

No. 719,335.

PATENTED JAN. 27, 1903.

W. HOEKSTRA.  
FLOOR CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 26, 1902.

NO MODEL.

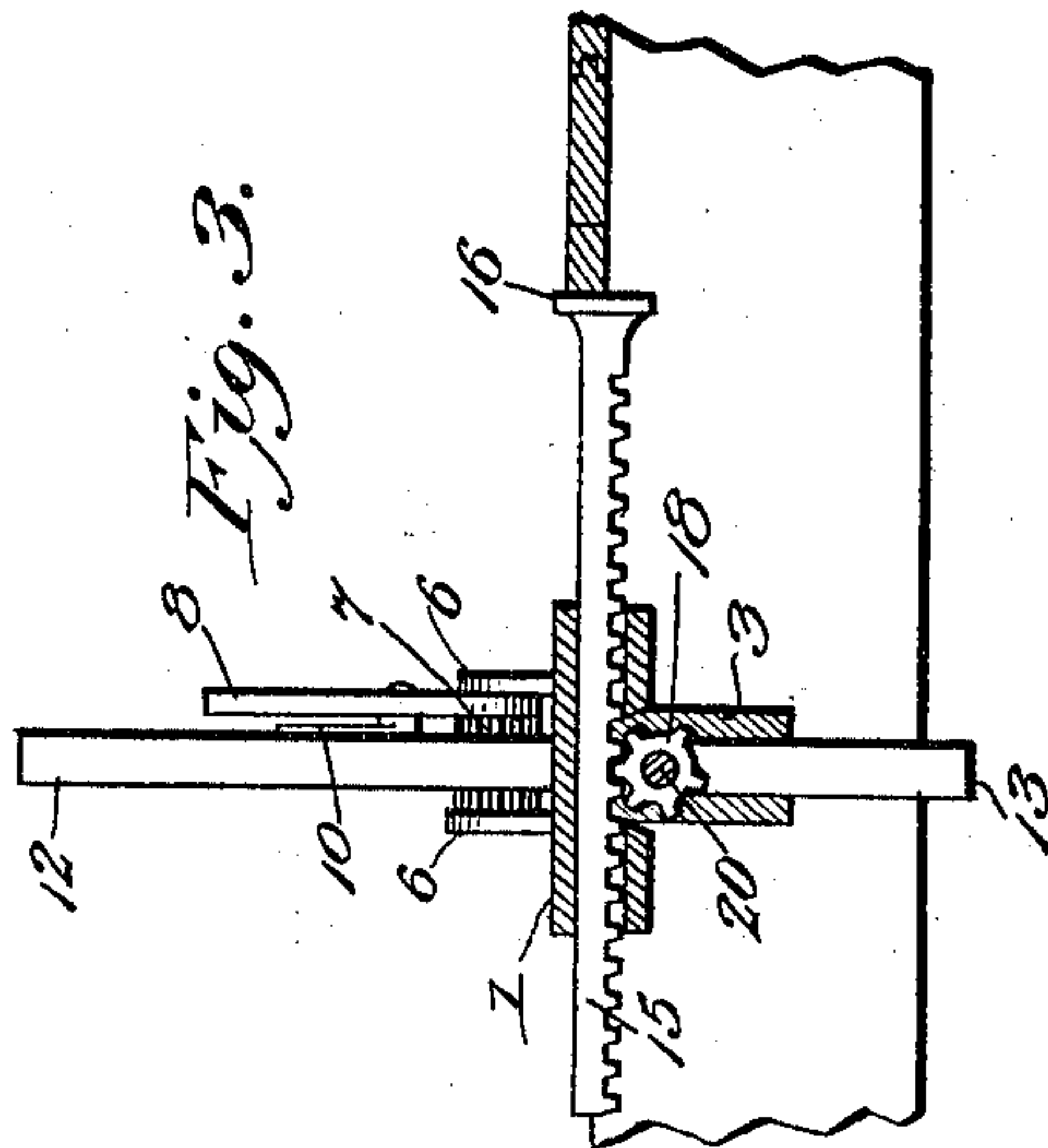
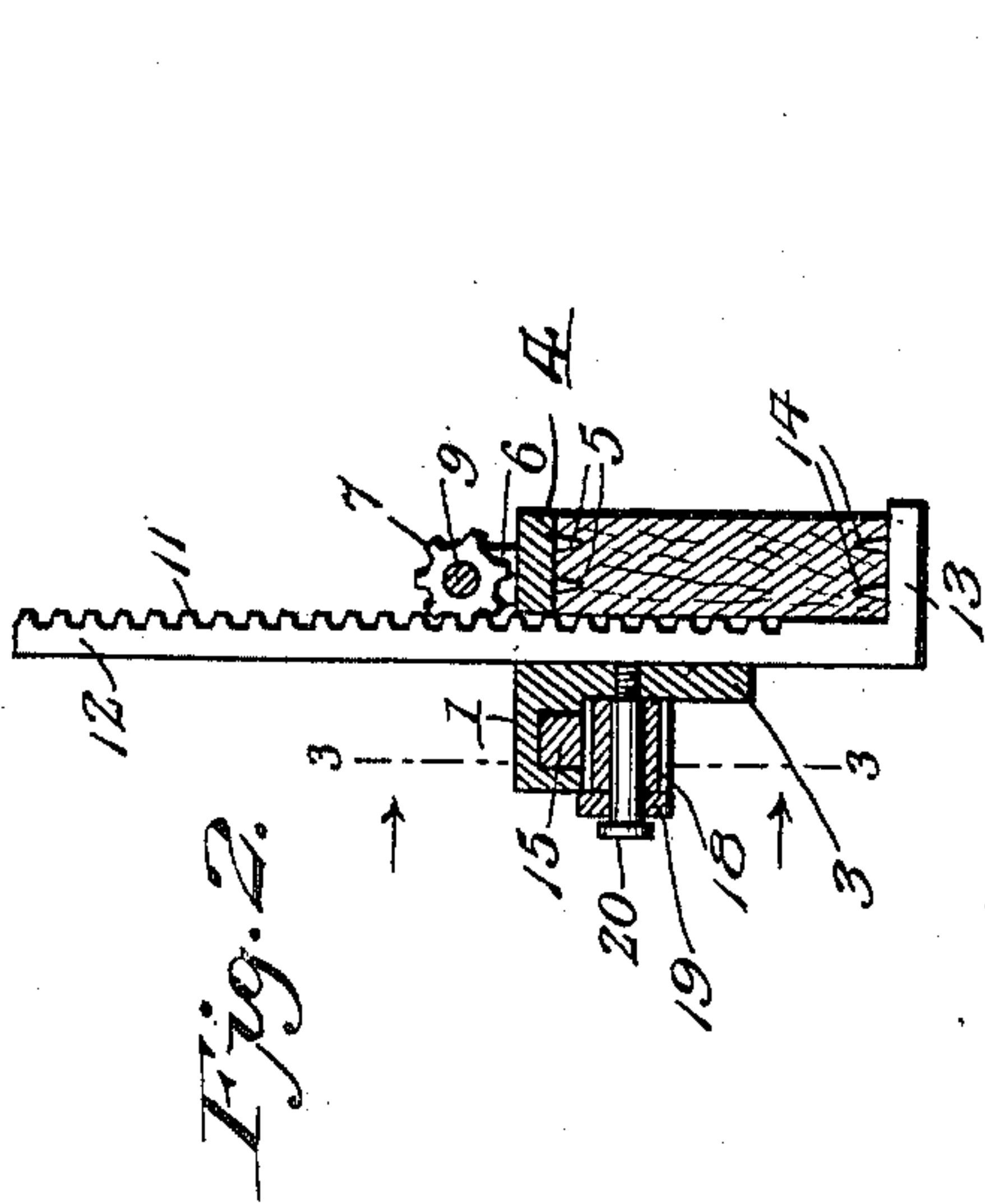
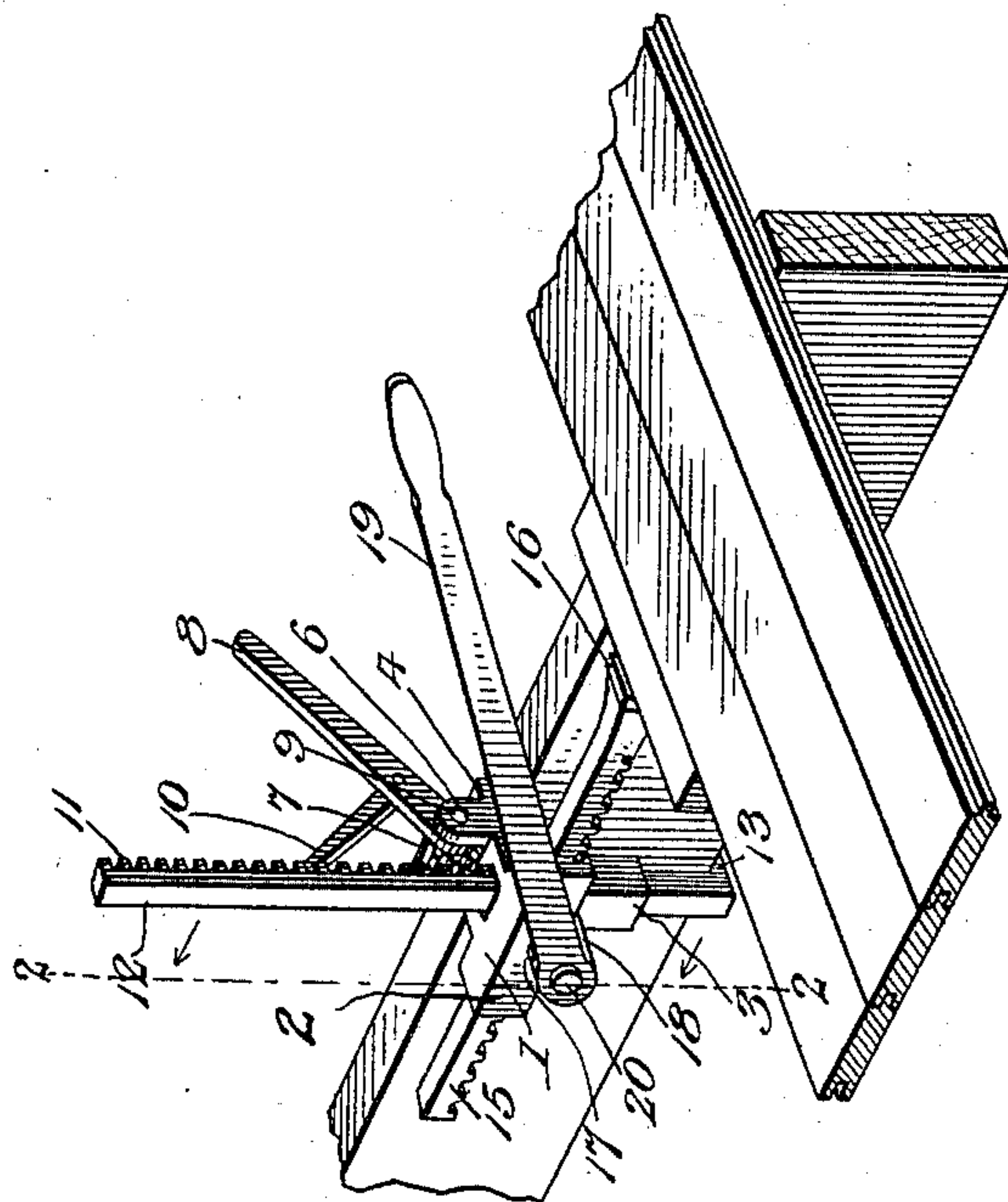


Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FLOOR-CLAMP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 719,335, dated January 27, 1903.

Application filed April 26, 1902. Serial No. 104,867. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HOEKSTRA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harrison, in the county of Douglas and State of South Dakota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Floor-Clamps, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a floor clamp or jack; and the object of the same is to provide a device of this class which may be quickly and easily secured to rafters, joists, or stringers of various thicknesses for holding it in position, the improved device including in its organization a positively-operating and conveniently-controlled rammer adapted to be forcefully brought against the flooring-strips as successively laid to effect a tight jointure of the contiguous edges of said strips.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved jack or clamp shown applied in operative position. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section on the line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section on the line 3 3, Fig. 2.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates a supporting-frame comprising a longitudinally-extended horizontally-disposed tubular guide 2 and a vertical guide 3 at the inner side of the latter, which depends a suitable distance below the under side of said guide 2. Continuing from the upper portions of the guides is a clamping-plate 4, having spikes 5, adapted to be embedded or driven into the upper edge of a joist or stringer. Rising from the opposite sides of the clamping-plate 4 are ears 6, between which a pinion 7 and lever 8 are pivotally mounted and carried by a fulcrum bolt or pin 9, terminally bearing in said ears. The lever 8 has a catch-dog 10 movably attached thereto and adapted to have its free end removably engage the teeth 11 of a vertically-disposed clamping rack-bar 12, which

is freely movable through the vertical guide 3, and has a lower right-angular foot 13 with upwardly-projecting spikes or spurs 14 to take into the under edge portion of a joist or stringer. Through the medium of the clamping-plate 4 and the foot 13 of the clamping rack-bar 12 the improved jack may be firmly secured to a joist or stringer at a suitable distance from the edge of the flooring adapted to be operated upon by the jack. It will be seen that when the rack-bar 12 has its foot 13 brought into close relation with the under edge of a joist or stringer by vibrating the lever 8 and actuating the pinion 7 the adjustment or tight engagement of the rack-bar 12 in relation to the joist or stringer can be fixed by throwing the catch-dog into engagement with the teeth of the rack-bar, and thereby prevent the latter from loosening.

In the guide 2 a rammer is mounted and comprises a shank or stem 15, having rack-teeth on the under edge thereof and a ramming-head 16 at one end. The guide 2 has a slot 17 formed therein, through which projects a pinion 18, secured to an operating-lever 19 and movably mounted on a stud 20, projecting outwardly from the guide 3. The pinion 18 is held in continual mesh with the teeth of the shank or stem 15, and by reciprocating the lever in reverse directions the ramming-head 16 may be brought into forceful engagement with the adjacent edge of the flooring or flooring-strip or be withdrawn from such engagement.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the improved jack embodies a comparatively few number of parts, and the cost of manufacture therefore will be reduced to a minimum. Moreover, the improved device is of a strong and durable nature and can be quickly applied to a joist or stringer or removed from the latter.

Changes in the form, proportions, dimensions, and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the principle of the invention.

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

1. A floor-jack, comprising a horizontally-disposed longitudinally-movable rammer, a

vertically-disposed clamping-bar, means for operating the said rammer and bar, and a device for locking the bar against movement.

2. A floor-jack, comprising a frame having  
5 guides therein, a rammer comprising a stem movable in one of said guides and formed with rack-teeth, a clamping rack-bar movable in the other guide, pinions for engaging the

said stem and rack-bar, and means for operating the said pinions.

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

WILLIAM HOEKSTRA.

Witnesses:

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