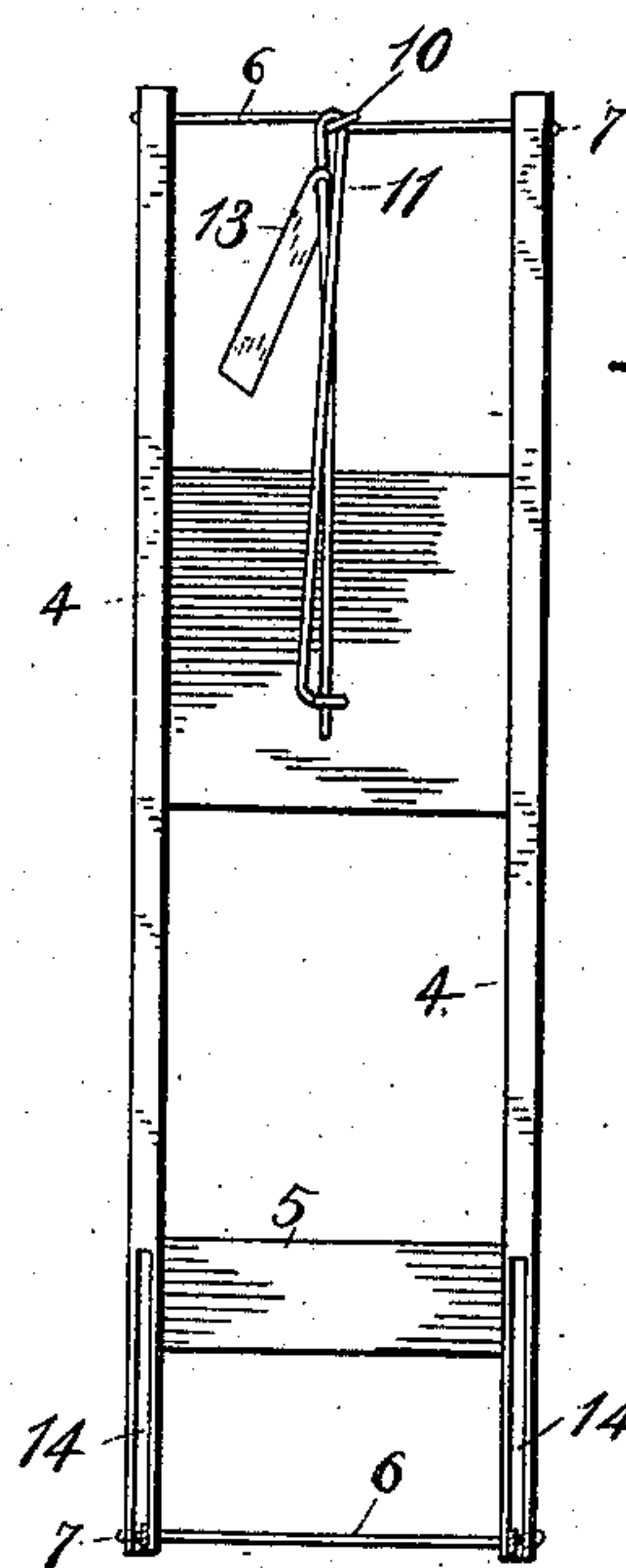
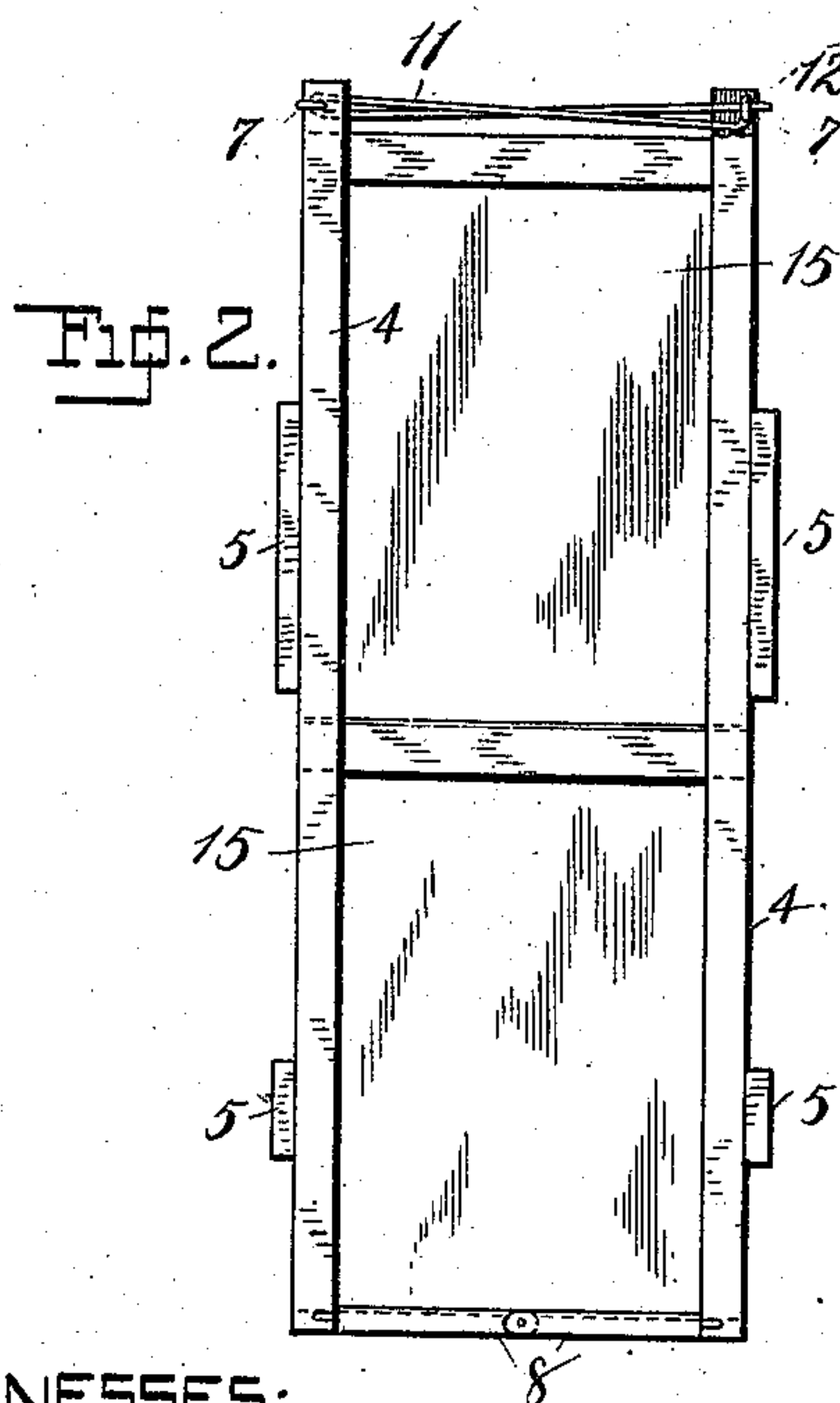
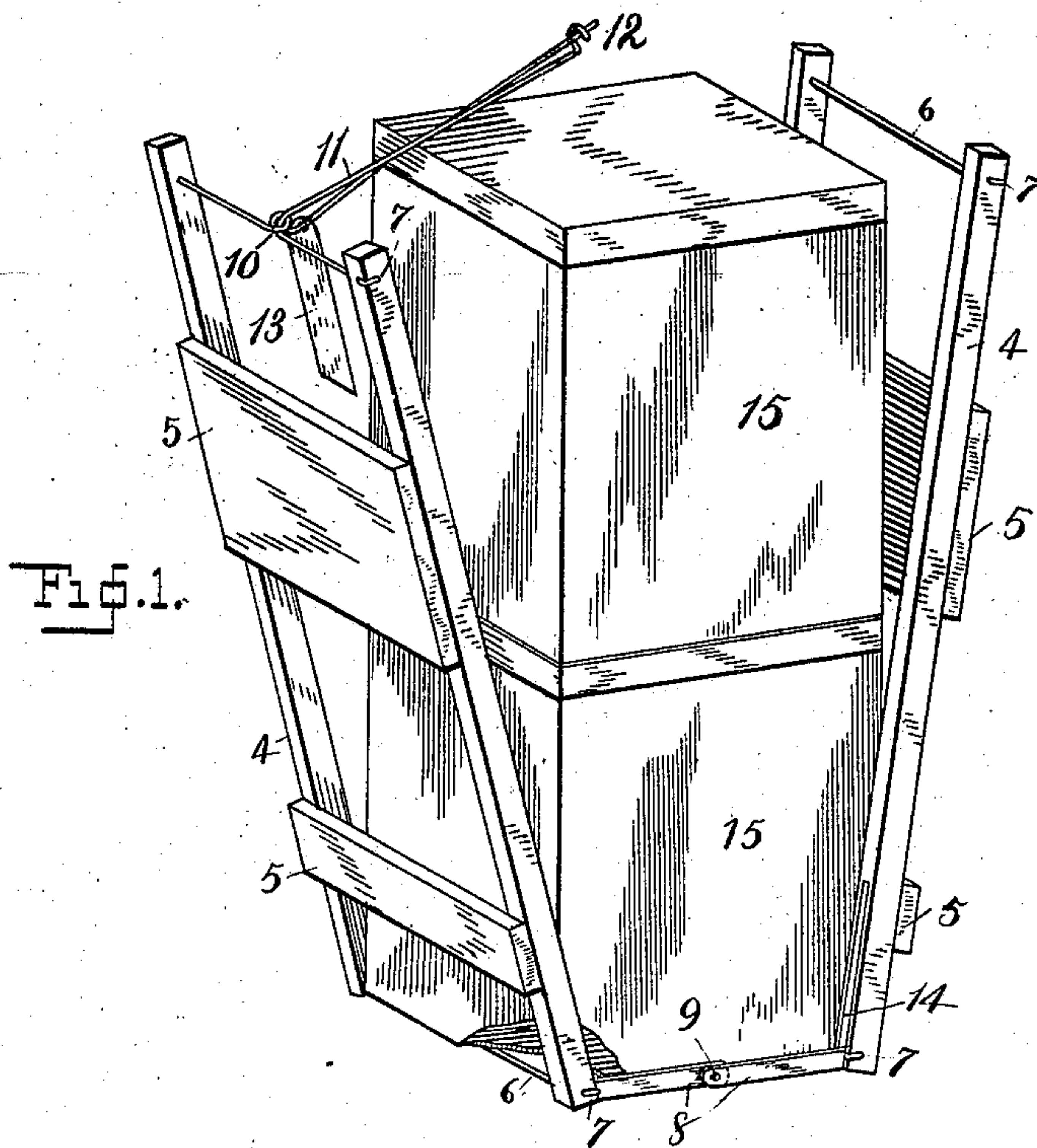


No. 881,200.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

E. L. REED.  
SHIPPING CRATE.  
APPLICATION FILED JULY 13, 1906.



WITNESSES:

M. Marty  
Chas. F. Bassett

INVENTOR  
E. L. Reed  
BY Frederick Benjamin  
ATTY.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EVAN L. REED, OF OREGON, ILLINOIS.

## SHIPPING-CRATE.

No. 881,200.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed July 13, 1906. Serial No. 326,043.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EVAN L. REED, citizen of the United States, residing at Oregon, in the county of Ogle and State of Illinois, have  
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping-Crates, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in shipping crates of the class used for the shipment of cracker or biscuit cans of commerce,  
10 in which it is important to provide for the protection of the cans and also for the collapsibility of the crates so that they can be returned by the consignee to the shipper for  
15 reuse.

The especial object of the improvements which form the subject matter of this application, is to provide a crate of inexpensive construction, and of greater strength than is  
20 possessed by the ordinary crates in use, and in which provision is made for readily connecting and disconnecting the free ends of the crate, and also for attaching a shipping tag.

Other objects of general utility are conserved by the improvements which are hereinafter described and which are illustrated in a preferred form in the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this application,  
25 in which:—

Figure 1 shows in perspective the application of my improved crate to two cans of the kind for which it is especially adapted; Fig. 2 is an elevation of the crate showing it in  
30 its closed position, and Fig. 3 is an elevation at right angles to Fig. 2 showing the crate collapsed.

Referring to the details of the drawing, 4 represent the corner posts of the crate  
40 which are square in cross section and are connected together in pairs by horizontal slats 5, 5, so positioned as to form protection for the sides of the cans, and prevent the latter from becoming displaced when crated.

6 represent wires which connect the ends of the members of each pair of posts, and are  
45 secured to the latter by passing through the suitable holes, and having their ends bent in the form of hooks so as to embrace two  
50 sides of the posts as shown at 7.

8 represent two pairs of flat metal straps which are connected together by a pin 9 which forms a hinge for said straps.  
55 Through the outer ends of the members of said hinge, are suitable holes to receive the lower wires 6 which are passed therethrough,

said straps thus serving to hingedly connect the lower ends of the two frames formed by the posts, slats and wires above described.

In order to permit the hinge members to  
60 fold upwardly and closely against the post, I form in the edges of the latter longitudinal grooves 14 of sufficient length, depth and width to receive the straps when in their folded position.

At the center of one of the upper cross  
65 wires 6, I form an eye 10 in which is placed the connecting member 11, which consists of a wire bent upon itself at the point where it passes through the eye 10, and crossed so  
70 as to intersect at one point and having one of its free ends bent up to form a hook 12. Strung on the connecting member 11 at a point between the eye and where it is  
75 crossed, is a shipping tag 13, the accidental displacement of which is prevented by the contact between the two portions of the connecting member, as clearly shown in the drawing.

When it is desired to connect the free ends  
80 of the frames together for the shipment of cans, the member 11 is placed over the top of the upper can, the hook 12 is depressed under the opposite wire 6, and the straight or unbent portion is left above the wire 6 so  
85 as to form an interlock between the hook and the wire 6 which will prevent accidental unhooking, it being understood that the member 11 will be made short enough so that when hooked under the wire 6, there will be  
90 more or less tension on said member which will be increased by the pressure of the boxes 15 against the slats 5 of the crate. It will also be understood there will be sufficient space between the top of the upper can  
95 15 and the member 11 to permit the insertion of the hand under said member so it will serve as a handle when it is desired to lift the crate with its inclosed cans. The cans will rest upon the lower wires 6 and their sides  
100 will be embraced by the straps 8. As the cans will fit between the posts and against the slats, it will be seen that accidental displacement is impossible so long as the connecting member 11 is in its operative relation.  
105

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is:—

1. A shipping crate consisting of a pair of frames each frame formed of two corner  
110 posts, slats secured to said posts, and cross wires connecting together the upper and



lower ends of the posts of each pair, straps each consisting of two members hingedly connected together midway said posts and pivotally mounted on the lower cross-wires, 5 and means for detachably connecting together the upper cross-wires, said means adapted to serve as a handle for the crate when in operative position, and to removably retain a shipping tag.

10 2. A shipping crate consisting of a pair of frames, each frame formed of two corner posts having longitudinal grooves formed therein, slats secured to said posts and cross-wires connecting together the ends of the 15 posts of each pair, foldable straps mounted on the lower cross wires and adapted when unfolded to embrace the sides of the can, and to fit when folded in the said grooves in the posts, and means for detachably connecting 20 together the upper cross-wires said means adapted to receive and hold against accidental displacement, a shipping tag.

25 3. In a shipping crate consisting of two frames hingedly and foldably connected together at their lower ends, each of said frames having a flexible cross-rod at its

upper and lower ends, means for connecting together the upper cross-rods of the frames, said means consisting of a wire permanently connected with one of said rods midway its 30 ends, and detachably connected with the other rod, said wire bent upon itself so that its two portions cross each other, and having its free ends adapted to be interlocked with the other rod. 35

4. In a shipping crate consisting of two frames hingedly and foldably connected at their lower ends and having cross wires at their upper ends, the upper cross-wire of one frame being bent to form an eye, means for 40 detachably connecting the upper ends of said frame, said means consisting of a wire, engaging said eye, bent upon itself and bent at one end to form a hook and having its other end straight and extending beyond 45 said hook.

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

EVAN L. REED.

Witnesses:

CHARLES D. ETNYRE,  
CLARENCE S. HAAS.