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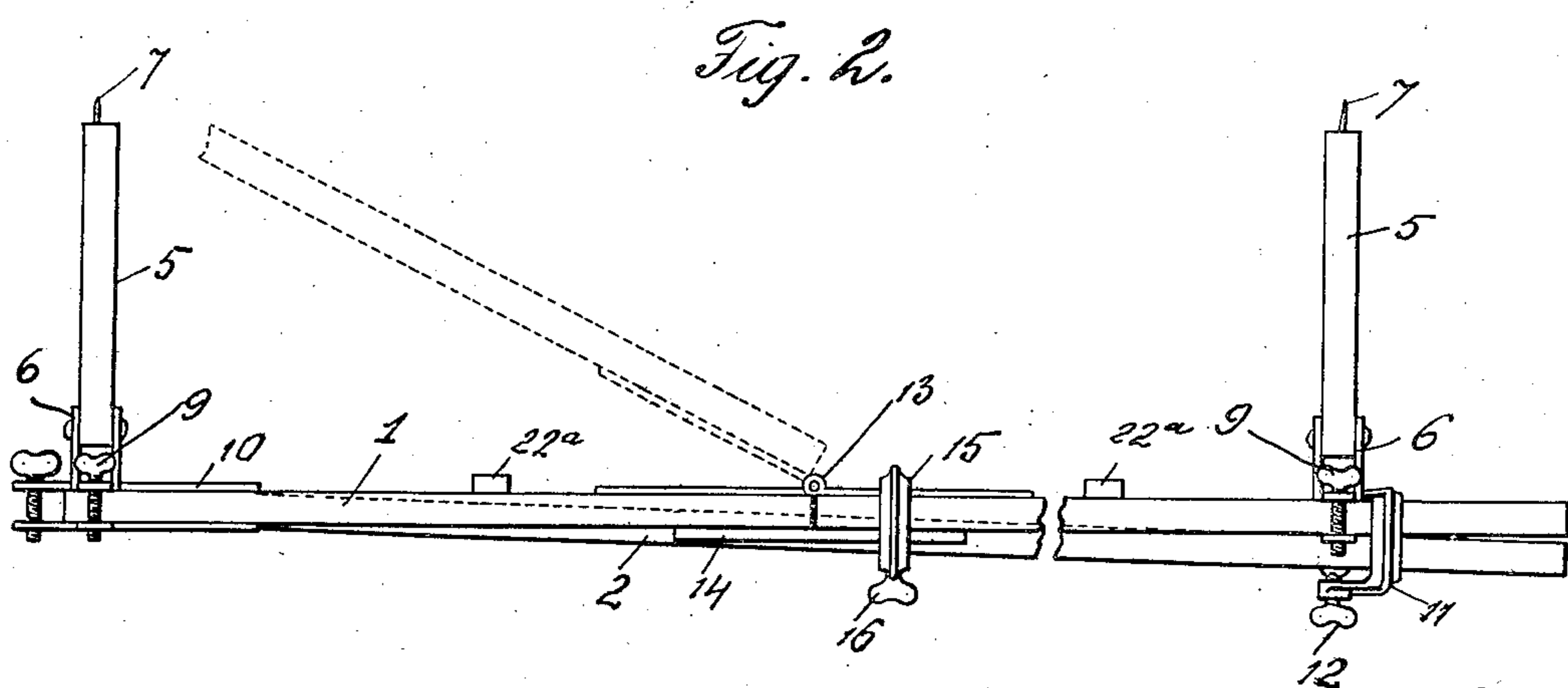
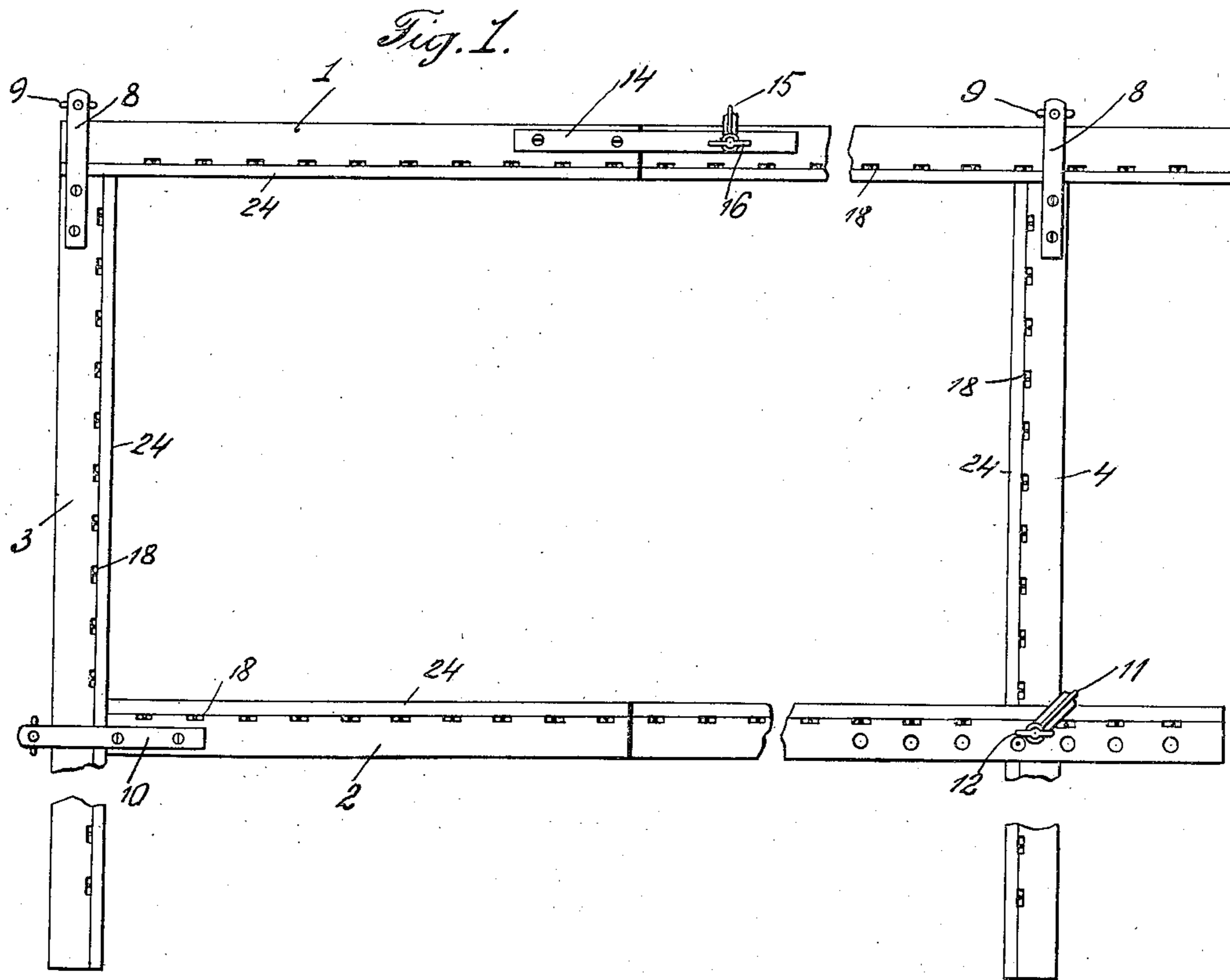
PATENTED JUNE 16, 1908.

J. STAWARTZ & D. ANDERSON.

CURTAIN STRETCHER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 26, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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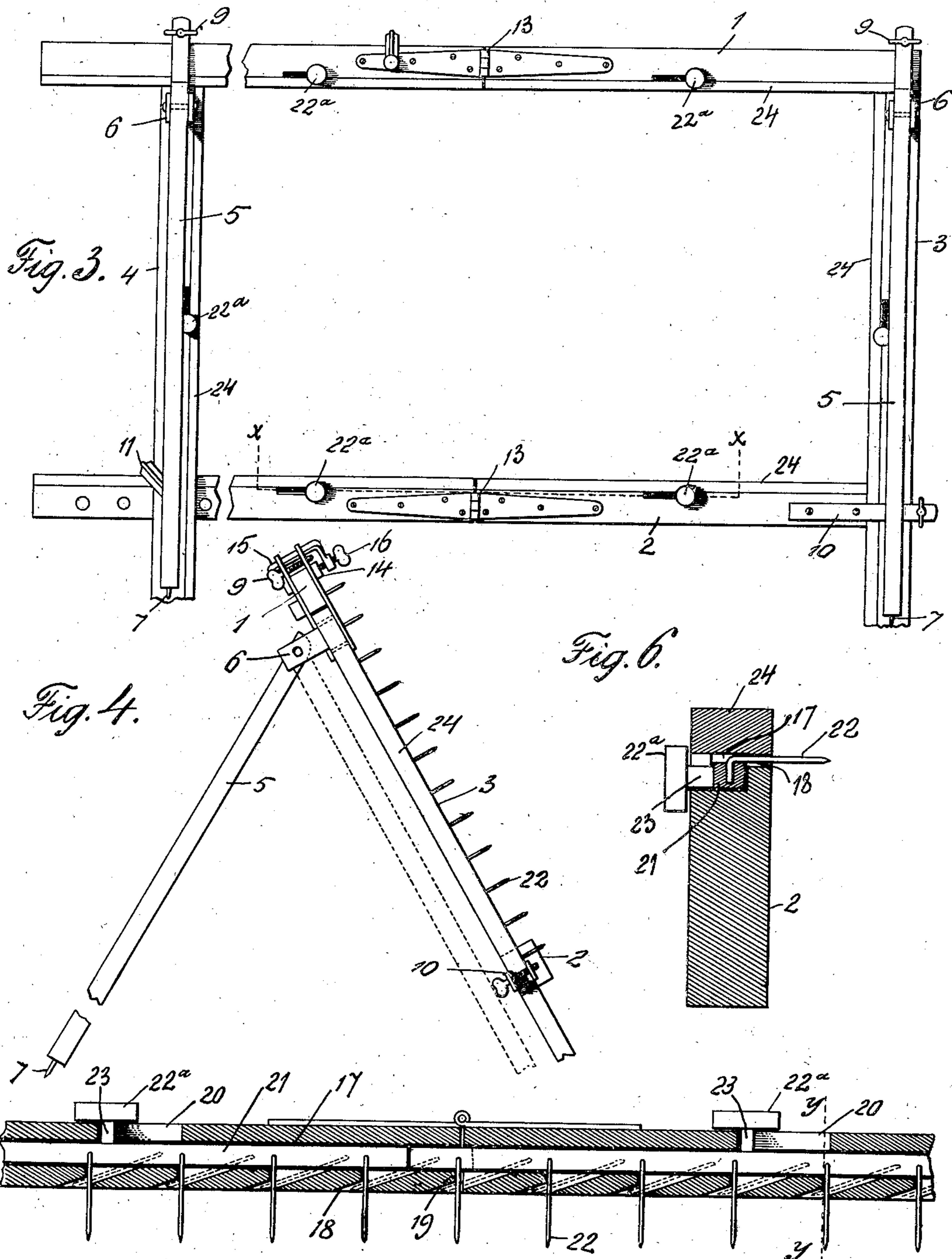
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Fig. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN STAWARTZ, OF HOMESTEAD, AND DAVID ANDERSON, OF PITTSBURG,  
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## CURTAIN-STRETCHER.

No. 891,194.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 16, 1908.

Application filed October 26, 1907. Serial No. 899,276.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN STAWARTZ, residing at Homestead, and DAVID ANDERSON, residing at Pittsburg, county of Allegheny, Pennsylvania, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curtain-Stretchers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to a curtain stretcher, and the object of the invention is to provide a novel frame upon which curtains can be stretched either for drying or bleaching the same.

Another object of this invention is to provide a frame wherein positive and reliable means are provided for stretching a curtain without tearing or injuring the same.

A further object of this invention is to provide an adjustable and collapsible frame, that can be folded into a small parcel, when the same is not being used.

An important characteristic of this invention is the stretching means comprising slidable bars provided with pivoted projecting pins, these pins being drawn into the frame when not in use, and when in use are projected at an angle from the frame to stretch a curtain thereon.

The detail construction entering into our invention will be presently described and then specifically pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a front elevation of the curtain stretcher, Fig. 2 is a plan of the same, Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the curtain stretcher, Fig. 4 an end view of the same, Fig. 5 a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line  $x-x$  of Fig. 3, and Fig. 6 is a cross sectional view taken on the line  $y-y$  of Fig. 5.

To put our invention into practice, we construct the curtain stretcher of a rectangular frame comprising a top rail 1, a bottom rail 2, side rails 3 and 4, and pivoted supports 5, these supports being pivotally connected to the side rails 3 and 4 by straps 5. The free ends of the supports 5 are provided with prongs 7, to prevent said supports from slipping, when supporting the frame of a curtain stretcher at an inclination.

The side rails 3 and 4 are detachably connected to the top rail 1 by straps 8, carried by the upper ends of said side rails, these straps

embracing the top rail 1 and having their upper ends connected together by winged thumb screws 9.

One end of the bottom rail 2 is provided with straps 10, whereby said bottom rail can be connected to the side rail 3, similar to the connections of the side rails with the top rail. The opposite end of the bottom rail 2 lies in front of the side rail 4 and is detachably connected thereto by a yoke clamp 11 and a screw 12.

The top and bottom rails 1 and 2 are made in two parts, the parts of said rails being hinged together, as at 13, whereby when the frame is knocked down, the top and bottom rails which are of a considerable length can be folded. When said rails are being used, the parts of the rails are maintained in alignment with one another by a cleat 14, a yoke clamp 15 and a screw 16, said cleat being fixed to one of the parts of the top rail 1.

Reference will now be had to the mechanism employed for stretching a curtain upon the frame.

The inner edges of the top, bottom and side rails are provided with longitudinally disposed grooves 17, equally spaced angular grooves 18 having shoulders 19 formed at right angles to the grooves 17. The inner edges of the rails are also cut away, as at 20, the object of which will presently appear. In the grooves 17 of the rails are mounted slide bars 21, these slide bars carrying pivot pins 22, which protrude into the angular grooves 18 of said rails. The slide bars 21 are provided with buttons 22<sup>a</sup>, the shanks 23 of which extend through the cut away portions 20 of said rails.

After the slide bars, pins and buttons are assembled, the grooves and cutaway portions of the rails are covered by strips 24, these strips retaining the slide bars in position.

It will of course be understood that in connection with the top and bottom rails 1 and 2, that the slide bars are made in two parts, each part being provided with a button.

By referring to Fig. 5 of the drawings, it will be observed that the pins 22 are normally withdrawn into the side rails and when in this position lie at an angle to the slide bars 21. When the slide bars are shifted through the medium of the buttons 22<sup>a</sup>, these pins are moved outwardly, gradually assuming a position at right angles to said slide bars.

This movement of the pins tends to stretch a curtain upon the frame, without injuring the same, the pins moving in unison.

The slide bars are arranged in the top and bottom rails 1 and 2, whereby when the slide bar in one part of the rail is moved, it will contact with the end of the slide bar in the adjoining part of the rail, consequently with one movement of the button, the pins in the whole rail can be moved outwardly. It is, however, necessary to manipulate both buttons on a rail in order to return the pins to their normal position, and it is essential that the pins be withdrawn into the top and bottom rails, before said rails can be folded. This is due to the fact that the slide bar of one part of the rail, protrudes into the adjoining part of the rail, when the pins are projecting from the rail.

It is thought that our invention will be fully understood from the above description taken in connection with the drawings, and it is obvious that such variations in the invention as are permissible by the appended claims can be resorted to without departing from the scope of the invention.

Having now described our invention what we claim as new, is:—

1. A curtain stretcher embodying a frame consisting of rails detachably connected together, supports pivotally connected to some of said rails, the other of said rails comprising two hinged parts, a clamp for retaining said parts in alinement with one another, said rails having grooves formed therein, slide bars mounted in said grooves, pivoted pins carried by said slide bars and adapted to project from said rails, buttons for moving said slide bars, and strips covering said grooves and slide bars.

2. A curtain stretcher comprising rails

detachably connected together to provide a rectangular frame, pivoted supports carried by some of said rails for supporting said frame, said rails having grooves formed therein, slide bars mounted in said grooves, pivoted pins carried by said bars and lying at an angle to said grooves, and means for moving said slide bars to project said pins at right angles thereto.

3. A curtain stretcher consisting of a frame constructed of rails detachably connected together, two of said rails being foldable, slide bars movably mounted in said rails, pivoted pins carried by said slide bars and adapted to project therefrom, means for moving said slide bars, and means for supporting said frame at an inclination.

4. A curtain stretcher comprising a frame, of rails detachable one from the other, slide bars mounted in said rails, pivoted pins carried by said slide bars, and normally lying at an angle thereto, means for moving said slide bars to project said pins from said rails, and means for supporting said frame.

5. A curtain stretcher comprising rails, slide bars mounted in said rails, pins carried by said bars and housed by said rails, and means for moving said slide bars and projecting said pins from said rails.

6. In a stretching device, a rail, a slide bar mounted therein, pins carried by said slide bar and housed by said rail, and means for moving said slide bar and projecting said pins therefrom.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN STAWARTZ.  
DAVID ANDERSON.

Witnesses:

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