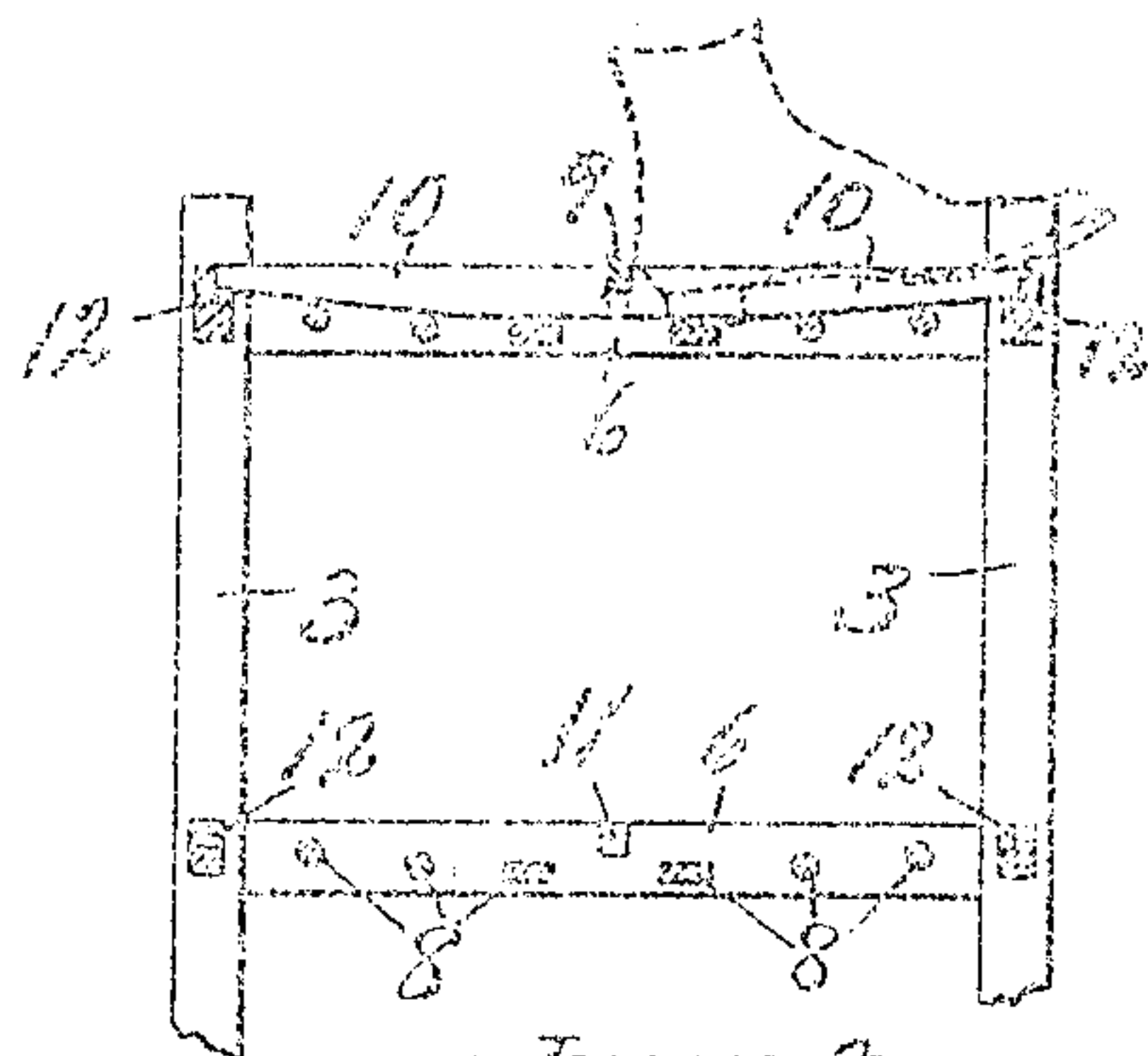
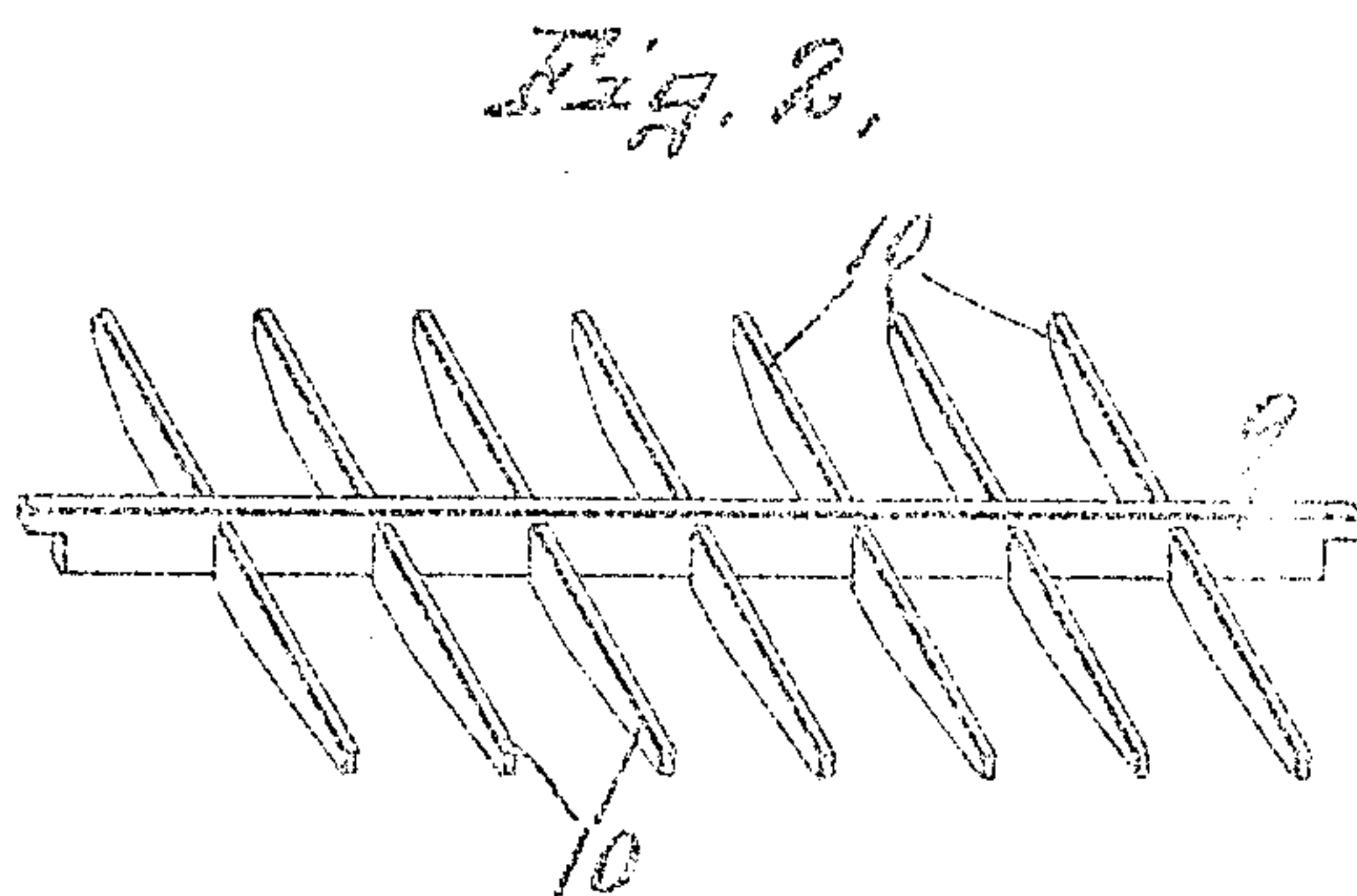
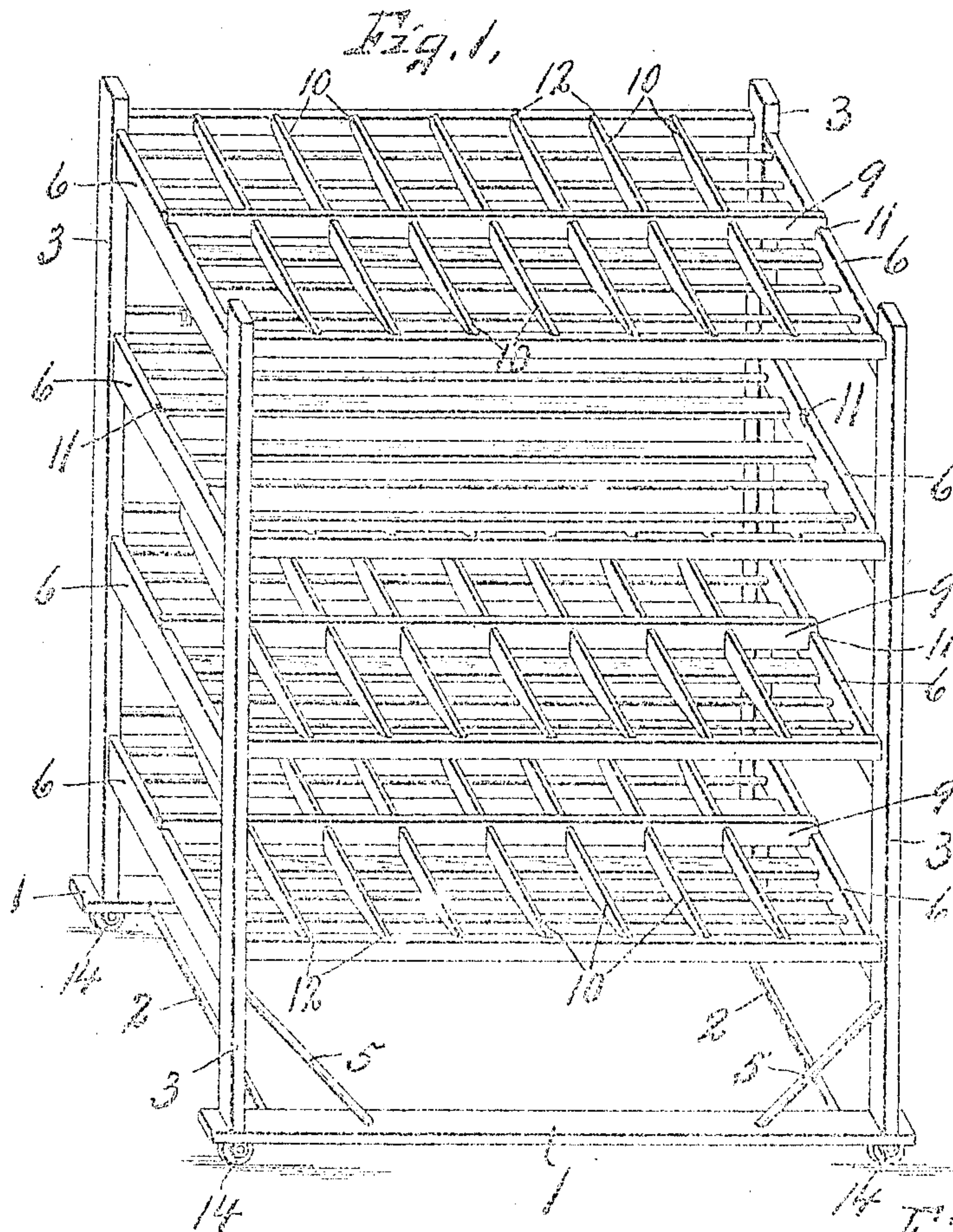


No. 872,047.

PATENTED NOV. 26, 1907.

L. P. BOWEN.
SHOE RACK.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 20, 1907.



Witnesses.

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LEANDER P. BOWEN, OF AUBURN, NEW YORK.

SHOE-RACK.

No. 872,047.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 26, 1907.

Application filed April 20, 1907. Serial No. 369,347.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEANDER P. BOWEN, of Auburn, in the county of Cayuga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Racks, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain improvements in portable shoe racks for factory use in transporting shoes and like articles in various stages of completion from one locality or class of workmen to another.

My main object is to provide a light, yet rigid frame with a series of racks arranged in tiers, one above the other, a sufficient distance apart to permit the insertion of shoes upon and between them, and to mount said frame upon suitable casters, whereby the frame with the shoes thereon may be readily transported or moved from place to place.

Another object is to provide each rack with a companion separator frame for holding the shoes side by side a uniform distance apart to prevent their rubbing one against the other, thereby avoiding marring of the shoes by friction and to loosely mount said frame in the main supporting frame in such manner that it may be readily removed when it is desired to place the shoes in closer contact with each other so that the entire apparatus may be used with or without the separating frames.

Other objects and uses relating to the specific parts of the invention will be brought out in the following description.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved shoe rack showing all but one of the removable separator racks in place. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the detached separator racks. Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of the upper portion of the main frame showing two of the racks and one of the separator frames.

In carrying out the objects stated, I provide a main supporting frame composed of base bars —1— tied together and held a fixed distance apart by cross bars —2— and upon which are mounted upright standards or corner posts —3— having their lower ends rigidly secured to the base bars —1— and rigidly braced thereon by suitable braces 5. These upright posts at each end of the frame are further tied together and braced by a series of cross-bars —6— disposed in planes at substantially right angles to the bars —1—

and parallel one above the other a sufficient distance apart to permit the insertion of shoes right side up between them. These cross bars —6— are preferably arranged in pairs, one at each end of the frame and in the same horizontal plane, those of each pair being connected by lengthwise slats or bars —8— which are spaced apart to lighten the structure and to form a suitable support upon which the bottoms of the shoes are adapted to rest. These cross bars —6— and their connecting slats or bars —8— constitute a series of shelves which are practically co-extensive with the horizontal area of the main supporting frame, the space between the several shelves being left open for the reception of the shoes. Associated with each shelf is a separator rack consisting in this instance of a central lengthwise bar —9— and a series of cross-arms —10— spaced apart and projecting from opposite sides of the bar —9— to which they are secured. The central bar —9— is parallel with and substantially midway between the outer bars —8— of the shelf with which it is associated and has its opposite ends loosely fitted in sockets or recesses —11— centrally in the corresponding end bars —6—, while the separator fingers or arms —10— are secured to the central bar —9— and project equidistant from and at opposite sides thereof, their outer ends being loosely seated in the socket or recesses —12— in the outer lengthwise bars —8— of the corresponding shelf. It therefore, appears that the lengthwise bar —9— of each shelf is held from relative endwise or lateral movement when seated in the sockets —11— and that the free ends of the separator fingers or arms —10— are similarly held from lateral movement in the sockets —12—. Each of the bars —9— is therefore equipped with a number of oppositely projecting separator arms 10— which are spaced apart a distance corresponding approximately to the width of an ordinary shoe so that when the shoes are placed in the separator bars or fingers with the heels against the central bar —9— such shoes are held a slight distance apart to prevent injury by rubbing one against the other, the toes of the shoes pointing outward and resting upon the outer bars —8—.

If it is desired to use the shoe-rack without the separator frames the latter may be readily lifted from their retaining sockets —11— and 12— and removed from their

companion shelves, in which case the shoes may be placed promiscuously, or side by side in regular order upon said shelves together, as for instance, when transporting the shoes 5 in the earlier stages of completion when they are not so liable to be marred by rubbing one against the other.

The entire shoe-rack is mounted upon suitable casters 14— secured to the bottom bars 10 —1— to permit the shoe-rack to be readily rolled or moved from place to place in the factory.

Each shelf dips transversely from the outer edge toward the center; that is, the central 15 bars —8— are depressed in a plane below the outer bars so that the shoes resting thereon will be held in an inclined position with the heels lower than the toes for the purpose of retaining the shoes upon the shelves against 20 accidental displacement during the transportation of the rack from place to place along the floor of the factory.

What I claim is:

In portable shoe racks, a frame embodying 25 base bars, corner posts supported by said base bars, and cross bars connecting said corner posts together at intervals through-

out their length, shelves connecting the cross bars at one end of the frame with the cross bars at the other end thereof, each shelf com- 30 prising a plurality of bars having their ends secured in the end cross bars and having the central bars of the shelf depressed in a plane below the outer bars whereby the bottoms of the shelves are concave in form, and sepa- 35 rator racks each comprising a longitudinally-extending central bar seated at its ends in notches provided therefor in end cross bars, and a series of cross arms connected to the central bar and projecting from opposite sides 40 thereof, the said projecting arms resting on the bars of said shelves, said bars being of greatest width at their inner ends with their underneath edges tapering to the outer ends 45 to conform to the concave shelves, and the lengthwise bar of the separator rack detachably engaged with the cross bars of the frame.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of April 1907.

LEANDER P. BOWEN.

Witnesses:

KATHERINE L. HUNTER,
WM. H. VANORMAN.