

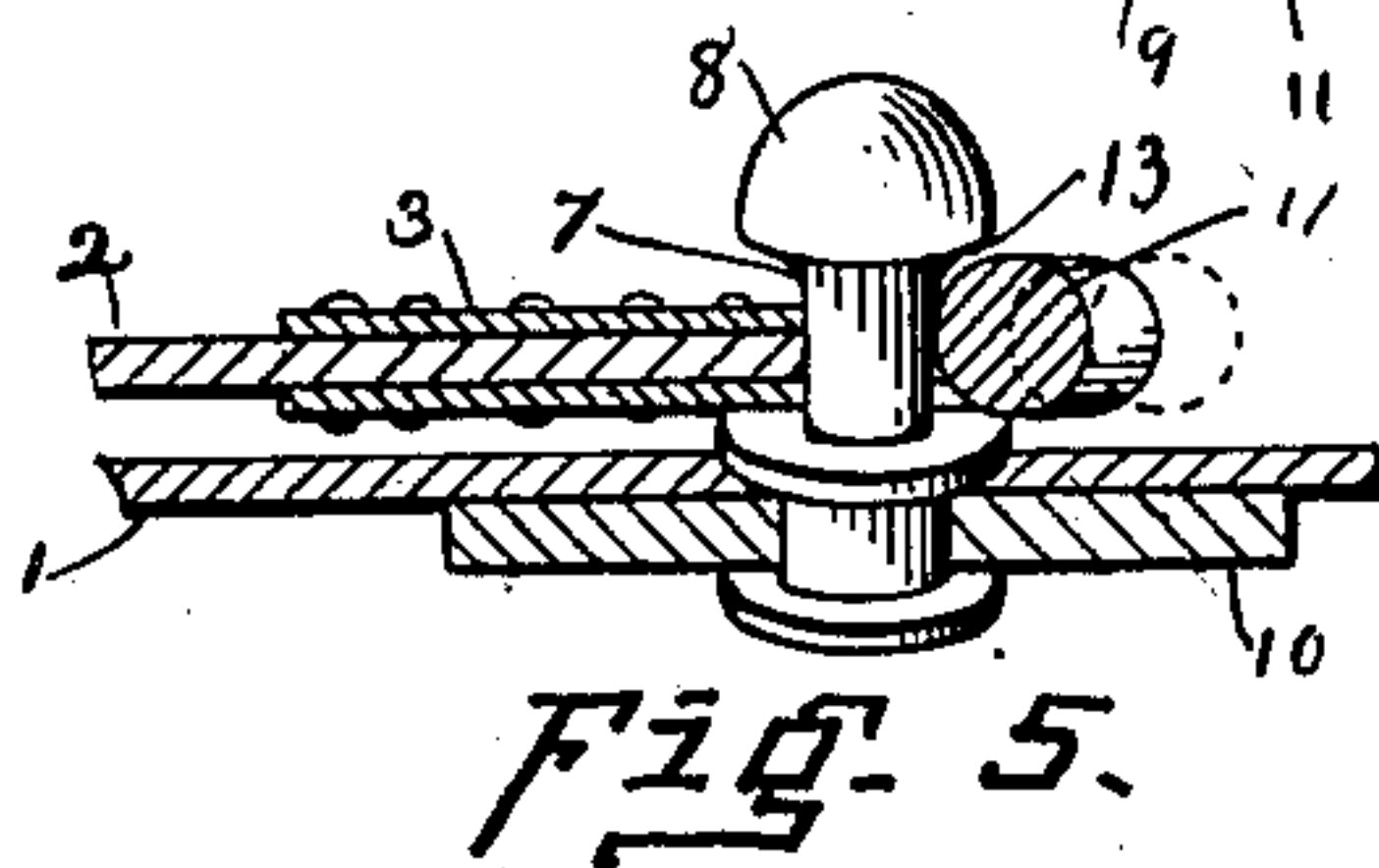
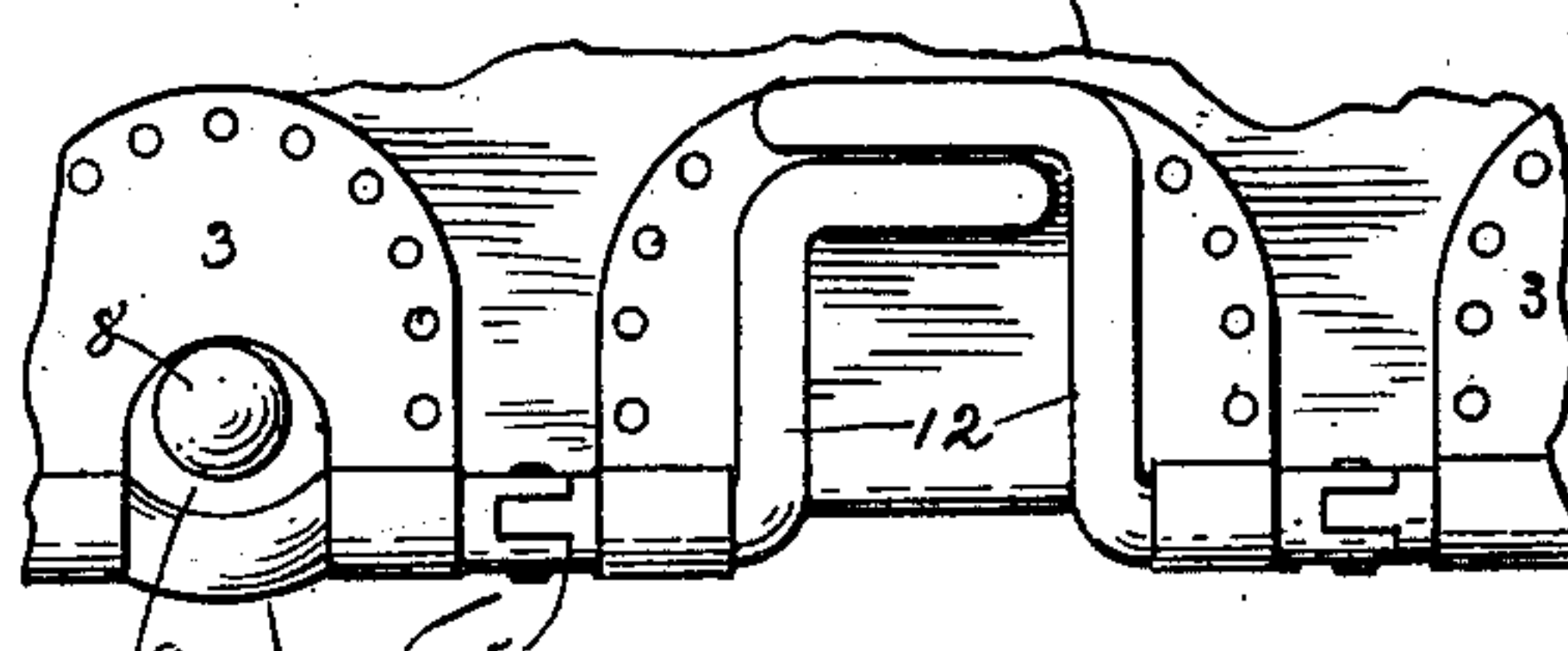
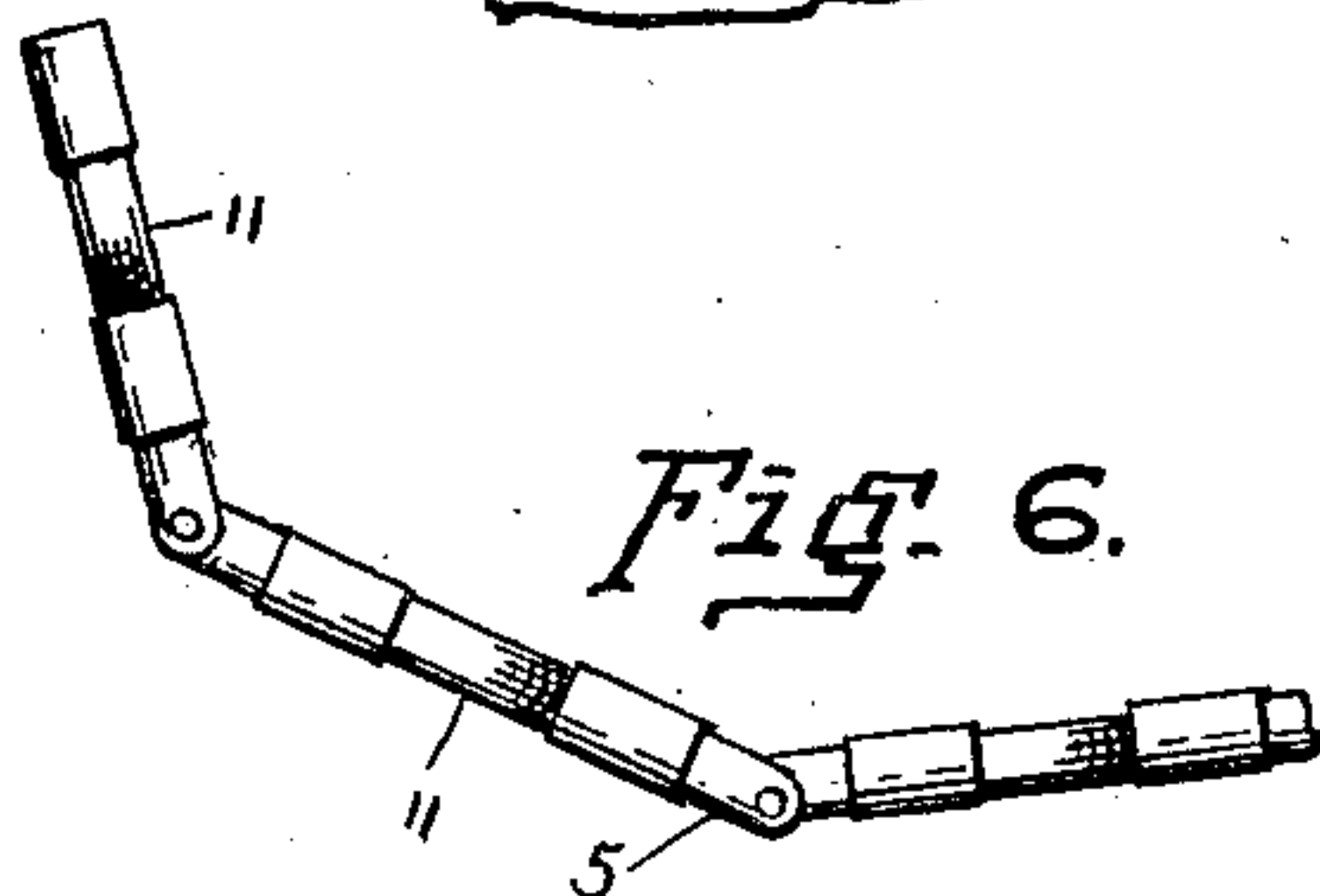
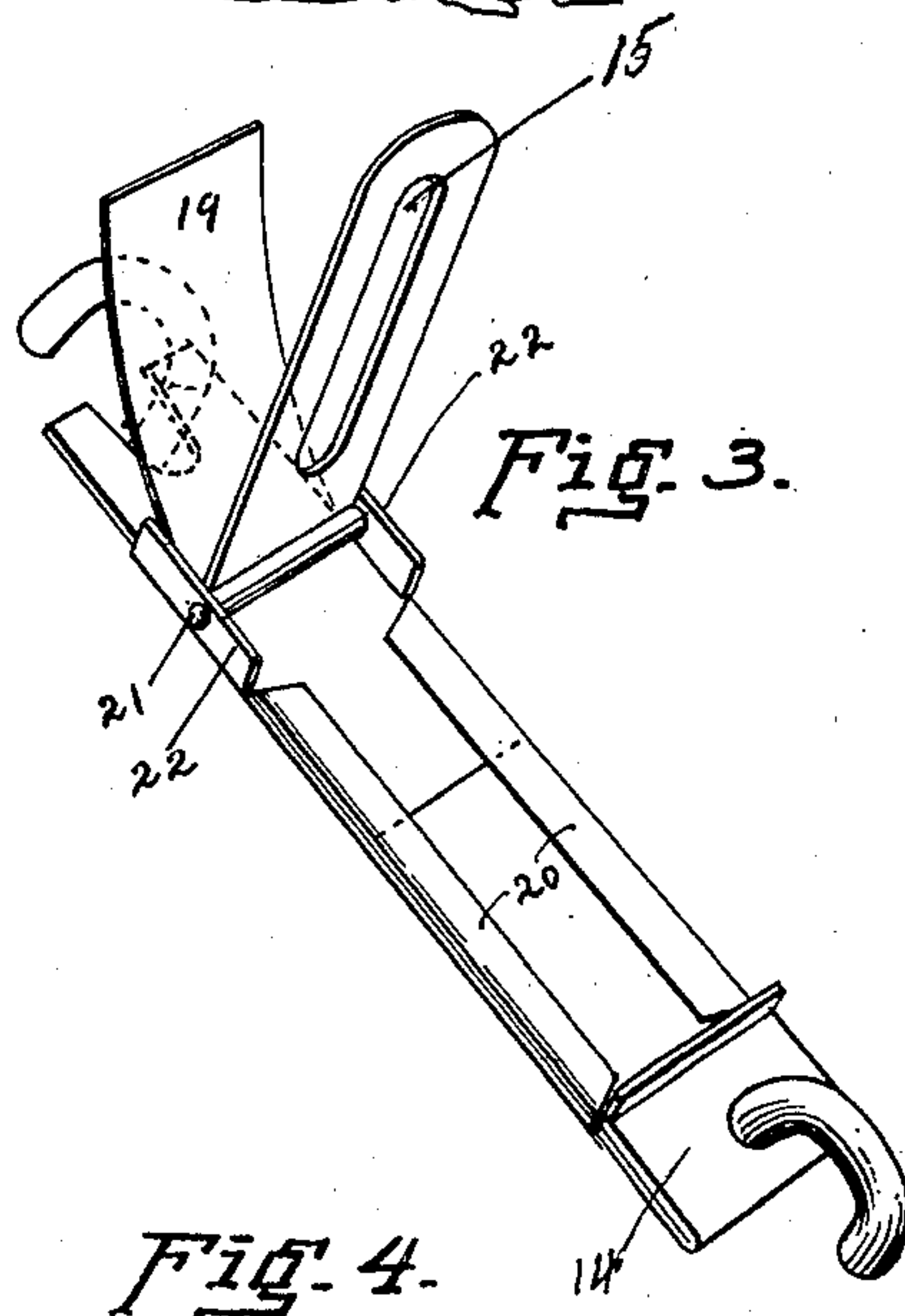
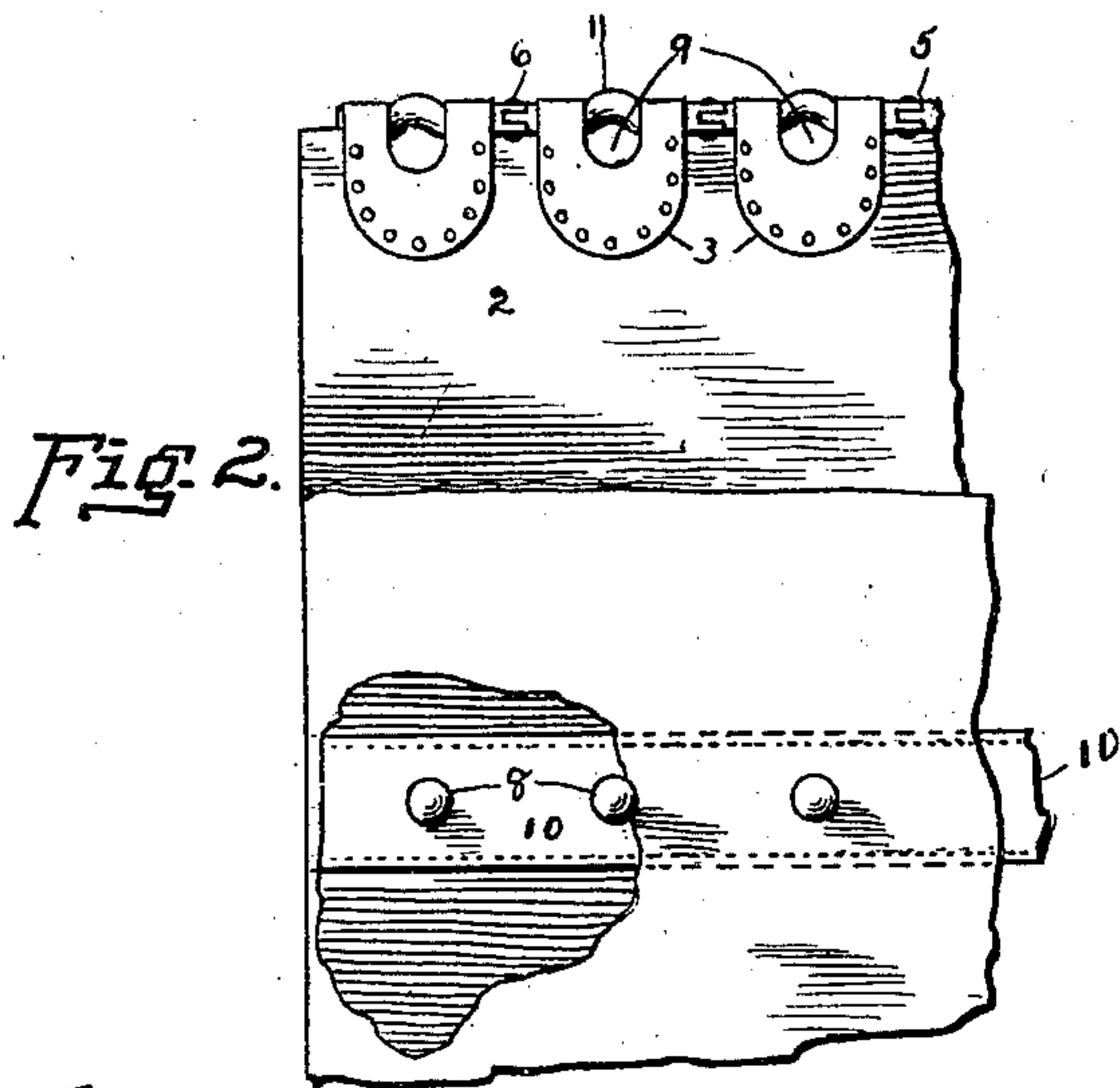
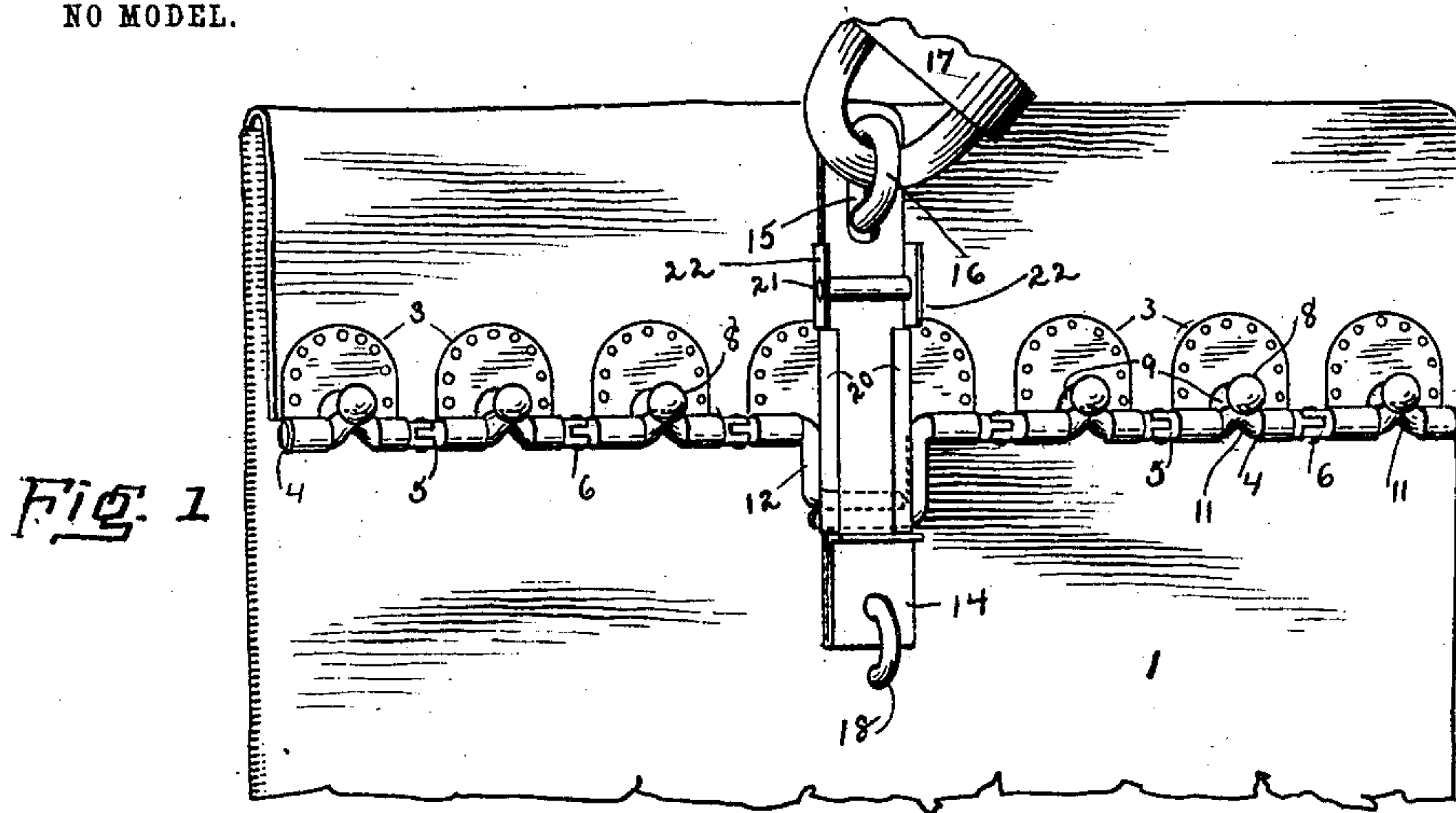
No. 735,914.

PATENTED AUG. 11, 1903.

J. W. SHALLENBERGER.
MAIL BAG FASTENER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 7, 1903.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:

W. H. Stough
J. R. Bond

INVENTOR
John W. Shallenberger
BY *J. W. Bond*

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. SHALLENBERGER, OF CANAL FULTON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CLARENCE M. SHAFER, OF CANAL FULTON, OHIO.

MAIL-BAG FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 735,914, dated August 11, 1903.

Application filed May 7, 1903. Serial No. 156,008. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. SHALLENBERGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canal Fulton, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Mail-Bag Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a view showing the sack closed and locked. Fig. 2 is a view showing a portion of the sack and illustrating the same open. Fig. 3 is a detached view of the hasp, showing the label partially withdrawn. Fig. 4 is a view showing portions of the lock-bars in proper relative position and illustrating the same in relation to the sack, showing the lock-bars turned to unlock the sack. Fig. 5 is a view showing one of the lock posts or studs and also the lock-plates and lock-bars brought into position to lock the sack. Fig. 6 is a detached view showing a portion of one of the lock-bars, showing the links thereof turned at an angle to each other.

The present invention has relation to mail-bag fasteners; and it consists in the novel arrangement hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, 1 represents a portion of a mail-sack, which is of the ordinary construction and of course formed of suitable material for the purpose designed. The back of the sack proper is extended a short distance above the mouth of the sack, so as to reduce the overlapping, which is formed of sufficient size to properly close the mouth of the sack 1 when said flap is brought into position illustrated in Fig. 1.

To the free end of the flap 2 are attached any desired number of metal plates 3, which metal plates are provided with the eyes 4, which eyes are located beyond the edge of the flap 2 and are for the purpose of providing bearings for the different links 5, which links are pivoted together, so as to constitute

a locking bar or bars of a length to correspond with the width of the sack designed to be constituted, said links being connected together by means of suitable rivets 6.

To the front or forward side of the sack 1 are connected locking-posts 7, which locking-posts are provided with the heads 8, said heads being formed of such a size and shape that they will pass through the openings 9, formed in the plates 3. The locking-posts may be attached to a strip 10, which strip is secured to the sack in any convenient and well-known manner. In the drawings the strip is shown upon the inside; but it will be understood that it may be located on the outside, if desired, as its only object is to provide reinforcement for locking-posts 7.

The links 5 of the lock-bars are provided with the curved portions 11, which curved portions are to be located so that they will come directly opposite the locking-posts when said locking-posts are passed through the apertures 9, and when the links are rocked by means of the operating-levers or cranks 12, so as to bring the convexed edges of the curved portions 11 against the locking-posts 7, said portions will fit or be seated in the narrowed or reduced portions 13 of the posts 7.

It will be understood that when the links 5 of the locking-bars are turned so that their curved portions will press against the locking-posts said locking-posts will be crowded against the seats of the apertures 9, and thereby securely lock the flap 2 in the position illustrated in Fig. 1.

The levers 12 are so formed that when they are turned toward the bottom of the sack, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the curved portions of the lock-bar links will be in the position illustrated in Fig. 5, which position is the one that locks the flap 2, and for the purpose of holding the links of the lock-bars in the position the hasp 14 is so located that when the slotted end 15 of the hasp 14 is passed over the staple 16 the levers 12 will be located directly under the hasp, and when the padlock 17 is properly connected to the staple 16 it will be impossible to turn the levers to unlock or release the flap 2.

The hasp 14 is connected in the usual manner by means of a staple 18, which staple is

connected in the usual manner. In use the hasp 14 should be so constructed that a label, such as 19, can be attached, so as to properly designate each particular sack, and in order to provide a hasp that the label can be attached it is provided with overturned edges 20 and the slotted end 15 hinged to the hasp 14 and the label 19 moved under the rivet or bar 21, which rivet or bar is connected to the flanges 22, substantially as illustrated in Fig. 3.

It will be understood that forming the lock-bars of suitable links and pivoting the links together that when the sack is closed it will not be rigid, but is free to be turned or brought into any desired position, so that the sack can be suspended conveniently.

In the drawings I have illustrated two link lock-bars and two levers; but I do not desire to be confined to this construction, as it will readily be seen that by providing a single lever which connects the two link lock-bars shown the same object can be accomplished.

In providing two levers 12 it will be understood that one should be formed somewhat shorter than the other, so that they can lap one within the other, as illustrated in Fig. 4.

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

1. In a mail-bag fastener, a bag provided with a flap, the free edge thereof provided with plates having openings, a lock-bar composed of links and provided with an operat-

ing-lever and said links provided with curved portions, locking-posts secured to the body of the bag, said posts provided with heads, and a hasp adapted to hold a label, and a lock-staple secured to the body of the bag, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a mail-bag fastener the combination of a mail-bag provided with a flap, plates provided with openings secured to the free edge of the flap, posts fixed to the bag and said posts provided with heads, locking-bars consisting of links pivoted together and provided with operating-levers, said links provided with curved portions, said curved portions adapted to press against the locking-post, and a hasp normally located over the levers of the locking-bars, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a mail-bag fastener, a mail-bag provided with a flap, said flap provided with plates, locking-posts secured to the mail-bag, locking-bars composed of links, and the links provided with curved portions, a lever secured to each of the locking-bars, and a hasp normally located over the levers, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. SHALLENBERGER.

Witnesses:

FRANK J. MCGEE,
A. H. MCCADDEN.