

No. 894,684.

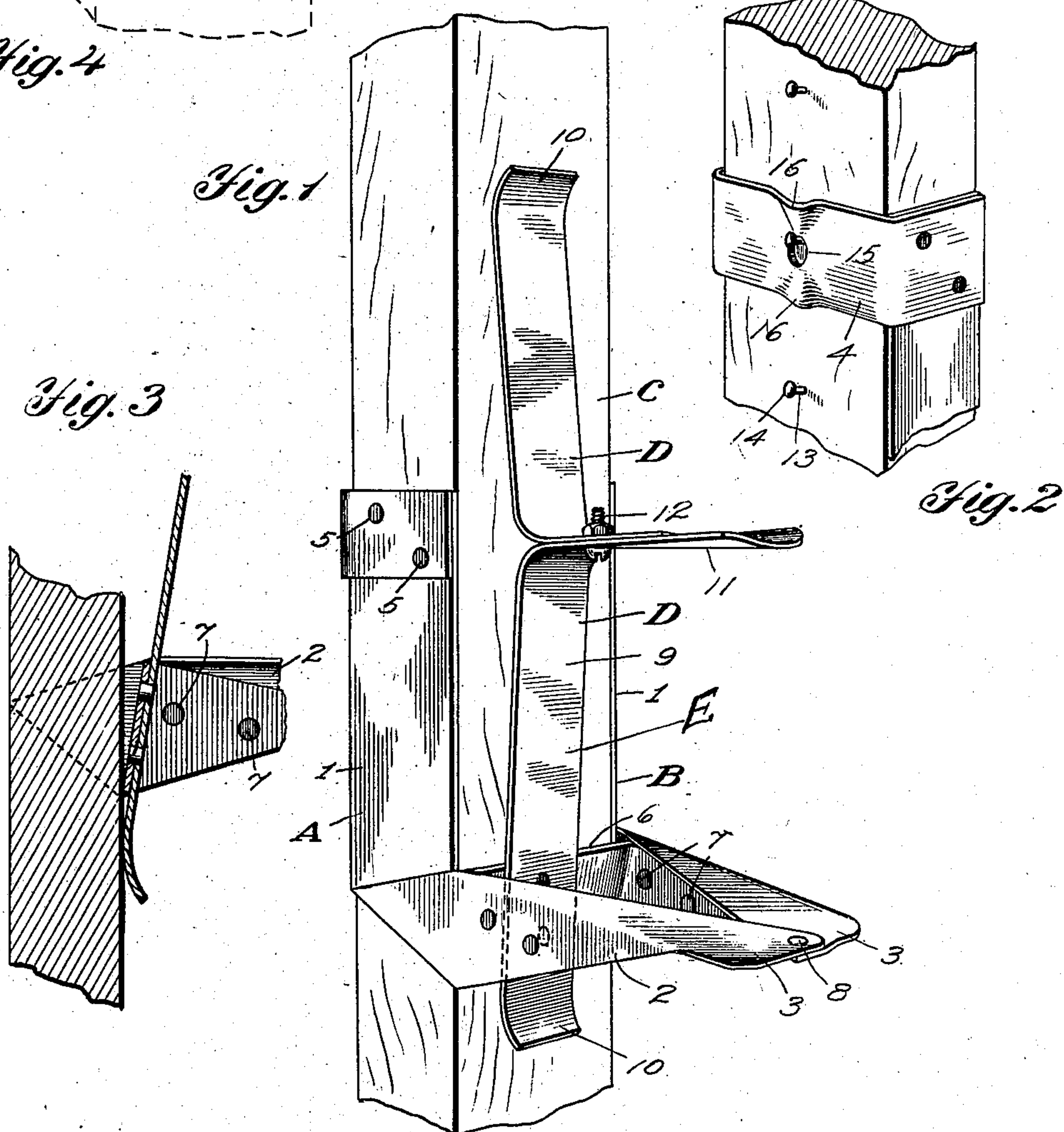
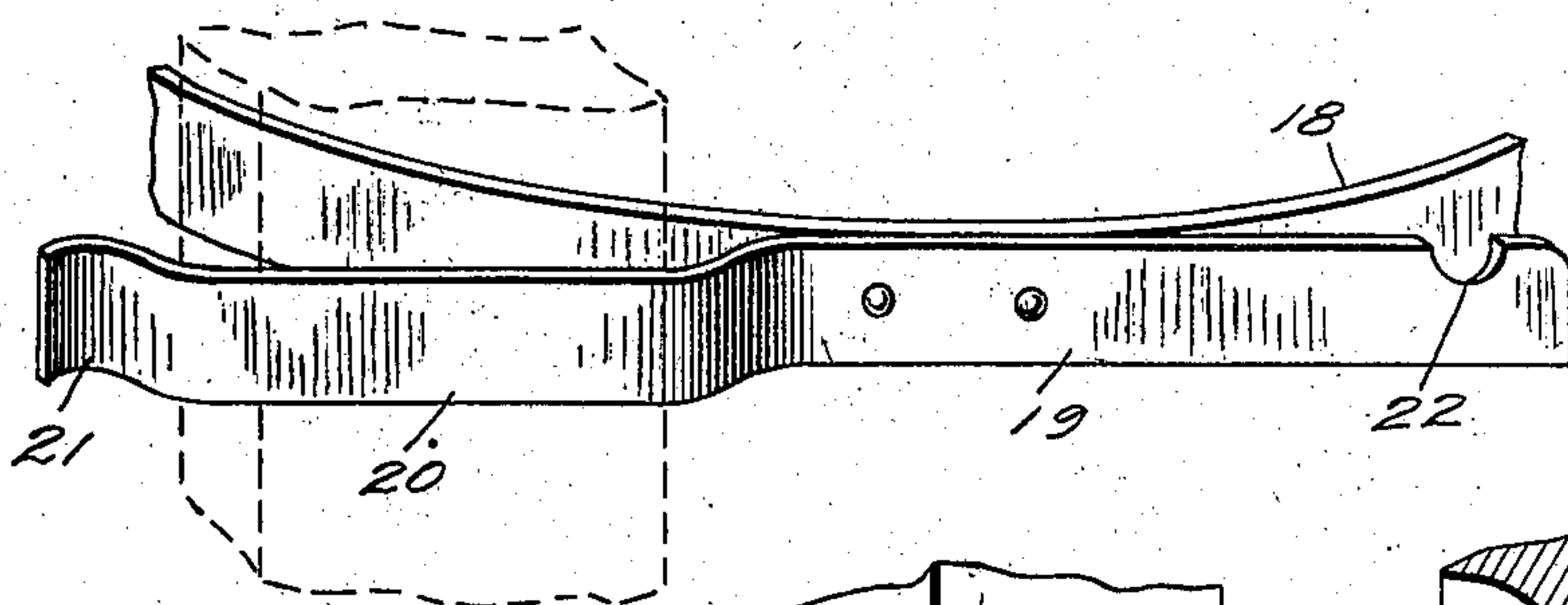
PATENTED JULY 28, 1908.

J. F. McCORMICK.

STILT.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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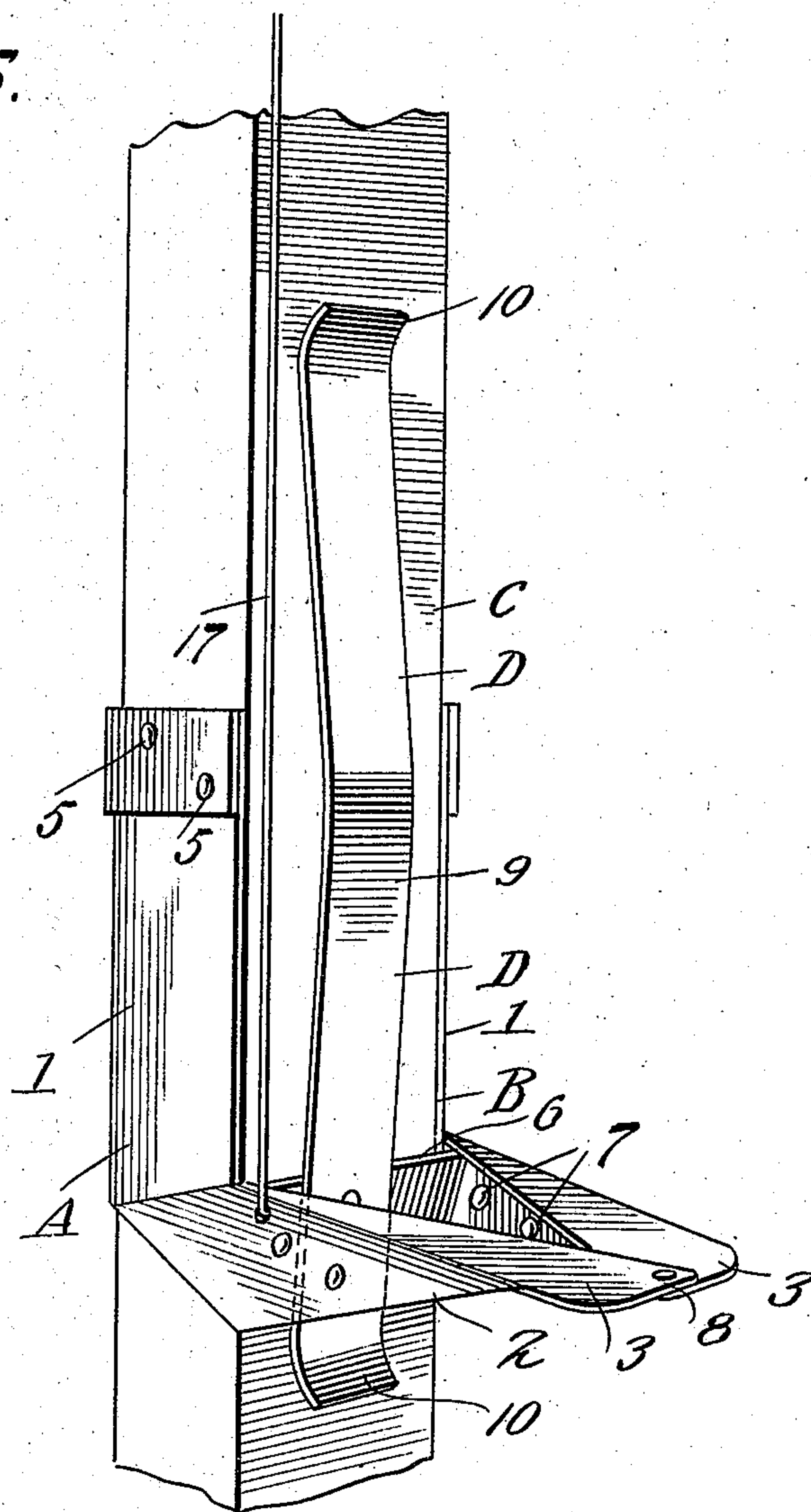
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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STILT.

No. 894,684.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES F. McCORMICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stilts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stilts and attachments for the same.

One object of said invention is to provide a step which shall be capable of being readily applied to and vertically adjusted upon a stick or standard.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the said step or supporting device that it may be readily and conveniently raised or lowered upon the stick or standard by the person using the stilts, while walking upon the latter.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a device whereby the sticks or standards may be held and governed while the hands of the person using the stilts are otherwise employed.

Further objects of the invention are to simplify and improve the construction and operation of this class of devices.

With these and other ends in view which will readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the improved construction and novel arrangement and combination of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings has been illustrated a simple and preferred form of the invention; it being, however, understood that no limitation is necessarily made to the precise structural details therein exhibited, but that changes, alterations and modifications within the scope of the invention may be resorted to when desired.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a portion of a stilt equipped with a step constructed in accordance with the principles of the invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective detail view taken from the opposite side and showing a portion of the device. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional detail view taken through the lower portion of the step and through the adjacent portion of the stick or standard. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view showing a portion of a belt having the stilt holding device which constitutes a part of the invention. Fig. 5 illustrates a modified form of my invention.

Corresponding parts of the several figures are denoted by like characters of reference.

The improved stilt step, which constitutes the essential part of the invention, includes two side members A and B, which may be advantageously formed, by bending, or forming a strap iron of suitable dimensions, although it is to be understood that no limitation is made to this mode of construction, inasmuch as the device may be formed by casting, of malleable iron or other suitable material, or it may be manufactured in any suitable manner and of any material that may be deemed available for the purpose. Each of the side members includes a flat body portion 1 having at its lower end a laterally extending bracket 2, said brackets of the two side members being provided at their upper edges with lips or flanges 3—3 that extend toward each other, said lips or flanges being of approximately triangular shape.

The side members A and B, the body portions of which are adapted to lie flat against the front and rear sides of the stilt stick or standard C, are connected at their upper ends by a yoke 4, the ends of which may be connected with the body portion of the side members by rivets 5; the cross-bar of said yoke being adapted to engage the outer side or face of the stilt standard; the lower ends of the side members A and B are connected by a yoke 6, the arms of which may be secured upon the inner faces of the laterally extending brackets 2—2 by means of rivets 7; the cross-bar of said yoke 6 being adapted to engage the inner side face of the stilt standard. By the "inner" face of the stilt standard I mean that side or face of the standard which in operation is adjacent to the person using the stilts, the "outer" face being that which is outwardly exposed. It is obvious that brackets 2—2 extend in an inward direction, toward each other. The apices of the triangular lips or flanges 3—3 are connected by means of a rivet 8, to form the foot supporting portion of the stilt step.

Suitably connected with the cross-bar of the yoke 6 is an upward extending arched resilient bar 9 having curved terminals adapted to bear against the inner face of the stilt standard; the bar 9 is provided with an inward extending bracket 11 which is disposed a suitable distance above the foot supporting portion of the stilt step. This resilient bar or member may be advantage-

ously formed of angular strips or pieces D and E connected with each other by a bolt 12 as will be clearly seen in Fig. 1 of the drawings. By the action of the arched resilient bar, the cross-bars of the yokes 4 and 6 will be held with some degree of pressure against the opposite sides of the stilt standard. The outer side of the latter is provided at intervals with pins or studs 13 having heads 14 adapted to engage an aperture 15 in the cross-bar of the yoke 4; said cross-bar being provided at its upper and lower edges with outwardly flaring lips 16 adapted to guide said cross-bar over the headed pins or studs for the purpose of enabling the latter to engage the aperture 15. A pair of stilts may be very readily constructed, by providing sticks or standards of any desired length and of suitable dimensions in cross-section, each of said standards being provided with a suitable number of the headed pins or studs 13 to enable the steps to be adjusted at various elevations. The person using the stilts may, by pressing his foot upward against the bracket 11 and then pressing outward against the arched resilient bar 9, disengage the aperture in the cross-bar of the yoke 4 from the headed pin or stud engaged thereby, and the stilt step may then be readily slid or moved in an upward or downward direction, as may be desired; with slight practice, this operation may be readily performed by the person using the stilts, without descending from the latter, and the operator may thus very conveniently raise or lower himself, as may be desired. When the desired adjustment of the step has been effected, the pressure upon the resilient bar 9 is released, and the step will thus be retained by the headed stud most nearly adjacent to the lower edge of the cross-bar of the yoke 4.

In Fig. 5 of the drawings has been shown a modified form of my invention, the same illustrating a connecting element such as a wire 17, the lower end of which has been suitably connected with the bracket 2 extending from one of the side members of the stilt step; the opposite end of the wire 17 is to be extended within convenient reach of the operator who, by means of said wire, may adjust the stilt step in an upward direction, thus dispensing with the necessity of the bracket 11.

The person using the stilts carries a belt, a portion of which is shown at 18. Riveted or otherwise secured at each side of said belt is a metallic strap 19 having an offset portion 20 provided with a terminal hook 21 behind which the upper end of the stilt may be confined while the hands of the operator are otherwise employed; the ends of the straps opposite to the terminal hooks 21 are spaced from the belt and are provided with notches 22 which may be usefully employed for the purpose of supporting articles that are to be

carried by the person walking upon the stilts, such as a basket, bucket or the like.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed the operation and advantages of this invention will be readily understood. The construction is extremely simple, and the improved stilt steps may be readily adjusted upon ordinary sticks, or standards, by simply providing the latter with the headed pins or studs 13. The stilts may be usefully employed by fruit pickers, and for a variety of other purposes that will readily suggest themselves.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new is:—

1. A stilt step comprising side members having laterally extending brackets provided with suitably connected lips or flanges, and yokes connecting said side members near their upper and lower ends, the cross-bars of said yokes being spaced for the admission therebetween of a stilt stick or standard; in combination with an arched resilient member connected with the lower yoke and provided intermediate its ends with a laterally extending bracket disposed above the brackets that constitute the foot supporting portion of the step.

2. A stilt step comprising side members provided at their lower ends with laterally extending brackets having suitably connected lips or flanges, and yokes connecting said side members near their upper and lower edges, the cross-bars of said yokes being spaced for the admission therebetween of a stilt stick or standard, and an arched resilient member connected with the cross-bar of the lower yoke and having a laterally extending bracket disposed above the brackets that constitute the foot supporting portion of the step; in combination with a stick or standard having pins or studs adapted for engagement with the cross-bar of the yoke connecting the upper ends of the side members.

3. A stilt step comprising side members provided at their lower ends with suitably connected foot supporting brackets, cross-bars connecting the side members near their upper and lower ends and spaced for the admission therebetween of a stilt stick or standard, and an arched resilient member connected with the lower cross-bar; in combination with a stick or standard having pins or studs adapted for engagement with the upper cross-bar.

4. A stilt step comprising side members provided at their lower ends with laterally extending suitably connected foot supporting brackets, cross-bars connecting the side members near their upper and lower ends and spaced for the admission therebetween of a stick or standard, and an arched resilient member connected with the lower cross-bar

and having a laterally extending bracket disposed above the foot supporting brackets, the upper cross-bar being provided with an aperture and with flaring lips at its upper and lower edges; in combination with a stick or standard having laterally extending headed pins adapted for engagement with the apertured cross-bar.

5 5. A stilt step comprising side members provided at their lower ends with suitably connected foot supporting brackets, and cross bars connecting said side members near their upper and lower ends, said cross-bars being spaced for the admission therebetween
15 of a stick or standard, and resilient means connected with one of the cross-bars and extending in the direction of the opposite cross-bar for engaging the stilt standard and causing the opposite sides of the latter to be
20 gripped by the cross-bars.

6. A stilt governing or supporting device comprising a belt, and straps attached to said belt, said straps having offset portions provided with terminal hooks.

25 7. A stilt governing or supporting device

comprising a belt and a strap attached to said belt and having an offset portion provided with a terminal hook, said strap being provided at its opposite end, which is slightly spaced from the belt, with a supporting
30 notch.

8. A stilt including side members having laterally extending brackets provided with horizontally disposed triangular lips or flanges extending toward each other and
35 overlapping, means for uniting the overlapping portions, an upper yoke connecting said side members together, a lower yoke secured to the inner faces of the laterally extending
40 brackets, said lower yoke being disposed at an angle with relation to the plane of the inner face of the upper yoke to place its lower edge in engagement with the stilt standard.

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

JAMES F. McCORMICK.

Witnesses:

J. L. FLEMING,

J. FRANK McCORMICK.