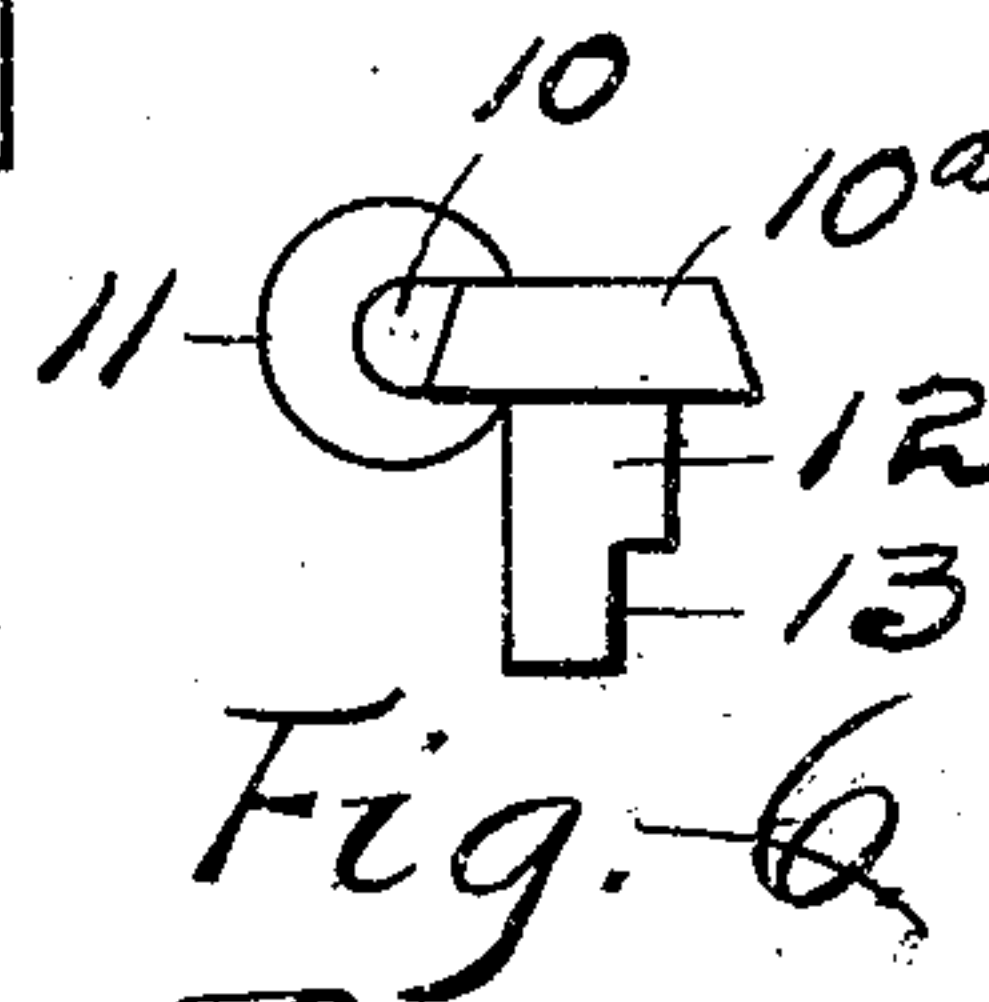
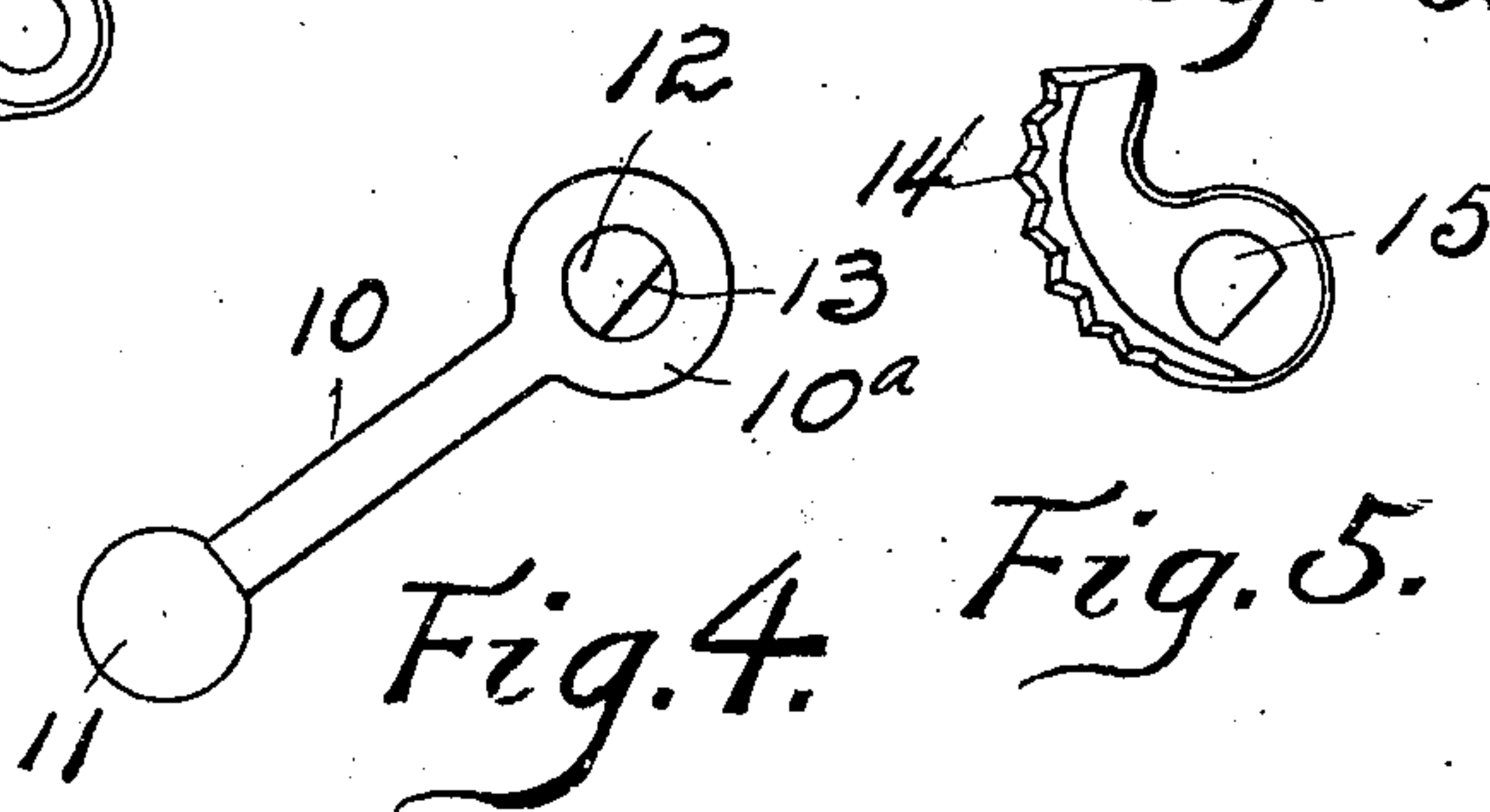
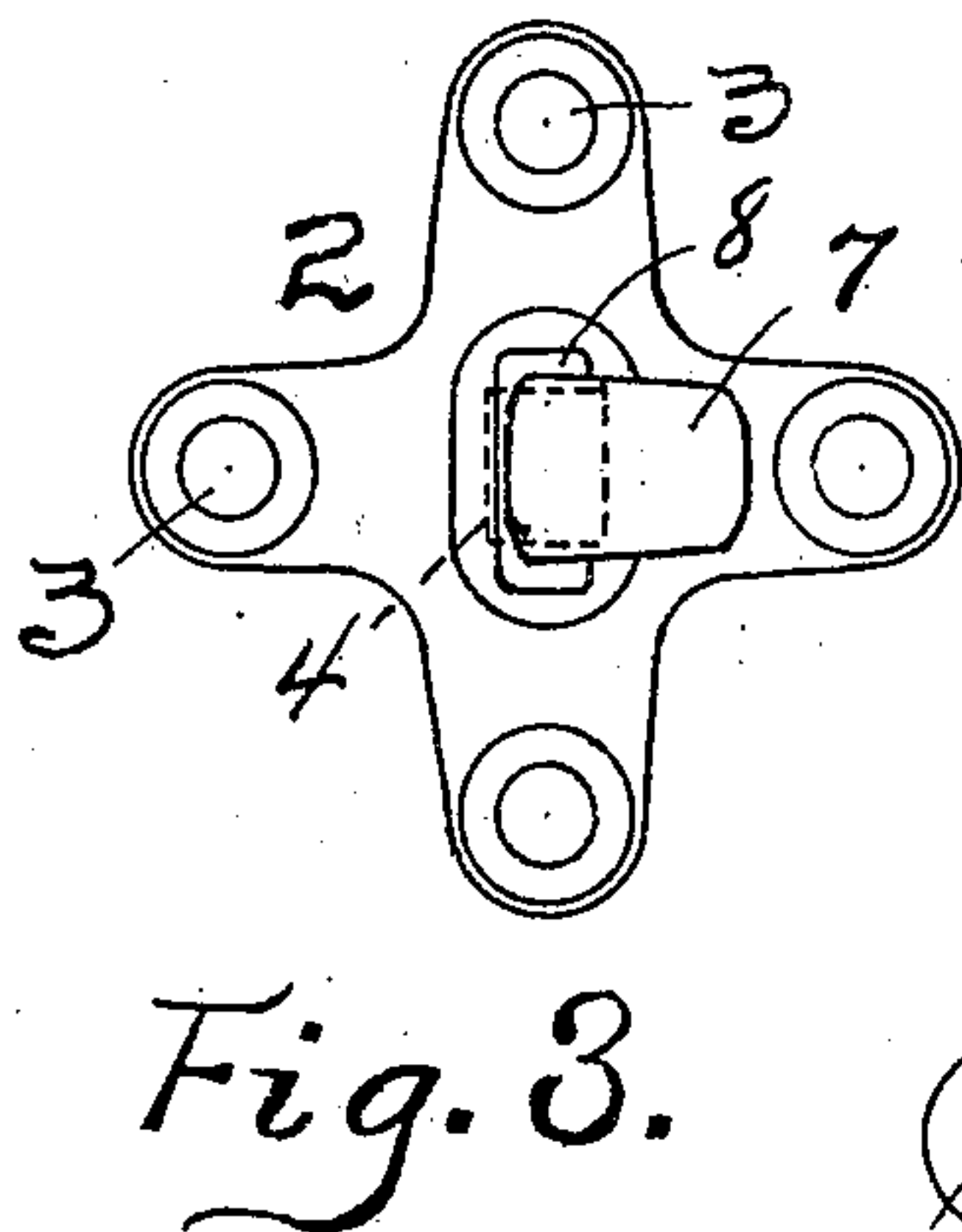
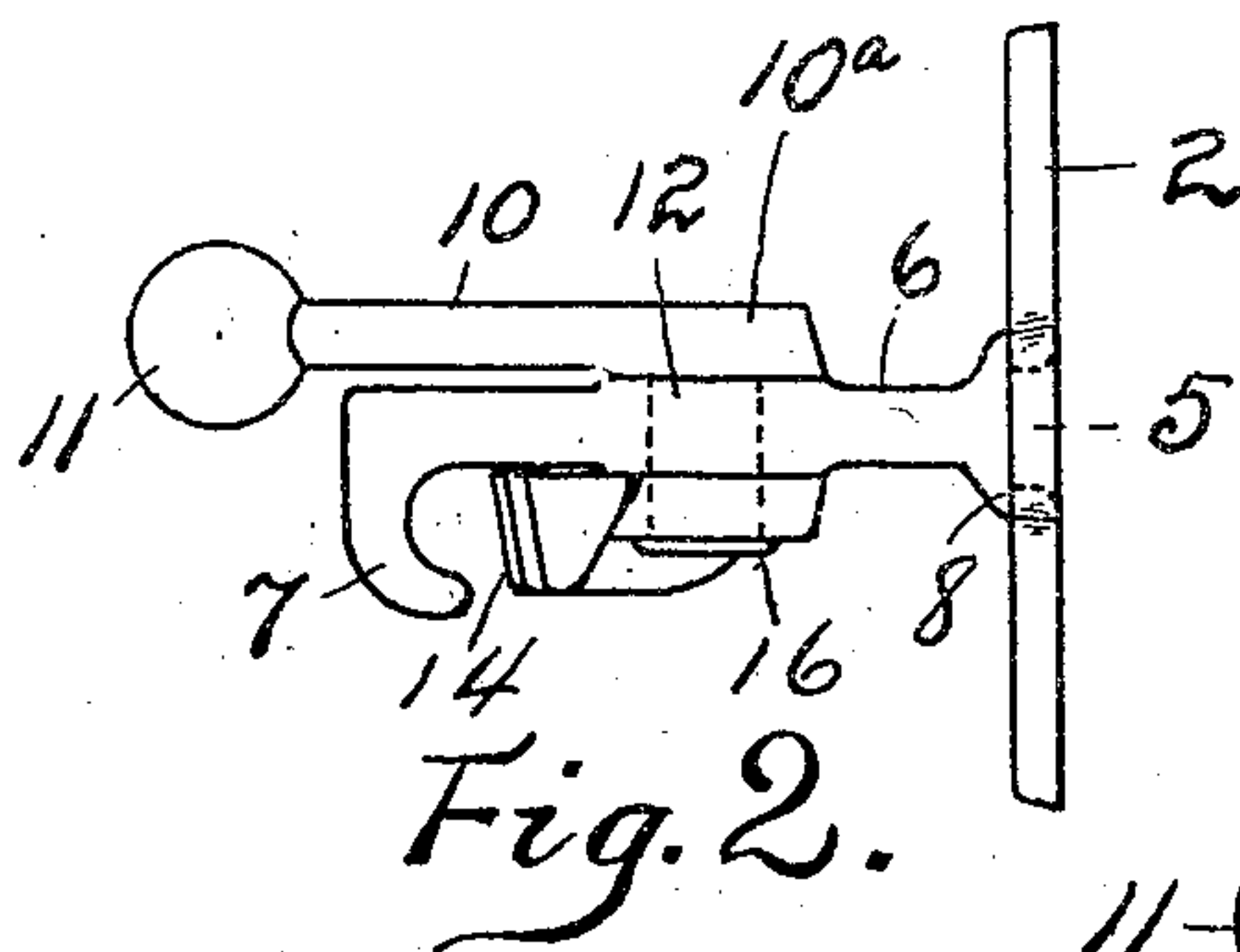
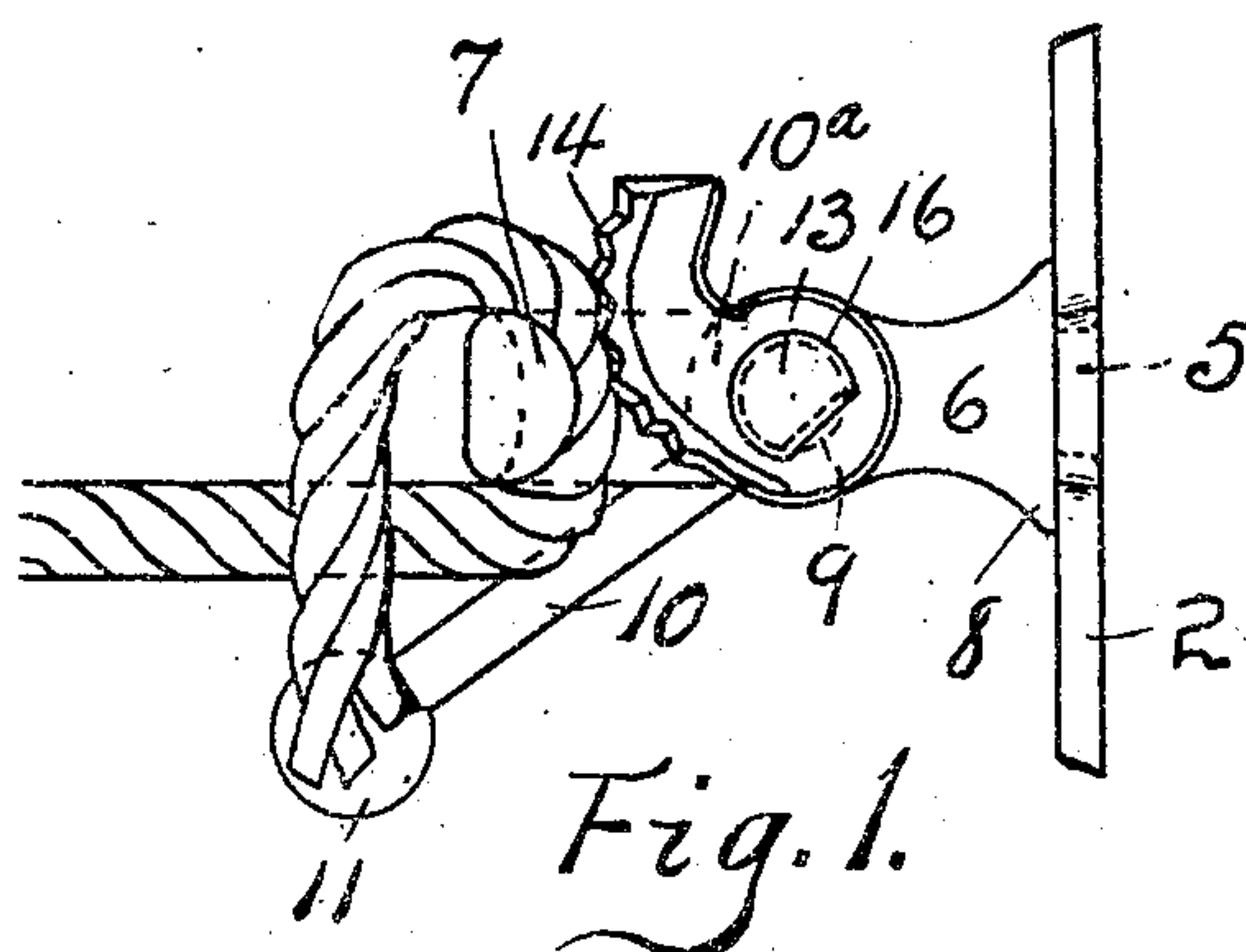


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CLOTHES LINE HOLDER.  
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925,238.

Patented June 15, 1909.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY B. SHREVE, OF GALESBURG, ILLINOIS.

## CLOTHES-LINE HOLDER.

No. 925,238.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 15, 1909.

Application filed October 22, 1908. Serial No. 459,038.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HARRY B. SHREVE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Galesburg, in the county of Knox and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Clothes-Line Holder, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices which are attachable to a post, building or other support to automatically but releasably clutch a clothes-line or the like.

The objects of the invention are to furnish a device of the character described which is not only effective for the purpose for which it is intended, but which is economic of manufacture, readily, but with unusual security attachable to the means which supports it, which may be manufactured in such parts that it may be easily assembled, and which is so small and light in weight that it is inexpensive as regards shipment.

In order that the invention may be fully understood I have in the accompanying drawings illustrated it in both its assembled and disassembled positions and in the best way now known to me.

In said drawings: Figure 1 is a side elevation, a fragmental portion of a clothes-line engaged by the clutch, as in operation, and the horizontal portion of the bight of which line is supposed to be elsewhere secured; Fig. 2, a top plan, the parts occupying the same relative positions as at Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a front elevation of the base plate and hook only; Fig. 4, a detail, a side elevation of the gravity-arm; Fig. 5, a detail, a side elevation of the cam clutch-member; and Fig. 6, a detail, an end elevation of the gravity-arm.

From the statement of the objects of the invention and from an inspection of the drawings it will be apparent that I have sought to provide a device a portion of which comprises a hook which partakes of the nature of a pulley over which the line may be drawn very taut, and which hook further serves as the stationary one of the clutch members.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, 2 indicates a quadruple-armed base or supporting plate, each of its arms provided with an aperture 3 for the reception of one of the screws by which it is ordinarily secured to its support. It will be evident that the polygonal arms furnish a very effective means for such securement, inasmuch as each acts as a brace when another is made to take a major part of the strain as the line is drawn upon

from an angle. The plate 2 is provided with a rectangular, countersunk central aperture 4 which receives the reduced end 5 of the stem 6, the other end of which is reflexed to form a hook 7.

8--8 are shoulders resting about the aperture 4. Near the longitudinal central portion of the member 6 is a pivot-aperture 9 for a purpose presently described.

Projecting laterally from one end of an arm 10, at the other end of which is a counterweight 11, is a pivot-pin 12, the extremity of which is flattened on one side as shown best at 13, Fig. 6. The cam, or cam-clutch member, comprises a segment having a serrated and preferably mitered face 14, and is provided with an aperture 15 which corresponds in outline to the cross section of the extremity 13 of the pin.

In assembling the device the reduced portion 5 is seated within the aperture 4 in the base and is held therein by riveting, the countersink at the rear permitting of flush uniting of the parts. The pivot-pin 12 is then passed through the aperture 9 and the extension 13, which performs the function of a key, seated in the aperture 15 in the cam, whereupon it may be riveted to form a head 16.

In operation, the device having been secured in place, the free end of the weighted, or gravity arm, is slightly elevated to permit the bight of a line to be placed in the hook 7, whereupon said arm is permitted to fall. The operator by drawing on the lower, (or, as shown, horizontal,) portion, will cause the line to contact the roughened face of the cam, whereby the latter will be drawn downwardly to lessen the distance between it and the hook and clutch the line in an evident manner. This operation will be understood as having been performed as illustrated at Fig. 1, and the other end of the horizontal portion elsewhere secured to a similar holder, the line being secured in the last recited one by passing the free end of the line upwardly through the hook, drawing it taut and then releasing it, whereupon the cam will fall by its own weight or by the weight of the means which aids to actuate it, and which means may be other than the gravity arm, and firmly grasp the line, the tension thereof being all that is required to effect security.

It will be clear that, the more the strain on the taut portion of the line, the greater will be the force exerted by the cam. It will be also clear that there is no limit to the number



of holders which might be used on a single line. Moreover, its use in numerous other places than on clothes-lines will be manifest, the number of such uses being limited only  
3 by the number of places where taut lines are employed.

The hook not only permits the operator to draw the line extremely taut before letting fall the gravity arm, but also it holds the line  
10 with absolute security.

An operation the reverse of that described will free the line from the holder.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:  
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1. In a clothes-line holder, a base plate including a plurality of arms extending at right angles to each other, and having a centrally disposed countersunk aperture, a stem including a hook and a reduced portion, the  
20 latter riveted in said countersink to form a flush jointure, said stem provided with a pivot-aperture, a weighted arm including a lateral extension the end of which constitutes  
25 a key, pivoted in said aperture, and a cam-

shaped segment keyed on said extension and adapted to cooperate with said hook to engage a line.

2. In a line-holder, a base-plate, a stem projecting at a right angle therefrom and including a hook at its outer end, said hook adapted to act as a pulley over which the line may be drawn in either direction to tension it, and said hook acting also in another capacity as a clutch member, an actuating-  
35 lever including an integral pivot-pin fulcrumed about the midlength of said stem, and a miter-faced segment fixed on the projecting end of said stem and adapted to act as the other member of the clutch and to co-  
40 act with said hook to grasp a line therebetween.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I hereto affix my name in presence of two witnesses, this 29th day of September, 1908, at Galesburg, Illinois.  
45

HARRY B. SHREVE.

Witnesses:

H. M. RICHARDS,

WEBB A. HERLOCKER.