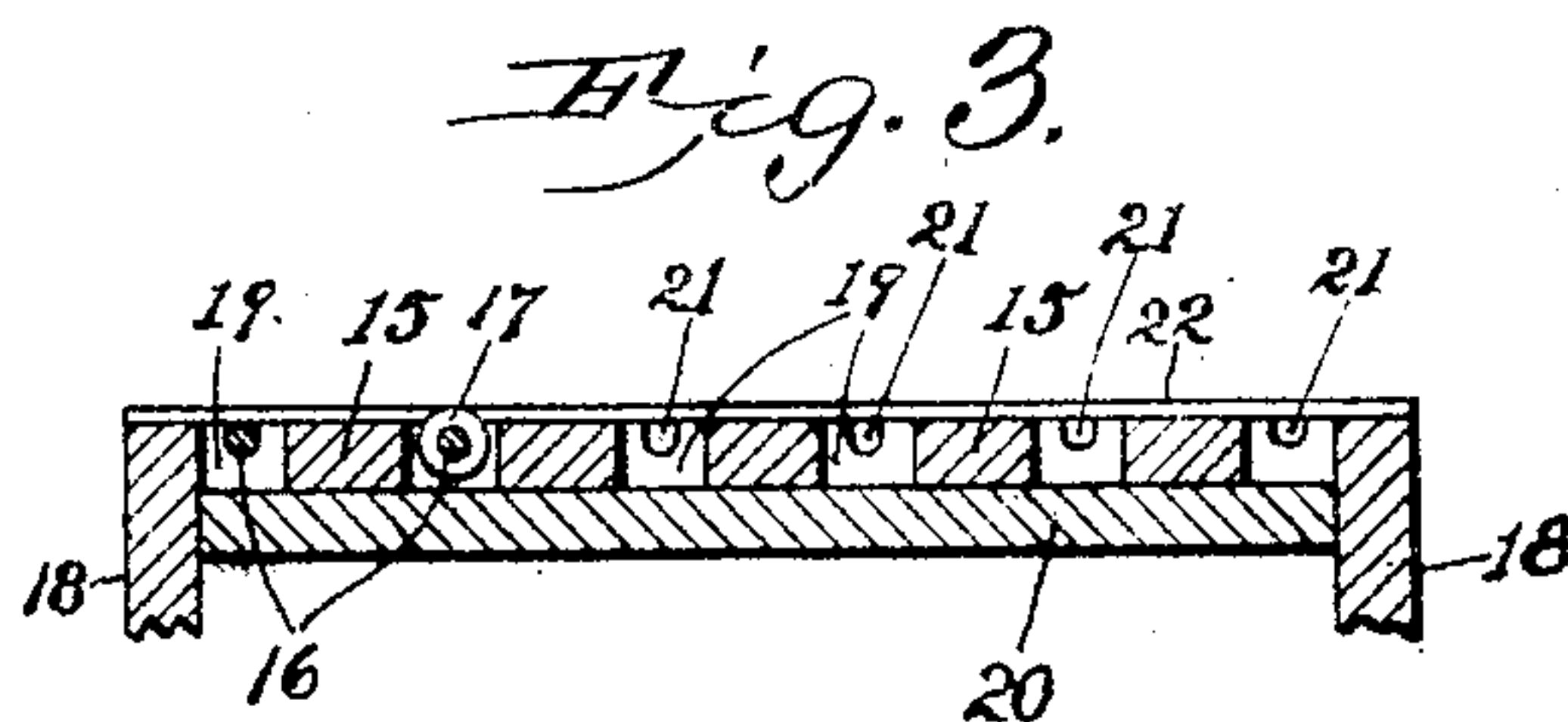
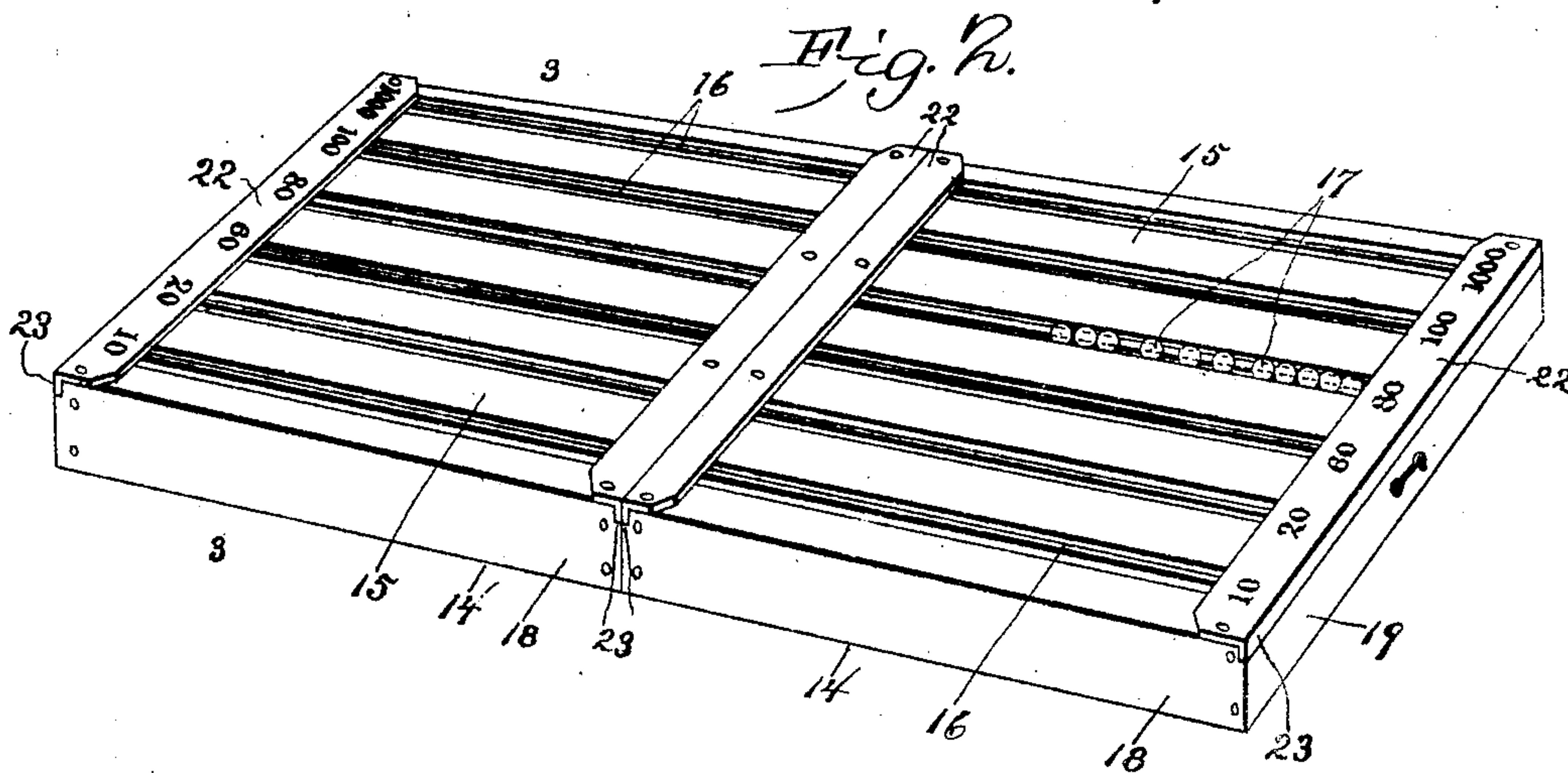
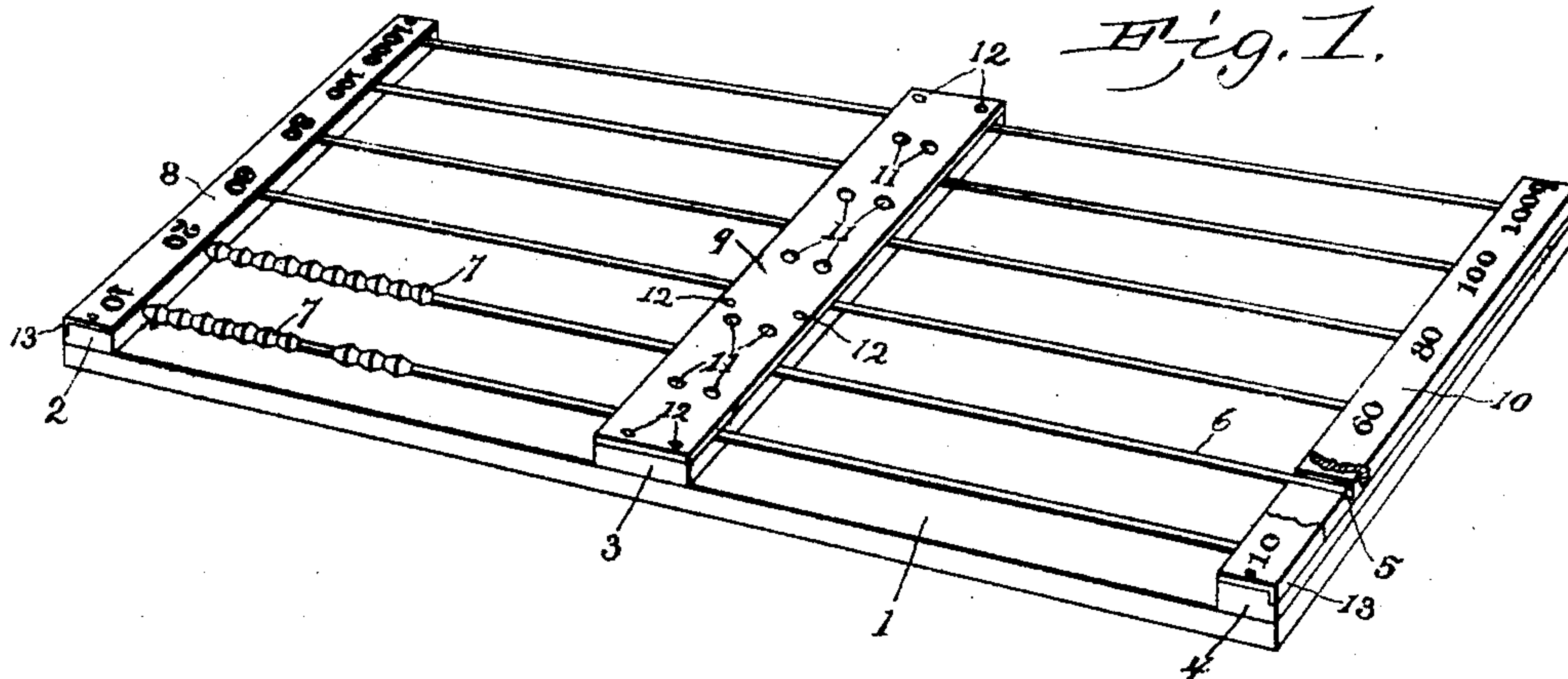


No. 803,577.

PATENTED NOV. 7, 1905.

T. S. FORD.
GAME COUNTER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 12, 1905.



Witnesses:
E. J. Elliott
R. M. Elliott

Trace S. Ford Inventor,
by *C. A. Snow & Co.* Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TRACE S. FORD, OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

GAME-COUNTER.

No. 803,577.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 7, 1905.

Application filed May 12, 1905. Serial No. 260,131.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TRACE S. FORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Marshalltown, in the county of Marshall and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Game-Counter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to game-counters.

The object of the invention is to provide a novel, simple, and thoroughly practical form of game-counter with which scores may readily and accurately be kept and in the use of which all tallies will be plainly exposed to view, thereby to obviate any danger of either intentional or unintentional miscounting.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of a game-counter, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a view in perspective, partly in section, of one form of game-counter. Fig. 2 is a similar view of another form of game-counter. Fig. 3 is a view in transverse section taken on the line 3-3, Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings and to Fig. 1 thereof, 1 designates a base-board, to which is secured at each end and intermediate thereof battens 2, 3, and 4. The upper faces of the battens are provided with grooves 5, in which rest the wires or guides 6, that carry the counters 7, which are approximately double cones and are adapted readily to be moved back and forth upon the wires or guides when a score is being kept. These wires are held combined with the battens by keepers or plates 8, 9, and 10, the plates 8 and 10 being provided with numerals indicating the values of plays and in this instance ranging from "10" to "1,000" and divided as follows: "10, 20, 60, 80, 100, 1,000." This group of numerals is adapted more particularly in playing the game of pinochle, although it is to be understood that the counter is equally adapted for scoring other games, such as bezique, sixty-six, cribbage, high-five, or any other game in which a score is to be kept. The batten 9 is provided with a series of orifices 11 to receive counting-pegs. The keepers may be secured to the battens in any suitable manner, as by screws or tacks 12, and the outer edges of the battens 8 and 10 are bent

downward to form flanges 13, that operate positively to prevent the wires 6 from having any endwise movement relatively to the base-board or from becoming detached from the battens.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 2 and 3 the board is constructed of two box-like sections 14, that are hinged together to present a receptacle for containing a pack of cards. The upper face of the sections have combined with them spacers 15, between which are arranged the wires or guides 16, that carry the counters 17, which are shown as spheres, although, if preferred, they may be of the shape shown in Fig. 1. As shown in Fig. 3, the sides 18 and ends 19 of each section extend above the top 20 thereof a distance equal to the height of the spacers 15, and the ends are provided with recesses or seats 21, in which the wires 16 are arranged. To hold the wires in position, keepers 22 are employed at the respective ends of the sections, which are secured to the upper sides thereof and have their lower ends bent down to form flanges 23, which operate in a positive manner to prevent the wires from having any longitudinal movement or from becoming detached from the top, the wires being positively shielded against being bent or otherwise injured by being housed between the spacers 15.

The boards are used as follows: Each player keeps his own score. In beginning the counters are all moved to the center of the board, and then as a point is declared a counter is moved down on the wire the number of which corresponds to the value of the point declared. When all the counters of a wire have been pulled down, they are then moved back and their value counted on the "100" wire. At the end of each hand it is advisable to transfer as many of the counters as possible to the "100" wire, thereby giving a clear exhibition of how the game stands. As each game is completed a peg may be inserted in one of the orifices 11, thereby keeping an accurate tally of the number of the games played.

The apparatus herein described, while exceedingly simple of construction, will be found of the highest efficiency and reliability in use and will materially reduce the labor of keeping all scores of a game and insure freedom from mistakes.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is—

1. A game-counter comprising a base, bat-

tens secured thereto and provided with recesses, guides having their terminals seated in the recesses, counters arranged upon the guides, and keepers secured to the terminal
5 battens and having downturned flanges to cover the ends of the guides.

2. A game-counter comprising a two-part base, battens secured thereto and provided with recesses, guides having their terminals
10 seated in the recesses, counters arranged upon the guides, and keepers secured to the terminal battens and having downturned flanges to cover the ends of the guides.

3. A game-counter comprising a base, terminal and intermediate battens combined
15

therewith, the latter batten being provided with pegging-holes and the former with seats or recesses, guides passing through the intermediate batten and having their terminals disposed in the seats or recesses, and keepers,
20 bearing numbers, secured to the terminal battens and having downturned flanges to cover the ends of the guides.

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

TRACE S. FORD.

Witnesses:

J. L. WHINERY,

BLANCHE ORDWAY.