

J. G. PETERSON.
ELECTRIC SWITCH RECEPTACLE.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 16, 1908.

906,739.

Patented Dec. 15, 1908.

Fig. 1

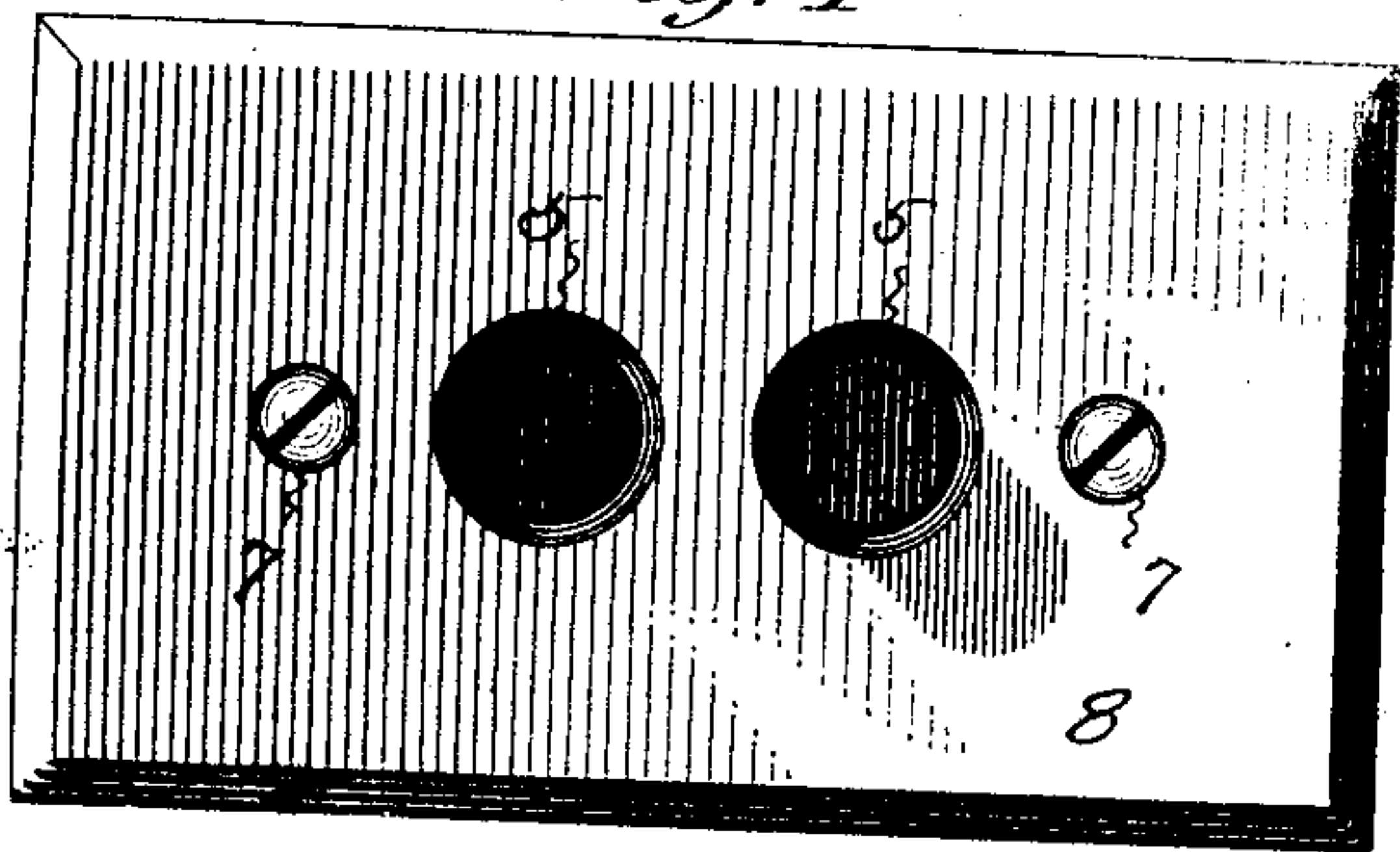


Fig. 2

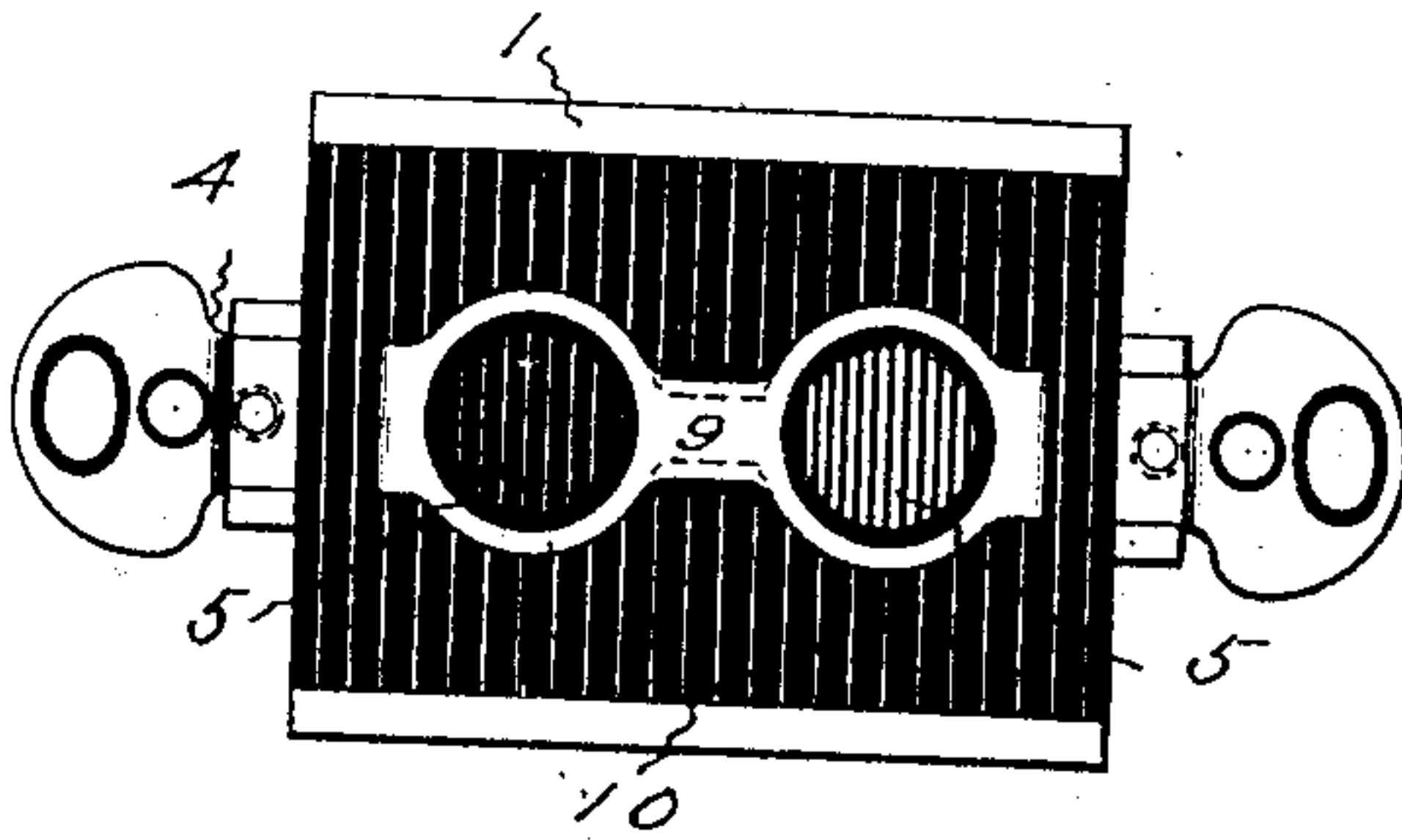


Fig. 4

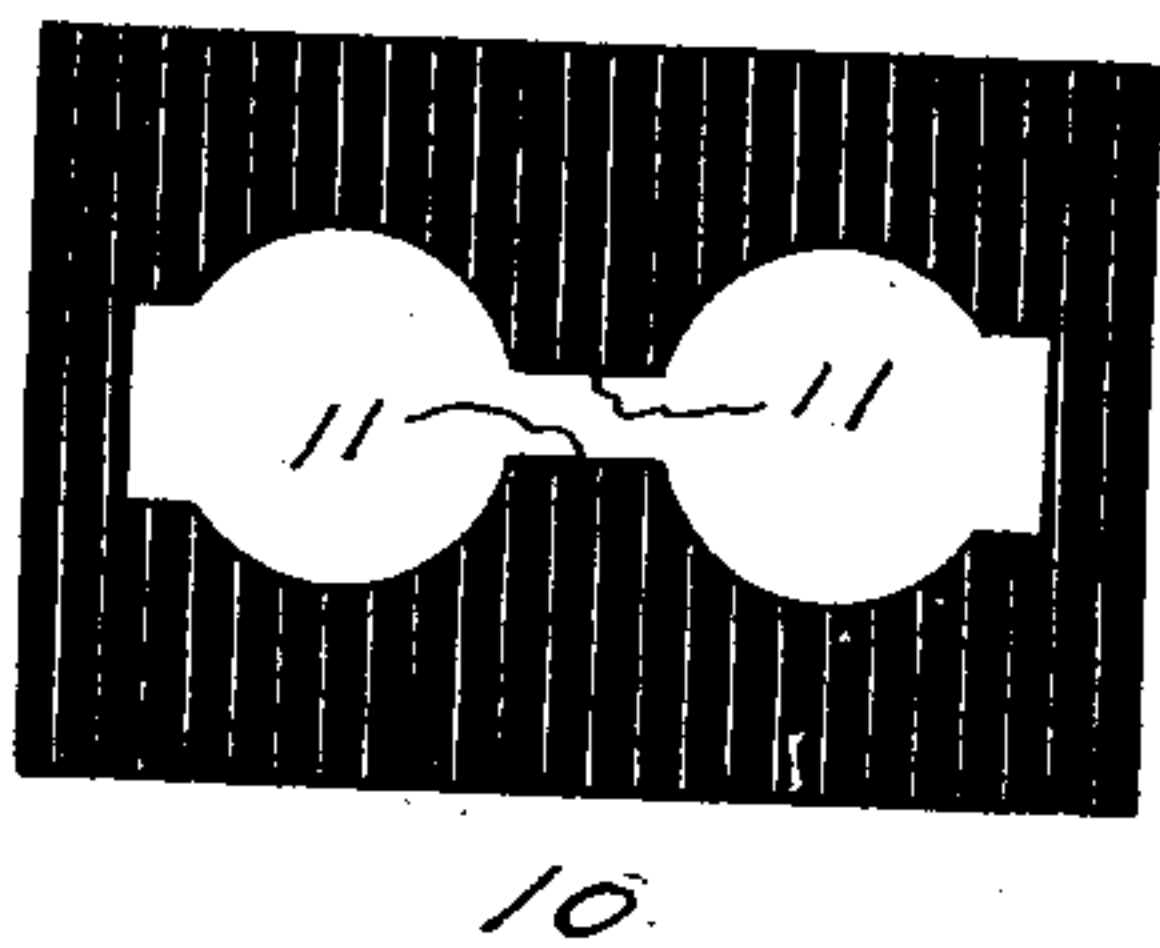


Fig. 3

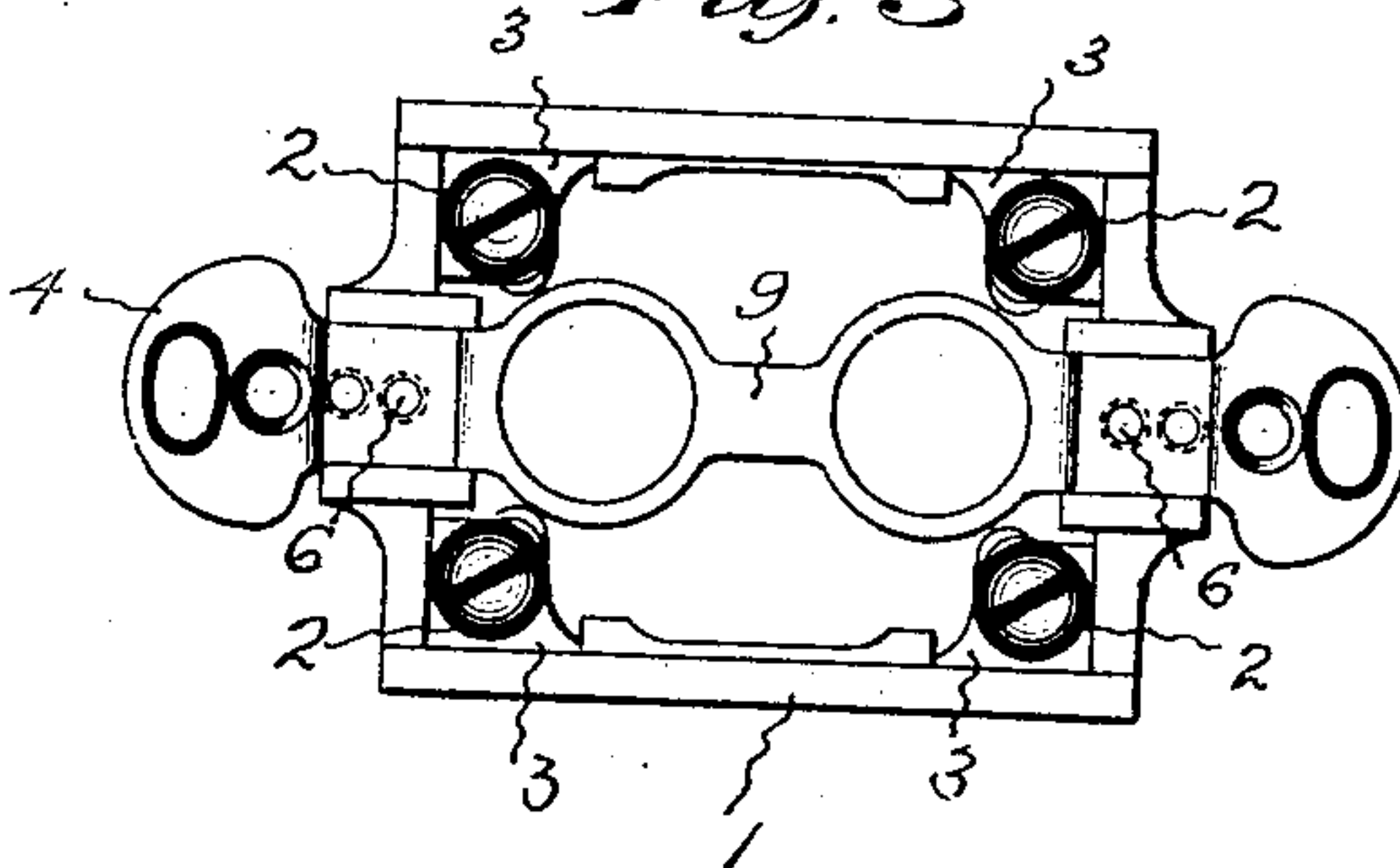


Fig. 5

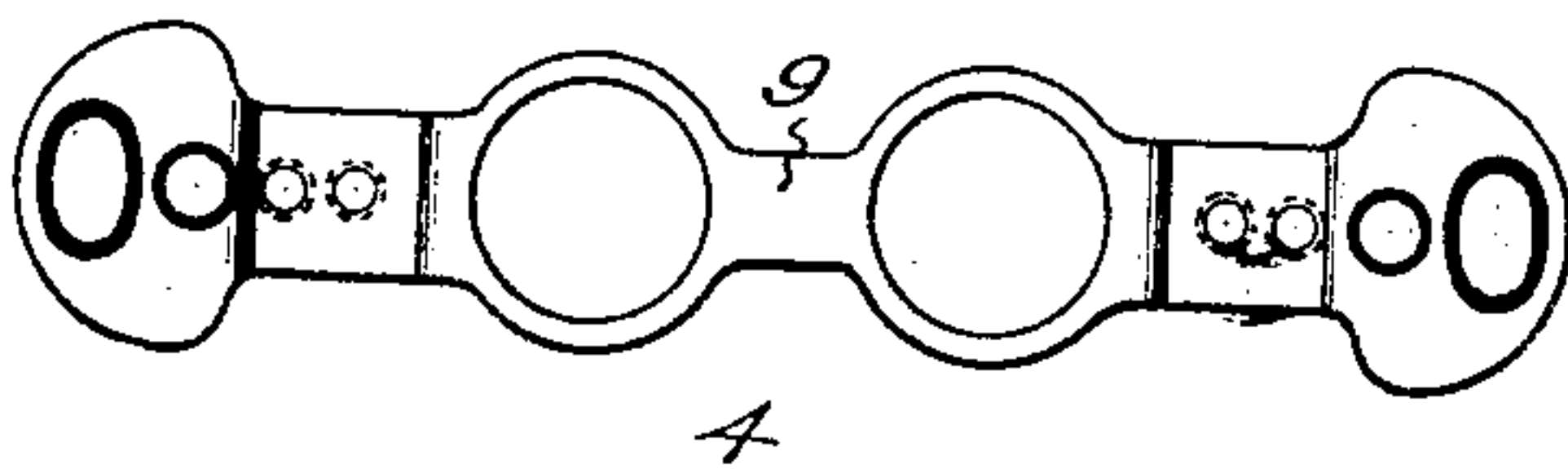
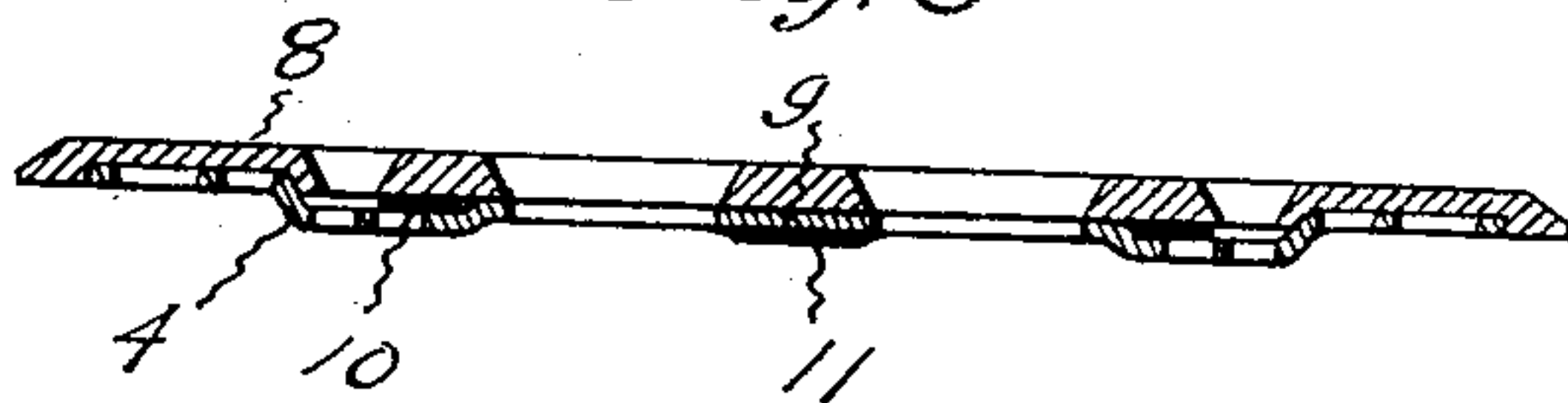


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ELECTRIC-SWITCH RECEPTACLE.

No. 903,739.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 15, 1908.

Application filed September 16, 1903. Serial No. 453,232.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHANN GODFREY PETERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Electric-Switch Receptacle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to those receptacles which are designed to receive push button electric switches, and more particularly to those push button receptacles which are made of insulating material and have a button guiding and face plate attaching frame or bar extending across the open end and a sheet of insulation closing the open end.

The object of the invention is to provide a receptacle of this nature with a very simple, easily formed, and quickly assembled means for closing the open end, whereby, in a cheap manner, the interior can be protected from the entrance of dust and dirt, particularly plaster and the like, as when the receptacle is set in an unfinished wall and before the face plate is applied, which covering and protecting means thoroughly insulates the face plate and eliminates any possibility of the end of a conducting wire from which the insulation is removed where it is attached to a contact post by a binding screw, from loosening or springing up and making contact with the face plate.

The invention resides in a receptacle of insulating material having a bar extending across its open end and a sheet of insulating material so shaped that it can be quickly placed over the open end of the receptacle and snapped into engagement with the bar in such manner that it will hold in place against accidental removal without other fastening devices, yet can be instantly removed when desired to permit access to the interior of the receptacle for wiring and other purposes.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings shows a front view of a push button switch. Fig. 2 shows a view of the same with the face plate omitted. Fig. 3 shows a plan with the face plate and insulating cover omitted. Fig. 4 shows a plan of the insulating cover. Fig. 5 shows a plan of the bar that extends across the open end of the receptacle for the attachment of the face plate and for guiding the push buttons. Fig. 6 is a central longitudinal section taken through the face plate, bar and insulating cover for the receptacle.

The receptacle 1 shown is one of the rectangular type, usually made of porcelain. With this form of receptacle the insulated circuit wires are brought up the outside of the end walls near the corners and the bared end of the wires bent inward through grooves in the upper edges and wound around screws 2, which are threaded into the binding posts 3 that are fastened in the interior of the receptacle. The bar 4 is placed across the open end of the receptacle and fastened. This bar is usually perforated for the push buttons 5 and for the screws 6 that hold it in place, and also for the screws 7 that secure the face plate 8 in position. The perforated sections of the bar shown are joined by a narrow section 9.

The cover 10, which is cut from a sheet of insulating paper, fiber, or the like, has an exterior contour approximately of such shape that it fits into the rabbeted upper edges of the side walls of the receptacle. The cover shown is cut out so as to substantially conform to and fit the outline of the bar, except that the distance between the sections 11 is somewhat less than the width of the section that joins the perforated portions of the bar. This provides two tongues which, when the cover is placed in position over the open end of the receptacle, can be snapped beneath the narrow section of the bar in such manner as to securely hold the cover in place. The cover can be quickly removed from the receptacle by bending the tongues from beneath the narrow section of the bar.

When the cover is in place it closes the receptacle and prevents the entrance of dust and dirt. This is of particular value when the switch is set in a wall that is unfinished, as it prevents plaster and grit from getting into the mechanism and affecting its operation. The cover also forms an insulating lining for the face plate and eliminates any danger of the bare ends of the conducting wires from springing up, or of the binding screws from working loose and getting into contact with the inner surface of the plate and causing a short circuit. Such a cover as is herein described is very cheap to make and it can be easily and quickly applied or removed as desired.

The invention claimed is—

1. The combination with the insulating base of an electric switch receptacle, of a bar extending across the open end of the recep-

tacle, and an insulating cover closing the open end of the receptacle, said cover having tongues that project beneath portions of the bar so as to hold the cover in place, substantially as specified.

2. The combination with the insulating base of an electric switch receptacle, of a bar extending across the open end of the receptacle, said bar being perforated for the passage of push buttons, and an insulating cover closing the open end of the receptacle, said cover having tongues at its center that project beneath the portion of the bar between the button perforations so as to hold the cover in place, substantially as specified.

3. The combination with the insulating

base of an electric switch receptacle, of a bar extending across the open end of the receptacle, said bar being perforated for the passage of push buttons, an insulating cover closing the open end of the receptacle, said cover having tongues at its center that project beneath the portion of the bar between the button perforations and a face plate secured to the bar and insulated from the interior of the receptacle by said cover, substantially as specified.

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