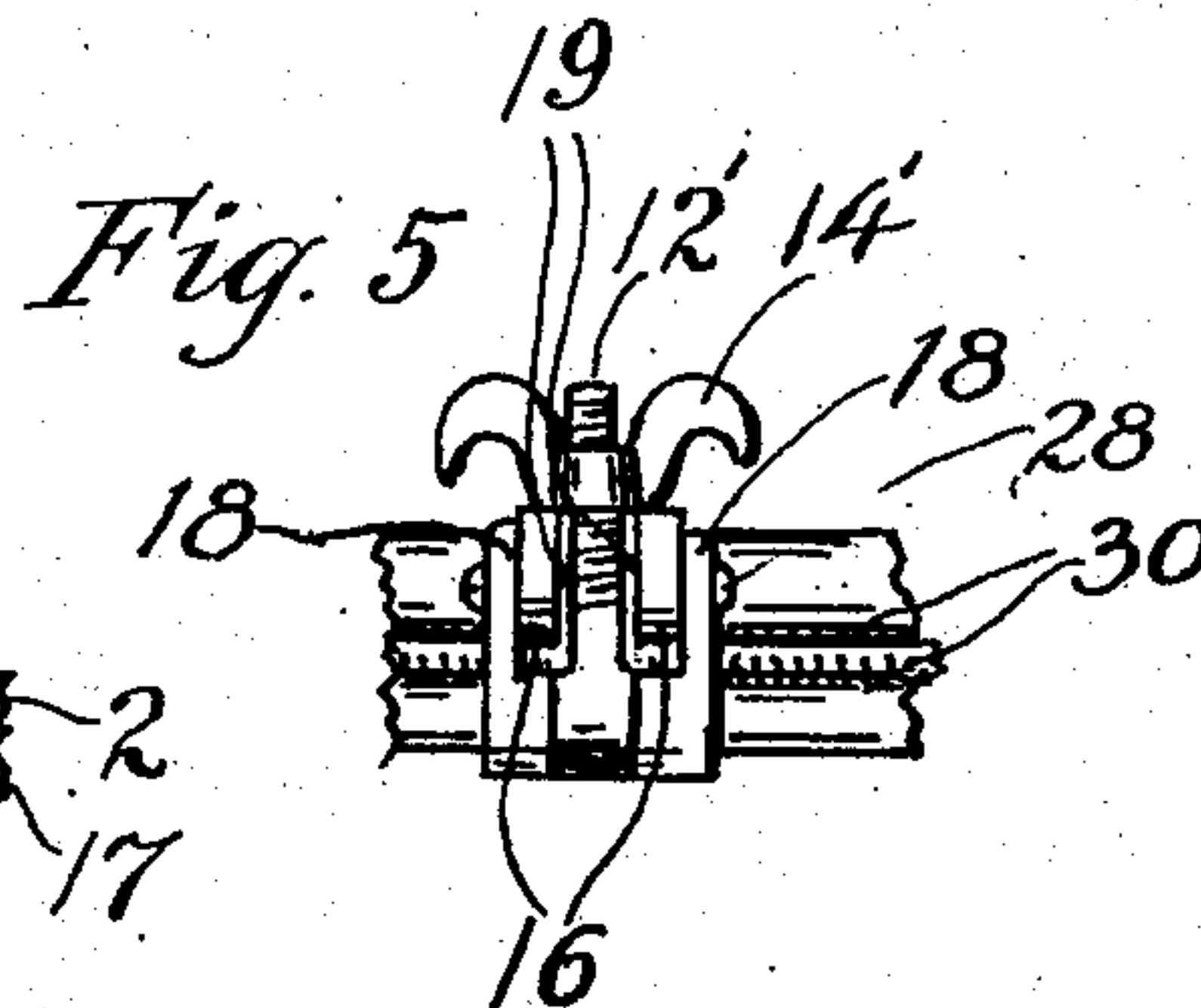
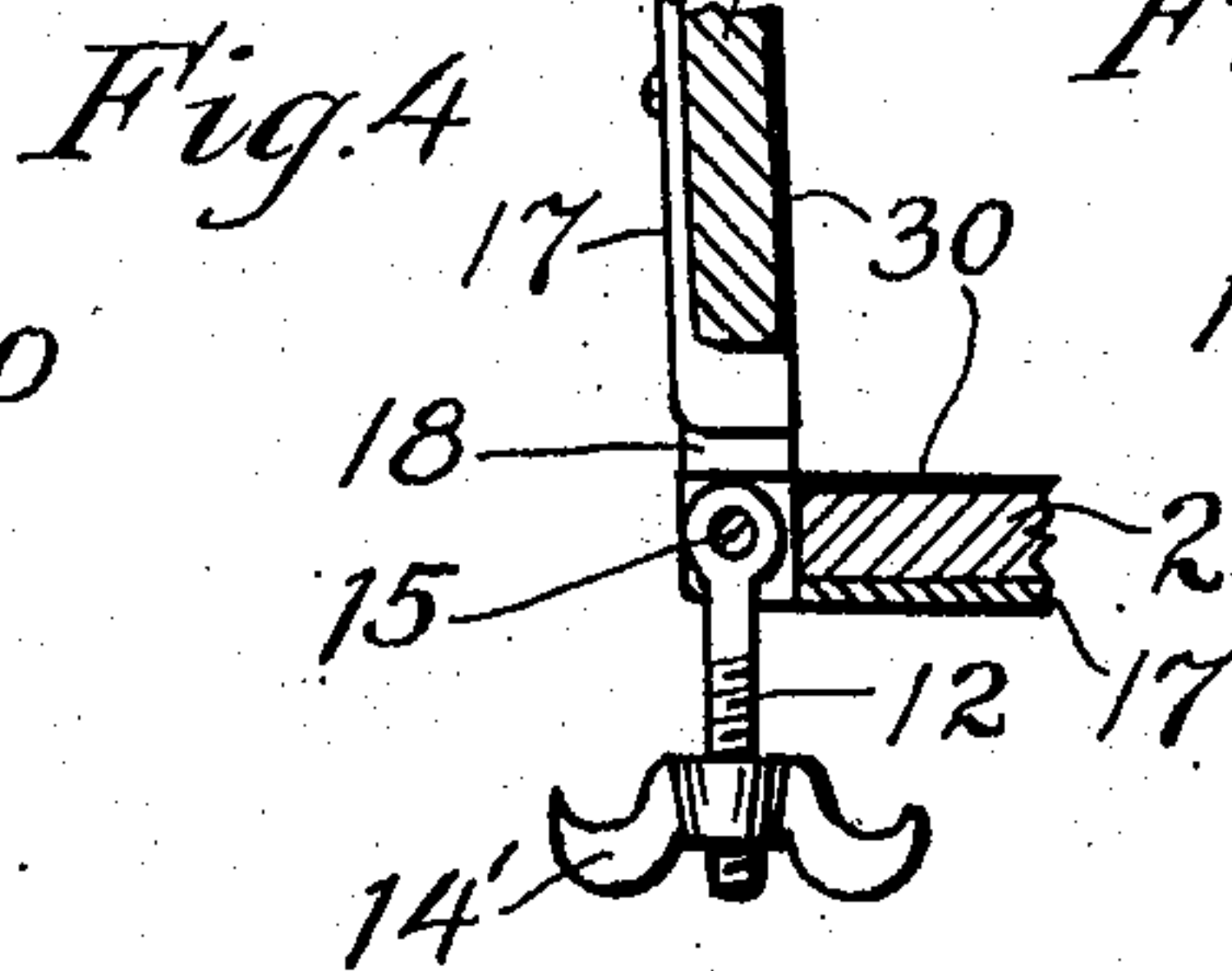
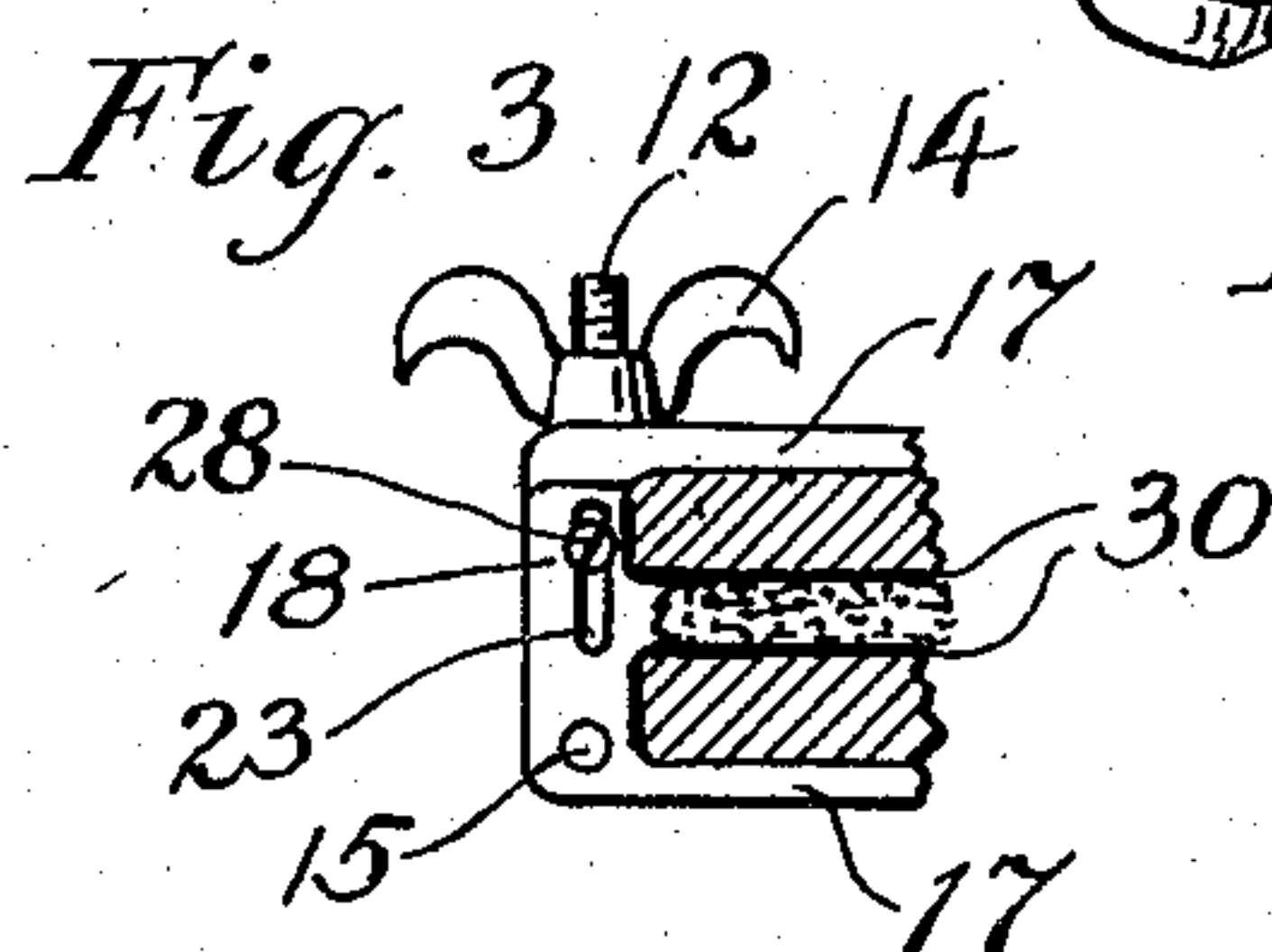
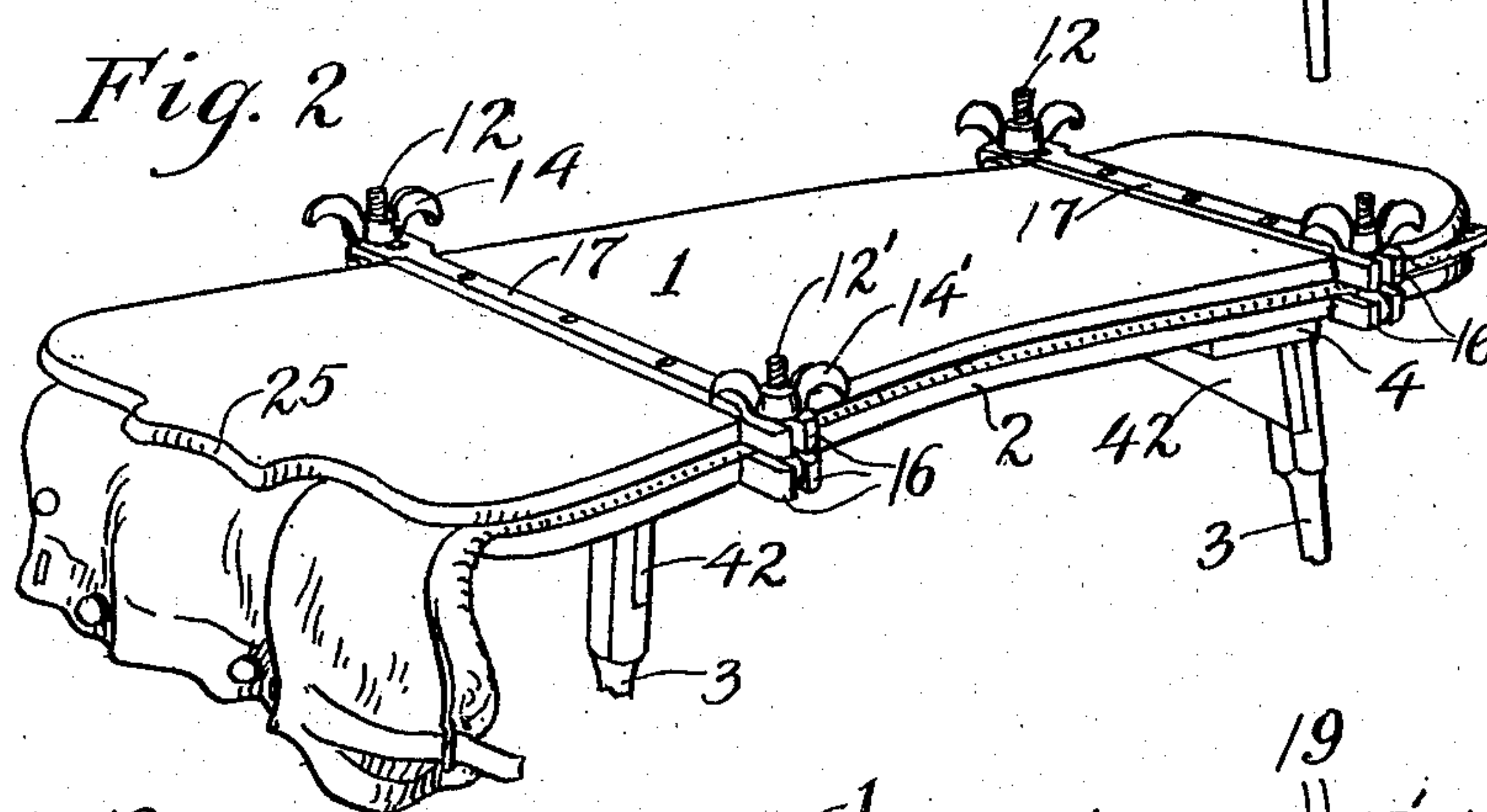
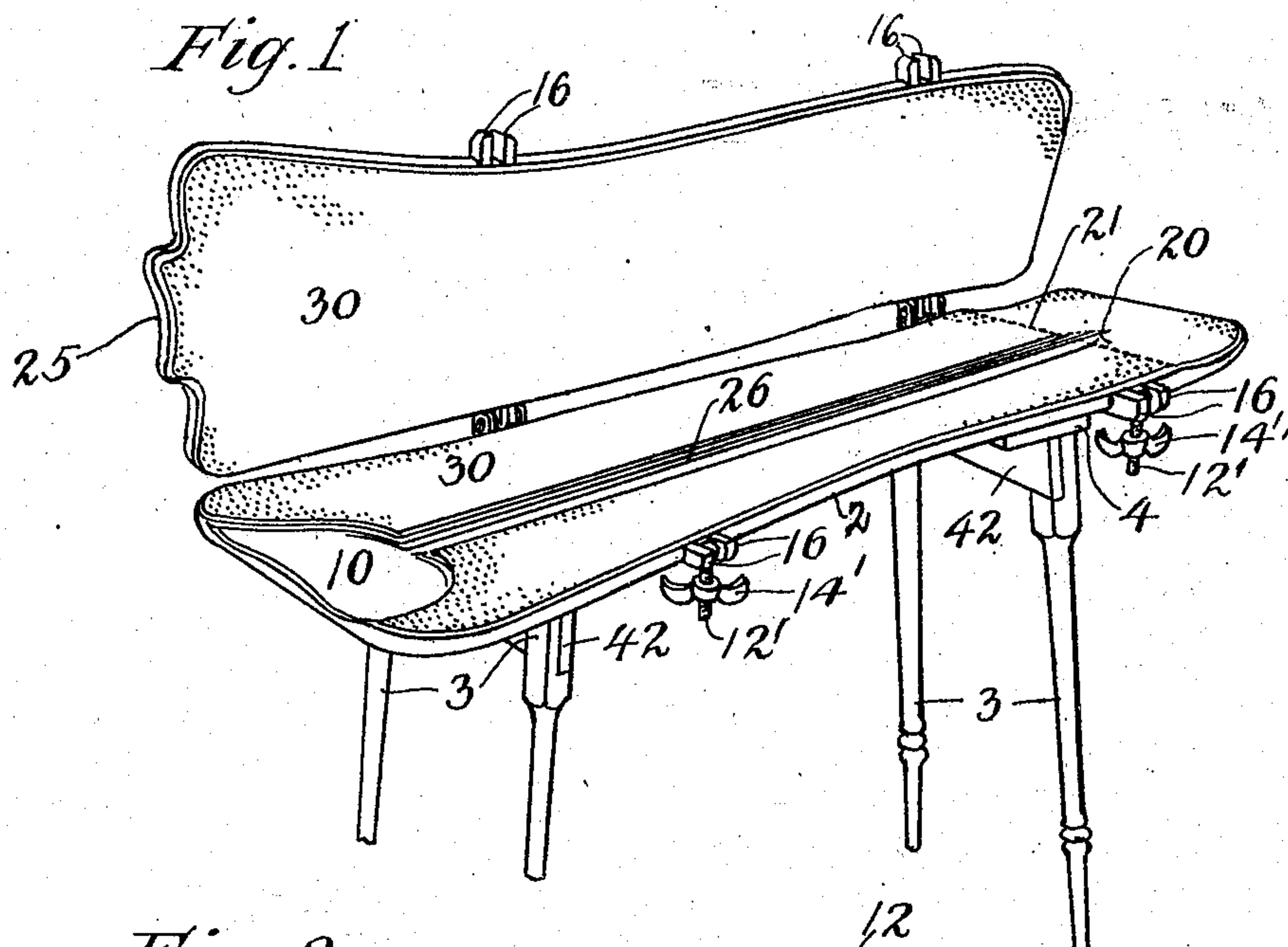


H. H. WELCH.  
TROUSERS PRESS AND STRETCHER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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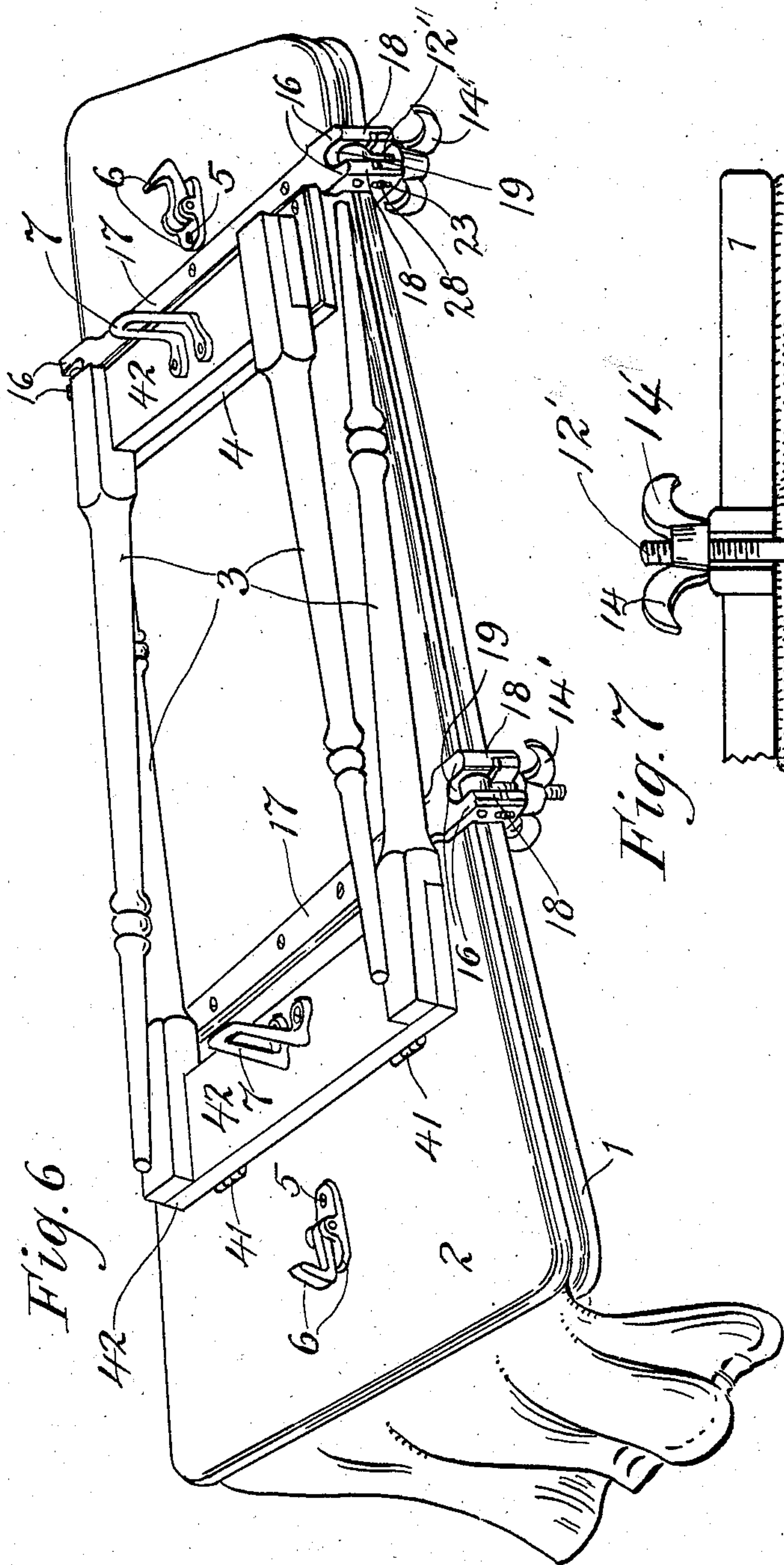


Fig. 6

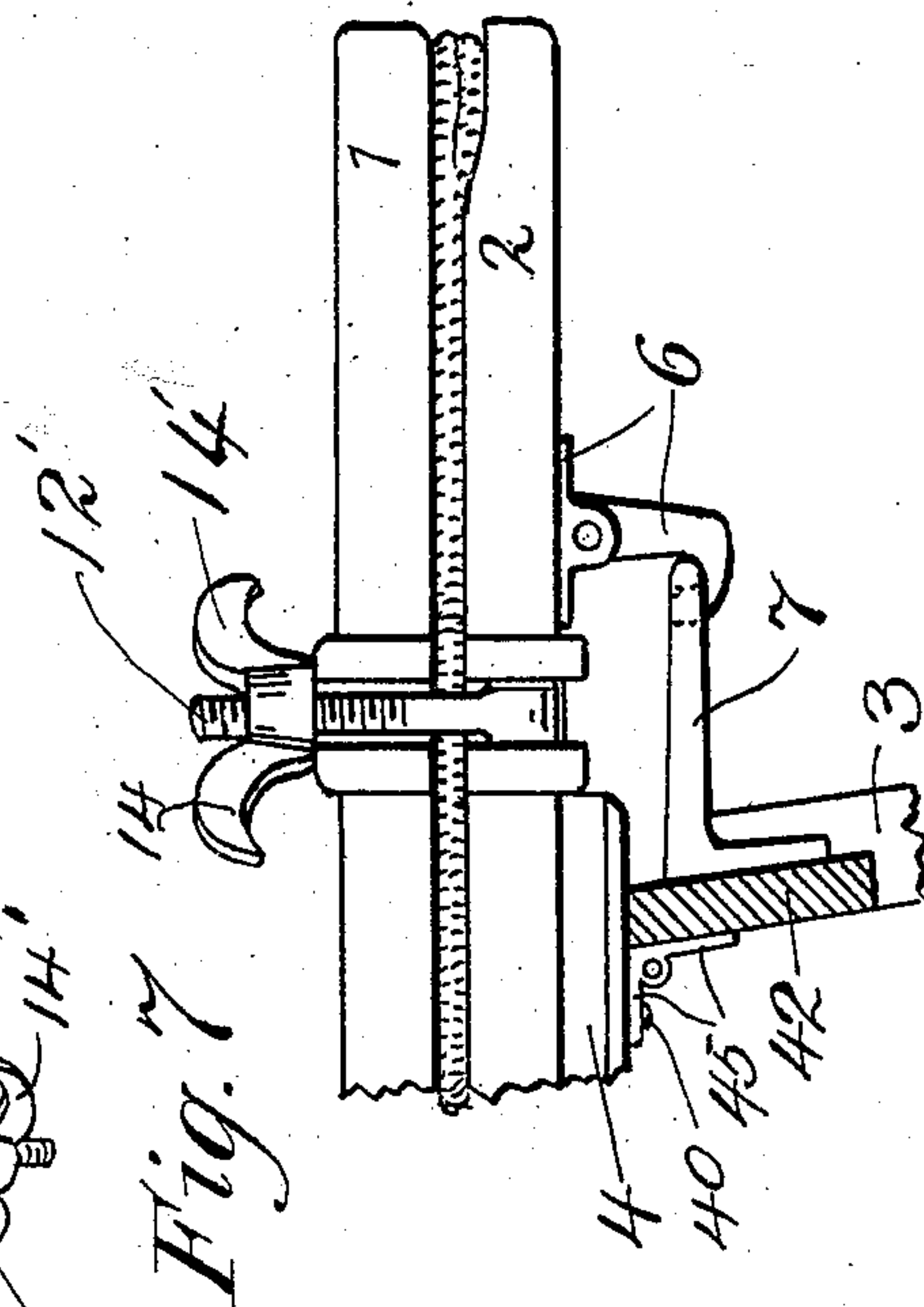


Fig. 7

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY H. WELCH, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

## TROUSERS PRESS AND STRETCHER.

No. 806,444.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 5, 1905.

Application filed May 31, 1904. Serial No. 210,566.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY H. WELCH, a citizen of the United States, residing in Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles, State of California, have invented and discovered a new and useful Trousers Press and Stretcher; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in trousers stretcher and press; and the objects of my improvement are, first, to provide a stretcher and press for trousers for use in the homes of wearers, in which the trousers are placed after being worn during the day-time, and are stretched and pressed during the night, and, second, to afford facilities and convenience of the owners of trousers in having them stretched and pressed at home, thereby avoiding inconvenience and expense in sending the trousers to tailors' shops and in paying the tailors for stretching and pressing the same, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, to figures, and to the reference-numerals, marked thereon.

The invention consists, essentially, in the construction, combination, and arrangement of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully described in the specification shown upon the drawings appended hereto and specifically pointed out in the claims made a part hereof.

I attain these objects by the construction, combination, and arrangement of the several parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement open and in position to receive a pair of trousers after being folded. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the improvement, the lower portion of the legs or supports broken away, a pair of trousers having been folded, placed therein, stretched, and undergoing the operation of being pressed. Fig. 3 is a view in elevation of portions of one of the hinges, parts thereof broken away, parts of the clamping-screw and nut also shown in elevation, parts of the upper and lower sections of the stretcher and press in section, and showing in section portions of the pair of trousers being pressed. Fig. 4 is a view in section of parts of one hinge, portions thereof broken away, the screw and nut for clamping the two sections of the stretcher and press shown in elevation, and parts of the

two sections of the stretcher and press shown in section and portion thereof broken away. Fig. 5 is a view in elevation of parts of one of the hinges and of portions of the two sections of the stretcher and press also in elevation, parts thereof broken away, and a portion of a pair of trousers being pressed and parts thereof broken away. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the stretcher and press, a pair of trousers folded and being pressed, the upper portion of the trousers projecting from the wider end of the stretcher and press; and Fig. 7 is a view in elevation of a portion of the narrower end of the stretcher and press, the other parts thereof broken away and parts of a pair of trousers being pressed and showing a portion of the stretcher and press in section.

Similar reference-numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

The reference-numerals 1 2 denote the upper and lower sections, respectively, of my improved stretcher and press. The numerals 3 3 indicate pairs of legs or supports for the stretcher and press. The pairs of legs at the narrower end of the stretcher and press are secured to the cross-cleat 4 by means of hinges 45 45, only one of which is shown upon Fig. 7 of the drawings. One wing of each of said hinges is secured to the under side of the said cross-cleat 4, which is fastened to the under side of section 2, near the narrower end thereof, by screws 40 40, only one of which is shown upon Fig. 7 of the drawings. The other wing of each of said hinges 45 45 is fastened, by means of screws or equivalent devices, to the brace 42, connecting the pair of legs near said narrower end of the stretcher and press. The pair of legs at the wider end of the stretcher and press are directly secured to the under side of section 2 by means of hinges 41 41, as shown upon Fig. 6 of the drawings. Each of said pairs of legs or supports, at the upper ends thereof, are connected together by means of braces 42 42.

To each end, on the under side of the lower section 2 of the stretcher and press, I secure, preferably by means of screws 5 5, the pivoted latches 6 6, adapted to engage the yokes 7 7 when the legs or supports 3 3 are in the position shown upon Figs. 1, 2, and 7 of the drawings.

The legs 3 3 may be dispensed with, and in this event the stretcher and press may be supported upon a table or other piece of furni-



ture used for other purposes in the homes of persons using my improved stretcher and press.

The lower section 2 of my stretcher and press, at the wider end and upon the upper face thereof, is cut out and forms a recess 10, as shown upon Fig. 1 of the drawings, in order that the thick waist portion of the trousers, when folded upon themselves and the pockets thereof can be accommodated therein when the upper section 1 of the stretcher and press is tightly clamped upon the trousers, closely folded upon the lower section 2 by means of the swivel-screws 12 12, and the clamping-nuts 14 14 tightly screwed down upon the slotted ends 16 16 of the preferably metal cleats 17 17, secured to the upper and lower sides of each of the two sections 1 2 of the stretcher and press near the ends thereof.

Upon the upper side of the lower section 2, at the narrower end of the same, I cut out and form therein a transverse recess 20 to accommodate the thickened or inturned ends of the lower portion of the trousers during the stretching and pressing operation. The inner edge 21 of the said transverse slot 20 assists in retaining the thickened inturned lower ends of the trousers within said recess while being stretched after the two narrower ends of the said two sections 1 2 of the stretcher and press have been clamped together before the wider ends of said two sections have been clamped.

At the wider end of the upper section 1 of the stretcher and press, upon the front edge thereof, I cut out a portion thereof forming a curved seat 25 for one knee of the operator to rest in while he stands upon one foot supporting the body upon one leg, the trousers tightly clamped at the narrower end of the stretcher and press. The operator drawing the trousers firmly until properly stretched, folding the waist portions and pockets within the recess 10 in the said lower section 2, screws down the upper section 1 upon the said section 2.

The lower section 2 is provided with a longitudinal central recess 26, extending from the recess 10 in the wider end of said section to the recess 20 in the narrower end of section 2, in which longitudinal recess the seams of the legs of the trousers are retained when folded and placed in position upon section 2 of the stretcher and press. I cover the inner surfaces of the said two sections by means of suitable textile material 30, as shown upon Figs. 1 and 7 of the drawings.

The ends of the two braces 17 17, secured to the under side of section 2 of the stretcher and press, are provided with slots 19 19 therein and with upturned ears 18 18. In said slots 19 19 between the two ears 18 18 upon the ends of said braces 17 17 I fasten, by means of pins 15 15, the swiveled screws 12 12, carrying the clamping-nuts 14 14, and upon the opposite ends of the said braces 17 17 I fasten,

by means of pins 15 15, the clamping swivel-screws 12' 12', carrying the clamping-nuts 14' 14'. In the said upturned ears 18 18 of the cleats 17 17 on the under side of section 2 are slots 23 23, in which the screws 28 28, screwed to the ends of the cleats 17 17 upon the upper side of section 1 of the stretcher and press, are adapted to move when a pair of trousers have been folded and placed between the two sections 1 and 2 of the stretcher and press and the said sections are tightly clamped together. By means of the slots 23 23 and the screws 28 28, sliding therein, secured upon the ends of the preferably metal cleats 17 17 upon the upper side of section 1, the folded garment between said two sections is provided for, and the two said sections 1 and 2 remain in substantially horizontal positions when the clamping-nuts 14 14 upon the ends of the screws 12 12, secured to the opposite ends of said cleats, are screwed down, clamping the two said sections 1 and 2 in substantially horizontal positions.

It will readily appear from the foregoing description, when read in connection with the drawings hereto appended and made a part of the specification and claims, what is the operation of applicant's invention, and further description of the manner of operating applicant's improvement is deemed unnecessary.

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

1. A stretcher and press for trousers comprising a lower section and an upper section, the said lower section having recesses upon the inner side thereof near the ends thereof, a longitudinal recess extending between the said two end recesses and means for clamping the two sections together.

2. A stretcher and press for trousers comprising a lower and an upper section hinged together, the said lower section having end recesses upon the inner side thereof, a central longitudinal recess extending between and communicating with the said two end recesses and means for clamping the two sections together.

3. A stretcher and press for trousers comprising a lower section having a transverse recess in one end and a curved recess in the opposite end upon the inner side thereof, a central longitudinal recess extending between and connecting said transverse and curved recesses, the said sections hinged together by means of adjustable hinges.

4. A stretcher and press for trousers comprising an upper and a lower section adjustably hinged together upon the longitudinal lateral edges thereof, said lower section provided with a transverse recess upon the inner side thereof near the narrower end, a curved recess in the opposite end of said lower section, a longitudinal recess connecting the said two end recesses and means for clamping the



said two sections together in substantially parallel planes.

5 5. A stretcher and press for trousers comprising upper and lower sections, said sections adjustably hinged together upon the longitudinal lateral edges thereof, the lower section having end recesses upon the inner side thereof, a central recess connecting the said two end recesses, adjustable clamping devices  
10 adapted to clamp a garment between said two sections.

6. A stretcher and press for trousers comprising an upper and lower section adjustably hinged together upon the edges thereof, said

lower section provided with end recesses, a 15 central longitudinal recess communicating with said end recesses, the said upper section having in one end thereof a centrally-curved knee-seat and means for clamping the said two sections in parallel planes. 20

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

HENRY H. WELCH.

Witnesses:

G. M. GIFFEN,  
ANNA MORGAN.