

No. 776,160.

PATENTED NOV. 29, 1904.

R. M. WOOD.  
TELEGRAPH KEY.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 9, 1904.

NO MODEL.

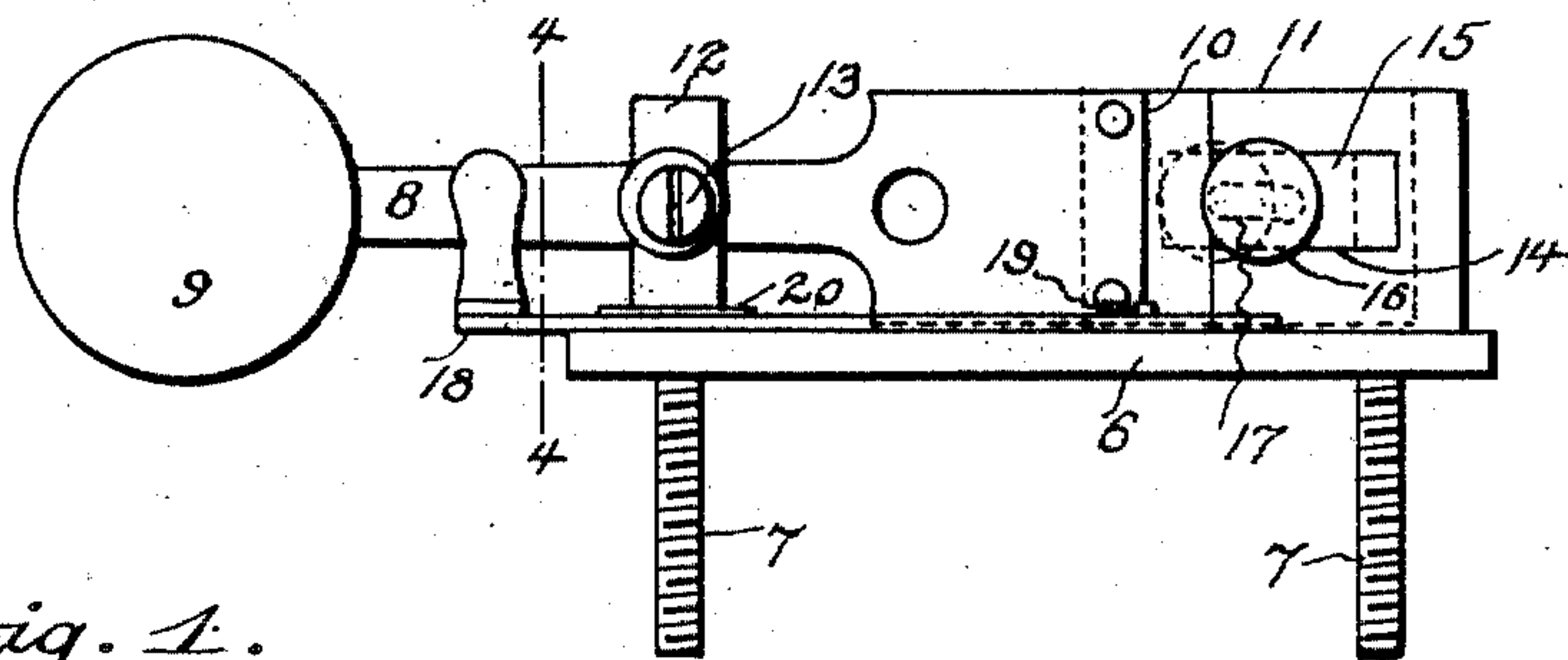


Fig. 1.

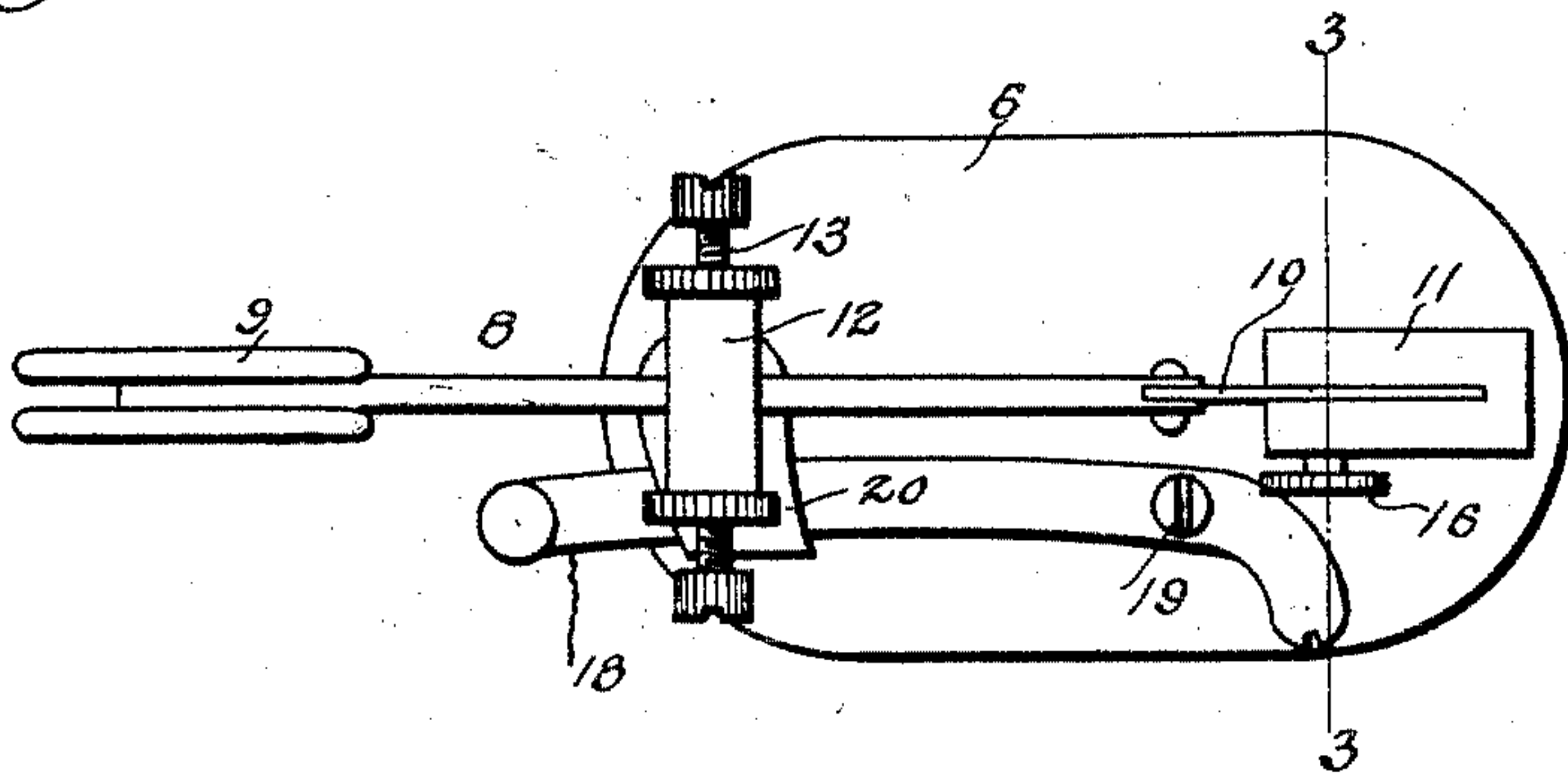


Fig. 2.

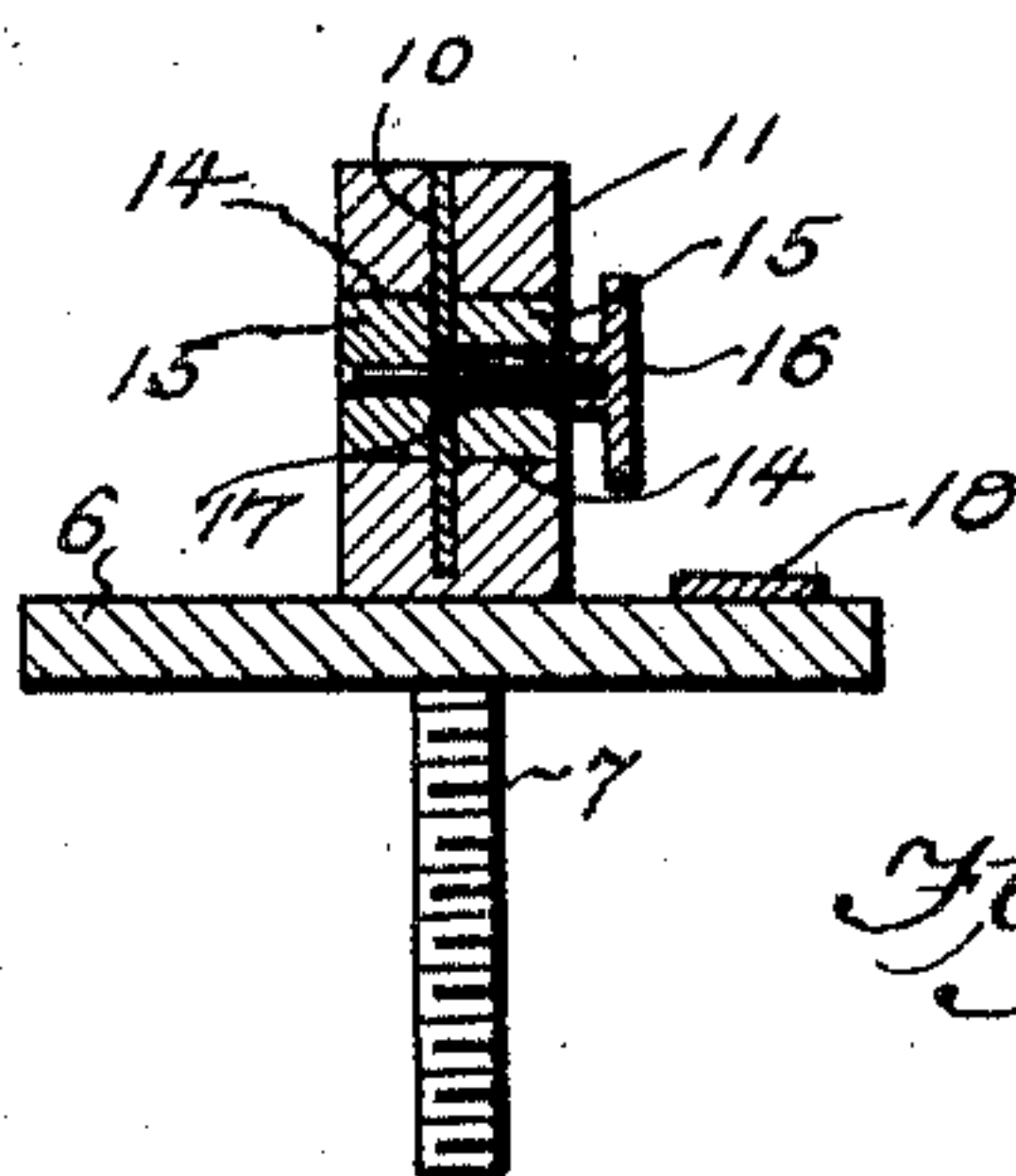


Fig. 3.

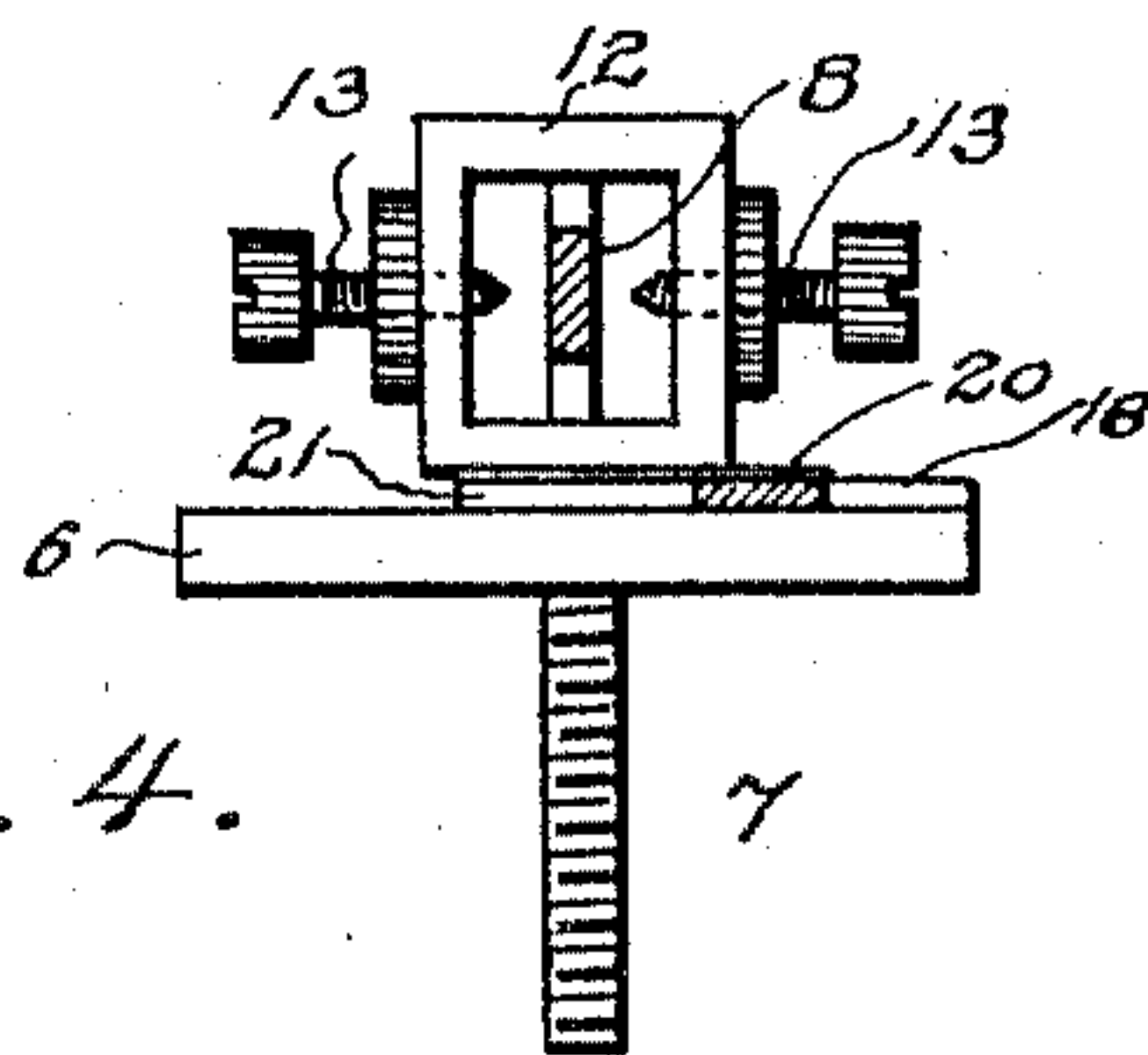


Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROYE M. WOOD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## TELEGRAPH-KEY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 776,160, dated November 29, 1904.

Application filed May 9, 1904. Serial No. 207,038. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROYE M. WOOD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Telegraph-Keys, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to telegraph-keys, and has for its object to provide a horizontally-swinging key to increase the transmitting speed.

A further object is to provide a spring-actuated key which shall be very sensitive and easy to operate.

A further object is to provide means for regulating the tension of the key-spring, so that the resiliency of the key can be adjusted to suit the operator.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 a plan view, of the key. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2.

Referring specifically to the drawings, 6 denotes the base of the key, and it is provided with threaded stems 7, whereby it is fastened to the table. The key comprises a horizontally-swinging lever 8, having at its outer end the usual button 9. The inner end of the lever is secured to a leaf-spring 10, which is fastened in a block 11 on the base. A frame 12 is attached to the base near the front edge thereof, through which the key extends. Contact-screws 13 extend through the side walls of the frame, so that when the key is swung back and forth in a horizontal plane the circuit will be closed by contact with the points of either one of the screws, they also serving to regulate the stroke of the key. The spring 10 renders the key very sensitive and easy to operate and returns it to its normal

position between the contact-points of the screw 13 after each stroke.

The block 11, in which the spring 10 is fastened, is cut away on both sides of the latter, as at 14, to receive blocks 15, which are connected by a thumb-screw 16, extending through a slot 17 in the spring. By loosening the screw the blocks can be slid forward over the spring, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1. This shortens up the spring, and therefore stiffens it. The resiliency of the key can therefore be adjusted to suit the operator.

A switch-lever 18 is pivoted to the base near its rear end at 19. The contact for the switch comprises a thin strip 20, which is clamped between the bottom of the frame 12 and an insulating-block 21 on the base.

The use of this key eliminates the liability to telegraphers' paralysis, there being no strain on the wrist, because the entire forearm can be used in the sidewise movement.

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

1. A telegraph-key comprising a base, a block thereon, a leaf-spring fastened in said block and carrying the key-lever, and blocks adjustable along the spring for regulating the tension thereof.

2. A telegraph-key comprising a base, a block thereon, a leaf-spring fastened in said block and carrying a horizontally-swinging lever, and blocks adjustable along the spring for regulating the tension thereof.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROYE M. WOOD.

Witnesses:

SIGNA FELTSKOG,  
H. G. BATCHELOR.