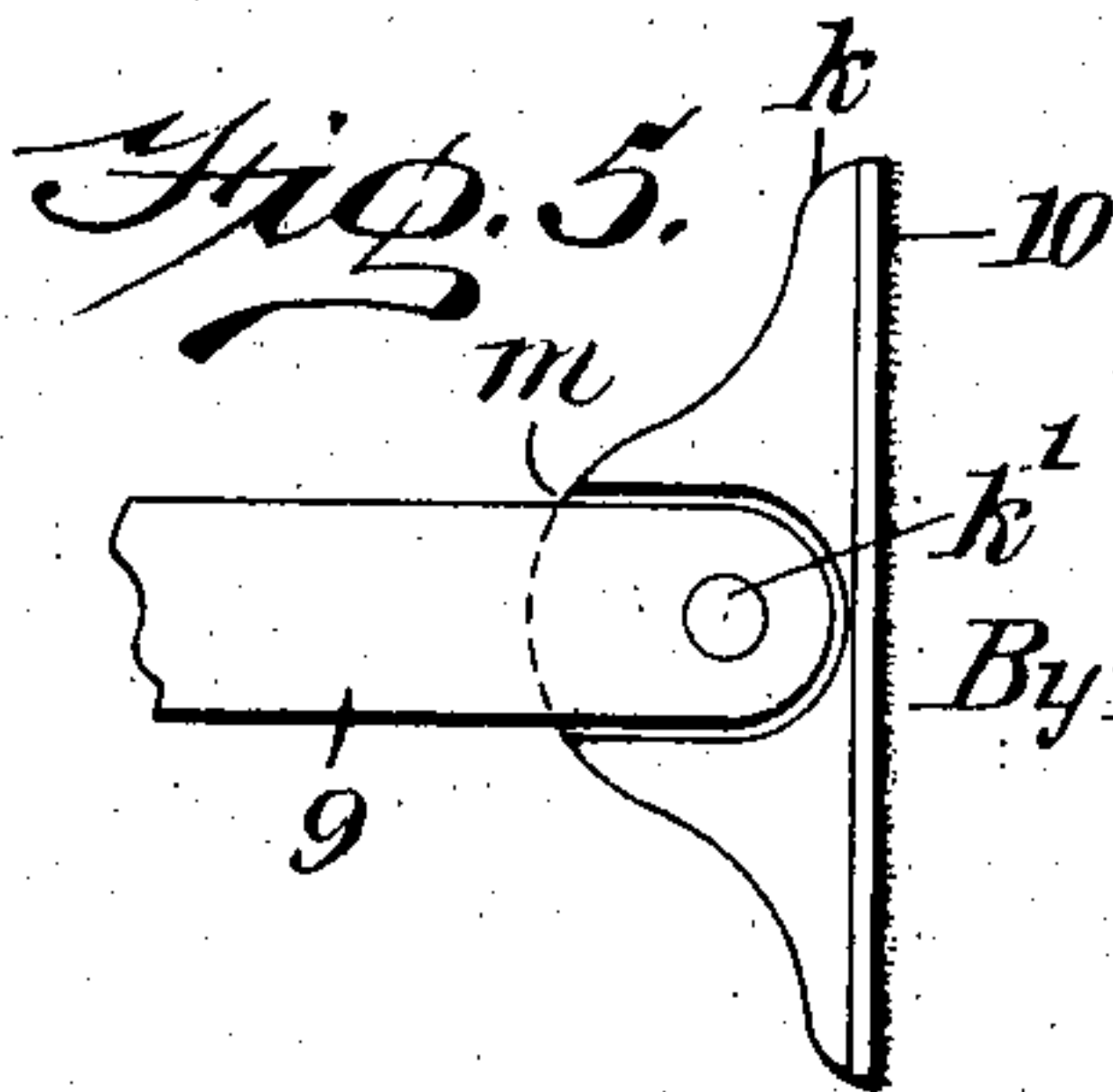
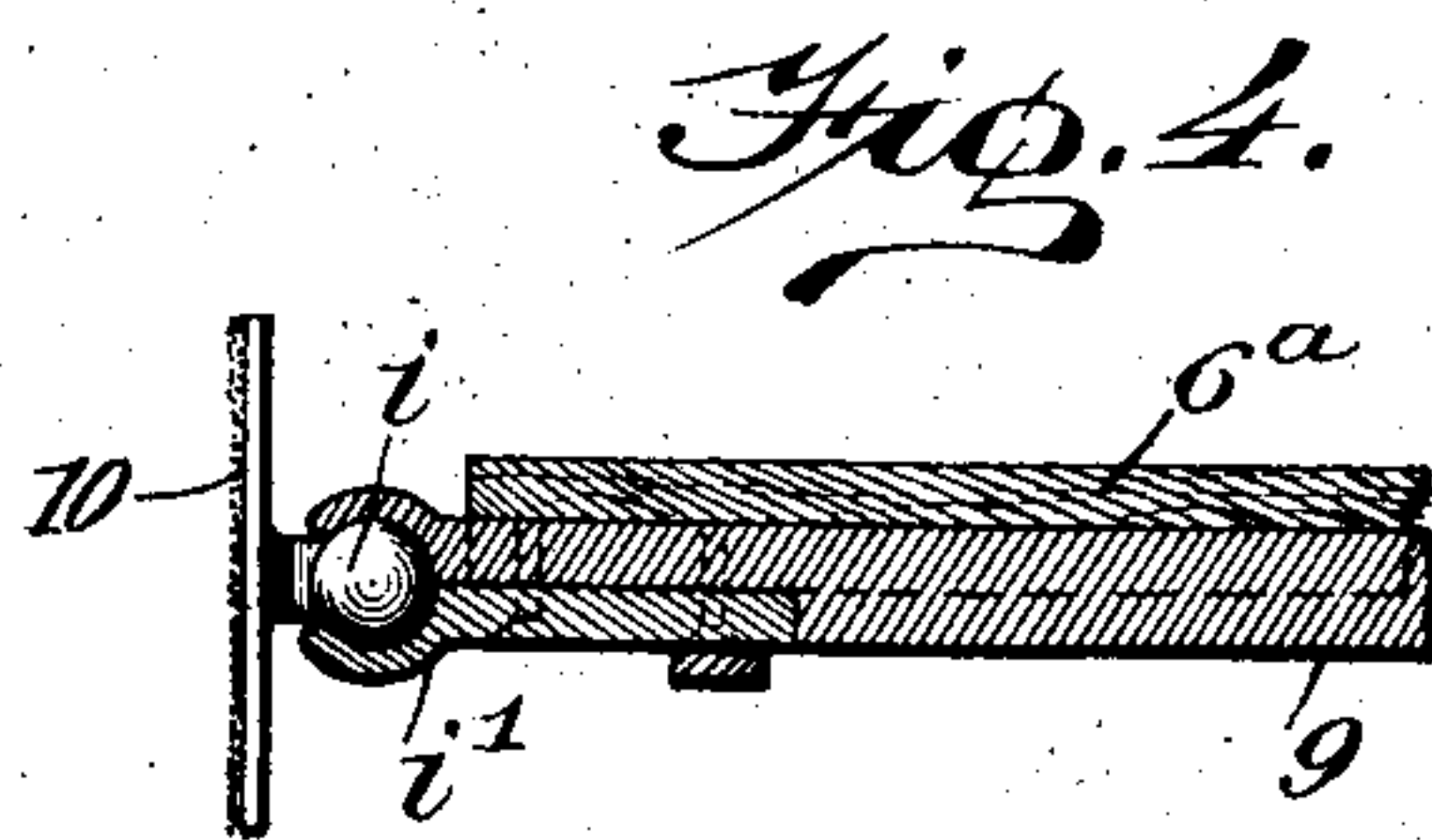
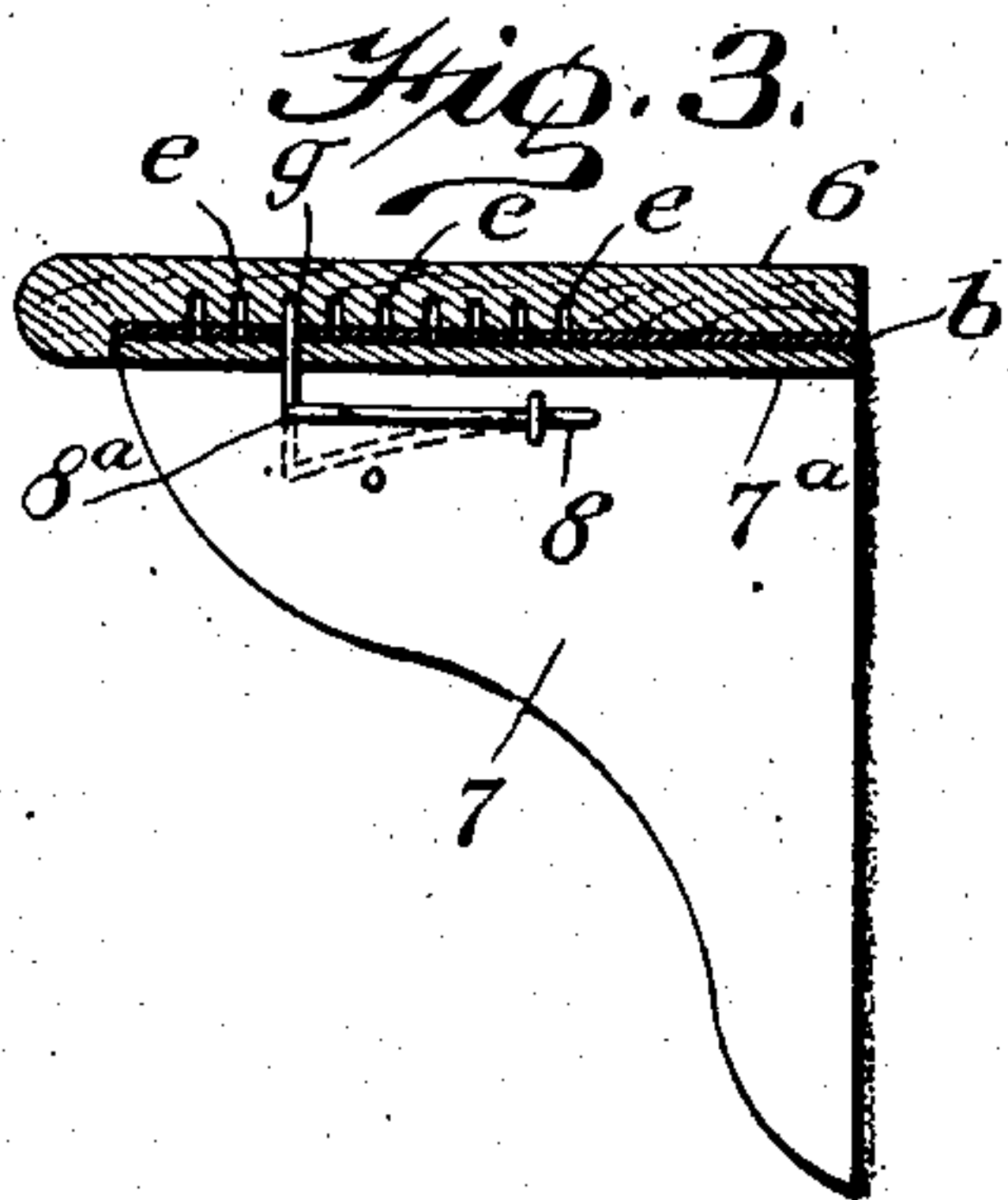
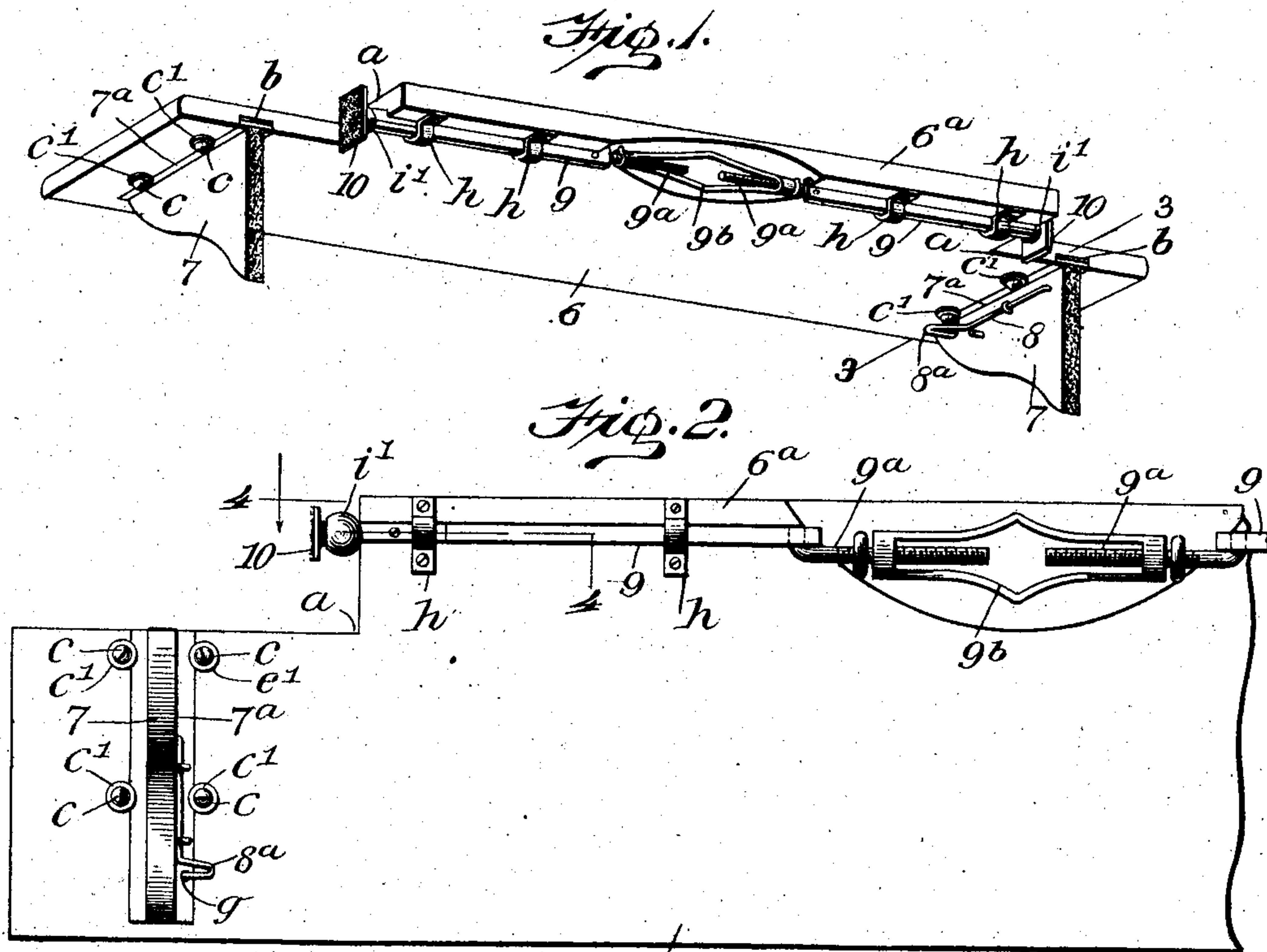


No. 834,095.

PATENTED OCT. 23, 1906.

B. J. WHITCOMB.
ADJUSTABLE SHELF.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 4, 1905.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BYRON J. WHITCOMB, OF KENNEBUNK, MAINE.

ADJUSTABLE SHELF.

No. 834,095.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 23, 1906.

Application filed November 4, 1905. Serial No. 285,854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BYRON J. WHITCOMB, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Kennebunk, in the county of York and State of Maine, have invented a new and Improved Adjustable Shelf, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to means for detachably securing a shelf on the casement of a window, and has for its object to provide novel details of construction for a device of the character indicated which are simple, practical, convenient in adjustment, and that enable the secure attachment of a shelf horizontally between the stiles of window or door casements which may be of different widths and permit the instant removal of the shelf without the use of tools and also without injuring the woodwork of the window or door frame.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described and indicated in the subjoined claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved shelf. Fig. 2 is an enlarged reversed plan view of a shelf having details of the invention thereon and shown broken away at one end. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken substantially on the line 3 3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view substantially on the line 4 4 in Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a side view showing a modified construction of a portion of the improved attaching means for the shelf.

In the drawings, 6 indicates a shelf-board having a mainly rectangular marginal form, preferably constructed of wood of suitable width and length for effective service. A right-angular notch *a* is formed at each end of the shelf-board 6, removing the corners thereof on the edge and ends of the board that are disposed nearest to the window-sash when the shelf is in position at a window, the notches then receiving corresponding stiles of the window-casement, thus permitting the portion 6^a of the shelf-board having reduced length to fit loosely between the stiles, and as such a position for the shelf-board is obvious the illustration of its application is omitted from the drawings.

Near each end of the main portion of the

shelf-board 6 and upon the lower side thereof a bracket-leg 7 is mounted, preferably by means that will be hereinafter described. Each bracket-leg 7 is of conventional form, consisting of a flat-sided block essentially triangular in contour having two of the edges thereof disposed at a right angle to each other, the other edge having "ogee" form, as usual.

At a suitable point near each end of the main portion 6 of the shelf a groove is formed in its lower side, these grooves having equal depth and being flat-bottomed, and in each groove a facing-strip *b*, of strap-iron or the like, is embedded and secured.

Upon the normally upper straight edge of each bracket-leg 7 a flat plate-metal strip 7^a is secured having greater width than the thickness of the body of the leg and projecting equally as a flange at each side of the latter. The width of the flange-plate 7^a on each bracket-leg is such that it will fit loosely in a respective groove in the shelf-body 6 and may be seated upon the facing-strip *b* therein.

The preferred means for adjustably securing the bracket-legs 7 in place on the shelf-board 6 consists in providing keeper-screws *c*, having washers *c'* mounted thereon and inserting the screws at spaced intervals in the shelf-board near a respective groove therein, so as to adapt the washers to overlap the side edges of the grooves, and it will be seen that if the flanges on the edges of the strips 7^a are slid beneath the washers by a longitudinal insertion of said strips into the grooves the washers by their contact with the flange-plates 7^a will hold the bracket-legs slidably engaged within the respective grooves in the shelf-board 6 and prevent them from downward displacement.

The facing-strips *b* each have a series of spaced perforations *e* formed therein near one side edge thereof, and said perforations are extended into the bracket-leg whereon the facing-strip is secured, as appears for one leg and facing-strip in Fig. 3.

A resilient locking-dog 8 is secured by one end and a portion of its body on the side of a respective bracket-leg 7, these dogs being preferably bent from resilient wire rods, and upon the free end portion of each rod is bent a finger-hold portion 8^a, from which projects upwardly a toe *g* through a perforation in a respective flange on the adjacent plate 7^a into engagement with one of the perforations *e* in an opposed strip *b*, thus locking the

bracket-legs upon the shelf-board in a manner which will permit the convenient release and change in longitudinal adjustment thereof as may be desired.

5 Upon the portion 6^a of the shelf-board 6 two similar pusher-rods 9 are slidably secured by means of clip-plates *h*, as is shown in Figs. 1 and 2, whereby they are adapted for reciprocation near the forward edge of the
10 shelf. On one end portion of each pusher-rod a threaded bolt-body 9^a is secured by one end, as shown, or said bolt end may be formed integral with a respective pusher-rod. The bolt-bodies 9^a are threaded oppositely—
15 that is, one is cut with a right-hand thread and the other with a left-hand thread—and upon said bolt-bodies a turnbuckle 9^b is screwed, which by manipulation will extend or retract the pusher-rods in accordance
20 with the direction of rotatable movement given to the turnbuckle. Upon the other ends of the pusher-rods 9 a presser-foot is rockably mounted on each; the loose connection between the presser-foot and rod being
25 either in the form of a ball-joint, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4, or a pivoted connection, as represented in Fig. 5.

Each presser-foot is in the form of a flat plate or block 10, that may with advantage
30 be rectangular in contour, and is there is a universal-joint connection employed a ball *i* is formed or secured upon one side of the foot-plate and loosely secured in a socket connection *i'*, mounted upon the adjacent
35 end of a respective pusher-rod 9.

As shown in Fig. 5, the presser-foot 10 for each pusher-rod 9 may be furnished with a flange *k*, that projects from one side thereof centrally, said flange having a laterally-
40 formed recess *m* therein, in which the end portion of the respective pusher-rod is seated and centrally pivoted, as at *k'*. A sufficiently wide crevice intervenes the side and end edges of a pusher-bar end and the corresponding side walls of the recess it occupies to permit a slight rocking movement of
45 each presser-foot on its pivot *k'*.

Upon the outer faces of the presser-feet 10 and also on the normally upright edges of
50 the bracket-legs 9 pliable facings of felt, rubber, or other suitable material are secured, these slightly-yielding facings serving to prevent any injurious contact of the presser-feet and bracket-legs with the woodwork of a
55 window whereon the improved shelf is mounted and secured, and it may here be explained that if desired the improved shelf may be arranged in tiers on a room-wall between pilasters thereon or between the stiles
60 of a door-frame.

In placing the improvement at a window, for example, the portion 6^a is passed into the space between the stiles of a window whereat the improvement is to be secured, which
65 will dispose the presser-feet 10 close to the

stiles and the portion 6^a of the shelf between the stiles and, if desired, close to the window-sill in a horizontal position. The turnbuckle 9^b is now rotated in a proper direction for a
70 projection of the pusher-rods 9 from each other, which will cause the presser-feet 10 to impinge upon corresponding stiles of the window-casement and secure the shelf-board upon the casement of the window, the slight yielding or rocking of the presser-feet enabling
75 them to have proper bearing thereon.

Obviously the pusher-rods 9 and presser-feet 10 thereon enable the attachment of the improved shelf upon windows that are of different widths between the stiles of their case-
80 ments.

When the shelf is being secured in place on a window-casement, it is necessary for its proper support that the vertical edges of the bracket-legs 7 have contact with the inner
85 sides of the casement-stiles, which, if the latter are sufficiently spaced from the window-sash, will occur when these edges of the bracket-legs are flush with the longitudinal edges of the notches *a* in the edge of the
90 shelf-board.

Should the space between the inner side surface of the stiles or usual face-molding on the casement of the window and the inner surface of the window-sash be less in measure
95 than the depth of the notches *a* in the shelf-board 6, the bracket-legs 7 must be correspondingly adjusted for contact with said side faces on the casement when the shelf is placed thereon. To this end the finger-hold
100 portions 8^a are pulled downward, as is indicated by a broken line in Fig. 3, which will remove the toes *g* from the perforations *e* in the strips *b*, and thus enable the bracket-legs 7 to be slid in the grooves they occupy and
105 have contact with the window-casement, whereupon the release of the finger-holds 8^a will permit the resilience of the locking-dogs 8 to enforce an entrance of the toes *g* into the perforations *b* opposite which they may be
110 disposed, which will lock the bracket-legs in place on the shelf-board at points which will permit the legs to have contact with the window-casement for the support of the shelf at its inner edge.
115

It will be noted that either construction of the presser-feet 10 and their loose connection with the pusher-rods 9 enable the presser-feet to accommodate their impinging faces to portions of the window-casement
120 with which they have contact, and this will insure a complete bearing of said feet for the proper support of the shelf-board.

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

1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a shelf-board provided at each end with a series of transverse perforations, brackets arranged transversely of
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the shelf ends each provided with a perforation adapted to register with a perforation of the series, means for retaining the brackets in engagement with the shelf-board and spring-latches for engaging the registering perforations.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination with a shelf-board provided at each end with transverse grooves having in the bottom thereof a plurality of perforations, brackets slidably mounted in the grooves and provided with a perforation adapted to register with the perforations of the groove, a spring-latch for engaging the registering perforations, and means for securing the board to a window-casement.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination with a shelf-board, and means for securing said board on a window-casement, of a bracket-leg for the support of each end of the shelf-board, and means for

detachably securing each of said bracket-legs on the shelf-board, said devices each comprising a transverse flat-bottomed groove in the shelf-board near an end thereof, a metal lining-strip embedded in the groove, and having a plurality of longitudinally-arranged perforations therein, a flange-plate mounted on an edge of the bracket-leg and seated in the groove upon the lining-strip, and a resilient latching device having a toe working in a perforation in the flange-plate and engaging an opposite perforation in the lining-strip.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

BYRON J. WHITCOMB.

Witnesses:

WALTER L. DANE,
WM. S. THOMPSON