

No. 709,819.

Patented Sept. 23, 1902.

J. T. HICKS.
BOTTLE STOPPER.

Application filed Oct. 31, 1901.

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

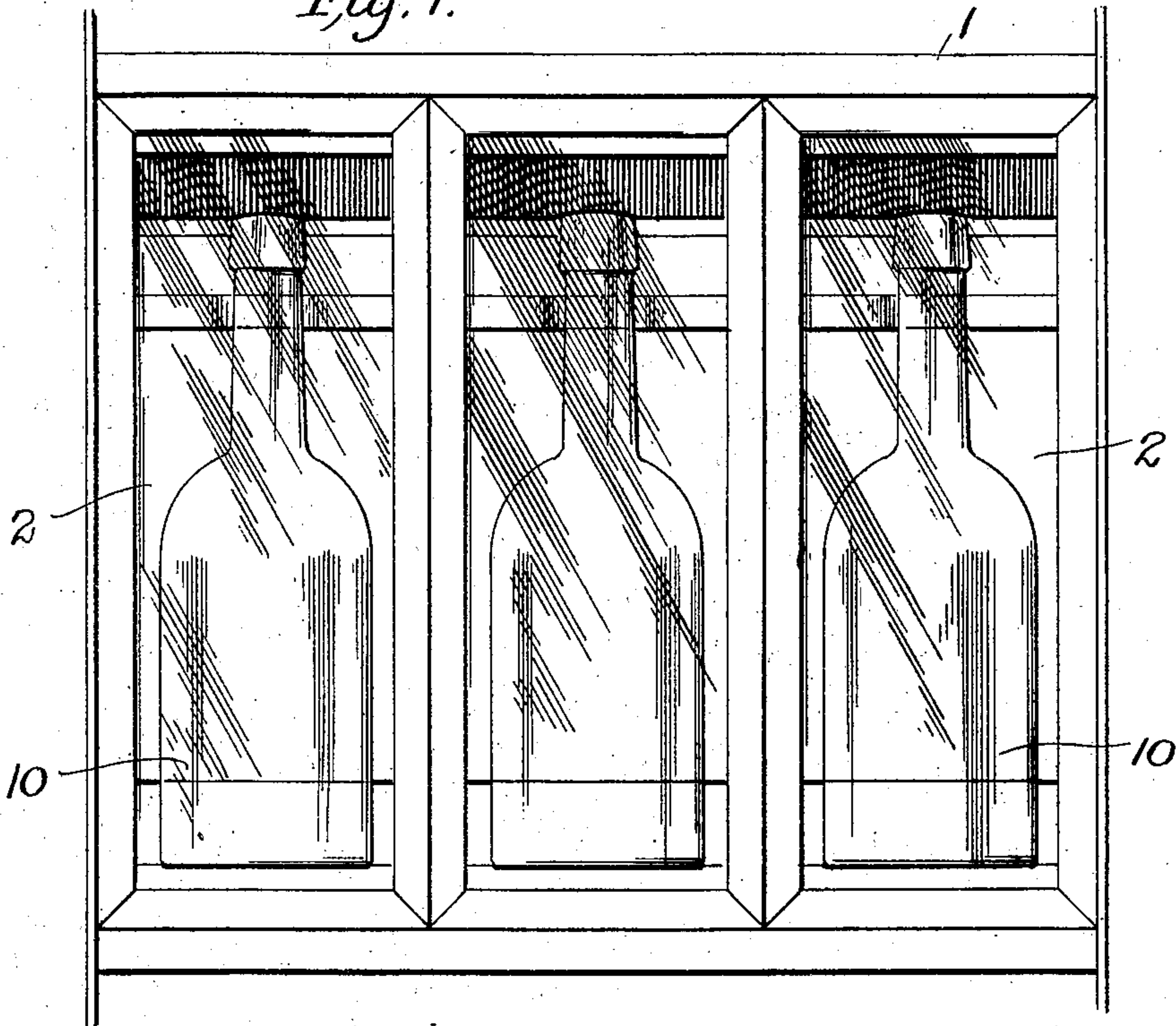


Fig. 2.

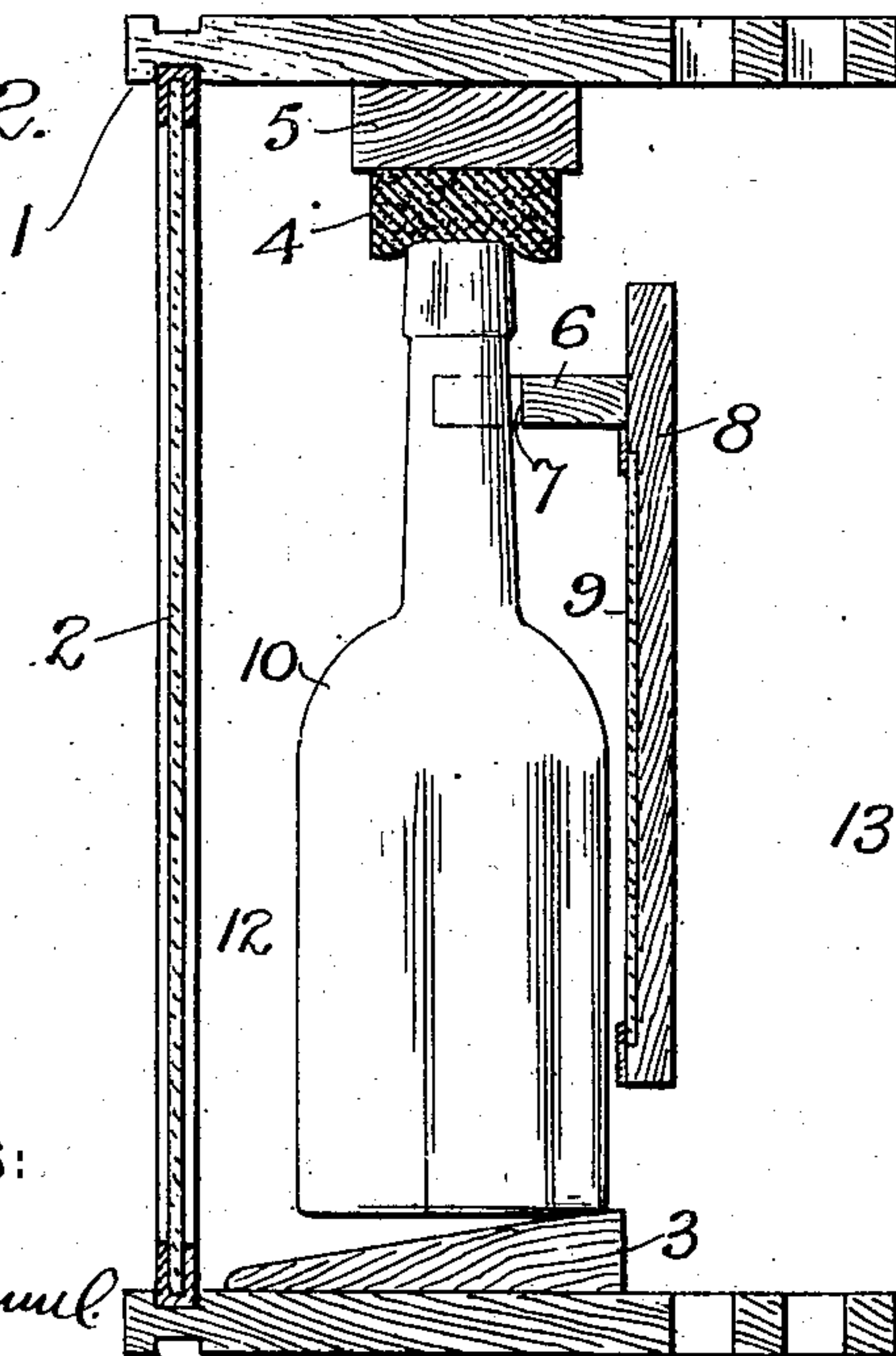
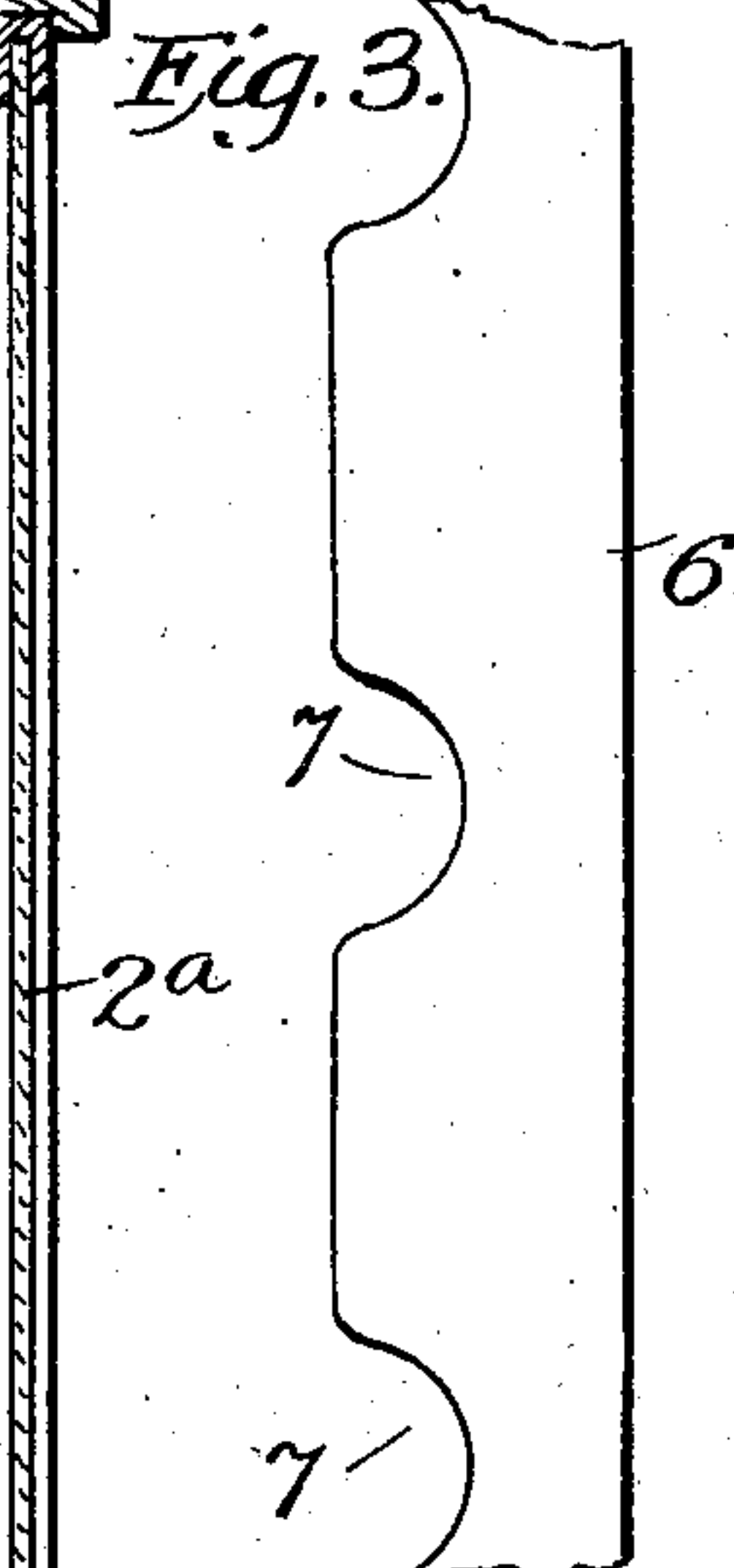


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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JOHN T. HICKS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

BOTTLE-STOPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 709,819, dated September 23, 1902.

Application filed October 31, 1901. Serial No. 80,632. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN T. HICKS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the city of Boston, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bottle-Stoppers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improved means for closing the mouth of a bottle or similar receptacle, and has for its object the provision of an effective, cheap, and simple device located in a stationary position and into conjunction with which the bottle may be placed during the time that it is not in use and from which it may be taken when drinks are to be poured out.

The invention consists in a specific improvement upon the bottle-closing means covered by my copending application for Letters Patent filed January 21, 1901, Serial No. 43,999, and it is also intended for use in connection with the bar-box shown and described in the same application and with the sideboard described and claimed in my other copending application for Letters Patent, filed January 30, 1901, Serial No. 45,274.

Further, the invention may be said to consist in certain details and peculiarities in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, substantially as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the annexed drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a portion of a sideboard with which my present novel bottle-stopper is employed. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the guide for the bottle-neck.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the different figures.

1 denotes a chamber delineated here simply by way of example in order to show one way of arranging my bottle-stopper, said chamber 1 being, if you please, a part of the sideboard hereinabove alluded to as being found in my copending application for Letters Patent, filed January 30, 1901, Serial No. 45,274, said sideboard having front slides 2 and rear slides 2^a, a front chamber 12 for holding broken bottled goods, and a rear chamber 12, serving as a refrigerating-chamber, there being between

the two chambers a partition 8, having on its front face a mirror 9, which partition is so arranged that there is a space above and below it to allow the free circulation of the cold air; but, as before intimated, this compartment or sideboard-chamber is claimed in my other application.

10 denotes a specimen bottle. (Shown here in order to facilitate the description of the bottle-stopping means.) The bottom of the bottle-containing chamber 12 has an inclined floor 3, the bevel or inclination of which is at an angle to the axis of the bottle when the latter is in its vertical or normal stationary position. The roof of chamber 12 carries a strip or block of rubber or other elastic material 4, which is preferably attached to a supporting cleat or strip of wood 5. When the bottle 10 is to be placed in the chamber 12, the open mouth of the bottle will be brought into contact with the cushion 4 and the bottom of the bottle caused to ride up the inclined floor 3, and as it rises upon this incline the mouth of the bottle will be forced more and more tightly against the rubber until the bottle reaches its vertical position, at which time the mouth will be tightly closed by the rubber. In order to guide the bottle when it is being placed in this position, I provide a horizontal bar 6, having round notches or indentions 7 formed therein at intervals corresponding to the distance of the bottles from each other, said notches 7 being of a proper size to allow the bottle-neck to fit thereinto, so that when the bottle is being placed in chamber 10 its neck will be caused to enter one of the notches 7 at the same time that the mouth is being pressed up against the elastic cushion 4.

If desired, the platform or floor for the bottle may consist entirely of an inclined or beveled face or of a face partly inclined and partly horizontal; and, furthermore, instead of having the platform inelastic and the stopper devices yielding a reverse arrangement may be employed in which the platform will be the yielding or elastic member and the stopper will be either wholly or substantially inelastic, so that when the bottle is placed in position with this sort of an arrangement it will be pressed a little upon the platform, thereby slightly depressing the latter. The

elasticity of the platform in this modification may be obtained by a rubber or spring of any kind. If found advisable, a thin piece of rubber may be employed to close the mouth
5 of the bottle and a thick piece put at the bottom on the platform for the spring at the front edge thereof.

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

A bottle-stopper consisting in the combination with a stationary block of rubber secured to some suitable support, of a bottle-support located vertically opposite to the rubber, said

support having an inclined surface at an an- 15
gle to the axis of the bottle when the latter is in its normal position, and upon which incline the bottom of the bottle rises for the purpose of causing the mouth of the bottle to be tightly closed by the rubber, and a 20
notched guide that engages and keeps the bottle-neck in position.

Signed at Boston, Massachusetts, this 29th day of October, 1901.

JOHN T. HICKS.

Witnesses:

WINFIELD F. PRIME,
GRACE FINNISS.