

No. 789,802.

PATENTED MAY 16, 1905.

B. F. FOWLER.
ROCKING HORSE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 29, 1903.

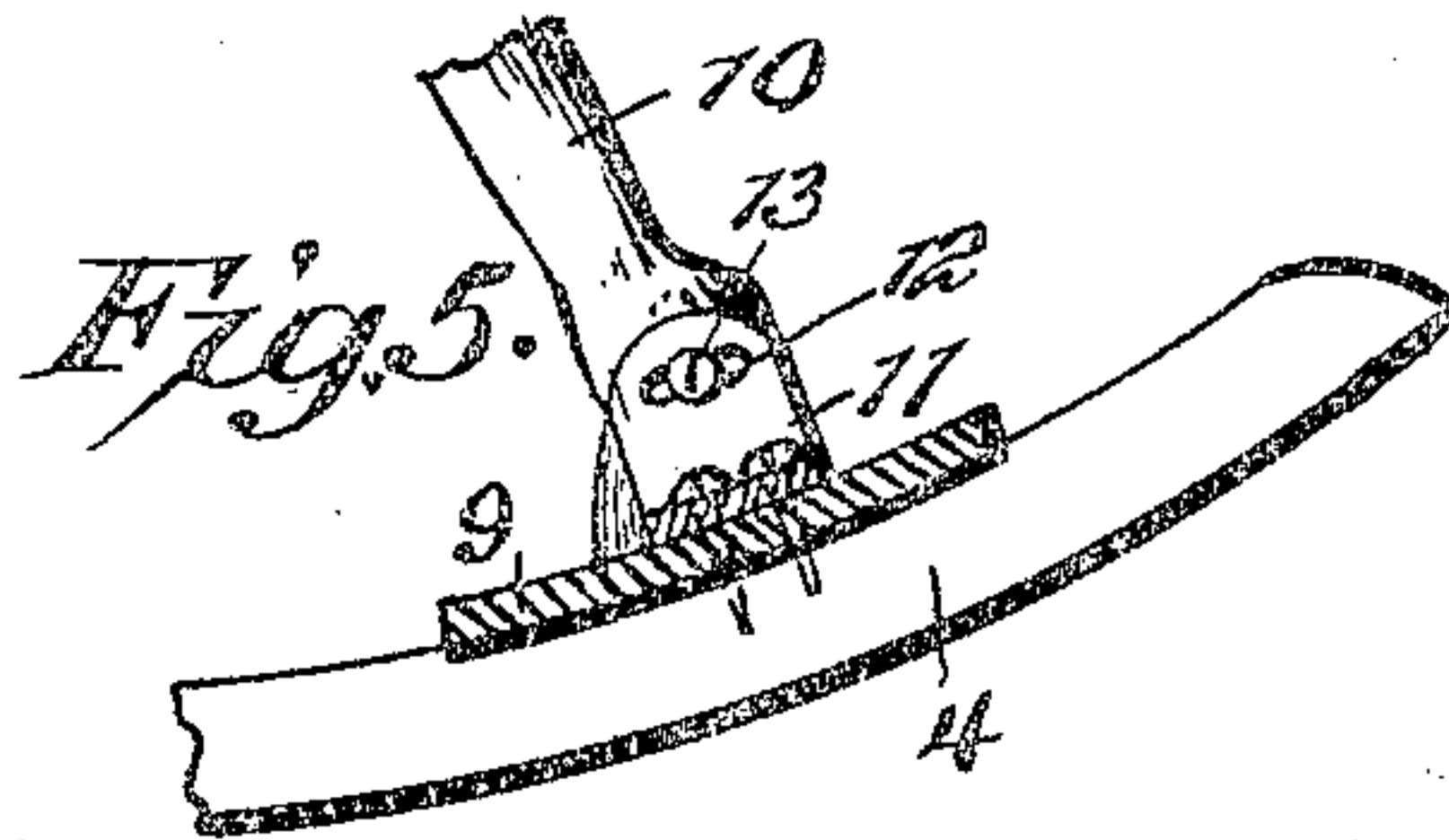
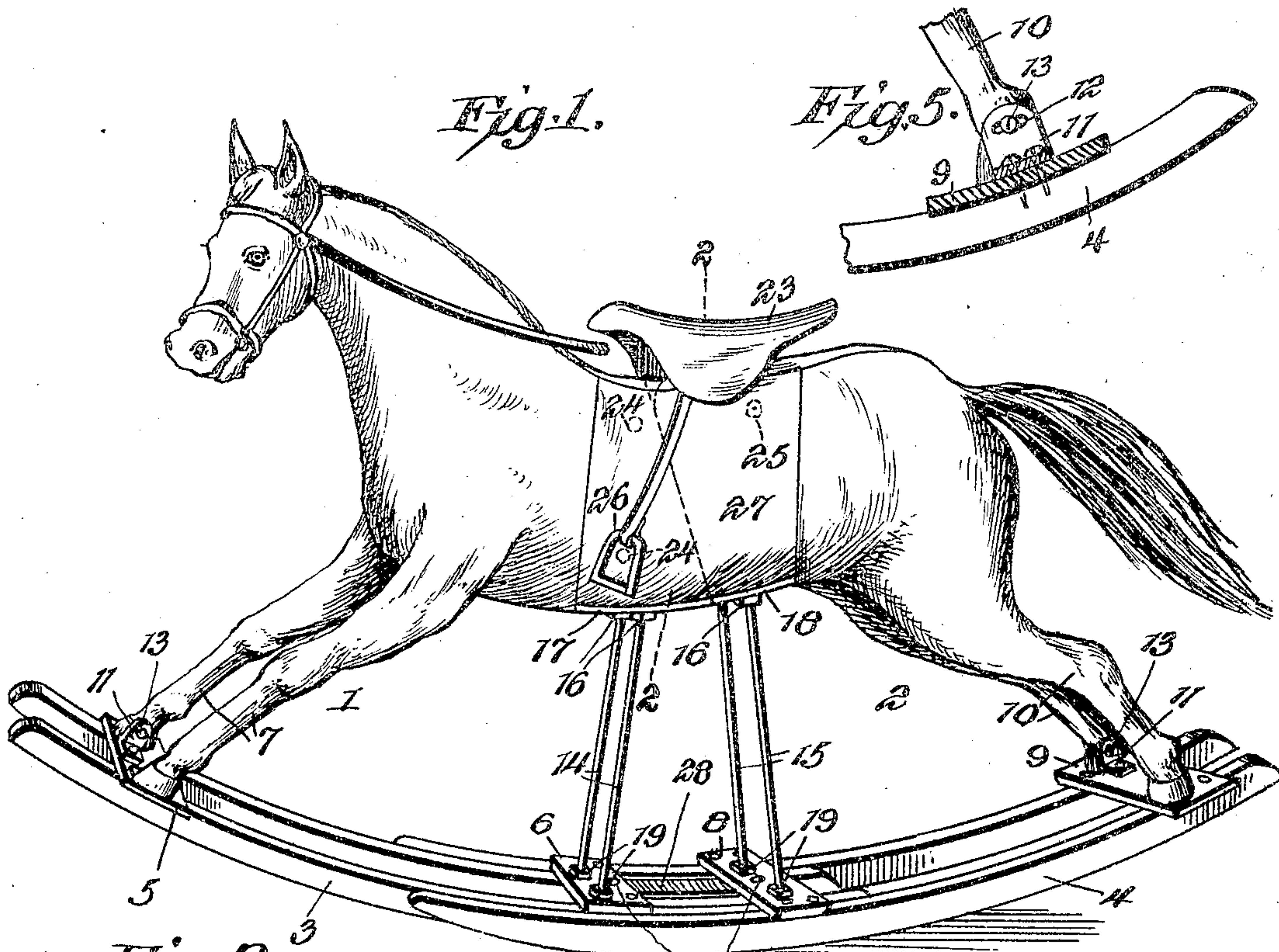


Fig. 2.

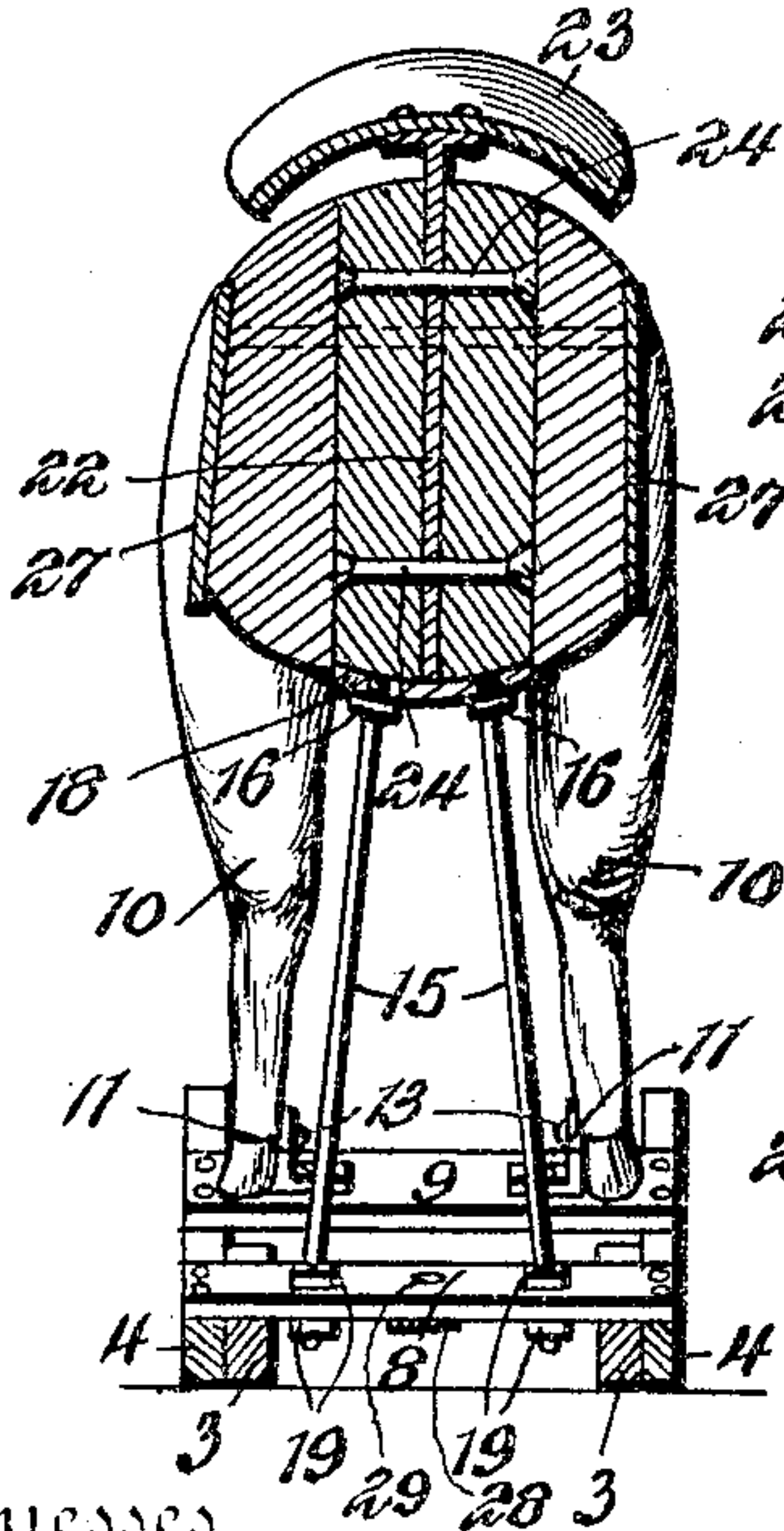


Fig. 4.

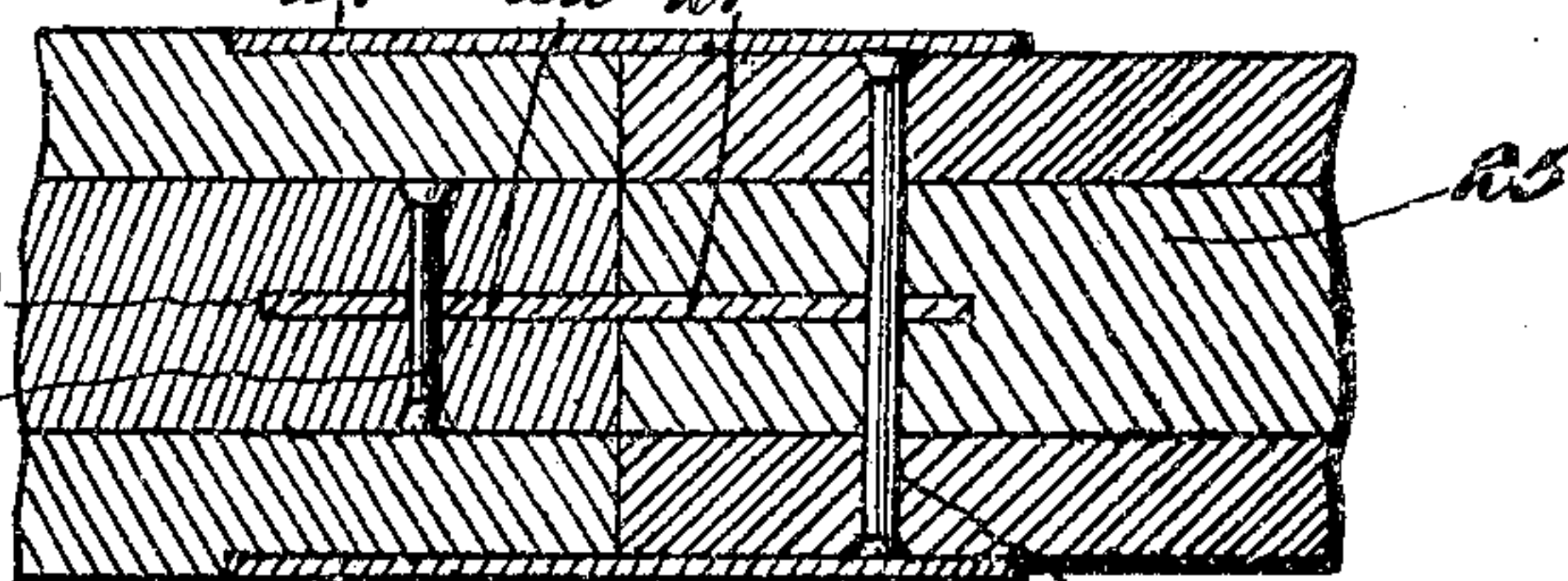
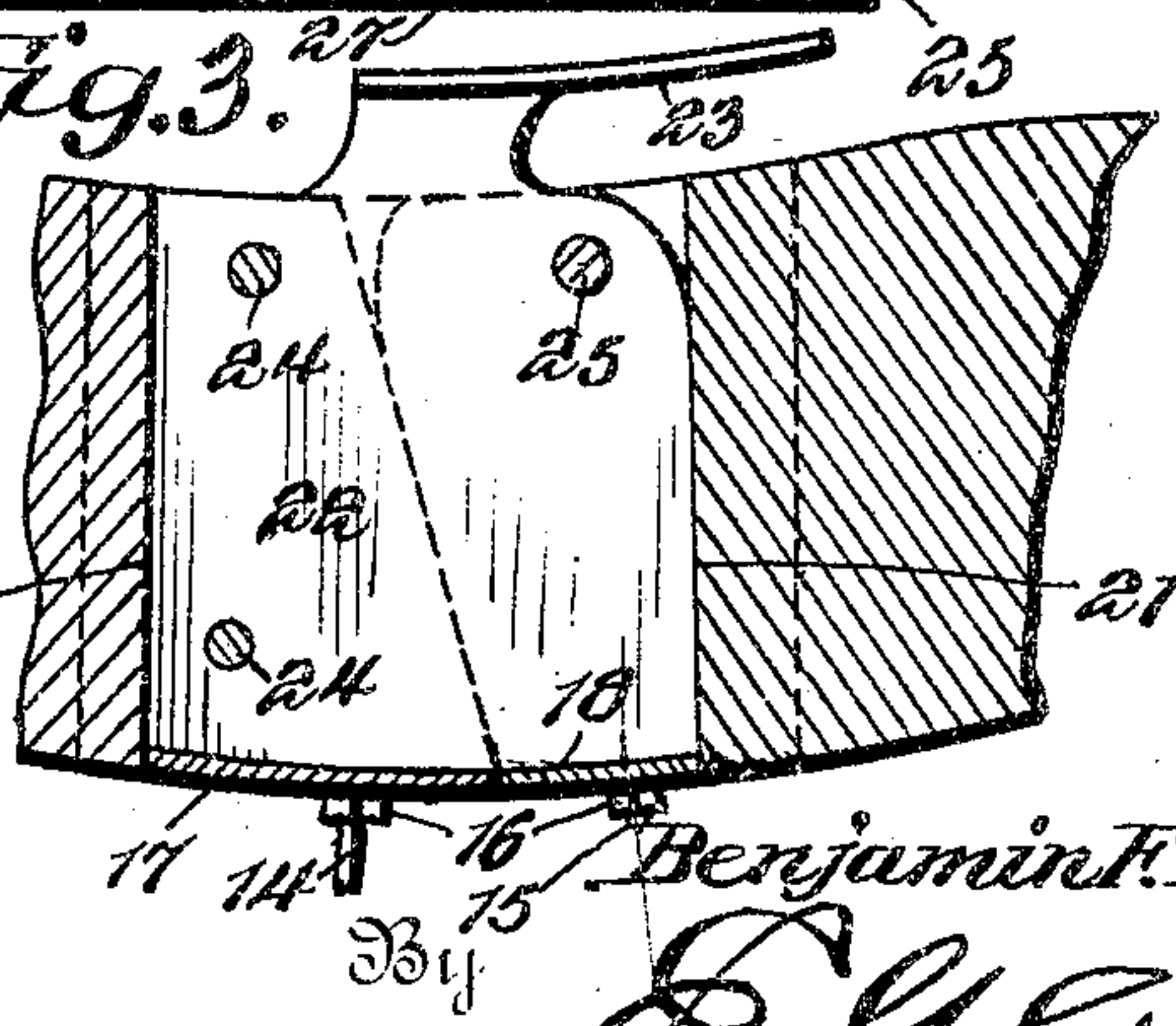


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. FOWLER, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

ROCKING-HORSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 789,802, dated May 16, 1905.

Application filed December 29, 1903. Serial No. 187,017.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. FOWLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and useful Rocking-Horse, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in traveling rocking-horses.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of traveling rocking-horses and to increase the strength, durability, and efficiency and to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive one adapted to have the length of its stroke readily controlled and capable of readily taking up any wear or lost motion.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a traveling rocking-horse constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view taken substantially on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail longitudinal sectional view illustrating the manner of hinging the front and rear sections together. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view of the same. Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view illustrating the manner of adjustably securing the rockers to the legs of the horse.

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

1 and 2 designate front and rear sections of a rocking-horse, which sections are mounted upon independent front and rear rockers 3 and 4 and pivoted eccentrically with relation to each other, whereby the adjacent ends of the front and rear rockers are adapted to swing past each other when the rocking-horse is op-

erated. The rockers are arranged in pairs, 50 and the front rockers 3, which have their rear portions arranged between the rear rockers, are connected by front and rear transverse bars 5 and 6, the front transverse bar having the front or fore legs 7 of the rocking-horse 55 mounted upon it. The rear rockers are connected by front and rear transverse bars 8 and 9, the rear transverse bar 9 having the rear or hind legs 10 of the rocking-horse mounted upon it. The legs of the rocking-horse are 60 connected with the transverse bars 5 and 9 by knees or brackets 11, consisting of L-shaped plates having upright and approximately horizontal portions. The lower or horizontal portions of the L-shaped plates or knees 11 are 65 perforated for the reception of bolts or other suitable fastening devices for securing them to the cross-bars 5 and 9 of the rockers. The upright or forwardly-extending portions of the L-shaped plates or knees are provided 70 with curved slots 12 for the reception of fastening devices 13, whereby the L-shaped plates or knees are adjustably secured to the legs of the rocking-horse. This construction permits the rockers to be readily adjusted and properly positioned with relation to the sections of 75 the rocking-horse, and they also enable any wear or looseness of the parts to be readily taken up.

The inner transverse bars 6 and 8 of the 80 front and rear rockers are connected with the sections of the rocking-horse by rods 14 and 15, arranged in pairs and having upper threaded ends 16 for engaging the threaded apertures of plates 17 and 18 of the sections of the 85 rocking-horse. The plates 17 and 18 are suitably secured to the adjacent ends of the sections of the rocking-horse, at the bottom thereof, and the lower ends of the rods 14 and 15 are threaded for the reception of nuts 19 and 90 pierce the transverse bars 6 and 8, the nuts 19 being arranged at the upper and lower faces of the said bars 6 and 8, whereby the adjacent ends of the sections of the rocking-horse are adjustably connected with the adjacent ends 95 of the rockers. The adjustable connections between the adjacent ends of the sections of the rocking-horse and the inner ends of the

rockers cooperate with the L-shaped plates or knees and enable the inner portions of the rockers to be readily adjusted to arrange them in proper position and also to take up any wear or looseness of the parts.

The front and rear sections of the rocking-horse have the configuration of a horse, as illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings, and the said sections may be of any other desired form. The front and rear sections are provided with registering kerfs 20 and 21, which receive a plate or web 22 of a saddle 23. The plate or web, which is disposed approximately vertically in the said kerfs, is fixed to the front section by suitable fastening devices 24 and is pivotally connected with the rear section at the top thereof by a transverse pin 25. The saddle 23 projects in rear of the pivot 25 in order that the rider by throwing his weight on the rear portion of the saddle may rock upon the rear set of the rockers and simultaneously swing the front section and the front rockers forwardly. The weight of the rider is then transferred to the front section, which is oscillated, and the rear section swings forwardly, thereby advancing the rocking-horse. The rocking-horse is adapted to travel in this manner, as will be readily understood. Suitable stirrups 26 are provided, and the front section is also provided at opposite sides of the horse with plates 27, which overlap the joint of the sections and prevent the clothing of the rider from catching in the same.

The stroke of the rocking-horse is limited by a flexible strap 28, secured at its terminals by suitable fastening devices 29 to the inner cross-bars 6 and 8 of the front and rear rockers. This flexible strap may, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, be constructed of elastic material, such as elastic webbing, to assist and render positive the forward movement of the rear section of the rocking-horse. By this construction the flexible connection is adapted to perform the double function of limiting the stroke and assisting the operation of the rocking-horse.

It will be seen that the rocking-horse is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction, that it possesses great strength and durability, and that it is readily operated. Furthermore, it will be clear that the parts are readily assembled and that any wear or lost motion may be readily taken up. Also it will be apparent that means are provided for limiting the stroke of the rocking-horse and for assisting the operation thereof.

By employing the intermediate adjustable connections the legs of the animal can be arranged at the outer ends of the rockers, so that the horse will assume the position of galloping, and also any wear of the inner portions of the rockers may be readily taken up in order to position the rockers properly with relation to each other so that such wear will

not interfere with the traveling movement of the rocking-horse.

Any suitable means may be employed for locking the front and rear rockers together to prevent longitudinal movement of the same and to prevent the rocking-horse from traveling and to cause the same to operate similar to the ordinary rocking or hobby horse. By the term "hobby-horse" it will be understood that the device is not limited to the configuration of a horse, as the form of a giraffe or any other animal may be employed.

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

1. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections hinged together and provided with front and rear legs, front and rear rockers secured at their outer portions to the said legs, and rods connecting the sections with the inner portions of the said rockers, said rods being provided with means for adjusting the inner portions of the rockers toward and from the sections, substantially as described.

2. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections hinged together and provided with front and rear legs, front and rear rockers, brackets or plates mounted on the front and rear rockers, and having upwardly-extending portions adjustably secured to the legs and connecting the same with the outer portions of the rockers, and means for adjustably connecting the sections with the inner portions of the rockers, substantially as described.

3. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections hinged together, front and rear rockers connected at their outer portions with the sections, and rods connecting the inner portions of the rockers with the sections and threaded for adjustment, substantially as described.

4. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections having corresponding openings, and a saddle provided with a rigid depending web or portion arranged in the openings and fixed to one of the sections and pivoted to the other and hinging the sections together, substantially as described.

5. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections, and a saddle provided with a rigid depending web or portion fixed to one of the sections and pivotally connected to the other and serving as a hinge for the said sections, said saddle being extended beyond the pivot of the web, substantially as described.

6. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections provided with longitudinal kerfs, a saddle provided with a rigid depending portion or web arranged in the kerfs and fixed to one of the sections and pivoted to the other and hinging the sections to-

gether, and side plates mounted on one of the sections and overlapping the other, substantially as described.

7. A device of the class described, comprising front and rear sections hinged together, front and rear rockers arranged in pairs and slidable past each other, front and hind legs extending from the sections to the outer portions of the rockers, and intermediate longitudinally-adjustable connections extending

from the sections to the inner portions of the rockers for adjusting the same, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN F. FOWLER.

Witnesses:

JOHN T. GETTY,
CHAS. I. SWEET.