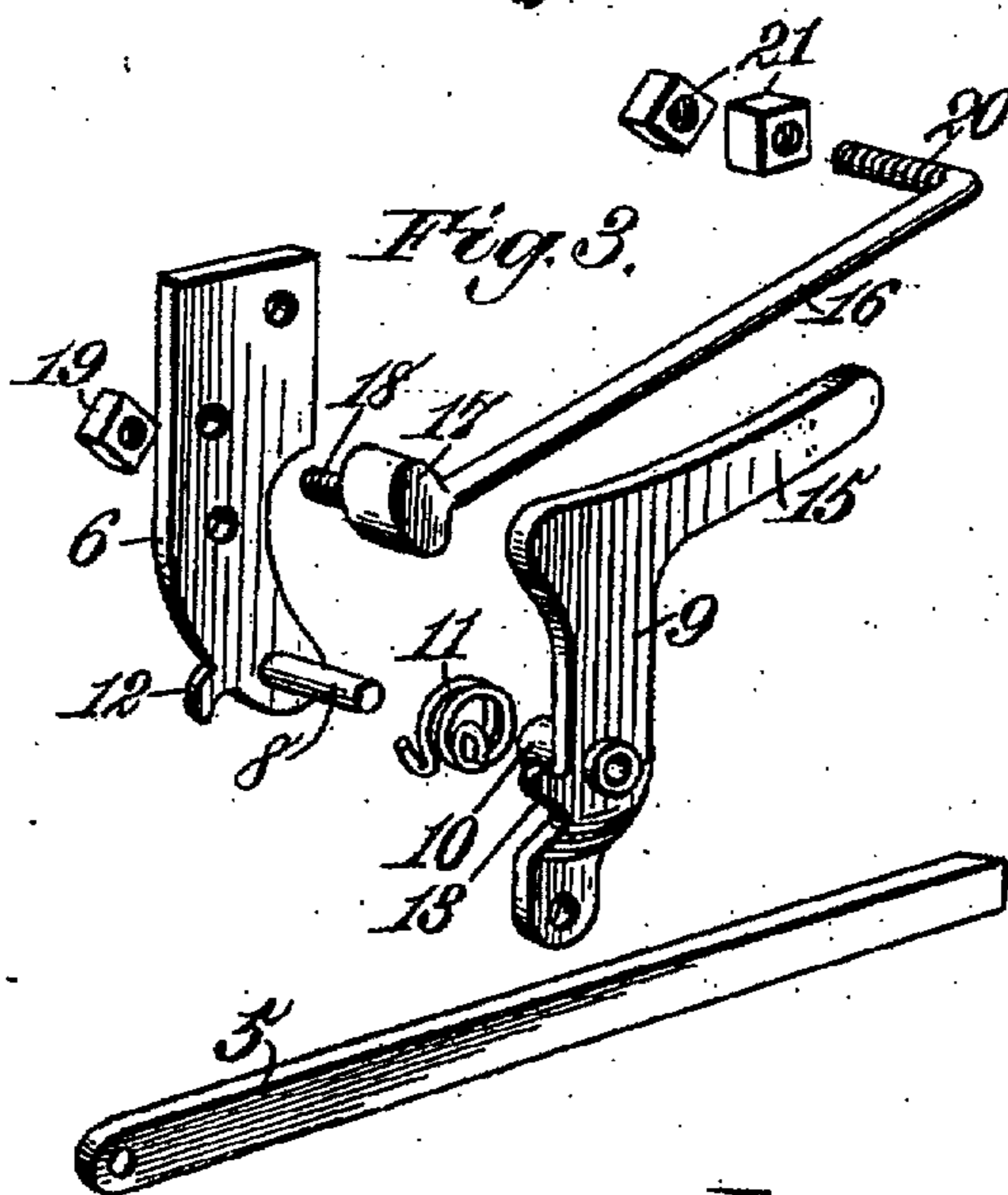
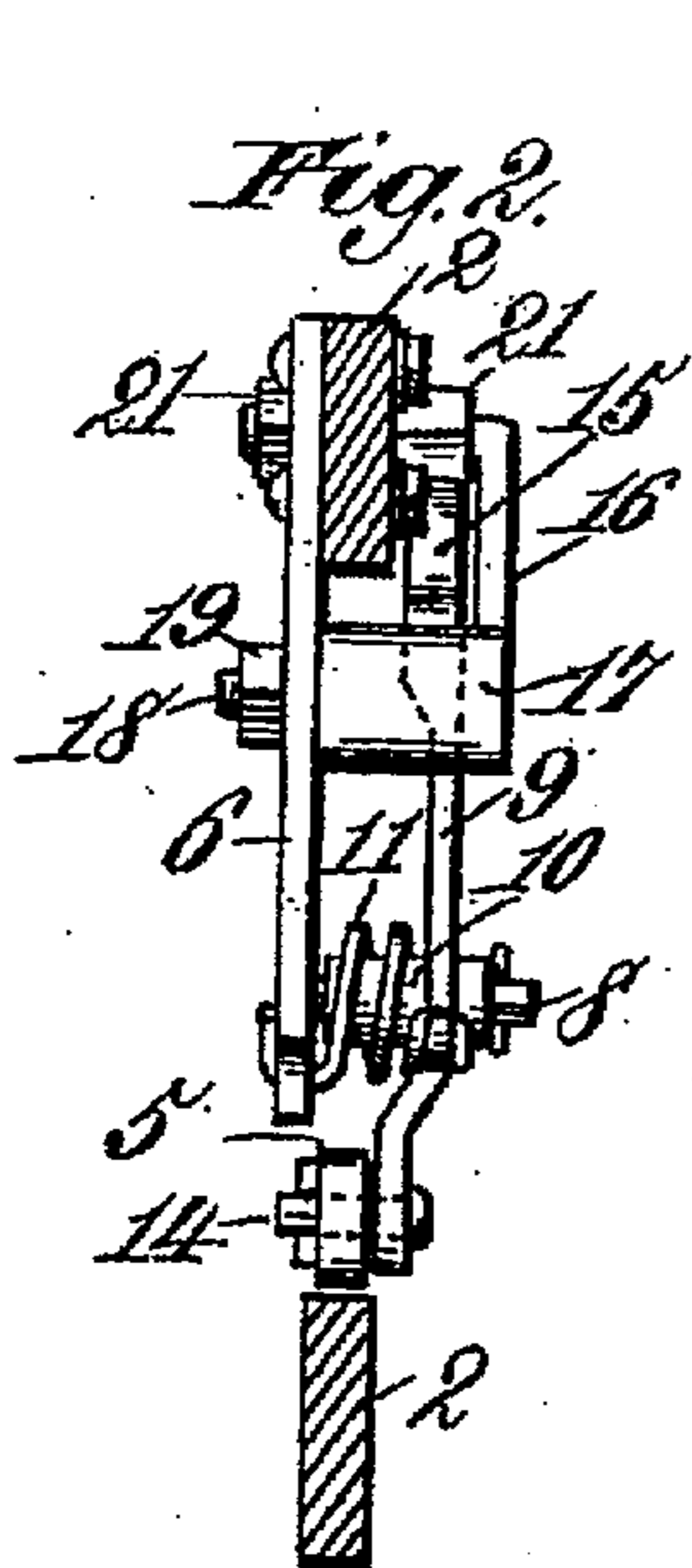
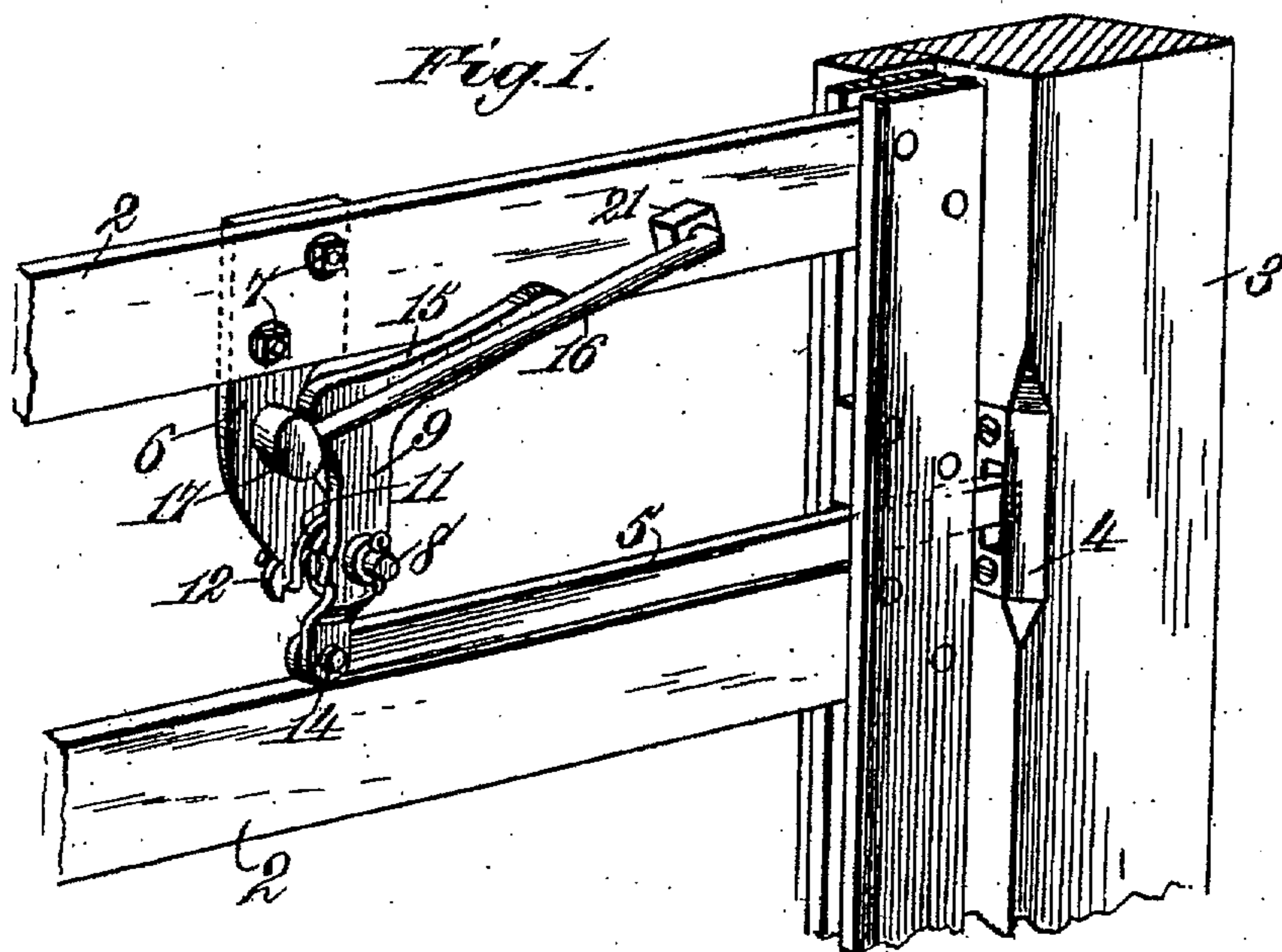


No. 868,466.

PATENTED OCT. 15, 1907.

C. F. MAYO.
GATE LATCH.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 11, 1907.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE FAY MAYO, OF CLIFTON HILL, MISSOURI.

GATE-LATCH.

No. 868,466.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 15, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE FAY MAYO, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clifton Hill, in the county of Randolph and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Gate-Latches, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to gate latches, the object of the invention being to provide a simple and effective device of this character which can be easily operated by a person but which has means for positively preventing the operation thereof by cattle and other animals.

In the drawings accompanying and forming a part of this specification I show in detail one form of embodiment of the invention which, to enable those skilled in the art to practice the same, will be set forth at length in the following description, while the novelty of the invention will be included in the claims succeeding said description.

Referring to said drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a gate and cooperating post equipped with a latch involving my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view of the parts shown in Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the parts of the latch separated from each other.

Like characters refer to like parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In Fig. 1 of the drawings I have shown a portion of a swinging gate 2 and a post or upright 3 provided with a keeper as 4 for the latch proper 5 to which I will hereinafter refer as the "latch." This latch can be used either right or left-handed and, when in its operative position, is adapted to fit in an aperture in the keeper or catch 4 fastened to the post 3 in any desirable manner. A bracket or plate is shown at 6 and said plate is fastened in some suitable way, as by bolts, 7, to one of the cross-bars of the gate, for example, the upper cross-bar thereof. By using bolts the plate or bracket 6 can be separated from the bar which carries it so that it can be transferred from one side to the other of said bar to adapt the same to the setting of the latch 5. The bracket or plate 6 depends from the upper cross-bar of the gate and is furnished at its lower end with a laterally-extending stud as 8 which if desired may be integral with the said bracket or plate. This stud 8 constitutes a pivot for the latch-actuating lever 9, the lever turning on the stud or pivot 8. The lever stands approximately upright and the pivot or stud extends through the same between the ends thereof. The lever is shown as having an inwardly-projecting boss or hub as 10 encircled by the coiled spring 11 one end of which is provided with a hook to fit against the lug 12 on the bracket 6, while the other end is furnished with a substantially similar hook to fit against the lug 13 on the lever 9. The spring therefore acts against a fixed part such as the lug 12, and also against the lug 13 and

serves to hold the latch in its working position and to move it to such position after the latch has been operated to release the gate or when the latch is opposite the aperture in the keeper or catch 4.

The lower end of the lever is shown as pivoted as at 14 to the inner end of the latch 5, while the upper end of the lever is provided with an angular extension or finger or thumb-piece as 15 by which the latch can be readily operated. By pressing down on this finger-piece or angular extension 15 the lever 9 can be swung on its pivot 8 to retract the bolt 5 for opening the gate 2.

One of the primary objects of my invention is to prevent the operation of the lever 9 in a direction to effect the retractive movement of the latch 5, by cattle and other animals, and, to attain this result, I show a guard as 16 extending along the finger-piece or angular extension 15 at one side and the complete length thereof. This guard which is stationary or fixed, prevents the noses of the animals from coming in contact with the finger-piece 15, to press the same down. The guard 16 is shown as consisting of an elongated bar having an angular enlargement as 17 at one end provided with a threaded extension or screw 18 projecting through the perforation in the plate or bracket 6 below the upper cross-bar of the fence, the enlargement 17 abutting against the adjacent face of said plate and being held in such relation by the nut 19 connected with the screw 18. The opposite end of the guard or bar 16 is provided with a threaded lateral projection as 20 extending through a perforation in the upper cross-bar of the fence and held to said bar by holding and check nuts each denoted by 21.

While the guard or bar 16 prevents the noses of cattle and other animals from depressing the adjacent finger-piece 15, the latter can be operated readily by an individual passing his finger or thumb into the space between the guard and gate for the purpose of depressing said finger-piece 15.

What I claim is:

1. The combination of a latch, a lever for retracting the latch, provided with a finger-piece for facilitating the operation thereof, and a stationary guard mounted beside the finger-piece.
2. The combination of a latch, a lever for operating the latch, said lever being provided with an angular extension constituting a finger-piece, and a stationary guard located at one side of the said angular extension and extending the complete length of the same.
3. The combination of a latch, a lever for retracting the latch, a supporting bracket provided with a pivot for the lever, the lever having a hub, and a spring surrounding the hub and acting against the bracket and lever respectively.
4. The combination of a latch, a supporting bracket provided with a pivot, a lever supported for swinging movement by the pivot, and provided with a hub, and a coiled spring surrounding the hub, having hooked terminals, the supporting bracket and lever being provided with lugs engaged by said hooked terminals.
5. The combination of a gate, a latch carried by said gate, a supporting bracket connected with the gate, a lever

pivoted to the latch and pivotally supported by said bracket, said lever having an angular extension, and a bar connected with the bracket and gate respectively and disposed in parallelism with and extending along one side of said angular extension, said bar constituting a guard for said angular extension.

6. The combination of a gate, a latch carried by said gate, a supporting bracket connected with the gate and having a stud, a lever supported for swinging movement by said stud and having a hub, said lever being connected at its lower end with the latch and having an angular extension at its upper end, a spring surrounding said hub, the bracket and lever having lugs, and the terminals of the springs being of hooked form to engage said lugs, a bar

having an enlargement at one end, provided with a threaded extension projecting through a perforation in said supporting bracket, a nut to engage said threaded extension, the bar having a threaded extension at its opposite end, extending through a perforation in the gate, and nuts on the last mentioned threaded extension, said bar being at one side of, extending along said angular extension, and constituting a guard therefor.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CLARENCE RAY MAYO.

Witnesses:

JAMES W. SEARS,
E. E. HUNT.