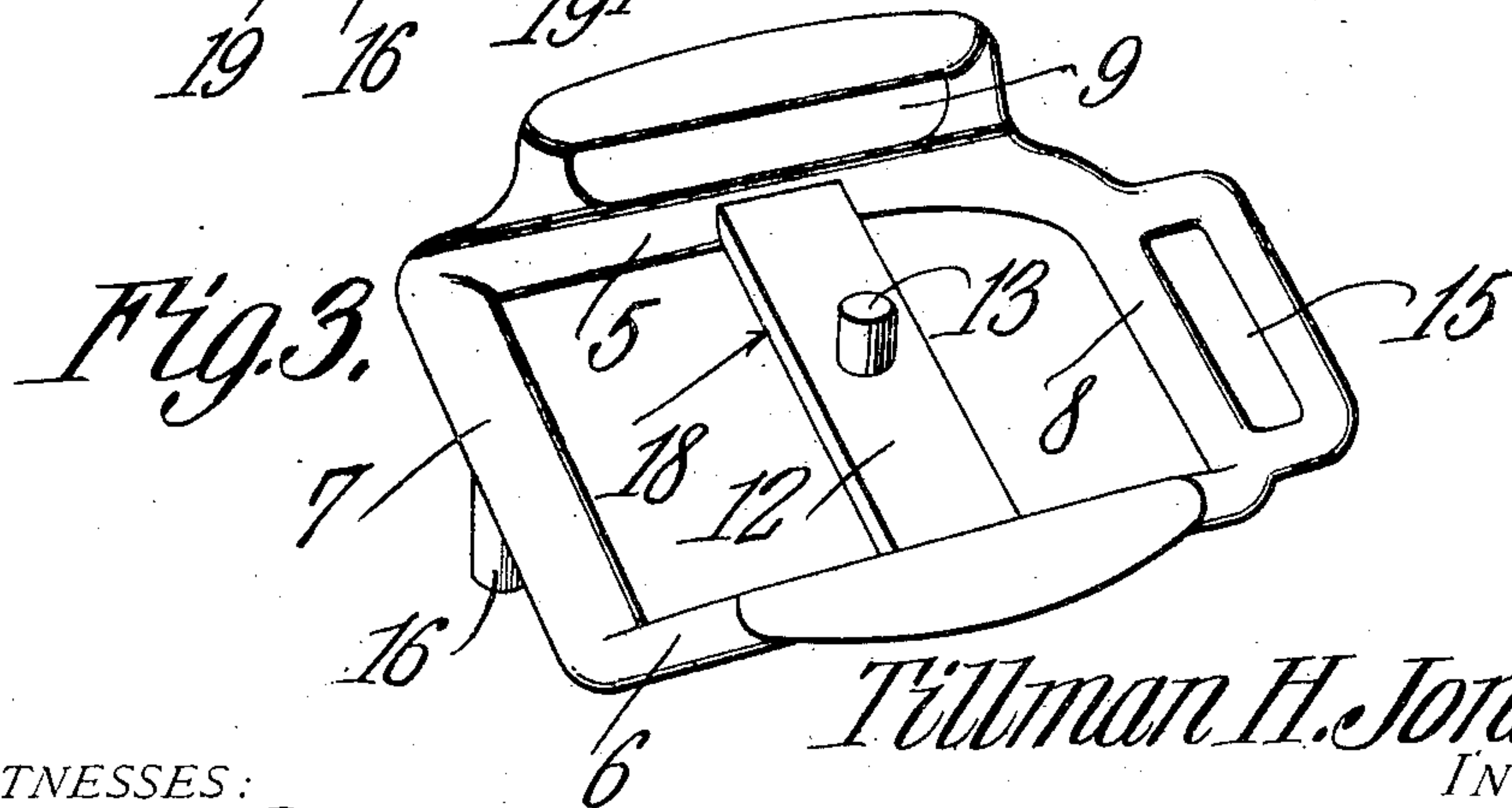
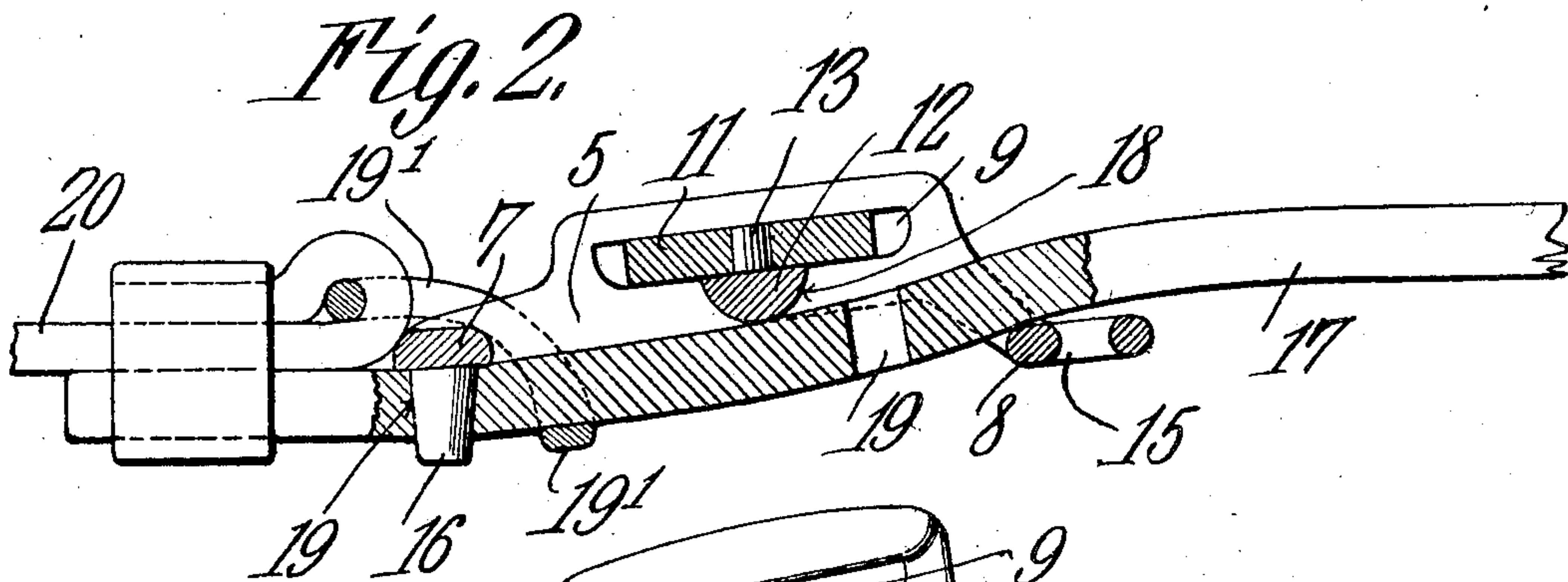
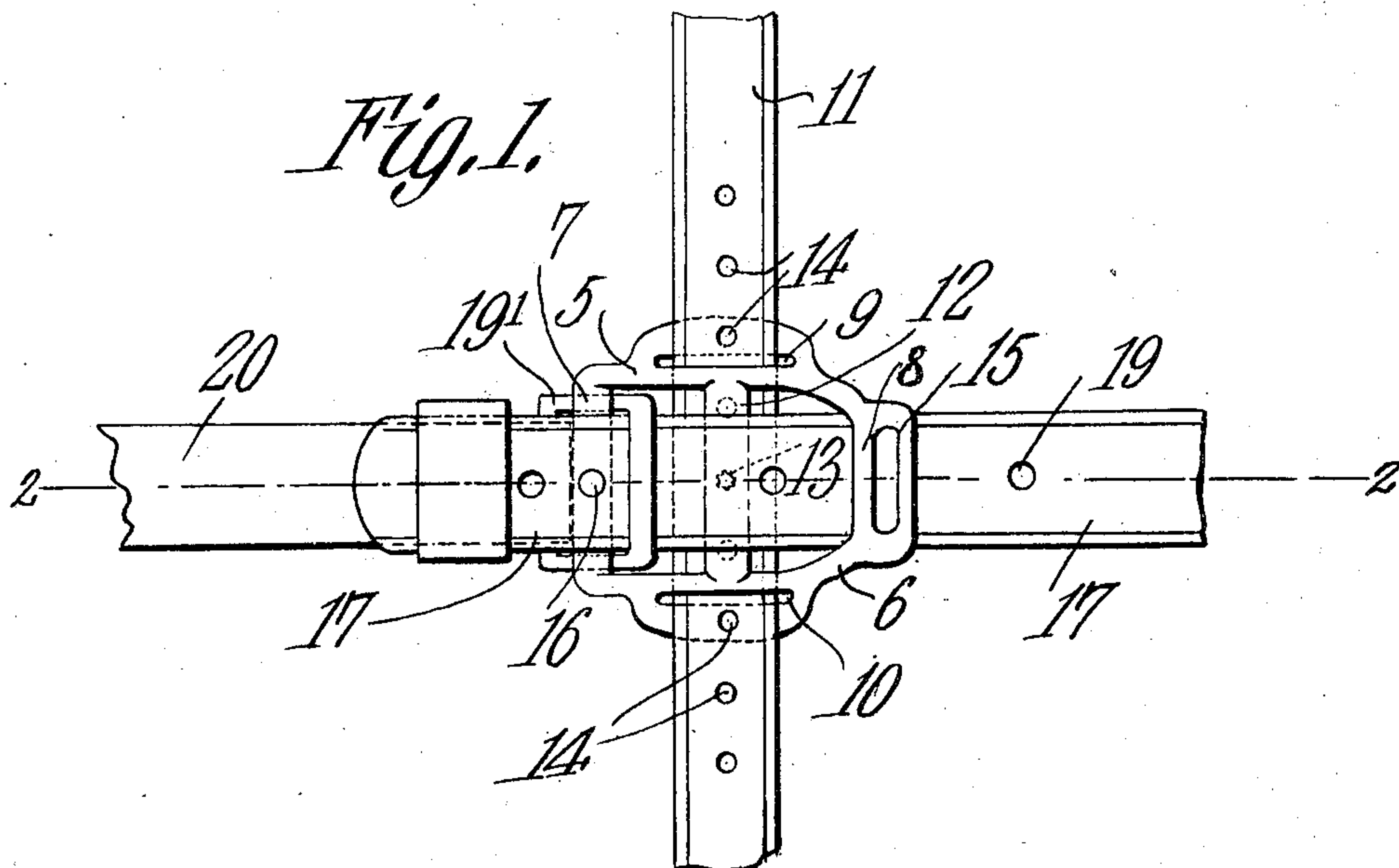


No. 879,775.

PATENTED FEB. 18, 1908.

T. H. JONES.
TRACE BUCKLE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 27, 1907.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TILLMAN H. JONES, OF JUDA, WISCONSIN.

TRACE-BUCKLE.

No. 879,775.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 18, 1908.

Application filed May 27, 1907. Serial No. 375,883.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TILLMAN H. JONES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Juda, in the county of Green and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Trace-Buckle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to trace buckles and has for its object to provide a buckle capable of being adjusted vertically of the skirt or billet thereby to shift the position of the trace or tug.

A further object of the invention is to provide a trace buckle which may be used on either side of the harness and which permits the employment of a continuous billet between the skirt and belly band thereby dispensing with loops, auxiliary buckles and similar devices for effecting the adjustment of said trace buckle.

A further object is to form the buckle with a vertically disposed reinforcing bar having a curved bearing surface for engagement with the trace or tug and provided with a rigid tongue or projection adapted to engage spaced openings in the connecting billet thereby to lock the buckle in adjusted position.

A still further object of the invention is to generally improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a front elevation of a trace buckle constructed in accordance with my invention showing the same in position on a trace or tug. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the buckle detached.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved buckle forming the subject matter of the present invention includes a substantially rectangular frame comprising longitudinal side bars 5 and 6 connected by transverse end bars 7 and 8. The side bars 5 and 6 are off-set and provided with oppositely disposed strap receiving openings 9

and 10 adapted to receive the strap or billet 11, the latter forming a connection between the skirt and belly band of the harness.

Extending transversely across the center of the buckle frame is a reinforcing bar 12 having a flat upper face disposed flush with the lower walls of the strap-receiving openings 9 and 10 and provided with a laterally extending tongue or lug 13 adapted to enter any one of a series of openings 14 formed in the billet or strap 11 whereby the buckle may be adjusted vertically of said strap. One end of the buckle frame is extended below the plane of the side bars 5 and 6 and thence extended laterally and provided with a strap-receiving opening 15, there being a tongue or projection 16 extending laterally from the central portion of the opposite end bar 7 for engagement with the tug or trace 17. The end bar 7 is preferably disposed in the same plane with the side bars or members 5 and 6 while the lower face of the intermediate transverse bar 12 is curved or rounded, as indicated at 18 so as to prevent cutting or otherwise injuring the trace 17, as shown. The trace 17 is threaded through the buckle with the intermediate portion thereof bearing against the curved surface 18 of the transverse bar 12 and with one end of the trace extended over the bar 8 with the lug 16 engaging one of the openings 19 in said tug or trace thus locking the latter in position on the buckle. The buckle is also provided with the usual bail 19' which bears against the trace or long tug 17 at a point adjacent the end bar 7 and to which is attached the hame tug, indicated at 20.

Attention is here called to the fact that the strap or billet 11 is arranged at the rear of the trace or tug 17 and is spaced from the latter by the bar 12 so as to permit the trace buckle to be adjusted vertically of the billet without the necessity of first releasing the tug from engagement with the trace buckle. In order to adjust the buckle on the billet 11 it is merely necessary to exert a slight lateral pull on that portion of the strap 11 between the loops 9 and 10 so as to disengage the lug 13 from the opening in said strap and then move the buckle in either direction until the desired adjustment is effected, the tongue 13 being subsequently introduced in the adjacent opening in the strap 11 so as to lock the buckle in adjusted position on said strap.

The buckles may be made in different sizes and shapes and are so constructed that

they may be used on either side of the harness with equally good results.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that there is provided an extremely
5 simple, inexpensive and efficient device admirably adapted for the attainment of the ends in view.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

10 1. A trace buckle including a frame having oppositely disposed strap-receiving loops, a bar extending transversely of the frame and provided with a tongue adapted to engage the strap, said bar being provided with a
15 curved bearing surface for engagement with a trace.

2. The combination with a billet strap, of a buckle adjustable vertically of the strap and provided with alined openings for the re-

ception of said strap, a bar extending trans- 20
versely across the buckle and having its flat upper surface provided with a laterally extending rigid tongue for engagement with the billet strap, the opposite face of the bar being curved or rounded, a trace threaded 25
through the buckle in front of the billet strap and engaging the curved bearing surface of the bar, and a lug projecting laterally from the one side of the buckle and adapted to engage the trace. 30

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

TILLMAN H. JONES.

Witnesses:

J. F. DORLAND,
A. S. MATZKE.