

No. 880,364.

PATENTED FEB. 25, 1908.

M. E. CROUSE & J. E. ROBERTS.

HAT HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 6, 1907.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1,

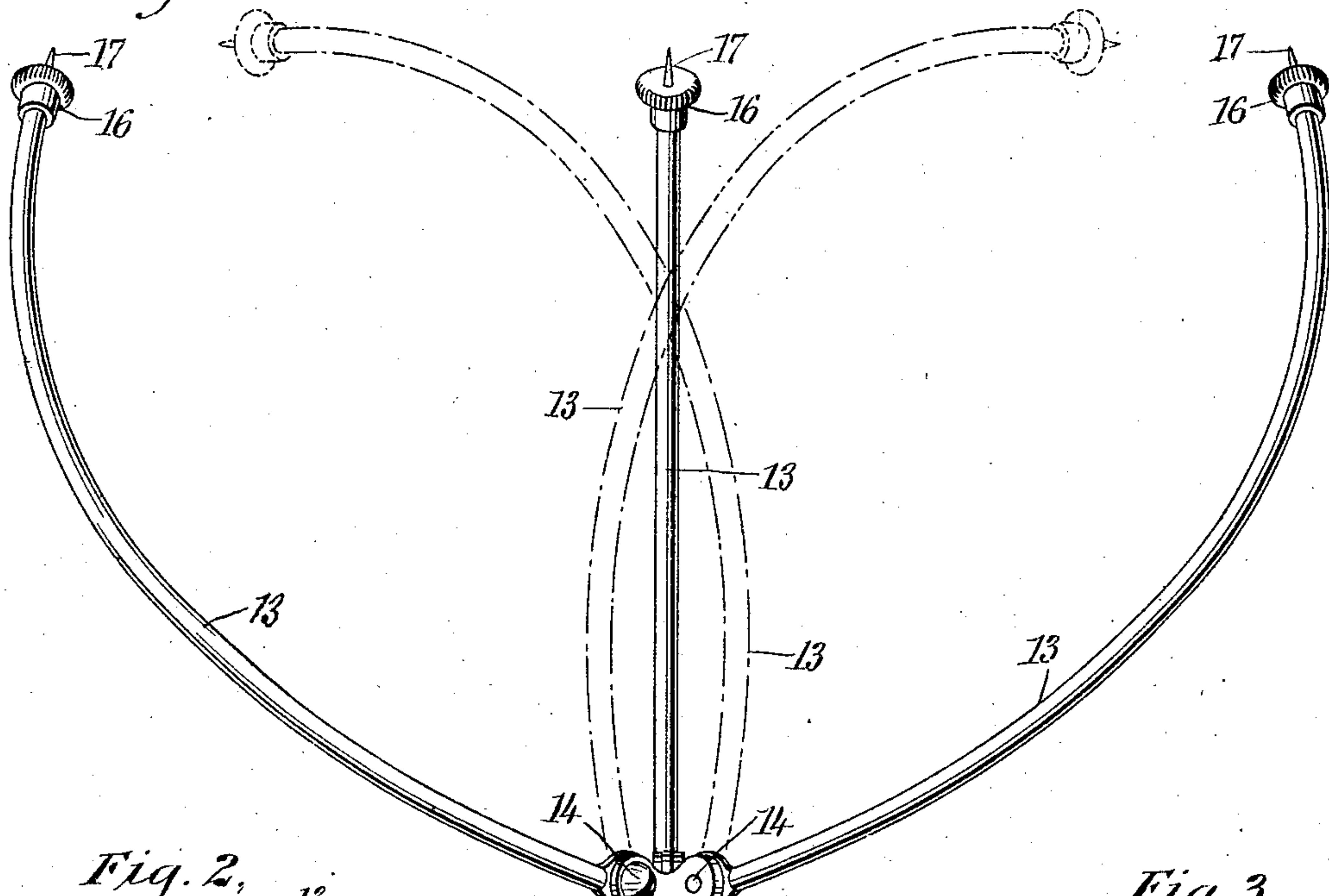


Fig. 2,

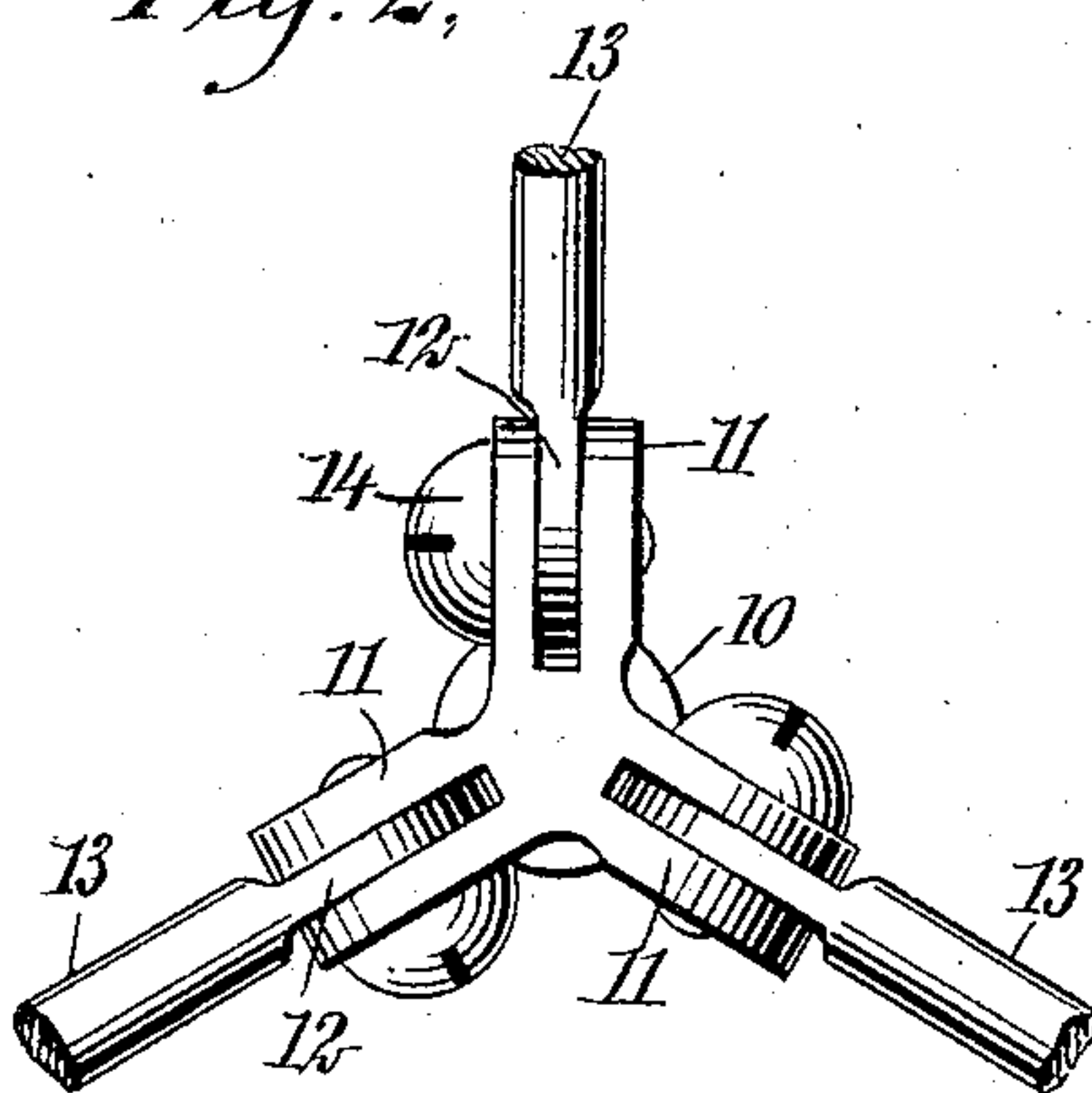


Fig. 3,

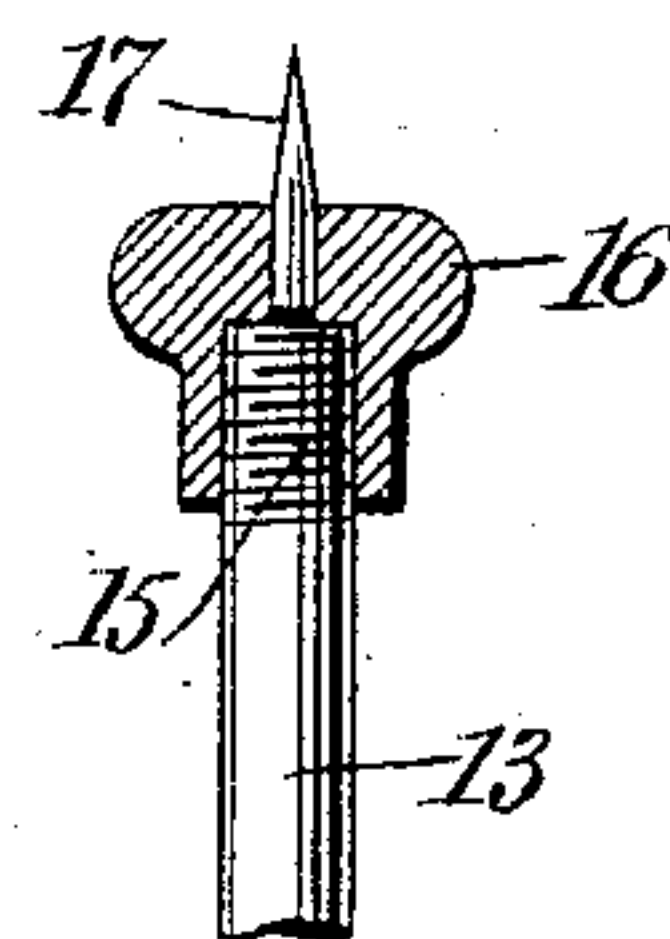
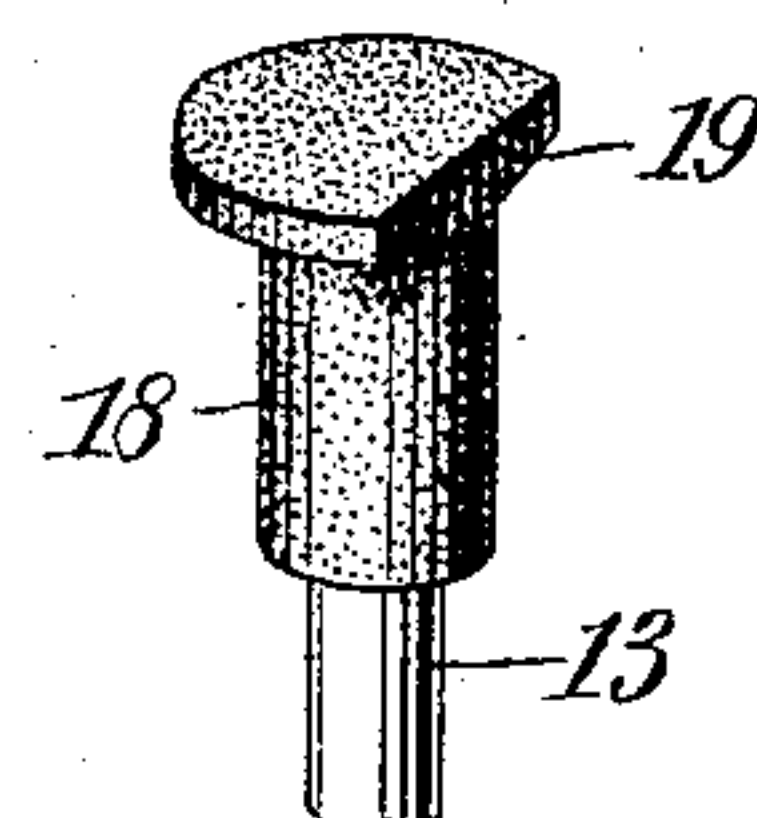


Fig. 4,



WITNESSES

Edward Thorpe  
J. E. Roberts

INVENTORS  
Minnie E. Crouse  
J. Edwards Roberts  
BY Munn & Co.  
ATTORNEYS

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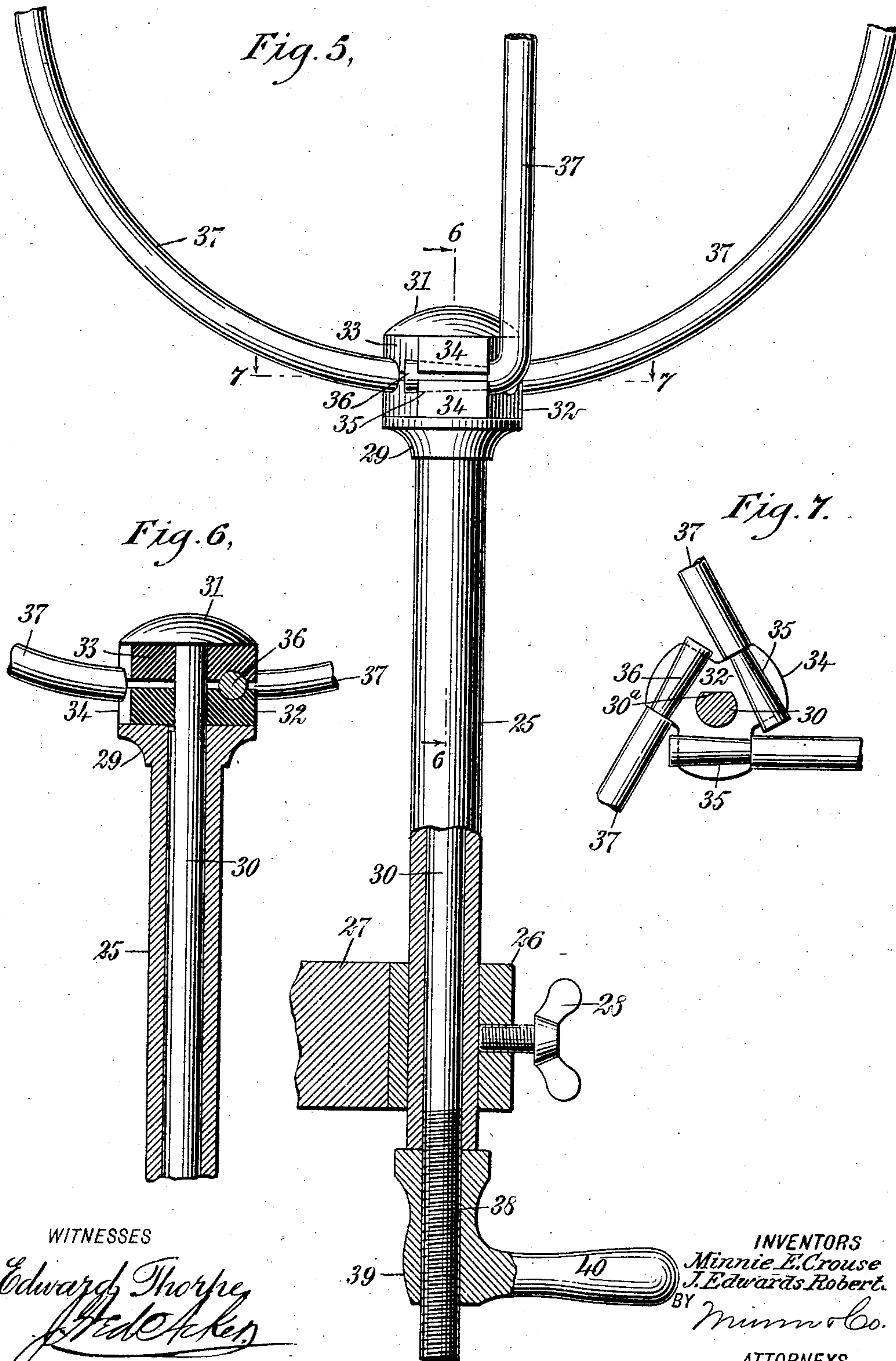
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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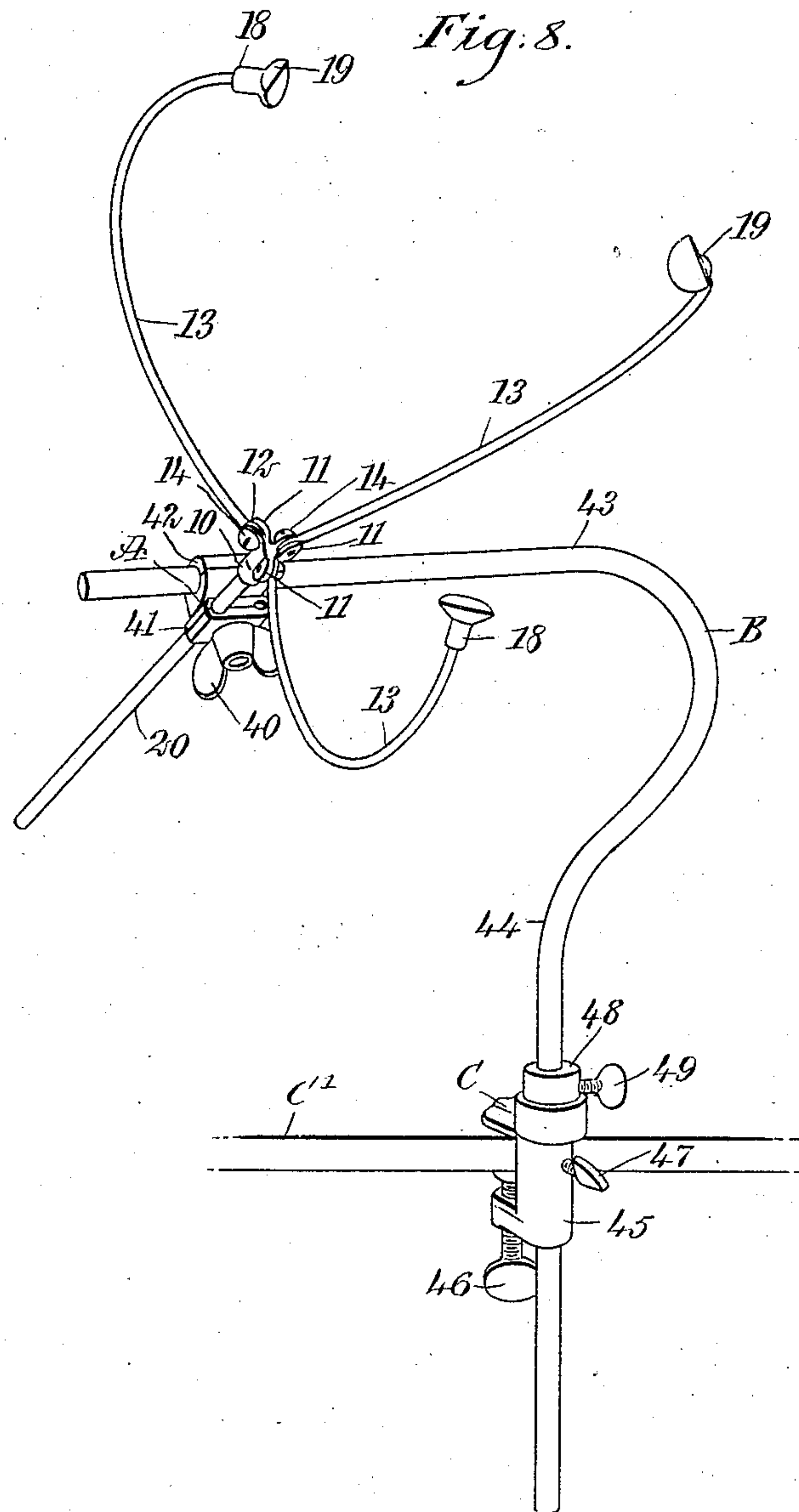
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



WITNESSES

*Edward Thorpe*  
*J. E. Roberts*

INVENTORS

*Minnie E. Crouse*  
*J. Edwards Roberts*

BY *Mum Co.*

ATTORNEYS



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MINNIE E. CROUSE, OF LAWRENCE, MASSACHUSETTS, AND J. EDWARDS ROBERTS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.; SAID ROBERTS ASSIGNOR TO SAID CROUSE.

## HAT-HOLDER.

No. 880,364.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 25, 1908.

Application filed May 6, 1907. Serial No. 372,255.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, MINNIE E. CROUSE and J. EDWARDS ROBERTS, citizens of the United States, and residents, respectively, of Lawrence, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, and of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hat-Holders, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The purpose of the invention is to provide a simple, durable and economic device especially adapted to hold a hat, bonnet or other article of head-wear in position to be trimmed or lined, and to so construct the device that it can be quickly and conveniently attached for sustaining engagement with any size hat-crown, interiorly or exteriorly, and universally adjusted to bring the hat to any position required by the operator.

A further purpose of the invention is to so construct the device that when the hat is held thereby the sustaining members will not injure the material of the crown nor interfere with the progress of the work in hand, enabling the lining to be stitched to place and practically rendering all parts of the exterior of the crown readily accessible.

A further purpose of the invention is to provide not only for the necessary lateral adjustment of the sustaining arms or members, but also to provide means for the bodily vertical adjustment of all of said members.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a sectional side elevation of the improved device showing the sustaining arms in positive lines in position for engagement with the exterior of a crown, and in dotted lines in position for engagement with the interior thereof; Fig. 1 also showing a sectional view of a portion of a support for the device; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the upper portion of the device or that portion at which the sustaining arms are located, the arms being shown broken away; Fig. 3 is a sec-

tional view of a cap attached to a sustaining arm and especially used when the arms are brought in engagement with the interior of the crown of a hat; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a yielding cap also adapted to the end of a sustaining arm but being particularly adapted for engagement with the outer face of the crown of a hat; Fig. 5 is a sectional side elevation of the major portion of a slightly modified form of the device; Fig. 6 is a vertical section drawn on an enlarged scale and taken practically on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; Fig. 7 is a horizontal section taken substantially on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5; and Fig. 8 is a perspective view of the holder and a practically universally adjustable mount therefor.

In the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the main features of the invention consist as follows: A sleeve 10 is provided and from the upper portion of this sleeve 10 pairs of ears or lugs 11 are laterally projected. Any desired number of pairs of lugs may be employed, but by preference three pairs are used, as is shown in Fig. 2. The flattened or disk-like end 12 of a sustaining arm 13 is located between the lugs or ears 11 of each pair. The sustaining arms are adapted for vertical movement and are pivotally held in position by bolts 14 that pass loosely through the disk members 12, but are screwed into one or both of the ears or lugs 11 of a pair, so that after the sustaining arm 13 has been adjusted it can be held in adjusted position by simply tightening up the bolt 14 that passes through it.

The sustaining arms 13 are curved and when the arms 13 are to be engaged with the exterior of a hat-crown their curvature is upward and inward, as is shown in positive lines in Fig. 1. When the said sustaining arms 13, however, are to be brought in engaging and sustaining position with the inner surface of the crown of the hat they are made to cross one another, as is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1. The upper end of each sustaining arm 13 is preferably provided with a thread 15, as is shown in Fig. 3, and on the upper end of each sustaining arm when it is to be used for engagement with the exterior of a hat-crown, a metal cap 16 is screwed thereon, the said cap being provided with a spur 17 extending upwardly therefrom, the spur being more or less



sharpened. By preference the metal cap is milled so as to facilitate its attachment and detachment to and from the arm.

In Fig. 4 we have illustrated a cap 18 of yielding material. This cap can be made from rubber, leather, or equivalent material, and is simply slipped over the outer end of the sustaining arm, and by preference the cap 18 consists of a tubular body section and an upper disk section, which latter is made square or flat at one side, as is shown at 19 in Fig. 4 so that it will have a positive bearing against the crown of the hat.

The body portion of the device just described is supported by means of a rod 20 which constitutes a standard, and the said rod 20 is loosely passed up through the body-sleeve 10 above referred to, and the lower end of the rod or standard 20 is sometimes made to enter the upper socket member 21 of a clamp 22 that is adapted to be attached to a table 23 or other form of support, and to be secured thereto by means of the customary set screw 24 or the equivalent of the same.

In the construction shown in Fig. 5, which is a slightly modified construction, a body-sleeve 25 is provided, which is passed down through and beyond a bracket 26 which may be a fixture on a table 27 or the like and is held in adjusted position by means of a set screw 28, and it may be here remarked that a set screw 28<sup>a</sup> is provided in the construction shown in Fig. 1, which set screw is passed through the socket 21 of the clamp 22 and engaged with the rod or standard 20. A head 29 is formed at the upper end of the tubular sleeve 25 just described, and the said head 29 is of circular formation and is flat at the top. A rod 30, which is an adjusting rod, is passed down through the tubular sleeve 25, and the said rod 30 is provided also with a head 31 at its upper end, the under face of which head is flat, and the head 31 of the rod 30 is circular or of the same formation as the head 29 of the tubular sleeve 25 and is of practically the same dimensions.

Two plates 32 and 33, are located between the two heads 29 and 31, and these plates 32 and 33 are provided with off-sets 34 from their marginal portions, preferably three in number, and the off-sets 34 of the two plates 32 and 33 are in vertical alinement when the said two plates are properly adjusted. Each plate 32 and 33 is provided at its inner face with a semi-circular recess 35, the said recesses 35 in the two plates being in registry, and the said recesses are produced in the off-set portions 34 of the said plates, so that when the plates 32 and 33 are in proper position corresponding recesses will be brought in registry with each other. These recesses 35 are conical, as is best shown in Fig. 7, for a purpose to be hereinafter described.

The plates 32 and 33 are prevented from turning on the rod 30 by flattening one side

of the said rod at a point beneath its head, as is shown at 30<sup>a</sup> in Fig. 7, and providing a correspondingly flattened wall for the opening in the plates 32 and 33 with respect to the said rod. In the construction shown in Fig. 5, the sustaining arms 37 have the same action as has been described relatively to the construction shown in Fig. 1, but the sustaining arms 37 are of slightly different formation. Their body portions, however, are given the same curvature as in the construction shown in Fig. 1, but at their lower ends foot sections 36 are produced, which are at an angle, usually a right angle, to their body sections, and these foot sections 36 are conical and are adapted to fit segmentally in the registering recesses 35 in the two plates 32 and 33 above mentioned, and as is clearly shown in Figs. 6 and 7. These sustaining arms 37 are held in adjusted position in a very simple manner, namely: The lower end of the rod 30 which extends below the lower end of the tubular sleeve 25 is provided with a threaded surface 38, and the threaded surface 38 of the said rod 30 receives a nut 39 and the said nut is preferably provided with a handle 40 so that by loosening the nut 39 the sustaining arms 37 can be carried to any desired position, and when in adjusted position can be fixedly held by tightening up the nut 39 so that it will have bearing against the lower end of the tubular sleeve 25, since in the latter position of the nut 39 the head 31 of the rod 30 and the head 29 of the tubular sleeve 25 will be drawn together and will clamp between them the plates 32 and 33, fixing said plates firmly upon the foot or shank sections 36 of the sustaining arms 37.

Both constructions described are very simple in their character and are well adapted for the purpose intended, and in both constructions the sustaining arms can be operated in the same manner and the same results can be obtained, and it may be here remarked that either the cap 16 shown in Fig. 3, or the cap 18 shown in Fig. 4 may be applied to the upper ends of the sustaining arms 37.

The preferred mounting of the holder is shown in Fig. 8, wherein there is practically a universal adjustment of the holder, enabling the hat to be expeditiously and conveniently brought into any position that may be required to render each and every part inside and outside readily and conveniently accessible. To that end the standard 20 is adjustably held by a set screw 40 in a member 41 of a clamp A, having a second member 42 that is held to turn and slide, the horizontal member 43 of a bracket-arm B being held on said member by a set screw or its equivalent (not shown), and the said bracket-arm, in addition to the member 43, consists of a second downwardly-extending member 44, straight at its lower portion and having an



outward bend where it connects with the member 43. The lower end of the bracket-arm B is mounted to turn and have vertical movement in the socket member 45 of a clamp C, held on a table C' or other support by a clamping screw 46, and a set screw 47 serves to hold the bracket-arm in adjustable position. A collar 48 on the member 44 can be set to limit the vertical downward adjustment of said arm, the collar being provided with a set screw 49.

We desire it to be understood that the form of base or support shown in Figs. 1 and 5, is purely conventional, and that the base or support shown in Fig. 8 is that which is employed in connection with the body of the device, whereby to impart thereto a universal adjustment.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent,—

1. A hat holder, comprising a support, a head on the support, a plurality of sustaining arms pivoted to the head, said arms being curved and being arranged with the arch of the curve outward, whereby to permit said arms to take a crossed position with respect

to each other for engaging the inner surface of a hat or a separated position to engage the outer surface of the hat and means for fixing the arms with respect to the head. 30

2. A hat holder comprising a support, a head on the support, a plurality of sustaining arms pivoted to the head, said arms being curved and being arranged with the arch of the curve outward, whereby to permit said arms to take a crossed position with respect to each other for engaging the inner surface of the hat, or a separated position to engage the outer surface of the hat. 35 40

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of subscribing witnesses.

MINNIE E. CROUSE.

J. EDWARDS ROBERTS.

Witnesses to the signature of Minnie E. Crouse:

GEORGE LYALL,  
CARRIE E. LYALL.

Witnesses to the signature of J. Edwards Roberts:

THOS. A. BYRNE,  
J. L. CUMMINGS.