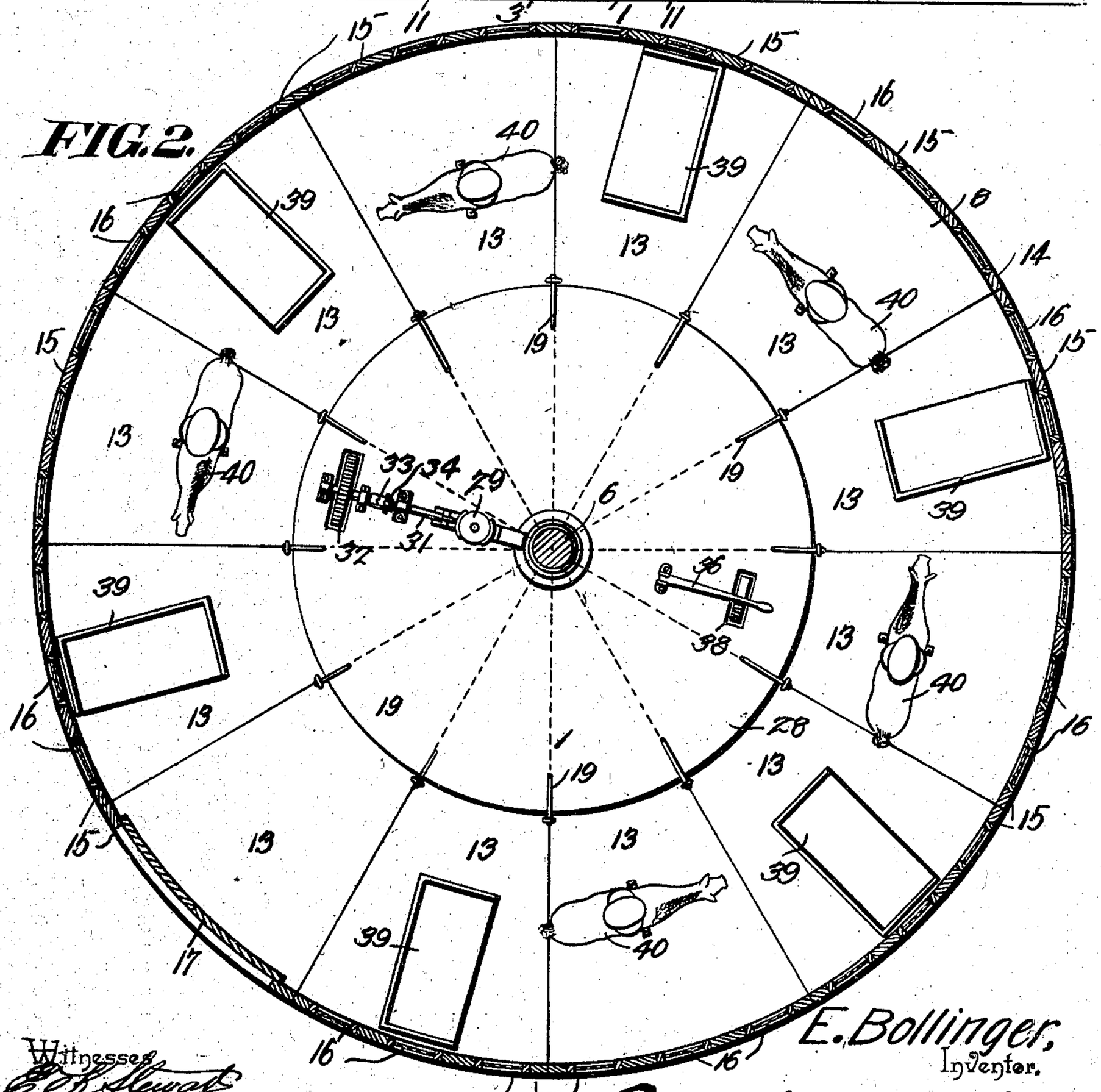


FIG. 2.



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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

FIG. 5.

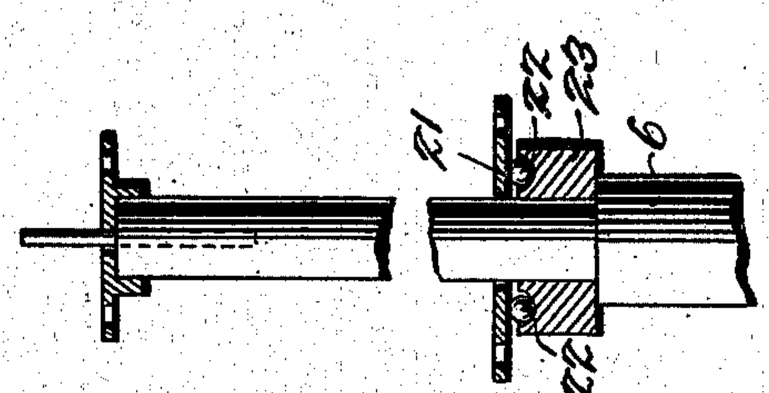


FIG. 3.

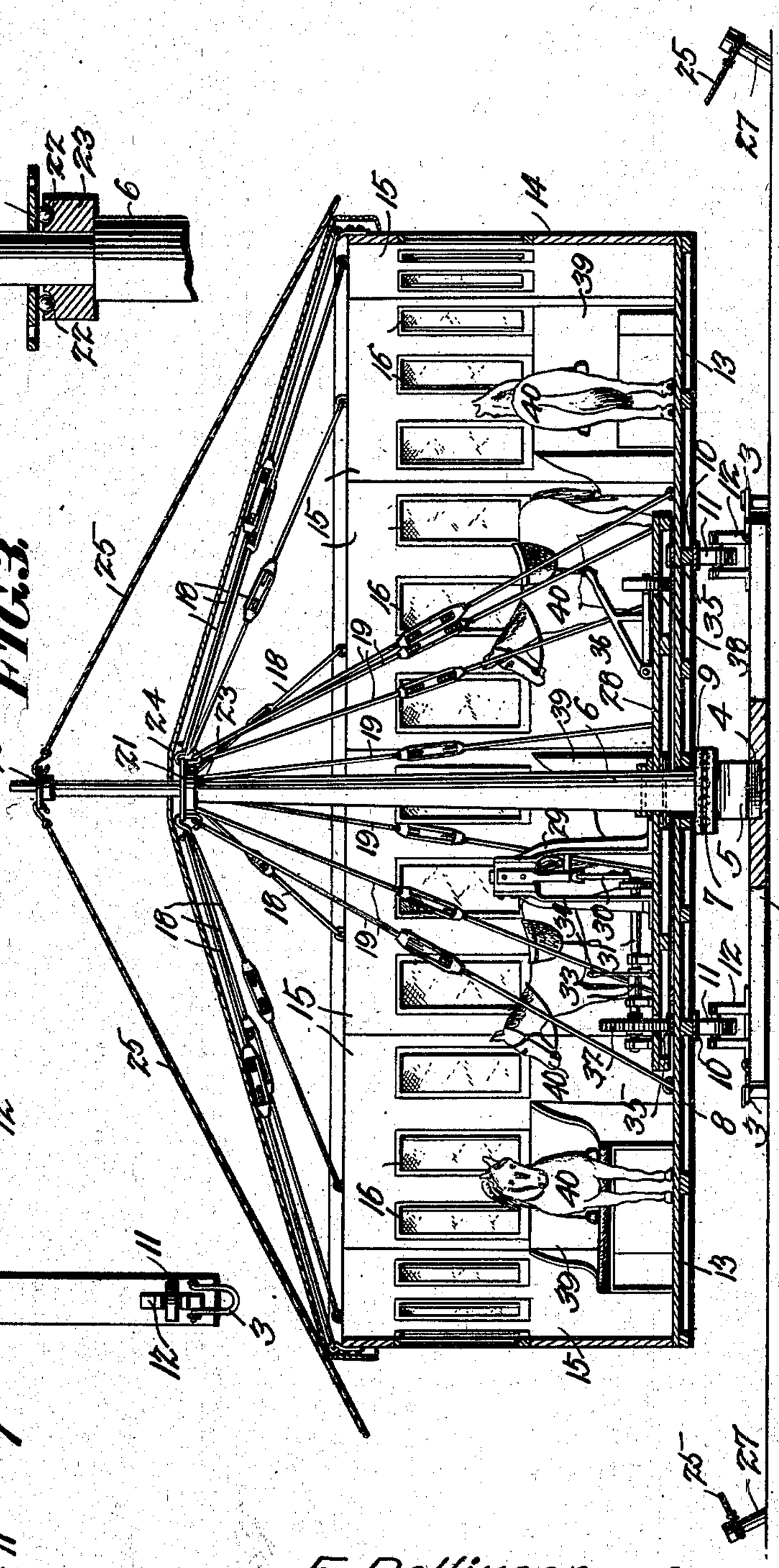
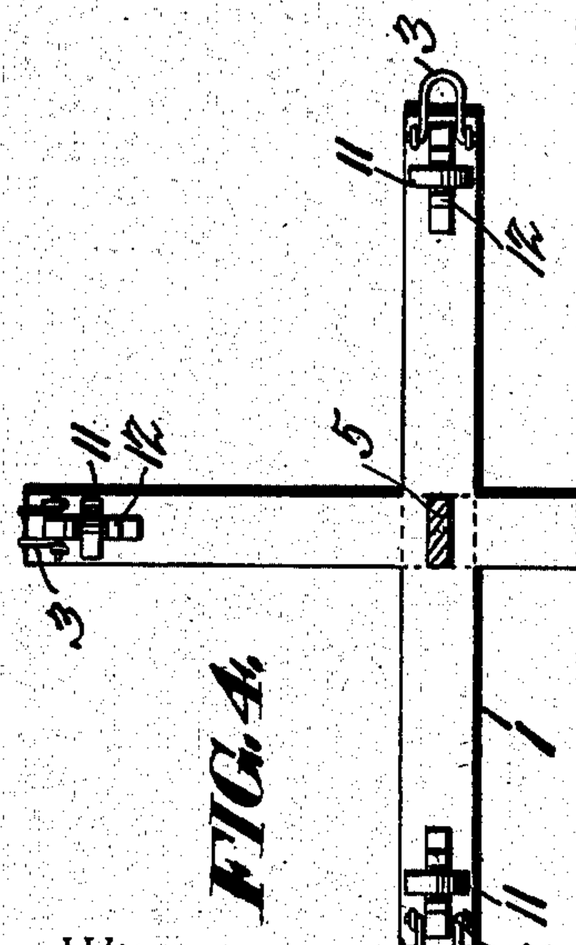


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMOND BOLLINGER, OF FOSTORIA, OHIO.

MERRY-GO-ROUND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 709,462, dated September 23, 1902.

Application filed February 17, 1902. Serial No. 94,503. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDMOND BOLLINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fostoria, in the county of Seneca and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Merry-Go-Round, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in merry-go-rounds.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of merry-go-rounds and to provide an exceedingly simple and inexpensive one adapted to be readily set up and taken apart and capable of convenient operation.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of a merry-go-round constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the base. Fig. 5 is a detail view of a portion of the mast.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a base composed of crossed bars or sills provided with suitable anchor-receiving loops 3, which are designed to be staked or otherwise secured to the ground, and the said base is provided with a central socket 4 for the reception of a depending tenon or projection 5 of a mast 6. The mast 6, which has a lower squared end, is rounded above the squared or polygonal portion, and the shoulder at the upper end of the polygonal portion supports a suitable bearing-plate 7, having suitable ball-races for the reception of antifriction-balls for supporting a rotary platform 8. The rotary platform 8 is provided with a suitable bearing-plate 9, which is located above that of the mast; but any suitable antifriction devices may be employed for providing a central bearing for the rotary platform. The rotary platform is also provided with a circular track 10, arranged at its lower face and supported by antifriction-wheels 11, mounted in suitable bearing-brackets 12 at the ends of the crossed bars of the base. The rotary platform is preferably composed of a series of sector-shaped sections 13, as indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings, to enable the device to be readily taken apart, and the said platform is also provided with a circular wall 14, composed of sections 15, provided with windows 16, and one of the sections is designed to be provided with a sliding door 17. The sectional wall is secured to the base in any preferred manner, and it is connected with the mast, which is stationary, by guy-rods or braces 18, and the rotary platform is supported by similar guy-rods or braces 19. The guy-rods or braces 18 extend from the top of the circular wall to a bearing-plate 21, and the other guy-rods or braces extend from the latter to the rotary platform, both sets of guy-rods or braces being provided with suitable turnbuckles, as shown, to enable them to be strained to the desired tension. The bearing-plate rotates on the mast and is supported by antifriction-balls 22 or other suitable antifriction devices, which are interposed between the bearing-plates and a suitable support 23. The support is provided with a channel or groove to receive the balls, as clearly shown in Fig. 5 of the drawings. The upper guy-rods or braces also form a support for a cover 24, constructed of canvas or other suitable material and suitably secured to the said guy-rods or braces 18 and adapted to rotate with the rotary platform.

The mast is supported by suitable guy-rods, ropes, or braces 25, extending from a cap-plate 26 downward from the top of the mast and staked or otherwise anchored to the ground, as shown at 27 in Fig. 3 of the drawings. The mast also supports a stationary platform 28, located directly above the central portion of the rotary platform and designed to contain the mechanism for operating the same. The stationary platform may be secured to the mast in any suitable manner, and it is preferably composed of sections to enable it to be readily taken apart and to facilitate setting up the merry-go-round. This stationary platform is designed to support a suitable engine 29, which may be operated by gasolene or any other fuel and which is connected by a pitman 30 with a suitable drive-shaft 31. The drive-shaft 31 is pro-

vided at its inner end with a crank-disk or other eccentric connection, and it has a gear-wheel 32 at its outer end, and it is provided with a suitable coupling or clutch 33, operated by a shifting-lever 34 to throw the device into and out of gear. The gear-wheel meshes with a circular rack 35, secured to the upper face of the rotary platform. When the drive-shaft is rotated, the gear-wheel meshes with the circular rack-bar of the rotary platform and motion is communicated to the latter. A brake 36 is mounted on the stationary platform, and it consists of a pivoted lever-frame having a brake-disk arranged to extend through a slot 38 of the stationary platform for engaging the rotary platform. The friction-disk may engage the rotary platform at the circular rack, or any other suitable means may be employed for this purpose. The frame of the brake is composed of two bars or members arranged at an angle to each other and connected by an intermediate brace. The brake-disk is mounted on the lower bar, which is arranged approximately horizontally when the brake is applied, as shown in Fig. 3, and the other bar or member is inclined and terminates at its upper end in a suitable grip or handle.

The rotary platform is designed to be provided at intervals with seats 39 and hobby-horses 40, or other analogous devices may be provided for the accommodation of the children and other occupants of the merry-go-round. These seats may be arranged as shown in Fig. 2, or they may be arranged with their backs to the wall or in any other desired manner.

The sections of the circular wall 14 may be coupled together in any suitable manner, and they are designed to be also detachably coupled to the base, so that the sections may be readily separated for enabling them to be compactly arranged for shipping or storing. The guy-ropes or braces 25 are designed to be provided with turnbuckles or other suitable devices for enabling them to be readily strained to the desired tension.

What I claim is—

1. A merry-go-round comprising a base, a centrally-arranged stationary mast, a rotary platform journaled on the mast and extending outward therefrom, antifriction devices located between the base and the rotary platform at a point remote from the mast and mounted on one of such parts and supporting the said rotary platform, a rack arranged on the rotary platform adjacent to the periphery of the stationary platform, a gear-wheel mounted on the latter and meshing with the rack, and means mounted on the stationary platform for rotating the gear-wheel, substantially as described.

2. A merry-go-round comprising a base, a centrally-arranged stationary mast, a rotary platform journaled on the mast, antifriction devices located between the base and the rotary platform and mounted on one of such parts and supporting the said rotary platform at points beyond the mast, a stationary platform fixed to the mast and arranged directly above and adjacent to the rotary platform and terminating short of the periphery of the same, a curved rack mounted on the rotary platform and located beneath the stationary platform, a gear-wheel extending through the stationary platform and engaging the rack, means mounted on the stationary platform for rotating the gear-wheel, and a brake mounted on the stationary platform and extending through the same and engaging the rotary platform, substantially as described.

3. A merry-go-round comprising a base, a stationary mast, a rotary platform journaled on the mast and extending outward therefrom, antifriction devices located between the rotary platform and the base and supporting the former at points beyond the mast, a stationary platform fixed to the mast directly above the rotary platform and terminating short of the periphery of the same, a vertical wall arranged at the periphery of the rotary platform, guys or braces extending from the upper portion of the mast to the rotary platform and to the upper portions of the vertical wall, the guys or braces which extend through the rotary platform being arranged adjacent to the periphery of the stationary platform, and means mounted on the stationary platform for rotating the other platform, substantially as described.

4. A merry-go-round comprising a base, a stationary mast interlocked with the base, antifriction-wheels mounted on the base at points beyond the mast, a rotary platform journaled on the mast and extending outward therefrom and supported by the antifriction-wheels, a stationary platform located above the rotary platform and terminating short of the periphery thereof, a circular rack mounted on the rotary platform and arranged adjacent to the outer edge of the stationary platform at a point above the antifriction-wheels, a brake extending through the stationary platform and engaging the rotary platform, a vertical wall mounted on the rotary platform, inclined braces extending from the top of the vertical wall to the mast, a cover supported by the inclined braces, a gear-wheel extending through the stationary platform and meshing with the rack, and means for operating the gear-wheel, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

EDMOND BOLLINGER.

Witnesses:
J. P. MONROE,
CHAS. W. ATWELL.