

No. 894,491.

PATENTED JULY 28, 1908.

J. C. FREES.  
PITCHFORK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 9, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

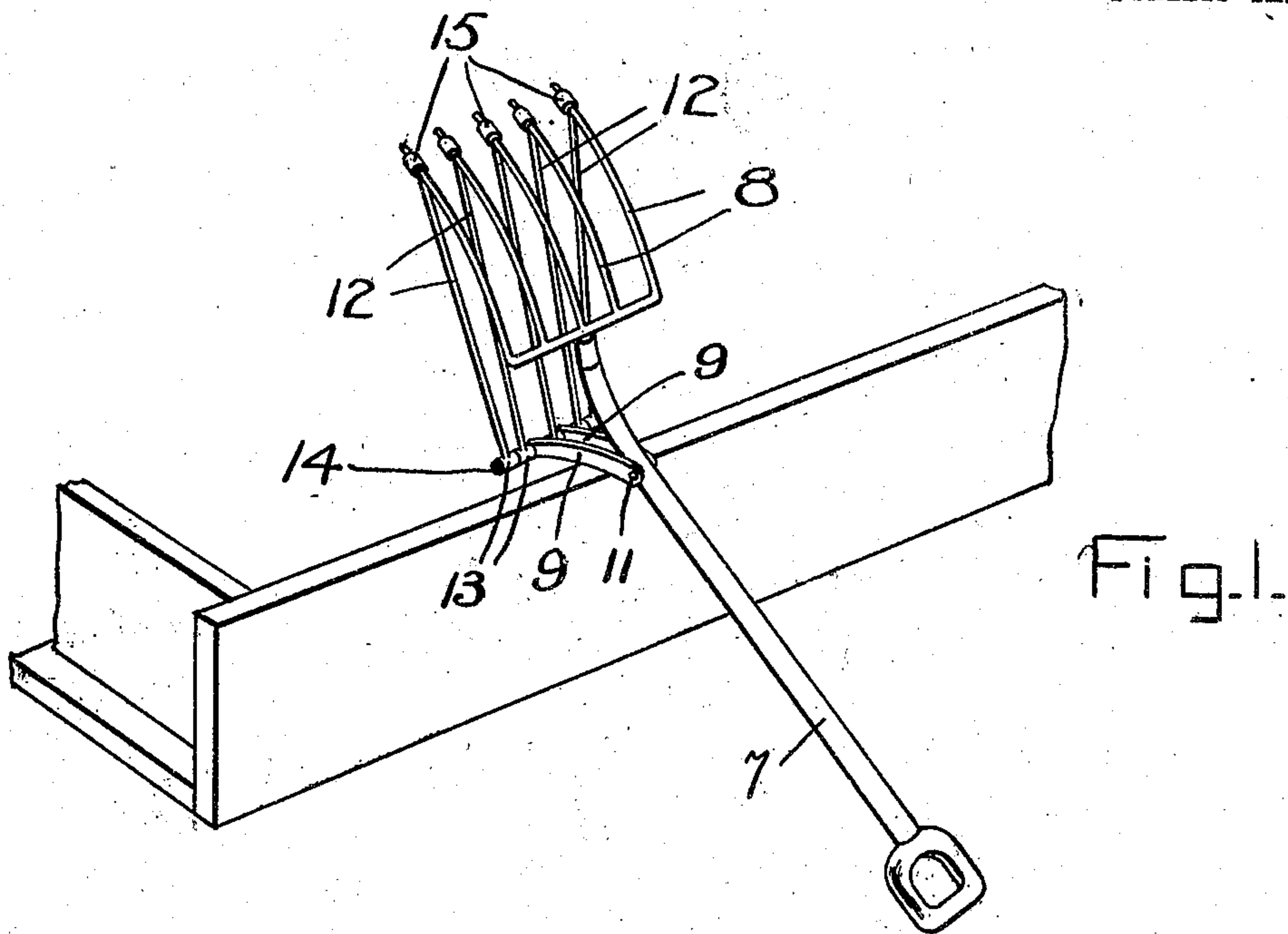


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

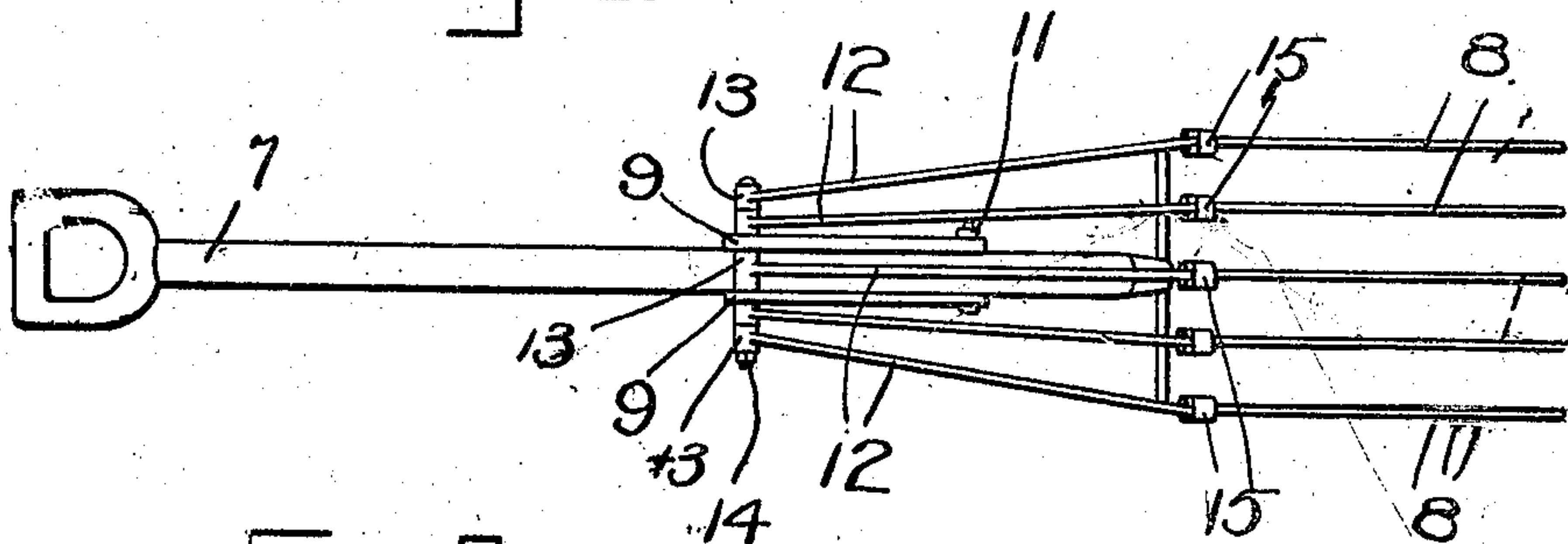
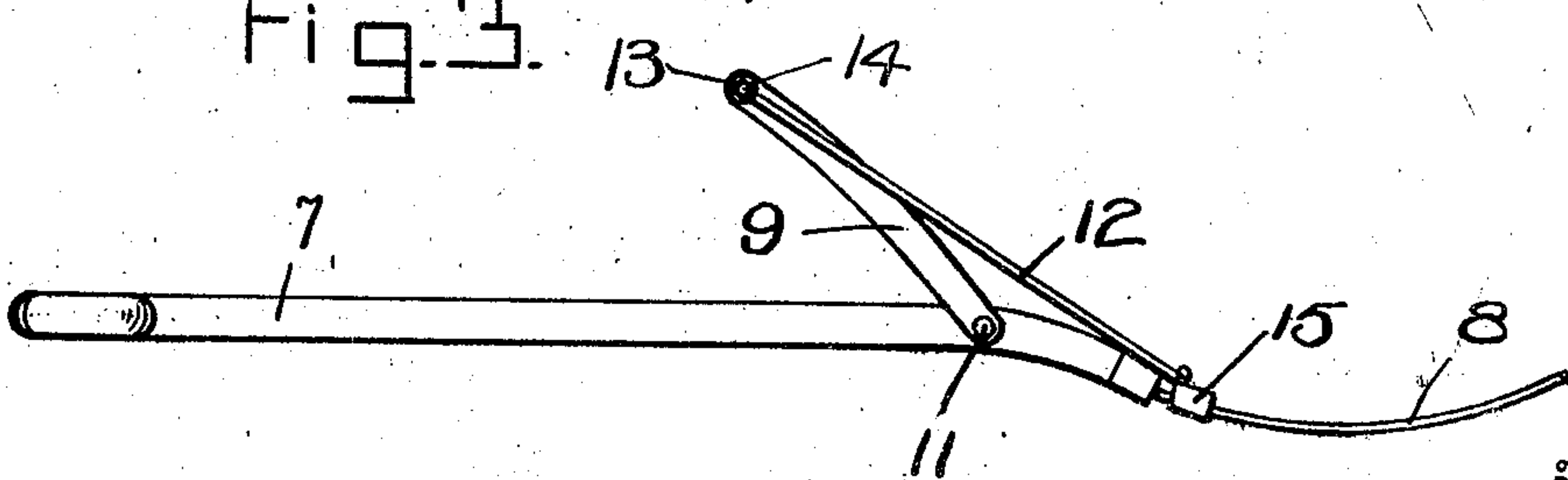


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

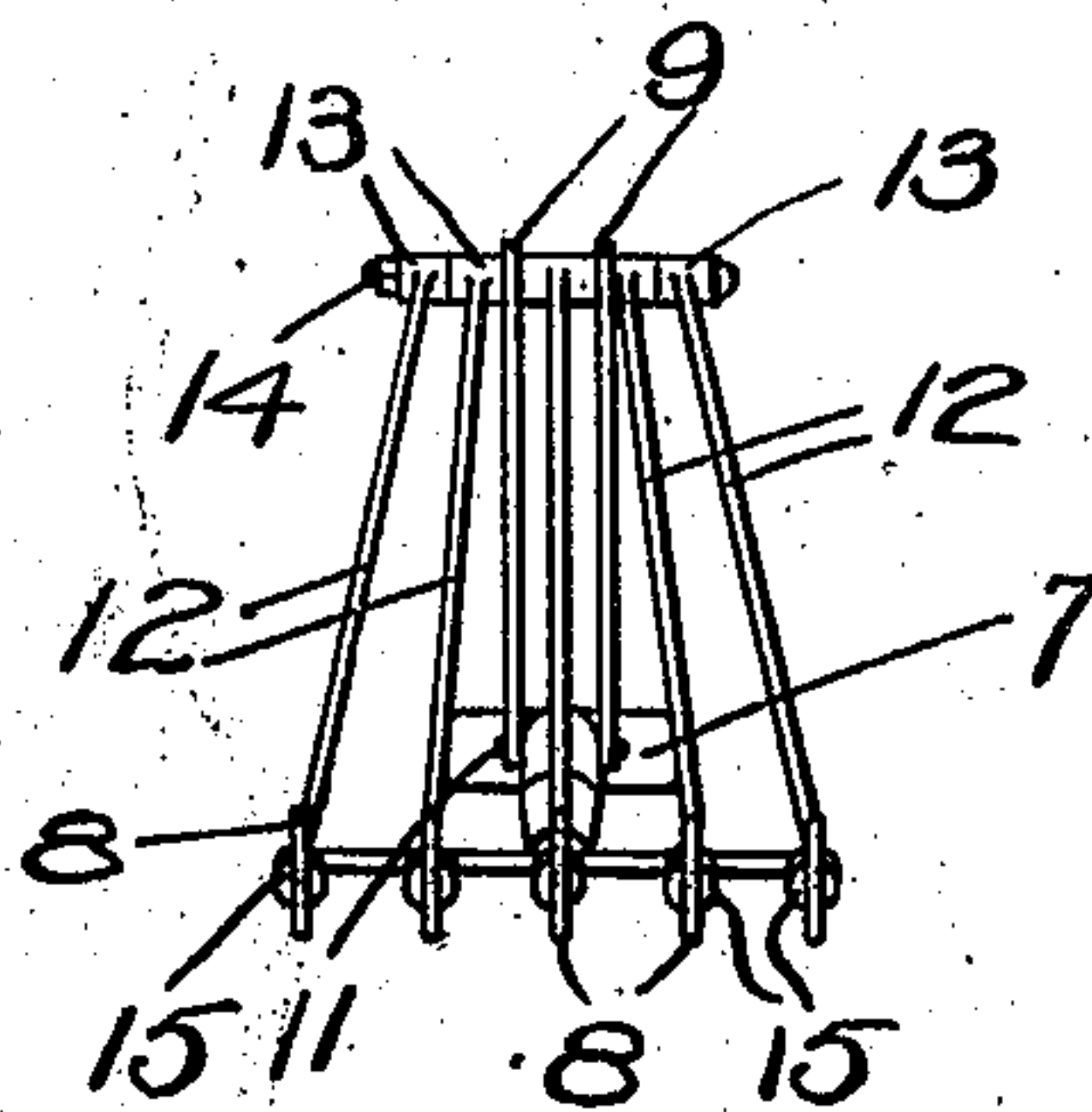


Fig. 5.

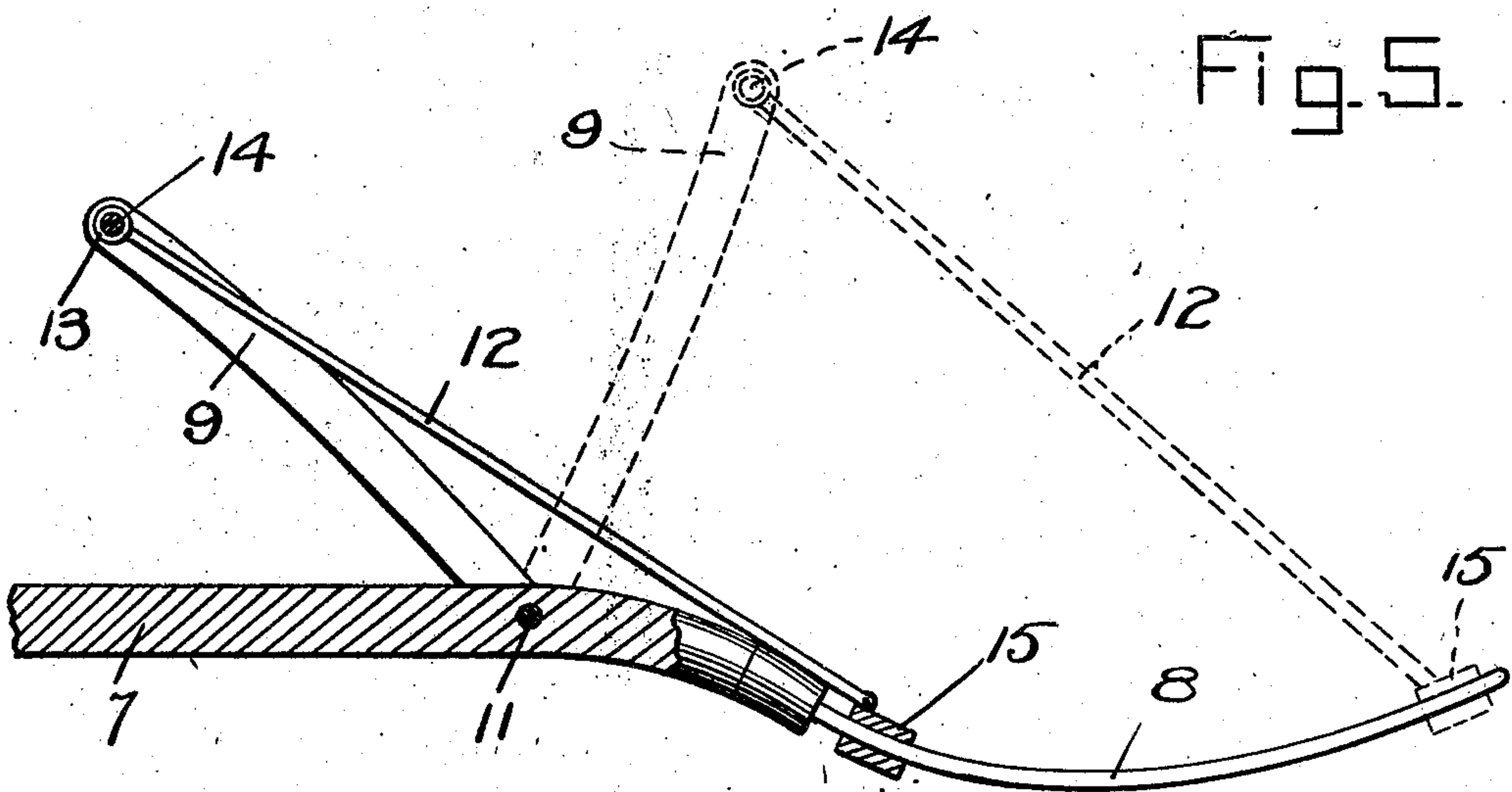
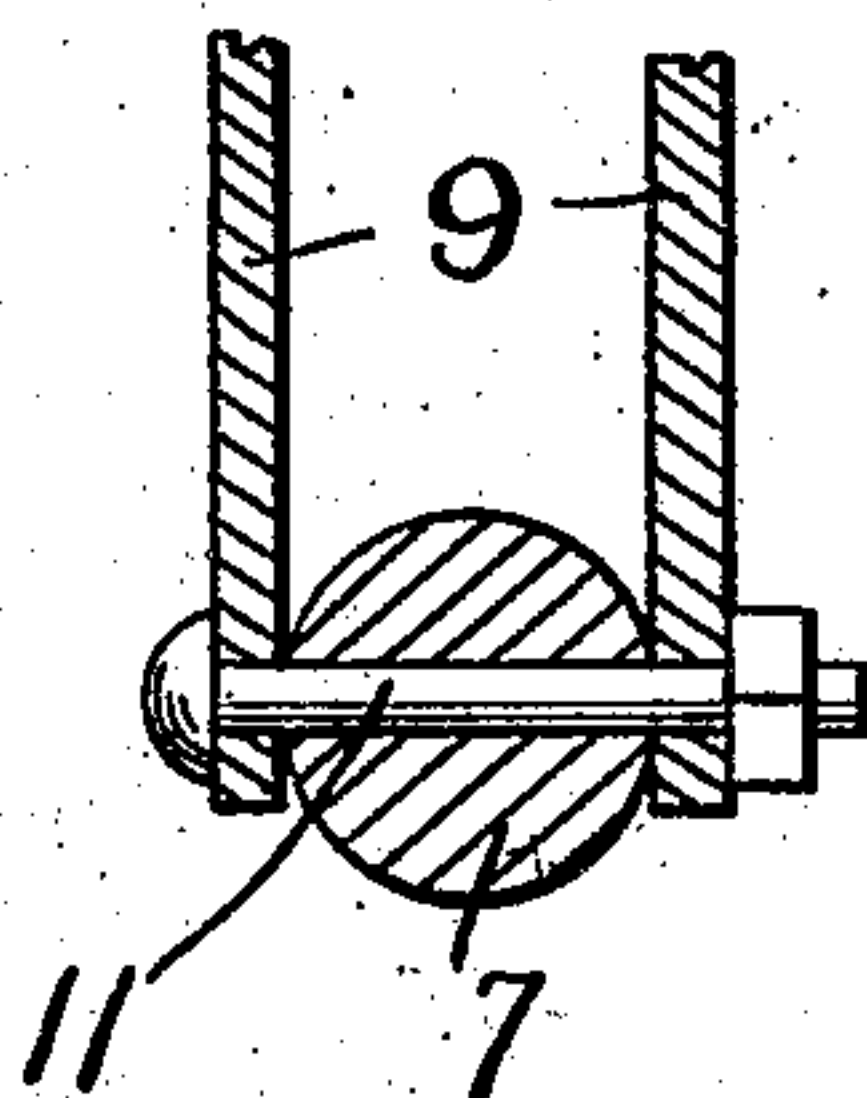


Fig. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. FREES, OF FERRY, MICHIGAN.

## PITCHFORK.

No. 894,491.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 28, 1908.

Application filed August 9, 1907. Serial No. 387,860.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN C. FREES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ferry, in the county of Oceana, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pitchforks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to attachments for pitchforks and is more particularly designed for use on forks for loading or pitching manure.

The object in view is to provide an attachment of such nature that the material gathered up by the fork may be readily removed therefrom and this by the ordinary backward pull usually given a fork of this character as it is removed from the wagon box into which the material is being loaded.

In carrying out my invention, I provide upon the handle of the fork a lever which is freely movable and connect to this lever, the rear ends of legs or rods which are provided at their forward ends with collar portions which fit over the tines of the fork and are movable along the same. The backward pull given to the fork as above mentioned will result in the lever striking the edge of the wagon box into which the material is being loaded and will force the legs forwardly to discharge the manure from the fork.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the manner of using the fork, Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the fork with the attachment in place thereon, Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the fork and the attachment, Fig. 4 is a front view thereof, Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view through one of the tines of the fork showing in full lines the normal position of the corresponding leg and in dotted lines the position of the leg when the attachment is operated to discharge the manure, and, Fig. 6 is a detail sectional view through the pivot bolt for the legs showing the manner in which they are connected with the handle.

As shown in the drawings, the fork is of the usual construction including the usual handle 7 and the tines 8 which latter may be of any number desired.

A pair of trip lever bars 9 are connected at

their lower ends to the handle by means of a pivot bolt 11 which is passed through the said ends of the levers and also through the handle whereby the levers will be pivotally connected with the handle. The legs heretofore mentioned are indicated by the numeral 12 and formed at the rear end of each of the said legs is an apertured ear 13. A pivot bolt 14 is passed through the said ears and through the upper ends of the levers 9, it being understood that an equal number of legs are disposed upon each side of the said levers. At their forward ends, each of the said legs is pivoted to a collar 15 which is fitted over the corresponding tine 8, the said collar portions being freely slidable upon the tines.

The manner of using the fork is as follows: Material is taken up by the fork and the fork overturned over the wagon box being loaded as is usually the case. The fork is then given the usual backward pull over the edge of the wagon box and as a result of this pull, the upper ends of the levers 9 will engage with the said edge of the wagon box and the levers will be swung forwardly moving the legs in a corresponding direction and causing their collar portions to shove any adhering material from the tines of the fork.

It will be understood that when the device is applied to a fork having five tines, the leg for the middle tine may be pivoted between the upper ends of the levers 9 instead of outwardly of the same.

What is claimed, is—

The combination with a pitchfork including a handle and tines, of a pair of levers pivoted at their extreme lower ends to the handle at opposite sides thereof and projecting upwardly therefrom in parallel relation, a bolt engaged through the extreme upper ends of the levers and extending to opposite sides thereof, legs formed with spacing collars through which the bolt is passed, and sleeves carried at the lower ends of the legs and slidable upon the tines.

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

JOHN C. FREES.

Witnesses:

JOHN L. RIENVUS,  
E. L. BENTON.