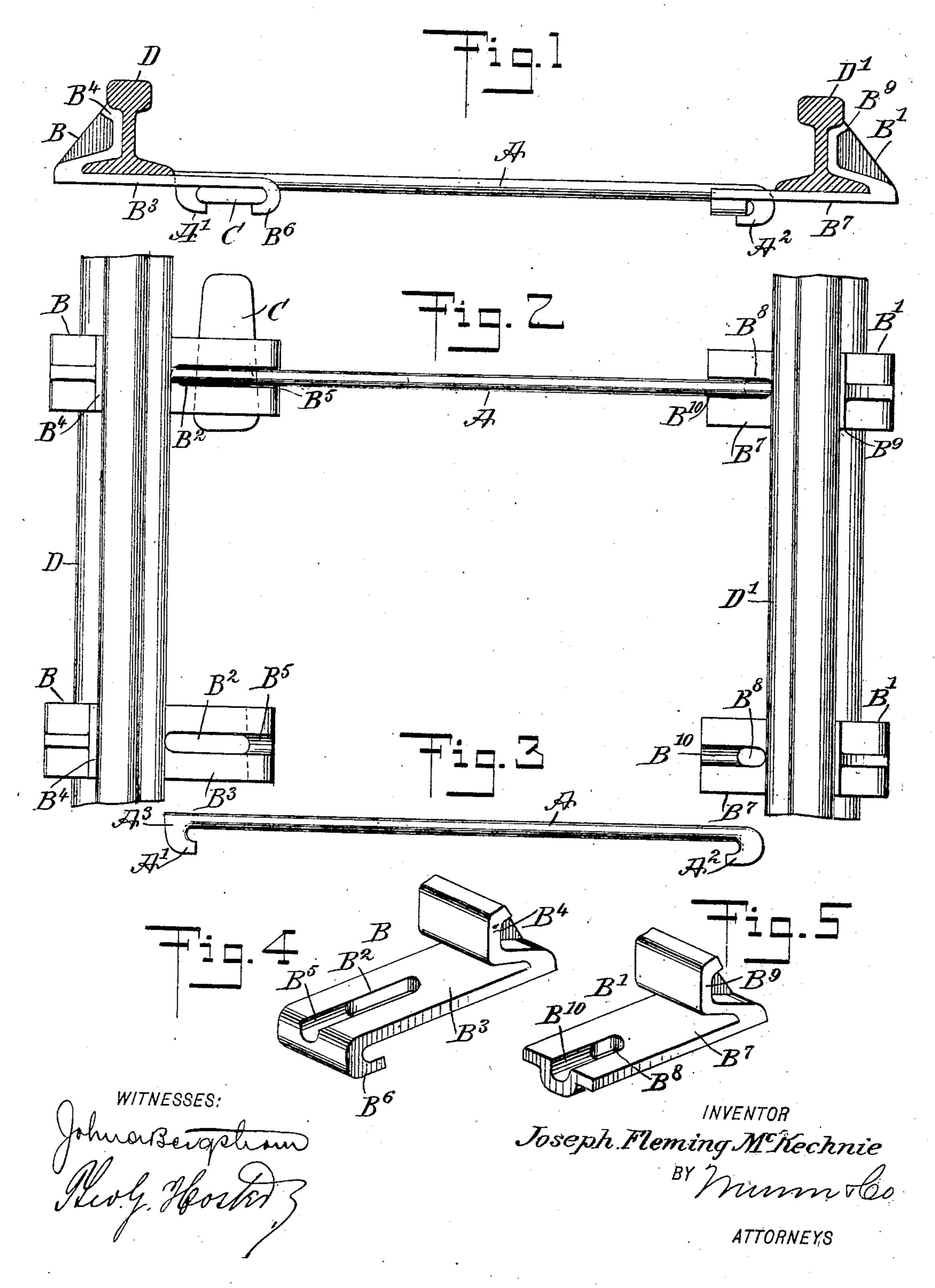
J. F. McKECHNIE.

TIE BAR.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH FLEMING McKECHNIE, OF ELEELE, TERRITORY OF HAWAII.

TIE-BAR.

No. 835,456.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Joseph Fleming Mc-Kechnie, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Eleele, Kauai, in the Territory of Hawaii, have invented a new and Improved Tie-Bar, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to railway-tracks; and its object is to provide a new and improved tie-bar for connecting the rails with each other with a view to prevent spreading of the rails, especially at curves, and to relieve the sleepers of undue strain.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, which will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a cross-section of the track-rails connected with each other by the improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the tie-rod, and Figs. 4 and 5 are perspective views of the rail-brackets.

The device consists, essentially, of a tie-rod A, brackets B B', and a key C for fastening the parts together, as hereinafter more fully described. The said tie-rod A is provided at its ends with integral hooks A' A², of which the hook A' is adapted to engage an elongated slot B², formed on the inner portion of the base B³ of the bracket B. The base B³ extends under the base of the track-rail D, and its outer end is provided with a rising arm B⁴, suitably reinforced by ribs and formed to fit the outer top portion of the rail-base as well as the outer face of the web of the rail D, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1.

of the bracket B is formed with a recess extending from the slot B² to the inner edge of the base B³, and into this recess fits the end of the rod A, as plainly shown in Fig. 2. An L-shaped lug B6 depends from the inner end of the base B³, and the key C is driven in engagement with this lug B6 and the hook A′, so as to securely fasten the tie-rod A and the bracket B together.

The hook A' is provided with a square heel A³, adapted to abut against the inner edge of

the base of the rail D, as plainly shown in 55 Figs. 1 and 2, to hold the rail D in firm position against the bracket-arm B⁴.

The bracket B' is provided with a base B' having a slot B' adapted to be engaged by the hook A' of the tie-rod A, and the said 60 base B' is provided at its outer end with an arm B', similar to the arm B', and adapted to engage the outer portion of the base of the rail D as well as the outer face of the web of the said rail. A recess B' is formed on the 65 top of the inner portion of the base B' in alinement with the slot B's to receive the corresponding end portion of the tie-rod A.

In order to place the several parts in position, it is necessary to first arrange the brack-70 ets B B' on the rails D D', and then the hook A² is hooked onto the base B³ and the hook A' is engaged with the slot B² of the bracket B. The key C is now driven in position between the hook A' and the lug B³, so that the parts 75 are firmly united. Now by having the brackets B B' arranged with the rising arms B⁴ B³ it is evident that a spreading of the rails D D' is prevented.

The device is very simple and durable in 80 construction, is composed of comparatively few parts, and is not liable to get easily out of order. By having the tie-rod A engaging the recesses B⁵ B¹⁰ it is evident that movement in the direction of the length of the track is 85 prevented, and, consequently, the brackets B B' are held in transverse alinement with each other.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters 90 Patent—

- 1. A tie-bar comprising a rod having hooks at its ends, brackets for engaging the rails and having slots for engagement by the hooks of the said rod, one of the brackets 95 having an integral lug, and a key adapted to engage the said lug and the adjacent hook of the said rod.
- 2. A tie-bar comprising brackets for engaging the rails, each bracket having a base 100 extending under the rail-base and an arm rising integrally from the outer end of the said base to fit the outer portion of the base of the rail and the outer surface of the web of the rail, the bases of the said brackets having 105 slots and top recesses leading from the slots to the inner edges of the bases, one of the latter having a depending lug at its inner end, a

rod having hooks at the ends for engaging the said slots, and a key for engaging the said lug and the adjacent hook of the said rod.

3. A tie-bar comprising brackets for engaging the rails, each bracket having a base extending under the rail-base and an arm rising integrally from the outer end of the said base to fit the outer portion of the base of the rail and the outer surface of the web of the rail, the bases of the said brackets having slots and top recesses leading from the slots to the inner edges of the bases, one of the latter having a depending lug at its inner end, a

rod having hooks at the ends for engaging the said slots, one of the hooks having a 15 square heel abutting against the inner edge of the corresponding rail-base, and a key for engaging the said lug and the adjacent hook of the said rod.

In testimony whereof I have signed my 20 name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH FLEMING MCKECHNIE.

Witnesses:

John Ignocio Silva, Oliver C. Wharton.