

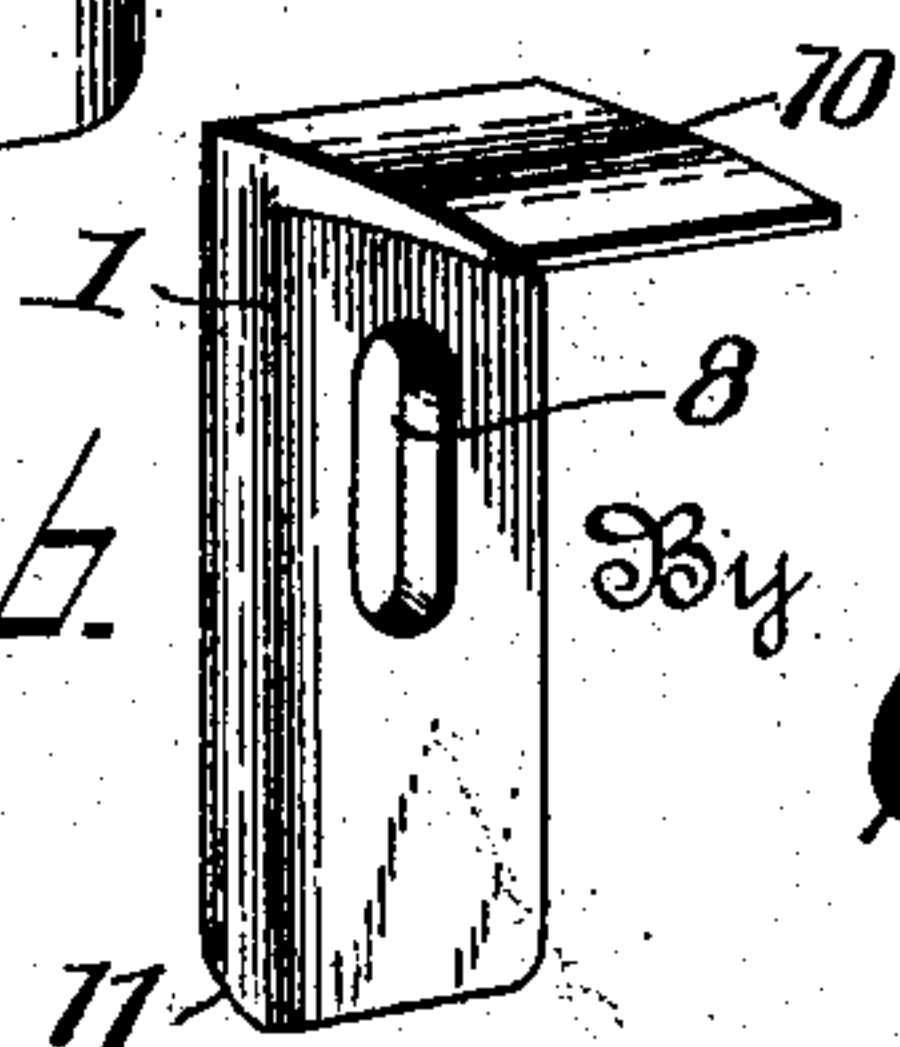
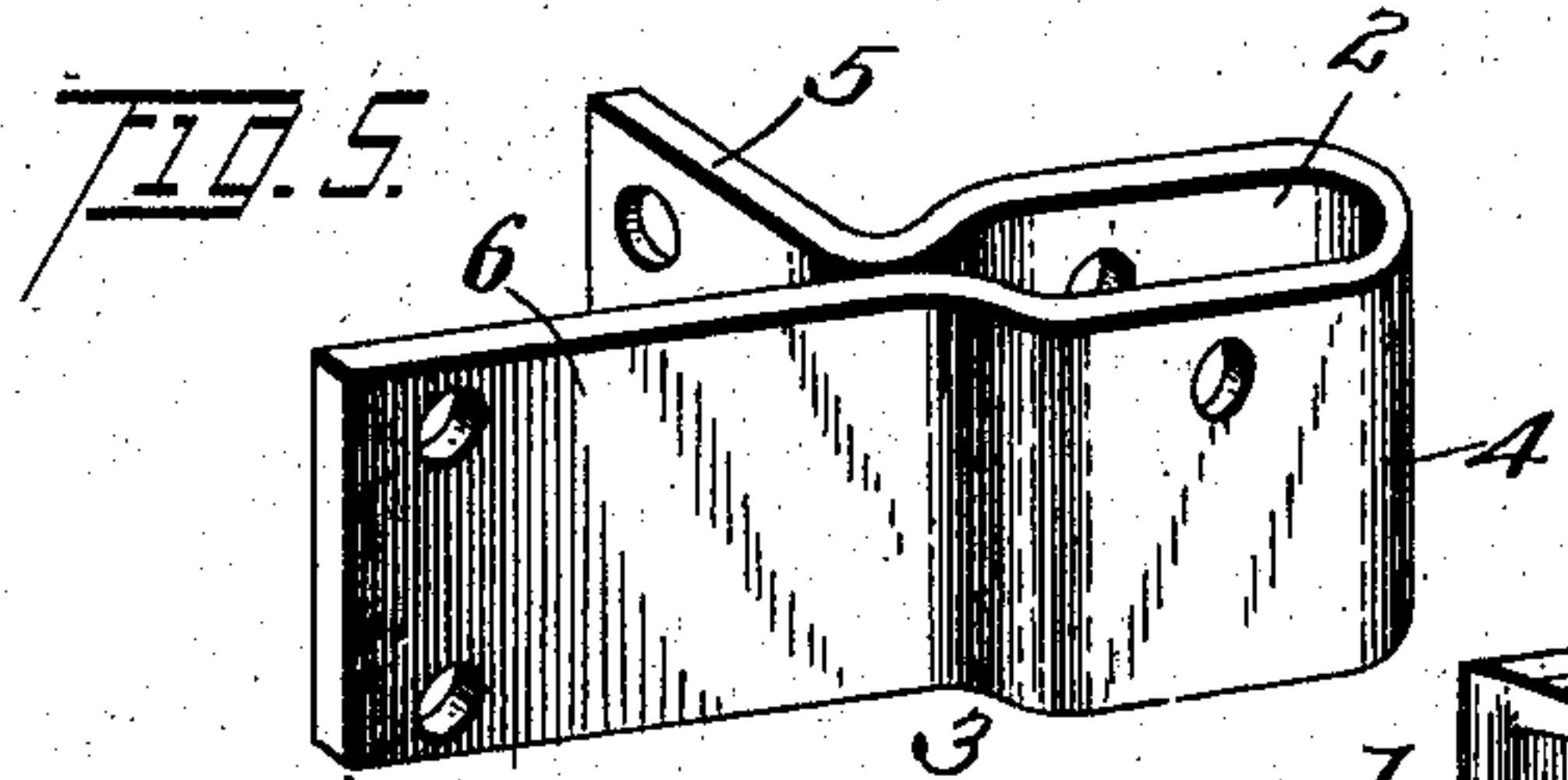
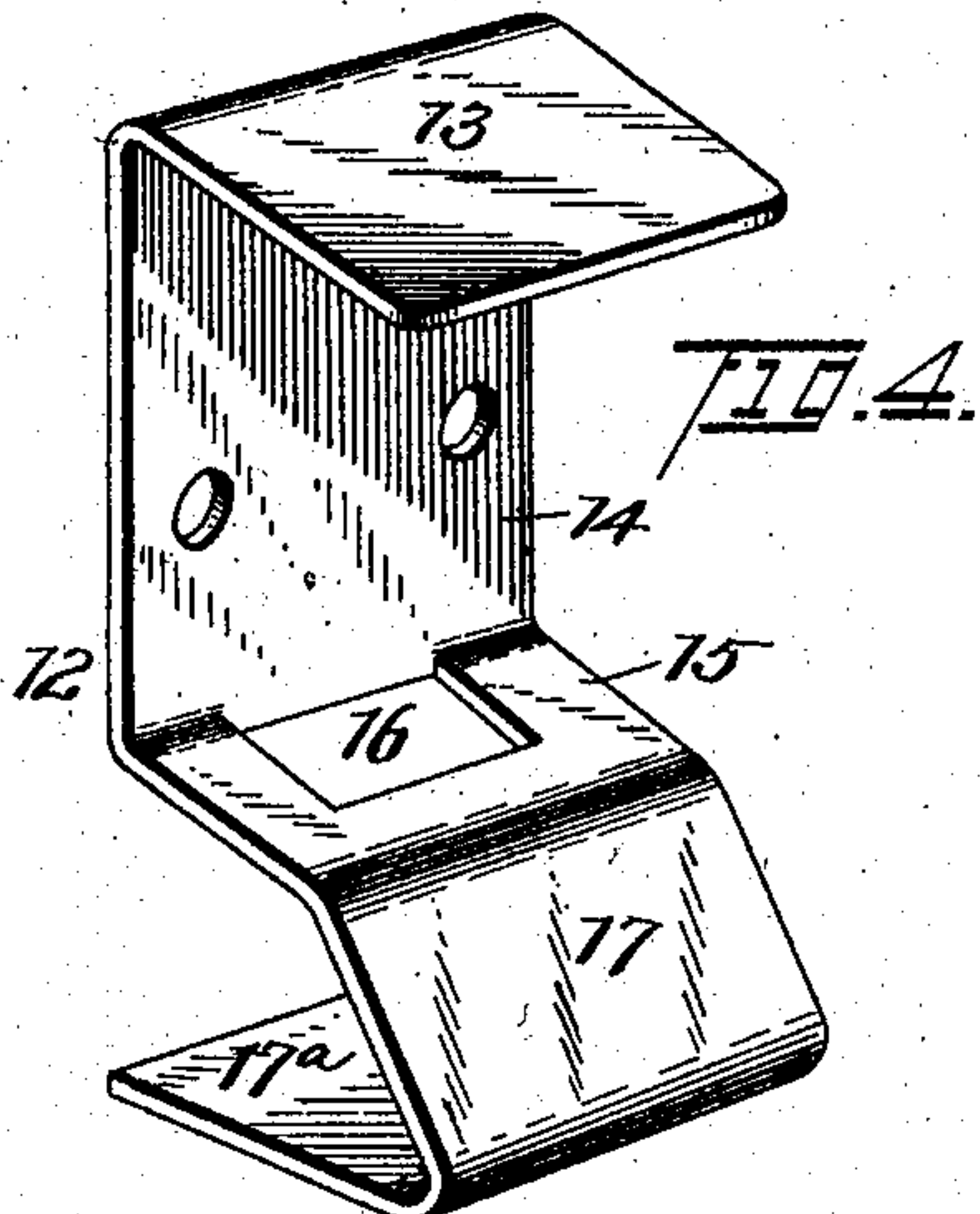
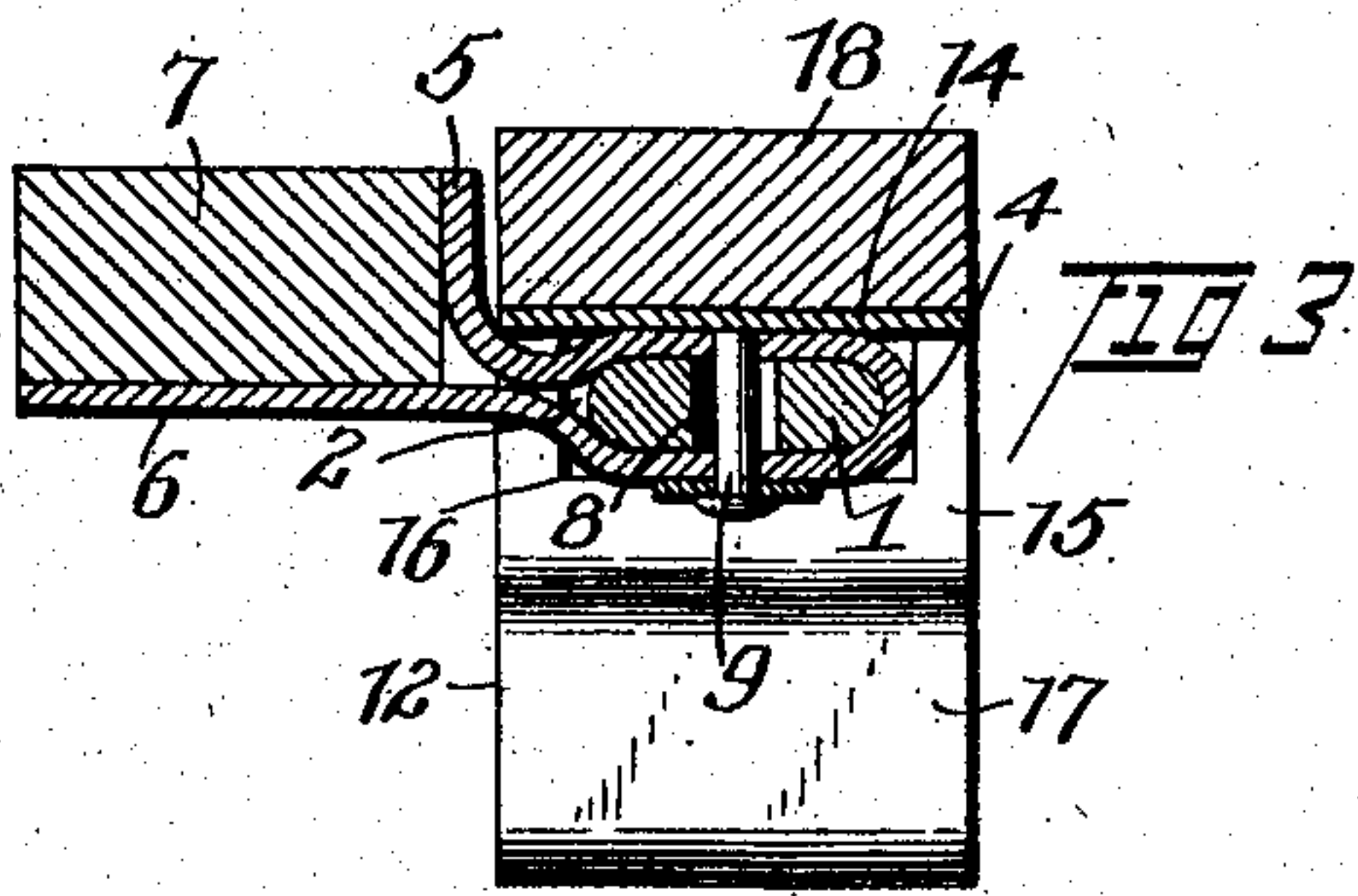
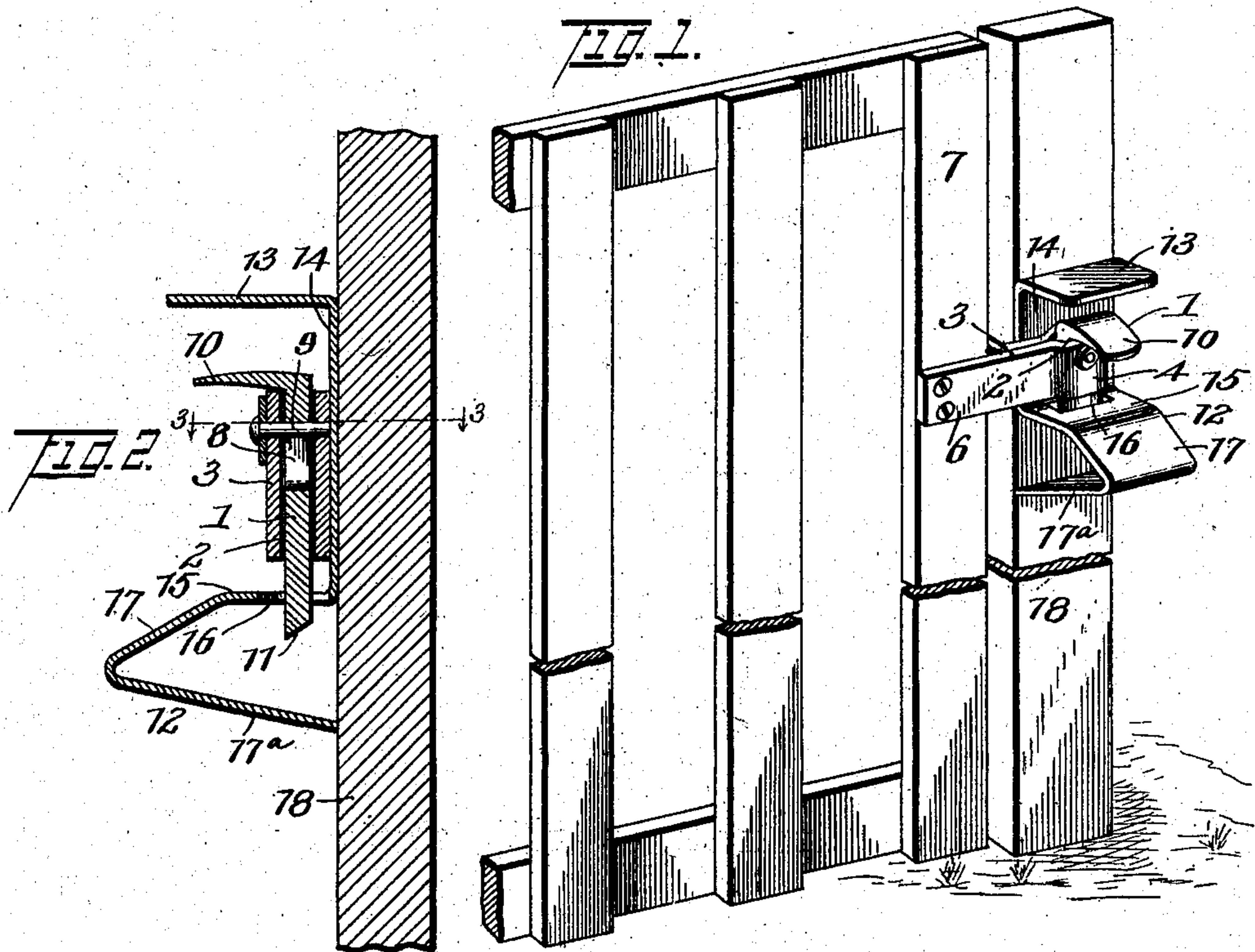
No. 815,553.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

J. W. PETTIJOHN.

LATCH.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 9, 1905.



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JOHN WILSON PETTIJOHN, OF MONTESANO, WASHINGTON.

LATCH.

No. 815,553.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed May 9, 1905. Serial No. 259,548.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WILSON PETTIJOHN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Montesano, in the county of Chehalis and State of Washington, have invented a new and useful Latch, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in latches.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of latches and to provide an exceedingly simple and inexpensive one of great strength and durability designed particularly for use on large farm-gates, chicken-houses, granary-bins, and other outbuildings and adapted to be readily operated and to afford a grip or handle for opening and closing a gate or door.

A further object of the invention is to provide a latch of this character in which the movable locking member or bolt will be protected from the weather and which will be effectually prevented from being operated by a horse or other animal.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details of construction within the scope of the claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a latch constructed in accordance with this invention and shown applied to a gate. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view taken substantially on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the keeper. Fig. 5 is a similar view of the casing for the bolt. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the bolt.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a vertically-slidable bolt mounted in an opening 2 of a casing 3, which consists of a single piece of metal doubled or bent between its ends to form a loop 4 and having its terminals 5 and 6 extended from the inner end of the loop at right angles to each other. The loop 4 forms the opening 2

for the vertically-slidable bolt, and the terminals 5 and 6 are perforated for the reception of screws or other suitable fastening devices for securing the bolt-casing to the free edge of a gate 7 or other swinging member, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings. The bolt is provided between its ends with a vertical slot 8, through which passes a rivet 9 or other suitable fastening device for retaining the bolt in the opening of the loop 4. The fastening device 9 pierces the side of the loop and is suitably secured to the same. The upper end of the bolt is provided with an outwardly-extending lip 10, forming a grip or handle and adapted to be readily engaged by the finger for operating the bolt. The lower end 11 of the bolt is beveled and is adapted to automatically engage a keeper 12, which is constructed of a single piece of metal. The strip or plate from which the keeper is constructed has one end bent at right angles to form a horizontally-projecting top 13, which extends over the top of the bolt and which is adapted to serve as a guard and a shield for protecting the bolt and the loop from snow and rain and for preventing the nose of a horse or other animal from coming in contact with the projecting portion of the bolt for operating the same. The other end of the strip or plate is bent outward at right angles to the intermediate portion 14 to provide a bolt-receiving portion 15, which has an opening 16, adapted to be engaged by the lower projecting end of the bolt. At the outer end of the bolt-receiving portion 15 the plate or piece is bent downward and then inward to provide an inclined portion 17 and a substantially horizontal brace 17^a, which extends from the lower end of the inclined portion of the post 18 or other part, to which the keeper is secured. The intermediate portion 14 is provided with suitable perforations for the reception of screws or other suitable fastening devices for mounting the keeper on the post 18. The lower beveled end of the bolt is adapted when the gate is closed to engage the inclined outer portion of the bottom of the keeper, and it will be automatically raised to enable the gate to close. When the gate is closed, the bolt is lowered over the opening and drops into engagement with the same. When the gate is closed, the bolt will automatically engage the keeper. The members 17^a and the portions 15 and 17 form a substantially V-shaped lower portion and provide a strong abutment for the bolt.

It will be seen that the latch is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction, that it can be easily manufactured, and that it is especially adapted for large farm-gates, the doors of outhouses and the like, and that the 5 slidable bolt is protected from the weather and is effectually prevented from being operated by a horse or other animal. Also it will be clear that the top of the keeper, which 10 forms a guard and shield, is adapted to be grasped simultaneously with the projecting portion of the bolt, so that the latter may be easily operated, and that the projecting portion of the bolt will form a convenient grip 15 for enabling a gate or door to be conveniently opened and closed.

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

20 1. A latch of the class described, comprising a vertically-slidable bolt, means for mounting the same, and a keeper having a lower projecting bolt-receiving portion and provided also with an upper projecting guard or shield 25 extending outwardly above the top of the bolt.

2. A latch of the class described, comprising a vertically-movable bolt, a guide or support for the same consisting of a strip of metal 30 doubled to form a bolt-receiving loop and

having its terminals extended from one end of the loop to form attaching portions, means for retaining the bolt in the loop, and a keeper arranged to be engaged by the bolt.

3. A latch of the class described, comprising 35 a vertically-movable bolt, and a keeper composed of an intermediate attaching portion, a top projecting guard, and a lower substantially V-shaped portion projecting outward and having the outer portion of its upper side 40 inclined and provided at the inner portion with a bolt-receiving opening.

4. A latch of the class described, comprising a casing having a horizontal loop, a bolt slidably mounted in the loop and provided at the 45 top with an outwardly-projecting grip, and a keeper composed of an intermediate attaching portion, an outwardly-extending top guard, and a substantially V-shaped lower portion projecting outward from the inter- 50 mediate portion and provided with a bolt-receiving opening.

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

JOHN WILSON PETTIJOHN.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM FRANCIS BOWER,
THOMAS JAMES McDOWELL.