

No. 815,442.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

A. M. LAYTON.
HAMMER.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 6, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

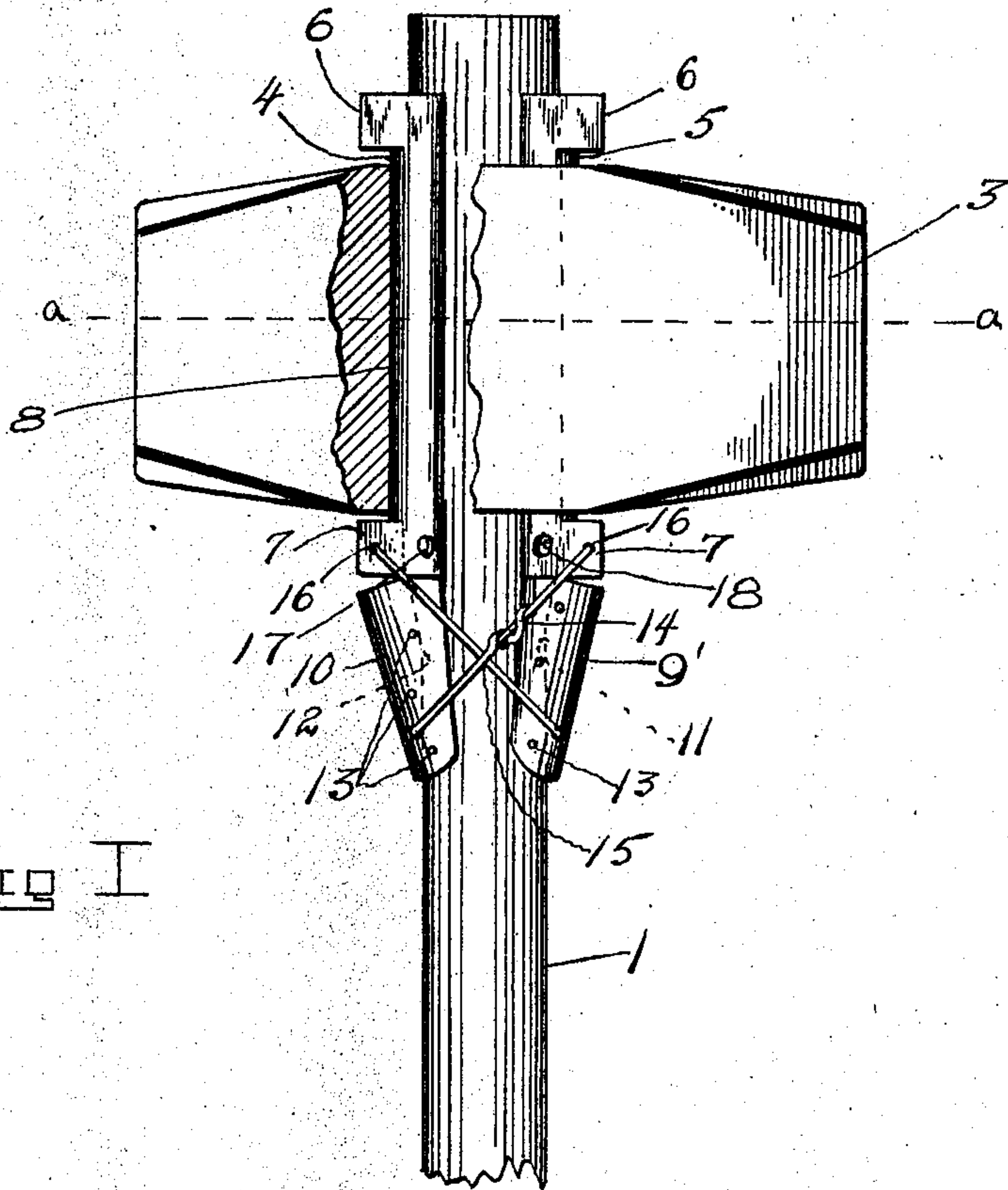


Fig I

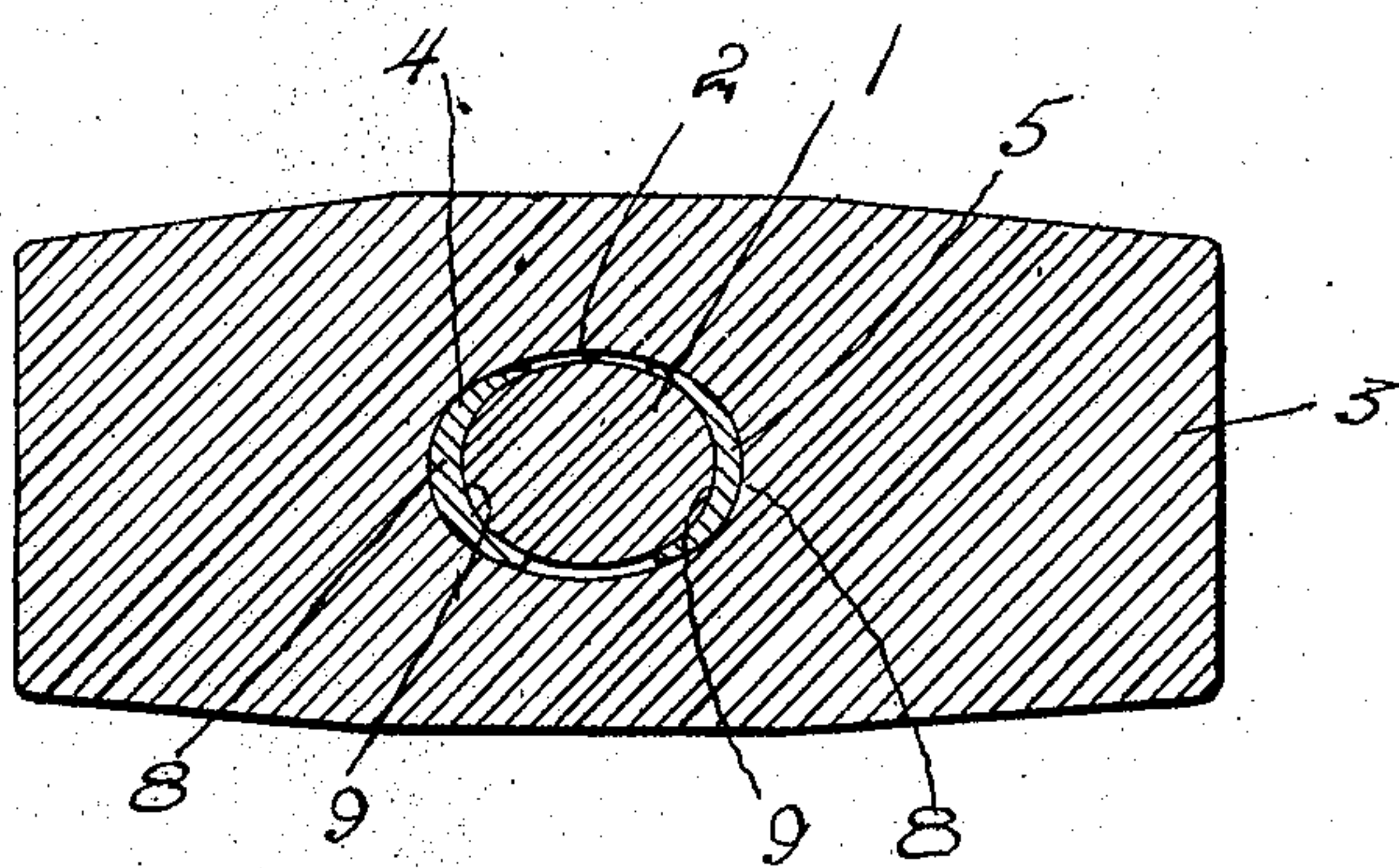


Fig. 2

Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

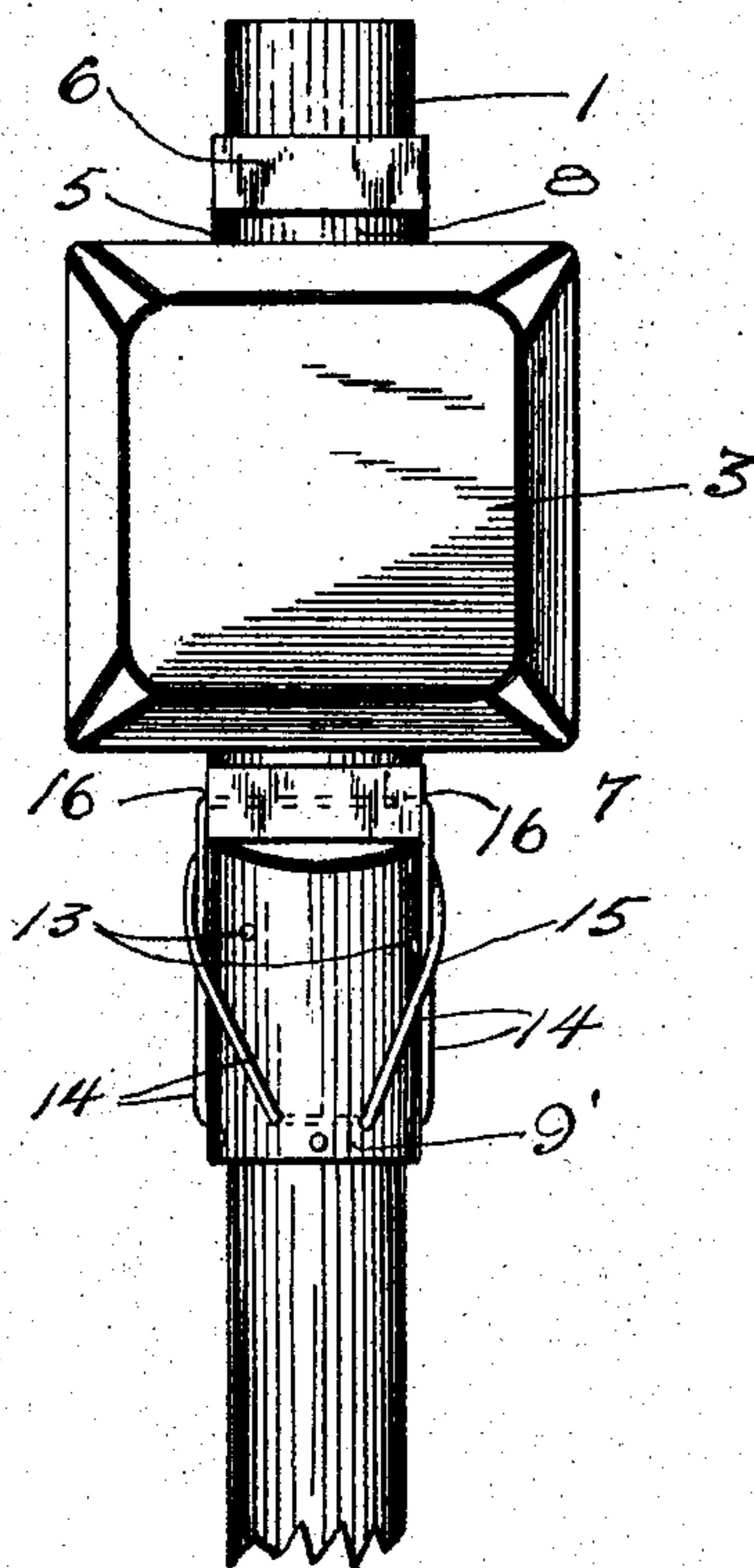


Fig. 4

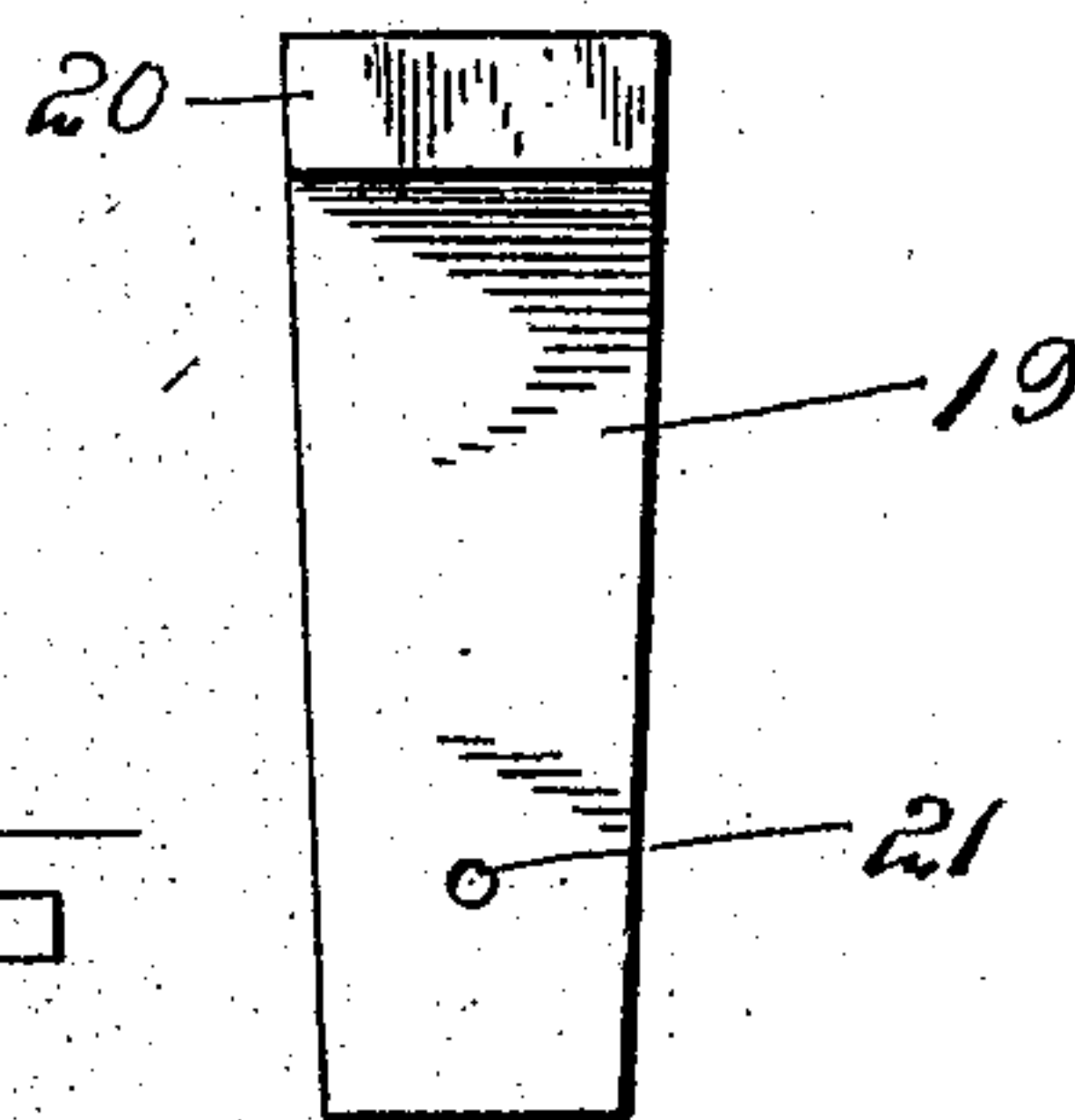


Fig. 5

Witnesses

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ABEL M. LAYTON, OF PUEBLO, COLORADO.

HAMMER.

No. 815,442.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABEL M. LAYTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pueblo, in the county of Pueblo, State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hammers; 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 hammers.

One object of the invention is to provide a means for positively preventing accidental disengagement of the hammer-head from its handle.

Another object of the invention resides in the provision of a fastening means of the nature stated embodying such characteristics that the hammer-head will not only be fastened against accidental displacement, but will also be of such character as to prevent damage to the handle in the event of failure to strike an object.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, durable, and efficient means for securing the head to the handle and preventing damage to the handle upon failure to strike the object under pounding action.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claim without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the present invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my invention, partly broken away. Fig. 2 is a sectional view through the head on the line *a a* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an end view of a hammer-head with the adjacent portions in elevation. Fig. 4 is an end view of one of the plates. Fig. 5 is an elevation of one of the supplemental wedges.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawings, the reference character 1 designates a wooden handle having one end arranged for a loose fit in an eye 2 of the head 3. Now in order to prevent accidental disengagement of the head 3 from the handle 2 I provide a peculiarly-formed fastening means which consists of upper and lower keys

4 and 5, each member having shoulders 6 and 7 at its ends, with its back portion rounded—that is, the outer portion between the shoulders concaved, as at 8, with its under or inner faces concaved, as at 9, to conform in cross-section with the circular formation of the handle 1. It will thus be understood that the shoulders 6 and 7 of the members 4 and 5 are arranged upon the inner and outer faces of the hammer-head 3. Now in order to secure these keys 4 and 5 in place they must be fitted in the eye 2 of the hammer-head 3 prior to the insertion of the handle 1, and in order to positively prevent movement of the keys 4 and 5 and the hammer-head 3 from the handle I secure the upper and lower plates 9' and 10 with their concave faces 11 and 12, respectively, against the handle 1 by means of suitable nails or the like 13. Upon opposite sides of the plate 9' and 10 I secure corresponding ends of tie-wires 14, which cross each other, as at 15, and connect with the eyes 16, formed in the shoulders 7 of the corresponding keys 4 and 5. To further provide against accidental disengagement of the hammer-head 3 and the keys 4 and 5, I may form perforations 17 at the base of the shoulders 7 of the upper and lower keys 4 and 5, through which a suitable fastening 18 may be passed into the handle 1. It will thus be seen that accidental displacement of the hammer-head with respect to the handle is positively prevented, and in the event that further wedging of the hammer-head with respect to the handle might be desired I provide suitable wedges 19, provided with a shoulder 20 at one end. These wedges 19 have their body portions formed somewhat thin or flat in order to permit of their ready insertion between the sides of the handle 1 and the corresponding sides of the eye 2 of the hammer-head. If desired, the body portion of the wedges 19 may be provided with a perforation 21, through which a suitable fastening may be passed into the handle to positively prevent disengagement of the keys. It is obvious, too, that but one key will be sufficient—that is, that one key may be used instead of two keys. At any rate, by reason of the shoulder at each end of the aforesaid wedging members 4 and 5 it would be absolutely impossible for the hammer-head to slip in either direction upon the handle. Now in view of the shoulders 7 extending somewhat inwardly with respect to the handle and its head, and especially the disposition of the plates 9' and 10 with re-

spect to the handle and the wedging members 4 and 5, it is obvious that in the event the object being driven by the hammer should be missed the object if it should be in line with the handle would not damage the latter, owing to the shielding thereof by the shoulders 6 of the wedging members 4 and 5 and the plates 9' and 10.

Of course my improvement is particularly adapted for use in connection with sledge-hammers; but it is to be understood that the same may be applied to other forms of hammers.

What is claimed is—

The combination with a hammer-head having an eye, of a handle disposed in said eye,

keys disposed in the eye at opposite sides of the handle and having terminal enlargements lying respectively above and below the head, the lower enlargements being transversely perforated, plates secured to opposite sides of the handle below the keys and provided with transverse perforations, and tie-wires which engage through the perforation of a key and that of a diagonally opposite plate.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ABEL M. LAYTON.

Witnesses:

GEORGE SMITH.

JOHN J. LUMSDEN.