

No. 825,801.

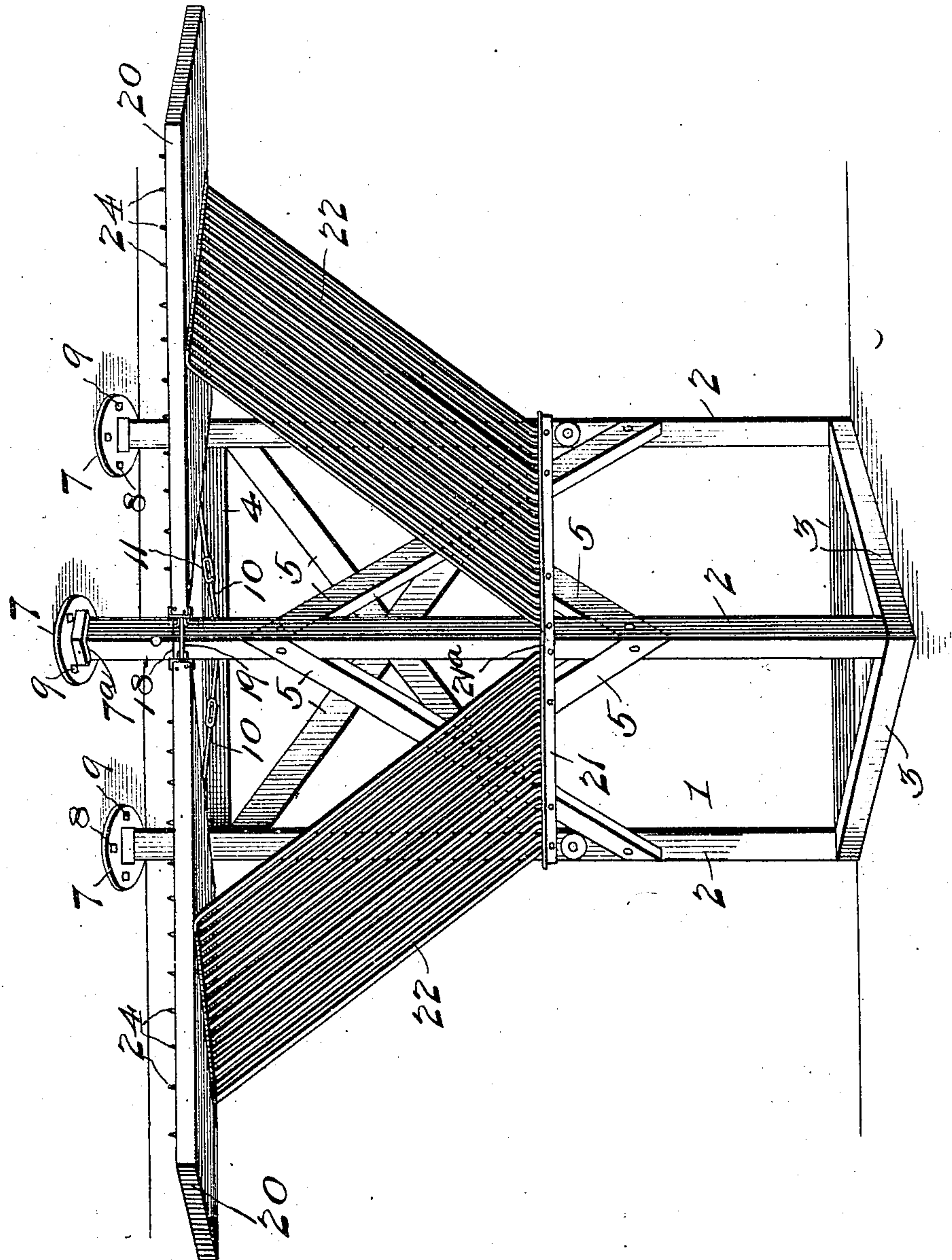
PATENTED JULY 10, 1906.

J. H. BEST.
DISPLAY RACK.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 21, 1904.

5 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Inventor

(JOHN H. BEST)

Witnesses

J. L. Mochamer
F. J. Keilmeyer

By

Edson Bros.

Attorney

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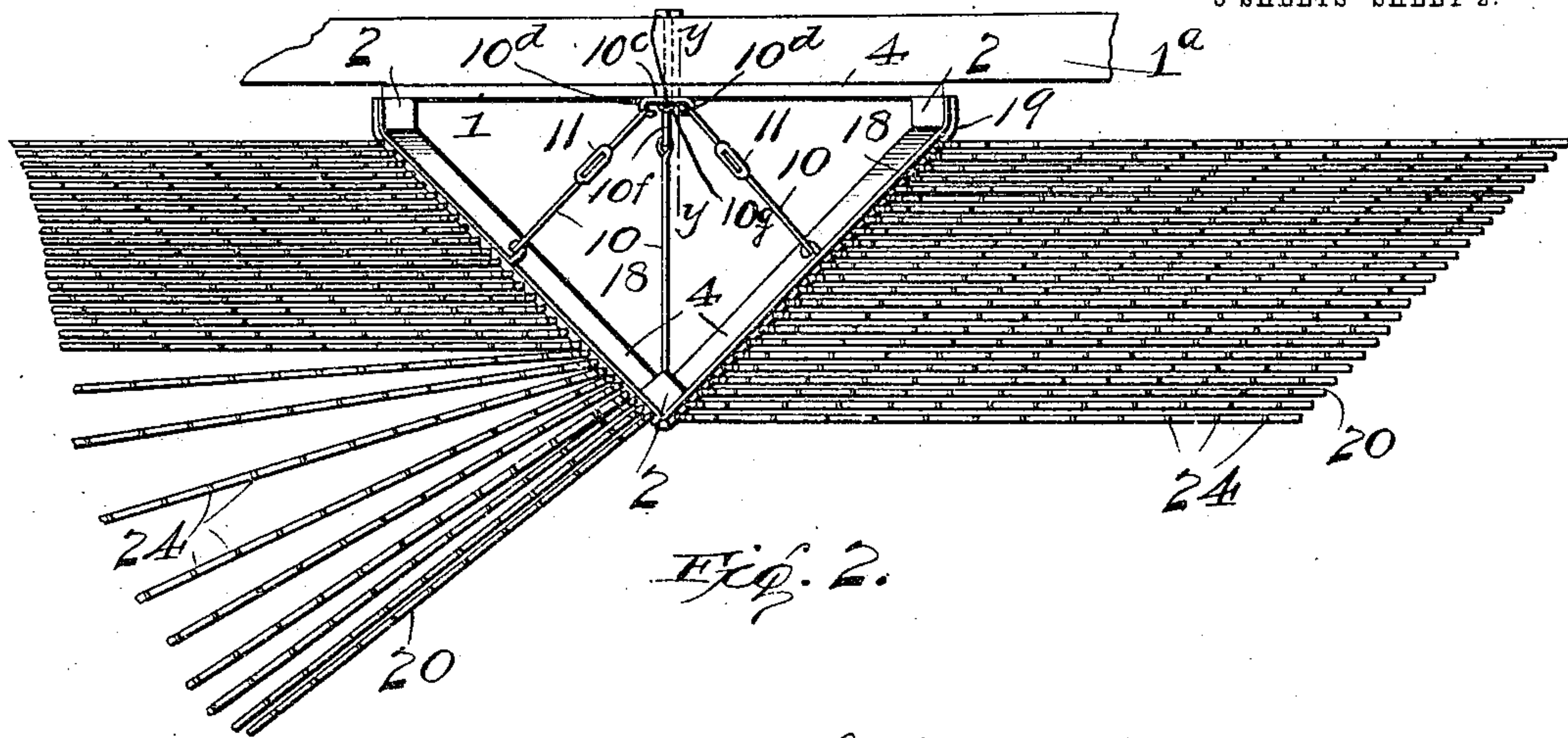


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

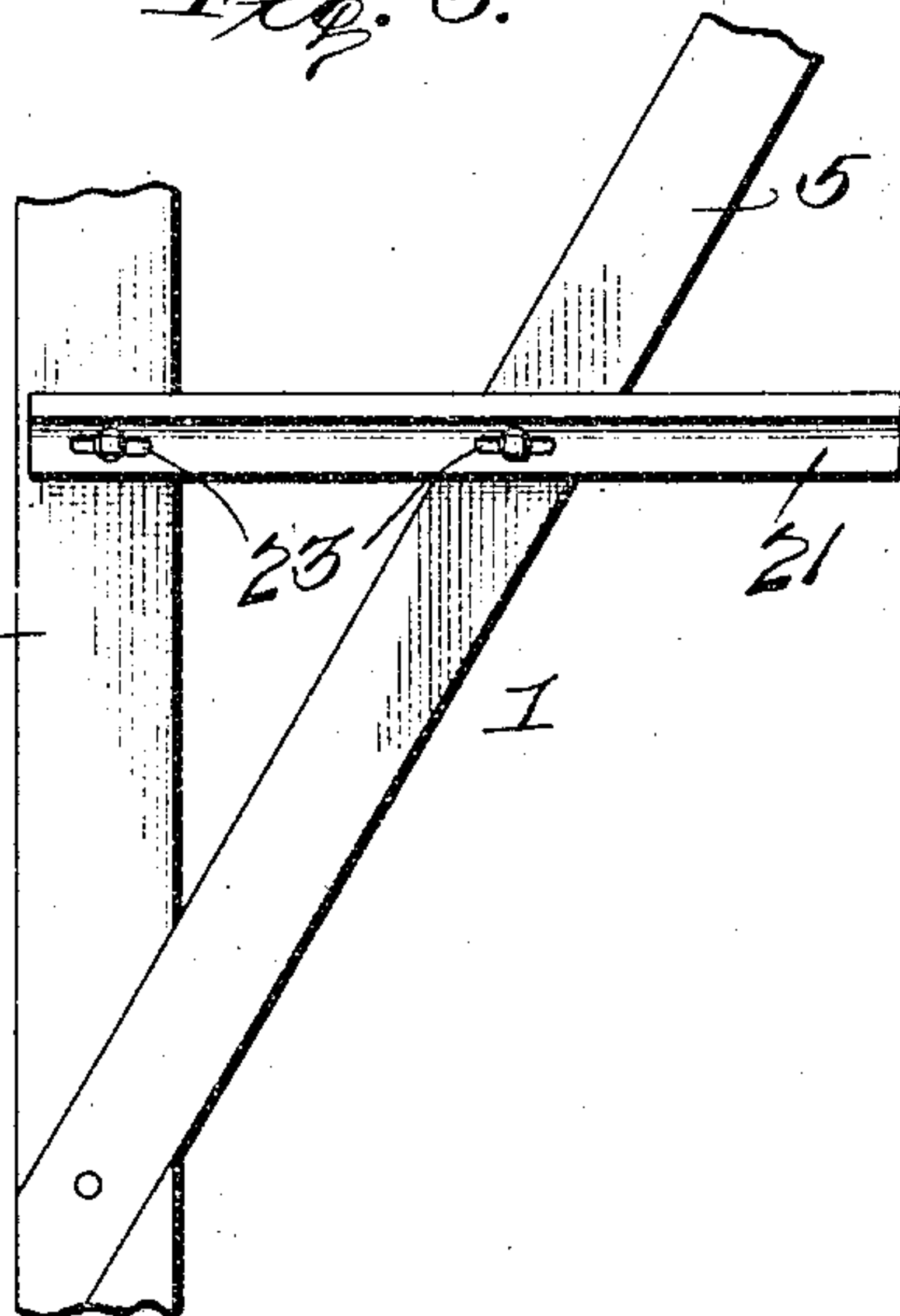


Fig. 12.

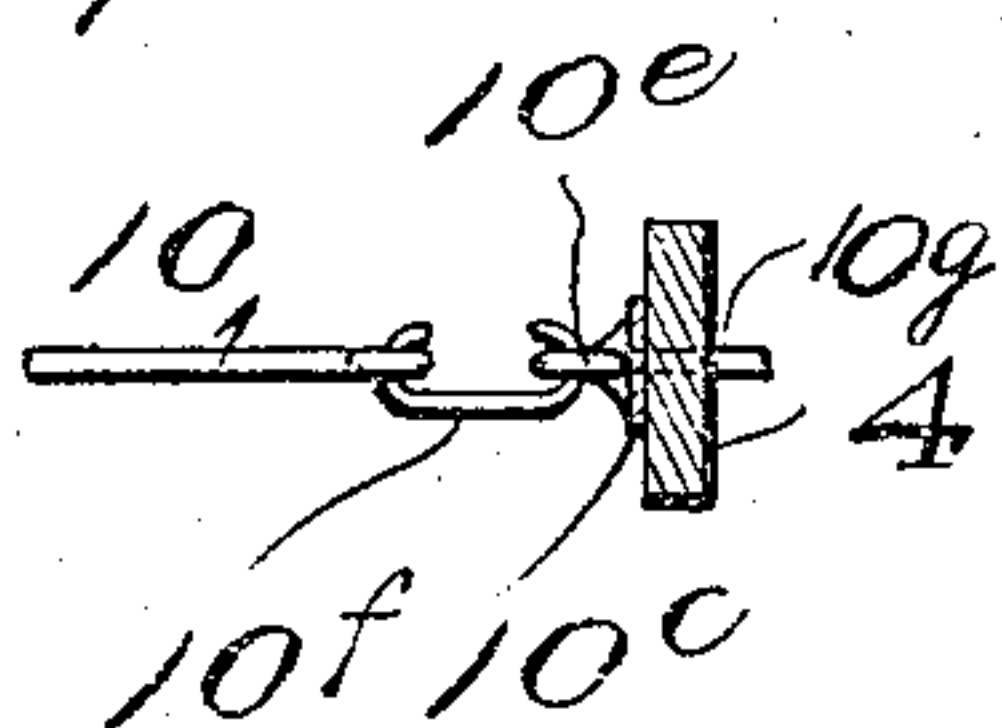
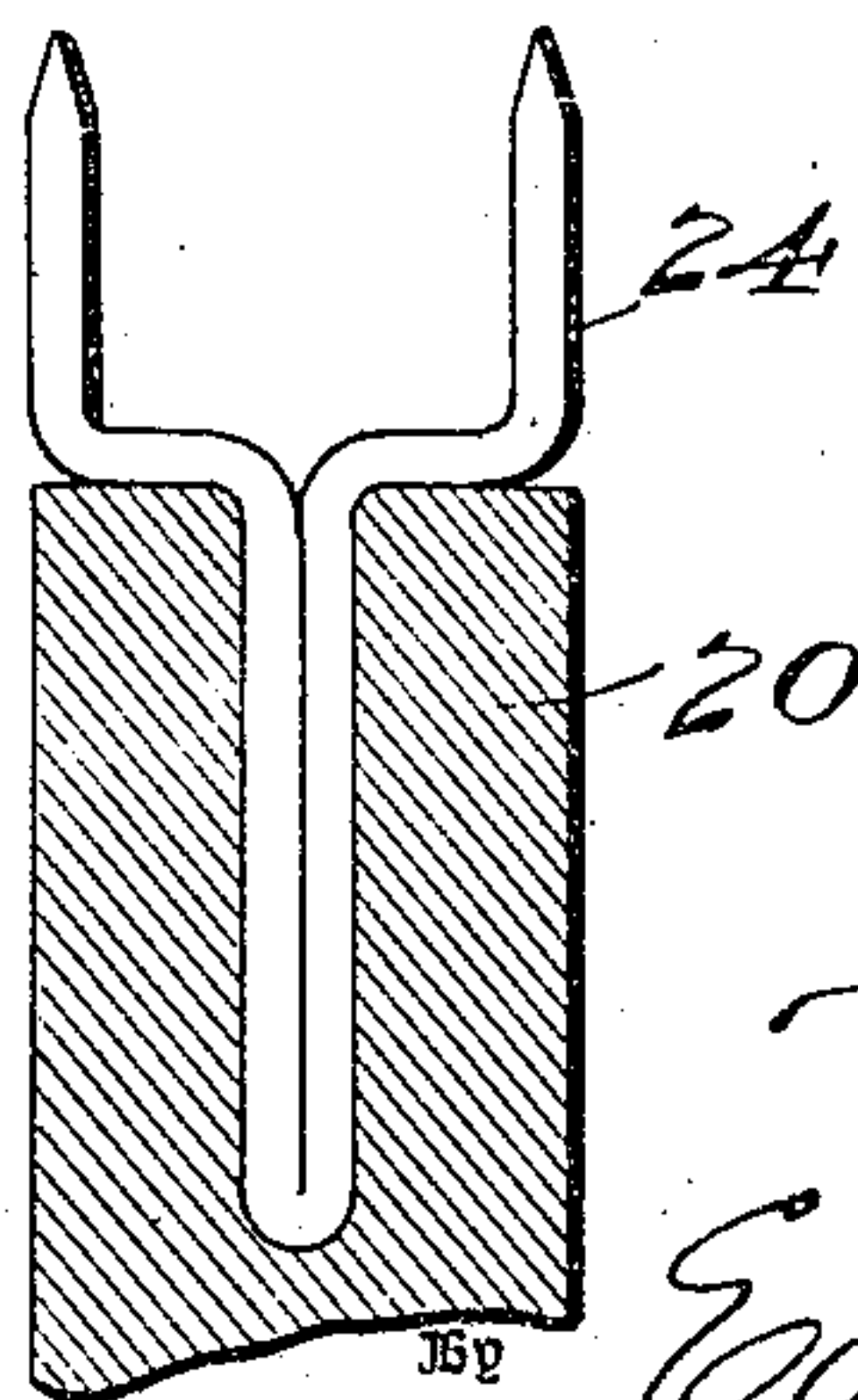


Fig. 4.



Inventor

JOHN H. BEST

Witnesses

J. L. Mochel
E. J. Kehmeyer

Edwin Bros.

Attorney

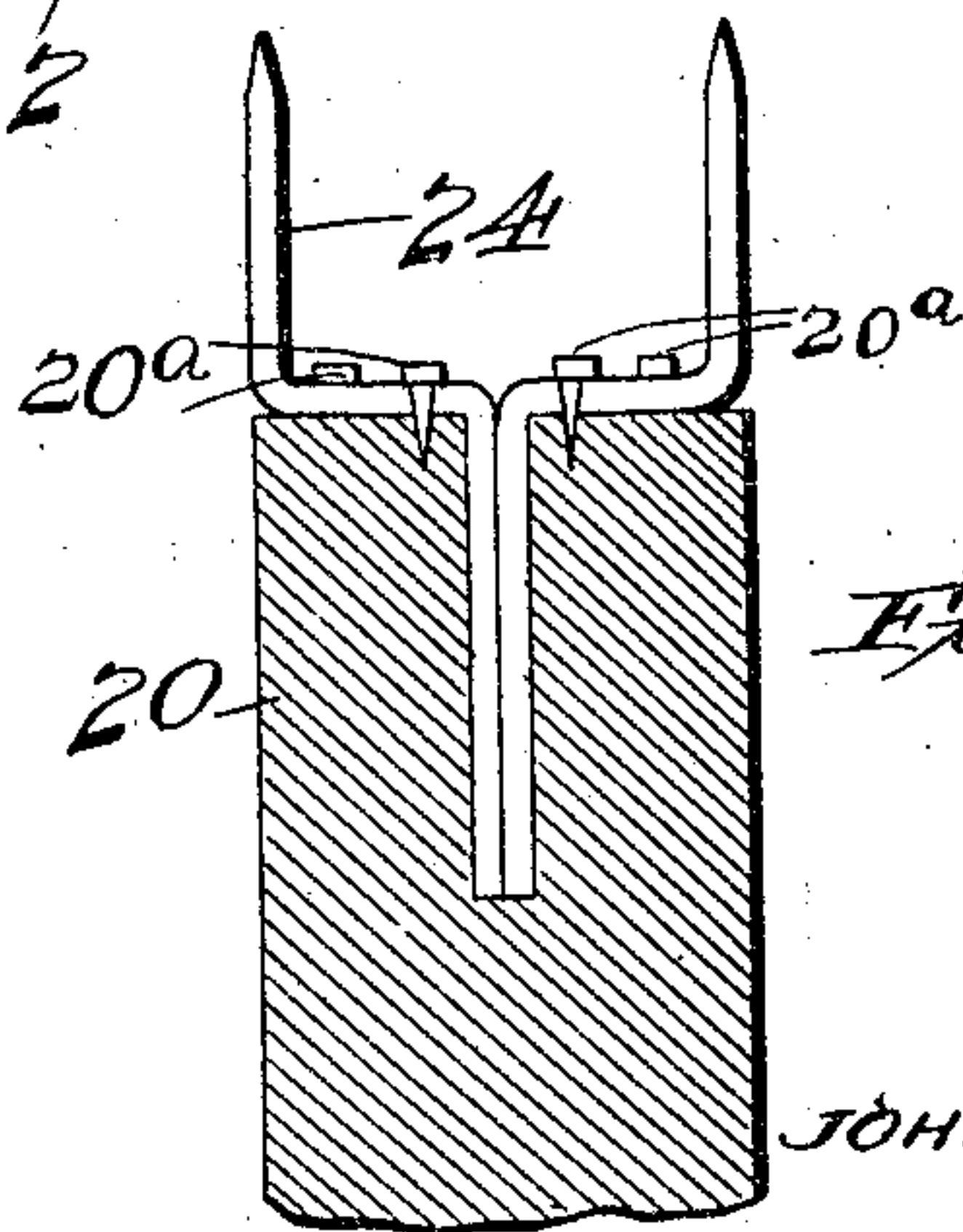
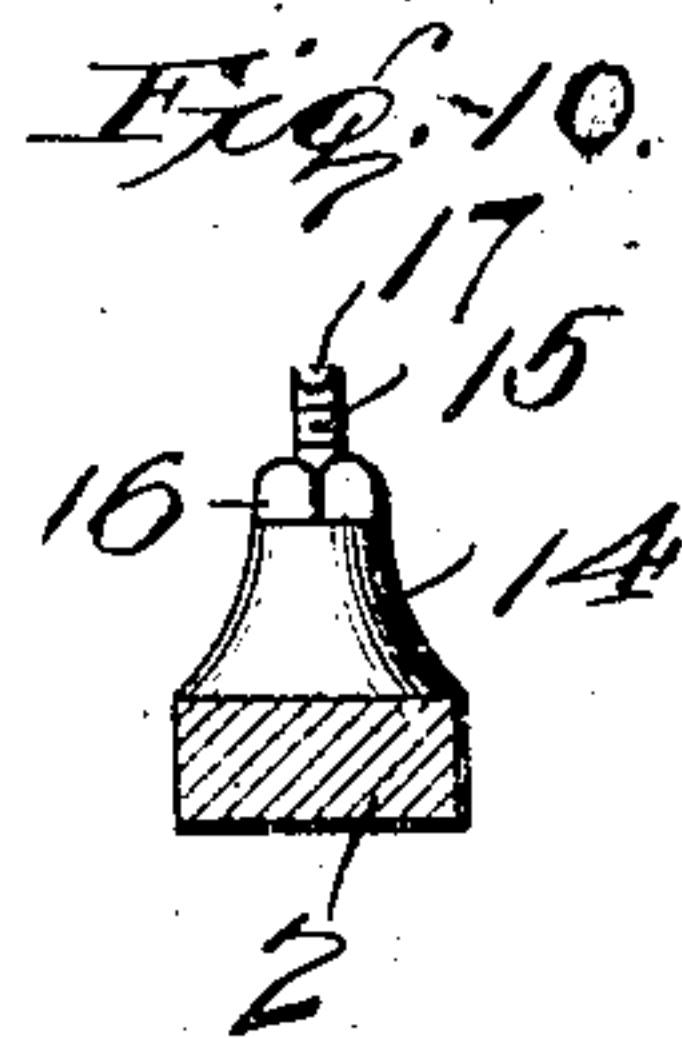
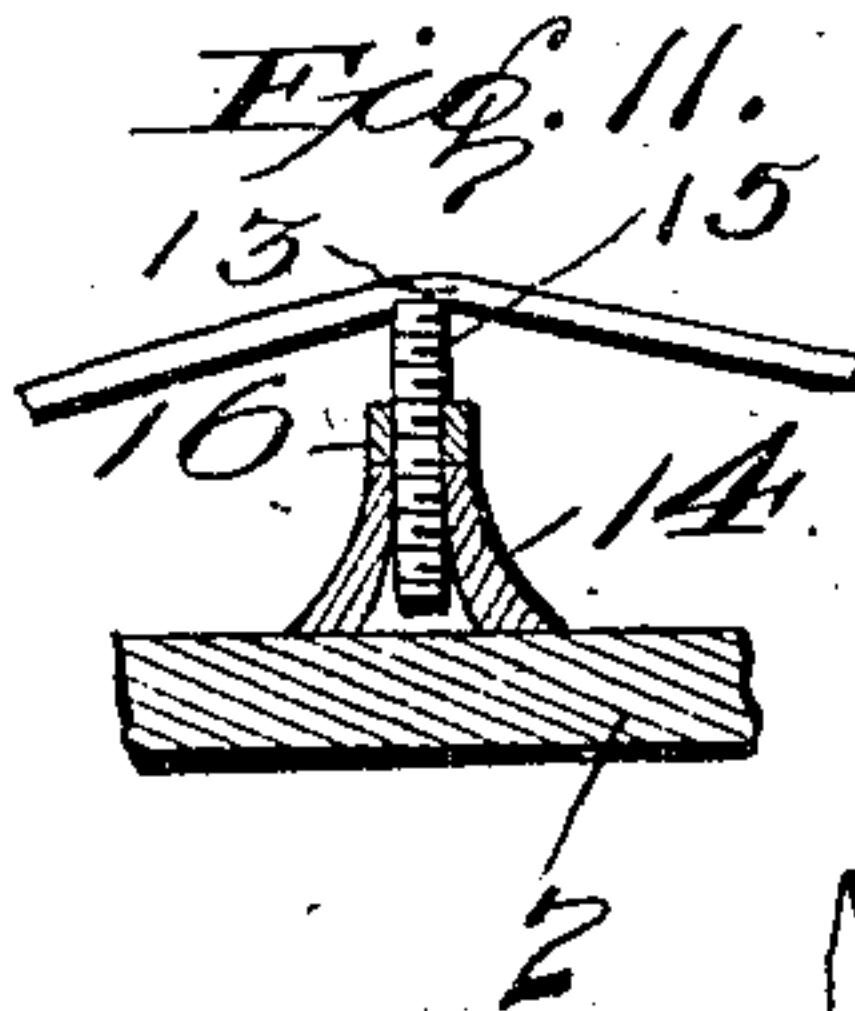
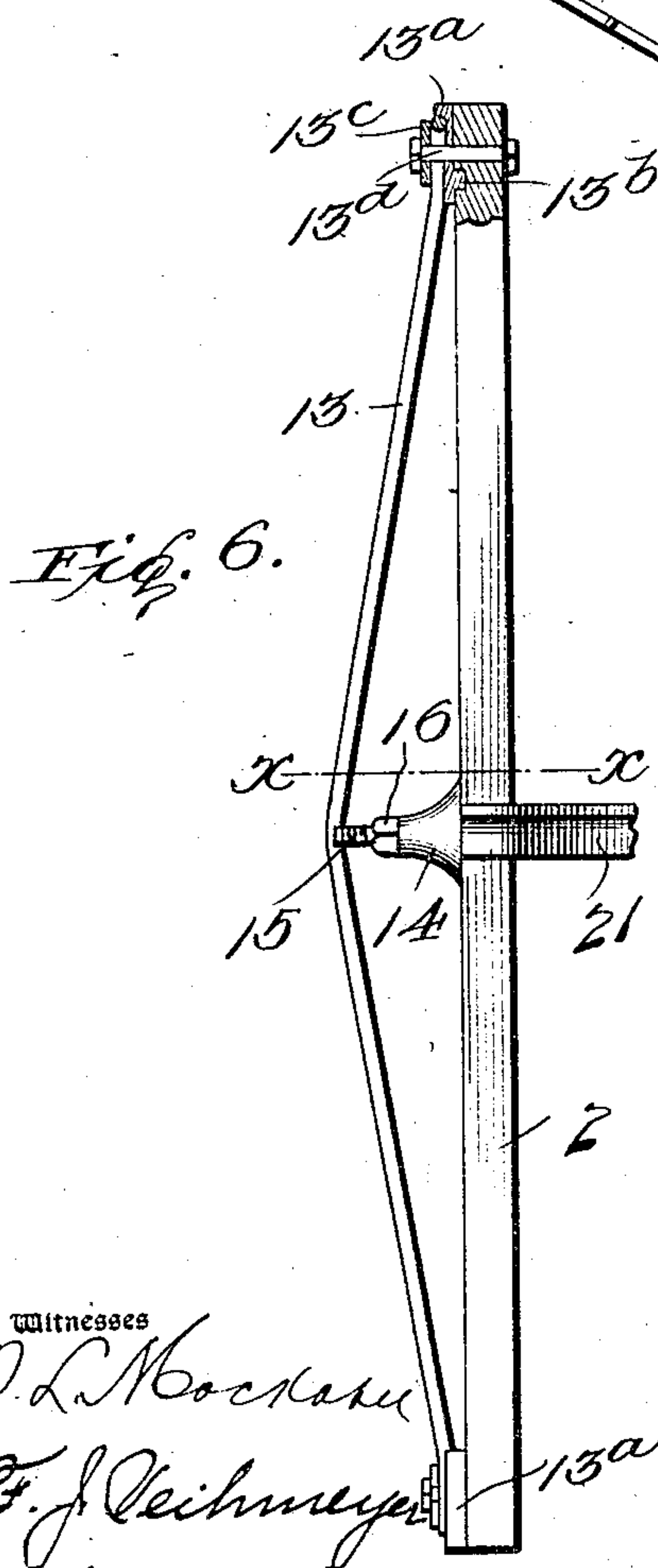
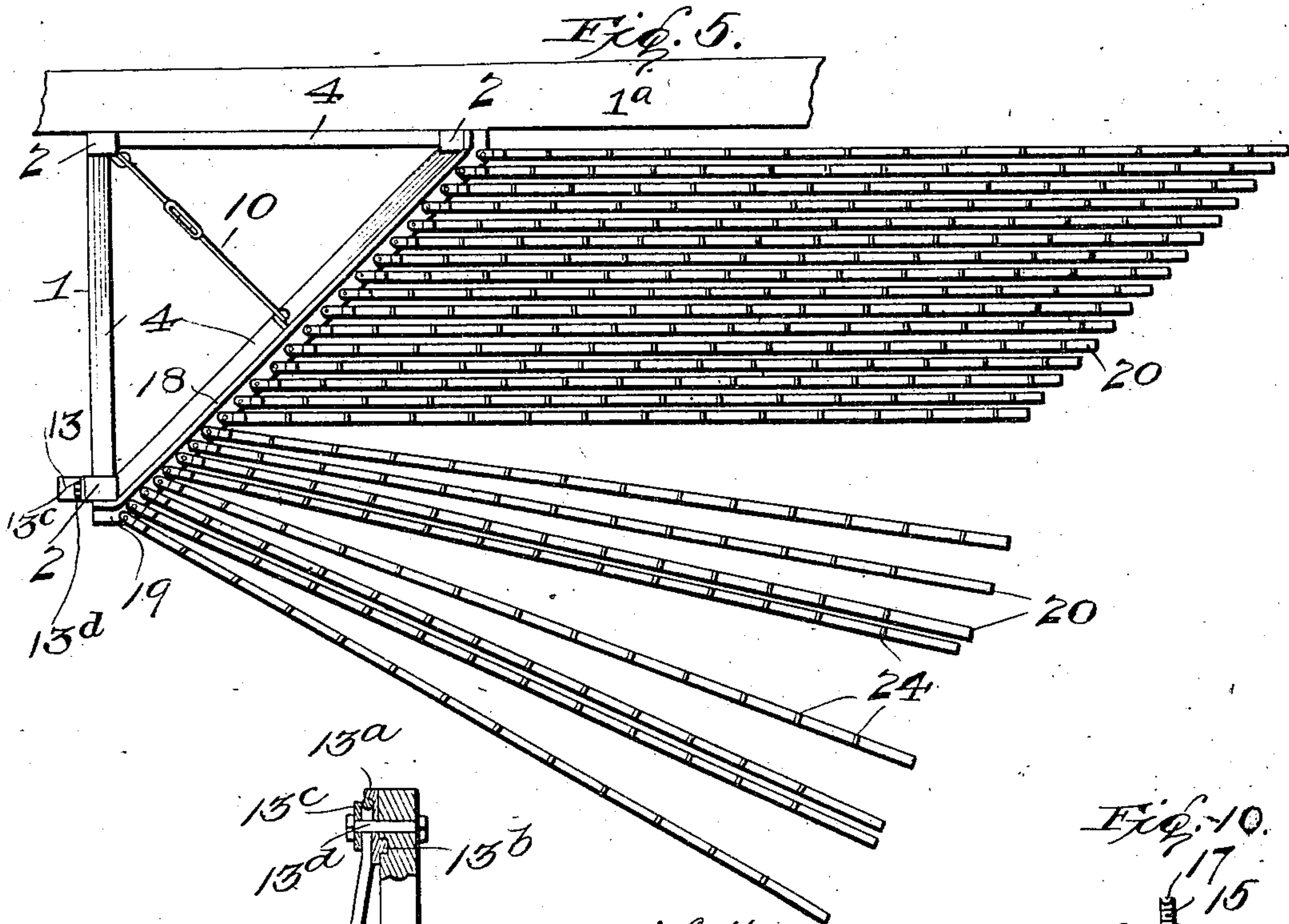
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5 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



Inventor
JOHN H. BEST

Witnesses
J. L. Mockner
E. J. Rehnert

Edmund Broth
Attorney &

No. 825,801.

PATENTED JULY 10, 1906.

J. H. BEST.
DISPLAY RACK.

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5 SHEETS—SHEET 4.

Fig. 7.

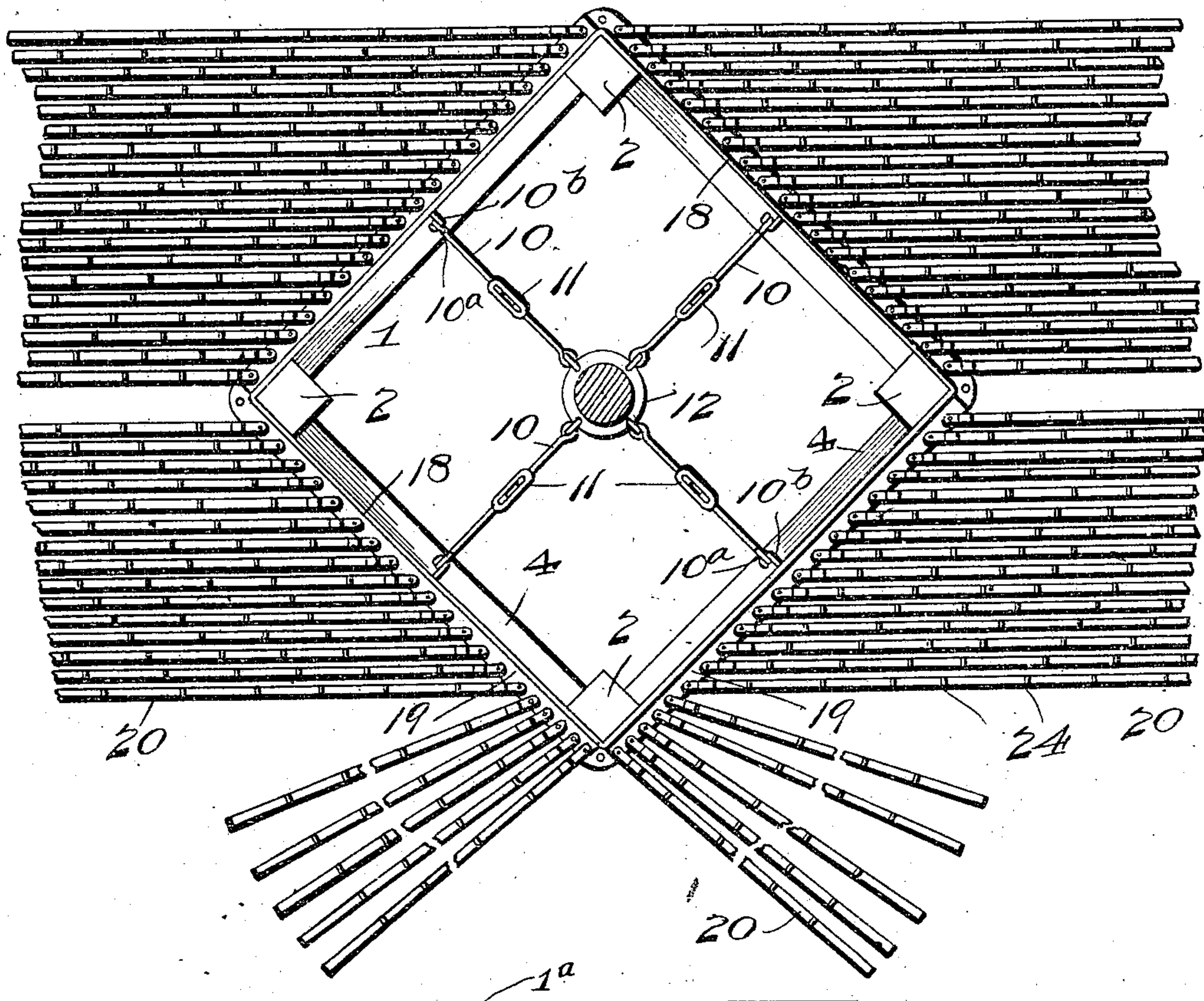
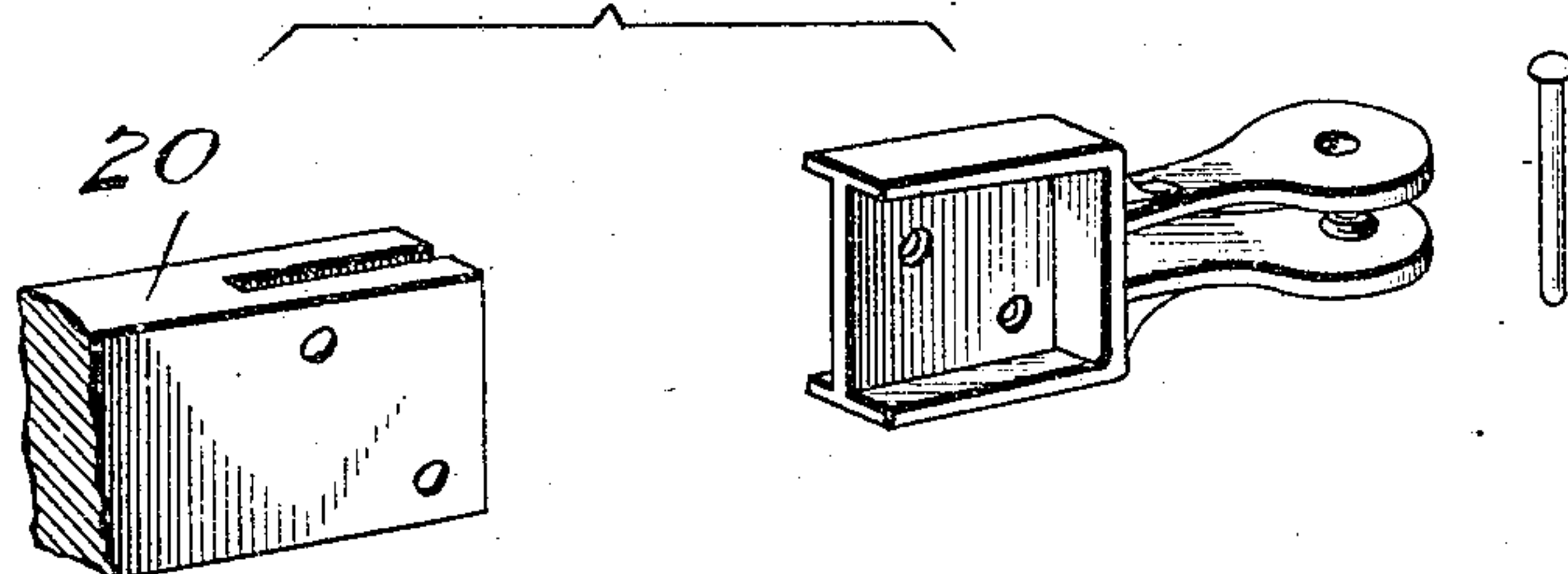


Fig. 8.



Inventor

JOHN H. BEST

Witnesses

J. L. Mocham
E. J. Veinmeyer

By

Edson Bros

Attorney

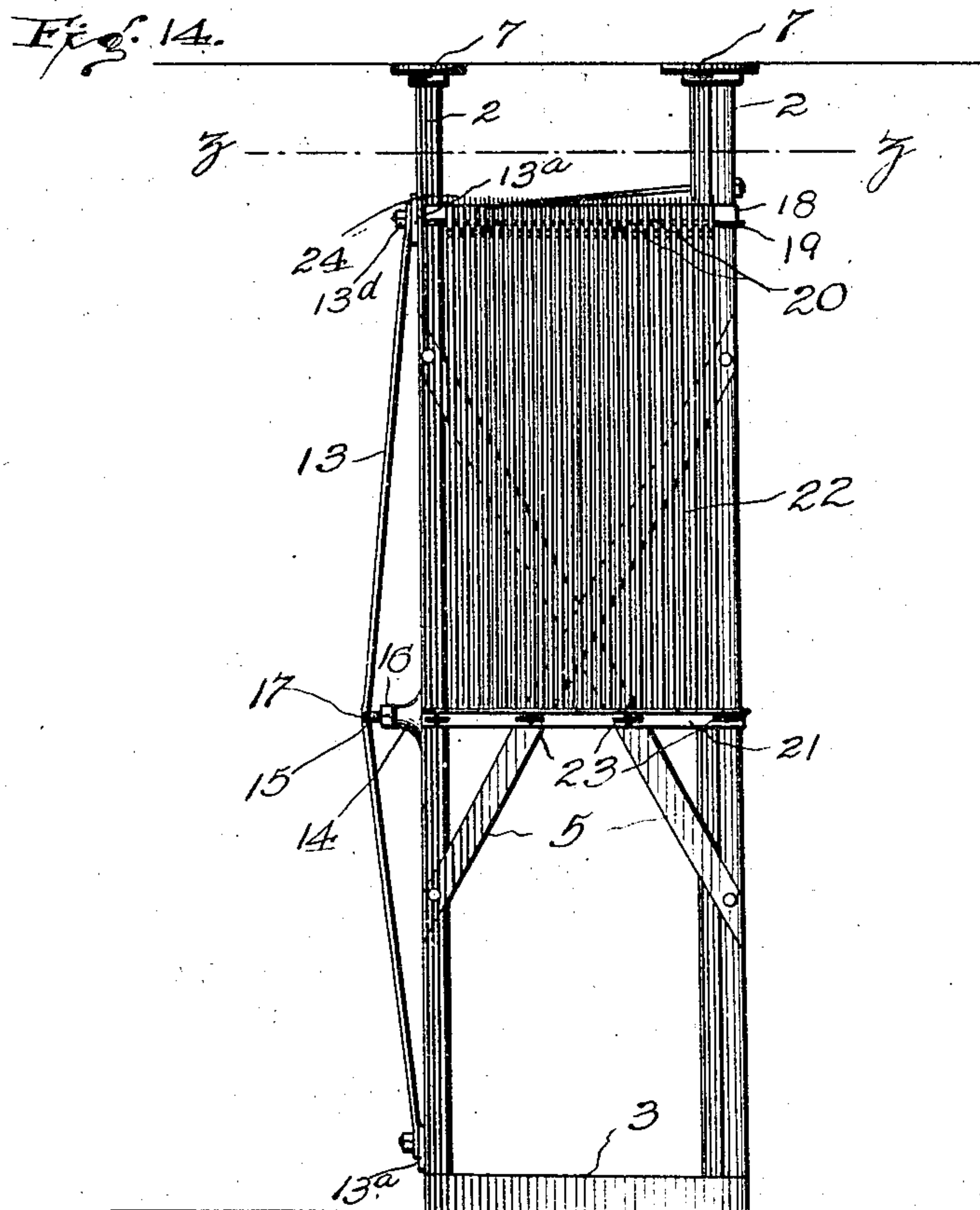
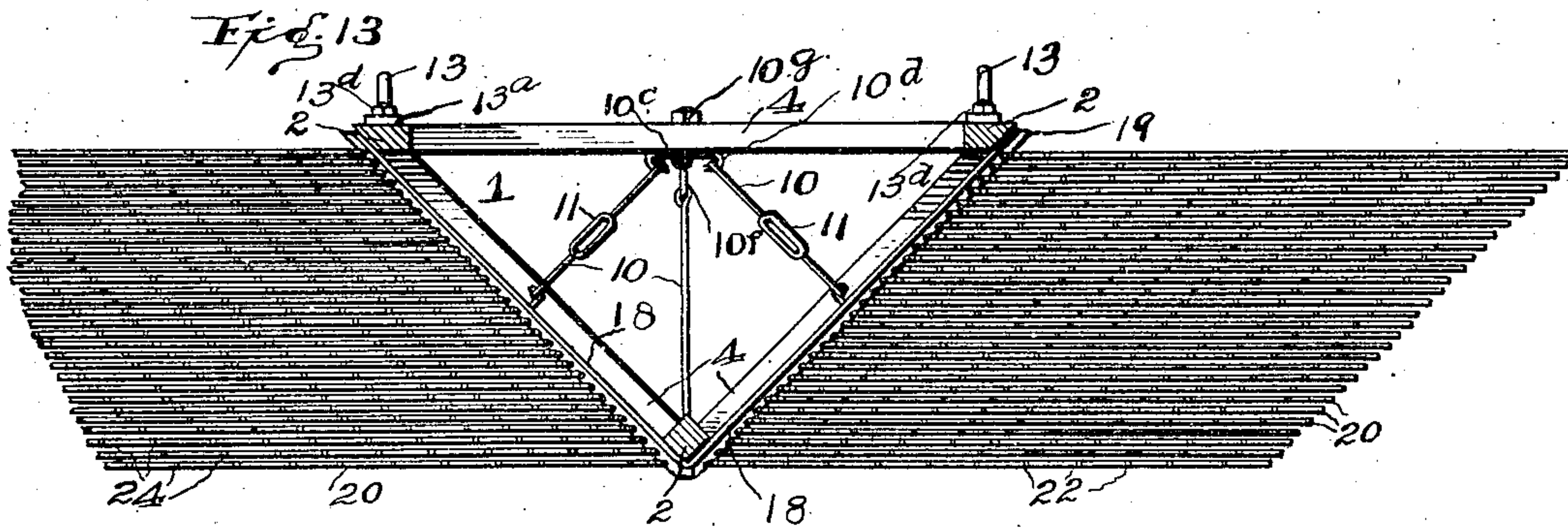
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5 SHEETS—SHEET 5.



Witnesses
J. J. Veihmeyer
C. S. Elliott

Inventor
John H. Best
by Edson Brod,
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. BEST, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

DISPLAY-RACK.

No. 825,801.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 10, 1906.

Application filed September 21, 1904. Serial No. 225,374.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. BEST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Denver, in the county of Denver and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Display-Racks; 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.

My invention relates to improvements in display-racks.

It has for its object to provide a rack adapted to support a number of rugs, blankets, robes, or the like and which can be readily adapted to bring any particular or desired article supported thereby into view and which will occupy but a limited amount of space. In short, it is designed as an improvement on my Patent No. 487,110, dated November 29, 1892.

The invention consists of an angular frame—that is, making an angle with the walls of the room—said frame adapted to be adjusted plumb and carrying a series of laterally-swinging arms, braces for said arms connected with an adjustable bracket or plate, means to support the articles to be displayed from said arms, and means to adjust the frame plumb.

The invention also consists in the details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating the preferred embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a rack made in the form of a half-square with its hypotenuse arranged against the wall and its right angle extending into the room. Fig. 2 is a top view of the rack shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the adjustable brace or hinge bar. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view through one of the supporting-arms, showing the double pin in position. Fig. 5 is a top view of a rack made in the form of a triangle or quarter-square with one of its legs arranged against the wall. Fig. 6 is a detail view of the brace or rod used in the form of rack shown in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is a top view of a rack made in the form of a square, said rack being built around a pillar or post out in the room, the wall-line represented at 1^a. Fig. 8 is a detail view of the hinge for the arms, the arm disconnected from the hinge.

Fig. 9 is a detail view of a modified form of single pin for use in place of that shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 10 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 6, showing the form of the screw-threaded pin and bracket used with the brace-rod. Fig. 11 is a broken sectional view through said bracket, showing the arrangement of the pin therein. Fig. 12 is a sectional view taken on the line *yy* of Fig. 2, showing the C-shaped link more clearly. Fig. 13 is a plan view of the rack made in the form of a half-square, like that shown in Fig. 1, but set out from the wall and provided with tie-rods and adjustable lower brace-bars or brackets, the ends of the uprights being cut off on the line *zz* of Fig. 14; and Fig. 14 is a side elevation of said rack.

While the preferred embodiment of my invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings and the construction and operation thereof is described in the following description, the right is reserved to make such changes from the construction shown and described herein as fairly fall within the scope of the claims appended hereto.

In carrying out my invention I provide a frame 1, which may be built in the form of a square, half-square, or quarter-square, and may be braced against the wall 1^a or set out into the room and braced there. Each of the different forms of frames consists of uprights or posts 2, arranged at the angles, lower cross-bars 3 connecting said uprights and preferably laid along the floor, upper cross-bars 4, and diagonally-arranged brace-bars 5. Each of said uprights has its upper end adjusted in a cap-plate 7, having an angular recess 7^a to fit the top of the upright and provided with perforations 8 for the passage of bolts 9 to secure and adjust said plate to the ceiling. In the form of rack shown in Figs. 1, 2, 13, and 14 adjustable rods 10 are arranged between the center of one upper cross-bar 4 and the center of each of the upper cross-bars 4 and also to the forward upright. These rods 10 are provided with turn collars or nuts 11, whereby the frame may be adjusted plumb.

Owing to the weight of the rugs or other articles to be displayed from the rack, the frame must be adjusted exactly plumb to prevent warping or sagging. In the square form of frame where it is built around a post or support in the middle of the room the brace-rods 10 are connected to the center of each upper cross-bar 4 and at their other ends to a ring or collar 12, placed around the

post in the center. Said rods 10 are preferably made with eyes 10^a at their ends to engage hooks 10^b, fixed to the cross-timbers.

In the half-square form of rack shown in Figs. 1, 2, 13, and 14 a plate 10^c, having a hook 10^d at each end, is fastened by a bolt 10^e passing through the rear cross-bar and the wall 1^a and having an eye 10^e at its inner end. The eye at the end of the middle brace-rod 10 is connected to said eye 10^e of the bolt by means of a C-shaped link 10^f.

The corner uprights in the triangular or quarter-square form, Fig. 5, are also provided with tie-rods or braces 13, connected at its extremities near each end of said upright. The brace-rods 13 are provided with eyes at each end, and said eyes are adapted to fit recesses in the surface of plates 13^a, applied to the face of the uprights and having lugs 13^b projecting into said uprights to hold the plate against lateral displacement. A washer 13^c fits over the eye in the brace-rod, and a bolt 13^d passes through all from the other side of the upright. A bell-shaped bracket 14, having an aperture therethrough, is secured to the side of the upright facing the tie-rod and is adapted to receive the end of a screw-threaded pin 15, carrying a nut 16 and having its other end dished or grooved, as at 17, to embrace the rod 13. The tension from the rod 13 is sufficient to prevent any outward movement. By turning the nut 16 against the bracket 14 the center of the rod 13 will be forced outward by the pin 15 and the middle of the upright pressed inward. These tie-rods or braces 13 are not required in the form of rack shown in Figs. 1 and 2, where both acute angles may be braced to the wall.

Brackets or plates 18 are secured to the upper cross-bars 4 of the frames. Said brackets have projecting flanges 19, to which the ends of the arm 20 are hinged at intervals, the form of hinge which is shown and claimed in my former patent and shown in Fig. 8 of the accompanying drawings. Other plates or brackets 21 are arranged horizontally across the frame about midway of the uprights, and between said plates 21 and the arms 20 extend diagonal braces 22, the end of each brace being arranged below the hinge of its arm. It has been found from practical experience that the center of the brace for each arm must be exactly below the center of the hinge of said arm attached to the upper cross-bar. I have therefore provided the lower plates 21 with longitudinal slots 23, whereby they may be laterally adjusted to this end. In the other forms, as in half-squares, the hinge-bars 21 for both sides of the rack are in one piece and its ends are bent in, as at 21^a, to fit around the face of the uprights.

To fasten the articles to be displayed to the arms 20, I provide pins 24, made of stout

wire or other suitable metal and placed at intervals along the arms in sockets provided therefor. Said pins are bent at right angles and extend approximately to the edge of the arm and are then bent upward with their upper extremities pointed. These pins may be made single and two placed in each socket and set to opposite sides of the arms, as shown in Fig. 9, or they may be made double in one piece, as in Fig. 4. In the latter case, which I prefer, when the double pins are driven into the sockets they compress the wood at opposite sides and are firmly fixed against turning. The single pins are apt to turn in their sockets, and for that reason tacks 20^a are placed at their sides to hold them in position.

It will be noted that the angular form of the pins providing a portion to lie across the top of the arms rendered them very strong and adapted to support heavy rugs, &c. The articles to be displayed are caught over said pins on both sides of each arm, so that the arms and supports are entirely covered up and out of sight. The salesman can turn to any particular rug he wishes to show with great ease, doing away with the necessity of employing porters to spread them on the floor, not to mention the wear and soiling of the rug incident to the old way of displaying them.

In Figs. 13 and 14 I have illustrated the form of rack shown in Figs. 1 and 2, set out from the wall, said rack being provided with tie-rods 13 and adjustable lower brace-bars or brackets 21, as well as the other adjustable means shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

It will also be noted that the arrangement of the sides of the frame at angles of forty-five-degrees with the walls of the room permit the arms to be swung back parallel with the walls out of the way or out across the room, so that the best light is thrown upon the goods displayed. For this reason the square frames are preferably arranged with their angles intermediate of the angles of the room.

I am aware that it is common to make racks having curved or semicircular brackets, to which the display-arms are hinged, extending into the room. This, however, is not my invention, which consists primarily in an angular hinge-bar that is standing at an angle, preferably about forty-five degrees with the wall. In the old curved-hinge-bar construction it was impossible to fold the display-arms flat against the wall or out of the way; but there were always some of them sticking out at all angles into the room. By the use of my angular racks the display-arms may be folded up like the leaves of a book and protect the goods displayed therefrom, as well as occupying the minimum floor-space.

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

1. A display-rack comprising an angular frame having uprights and braces and cross-bars arranged between said uprights, an adjustable tie-rod secured at each end near the extremities of one of said uprights, a recessed bracket fastened to the side of said upright facing said rod, a screw-threaded pin having one end grooved to embrace said rod and the other end engaging the recess in said bracket, a nut on said pin whereby said rod may be adjusted to plumb said frame, and display-arms hinged to the sides of the frame.

2. In a display-rack, the combination with an angular frame, having upper and lower cross-bars, of a plate secured to said upper cross-bar of said frame, display-arms hinged to said plate, a second plate secured to said lower cross-bar diagonally-arranged braces for said arms pivoted to said second plate, said lower plate laterally adjustable whereby the lower ends of said braces may be brought exactly below the hinges of their respective arms.

3. In a display-rack, the combination with

a triangular frame having uprights at the angles and cross-bars between said uprights, of a plate having inwardly-bent hooks at each end, a bolt passing through said plate to hold the latter in place, adjustable rods connecting with said hooks and the center of the opposite cross-bars and a centrally-arranged rod connected to said bolt and the middle upright.

4. In a display-rack, the combination with an angular frame having uprights at the angles and cross-bars between said uprights, an adjustable tie-rod for drawing one of said uprights and its opposite cross-bar together to make the frame plumb, said tie-rod having an eye at one end, an eyebolt attached to said cross-bars and a C-shaped link connecting the eye of the bolt with the eye of the rod.

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

JOHN H. BEST.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH R. EDSON,

GEO. A. HUTCHINSON.