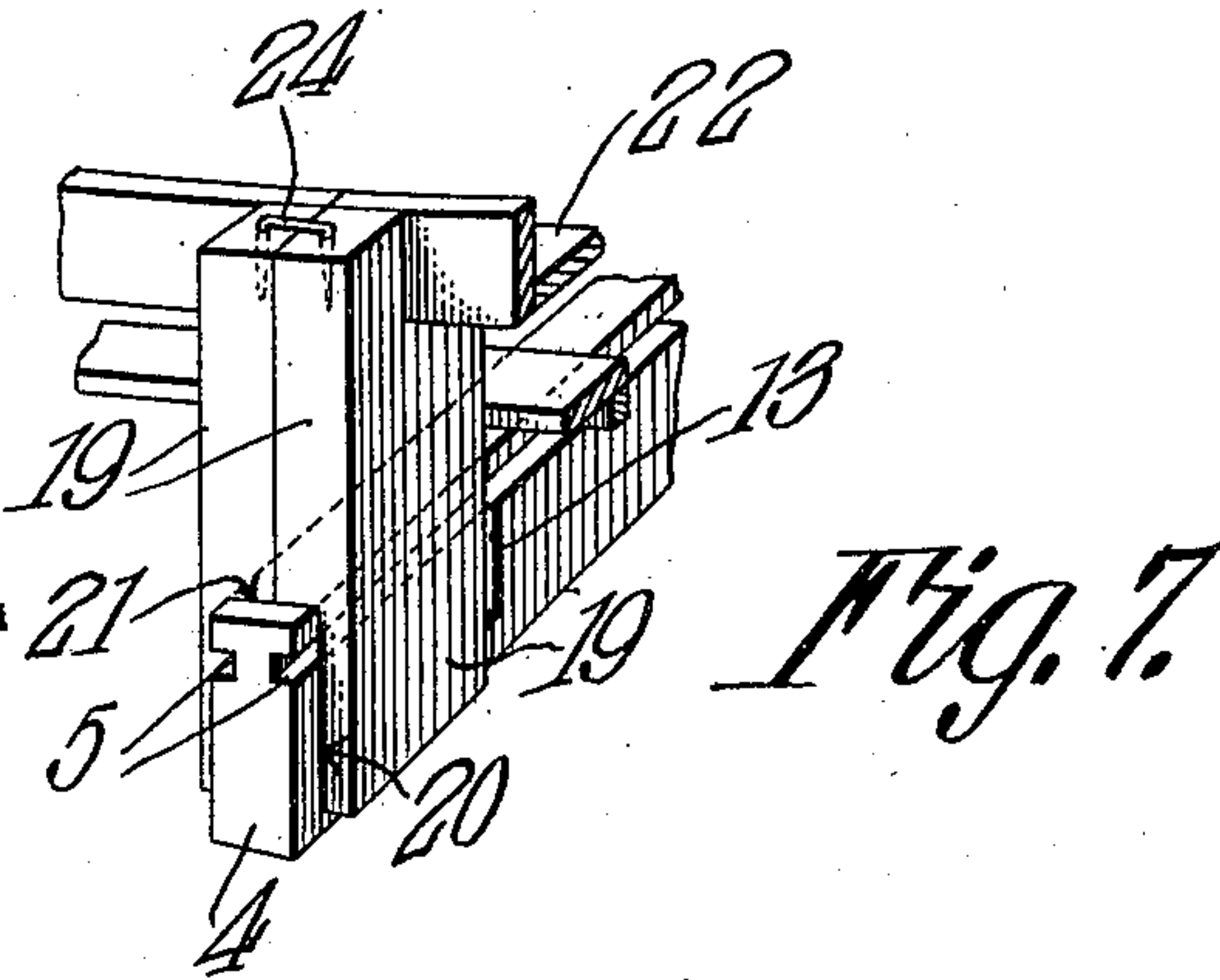
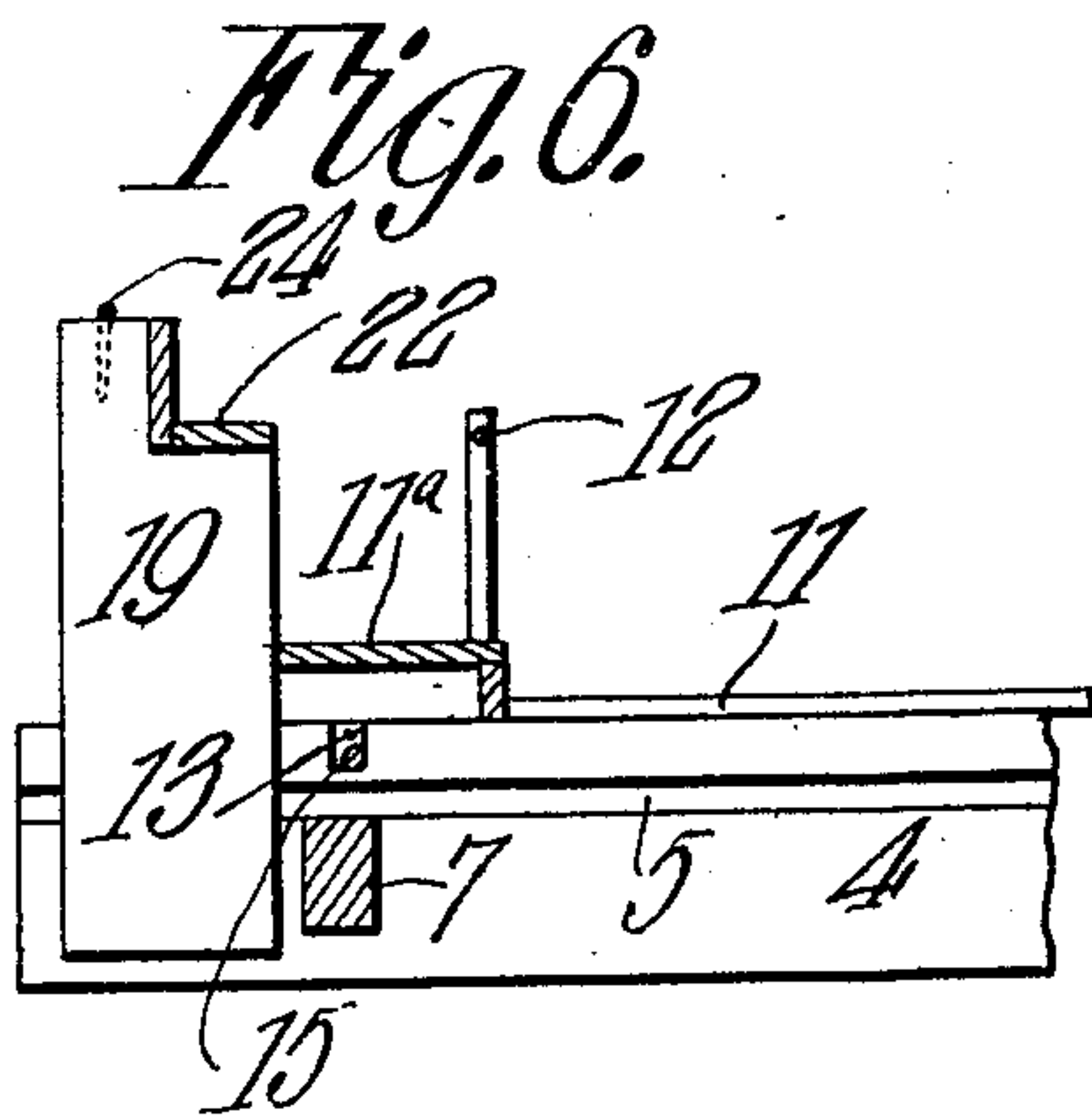
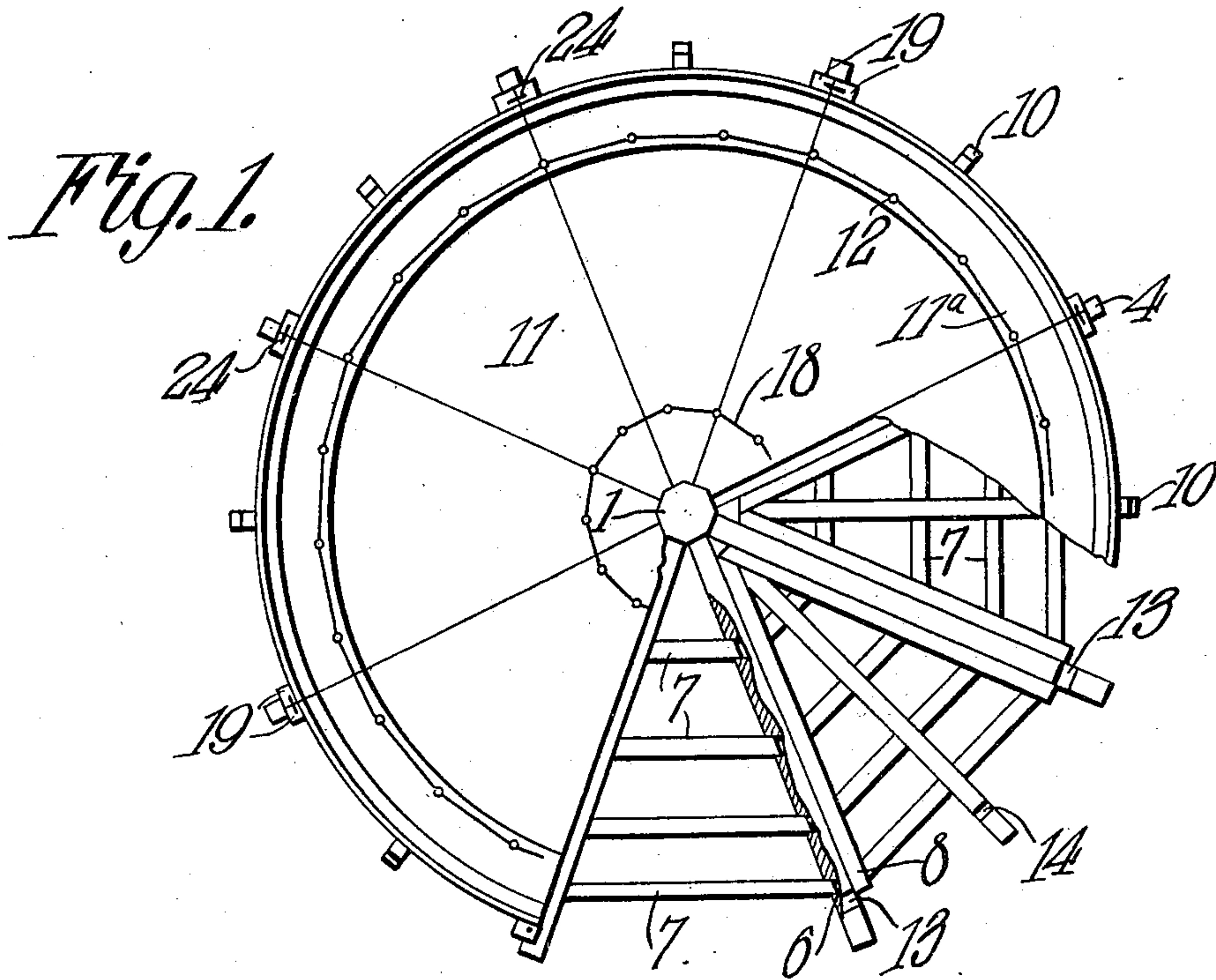


J. F. LAYTHAM.  
PORTABLE SKATING RINK.  
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1908.

Patented Nov. 10, 1908.  
3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

903,486.



*James F. Laytham.*  
Inventor

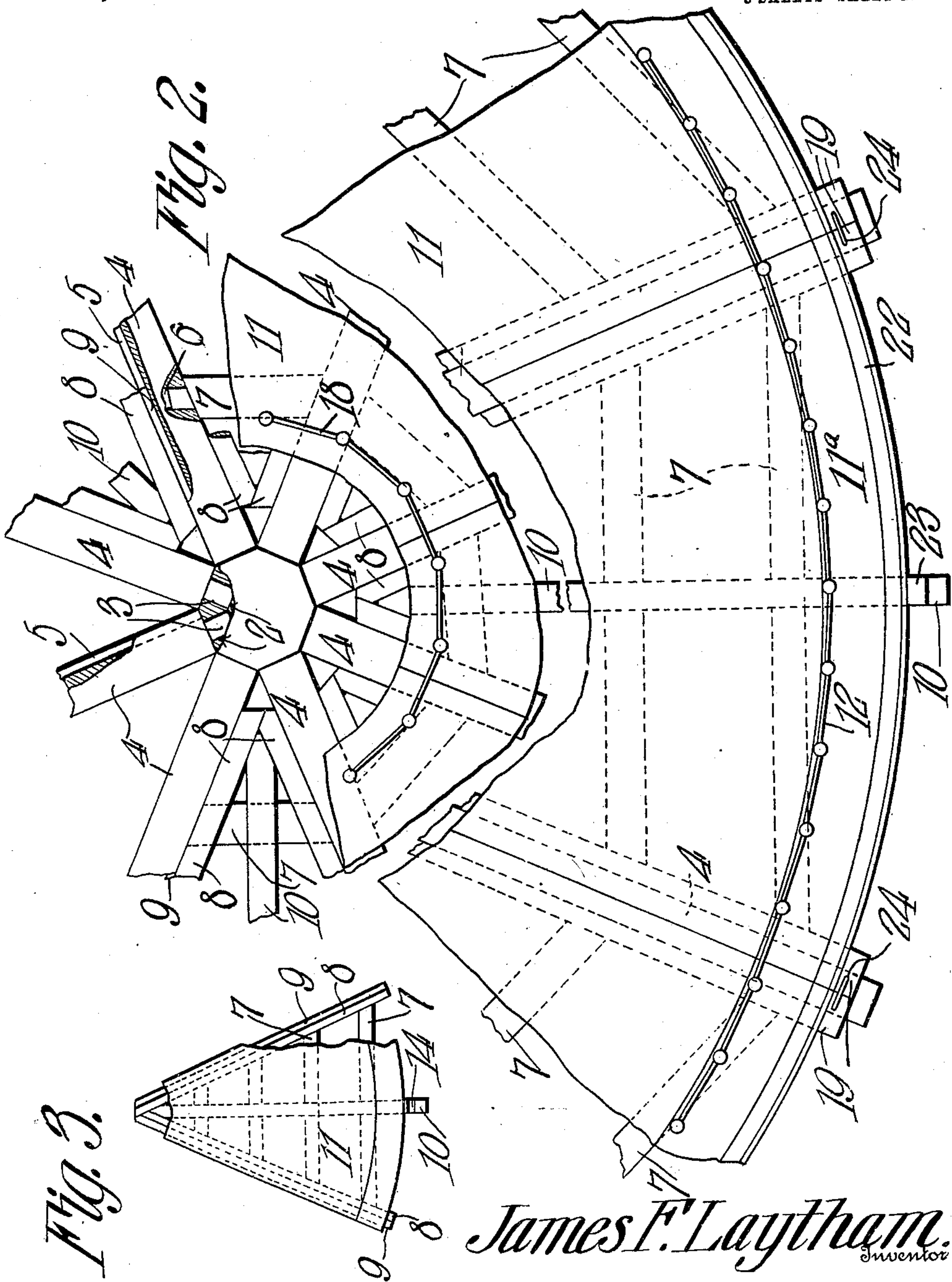
Witnesses  
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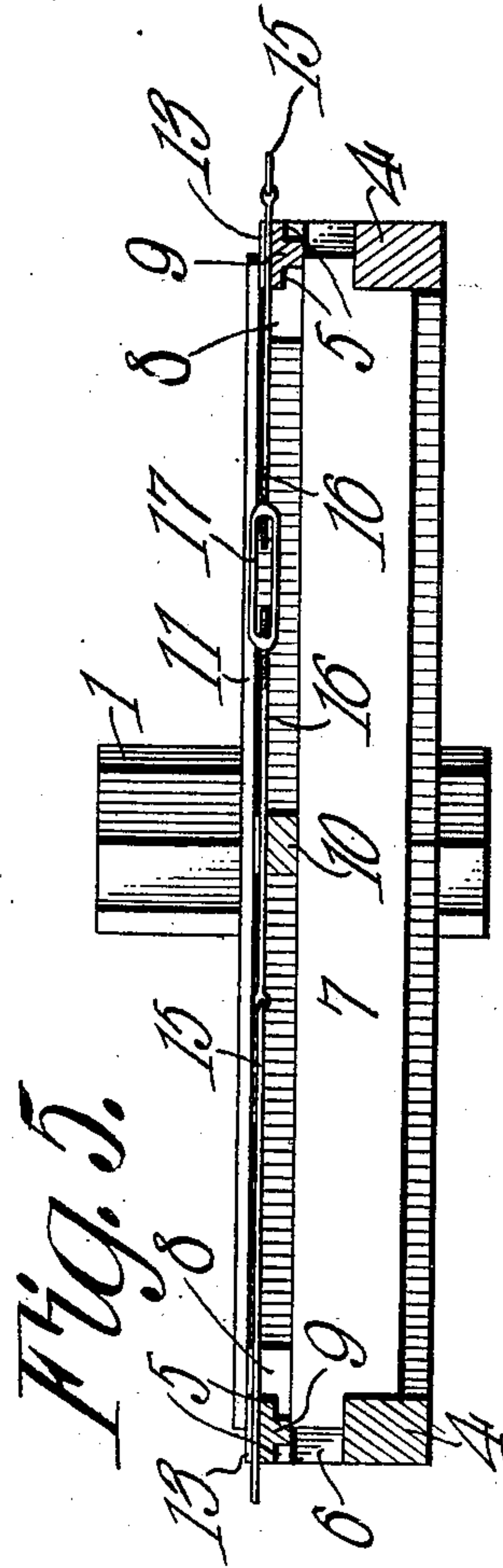
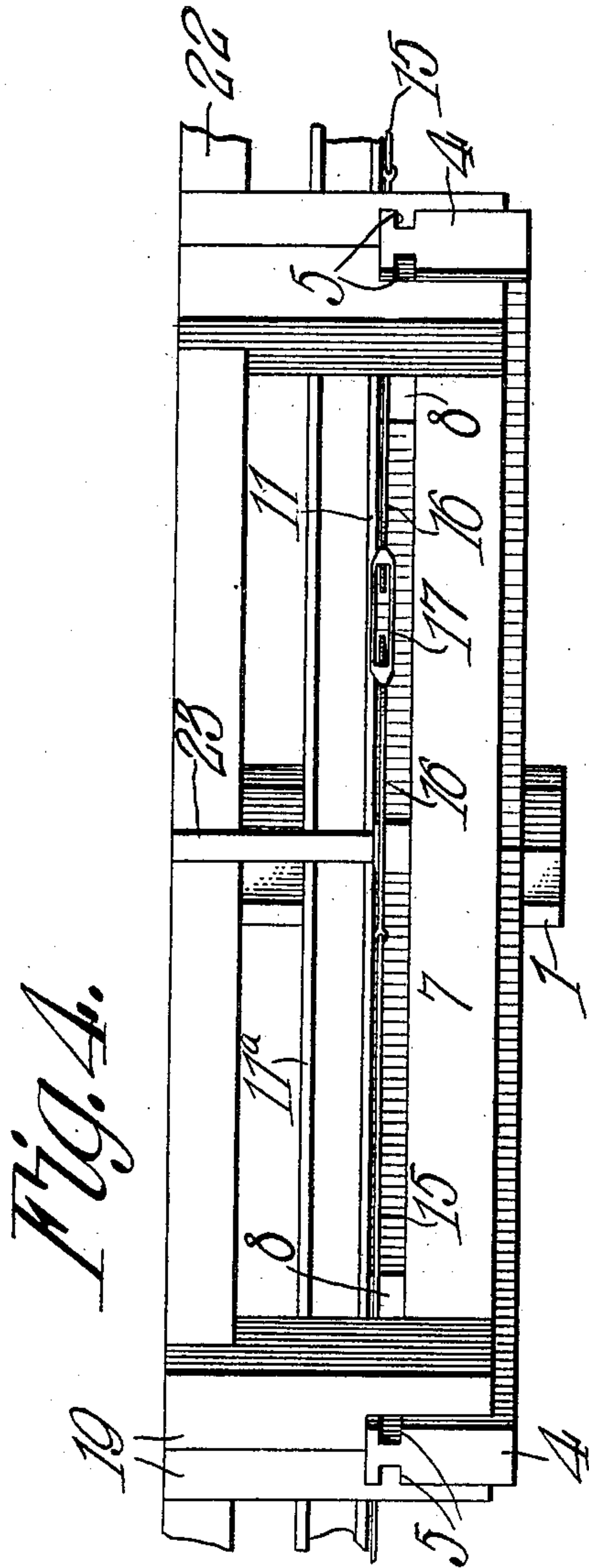
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. LAYTHAM, OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON.

## PORTABLE SKATING-RINK.

No. 903,486.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 10, 1908.

Application filed February 19, 1908. Serial No. 416,775.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES F. LAYTHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Blaine, in the county of Whatcom and State of Washington, have invented a new and useful Portable Skating-Rink, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to portable skating rinks its object being to provide a structure which can be readily set up or taken apart and which has its parts securely fastened together in a simple and efficient manner so as to reduce vibration to the minimum and present a solid unyielding floor.

A further object is to provide a platform made up of interlocking sections all of which are designed to be firmly held together by means of a single securing device.

Another object is to provide a skating rink or platform having sectional seats combined therewith, said seats being fastened together and to the platform in a novel manner.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings is shown the preferred form of the invention.

In said drawings: Figure 1 is a plan view of the skating rink, portions of the platform being broken away. Fig. 2 is an enlarged plan view of a portion of the platform and showing in plan the connection between the floor timbers and the hub. Fig. 3 is a detail view of one of the floor sections, a portion of the floor being broken away. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a part of the platform and showing the binding means, one of the seat sections being shown in rear elevation. Fig. 5 is a vertical section through a portion of the platform and showing the binding means and its receiving grooves, said section being taken in front of the seat section shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a transverse section through one of the seat sections and the adjoining portion of the platform. Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing the means for connecting the seat sections to one of the floor supporting timbers.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates a center block or hub having mortises 2 extending thereinto and designed to receive tenons 3 formed at the inner ends of radial beams 4 each of which has a longitudinal groove 5 in each side face.

Each beam 4 is provided with a plurality of transverse mortises 6 designed to receive the ends of joists 7, the upper faces of which are disposed flush with the lower walls of the grooves 5 as indicated particularly in Figs. 4, 5 and 6.

A plurality of floor sections are used in connection with the frame structure hereinbefore described and each of these floor sections consists of converging beams 8 each having a longitudinal tongue 9 upon its outer face so that when the floor section is placed upon the joists 7 and shifted toward the hub 1 these beams 8 will fit snugly against the inner or adjoining faces of beams 4 and the tongues 9 will project into the grooves 5. An intermediate beam 10 is also used in connection with each floor section and secured upon these beams 8 and 10 is flooring 11, the edge portions of which are designed to lap and bear upon the beams 4 when tongues 9 are seated within grooves 5. All of the floor sections are so proportioned that when they are assembled the flooring of each section will abut against the flooring of the adjoining sections. The tongues 9 will obviously prevent the flooring from pulling upward from the beams 4 and therefore a smooth skating surface will be produced. Each flooring section has a raised arcuate platform 11<sup>a</sup> disposed along its peripheral portion and each section is preferably provided with a railing 12. When the various floor sections are assembled these raised sections 11<sup>a</sup> will form a continuous circular foot platform and the several railings 12 will form a continuous partition or railing about the skating surface. These raised sections 11<sup>a</sup> are preferably fixedly connected to the beams 8 and 10 and are not removable therefrom. The railings can, however, be detachably secured to the sections 11<sup>a</sup> in any preferred manner. In order that the various sections of the platform may be securely bound together each beam 4 has a transverse groove 13 in its upper surface and the ends of the beams 8 assume positions partly across the ends of these grooves as indicated in Fig. 1. Beams 10 are also provided with transverse grooves 14. Seated within the grooves 13 and 14 is a cable 15 having its ends fastened to screw threaded rods 16 which are engaged by a turn-buckle 17 whereby the rods can be drawn toward each other to reduce the diameter of the binding means and cause said means to push inwardly upon the ends of beams 8 and



upon the inner walls of the grooves 13 and 14. All parts of the platform will therefore be firmly fastened together without the use of nails or similar fastening means. As indicated in Figs. 1 and 2 a circular railing 18 is preferably arranged upon the platform adjacent the center thereof, said railing being made up of sections which are detachably secured to the platform sections in any suitable manner. The space surrounded by this railing is designed to be used by an orchestra or can be employed for any other desired purpose.

In order that the structure may be provided with seating accommodations seat sections are used in connection with the platform, one of these sections being provided for each platform section. Each seat section consists of end standards 19 having their outer faces cut away at their lower ends as indicated at 20 so as to form shoulders 21 designed to rest upon the end portions of beams 4 while the lower end of the standard rests against one side face of the beam. These standards support a seat 22 and an intermediate standard 23 is preferably positioned under this seat and designed to rest upon the middle beam 10 of the platform section. The seat sections when assembled upon the beams 4 and 10 form a continuous circle around the platform, the standards 19 of the adjoining sections contacting above the beams 4. These standards are designed to be fastened together in any preferred manner but preferably by means of U-shaped coupling devices 24, the end portions of which are designed to be inserted downwardly into sockets or recesses formed in the upper ends of the standards 19 as indicated in Fig. 7. When the parts are thus fastened together it will be apparent that a continuous circular seat is formed which can not be displaced.

When it is desired to take apart the platform the sections are first detached from one another by withdrawing the coupling devices 24 from engagement therewith whereupon said sections can be moved from their positions upon the beams 4 and 10. A turnbuckle 17 is then uncoupled from the rods 16 and the binding device withdrawn from the grooves 13 and 14. As soon as the parts have thus been unfastened the platform sections can be slid outward from between the beams 4, after which the joists 7 can be removed. In order to facilitate the removal of the joists those of the joists disposed between two of the beams 4 are preferably capable of sufficient longitudinal movement within the mortises 6 to permit the ends of the joists to be withdrawn from the mortises. After the joists have been removed from between two of the beams 4 the remainder of them can obviously be easily withdrawn and the beams 4 can be removed from engagement with the hub 1. It will be seen that

after the parts have been taken apart as herein described they can be stored in a comparatively small space and readily transported.

Importance is attached to the fact that in the construction described it is unnecessary to use any nails or similar fastening devices and after the parts have been assembled they can all be securely tied together simply by using the binding device 15—16—17.

What is claimed is:

1. In a collapsible platform the combination with a center block and longitudinally grooved beams radiating therefrom and detachably connected thereto; of platform sections comprising converging beams, longitudinal tongues thereon for engagement with the grooves, and flooring secured upon said converging beams and lapping and resting upon the grooved beams, said tongues and grooved beams cooperating to bind the flooring upon the grooved beams.

2. In a collapsible platform the combination with a center block and longitudinally grooved beams radiating therefrom and detachably connected thereto; of platform sections comprising converging beams, longitudinal tongues thereon for engagement with the grooves, flooring secured upon said converging beams and lapping and resting upon the grooved beams, and joists detachably engaging and connecting the radial beams and constituting supports for the converging beams of the floor sections, said tongues and the grooved radiating beams cooperating to bind the flooring upon said radiating beams.

3. In a collapsible platform the combination with a center block and longitudinally grooved beams radiating therefrom and detachably connected thereto; of platform sections comprising converging beams, longitudinal tongues thereon for engagement with the grooves, flooring secured upon said converging beams and lapping and resting upon the grooved beams, and contractible means bearing against the radial and flooring beams for binding the parts together.

4. In a collapsible platform the combination with a center block and longitudinally grooved beams radiating therefrom and detachably connected thereto; of platform sections comprising converging beams, longitudinal tongues thereon for engagement with the grooves, flooring secured upon said converging beams and lapping and resting upon the grooved beams, said radial beams having transverse grooves, and contractible means bearing against the ends of the beams of the floor sections and seated within the grooves, said means being disposed to adjust the beams inwardly toward the center block to bind them together.

5. In a collapsible platform the combination with a center block and longitudinally grooved beams radiating therefrom and de-



5 tachably connected thereto; of platform sections comprising converging beams, longitudinal tongues thereon for engagement with the grooves, flooring secured upon said converging beams and lapping and resting upon the grooved beams, arcuate seat sections bearing upon the outer ends of the radial beams, and coupling devices for connecting the ends of said sections together.

10 6. The combination with a center block and longitudinally grooved beams radiating therefrom and detachably connected thereto; of floor sections insertible between said beams and in engagement with the grooves  
15 thereof, supporting joists interposed between and engaging the radial beams, and contractible binding means engaging the radial beams and bearing against the floor sections for forcing said sections toward the center block.

20 7. The combination with a center block and radial beams detachably connected thereto; of wedge-like floor sections interposed between and engaging the beams, and contractible means engaging the beams and  
25 bearing upon the outer ends of the floor sections for binding said sections between the beams.

8. The combination with a center block and radial beams detachably connected  
30 thereto, said beams having longitudinal grooves; of joists interposed between and detachably connected to said beams, floor sections mounted upon the joists, each section comprising converging beams having longitudinal  
35 tongues disposed to be seated within the grooves, and flooring upon said tongued beams disposed to lap and bear upon the

radial beams the tongues and the grooved beams coöperating to bind the flooring upon the grooved beams.

4 9. The combination with a center block and radial beams detachably connected thereto, said beams having longitudinal grooves; of joists interposed between and detachably connected to said beams, floor sections mounted upon the joists, each section  
45 comprising converging beams having longitudinal tongues disposed to be seated within the grooves, flooring upon said tongued beams disposed to lap and bear upon the radial beams, arcuate seat sections, each section consisting of end standards mounted  
50 upon and extending between the radial beams, and a seat supported by said standards, and coupling devices detachably engaging the adjoining end standards.

10. The combination with a sectional platform comprising beams and floor sections detachably connected thereto; of a seat including standards each disposed to bear upon and  
60 to lap one side of a beam, and U-shaped coupling devices projecting into the standards of the adjoining sections for holding said sections against separation, the adjoining standards of said sections straddling their supporting beam.

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

JAMES F. LAYTHAM.

Witnesses:

S. B. HUGHES,  
A. Y. SEELY.