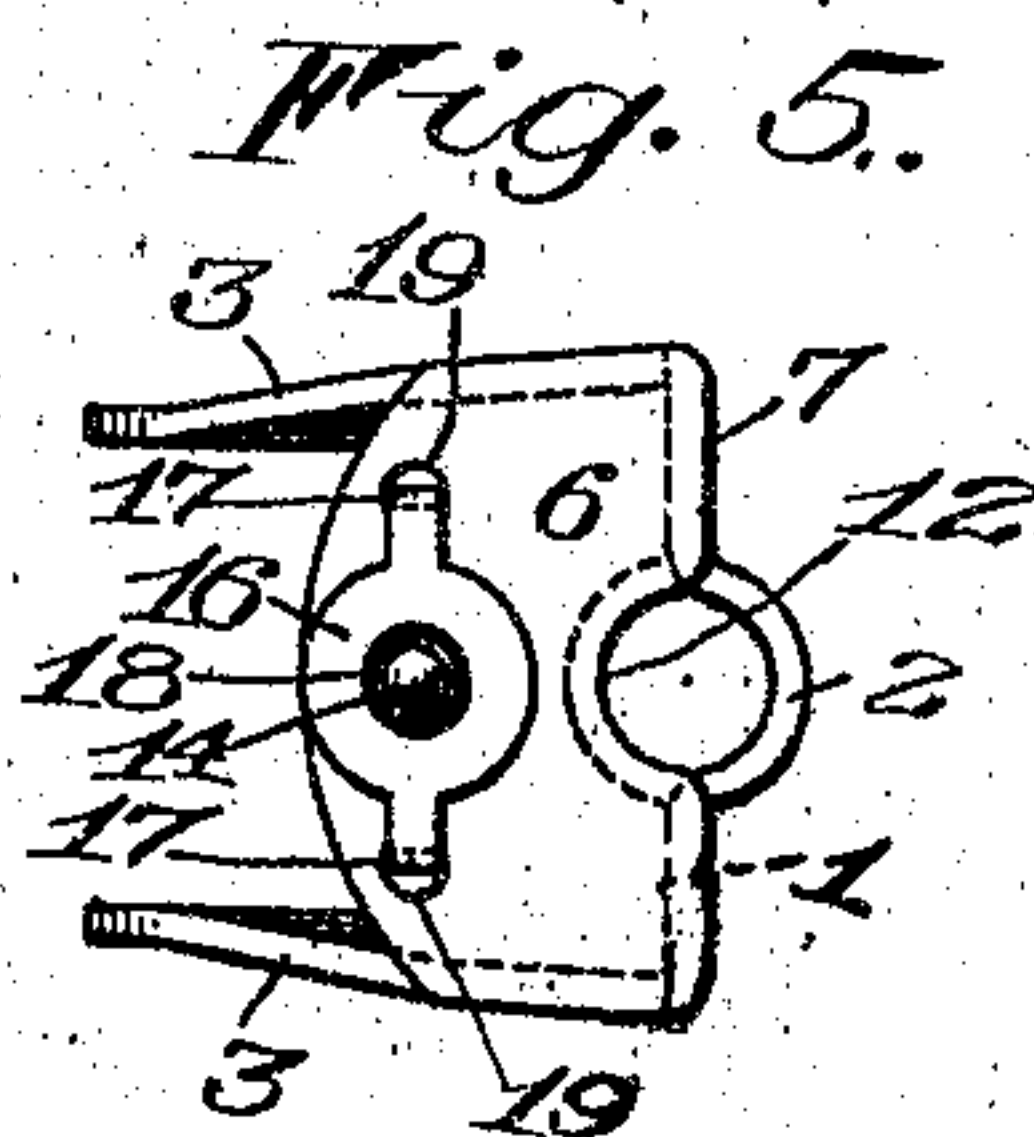
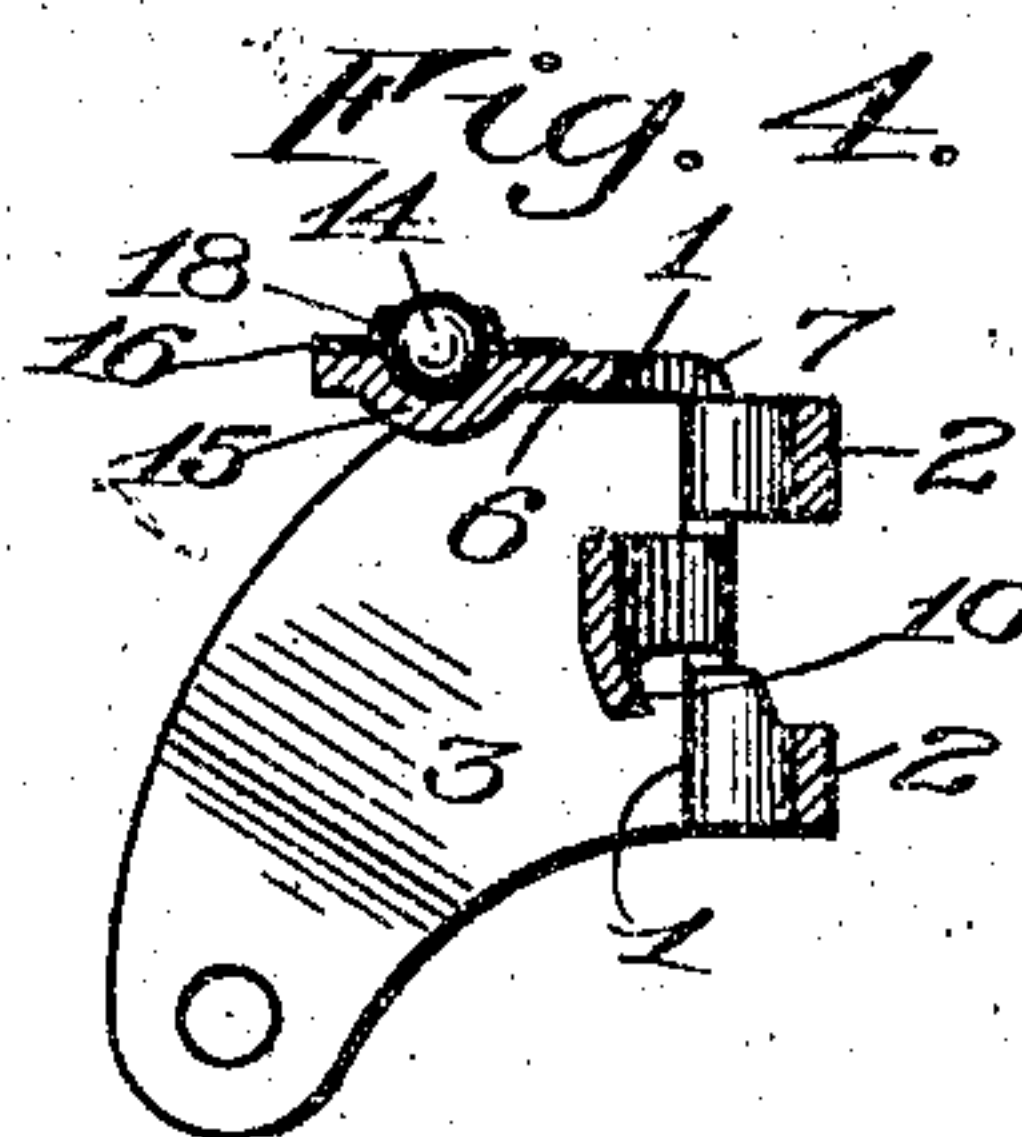
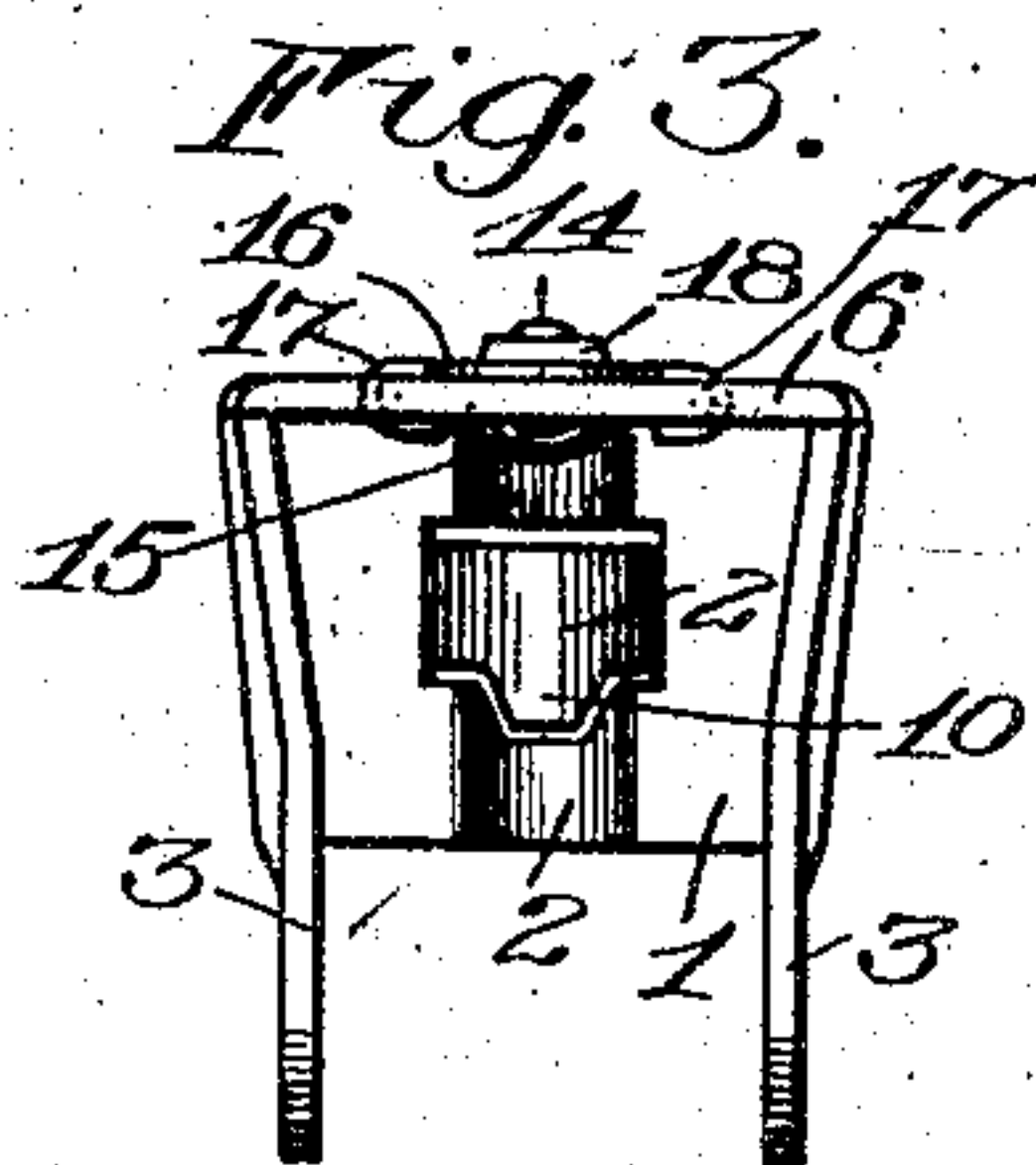
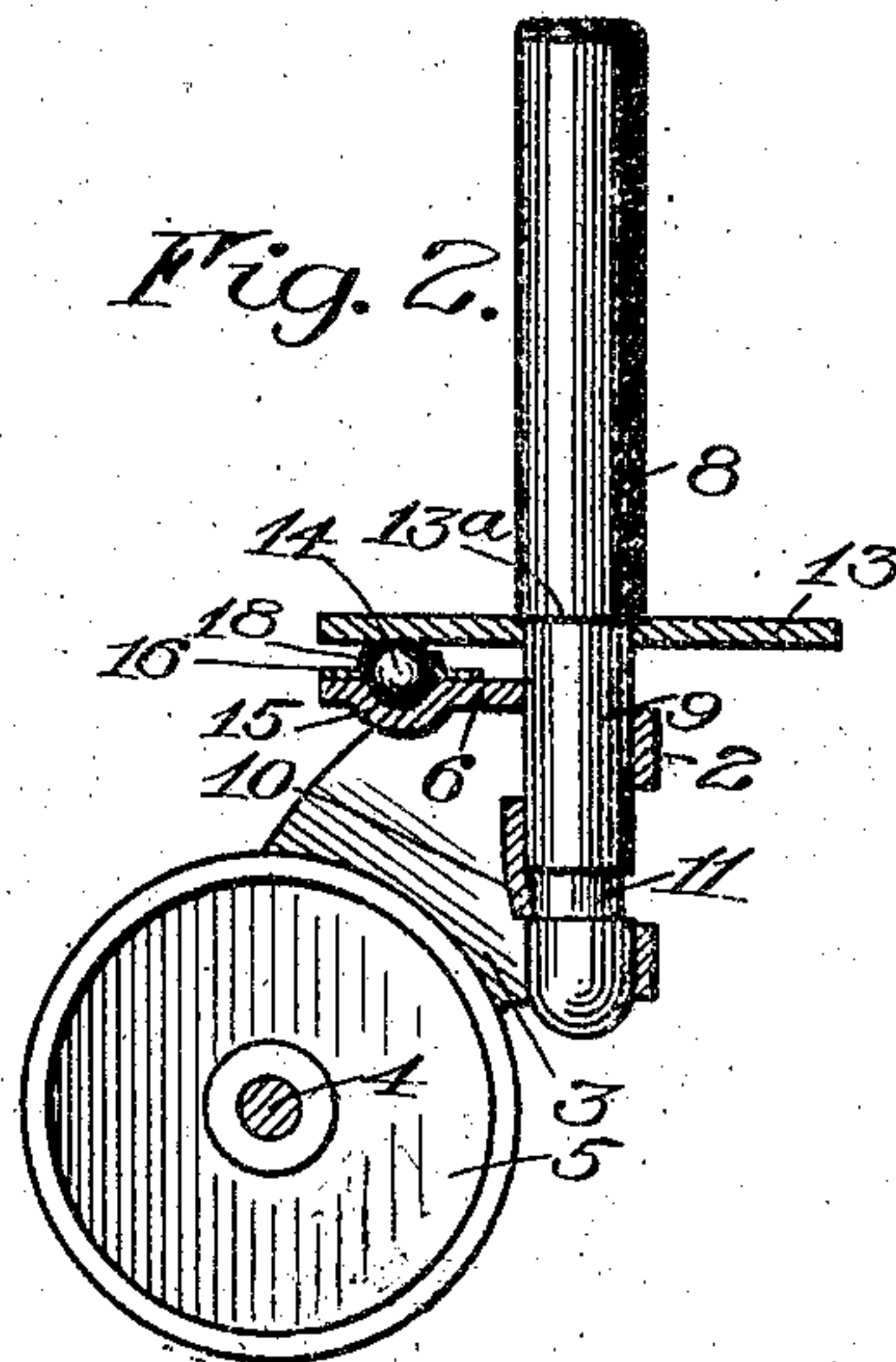
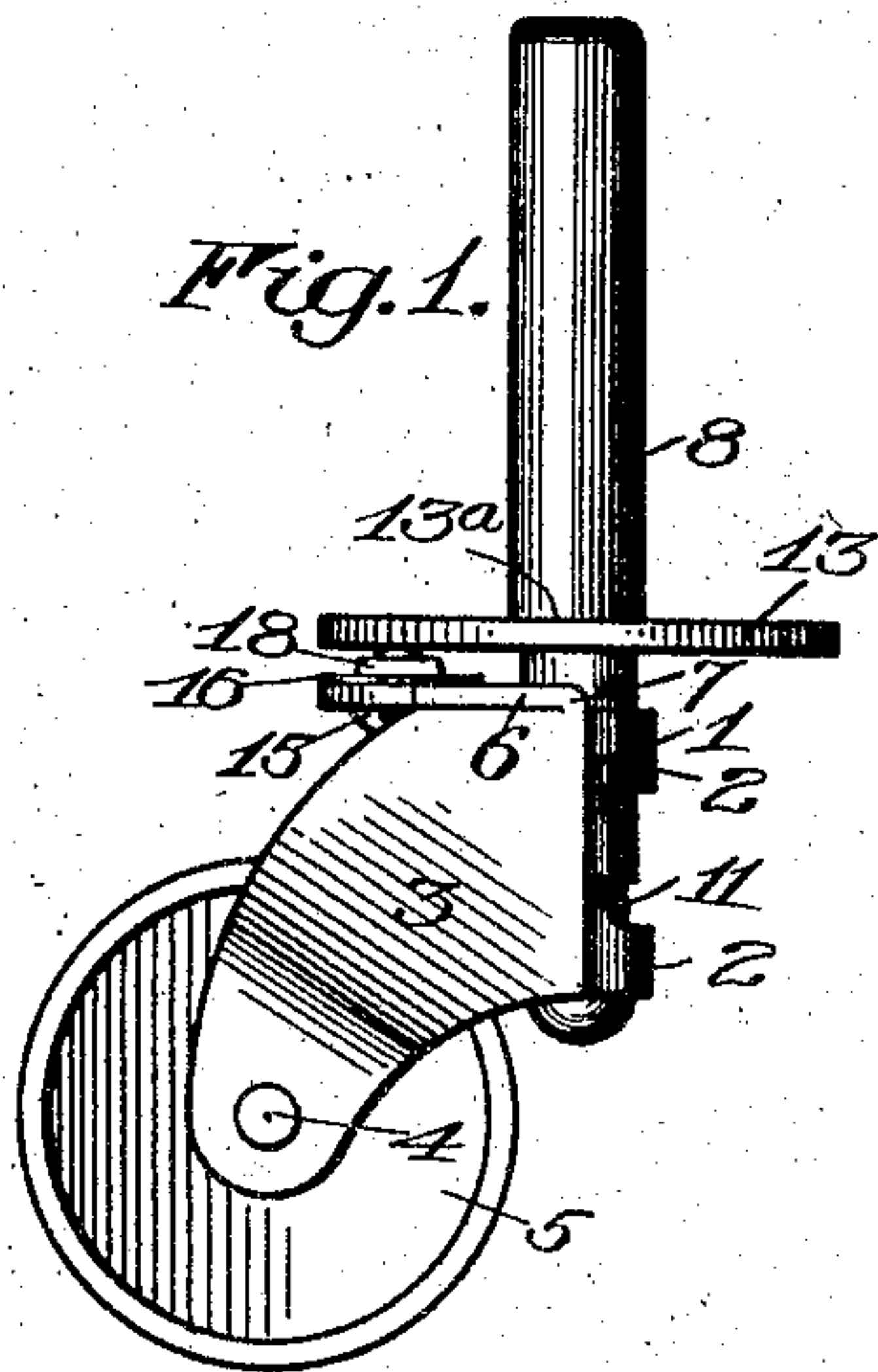


T. F. JENNINGS.
CASTER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 25, 1908.

919,873.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909.



Witnesses

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THOMAS F. JENNINGS, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

CASTER.

No. 919,873.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 27, 1909.

Application filed September 25, 1908. Serial No. 454,733.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS F. JENNINGS, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, and to the reference-numerals marked thereon.

The present invention relates to casters and it has for one object to provide a strong and durable structure that may be inexpensively manufactured from sheet material, and for another object to make provision whereby a simple anti-friction device may be employed for removing the strain from the bearing in which the pintle is supported.

To these and other ends the invention consists in certain improvements and combinations of parts all as will be hereinafter more fully described, the novel features being pointed out in the claims at the end of the specification.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a side view of a caster embodying this invention; Fig. 2 is a like view, the caster frame being shown in vertical section; and Figs. 3, 4 and 5 show respectively an elevation, vertical section, and top view of the caster frame.

In this embodiment of the invention the caster frame is formed from a single blank of sheet material and embodies preferably a vertical wall 1 having a bearing portion made by slitting the blank to form straps 2 that are afterward curved in opposite directions as shown. From opposite edges of the vertical wall 1 two wheel supporting arms 3 are projected in parallel directions and the ends of these arms are perforated to receive a shaft 4 on which the roller or wheel 5 turns.

A top wall 6 may be provided and connects the wheel supporting arms at their upper ends. Preferably this top wall is formed in one piece with the vertical wall 1 and is connected thereto by a bend 7. It rests upon the upper edges of the wheel supporting arms and is connected thereto by solder or other suitable means. The edge of the top wall at the bend 7 is notched or cut away to provide a curved bearing 12 alining with the curved bearing of the

vertical wall and serving to take a great deal of the strain that would otherwise be imposed on the straps 2.

The pintle 8 has a reduced bearing portion 9 at its lower end fitting in the bearing of the frame, and it is held in position by a spring tongue 10 that is integral with and preferably depends from one of the straps 2 being bent inwardly at its free end to engage with an annular groove 11 formed in the bearing 9 of the pintle.

In order to reduce the strain on the bearing straps 2 the pintle 8 may be provided with a surrounding abutment 13 in the form of a disk swaged onto the pintle against a shoulder 13^a thereon. This abutment is adapted to cooperate with an anti-friction device arranged on the top wall 6 and in this instance comprising a ball 14 seated in a depression 15 in the top and held therein by a cage secured to the top. Preferably the cage is in the form of a supporting ring 16 carrying a ball retaining portion 18 conforming to the ball and open at its upper end. Fingers 17 may be extended from the ring 16 and secured within openings 19 in the top on the sides of the depression 15.

The pintle bearing 9 is adapted to be fitted and removed from the bearing of the caster frame by pushing and pulling respectively on the end of the pintle that fits into the furniture leg, and the tongue 10 yields to permit this action, yet at the same time effectively holding the pintle in position.

The construction of the parts is such that the strain on the caster is distributed over a number of points so that there is little liability of the parts breaking or getting out of order.

I claim as my invention.

1. The combination with a caster wheel of a frame in which it is journaled comprising a vertical wall having a bearing portion, wheel supporting arms extending from opposite sides of the vertical wall and a top wall connecting the wheel supporting arms; a pintle adapted to turn in the bearing portion of the frame and carrying a surrounding abutment overhanging the top wall; and an anti-friction device held at one side of the pintle between the top wall and the overhanging abutment on the pintle.

2. A frame for casters made from sheet material and comprising a vertical wall hav-

ing a bearing portion formed by straps alternately curved in opposite directions, wheel supporting arms projecting from opposite edges of the vertical wall and a top wall extending from the upper edge of the vertical wall, resting on the upper edges of the wheel supporting arms and having a curved bearing alined with the bearing portion of the bearing wall.

10 3. A caster frame made from sheet material and comprising a vertical wall having a bearing portion formed by straps alternately curved in opposite directions, one of said straps having a spring tongue to co-
15 operate with a pintle in the bearing, and wheel supporting arms projecting from opposite edges of the bearing wall.

4. The combination with a caster frame comprising a vertical wall, having a bearing, wheel supporting arms projecting from opposite edges of the vertical wall, and a top wall connecting the wheel supporting arms and provided with a depression and openings on the sides of the depression, of a
20 pintle adapted to turn in the bearing of the vertical wall and having an abutment surrounding it and overhanging the top wall;

a ball seated in the depression of the top wall and adapted to be engaged by the surrounding abutment on the pintle; and a cage
30 over the ball provided with tongues secured in the openings in the top wall.

5. The combination with a caster frame having a top wall provided with a depression, of a pintle journaled in the frame and
35 having a surrounding abutment turning therewith and overhanging the top of the frame, a ball seated in the depression to engage the abutment, and a cage secured to the frame to hold the ball in the depression. 40

6. A frame for casters made from sheet metal and comprising a vertical wall having a pintle bearing portion formed by straps curved in opposite directions, wheel supporting arms projecting from opposite
45 edges of the vertical wall and a top wall extending from the upper edge of the vertical wall and having curved bearing for engagement by a pintle cooperating with the straps.

THOMAS F. JENNINGS.

Witnesses:

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