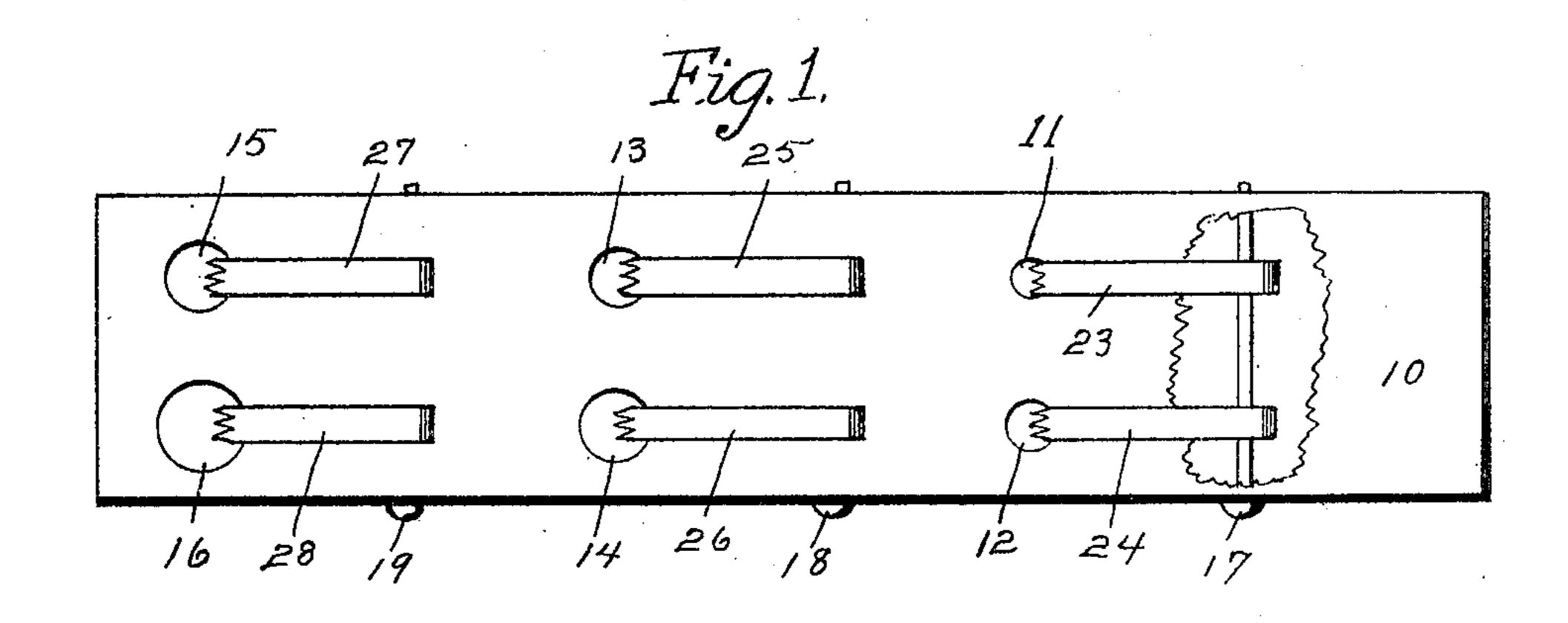
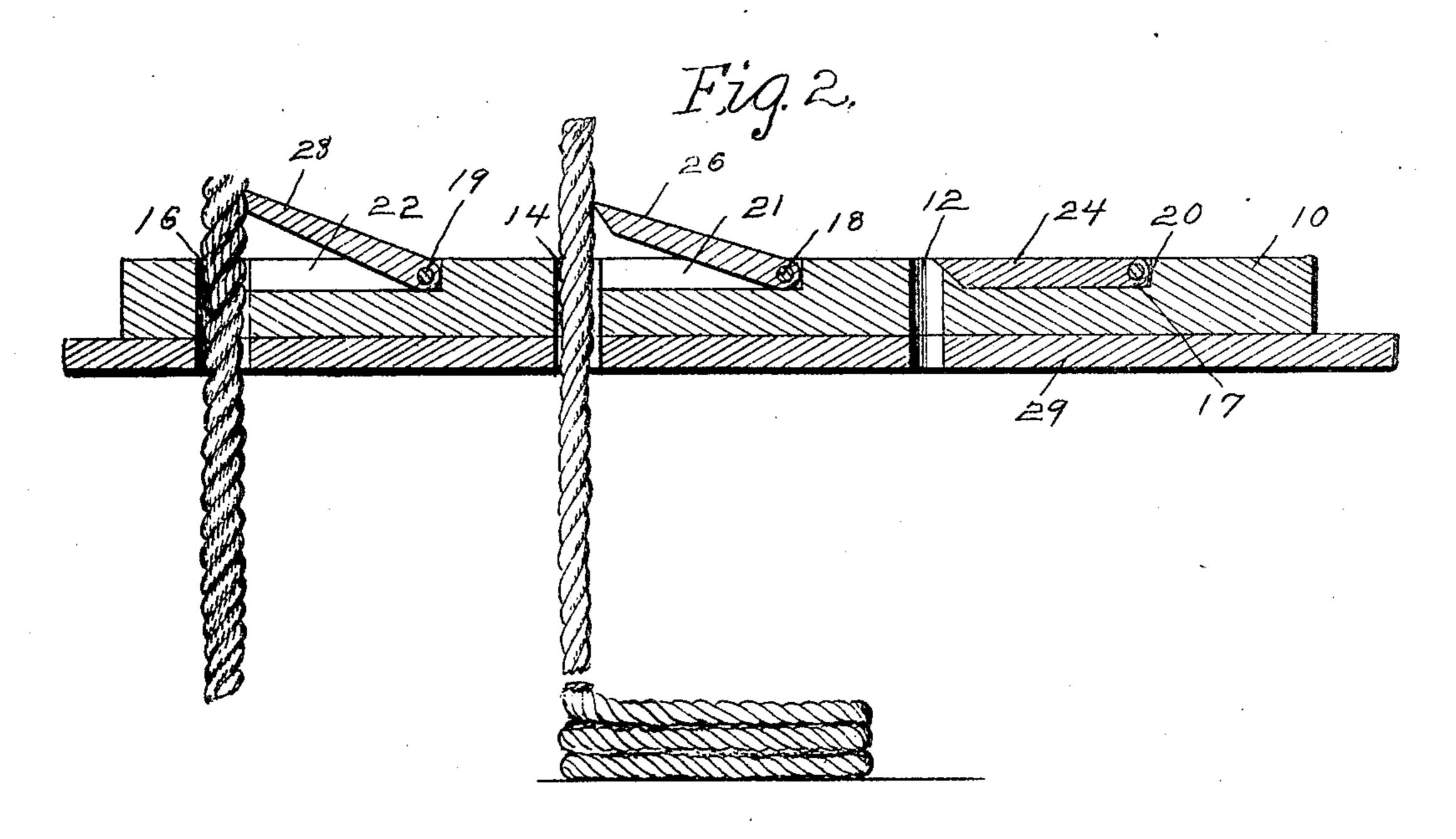
## J E. BRIGGS. ROPE RETAINING DEVICE. APPLICATION FILED JULY 19, 1904.





Witnesses

G. B. Smutney.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

J. EDGAR BRIGGS, OF BURROAK, IOWA.

## ROPE-RETAINING DEVICE.

No. 798,563.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 29, 1905.

Application filed July 19, 1904. Serial No. 217,191.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. Edgar Briggs, a citizen of the United States, residing at Burroak, in the county of Winneshiek and State of Iowa, have invented a certain new and useful Rope-Retaining Device, of which the follow-

ing is a specification.

The objects of my invention are to provide means for retaining rope which is placed in 10 the basement or beneath the counter of a store in position where it can be easily grasped to draw the rope from the supply-coil without having direct access to the coil and at the same time to allow the rope to be easily drawn 15 from the coil and prevented from returning to the coil or reel upon which it is mounted after the rope which has been sold has been severed from the supply and to accomplish this result automatically, and, further, to pro-20 vide means of this class which will accommodate ropes of various sizes, so that a rope of any desirable size can be drawn from the supply coil or reel and will serve the purpose of showing all of the rope and the material of 25 which it is made and without having the entire coil or reel of rope on the floor of the store or in any other undesirable place where it is constantly in the way of the storekeeper.

A further object is to provide a device of this class which can be used in any desirable place where rope has to be used of various sizes, so that the rope can be stored in a receptacle beneath the operative parts of my mechanism and prevent the ropes from being drawn back to the coil or reel upon which it is mounted after the portion to be used has

been severed from the supply-rope.

My invention consists in certain details in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the various parts of the device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained, as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claim, and illustrated in the accompany-

ing drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device with a portion of it broken away to show the means for pivotally mounting the locking-machines; and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same, showing two ropes extending through the openings in the body portion of my rope-retaining device. This view shows the levers in the position in which they stand as the ropes are being drawn from the supply coil or reel upon which they are mounted.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, I

have used the reference-numeral 10 to indicate the body portion of the device, which may be made of any desirable material. The body portion 10 has a series of openings 11, 60 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, increasing in size from the smallest opening 11 to the largest opening 16, extending through it. It is through these openings that the ropes of various sizes are designed to be drawn as they are taken from the 65 coils or reels upon which the ropes are mounted. Extending transversely of the body portion and behind the openings 11, 12,13, 14, 15, and 16, respectively, are the pins 17, 18, and 19. Extending longitudinally of the board from the 70 pin 17 to the opening 11 is a groove 20. Extending forwardly from the pin 17 to the opening 12 is a similar groove. Extending from the pin 18 to the opening 13 is a groove 21. Extending from the pin 18 is a groove similar to the 75 groove 21. Extending longitudinally of the body portion from the pin 19 to the opening 15 is a groove 22. In the grooves 20, 21, and 22 and the ones which are similar to these grooves and pivotally mounted on the pins 80 17, 18, and 19, respectively, are the lockinglevers 23 and 24, 25 and 26, and 27 and 28. Each of these locking devices are designed to enter the sides of the openings into which they extend when these locking-levers are at their 85 normal lower limit of movement—namely, in the grooves in the upper portion of the body portion 10—so that the toothed free ends of each of these locking-levers will engage the rope which is passed through the opening into 9° which it extends and firmly lock said rope against downward movement. It will be seen that as the ropes are drawn upwardly through the various openings 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 the free ends of the locking-levers will be 95 elevated, owing to the fact that they are beveled at their lower forward portions, so that the rope will slide freely over these portions as it is drawn upwardly through the openings; but owing to the toothed forward portions of 100 these locking-levers the rope will be prevented from downward movement through said openings. Thus an automatic device is provided for allowing rope to be drawn out and yet prevent it from being drawn back to 105 the coil or reel.

In the accompanying drawings the numeral 29 represents the floor, counter, or box-cover upon which my device is to be mounted. It is to be understood in this connection that 110 the body portion 10 may be made of any size or shape and that any number of openings may

be cut through the body portion, so as to provide for ropes of any number of sizes, if it is desired to do so, and any number of locking-levers may be used in connection with the device, it being my intention to provide a device which can be adapted for use where any number of ropes are being constantly used to prevent the free ends of the ropes from backing into the coil or to the reel upon which they are mounted.

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

The combination of a flat-topped block

formed with a series of openings of different 15 sizes, and with recesses in its top face adjacent to the openings, a pawl in each recess formed with a flat top and of a size to lie flat in the recess with its top flush with the top of the block one end of each pawl beveled 20 and toothed and projected into the adjacent opening, and pins passed through the blocks and pivotally supporting the pawls in the recesses.

J. EDGAR BRIGGS.

Witnesses:

Frank H. Frye, Kathleen Shannon.