

No. 763,933.

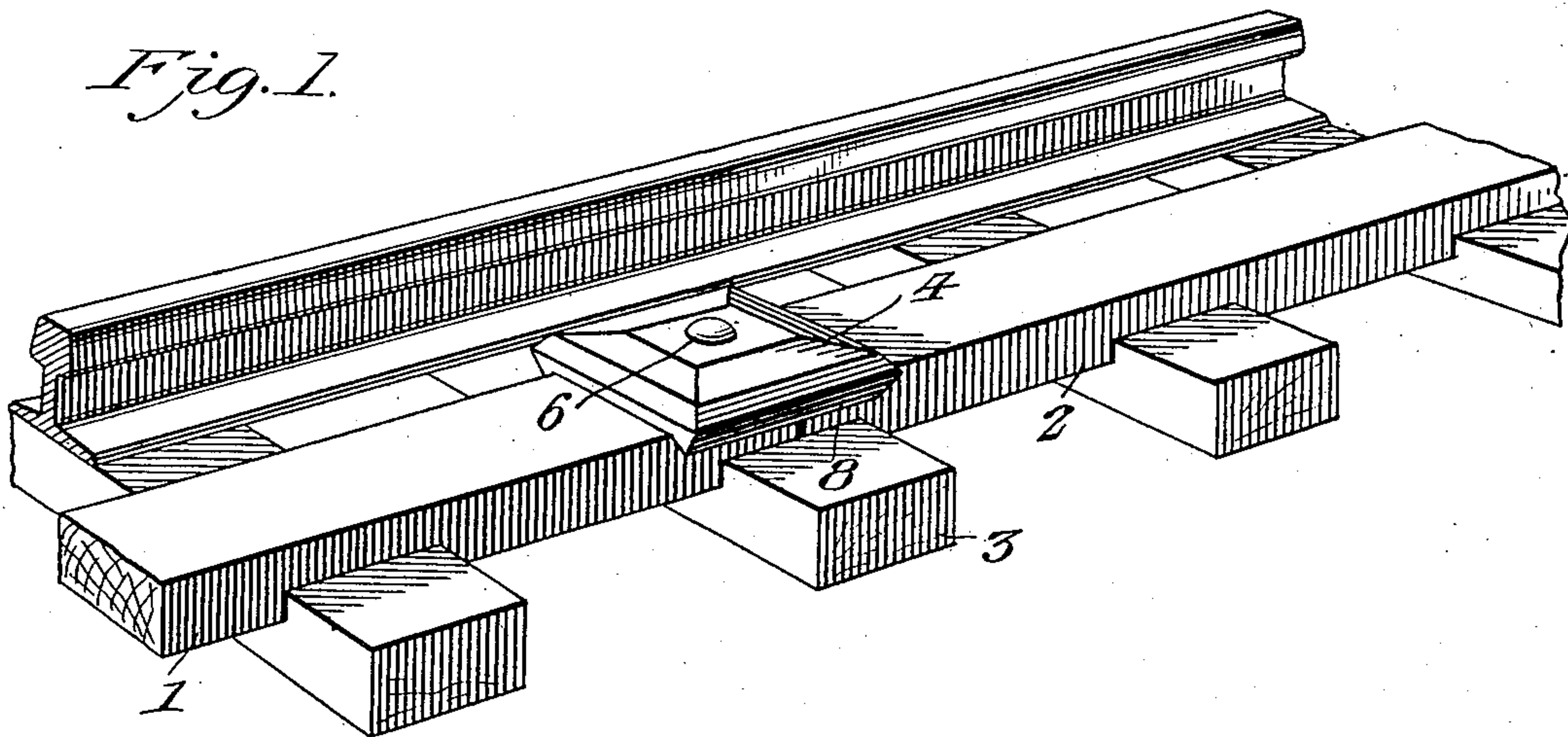
PATENTED JUNE 28, 1904.

W. F. SPILLMAN, SR.  
TIMBER JOINT FOR GUARD RAILS OR THE LIKE.

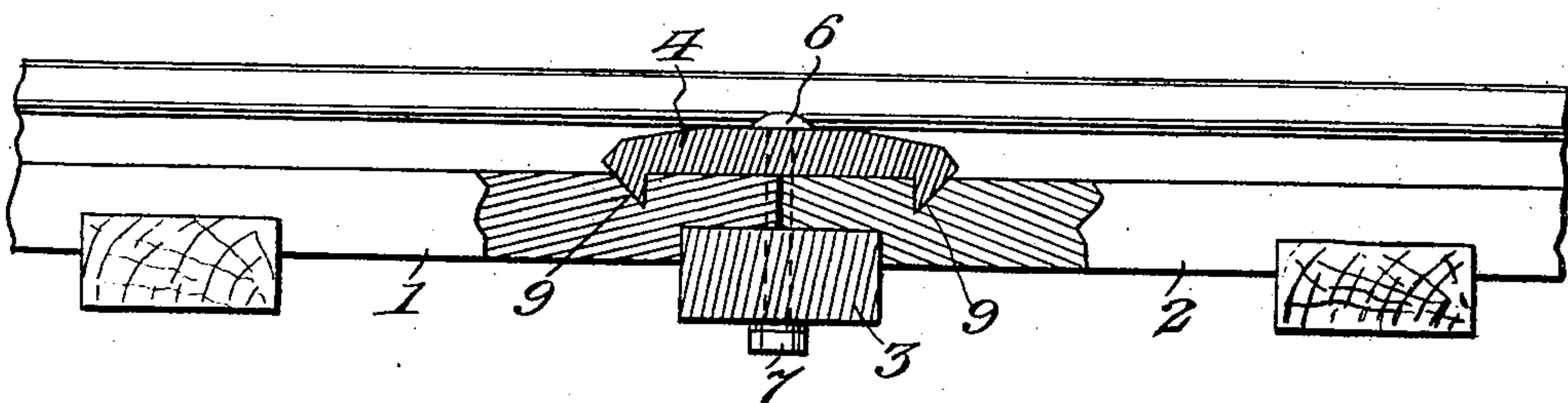
APPLICATION FILED APR. 11, 1903.

NO MODEL.

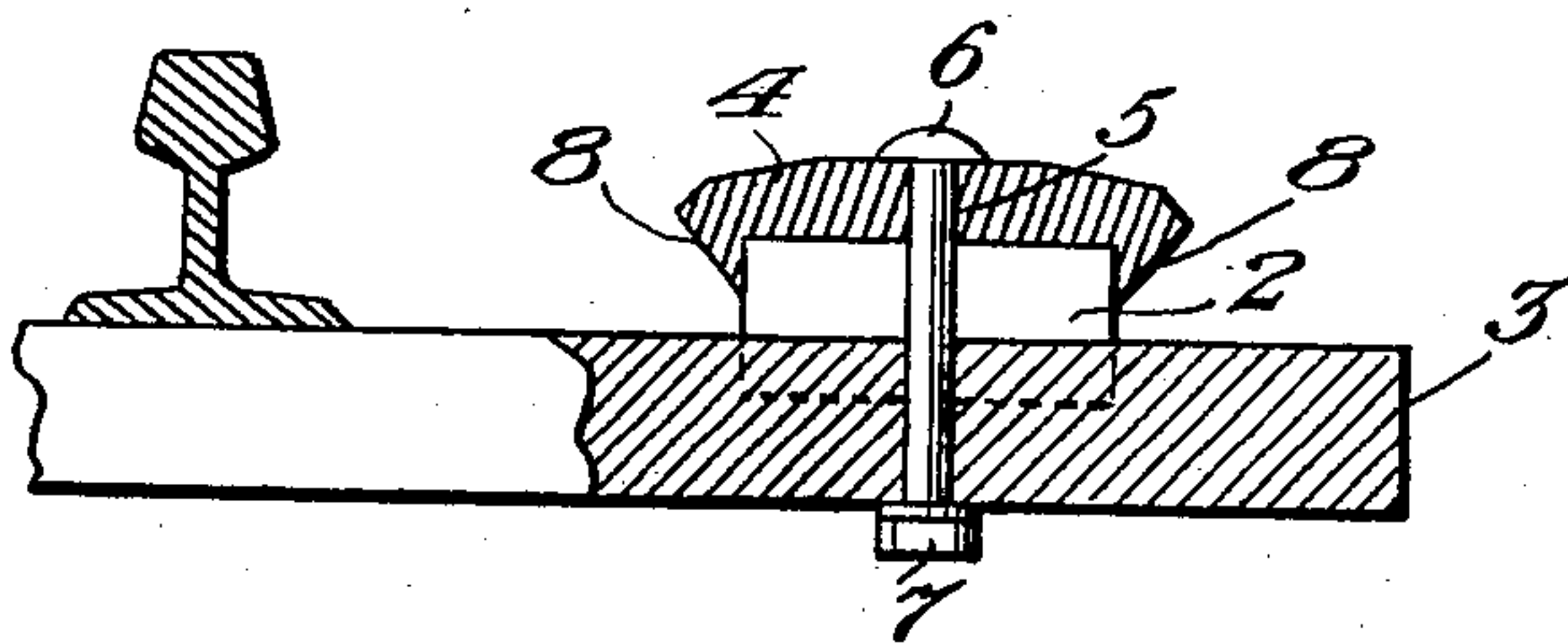
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses

*Edwin G. McKee*  
*Chas. S. Hoyer.*

Inventor  
*William F. Spillman, Sr.*

By *Victor J. Evans.*  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM FLORENCE SPILLMAN, SR., OF PADUCAH, KENTUCKY.

## TIMBER-JOINT FOR GUARD-RAILS OR THE LIKE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 763,933, dated June 28, 1904.

Application filed April 11, 1903. Serial No. 152,224. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM FLORENCE SPILLMAN, Sr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Paducah, in the county of Mc-  
5 Cracken and State of Kentucky, have invented new and useful Improvements in Timber-Joints for Guard-Rails or the Like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in  
10 joints for uniting the ends of timbers; and the object is to provide a simple and effective device which will be especially useful in securing the ends of timbers forming the guard-rails of railroad-bridges.

15 With the above object in view the invention consists in the novel features of construction hereinafter fully described, particularly pointed out in the claim, and clearly illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in  
20 which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a railroad-bridge, showing my improved joint applied to the meeting ends of two of the timbers of the guard-rail; Fig. 2, a sectional view of the joint and meeting ends of the guard-rail timbers, and Fig. 3 a sectional view through the joint taken at right angles to Fig. 2.

Referring now more particularly to the  
30 drawings, the numerals 1 and 2 designate two timbers placed end to end and here illustrated as forming a part of the guard-rail of a railroad-bridge. These timbers at their ends are cut away upon the under sides to receive one  
35 of the cross-timbers 3 of the bridge. My improvement in the joint provides for uniting these timbers at their meeting ends and securing them to the cross-timber 3 and consists of a plate 4, having a central perforation 5 formed vertically therein to receive a  
40 securing-bolt 6, which passes through a vertical perforation formed half in the end of each timber to be united and through a ver-

tical perforation formed in the cross-timber, the bolt receiving a nut 7 on its lower end. 45

The plate 4 is formed on its side edges with flanges 8 to engage the edges of the timbers to prevent independent lateral movement thereof when said plate is secured by the bolt. The plate is also provided with flanges 9 at  
50 its end edges which are forced into the two timbers and prevent independent longitudinal movement of the latter. The plate is formed square with its pairs of flanges the same distance apart, and said flanges are simi-  
55 lar, so that either pair may be used to prevent longitudinal or lateral movement of the timbers relatively to each other, and said flanges are also continuous, so that they support each other and tend to prevent bending  
60 or fracture. Thus the plate may be readily placed in position and secured by the bolt.

A joint constructed as contemplated by my invention is cheap to manufacture, effective in operation, may be easily and quickly ap-  
65 plied, and by its use the life of the timbers is lengthened.

I do not limit the invention to use upon guard-rails of railroad-bridges, as it may be used in many other connections where it is  
70 desired to provide a reliable joint for the meeting ends of timbers.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is— 75

A joint-plate for timbers, comprising a plate having a bolt-hole therethrough and similar continuous flanges extending around all of its edges.

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

WILLIAM FLORENCE SPILLMAN, SR.

Witnesses:

Dow WILCOX,  
J. W. McKNIGHT.