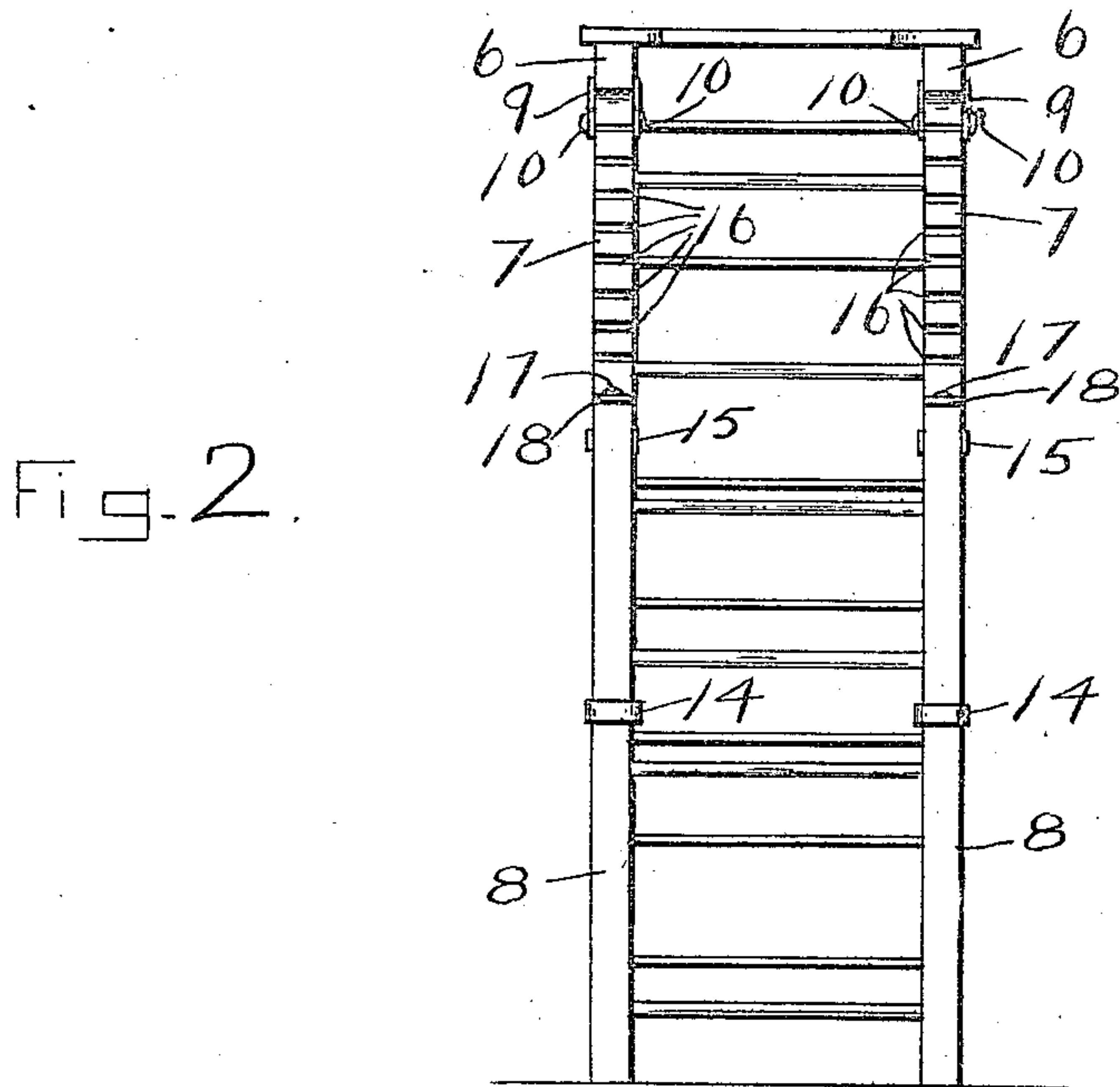
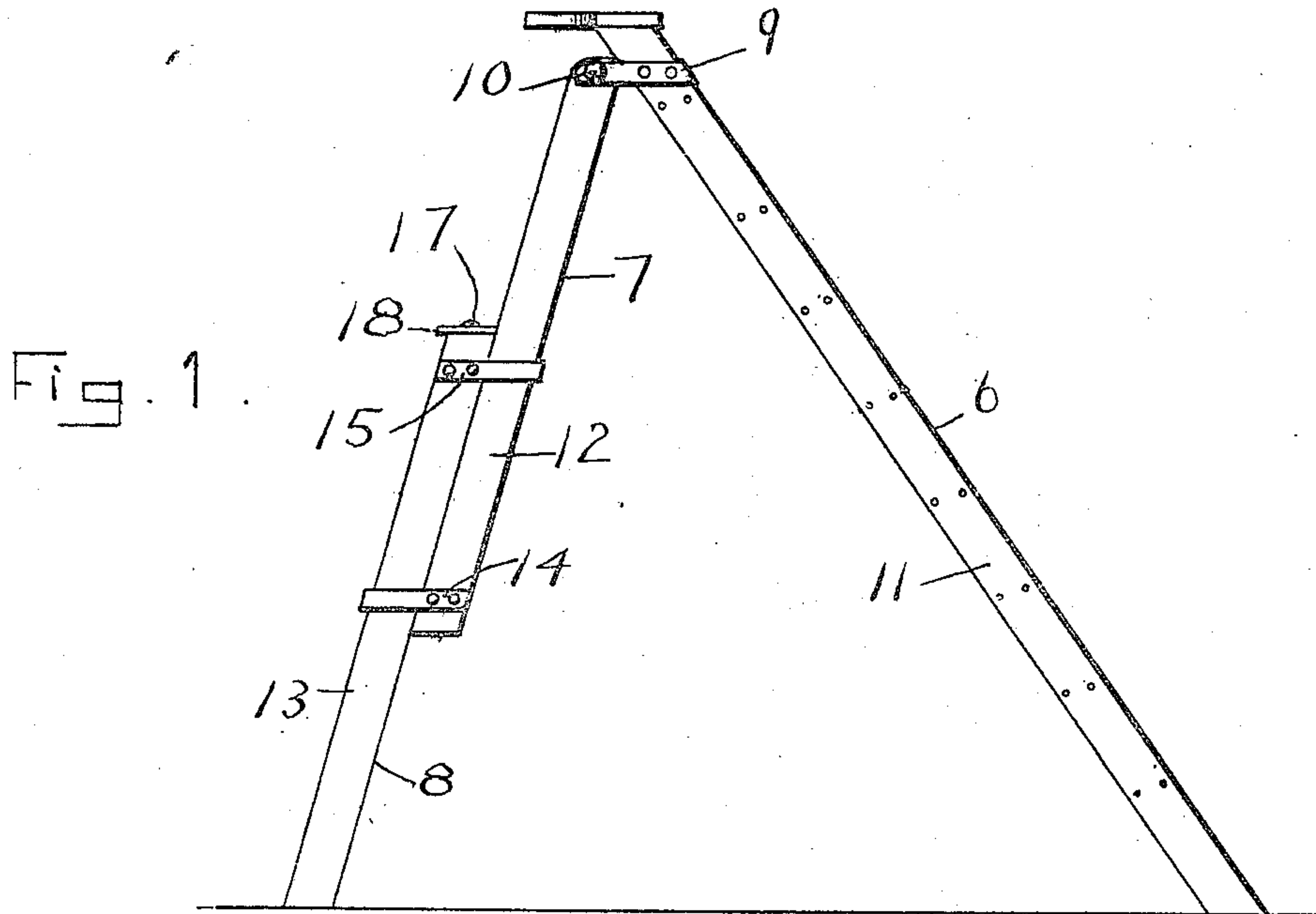


No. 856,116.

PATENTED JUNE 4, 1907.

P. F. WAGNER.
STEP LADDER,
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 12, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
J. C. Simpson.
J. G. Smith.

Inventor
P. F. Wagner.
By *[Signature]*
Attorney S.

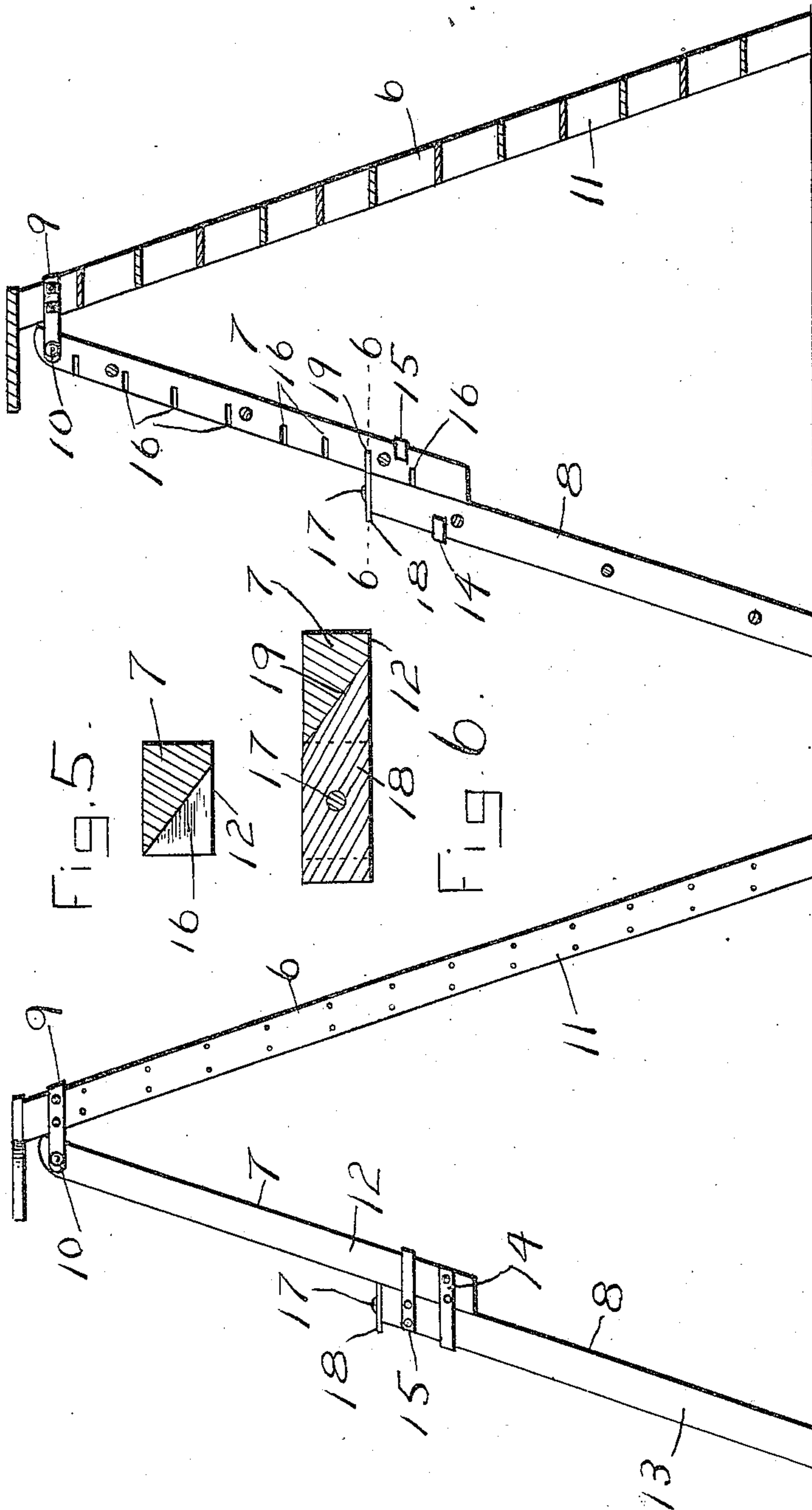
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Inventor
P. F. Wagner.

By

Handwritten signature of the attorney

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER F. WAGNER, OF GREENSBURG, INDIANA.

STEP-LADDER.

No. 856,116.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 4, 1907.

Application filed January 12, 1907. Serial No. 352,030.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER F. WAGNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greensburg, in the county of Decatur, State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Step-Ladders; 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 step ladders, and more particularly to that class of ladders which are foldable, and the primary object of the invention is to provide a readily adjustable ladder of this class.

The primary feature resides in the particular form of adjusting means devised by me. Broadly speaking, this adjusting means consists in forming diagonal notches in the rails of one ladder section and in providing upon the upper ends of the rails of the other member of the section, pivoted plates having each an angular or diagonal forward edge which is adapted to be seated, by being turned, interchangeably in the notches in the corresponding rails of the other member of the ladder section.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a ladder constructed in accordance with my invention, Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof, Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing the ladder extended to the fullest extent, Fig. 4 is a detail vertical longitudinal sectional view through the ladder, Fig. 5 is a detail transverse sectional view showing the shape of the notches in one of the rails, and, Fig. 6 is a similar view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Referring more specifically to the drawings, the ladder is shown as comprising a pair of members, one of which, which is indicated by the numeral 6, being rigid. The other member is formed of a pair of sections 7 and 8 which are adjustably connected in a manner to be presently described. The member 6 and the section 7 are hingedly connected at their upper ends by means of clips 9 which are U-shaped in form, embrace the upper ends of the rails of the section 6, and receive between their spaced portions the upper ends of the rails of the member 7, there being a pivot bolt 10 engaged through the spaced portions of each clip and the rails of the member 7. The side rails of the member 6 are indicated by the numeral 11, the side rails

of the section 7 by the numeral, 12, and the rails of the section 8 by the numeral 13.

Secured to each of the side rails 12 upon its outer face is a strip 14 which extends forwardly to a point corresponding to the outer edge of the corresponding side rail 13 and is thence bent laterally and then rearwardly to embrace the said side rails 13. Similar strips 15 are carried by the side rails 13 and embrace the side rails 12 and it will be readily understood that these strips 14 and 15 serve effectually to connect the two pairs of side rails, and consequently the two sections 7 and 8 for sliding movement. Formed in the side rails 12 are diagonally extending notches 16 and by the term diagonal notches is meant that the notches open through the forward faces or, rather, edges of the rails 12 and through the opposing faces thereof. An equal number of these notches is formed in each side rail 12 and swiveled by means of a screw 17 upon the upper end of each side rail 13 is a plate 18 having a diagonal or angularly disposed end edge 19, these edges being adapted for engagement in the notches by turning the said plates. From the foregoing it will be readily understood that by this construction, the sections of the member of the ladder may be adjusted to any desired degree and that, if desired, the member 6 and the sections 7 and 8 may be arranged substantially in alinement to form a long ladder as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

What is claimed is:—

A ladder comprising a pair of sections each including side rails and rungs connecting the rails, the rails of one section being notched diagonally in opposing sides of corresponding edges, and latch plates swiveled upon the upper ends of the side rails of the other ladder section, said plates each including an extended portion having a diagonal edge and a straight edge, said plates being adapted to be turned to bring their said portions into engagement in the said notches in the said rails of the first mentioned ladder section, said plates also including portions which extend beyond the side rails of the second mentioned ladder section whereby the plates may be swung as stated.

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

PETER F. WAGNER.

Witnesses:

CHARLES SCHUH,
CHARLES WOODS.