

No. 887,172.

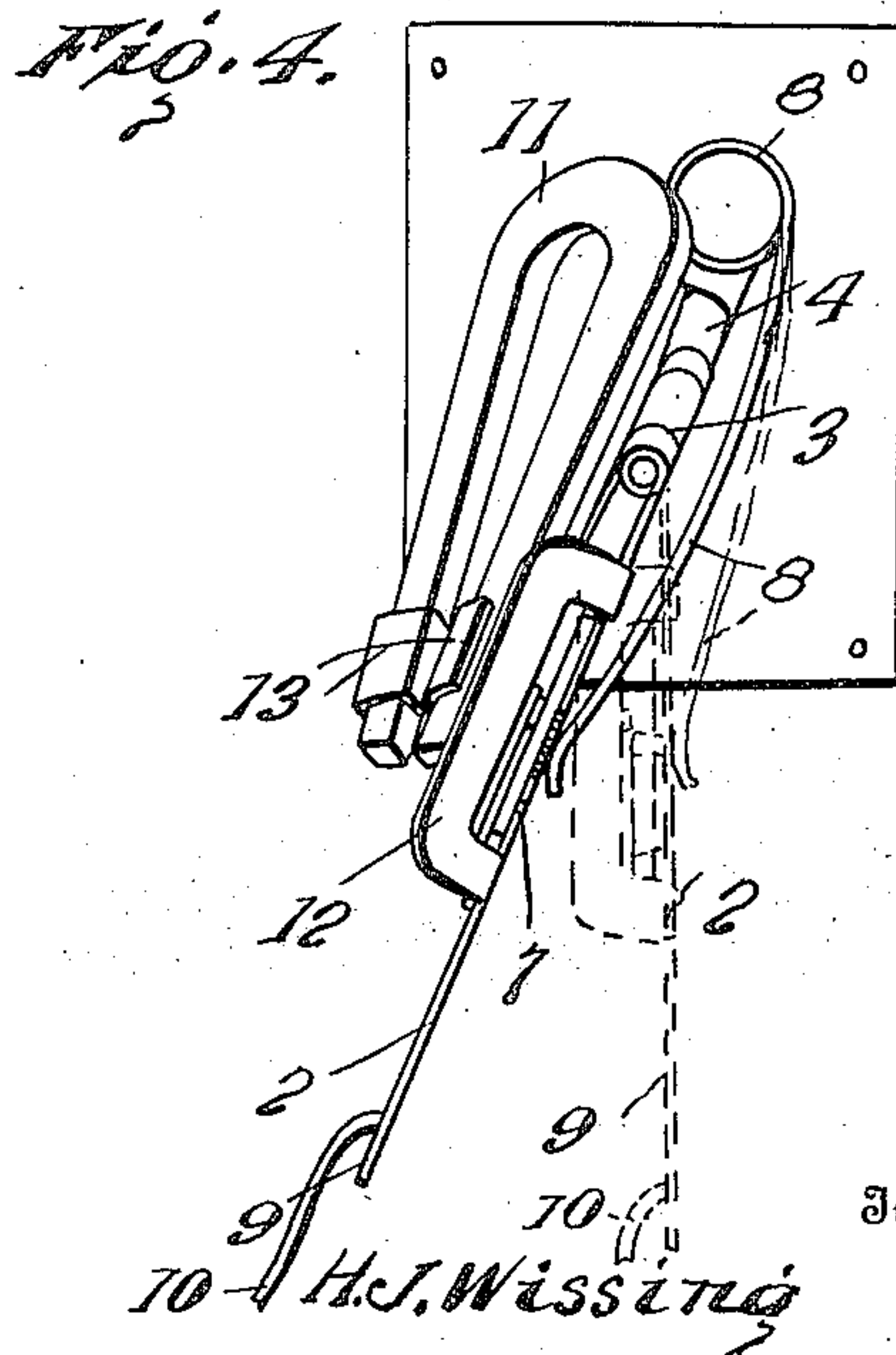
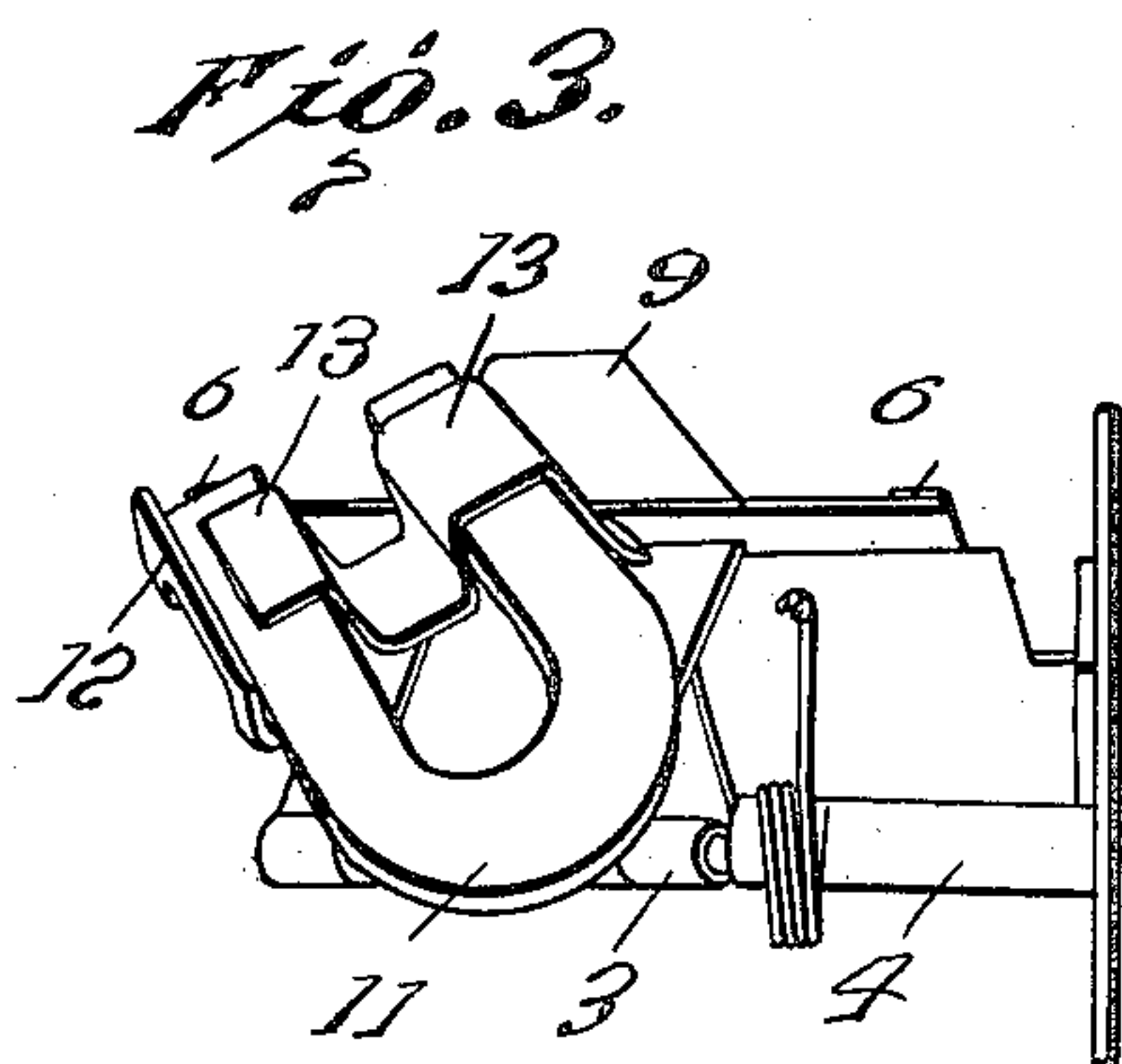
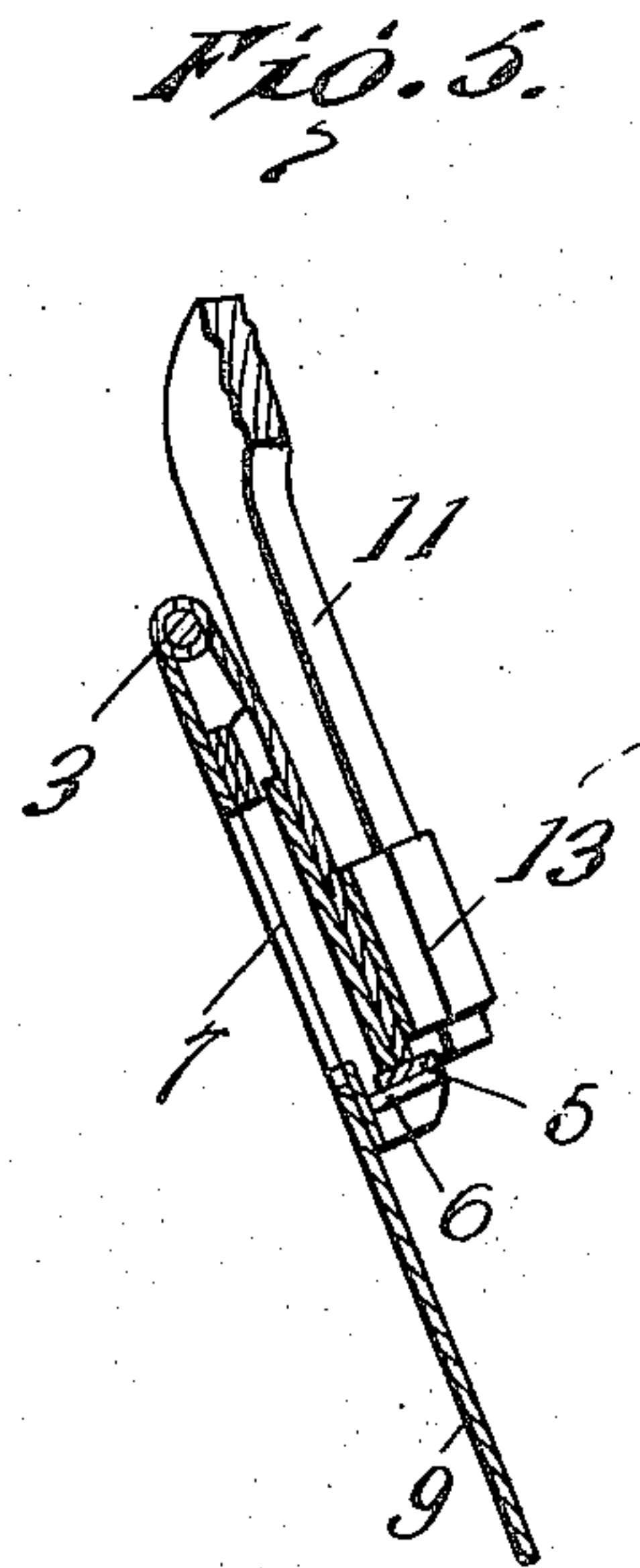
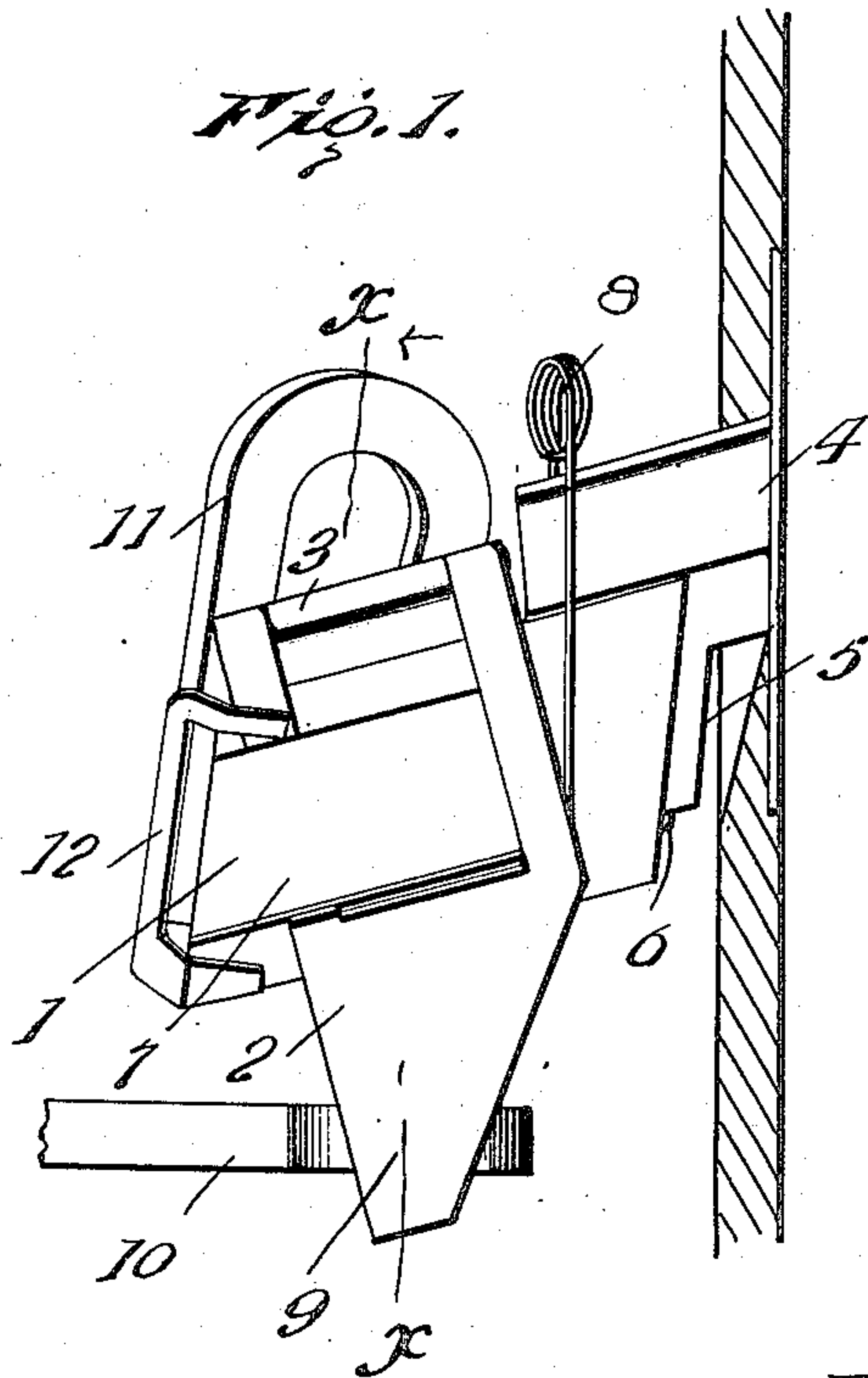
PATENTED MAY 12, 1908.

H. J. WISSING.

FRAUD PREVENTIVE DEVICE FOR VENDING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

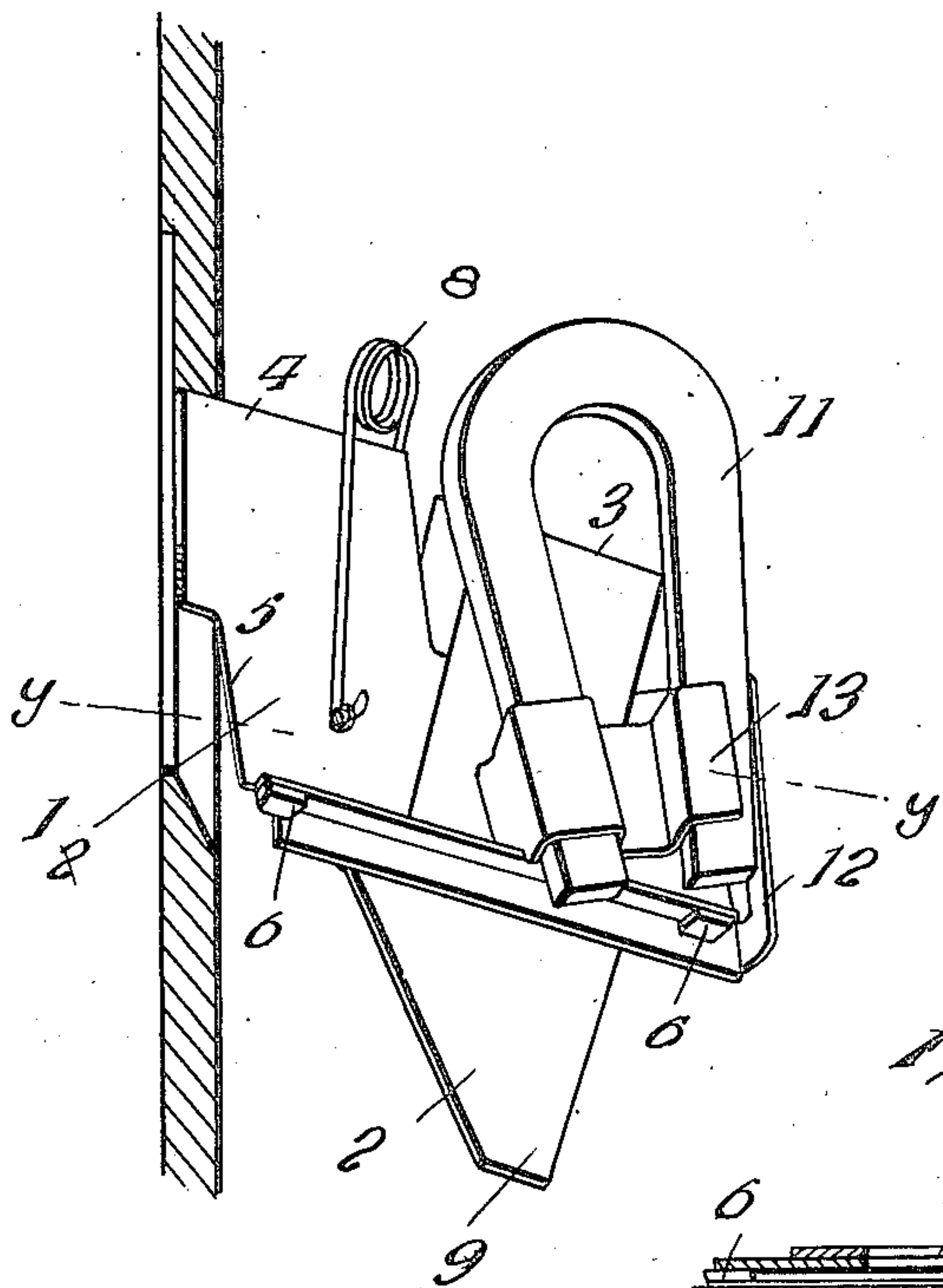


Fig. 3.

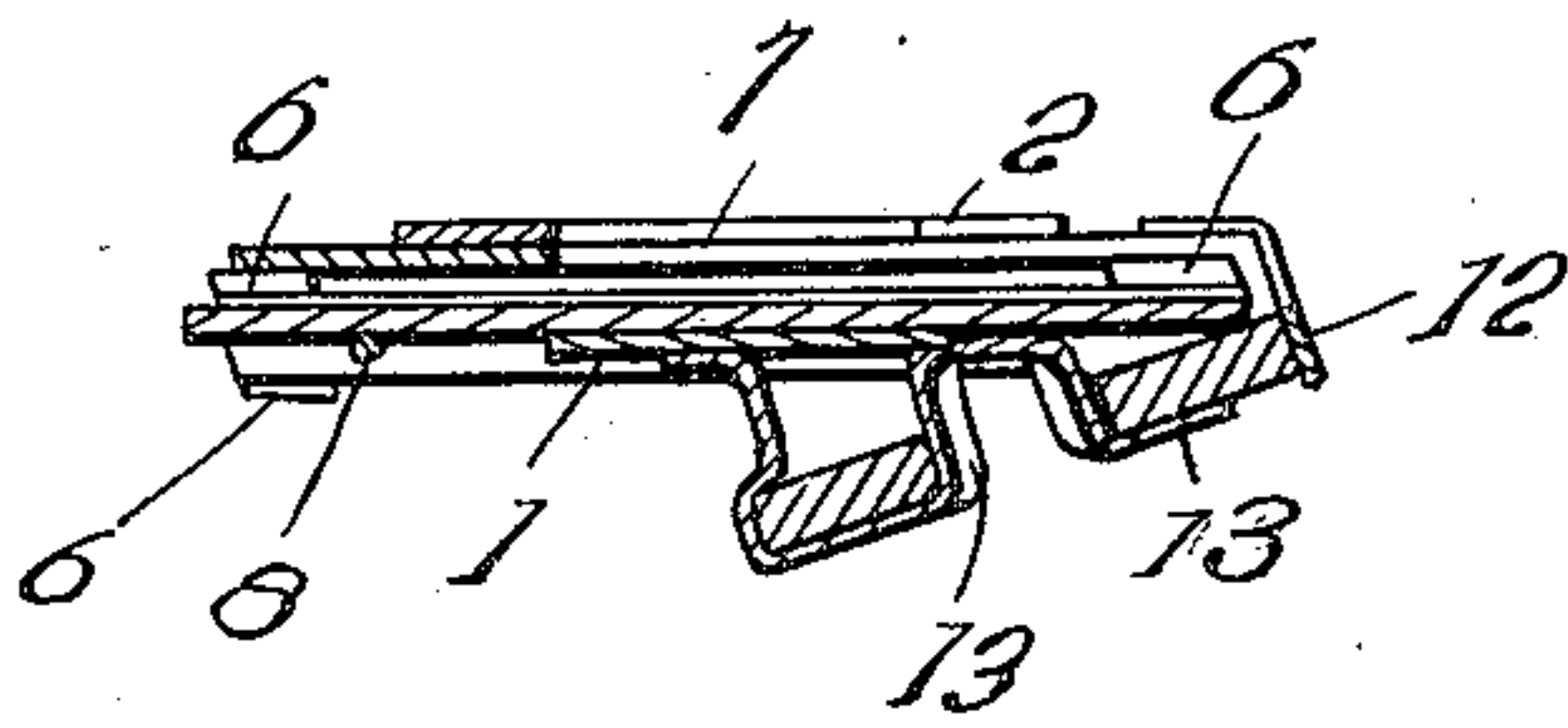


Fig. 6.

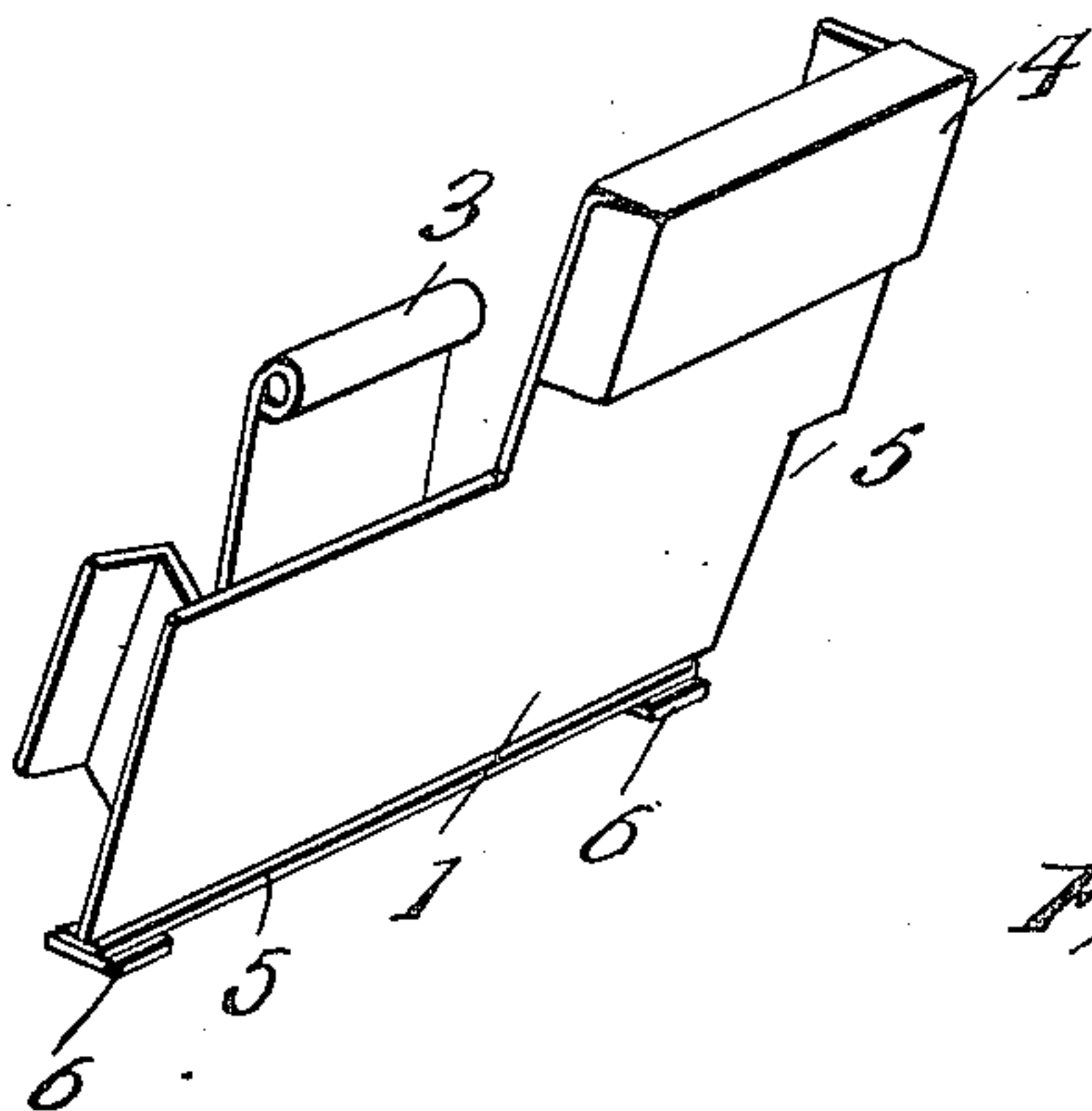
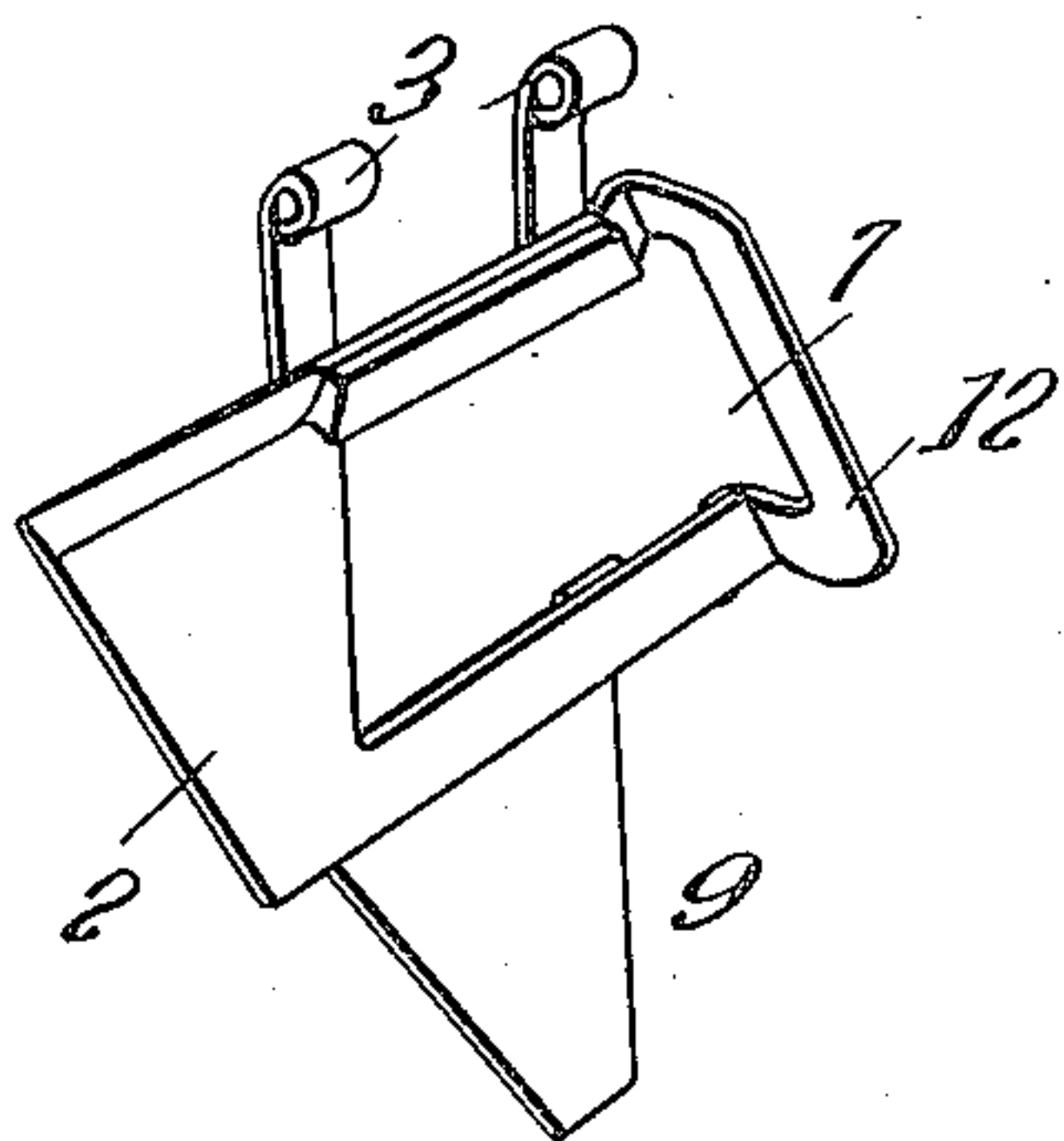


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FRAUD-PREVENTIVE DEVICE FOR VENDING-MACHINES.

No. 887,172.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 12, 1908.

Application filed January 17, 1906. Serial No. 296,535.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY J. WISSING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jeffersonville, in the county of Clark and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fraud-Preventive Devices for Vending-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

Coin actuated vending and exhibiting mechanisms are defrauded by unscrupulous persons and unthinking and mischievously inclined parties, hence it has become necessary to equip such mechanisms with means to check this practice. It has been found that the means, as generally devised for this purpose, while materially checking the loss attributable to beating the machines, is open to the grave objection of becoming choked, thereby throwing the machine out of commission and preventing its operation until the duly authorized person removed the obstructing article, thereby entailing loss due to the enforced period of inactivity of the machine.

This invention provides a coin way or race of peculiar formation which will safe guard the machine and at the same time prevent the usual choking when slugs, dummies and like articles are introduced for playing the machine, said coin way having a movable side which is actuated by the push bar or like part pressed upon to effect vendition after introduction of the coin, or to bring to view the scene to be observed, or to operate the mechanism according to the nature or special purpose of the machine.

For a full description of the invention and the merits thereof and also to acquire a knowledge of the details of construction of the means for effecting the result, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a side view of a coin way embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of the opposite side of the coin way. Fig. 3 is a top view. Fig. 4 is a view of the coin way as seen from its inner end, the dotted lines showing an adjusted position of the movable wall or side thereof. Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse section on the line $x-x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of the fixed wall. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of the movable wall. Fig. 8 is a longitudinal section on the line $y-y$ of Fig. 2.

Corresponding and like parts are referred

to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

The coin way or race is preferably longitudinally and laterally inclined and comprises a fixed wall 1 and a movable wall 2, the latter being preferably hinged at its upper edge to the fixed wall, as shown at 3. The longitudinal inclination of the coin way enables the coins to automatically gravitate to proper position after being introduced into the machine through the usual coin slot, and the lateral inclination insures the discharge of slugs or dummies of a diameter less than that of the prescribed coin.

To prevent tampering with the interior mechanism by introducing a wire or like instrument through the coin way, a hood 4 is located opposite to the coin slot upon the inner side of the machine and in advance of and above the coin way. As a result of this arrangement of the hood, the coin first enters the same after being introduced into the machine and then drops by gravity into the coin way, and in the event of a slug or dummy being introduced into the machine of less diameter than the coin particularly if it be a pointed dummy such as a tin tag, it is retained at the receiving end of the coin way by entering an opening formed in the bottom portion thereof by cutting away the front end portion of the supporting ledge 5 at the lower edge of the fixed wall 1. The hood 4 is preferably attached to the upper forward end of the fixed wall 1 and is open at its lower end and in communication with the coin way so as not to offer any obstruction to the free passage of a coin, slug or the like deposited in the machine.

The fixed wall 1 is provided at its lower edge with lugs 6 which form stops to limit the closing of the movable wall or side 2, said lugs projecting a short distance beyond the outer edge of the supporting ledge 5, thereby leaving a space between the outer edge of the part 5 and the opposing side of the wall 2 through which a thin slug or dummy may drop. The ledge 5 is extremely narrow and is adapted to support a coin of normal thickness, but which will fail to support an article appreciably thinner than the prescribed coin. The lateral inclination of the coin way causes a coin or article to gravitate towards the movable wall, hence such article of a thickness less than the space formed between

the ledge 5 and the movable wall will readily escape. The movable wall 2 is cut away to form a space 7 which is of a height slightly less than the diameter of the prescribed coin, thereby making provision for the escape of slugs or dummies having a diameter less than that of the predetermined coin although of a like thickness. The movable wall is pressed towards the fixed wall by means of a spring which may be conveniently located according to the style of the machine and the special arrangement of the parts. As illustrated, the spring 8 is approximately of U form, its members embracing opposite sides of the walls 1 and 2 and normally exerting a pressure upon the movable wall sufficient to hold it in proper position. The movable wall projects below the fixed wall a distance to provide an extension 9 to be engaged by an arm 10 attached to or forming a part of the plunger or like appliance of the coin actuated mechanism adapted to be pressed upon to effect vendition or operation of the mechanism after the coin has been introduced into the machine. This construction provides for actuation of the movable wall 2 after the introduction of a coin or analogous article and in the event of a slug or dummy being introduced into the machine and the same hanging or being caught in the coin way, it is released and said coin way relieved of the article which otherwise would tend to obstruct and choke the machine and place the same out of commission, thereby entailing loss represented by the period of inactivity resulting from disabling of the machine by obstructing the coin way.

A permanent magnet 11 is located upon one side of the coin way and is preferably attached to the fixed wall and its purpose is to arrest slugs or analogous articles of iron or magnetizable material, even though the same be of a size corresponding to that of the coin elected for operation of the machine. This magnet 11 is so arranged as to attract the dummy and prevent its reaching a position to effect operation of the machine. Under ordinary conditions, a dummy, held by the attracted force of the magnet, would obstruct the passage of a coin through the race in operative position and to guard against this contingency, a stripper 12 is employed and attached to the movable wall so as to operate therewith. This stripper is so located as to come opposite to the attracted dummy and engage therewith when the wall 2 is moved so as to effect detachment of the dummy from the magnet. The stripper 12 consists of a bar which connects the rear ends of the parts bordering upon the opening 7 and normally occupies a position to one side of the coin-way opposite to the movable wall. One of the functions of this stripper is manifestly to strip the coins that are attracted by the magnet 11 but this is not the only

function of the bar 12, for it will be seen that even without the magnet the bar 12 will perform a useful purpose in that it will swing across the coin-way upon actuation of the movable wall and positively eject in a side-wise direction any coin which may clog up the coin-way at the rear or lower end of the latter. The magnet 11 is set angling so as to concentrate the magnetic force along a given line or point which is arranged in proximal relation to the stripper, thereby insuring the dummy or slug reaching a position so as to be engaged by the stripper when the movable wall 2 is actuated.

A coin way or race embodying the invention may be adapted to different styles and types of machines of the coin actuated variety, it being understood that minor changes may be resorted to in such adaptation without departing from the nature of the invention. The permanent magnet may be held in place by any means, and as illustrated a strip is attached to the fixed wall and bent to provide keepers 13 into which the legs of the magnet are slipped.

A coin of prescribed denominate value after being deposited in the machine passes through the coin way or race to a point to insure operation of the coin actuated mechanism upon applying force to the operating rod or kindred part provided either to be pressed or pulled upon to complete the operation. A slug or dummy of less diameter than the coin, after entering the hood 4 and dropping vertically into the receiving end of the coin way, will lodge in the opening formed by the cut away portion of the ledge 5 and hang therein and upon operating the usual plunger, the movable wall 2 will be pressed away from the fixed wall by means of the arm 10 engaging with the extension 9, thereby effecting a release of said dummy. A thin slug or dummy will drop through the space provided between the ledge 5 and the opposing side of the movable wall. Other types of slugs or kindred articles introduced into the machine will be disposed of in the manner set forth, thereby preventing obstruction of the coin way.

An essential feature of the invention resides in the movable feature of the wall 2 and its adaptability for actuation at each operation of the plunger, pull rod or like part, so as to clear the coin way of any article that may tend to hang therein and obstruct the passage of coins of predetermined value when introduced into the machine for operation thereof.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A coin-way for vending machines, comprising a fixed wall inclined both longitudinally and transversely and having its receiving portion extended upwardly and provided with a hood closed at top, rear and side, and

open at its front and bottom, a movable wall arranged beneath the said hood, and hinged at its upper edge to the fixed wall and adapted to swing outwardly from under the said hood, the fixed wall having a supporting ledge at its lower edge with an intermediate portion spaced from the movable wall to provide an escape for articles of less thickness than the proper coin, said fixed wall being provided between said ledge and the entrance end of the hood with a bottom cut away portion underneath the hood, whereby pointed dummies or those of less diameter than the required coin will be caught by the ledge bordering upon said cut away portion and retained in said cut away portion and be prevented from rolling along the ledge.

2. In combination, a coin way for vending machines, the same comprising fixed and movable walls, the fixed wall having a hood at its upper end and a supporting ledge and spacing lugs at its lower end, the movable wall being

arranged beneath the hood of the fixed wall and adapted to swing outward from under the said hood, and having an opening in its side for the escape of articles of less diameter than the prescribed operating coin, and the end of the movable wall bordering upon said opening being bent laterally or offset to form a bar and normally occupying a position to one side of the coin way opposite to the movable wall to swing across the coin way upon actuation of the said movable wall, an extension projected from the said movable wall and an operating arm designed to engage said extension when actuating the vending mechanism.

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

HENRY J. WISSING. [L. S.]

Witnesses.

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CLAUDE A. GUNDER.