

No. 712,912.

Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

C. C. CRIDER.
HITCHING POST.

(Application filed May 20, 1902.)

(No Model.)

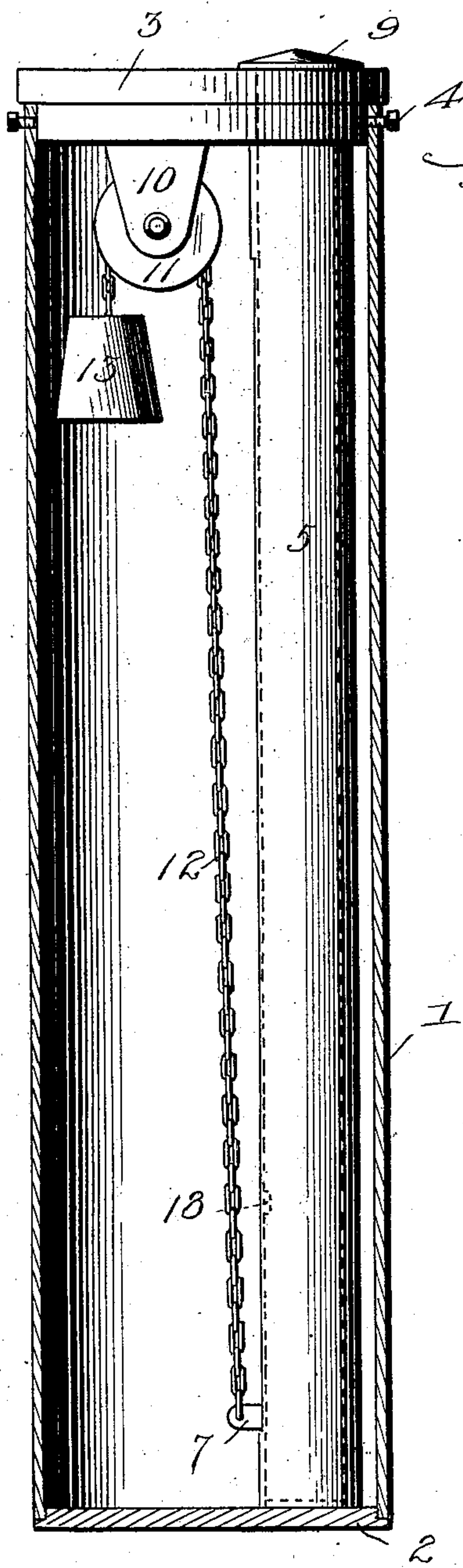


Fig. 1.

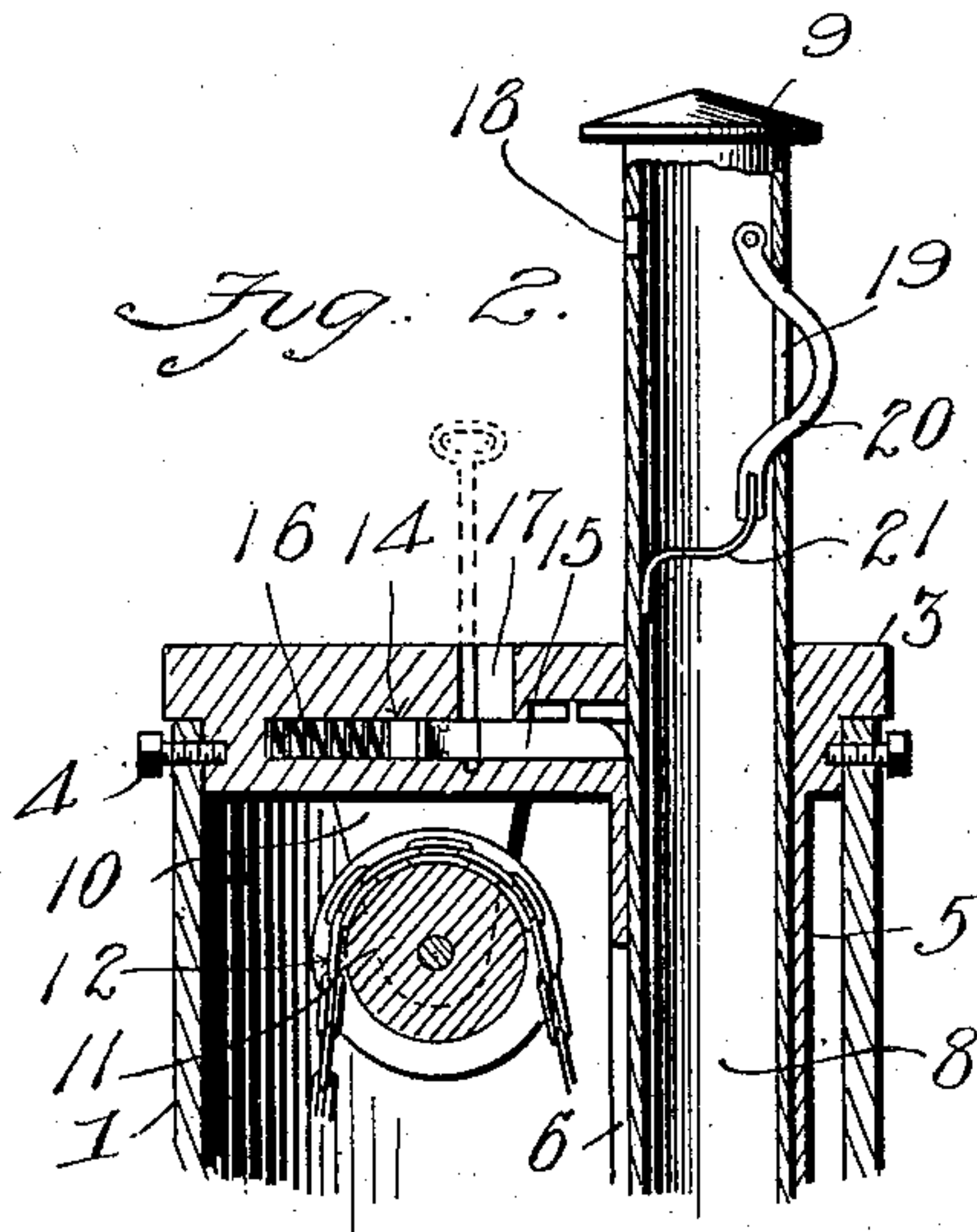


Fig. 2.

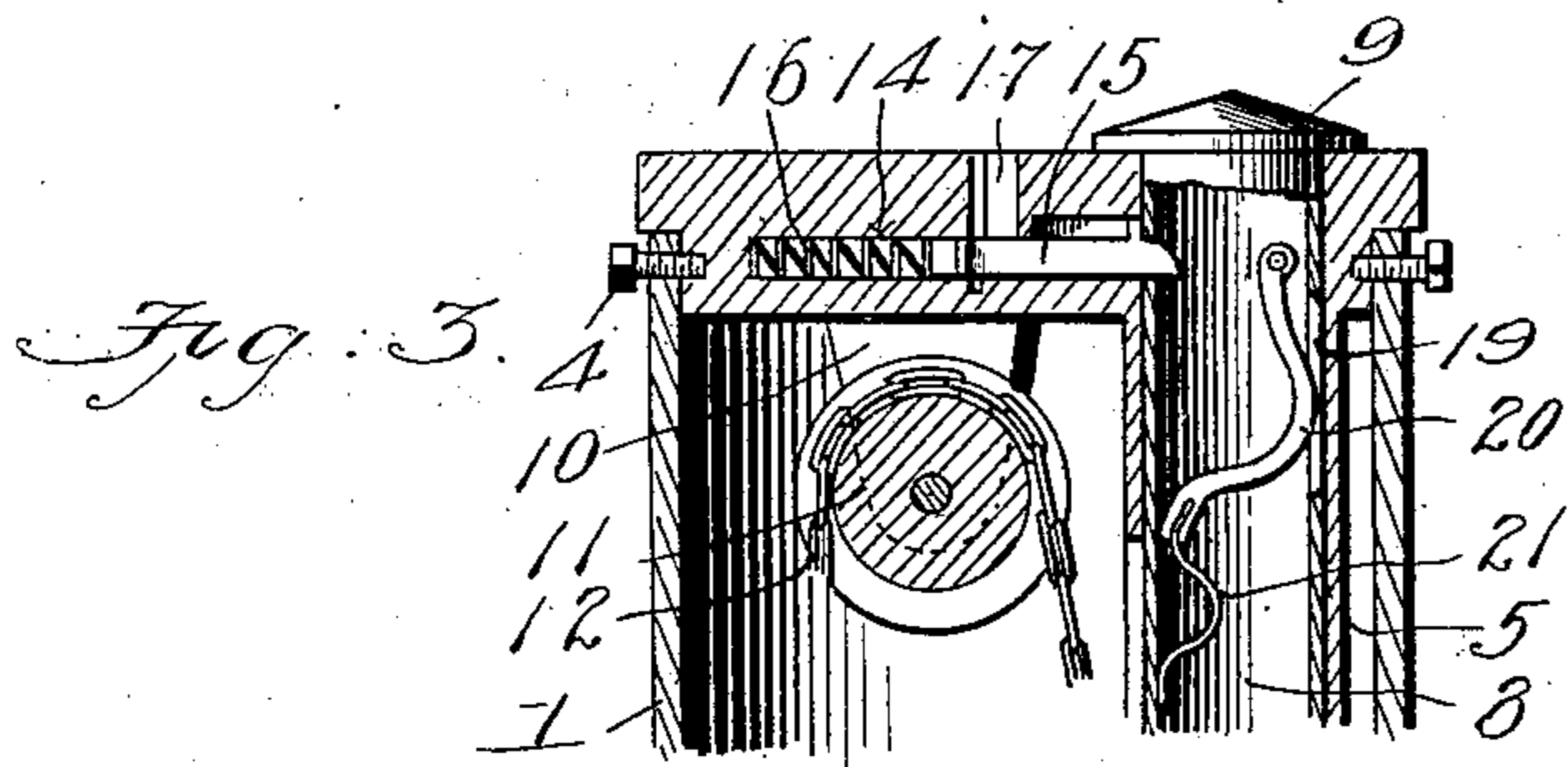
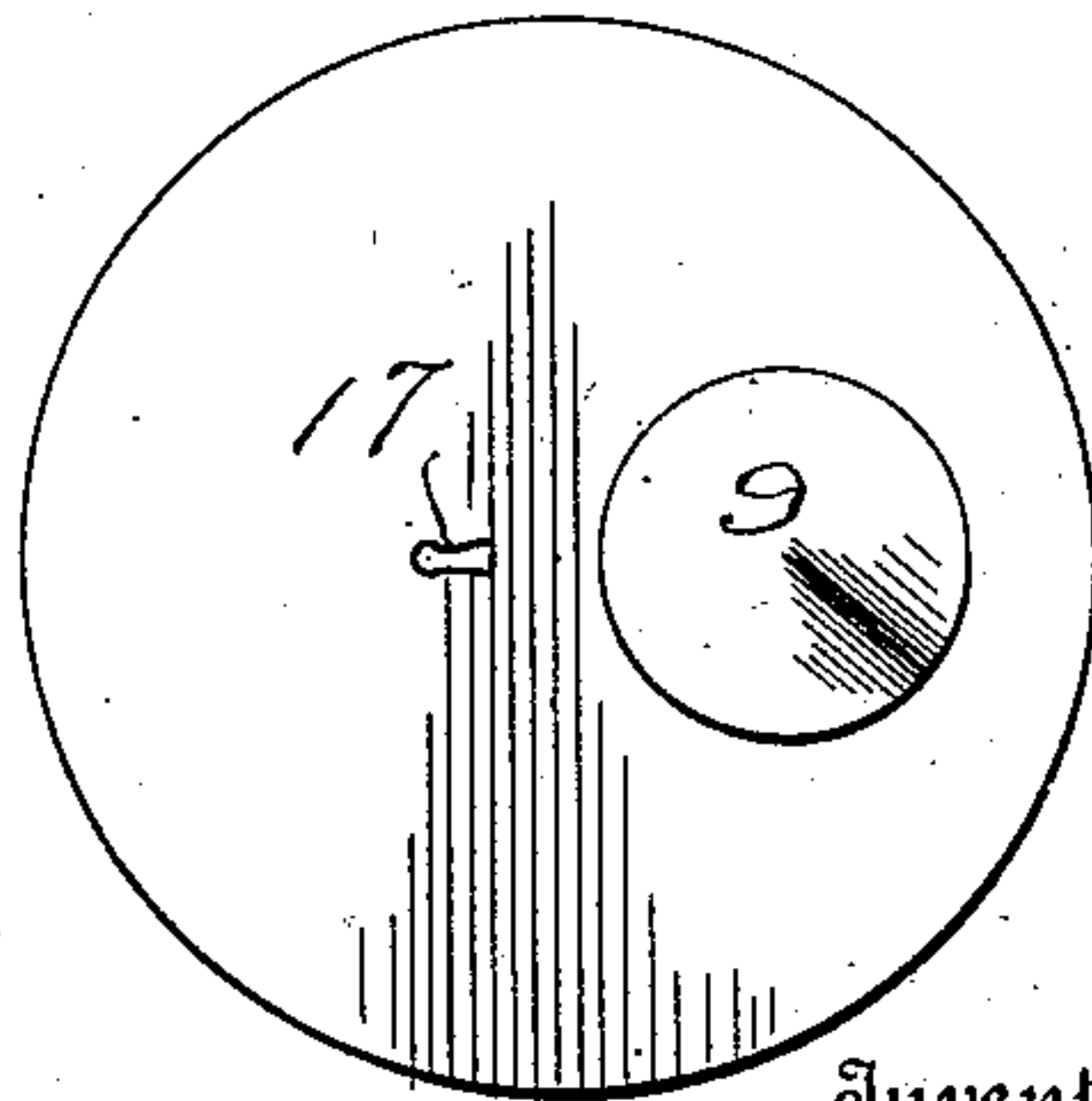


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



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CLARENCE C. CRIDER, OF BANGS, OHIO.

HITCHING-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,912, dated November 4, 1902.

Application filed May 20, 1902. Serial No. 108,217. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE C. CRIDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bangs, in the county of Knox and State of Ohio, have
5 invented new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Posts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in hitching-posts; and its object
10 is to provide a device of this character which is adapted to be normally located below the surface of the ground and which is drawn upward and locked in such position when in use.

15 A further object is to provide means whereby the post is locked in lowered position and can only be unlocked by the person or persons having a suitable key.

Another object is to so construct the post
20 that it will raise automatically when unlocked and can be moved back to lowered position by exerting slight pressure thereon.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in providing, preferably,
25 a cylindrical casing having a cap secured thereon and adapted to be arranged adjacent to the surface of the ground in which the casing is embedded. A longitudinally-slotted tube extends downward from the cap,
30 and a post of suitable construction is slidably mounted therein and projects through the cap. A chain or other flexible strip extends from the sliding post and over a pulley arranged within the upper portion of the casing, and the end of this strip is connected to
35 a weight whereby the post is slightly overbalanced and can be automatically moved upward. It can also be shoved downward within the casing under slight pressure. A lock of
40 suitable construction is arranged within the cap of the casing and is adapted to engage the post when it is in either raised or lowered position and can only be removed from such engagement by means of a suitable key. A
45 securing-strip is pivoted at one end within the post and is held normally projected therefrom by means of a suitable spring.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and
50 illustrated in the accompanying drawings,

showing the preferred form of my invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a section through the casing of the post, showing the slotted tube and the
55 weight in elevation. Fig. 2 is a section through the upper portion of the device and showing the post partly raised. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the post locked in lowered position. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the post. 60

Referring to the figures by numerals of reference, 1 is a preferably cylindrical casing closed at the bottom by means of a disk 2 and having a cap 3 secured within its upper end
65 in any desired manner, as by means of set-screws 4. A tube 5 extends downward from this cap to the bottom 2 and is provided with a longitudinally-extending slot 6. This slot is adapted to receive an ear 7, extending laterally from the tubular post 8, slidably mounted
70 in tube 5 and extending through cap 3. A preferably conical head 9 is formed upon the upper end of the post 8.

Hangers 10 are formed upon the lower surface of cap 3, and a pulley 11 is journaled
75 therebetween. This pulley serves to support a chain 12 or other flexible strip, which is secured at one end to the ear 7 and at its opposite end to a weight 13.

A horizontal recess 14 is formed within the
80 cap 3 and opens into the aperture in said cap, in which the tube 8 is mounted. A bolt 15 is slidably mounted in this recess and is held normally projected by means of a spring 16. A hole 17 communicates with the recess 14
85 and is adapted to permit the insertion of a suitable key—such as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 2—whereby the bolt may be retracted. Apertures 18 are formed near the upper and
90 lower ends, respectively, of post 8, and either of them is adapted to be engaged by the bolt 15, whereby said post is locked in raised or lowered position. A slot 19 is formed within
95 one side of post 8, near the upper end thereof, and is adapted to receive a curved strip 20, pivoted at one end in the post and secured at its other end to a spring 21, which is adapted to hold said strip normally pressed outward through its slot.

The curved strip 20 is used for attaching a
100 hitching strap, rope, or other device thereto, and by its use obstructing projections on the

post, such as a ring and its attaching means, are avoided, and at the same time a device is provided for readily attaching a hitching device to the post.

5 When the post is pressed down into tube 5, the curved strip 20 will be forced inward and the bolt 15 will spring into engagement with aperture 18. In order to raise the post, it will then be necessary to retract the bolt by means
10 of a suitable key. The weight will then promptly raise the post, and when the lower aperture 18 reaches the bolt 15 it will be engaged thereby and the post thus automatically locked in position.

15 The securing-strip 20 will, as before stated, spring outward, as shown in Fig. 2, as soon as it emerges from the cap 3.

The parts of this device are preferably constructed of non-corrosive material, and the
20 casing and tubes therein are waterproof.

In the foregoing description I have shown the preferred form of my invention; but I do not limit myself thereto, as I am aware that modifications may be made therein without
25 departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, and I therefore reserve the right to make all such changes as fairly fall within the scope of my invention.

Having thus fully described the invention,
30 what is claimed as new is—

1. The combination with a casing, of a vertically-movable post therein, means for automatically elevating the post, and a spring-ac-

tuated horizontally-disposed latch-bolt to lock the post in raised or lowered position and having means for engagement with a key to dis- 35 engage the same from the post.

2. The combination with a casing, of a vertically-movable post therein, a hoisting-weight for said post, and a securing-strip within the 40 post adapted to be automatically retracted or projected during the downward or upward movement of the post respectively.

3. The combination with a casing, of a vertically-movable post therein, a hoisting-weight 45 for said post, means for automatically locking the post in raised or lowered position, and a securing-strip within the post and adapted to be automatically retracted or projected during the downward and upward movements of 50 the post respectively.

4. The combination with a casing, of a vertically-movable post therein, a head to the post arranged outside the casing, a hoisting-weight 55 for the post, a securing-strip pivoted within the post, and a spring secured to said strip and adapted to hold the same normally projected through a slot in the post, said strip being adapted to be retracted automatically 60 during the downward movement of the post.

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

CLARENCE C. CRIDER.

Witnesses:

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