

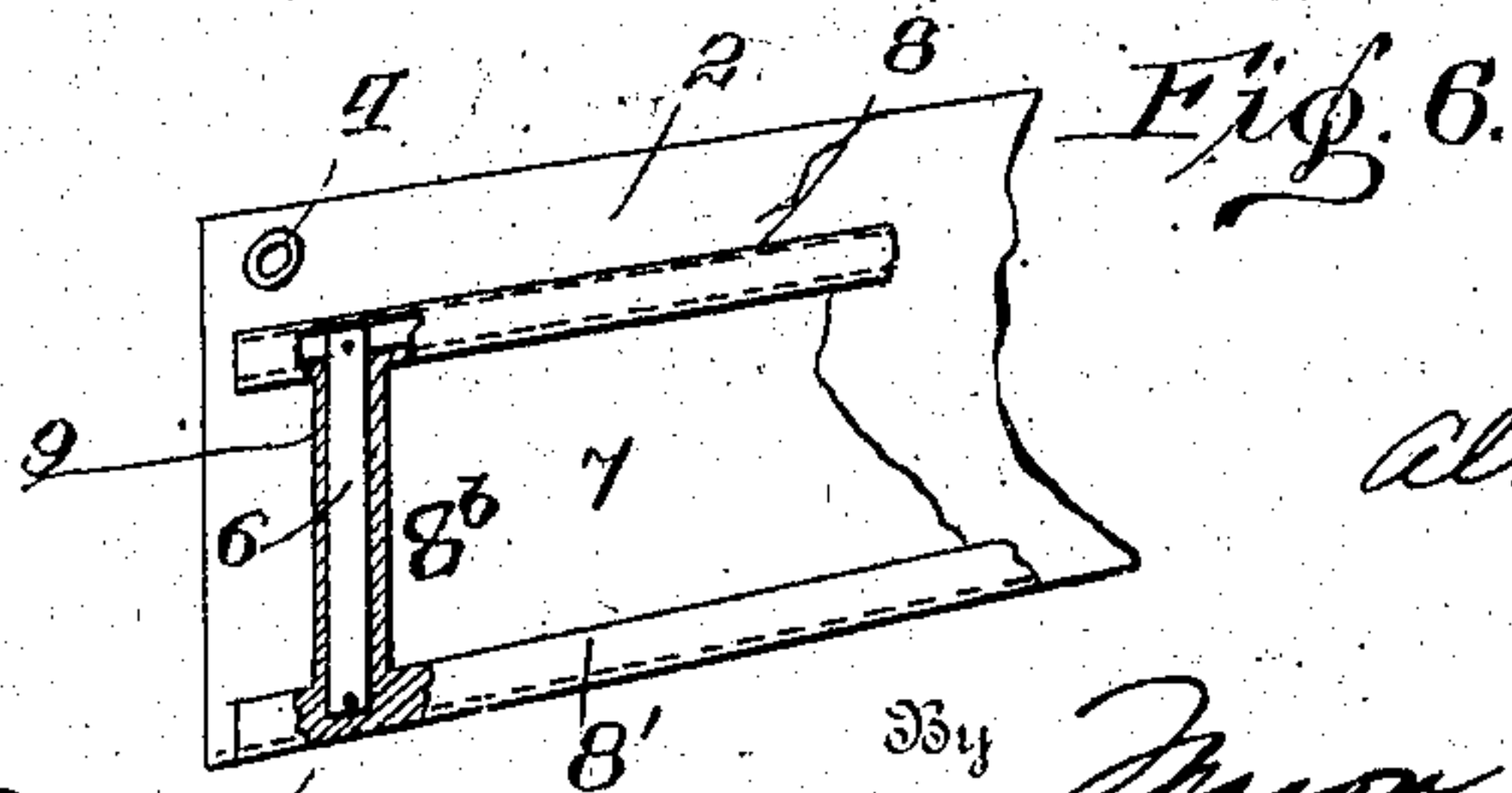
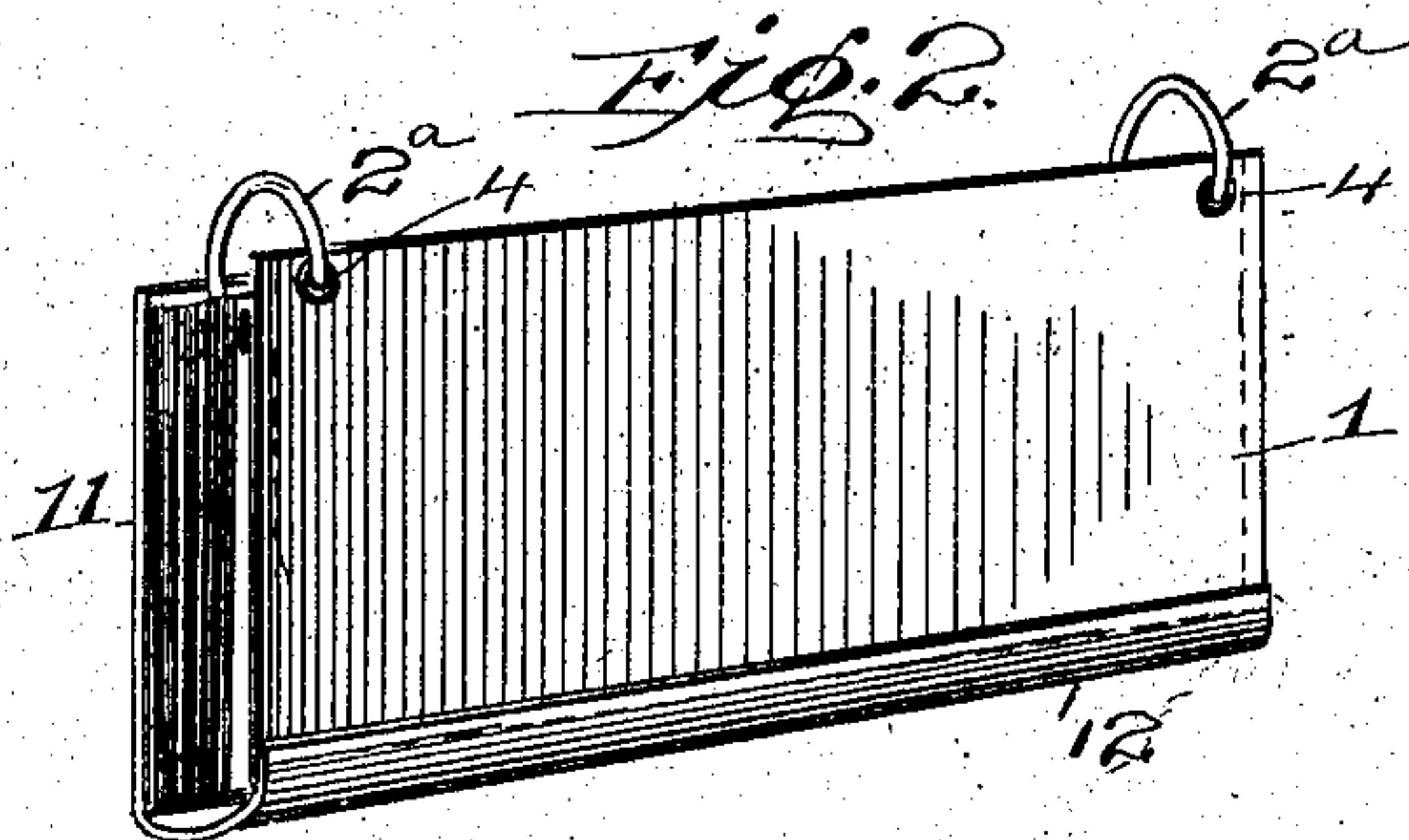
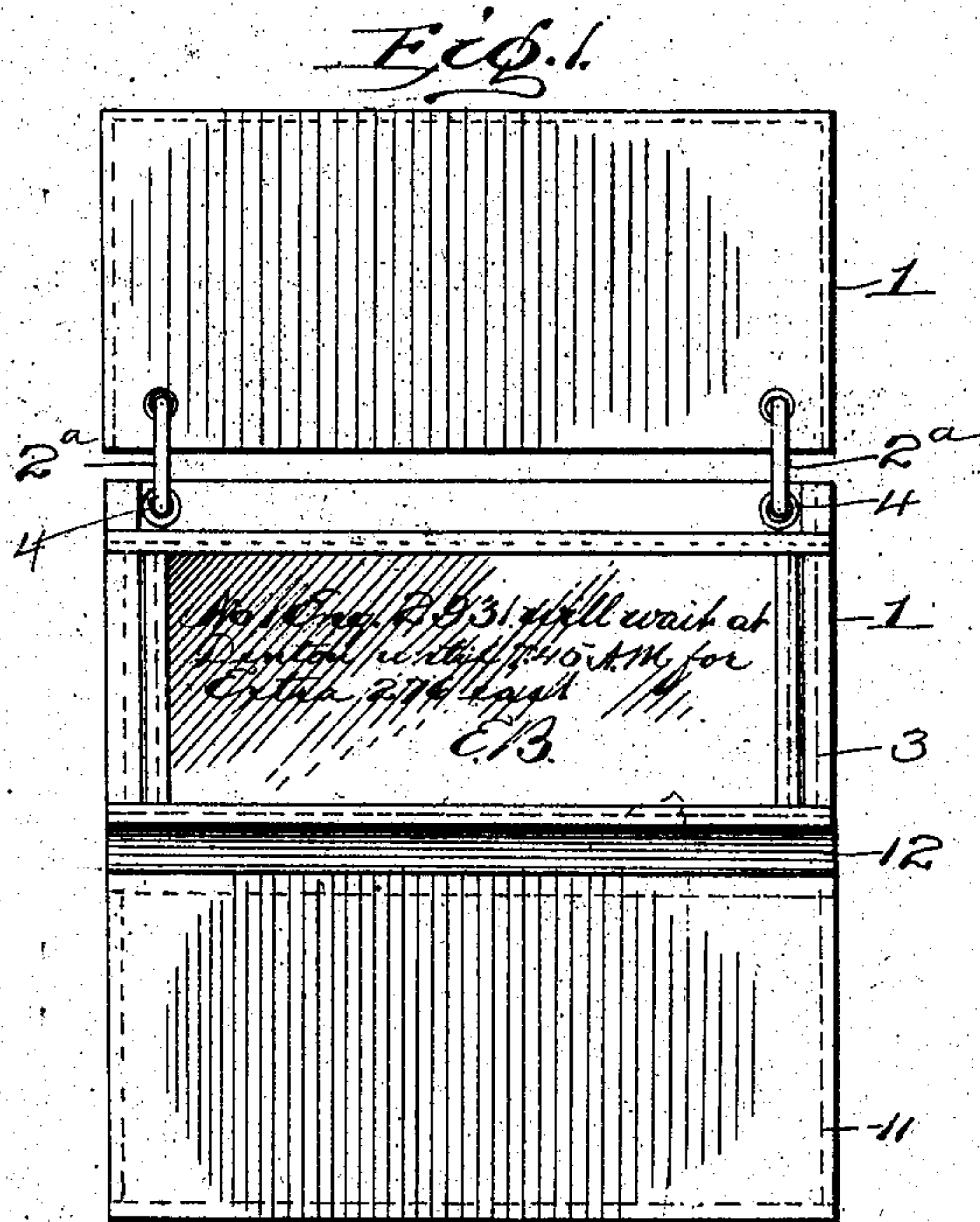
No. 815,500.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

A. E. WILLIAMS.
TRAIN ORDER HOLDING DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 2, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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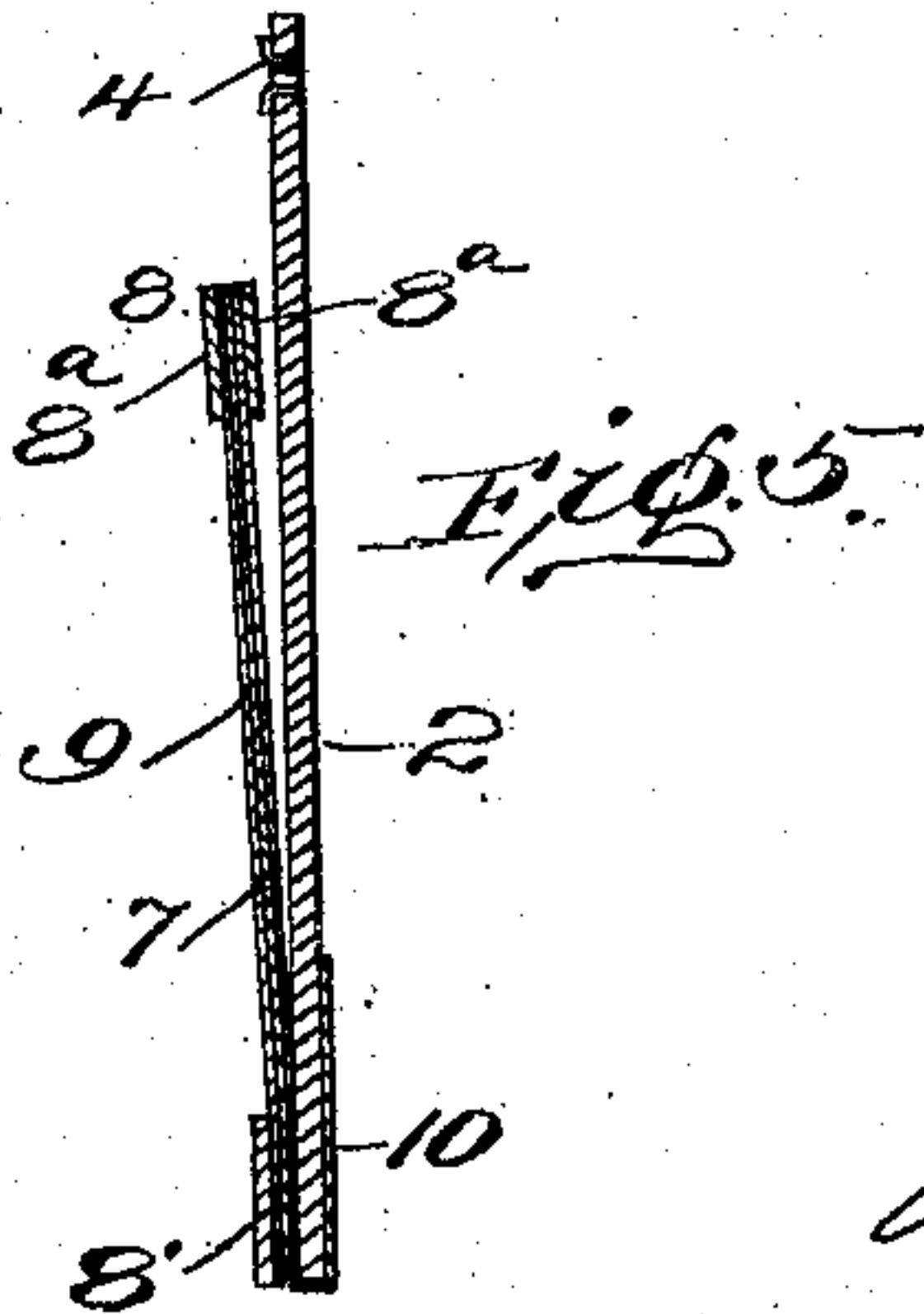
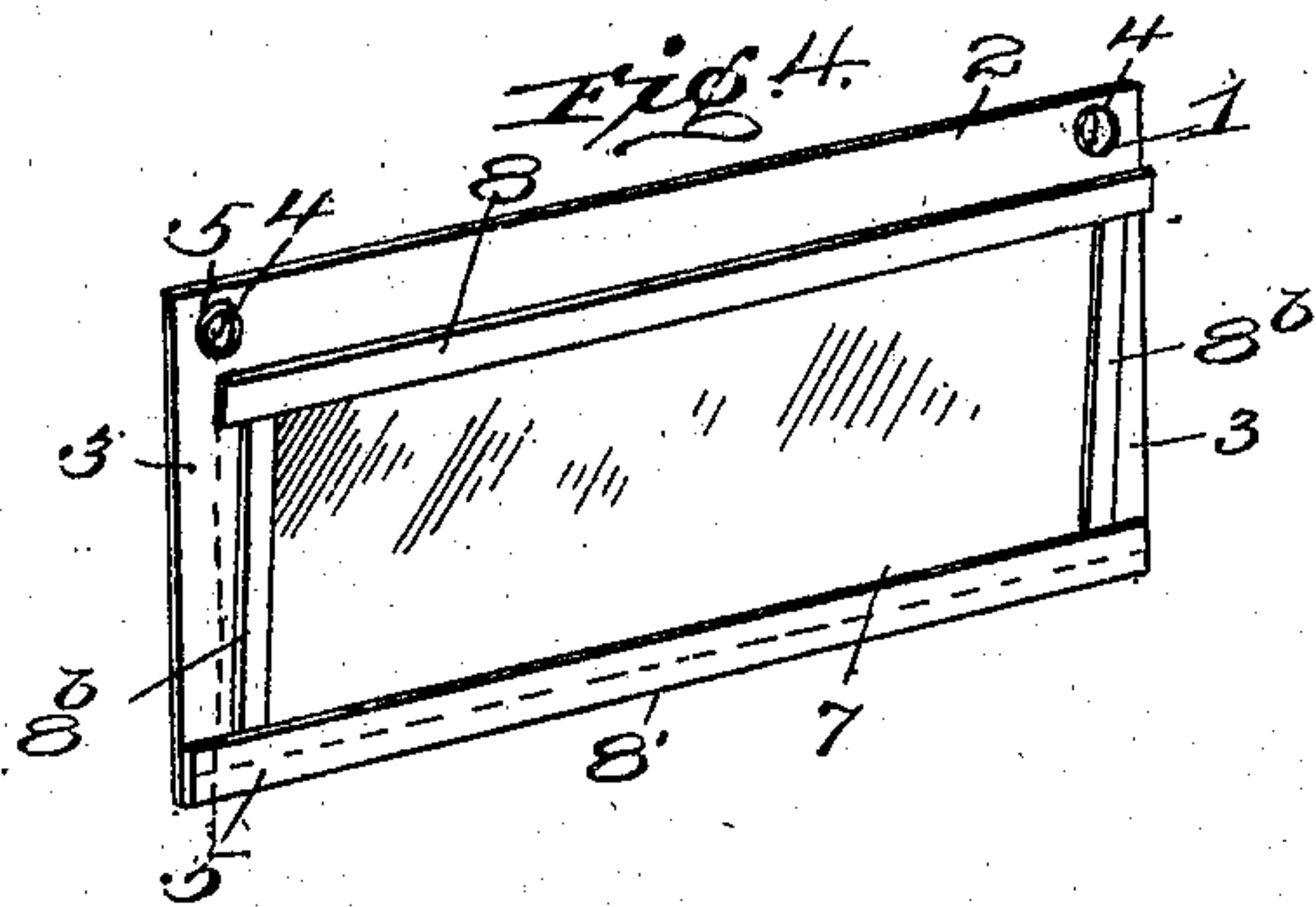
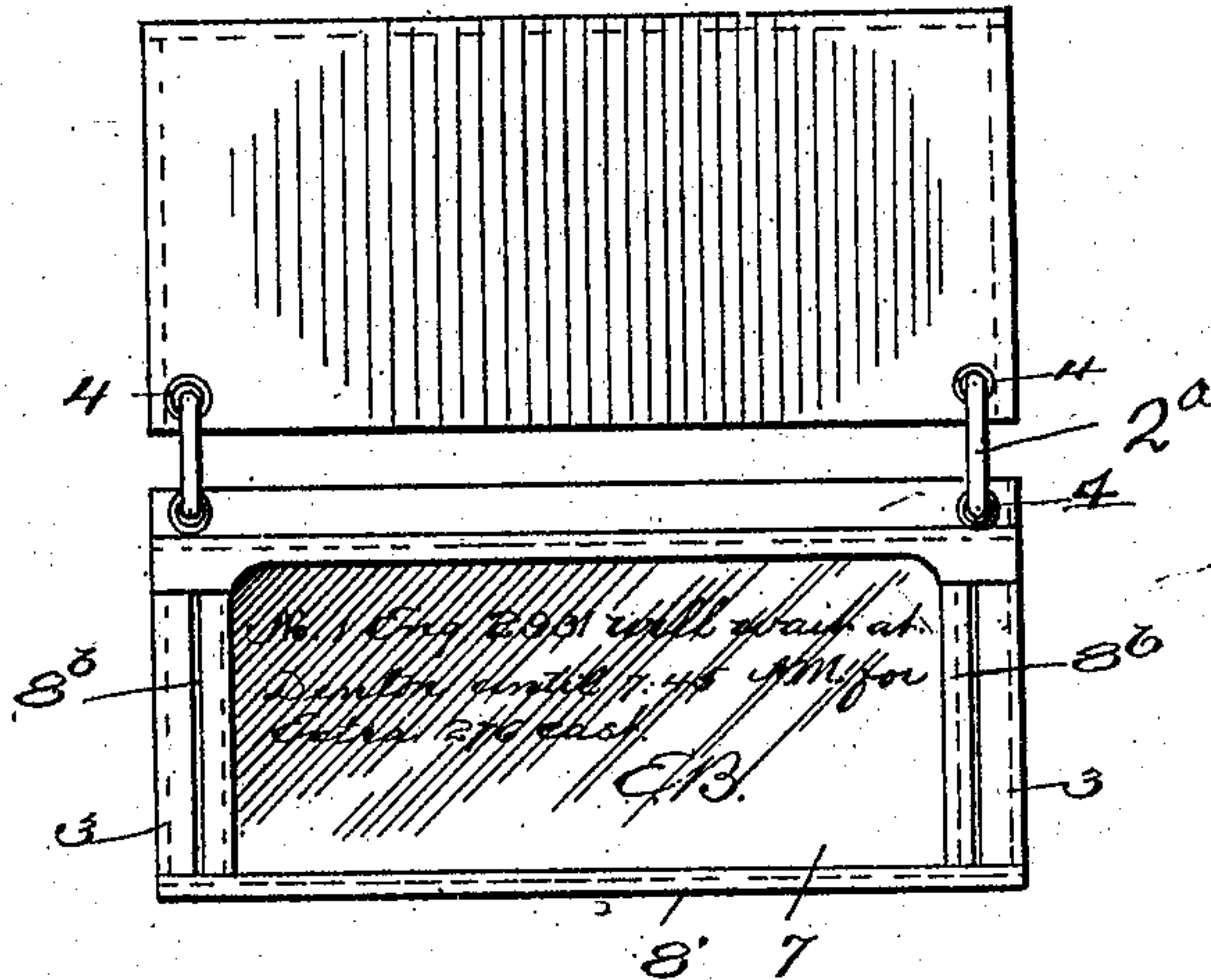
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALVA E. WILLIAMS, OF AURORA, NEBRASKA.

TRAIN-ORDER-HOLDING DEVICE.

No. 815,500.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed March 2, 1905. Serial No. 248,185.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVA E. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aurora, in the county of Hamilton and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Train-Order-Holding Devices; 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 certain new and useful improvements in holding devices, and more particularly to a train-order-holding device.

One of the numerous objects in view is the provision of resilient means for clamping a removable sheet against the back of a frame.

Another object of the invention is the provision of means for removably securing a sheet, which is interposed between a substantially solid back and a transparent front, constituting one of the frames employed in constructing the device.

A further object of the invention is the improvement of the structure of a reversible train-order-holding frame, which is employed in the structure of a device in accordance with the present invention.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of means for clamping a removable sheet between a substantially solid back and a transparent front of a reversible frame.

While I have mentioned some of the objects in view, the invention consists of certain other novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of a device constructed in accordance with the present invention, which employs a flap constituting a cover, said device being shown in an opened position with one of the frames moved to a vertical position for placing said frame behind the other holder-frame of the device. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the device illustrated in Fig. 1 shown in a folded position. Fig. 3 is a view in front elevation of another embodiment of the present invention, showing the same in an opened position. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the holder-frames of the present invention. Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on line 5 5, Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a fragmentary perspective

view of one of the holder-frames, shown partly in section.

It is desirable to provide a train-order holder which will retain the train-order sheets in a fixed position, said holder capable of being attached to the cab of a locomotive or caboose of a freight-train, so that the engineer or fireman can readily read the order contained in the outer or upper frame, as the case may be. Several train-orders may be held in position for inspection and can be removed or replaced whenever it is desirable or necessary when employing a holder constructed in accordance with the present invention.

In the art to which my invention relates it is well known that usually a train-order is delivered to the conductor of a train, while a copy of the same may be given to the engineer. These original and duplicate copies are often placed by the conductor and engineer in their pockets or carelessly deposited upon any support, so that while they are important documents they are often mislaid or lost by the conductor or engineer not possessing some simple holder or depository. Many advantages are obtained by employing a device constructed in accordance with the present invention—as, for instance, a holder which will at all times permit the train-orders to be easily read, as well as being positively retained in an assembled position, so as to be easily accessible, for it will be obvious that the adjustable frames of the device can be easily reversed when it is found necessary.

In Figs. 1 and 2 I have shown a holder especially adapted for conductors' use, said holder comprising holder-frames 1, which are removably secured together by suitable loop means 2^a, which are preferably, in this instance, rings. Each of the holder-frames 1 comprises in its construction a comparatively rigid or stiff back 2, which may be constructed of leather or stiff cardboard. The back 2 is provided with a transverse reinforcing-rib 3 at each of its ends. The transverse reinforcing-rib materially increases the rigidity of the substantially solid back 2. The back 2 of the frame 1 is provided with apertures near its upper edge, said apertures having metallic eyelets 4 positioned therein. In my preferred constructions the apertured portions of the back, in which the eyelets 4 are positioned, are preferably formed near the ends and contiguous to the upper edge of the back. The clamping means employed in the

construction of each of the frames comprises a substantially-rectangular frame, which is provided with parallel metallic strips 6 6, formed of resilient material. The metallic strips 6 have a spring action for pressing or holding the transparent sheet 7 and the upper longitudinal strip 8 normally against the back 2. The resilient strips 6 are incased within a covering 9. A longitudinally-extending strip 8' is secured to the back 2 near its lower edge, said strip 8' extending parallel to the strip 8. It will be seen that the holder-frames are substantially rectangular in shape, it necessarily following that the back 2, as well as the movable clamping-frame secured to the front of the back, is also rectangular in shape. The edges of the transparent sheet 7 are incased within the parallel strips 8^a, constituting the longitudinal strip or member 8, and the lower strip 8' and the back 2, and the covering 9 inclosing the resilient strips 6.

It may be desirable to reinforce the sheet constituting the back 2, and for this reason I have shown in Fig. 5 a metallic strip 10, which is secured transversely of the back. It is preferable to secure two of the strips to the back, one near each end. The looped means 2^a are positioned within the eyelets of the holder-frames. The holder-frames may be reversed upon the looped means 2^a when it is desired to expose the train-order sheet positioned within a frame covered by another frame.

In Figs. 1 and 2 a flap 11 of the same dimension as the back 2 of the frame 1 is movably secured by means of a flexible strip 12 to one of the holder-frames. The flap 11 may be folded into parallel position with the holder-frames of the device, as is shown in Fig. 2. The structure of the device depicted in Figs. 1 and 2 is especially adapted for a conductor's use, as it is generally desirable to deposit the holder in a pocket of a garment worn by the user of the holder. In Fig. 3 the flap 11 is dispensed with, as a device constructed in accordance with the embodiment depicted therein is more especially adapted for the engineer's use, and as it is desirable to suspend the device in the cab of the locomotive the employment of the flap 11 is not necessary. As each order is executed or canceled the holder-frame containing said order can be quickly and easily positioned to the rear of the remaining frames by swinging the same vertically to the rear of the frames. Additional holder-frames may be positioned upon or detached from the looped means 2^a, as said means are preferably of the ordinary split-ring type.

From the foregoing description it will be obvious that I have constructed a holder-frame which comprises a comparatively stiff back and a transparent resilient front. The front of the frame is preferably provided with

parallel springs secured at the lower edge of the back, while the upper ends are left free. The longitudinal strips or members 8 and 8' may be made of the same metallic material as the springs or strips 6, obviating the necessity of employing the parallel strips 8^a or the strip constituting the lower longitudinal strip or member 8'. As illustrated in the figures of the drawings, the vertically-extending flexible parallel members 8^b are inset from the ends of the back and the longitudinal parallel strips 8 and 8' extend beyond the outer edges of said members 8^b.

The transparent sheet 7 is retained in its normal position upon the holder-frame by stitching through the covering 9 for the springs 6, through the strips 8^a of the longitudinal member 8, and through longitudinal member 8' and the portion of the back engaged by said member.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of reversible holder-frames, each of said frames comprising an apertured sheet constituting a back, and a spring-pressed sheet, constituting a front, secured to the lower portion of said back, and means positioned within the apertured portions of said sheets for securing the holder-frames together.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of reversible, connected holder-frames, one of said holder-frames provided with a movable flap, and each of said frames comprising a back, a transparent sheet secured to said back, and resilient means for normally holding said sheet in substantially a parallel position with said back.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination of a plurality of reversible holder-frames, a flap constituting a cover secured to one of said frames, each of said frames comprising a back, metallic eyelets secured to said back, a transparent sheet secured to said back near its lowest end, reinforcing means secured to the edges of said sheet, parallel springs secured to said sheet and back, and means engaging the eyelets of said backs for securing said holder-frames together.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of a plurality of detachable and reversible holder-frames, a flap constituting a cover secured to one of said holder-frames, each of said holder-frames comprising an apertured back, a front secured to said back comprising a transparent sheet, said sheet secured to the back throughout one of its longitudinal edges, reinforcing means secured to the edges of said transparent sheet, parallel springs secured to said back and inclosed by said reinforcing means, and looped means engaging the apertured portion of

each of said holder-frames for securing the same in a folded position.

5 5. In a device of the character described, the combination of reversible holders, means connecting said holders, each of said holders comprising a back, separate springs fixedly secured at one end to said back, and transparent means positioned between said springs.

15 6. In a device of the character described, the combination of movable holders, means connecting said holders, each of said holders comprising a back and clamping means fixedly secured at one end to said back, and a flap secured to one of said holders adapted to be folded in a substantially parallel position to said holder.

20 7. In a device of the character described, the combination of reversible holders, means connecting said holders, each holder comprising a back and a flexible front, and a flap secured to one of said holders.

8. In a device of the character described, the combination with reversible holders, means for connecting said holders, each of said holders comprising a back and clamping means fixedly secured to said back, and a flap secured to one of said holders. 25

9. In a device of the character described, the combination of reversible holders, means for connecting said holders, each of said holders comprising a back and a flexible front, said back and front fixedly secured together throughout one of their edges, and a flap constituting a cover secured to one of said holders and adapted to overlap a portion of said holders. 30 35

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

ALVA E. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

M. A. HARTIGAN,
R. R. MORLEDGE