

G. W. MARTIN.  
 DEVICE FOR STRAIGHTENING RAILS AND RAIL JOINTS.  
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 18, 1906.

916,747.

Patented Mar. 30, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

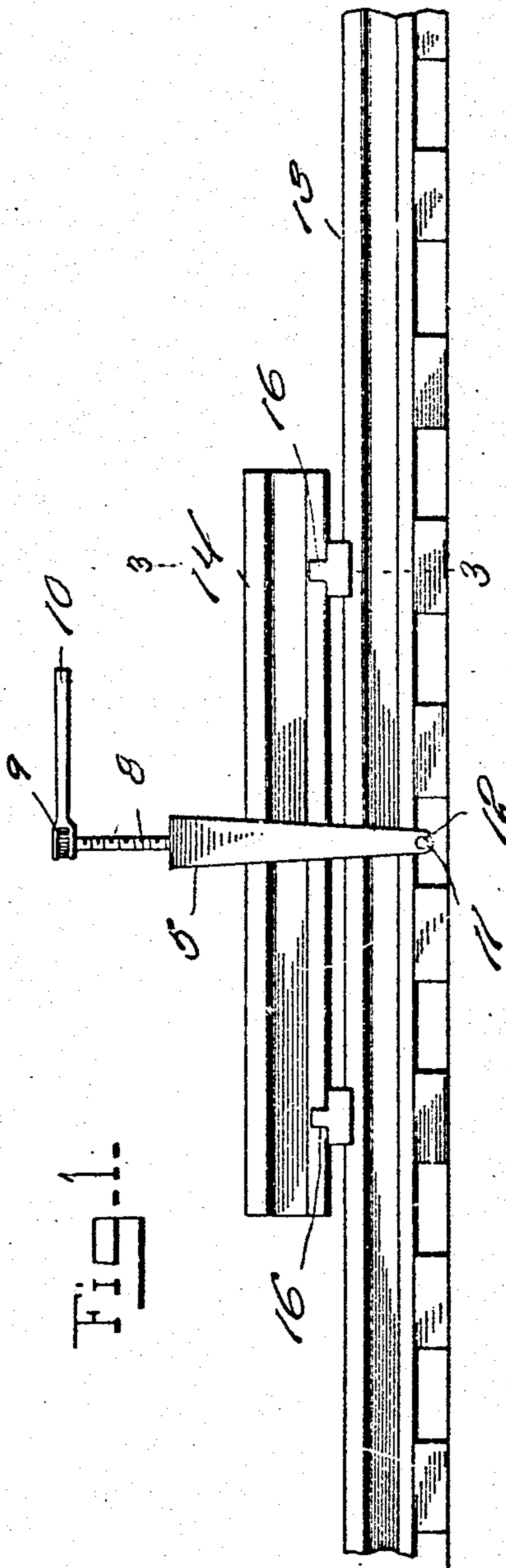


Fig. 1.

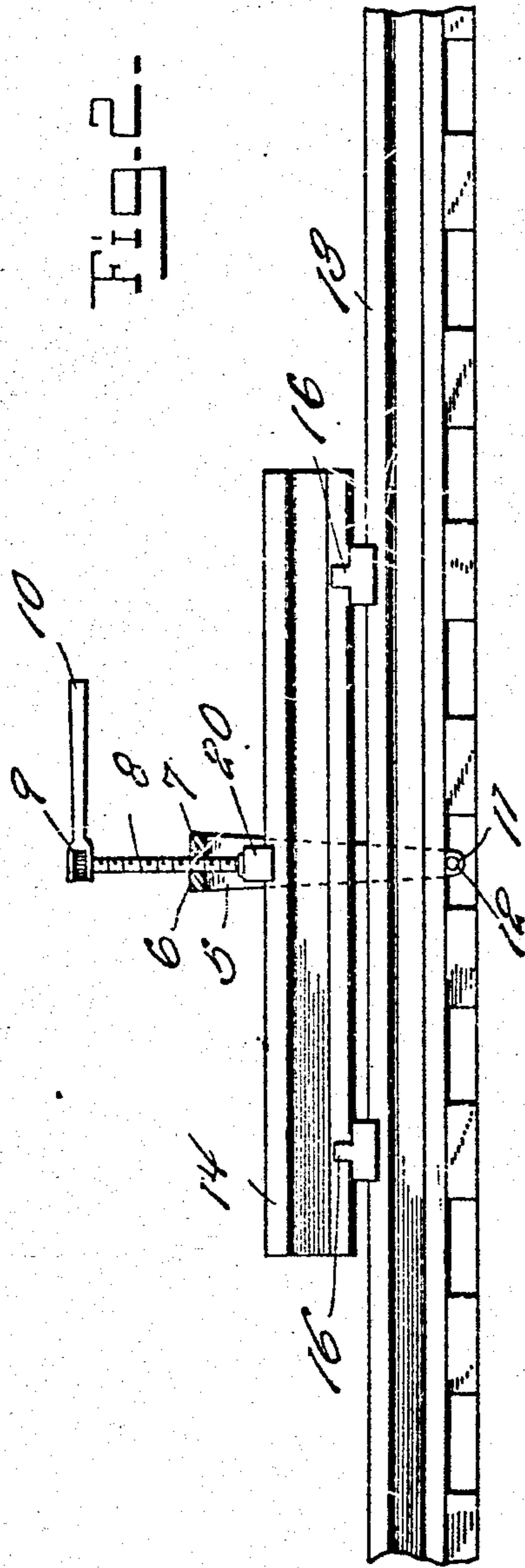


Fig. 2.

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Fig. 3.

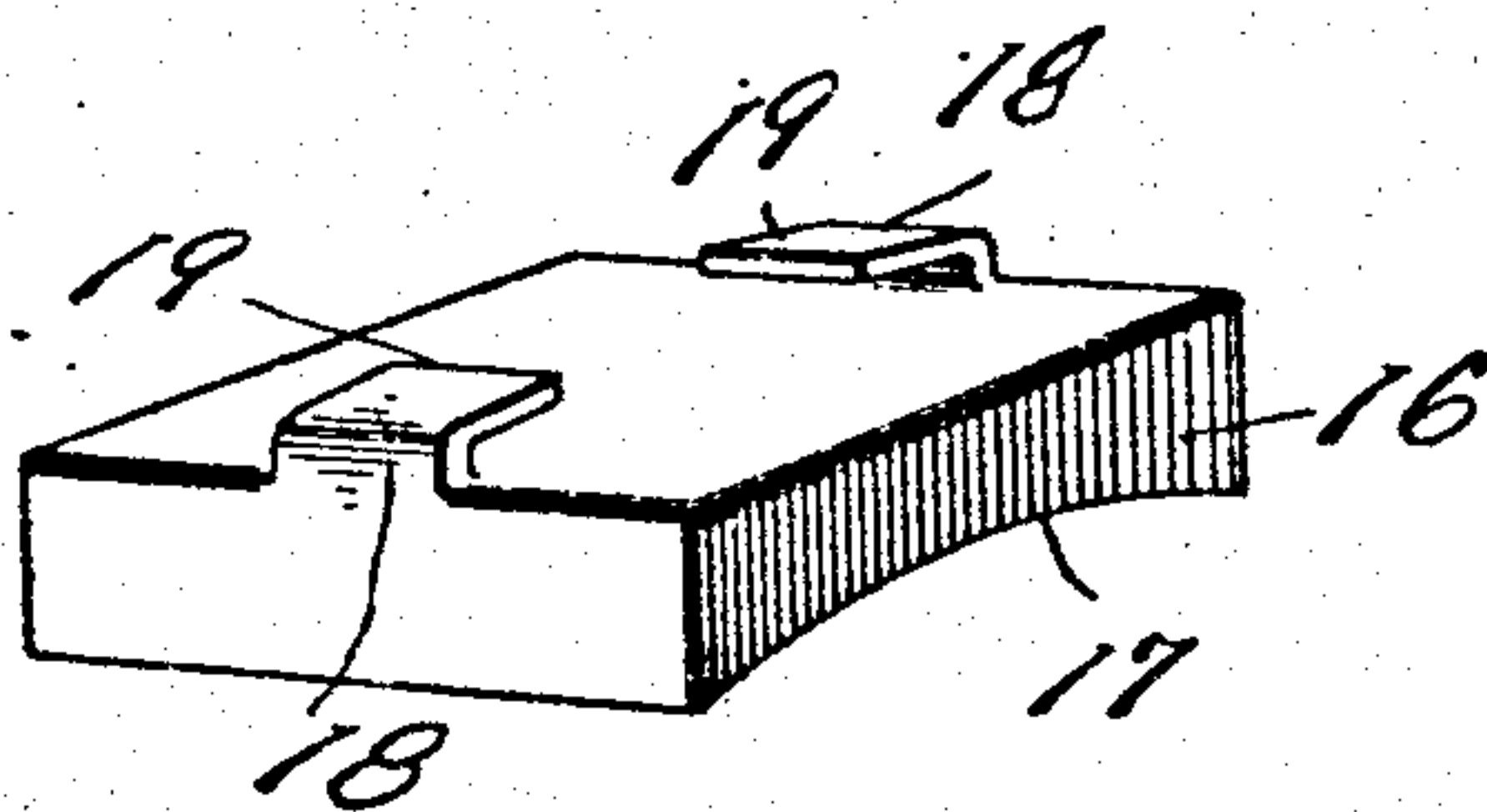
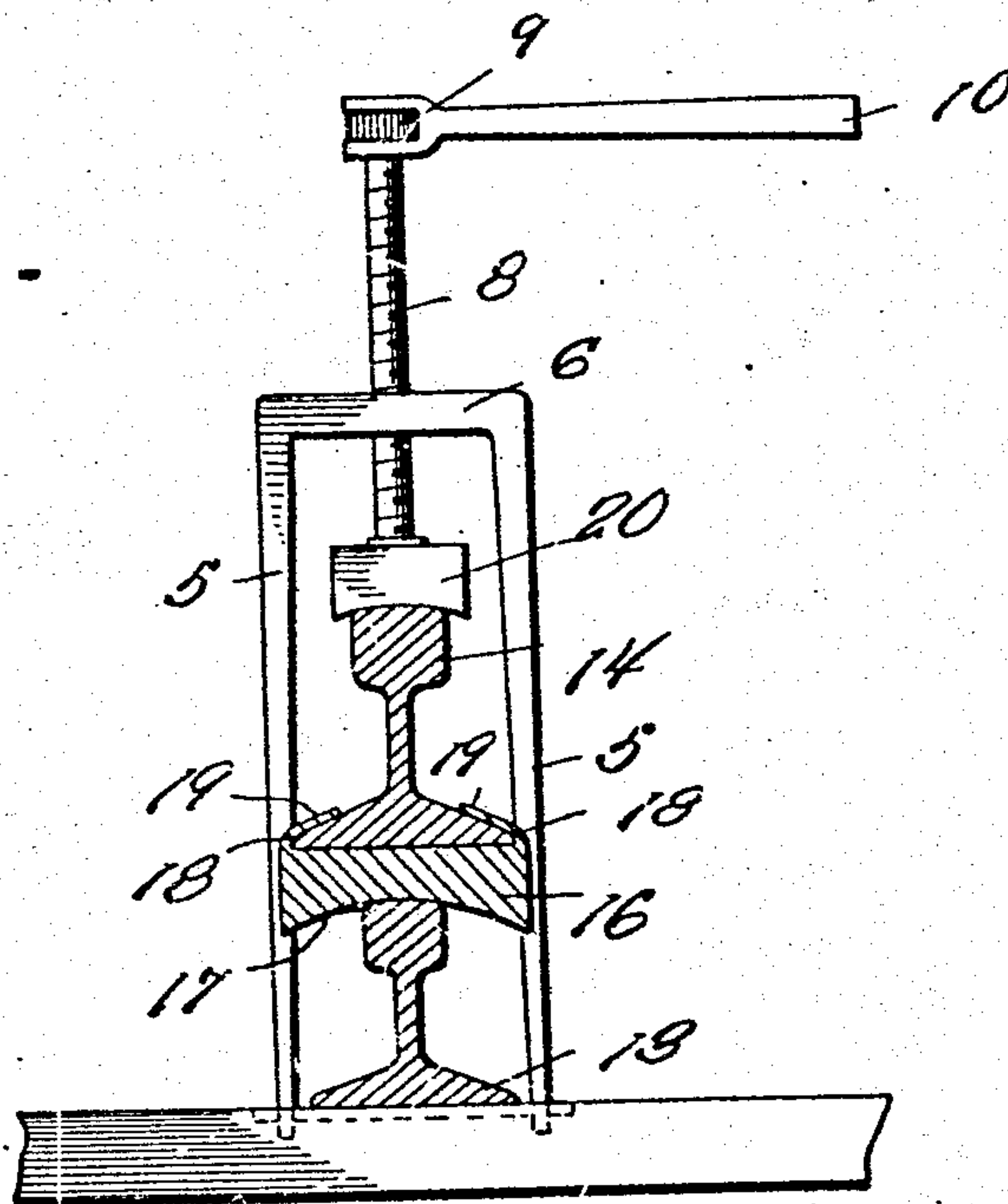


Fig. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. MARTIN, OF THOMPSONVILLE, MICHIGAN.

DEVICE FOR STRAIGHTENING RAILS AND RAIL-JOINTS.

No. 916,747.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 30, 1909.

Application filed May 18, 1906. Serial No. 317,557.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Thompsonville, in the county of Benzie, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Straightening Rails and Rail-Joints; 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 devices for straightening rails and the like, and has for its object to provide a device of this nature, which may be quickly placed in position, and which will be efficient in action.

The invention resides in the provision of a frame having means for engaging the underside of a rail, a straightening screw mounted in the frame, and arranged to engage a rail or beam, which is placed between the side portions of the frame, and rests upon spacing blocks, which are of novel construction, and may be placed upon any short length of rail and held against movement therefor, the underside of the said blocks being recessed to conform to the head of the rail, to which the device is applied.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1 is a side elevation of the invention, in use. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof, partly in section. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and, Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the spacing blocks.

The invention comprises an inverted U-shaped frame including a pair of spaced parallel side members 5 and a connecting portion 6, which joins the side members at their upper ends, and in which intermediate its ends is formed a threaded opening 7. Engaged through the said threaded opening 7 is a screw 8, carrying at its upper end a ratchet head 9, with which is connected one end of a lever 10, by means of which the screw may be turned, for a purpose to be presently described.

The members 5 are provided at their lower ends with alining openings 11, in which are engaged the ends of a bar 12, which latter is designed for engagement with the underside of a rail 13, the said bar being removably engaged with the side members 5, as will be readily understood, to permit application of the device to the rail 13.

A bar, or preferably a short length of rail 14, is designed for disposal between the side members 5, and in order to support the rail 14 in this position and in spaced relation to the rail 13, I provide suitable spacing blocks 16. Each of the said blocks has its underside concaved, as at 17, to conform to the tread of the rail 13, to prevent accidental disengagement therefrom, and in order that the blocks may be removably engaged with any convenient short length of rail and located at any desired point thereon, I form upon opposite sides of each of the blocks 16, ears 18, which are directed upwardly and thence inwardly toward each other, as at 19, in spaced relation to the upper face of the block, it being understood that the base of the rail 14 rests upon the said upper face of the block, and that the ears 18 engage the flanges thereof, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

At its lower end, the screw 8 is provided with a head 20, which is swiveled thereto and which has its under face concaved to engage the tread of the rail 14, and it will be readily seen that when the device is placed upon a bent rail in the position shown in Fig. 1, and the screw rotated by means of the lever 10, an upward pull will be exerted upon the frame and consequently the bar 12 resulting in a bending of the rail 13.

What is claimed, is:—

In a rail straightener an inverted U shaped frame having a threaded opening in its bight portion, the ends of said frame being perforated for the reception of a cross bar to bear on the lower face of the rail to be straightened, an oblong bar, two spacing blocks each having a concaved face to bear on the tread of the said rail, said spac-



ing blocks being further provided with oppositely disposed ears forming guides to embrace said oblong bar, a screw within said threaded opening and a head swiveled to one end of said screw said head being provided on its under face with a concaved surface to bear on said bar and an operating handle having a ratchet connection with the

opposite end of said screw for the purpose described.

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

GEORGE W. MARTIN.

Witnesses:

E. M. DIXON,  
WALLACE DIXON.