

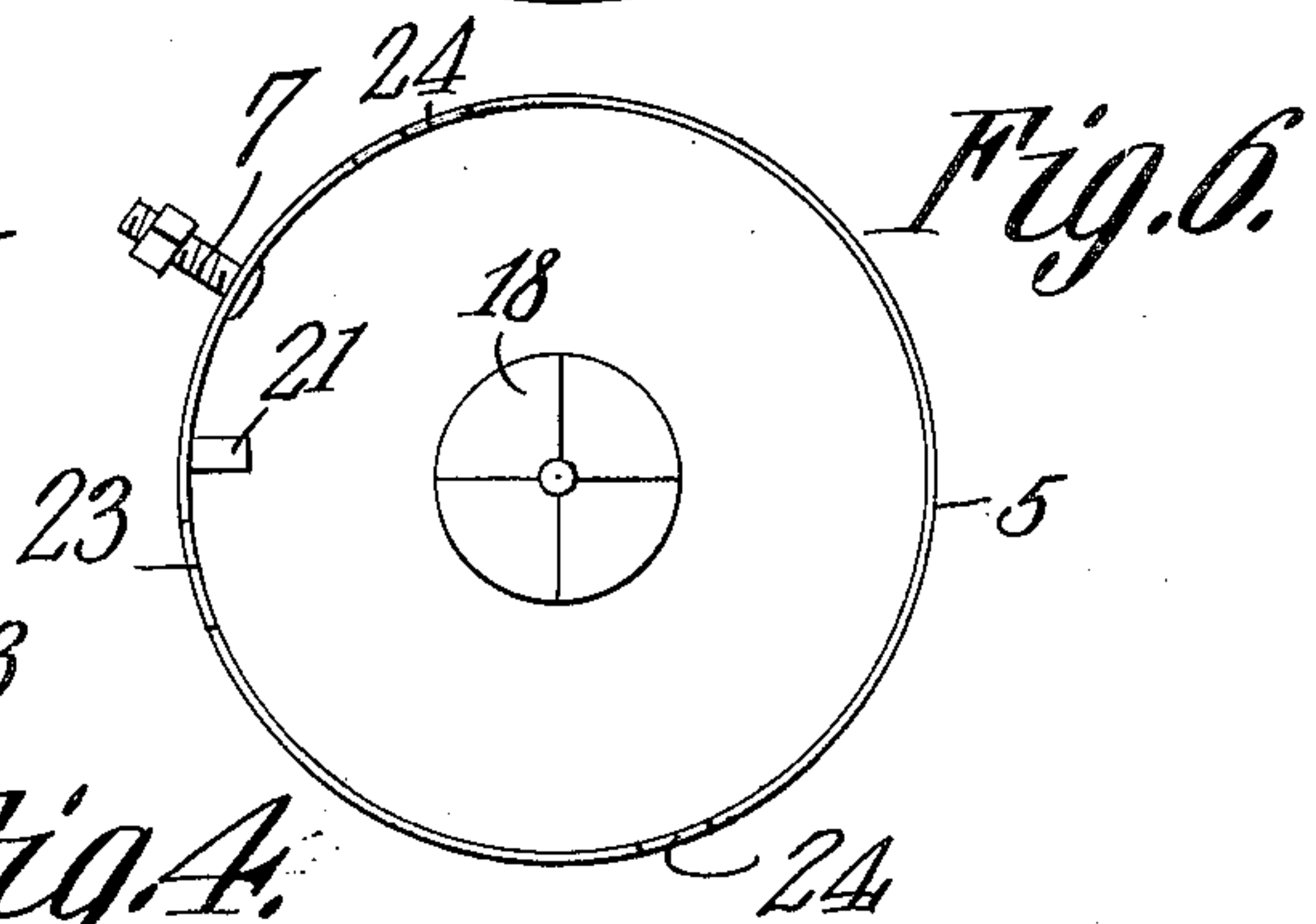
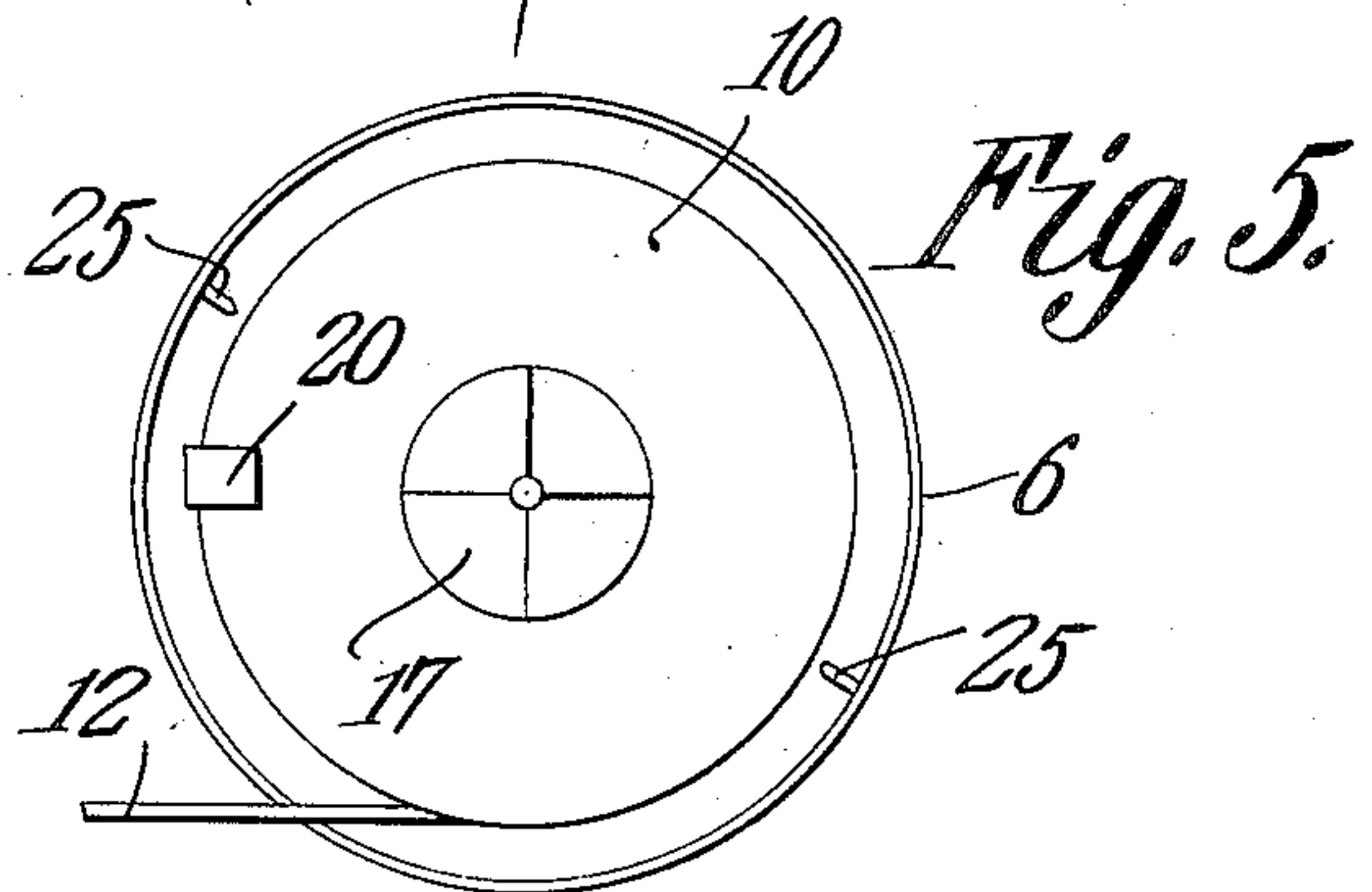
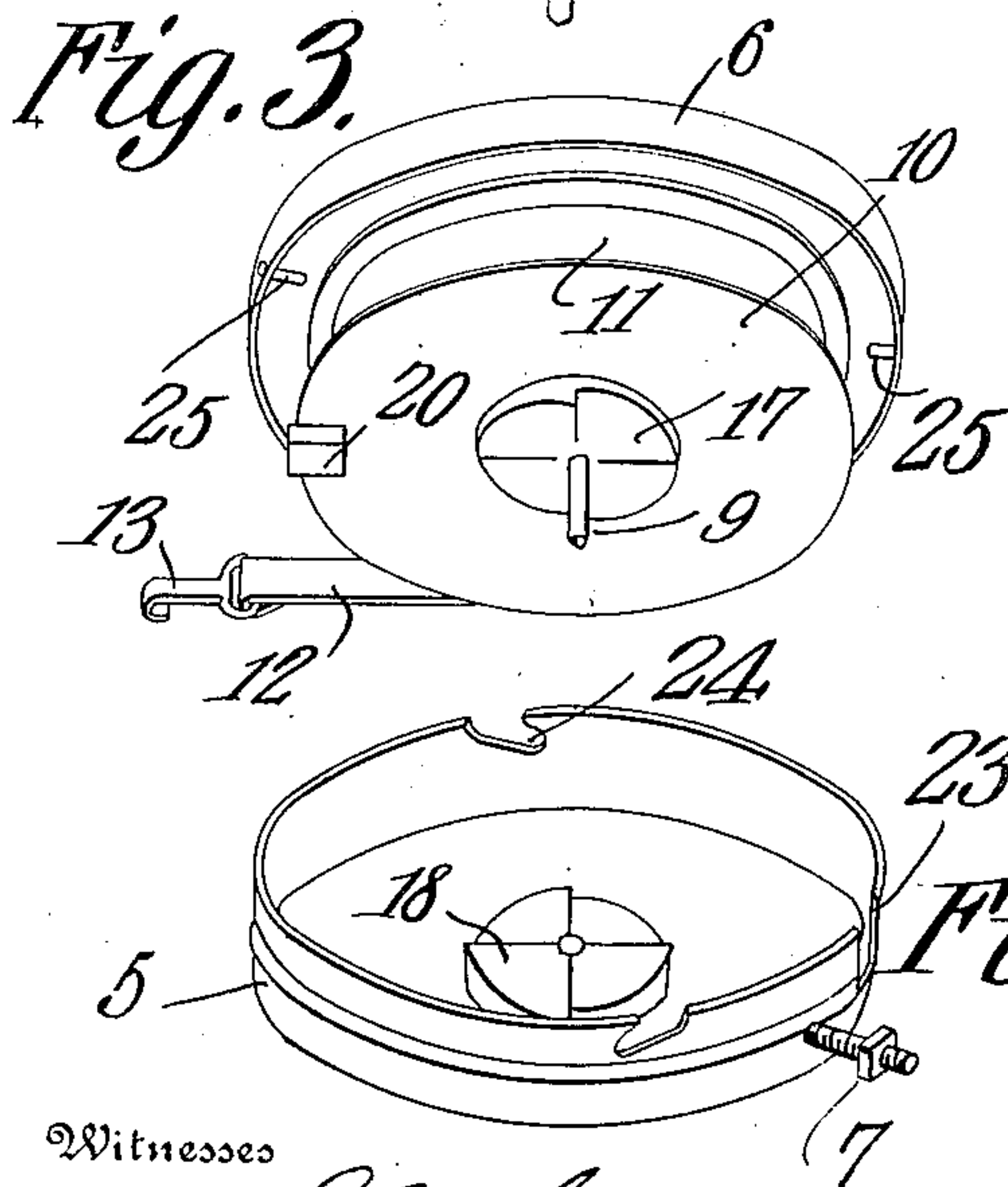
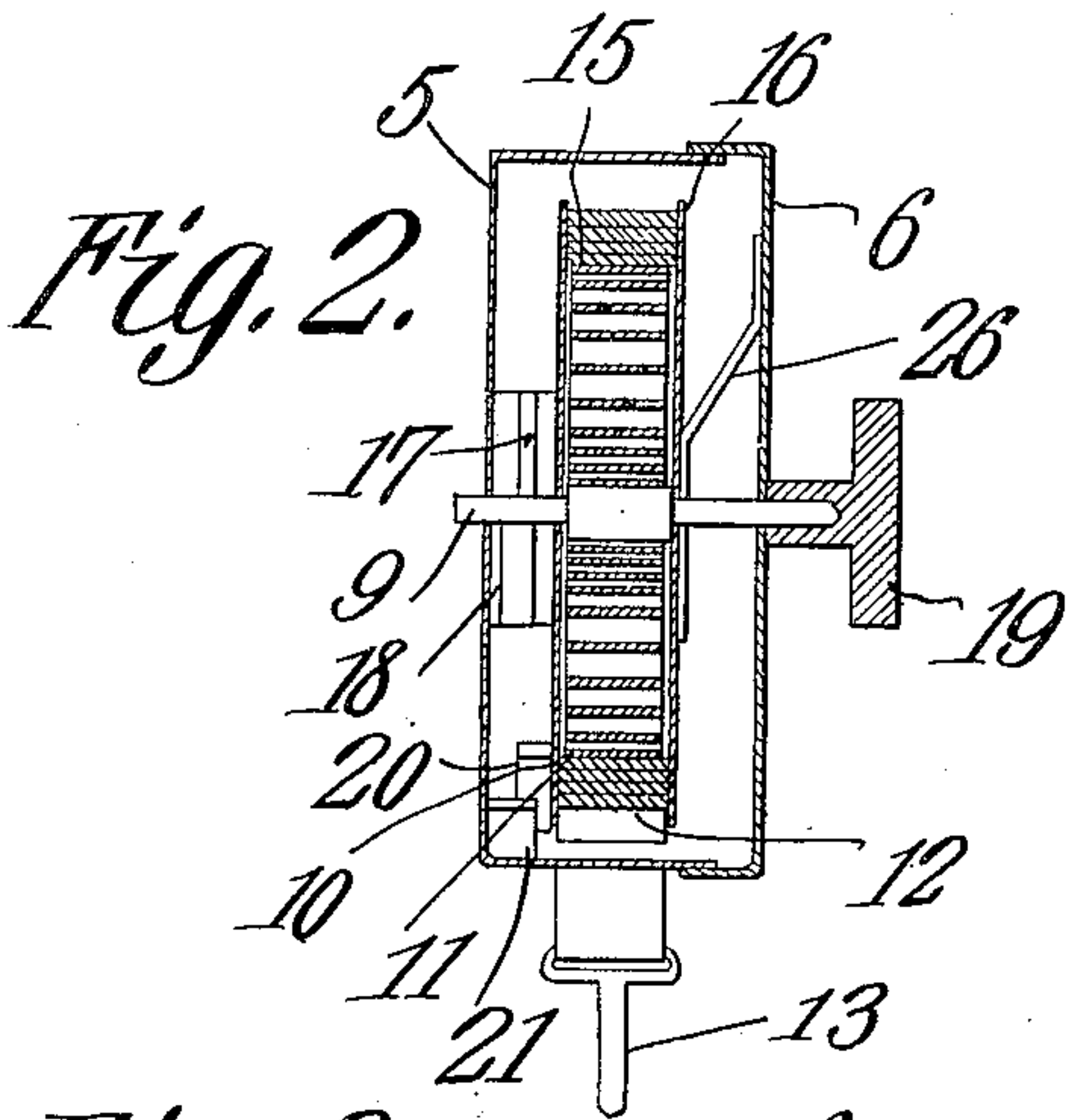
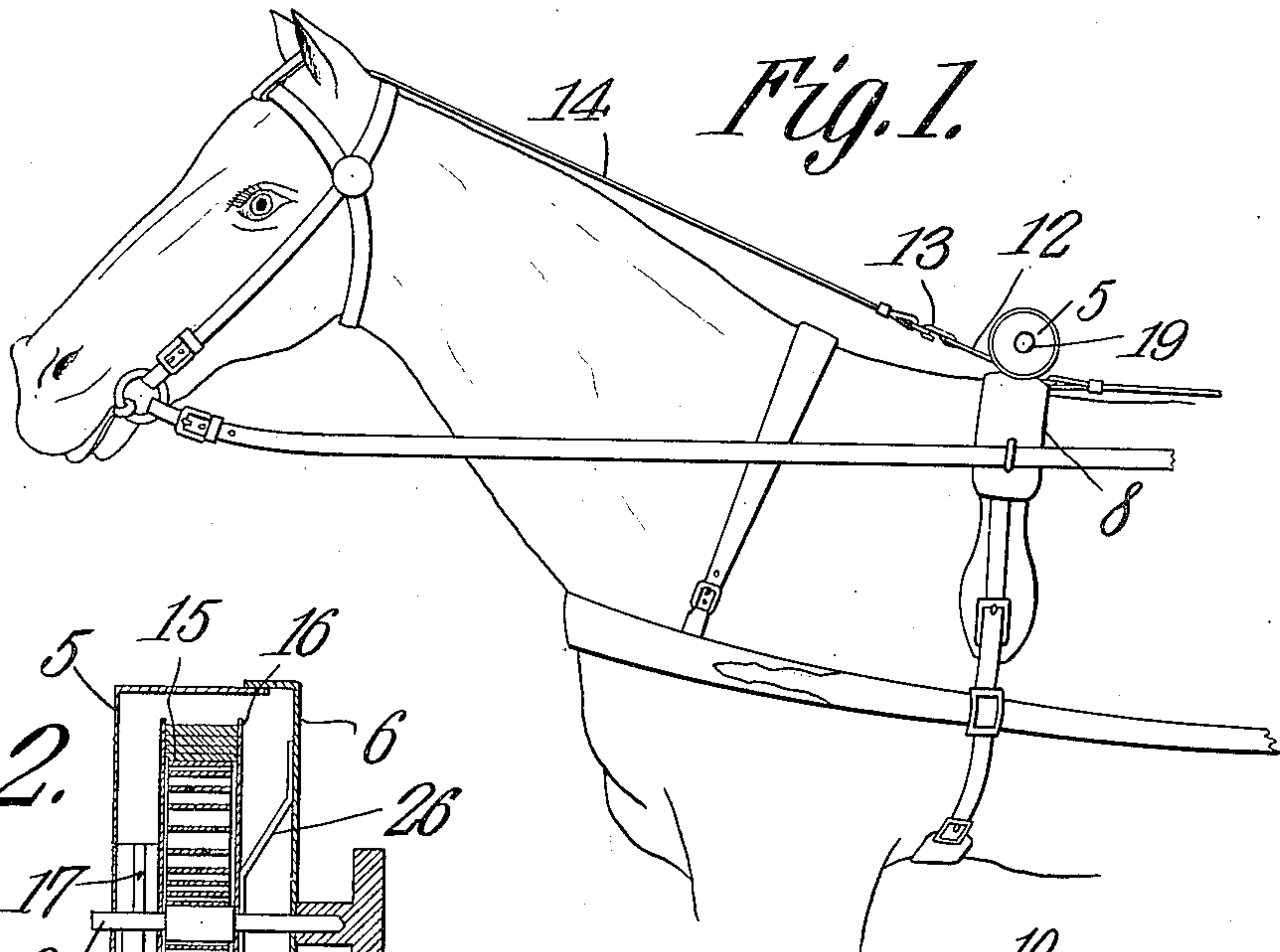
No. 897,977.

PATENTED SEPT. 8, 1908.

B. J. GRANT.

CHECKREIN.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 22, 1907.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

BENSON JONES GRANT, OF GALENA, KANSAS.

## CHECKREIN.

No. 897,977.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 8, 1908.

Application filed October 22, 1907. Serial No. 398,628.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENSON JONES GRANT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Galena, in the county of Cherokee and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Checkrein, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to check reins and has for its object to provide a comparatively simple and inexpensive device of this character especially designed for attachment to a harness saddle and which will hold the head of a horse erect without danger of injuring the mouth of the animal.

A further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification: Figure 1 is a side elevation of a check rein attachment constructed in accordance with my invention showing the same in position on a harness saddle. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one section of the casing detached showing the spring actuated drum in position thereon. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the mating section. Fig. 5 is a plan view of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a plan view of Fig. 4.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all of the figures of the drawings.

The improved device forming the subject matter of the present invention includes a casing or housing preferably circular in shape, as shown, and formed of interlocking sections 5 and 6, one of said sections being provided with a threaded bolt or similar fastening device 7 for attachment to the harness saddle, indicated at 8.

Journalled in the sections 5 and 6 is a transverse shaft 9 on which is mounted for rotation a reel or drum 10. Disposed within the drum 10 is a coiled spring 11 one end of which is secured to the shaft 9 while the opposite end thereof is fastened in any suitable manner to the drum. Secured to the drum 10 is one end of a strap or other flexible me-

dium 12 the opposite end of which is provided with a hook or similar fastening device 13 for detachable engagement with a check rein 14. The side walls of the drum 10 are preferably extended laterally beyond the peripheral edge 15 thereof to form parallel flanges 16 which serve to guide the strap 12 as the latter is wound upon or unwound from the drum. Keyed or otherwise rigidly secured to one end of the shaft 9 is a clutch or ratchet wheel 17 which engages a corresponding ratchet wheel 18 secured to the interior wall of the adjacent section 5 thereby to normally lock the shaft 9 against rotation. The opposite end of the shaft 9 extends through the section 6 and is provided with a terminal knob or finger piece 19 by means of which the shaft may be rotated to adjust the tension of the spring 11.

As a means for limiting the rotary movement of the drum 10 one wall of said drum is provided with a stop lug 20 which engages a corresponding lug 21 secured to the section 5, the latter being also provided with an opening or recess 23 for the reception of the adjacent end of a strap. The inner edge of the section 5 is provided with oppositely disposed bayonet slots 24 adapted to receive suitable locking pins or lugs 25 extending laterally from the inner edge of the section 6 so that by positioning the pins 25 in the slots 24 and partly rotating the section 6, said sections will be locked in engagement with each other. Secured to the inner wall of the section 6 is one end of a leaf spring 26 the opposite end of which bears against the adjacent wall of the drum 10 thereby to yieldably support the locking pins 25 in engagement with the walls of the slots 24 and thus assist in preventing accidental displacement of the sections comprising the casing. The spring 26 also serves to normally and yieldably hold the ratchets 17 and 18 in engagement with each other. It will thus be seen that when a longitudinal pull is exerted on the check rein 14 the strap 12 will be unwound from the drum and in doing so will tighten the spring 11 so that when the pull on the check rein 14 is released the spring 11 will automatically rewind the strap 12 on said drum.

In order to regulate the tension of the spring 11 it is merely necessary to rotate the finger piece 19 which causes the teeth on the ratchet wheel 17 to slide over the face of the teeth on the ratchet wheel 18, said teeth being yieldably supported in engagement with



each other by means of the spring 26, as before stated. It will of course be understood that the casing may be made in different sizes and shapes and attached to any portion of a harness. It will also be understood that any suitable fastening device may be employed for securing the casing on the harness without departing from the spirit of the invention.

10 From the foregoing description it will be seen that there is provided an extremely simple, inexpensive and efficient device admirably adapted for the attainment of the ends in view.

15 Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

1. A device of the class described including a casing provided with a ratchet, a shaft journaled in the casing and provided with a corresponding ratchet adapted to engage the ratchet on the casing, a spring actuated drum mounted for rotation on the shaft and spaced from one wall of the casing by said ratchets, a strap secured to the drum and provided with means for engagement with a check rein, and a spring interposed between the drum and the other wall of the casing for yieldably supporting the ratchets in engagement with each other.

2. A device of the class described including a casing having a ratchet secured thereto, a shaft journaled in the casing and provided with a corresponding ratchet, a spring actuated drum mounted for rotation on the shaft and bearing against the ratchet on the latter, a strap having one end thereof secured to the drum and its opposite end passing through the casing and provided with means for engagement with the check rein, a spring arranged on the opposite side of the casing from the ratchets and interposed between the drum and the adjacent wall of the casing for yieldably supporting the ratchets in engagement with each other, and a finger piece secured to one end of the shaft.

3. A device of the class described including a casing having a ratchet secured thereto, a transverse shaft journaled in the casing and provided with a corresponding ratchet, a spring actuated drum mounted for rotation on the shaft, a strap having one end thereof secured to the drum and its opposite end extended through the casing and pro-

vided with means for attachment to a check rein, a spring interposed between the drum and the adjacent wall of the casing for yieldably supporting the ratchets in engagement with each other, a stop extending laterally from the casing, and a corresponding stop secured to the drum and adapted to engage the stop on the casing for limiting the rotary movement of the drum.

4. A device of the class described including a casing formed of a plurality of sections one of which is provided with spaced bayonet slots, pins extending laterally from the opposite section and adapted to engage said slots, a spring actuated drum mounted for rotation in the casing, a strap having one end thereof secured to the drum and its opposite end passing through the adjacent casing section and provided with means for attachment to a check rein, and a spring interposed between the drum and adjacent casing section for locking the pins in engagement with the walls of the slots.

5. A device of the class described including a casing formed of mating sections one of which is provided with oppositely disposed bayonet slots, a shaft journaled in the casing, a ratchet rigidly secured to the shaft, a corresponding ratchet secured to the adjacent casing section, a spring actuated drum mounted for rotation on the shaft, a strap having one end thereof secured to the drum and its opposite end extending through the adjacent casing section and provided with means for engagement with a check rein, pins extending laterally from the mating section, a spring interposed between the drum and the adjacent casing section for holding the pins in engagement with the walls of the slots, coacting stops carried by the casing and drum, respectively, for limiting the rotary movement of the drum, and a finger piece secured to one end of the shaft for rotating the shaft to regulate the tension of the spring.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

BENSON JONES GRANT.

Witnesses:

G. W. GRANT,  
R. A. COLES.