

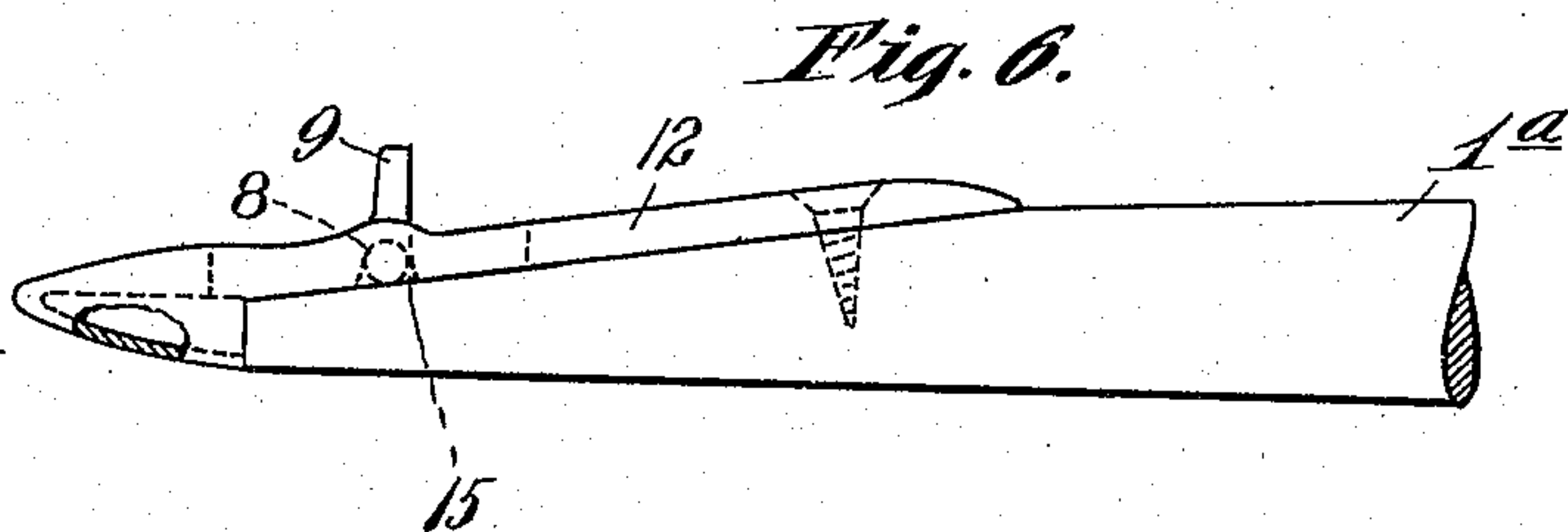
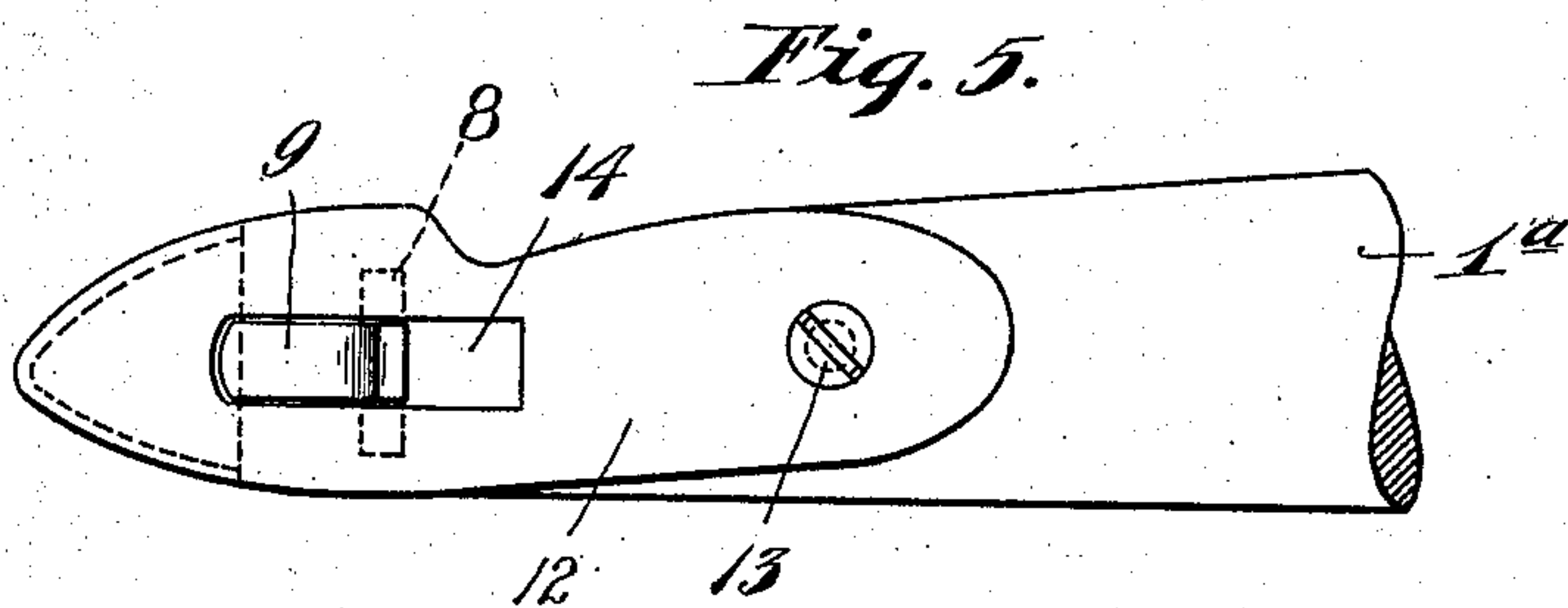
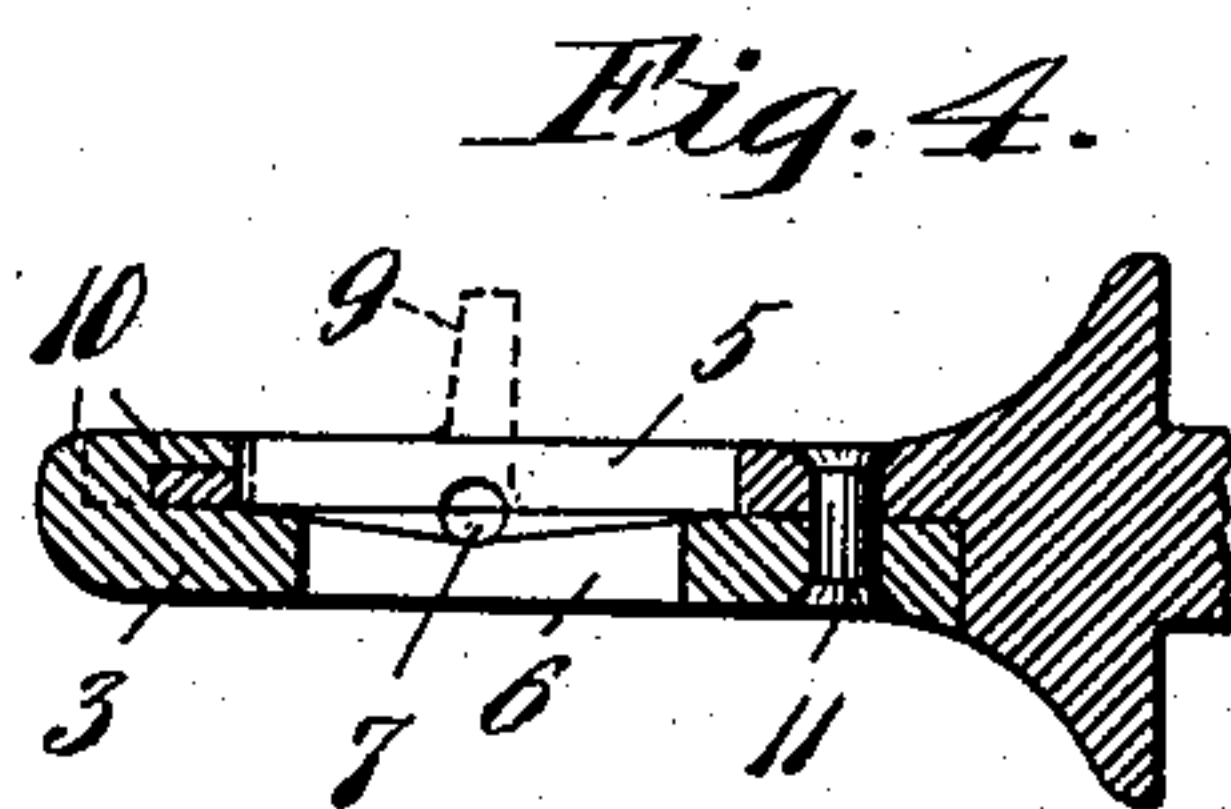
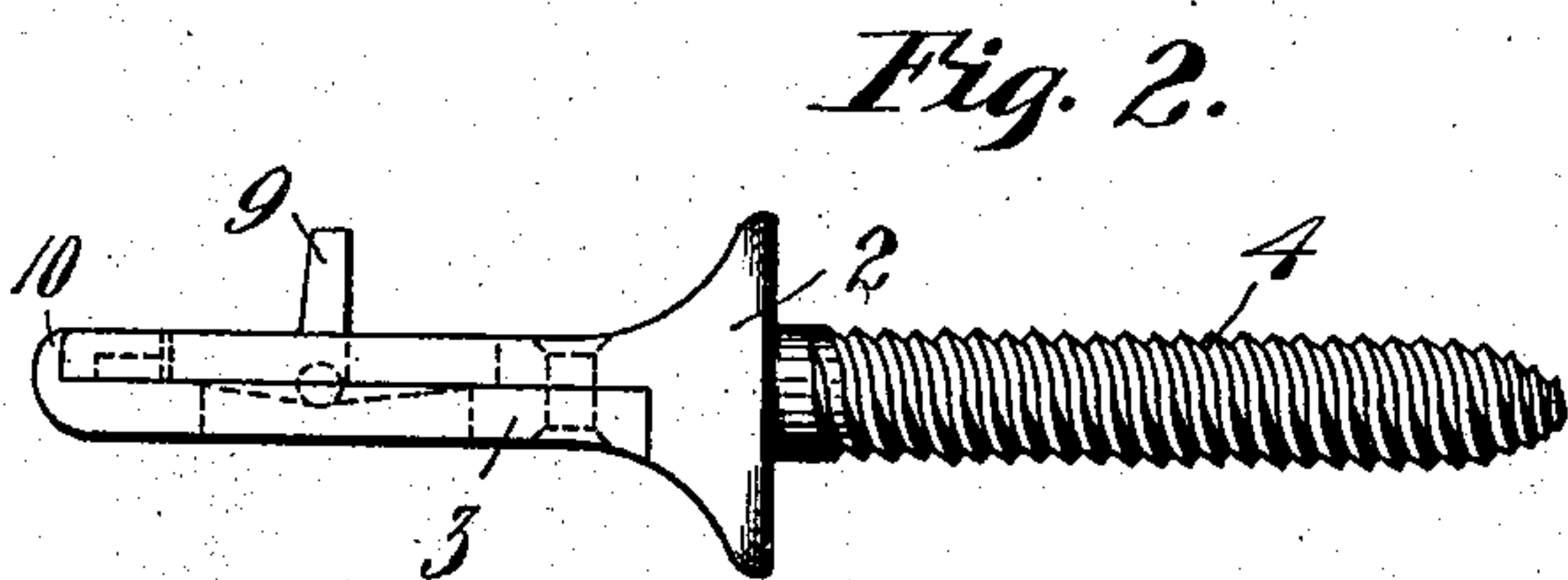
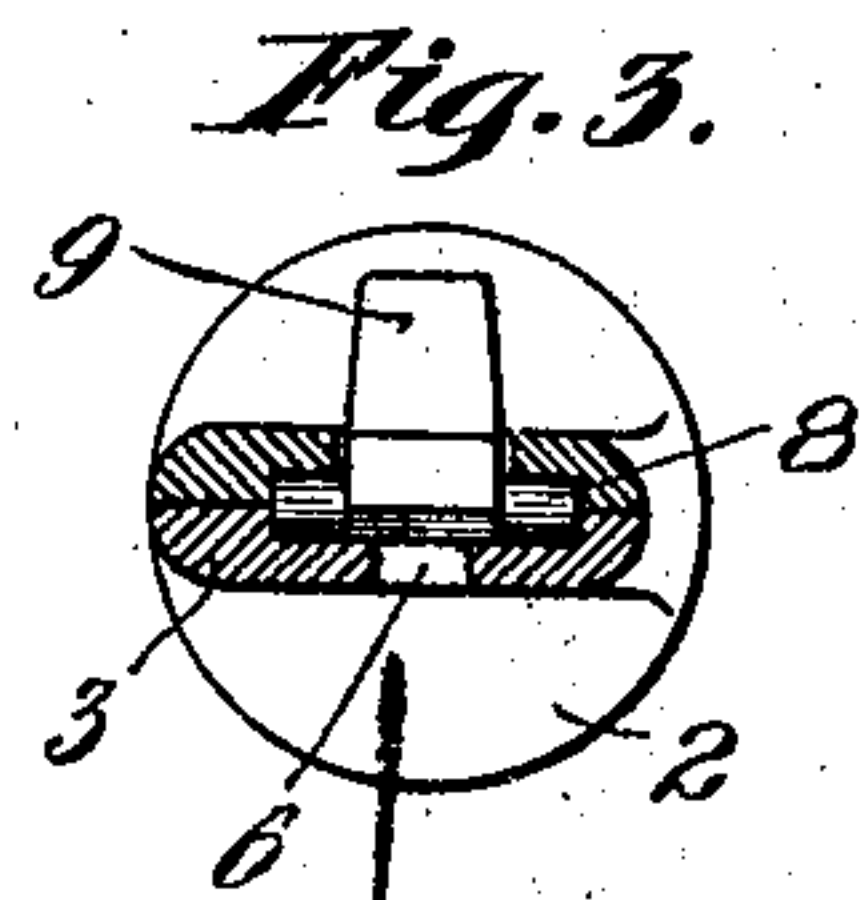
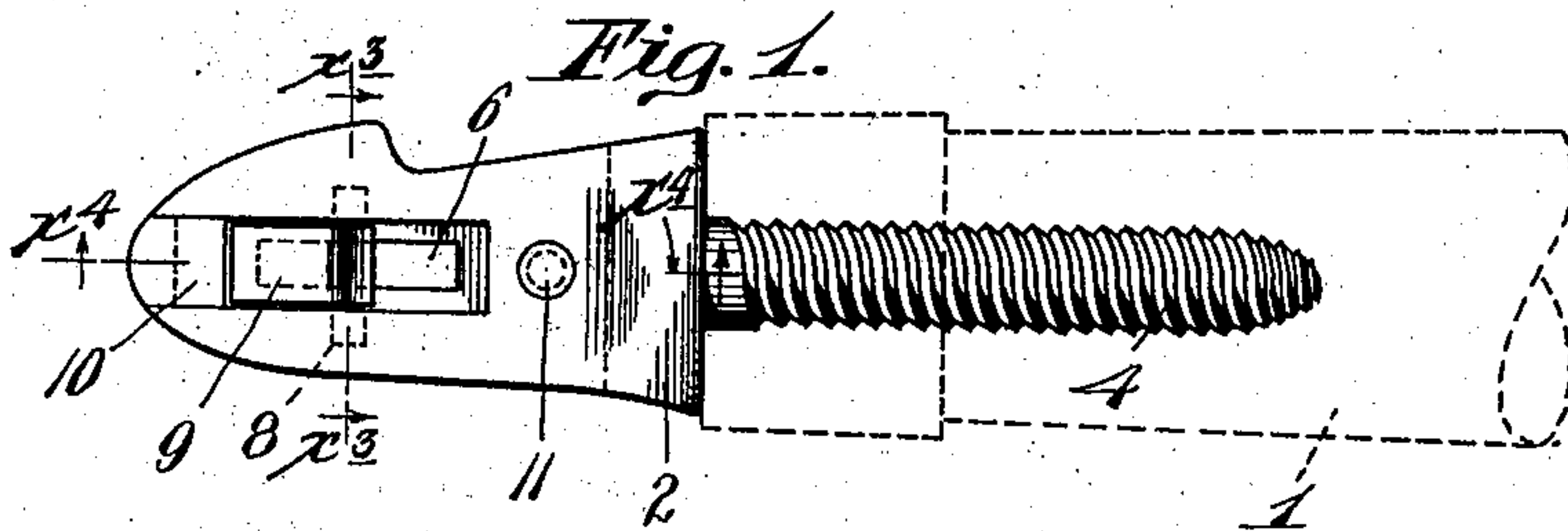
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PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

R. E. GRUWELL & A. WIEBKE.

TRACE HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 31, 1905.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## TRACE-HOLDER.

No. 815,423.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed August 31, 1905. Serial No. 276,547.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ROBERT E. GRUWELL and AUGUST WIEBKE, citizens of the United States, residing at Miles City, in the county of Custer and State of Montana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Holders; and we 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.

Our invention has for its object to provide an improved trace-holder for preventing accidental separation of the trace from the end of a whiffletree.

To this end the invention consists of the novel devices and combinations of devices hereinafter described and defined in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate our invention, like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a plan view showing by dotted lines one end of a whiffletree and showing our improved trace-holder applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the trace-holder shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken on the line  $x^3 x^3$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section taken on the line  $x^4 x^4$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a plan view illustrating a modified form of the trace-holder; and Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the parts shown in Fig. 5, some parts being broken away.

Referring to the construction illustrated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, the numeral 1 indicates a whiffletree, the same being shown by dotted lines only. The numeral 2 indicates the body member and the numeral 3 the supplemental section of the improved trace holder. The body member 2 is provided with a lag-screw 4, which is adapted to be screwed into the end of a whiffletree. The members 2 and 3 are, as shown, provided, respectively, with rectangular perforations 5 and 6, the former of which is larger than the latter. On the opposite sides of the slots 5 and 6 the members 2 and 3 are formed with half-seats 7, that register with each other and are adapted to receive and hold the trunnions 8 of an annular lock-hook 9. The body of the lock-hook 9 is approximately rectangular and is adapted to move from one position to another within the rectangular perforation 5 of the member 2.

At its outer extremity the member 5 is formed with a notch that is adapted to receive the upwardly and inwardly turned hook 10 of the member 3, as best shown in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive. When the hook 10 is engaged, as shown in said views, the members 2 and 3 are interlocked and clamped together at their outer ends, the rivet 11 or similar device being then passed through a perforation in the inner end of the member 3 and the coincident perforation in the member 2. The said two members are rigidly secured together, and the lock-hook 9 is irremovably held in working position, but pivoted to the said two members. As preparatory to applying the trace to the end of the whiffletree—that is, to the body made up of the members 2 and 3—an angular lock-piece is turned into the position indicated in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, and the trace is then forced inward on the said body until it passes beyond the lock-piece. Under this movement of the trace the lock will of course be moved pivotally through an angle of about ninety degrees, but should thereafter be turned back into the position shown in the said views, and the trace being forced outward against the upturned end of said lock will be securely held against accidental displacement.

In the construction illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, the body member 12 of the trace-holder is provided at its outer end with a socket which receives the reduced end of the whiffletree 1<sup>a</sup>. The screw 13 then being passed through the inner end of the said member 12 and secured into the whiffletree, the two parts are interlocked and firmly united. The member 12 is provided with a rectangular perforation or lock-seat 14, in which the lock-piece 9 is mounted to work, and the trunnions 8 of said lock-piece are seated in notches 15 formed in the member 12 and opening at the under surface thereof in such manner that the lock-piece may be readily removed when, but only when, the member 12 is removed from the whiffletree.

The device above described, while especially designed for application to the end of a whiffletree for a use as a trace-holder, is nevertheless adapted for use for other purposes and may, for instance, be applied to the end of a wagon-pole for use to hold the neck-yoke. The device is of small cost and in practice has



been found extremely efficient for the purposes had in view.

What we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is as follows:

In a device of the kind described, the combination with a pair of members having interlocking engagement at their outer ends and rigidly secured at their inner ends, of an angular lock-piece working in a recess of one of said members and having trunnions mounted in seats formed in said members and irremovably held thereby when the two mem-

bers are secured together, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of witnesses.

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AUGUST WIEBKE.

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