

No. 882,136.

PATENTED MAR. 17, 1908.

F. C. ALTMANN.
LATCH FOR VEHICLE DOORS.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 16, 1907.

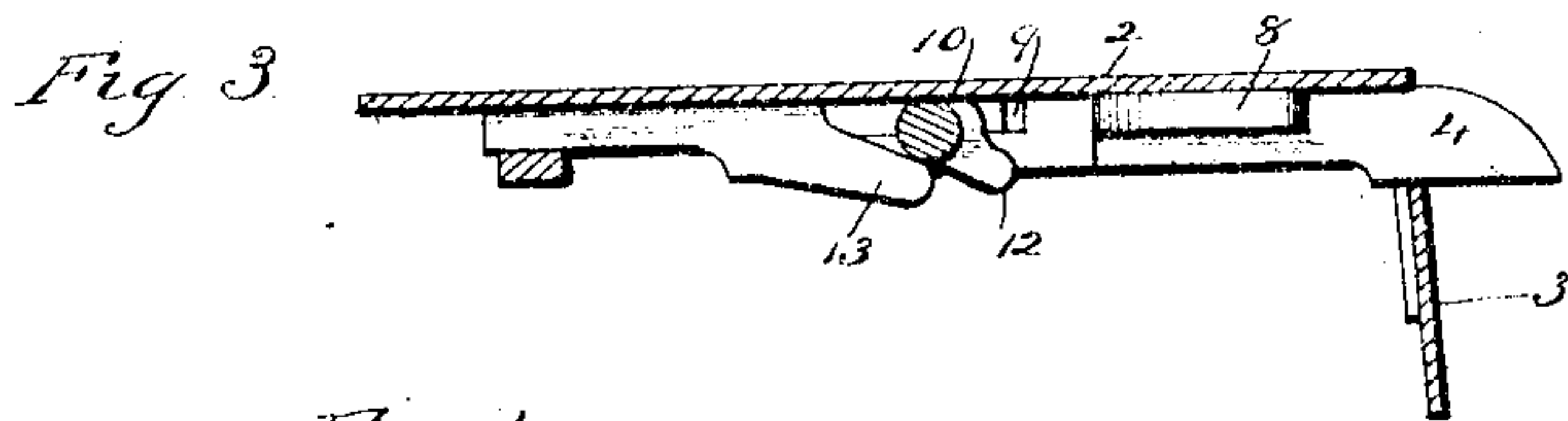
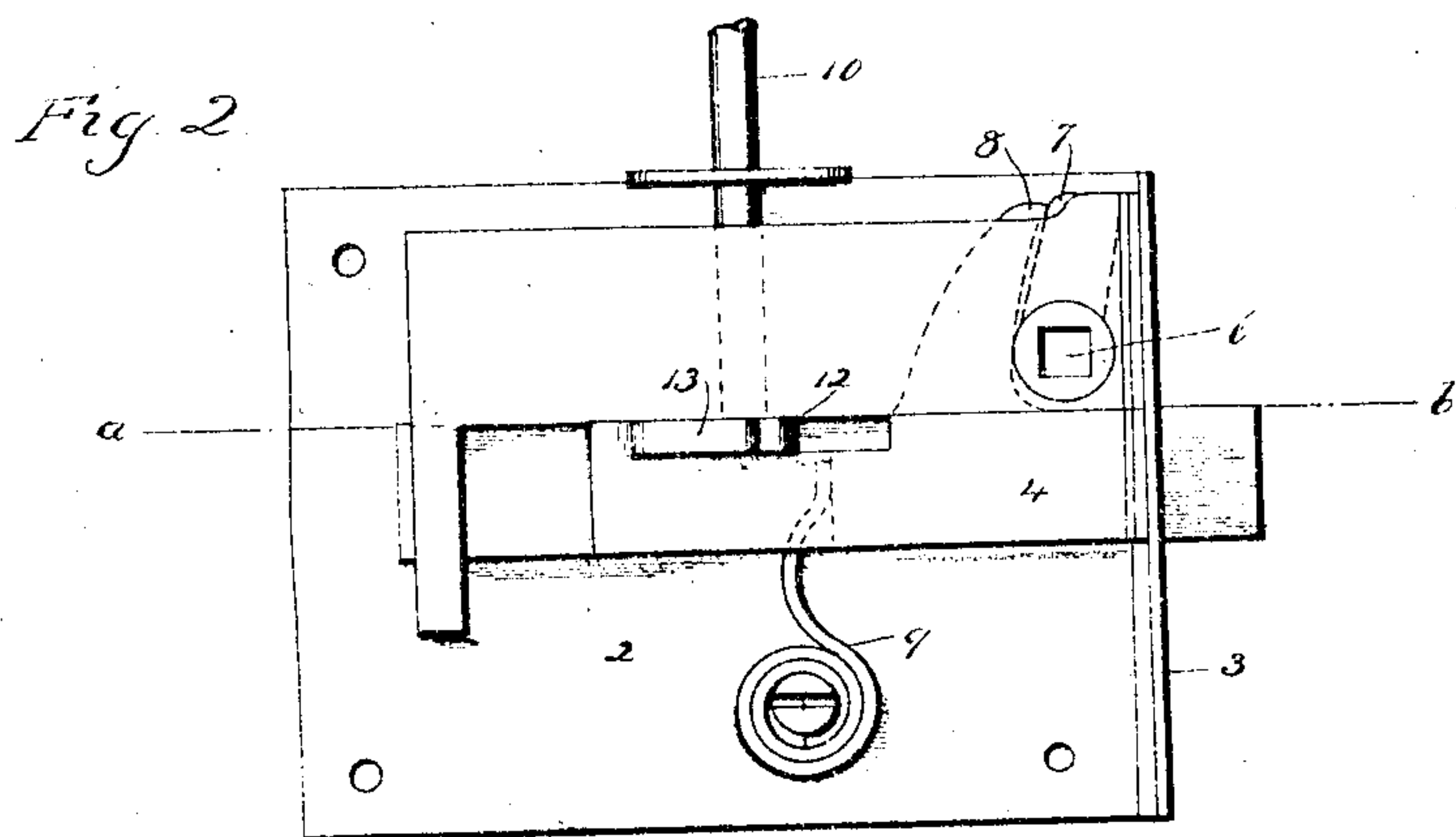
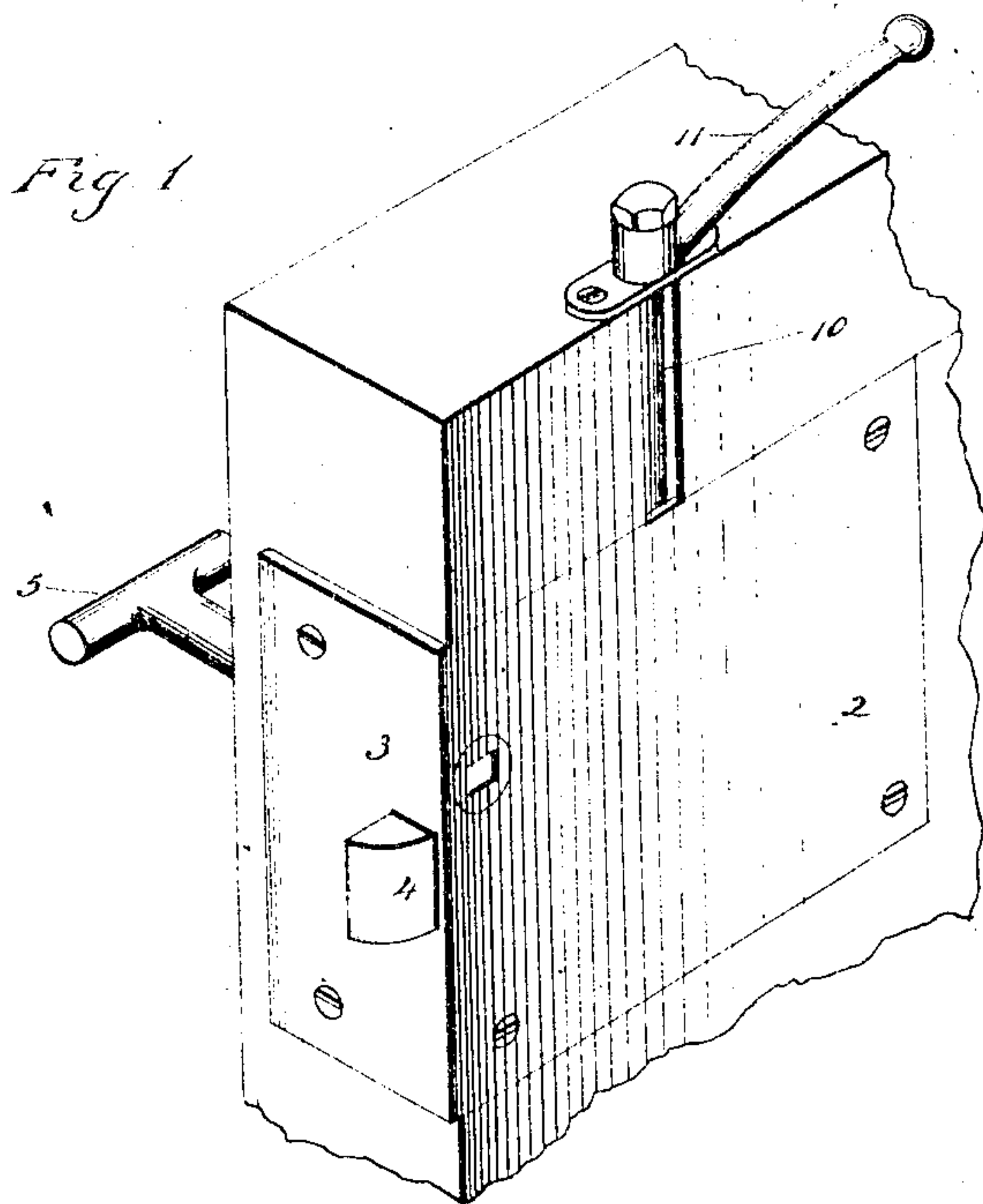


Fig 4.



Witnesses
C. L. Weed
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Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK C. ALTMANN, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE ENGLISH & MERSICK CO., OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION.

LATCH FOR VEHICLE-DOORS.

No. 882,136.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 17, 1908.

Application filed December 16, 1907. Serial No. 406,631.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK C. ALTMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Latches for Vehicle-Doors; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1 a perspective view of a bolt shown as applied to the inside of a vehicle door, the upholstery being omitted. Fig. 2 an inside view of the latch mechanism detached. Fig. 3 a sectional view on the line *a—b* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 a broken sectional view illustrating a modified form of my invention.

This invention relates to an improvement in latches for vehicle doors, and particularly to latches which are provided on the outside of the door with a handle by which the latch may be thrown, and inside the door with a lever which is moved back and forth to move the latch. In latches of this character it is necessary to cut away the door sufficiently to provide for the throw of the lever and form a long slot for the lever in the upper edge of the door frame, and this slot in the upper edge of the door is unsightly.

The object of this invention is to operate the latch by a vertically arranged rotatable shaft; and the invention consists in the construction hereinafter described and particularly recited in the claims.

In carrying out my invention I have shown a latch of substantially usual form comprising a plate 2 and flange 3 through which the latch bolt 4 extends. This latch-bolt is adapted to be thrown from the outside of the door by a handle 5 having a spindle 6 which enters a roll-back 7 mounted in the

case, the roll-back being in contact with a cam 8 on the said latch-bolt 4, and the bolt is normally thrown outward by a spring 9. Instead of moving the latch-bolt by a lever which moves back and forth, I arrange a shaft 10 which extends upward through the top of the door, where it is provided with an operating handle 11. At its lower end this shaft is provided with a cam 12 in the path of a shoulder 13 on the upper edge of the latch bolt and so that by rotating the shaft the latch bolt is drawn into the case. Thus by simply turning the handle 11 the shaft 10 is rotated so as to move the latch.

It will be understood that in use the inside of the door is upholstered so that the latch case is covered as well as the clearance-groove for the shaft. It is evident that instead of employing a cam 12 to operate the latch-bolt, various other means of connection may be employed. Thus as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings I have indicated the shaft as provided at its lower end with a pinion 14 adapted to mesh with the rack 15 formed in one side of the latch-bolt.

I claim:—

1. In a latch for vehicle doors, the combination with a horizontally movable bolt, of a vertically arranged shaft, and connections between the shaft and bolt whereby with the rotation of the shaft the bolt is moved.

2. In a latch for vehicle doors, the combination with the bolt thereof, of a rotatable shaft, a cam on said shaft adapted to engage with said bolt, and an operating handle at the upper end of the shaft, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK C. ALTMANN.

Witnesses:

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