

No. 726,127.

PATENTED APR. 21, 1903.

W. N. WILBANKS.
DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 16, 1902.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

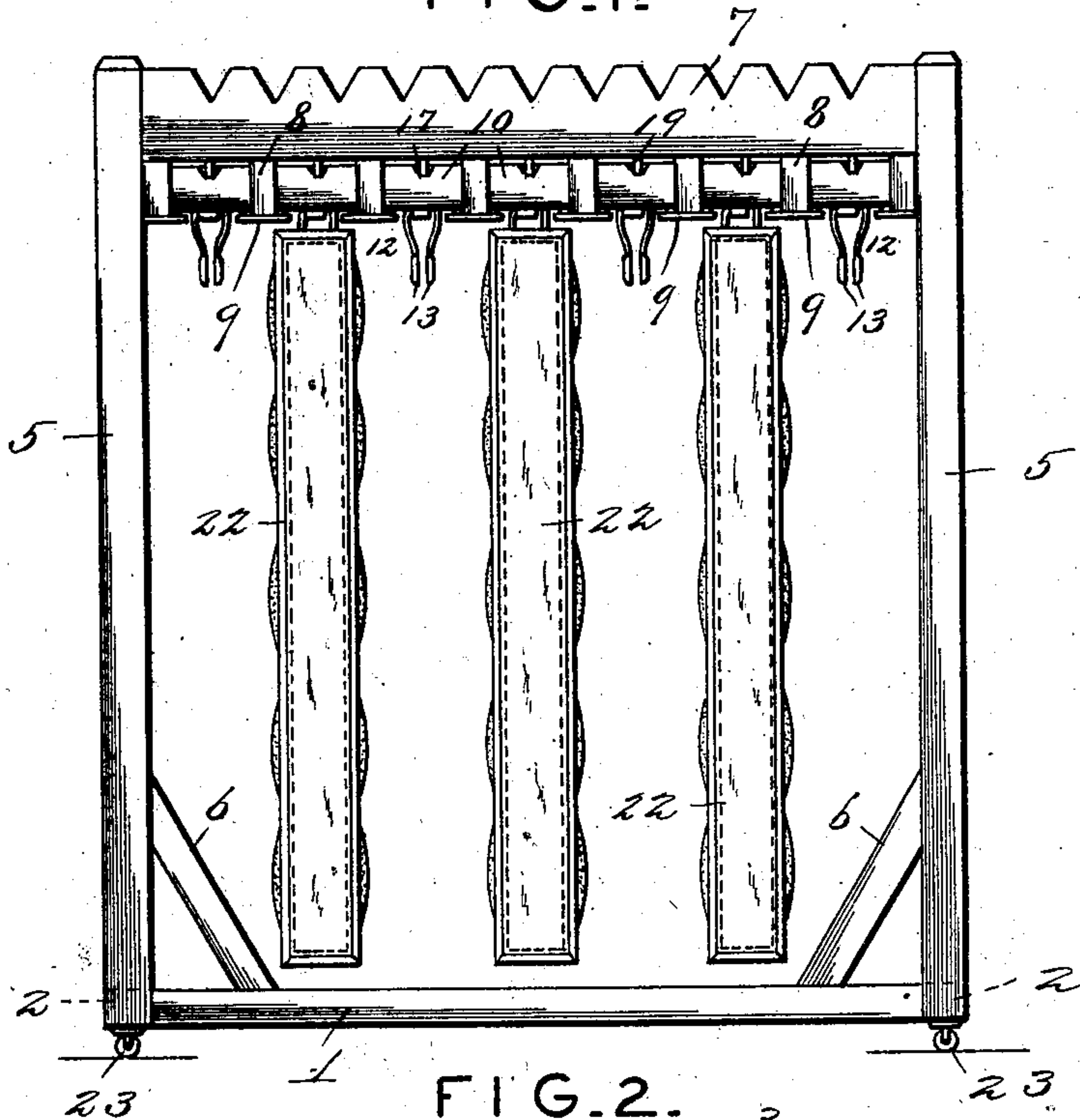
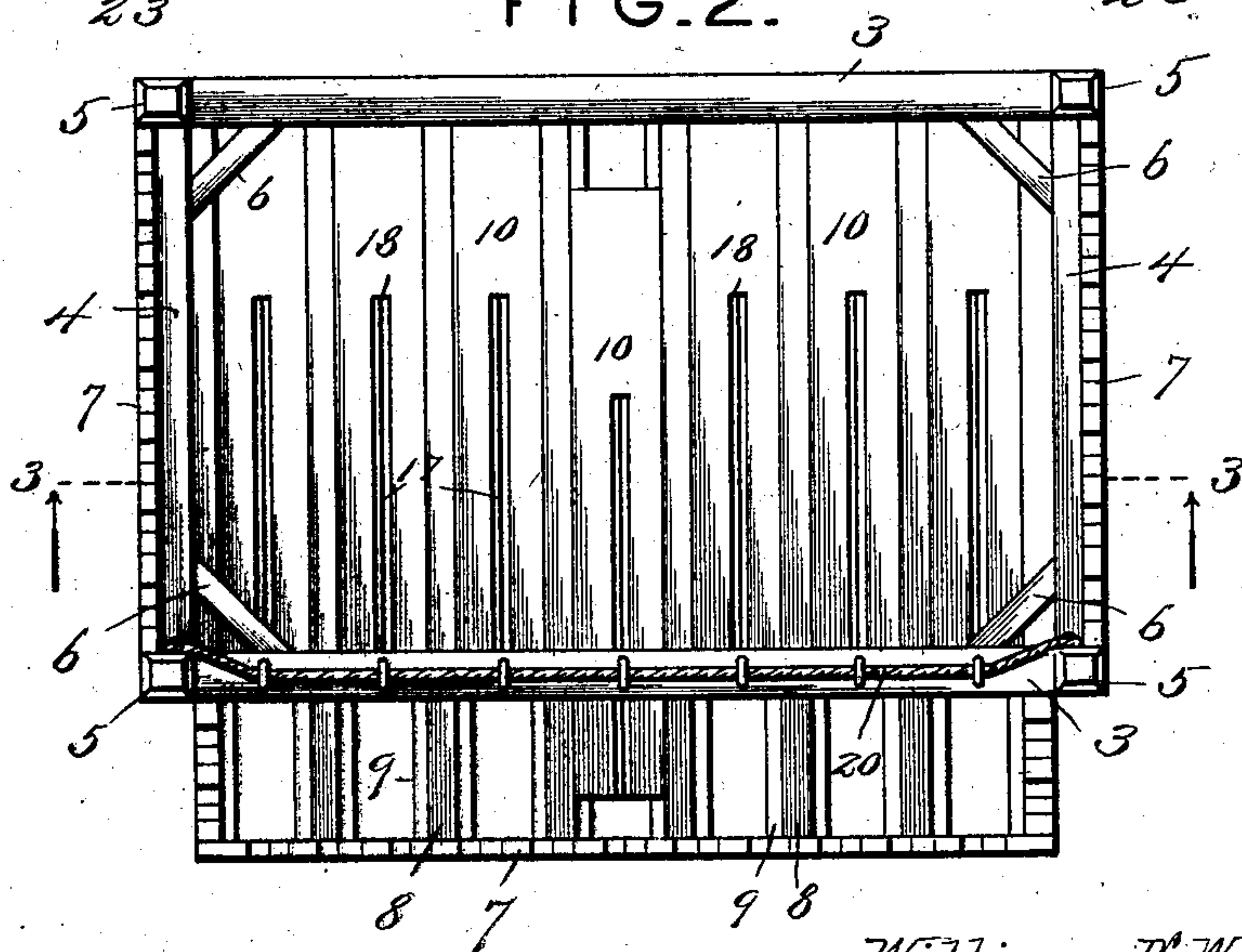


FIG. 2.



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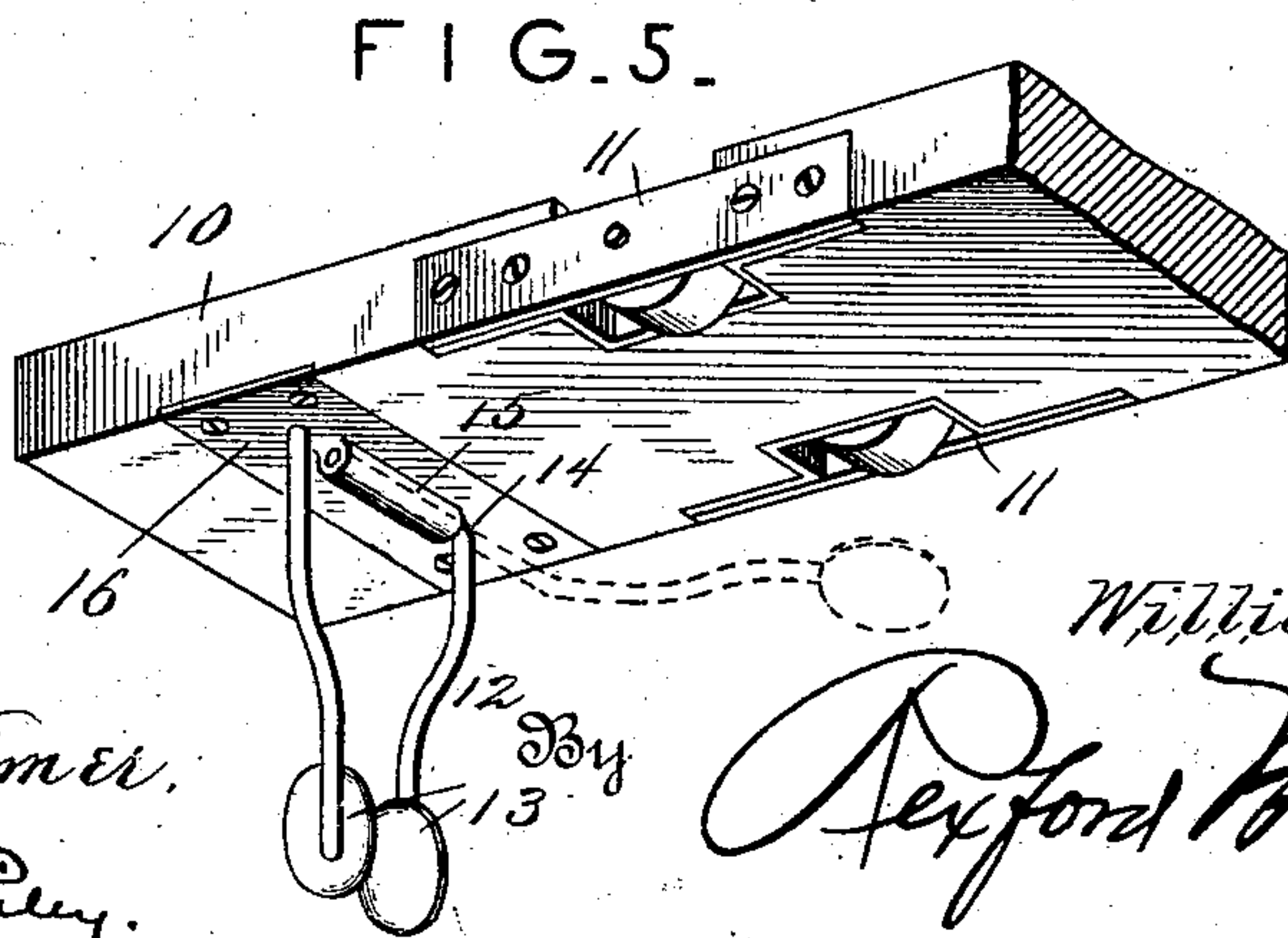
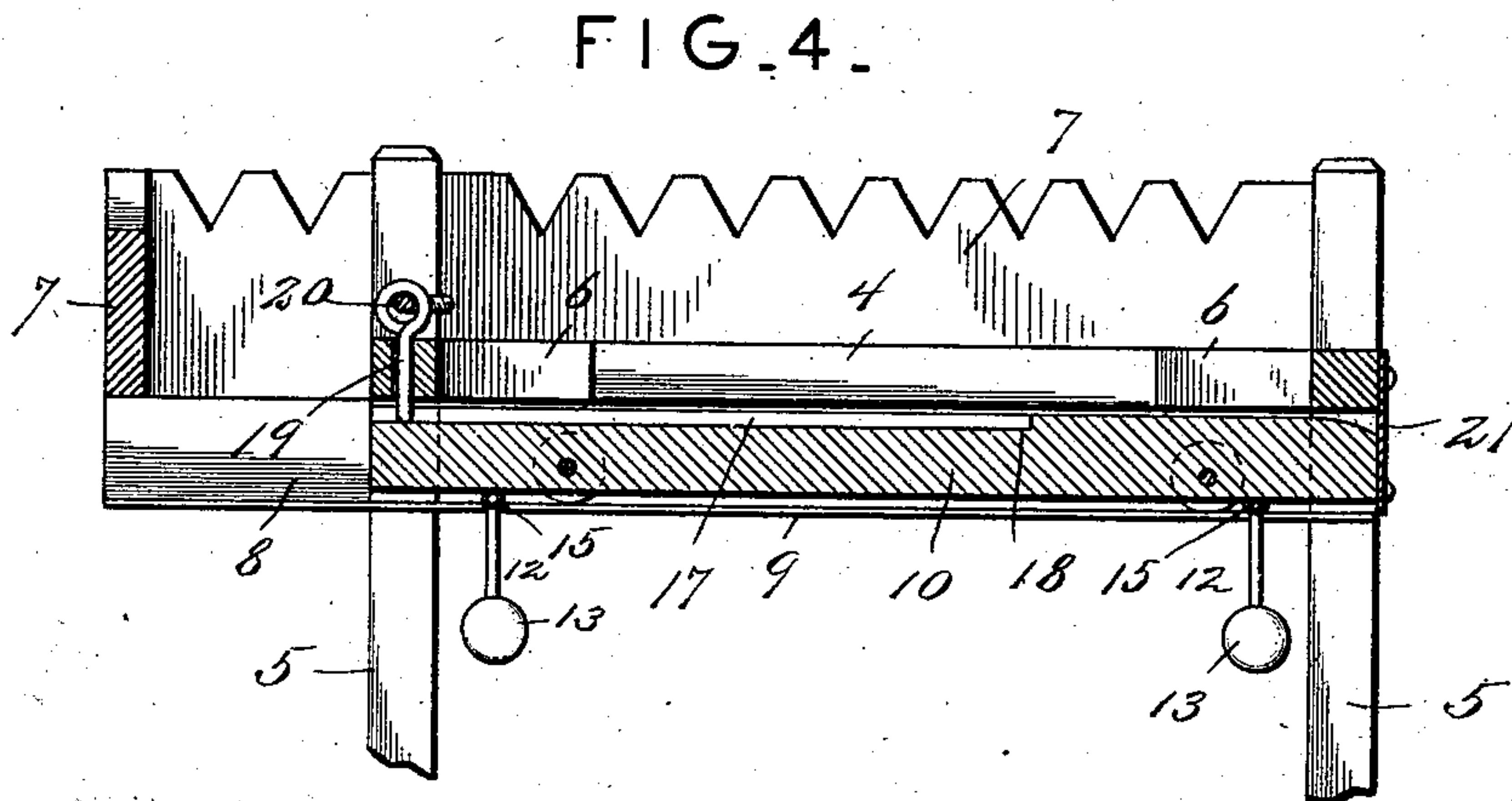
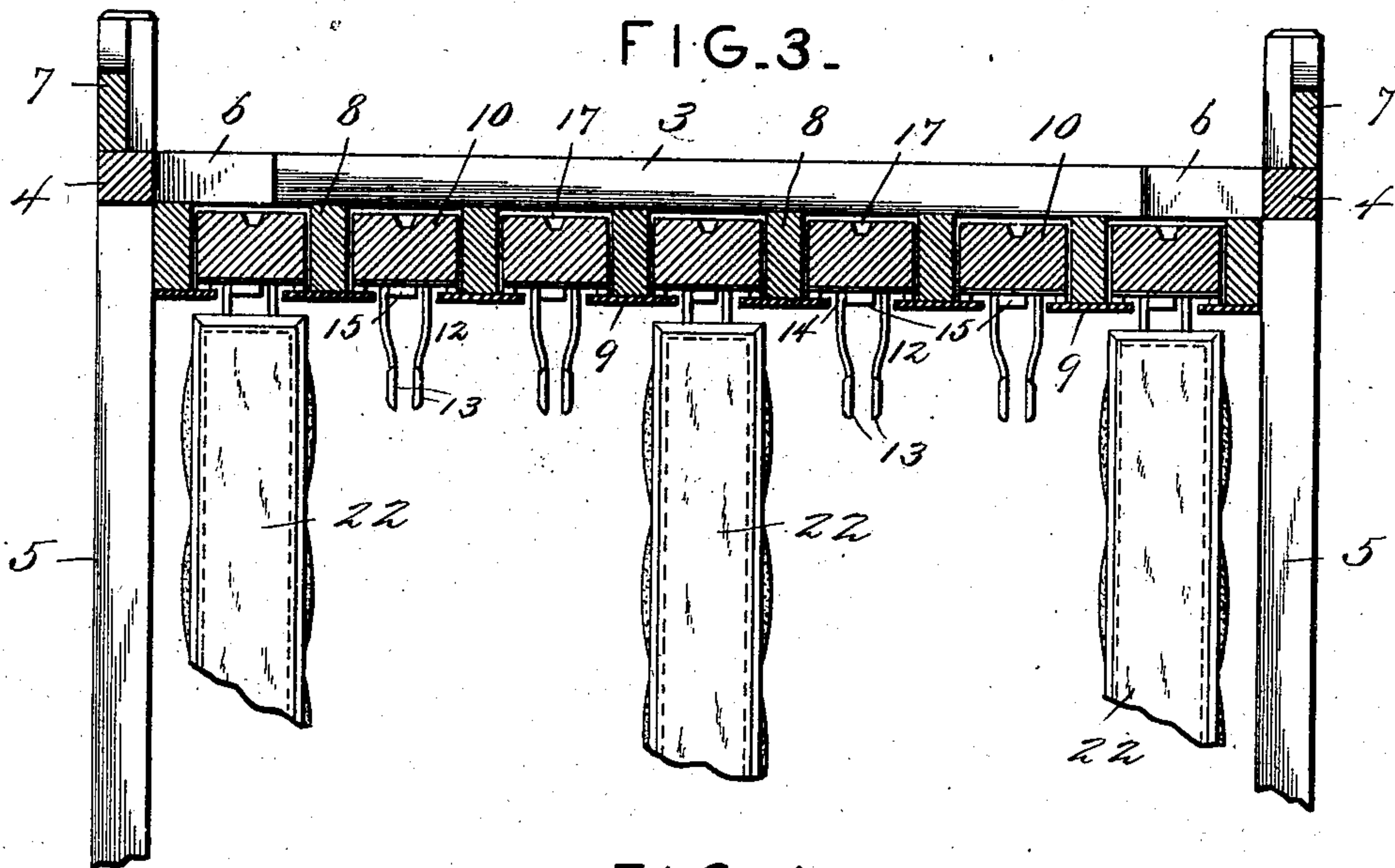
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM N. WILBANKS, OF CLEBURNE, TEXAS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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DISPLAY-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 726,127, dated April 21, 1903.

Application filed August 16, 1902. Serial No. 119,850. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM N. WILBANKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleburne, in the county of Johnson and State of Texas, have invented a certain new and useful Display-Rack, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to display-racks, the same being especially designed for the exhibition of mattresses in stores, warehouses, and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a display-rack in which the mattresses are suspended or hung in such manner that the mattresses may be individually and independently drawn outward and brought to view without disturbing the others, enabling the bystander to obtain an advantageous view of the mattresses one by one. When the mattresses are moved inward, they serve to protect each other and are further protected by the frame of the rack, thus preventing soiling and obviating injury incident to the handling of the same in the ordinary manner.

It is also an object of this invention to provide means whereby any or all of the mattresses may be removed from the rack when desired and also means for preventing the accidental displacement thereof at other times.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a display-rack for mattresses constructed in accordance with the present invention, showing the rack only partially filled. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, showing one of the slides partly withdrawn. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical longitudinal section through the upper portion of the rack, illustrating the manner of mounting the slides. Fig. 4 is a vertical transverse section through the same, taken at right angles to Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail perspective view of the end portion of

one of the slides, showing the rollers and one of the mattress-holding clamps.

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

The display-rack contemplated in this invention embodies, essentially, a frame which preferably is composed of longitudinal and transverse base-pieces 1 and 2, respectively, corresponding longitudinal and transverse top bars 3 and 4, and connecting corner-posts 5, the said base and top bars being braced relatively to each other and to the corner-posts by means of corner-braces 6, as shown. The upper portion of the rack or cabinet may be finished off with an ornamental cap-piece or top rail 7 and the rack may be otherwise ornamentally finished, according to the taste of the manufacturer or dealer.

In carrying out the present invention parallel bars 8 are secured to the upper portion of the frame, the same extending transversely of the frame and by preference being secured to the lower surfaces of the longitudinal top bars 3. These bars 8 are of about the same depth as the slides hereinafter described and extend entirely across the frame and also project a suitable distance at the front of the rack to form efficient supports for the slides and the mattresses carried thereby when the mattresses are drawn outward, this feature being best illustrated in Fig. 2. To the bottom edges of the bars 8 are secured strips 9, preferably of sheet metal, said strips sufficiently wider than the bottoms of the bars 8 to project at each side thereof and form rails or tracks upon which the slides rest and work. Slides 10 are arranged one between each pair of bars 8, each slide about filling the space between the oppositely-lying and adjacent bars. Each slide 10 is provided at opposite sides with antifriction-rollers, which rest and travel on the rails or tracks 9, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 5, each roller being mounted in a separate housing or bracket 11, secured to the side of the slide and offset inwardly to bring its outer portion flush, or substantially so, with the outer surface of the slide, as shown in Fig. 5, the roller being located inside of the plane of the side surface of the slide. Each of the slides 10 is further equipped with

one or more mattress-holding clamps 12, and each clamp is shown by preference to consist of a pair of jaws 13, one of which is ordinarily fixed or rigid on the slide, while the other jaw is slidingly and pivotally mounted by having its shank portion 14 bent at an angle and inserted in a sleeve or bearing 15 on the base-plate 16, to which the fixed jaw is permanently attached, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 5. By the arrangement described the movable jaw may be slid or swung away from the fixed jaw for the purpose of inserting or removing the edge of a mattress, the latter when in place being suspended at its upper edge, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. In order to allow the slides and mattresses to be removed from the rack and yet prevented from accidental displacement, each slide is provided in its upper surface with a longitudinal groove 17, which terminates in a shoulder 18, that comes in contact with a stop in the form of a pin 19, passing through an opening in the forward longitudinal bar of the rack-frame, at the top, as seen in Figs. 2 and 4. A separate stop-pin 19 is used for each slide, and all of the pins are held in place or prevented from escaping by means of a single strip or strand of cord or elastic 20, which passes through eyes or loops at the upper ends of the pins, as clearly illustrated, the extremities of such cord or strand being secured to the rack-frame at convenient points. The cord or strand 20 has sufficient slack or elasticity to permit the pins to be raised, one at a time, to release the slides; but the stop-pins are normally in engagement with the grooves in the slides. A common stop 21 in the form of a strip extends along the back of the frame in line with the slides and prevents said slides from moving backward beyond a predetermined limit, thus keeping all of the mattresses 22 in line when the same are pushed inward. The rack as a whole is by preference mounted on rollers or carriers located at the corners thereof to enable the same to be easily handled and moved from place to place.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that the mattresses may be withdrawn one or more at a time and advantageously displayed or exhibited without the usual soiling and that when the mattresses are pushed back they lie side by side and serve to protect each other. The parts of the rack are so proportioned, preferably, that the mattresses may be drawn outward until approximately two-thirds of each mattress on

both sides may be displayed. The rack may of course be made of any size or capacity to contain any desired number of mattresses.

Various changes may be made in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. A display-rack comprising a frame, a series of elevated tracks or rails supported thereby and unobstructed at one end, longitudinally-movable slides mounted on the rails, and suspending-clamps carried by the slides and working between the rails, the construction of the frame adapting the slides to be moved endwise off the extremities of the rails.

2. A display-rack comprising a frame, a series of slides movable along the upper portion of the frame, suspending-clamps carried by the slides, and movable stops limiting the movement and permitting the removal of the slides.

3. A display-rack comprising a frame, a series of slides movable along the upper portion of the frame, suspending-clamps on the slides, stops in engagement with the slides, and a flexible connection common to all the stops.

4. A display-rack comprising a frame, a series of slides movable along the upper portion of the frame, suspending-clamps on the slides, stops in engagement with the slides, and a flexible connection in engagement with all the stops and having its extremities attached to the frame of the rack.

5. A display-rack comprising a frame, slides movable along the upper portion of the frame and provided with suspending-clamps and also having grooves, and stops mounted on the frame and engaging said grooves.

6. A display-rack comprising a frame, slides movable along the upper portion of the same and provided with grooves terminating in shoulders, suspending-clamps on the slides, and stops mounted on the frame and adapted to engage said grooves and shoulders.

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

WILLIAM N. WILBANKS.

Witnesses:

H. G. CLEMENTS,
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