

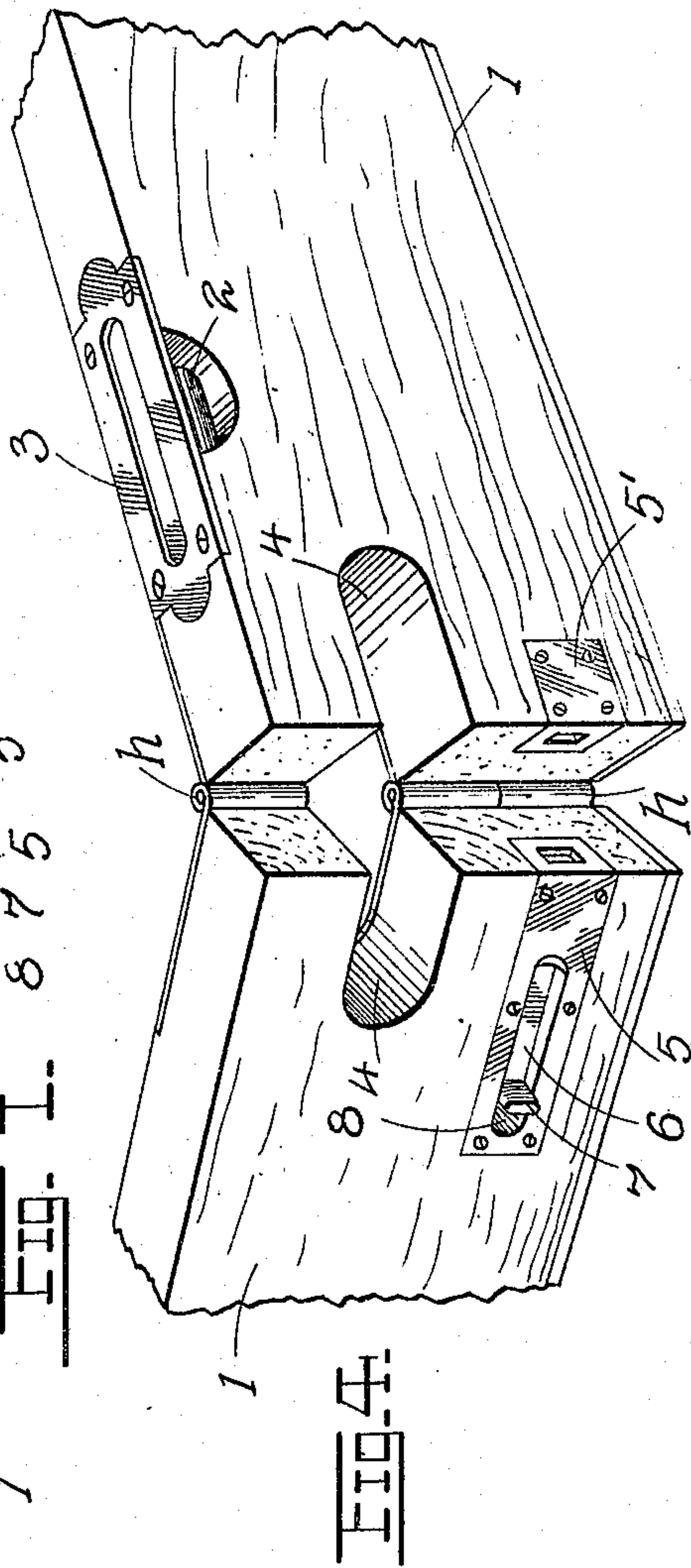
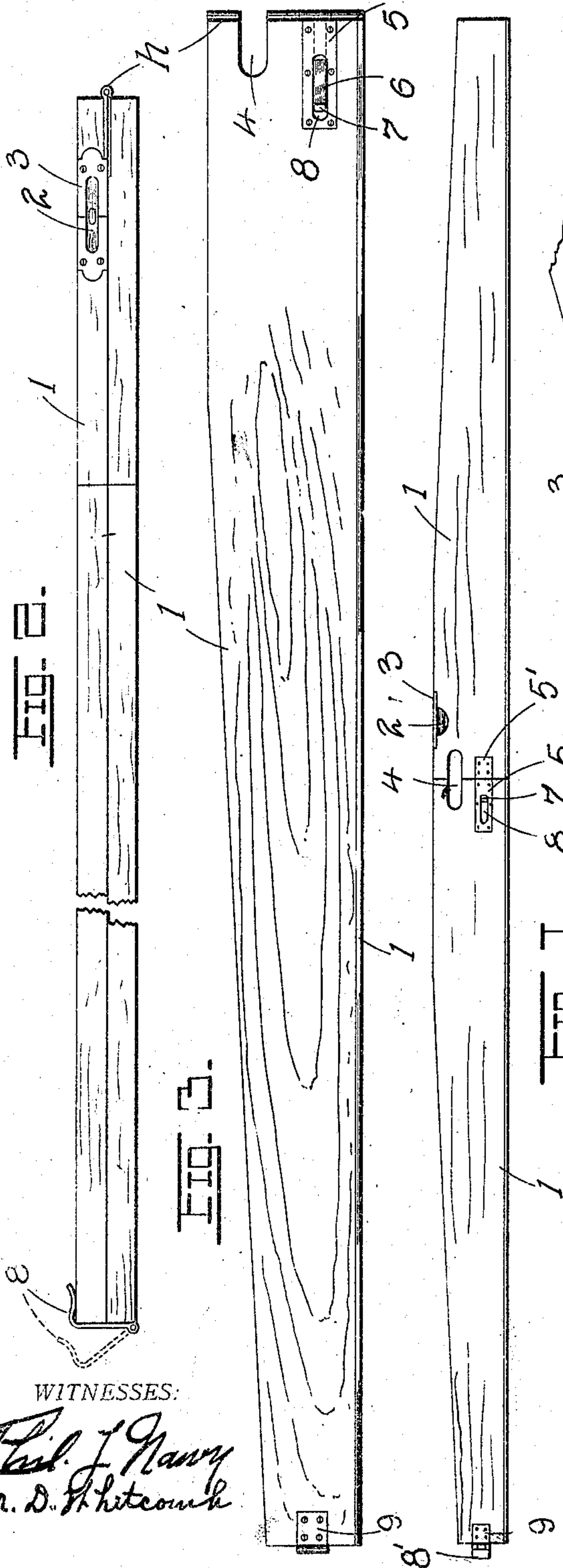
No. 885,658.

PATENTED APR. 21, 1908.

N. ABRAHAMS.

BUILDER'S LEVEL.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 13, 1907.



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NATHAN ABRAHAMS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

BUILDER'S LEVEL.

No. 885,658.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 21, 1908.

Application filed November 13, 1907. Serial No. 401,966.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHAN ABRAHAMS, citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Builders' Levels, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention has relation to improvements in builders' levels; and it consists in the novel construction of level more fully set forth in the specification and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a face elevation of the level when unfolded; Fig. 2 is an edge view thereof when folded; Fig. 3 is a face elevation thereof when folded, on a larger scale; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the level at the hinge-joint, shown partly open.

The object of my invention is to construct a builder's level in two foldable or hinged sections so that the level (usually several feet in length in its open position) may be closed or folded when not in service, thereby minimizing the amount of room taken up by the same while being carried from place to place.

A further object is to provide such a level with special locking means to retain the hinged sections in perfect alinement. The advantages thereof will be better apparent from a detailed description of the invention which is as follows:

Referring to the drawings, 1, 1, represent two sections foldable against each other about the hinge *h*, each section comprising a board of substantially the shape shown in the drawing, a general form well understood in the art. As shown, each board or section tapers outwardly, the hinge-joint being at the wider end of the board. One of the sections is provided with a water or spirit level 2, protected by a slotted plate 3, said level being located adjacent to the hinge-joint. The meeting ends of the hinged sections are provided with depressions 4, 4, which register with the unfolding of the sections, jointly forming a hand-hole whereby the level can

be carried about as desired. This hole is approximately midway between the upper and lower edges of the level as shown. Beneath the hand-hole there is located embedded in one of the sections adjacent to the hinge line, a metal socket 5 within which operates a sliding bolt 6 said bolt terminating in a laterally disposed lug or fingerhold 7 operating through a slot 8 in the exposed side wall of the socket, a suitable complementary socket 5' being embedded in the adjacent section to receive the end of the bolt when the parts are unfolded, and thereby lock the sections rigidly together and hold them in perfect alinement. When the sections are folded, they are held together at their free ends by a spring latch 8' hinged to a plate 9 screwed to the outer face of one of the sections, the free end of the latch closing over the exposed face of the free end of the opposite section (Fig. 2).

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

As an article of manufacture, a builder's level composed of two flat boards tapering toward one end, a hinge coupling the same together at their opposite ends, the hinge joint being disposed parallel to the faces of the boards, a spirit level mounted on one of the boards adjacent the hinge joint, the boards having alining depressions formed on opposite sides of the hinge-joint whereby a hand-hole is formed upon the unfolding of the boards, complementary sockets carried by the boards on opposite sides of the hinge-joint, a bolt mounted in one of the sockets and adapted to partially enter the complementary socket upon an unfolding of the boards whereby the latter are held rigidly in their unfolded position and in alinement, and means for clamping the free ends of the boards when folded, substantially as set forth.

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

NATHAN ABRAHAMS.

Witnesses:

EMIL STAREK,
MARY D. WHITCOMB.