

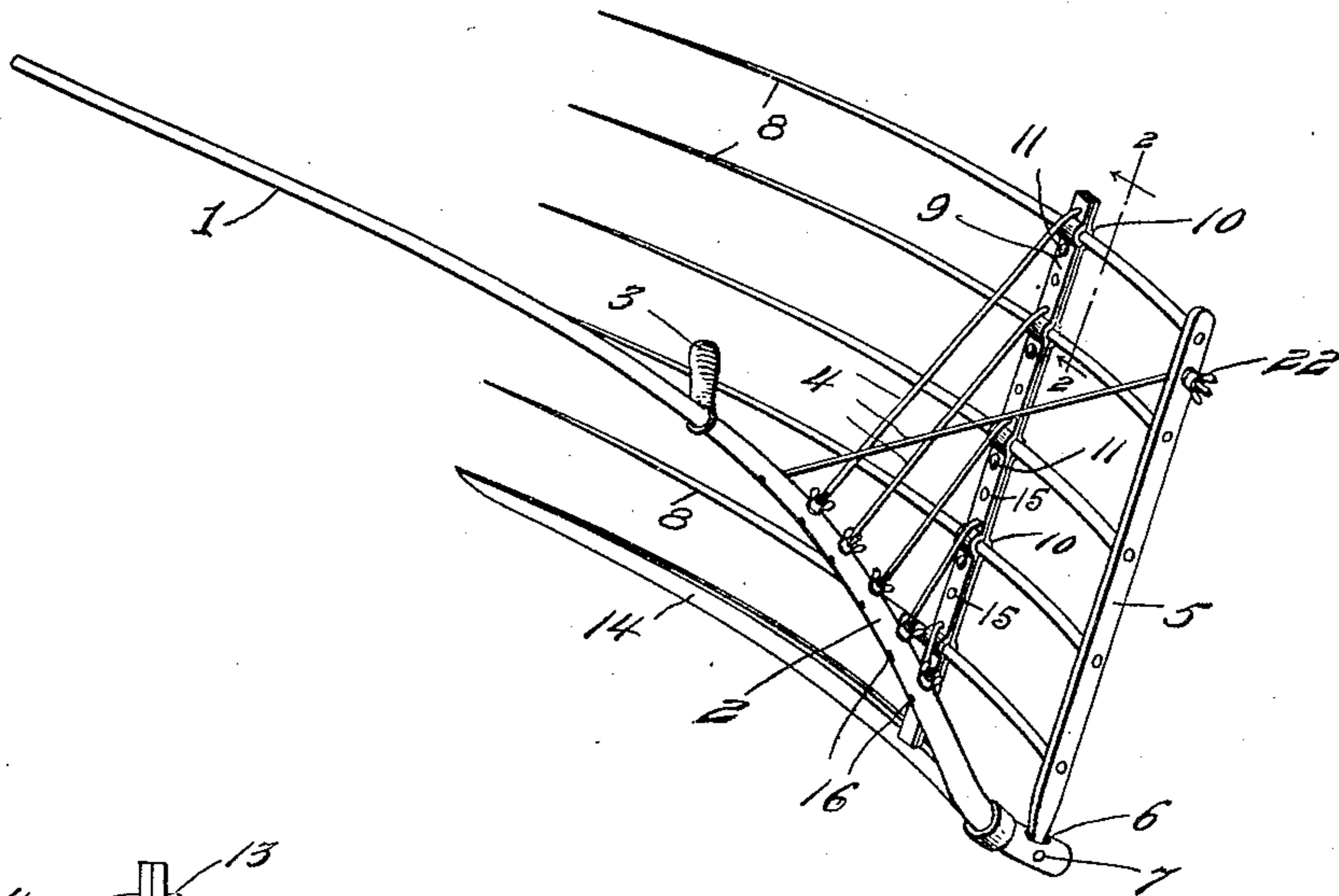
J. H. F. CLIFTON.  
GRAIN CRADLE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 2, 1908.

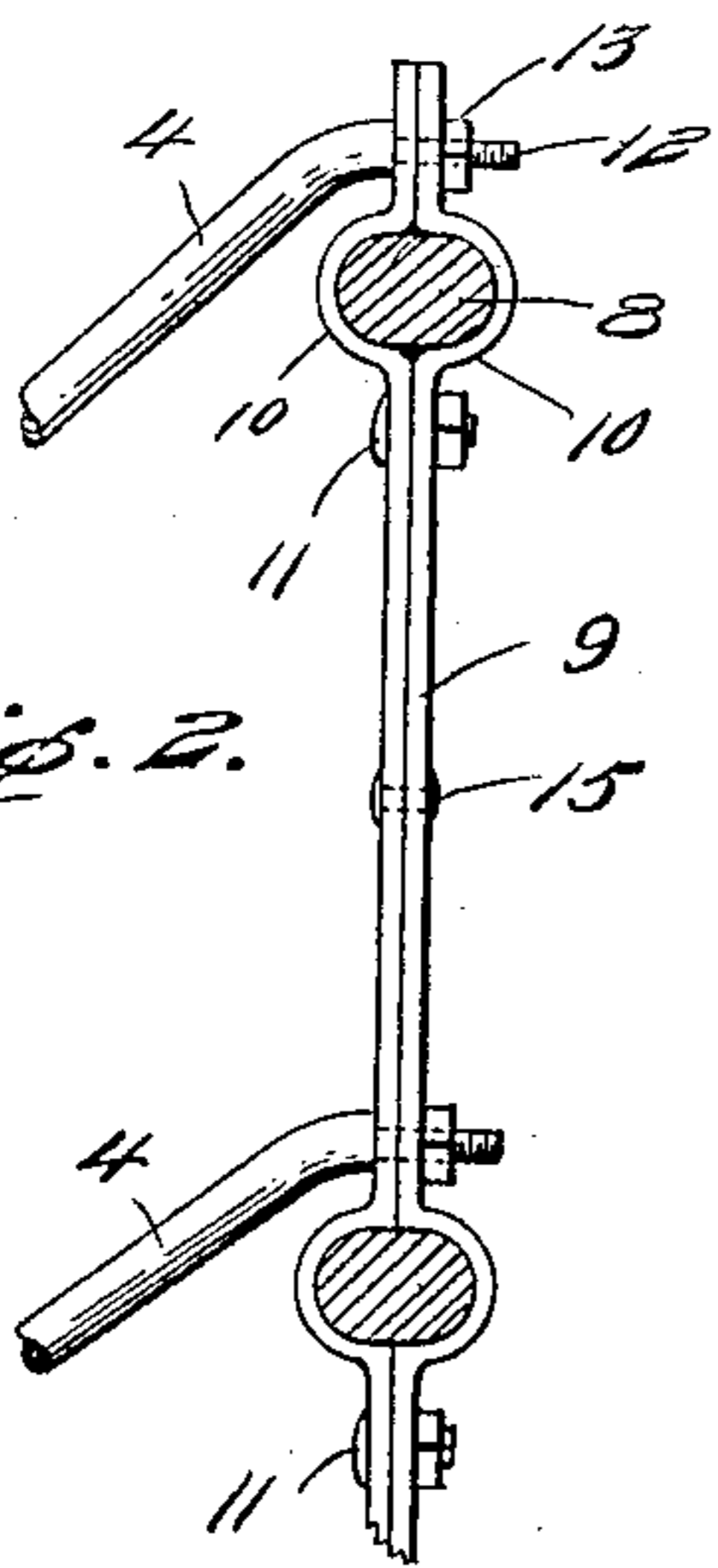
925,297.

Patented June 15, 1909.

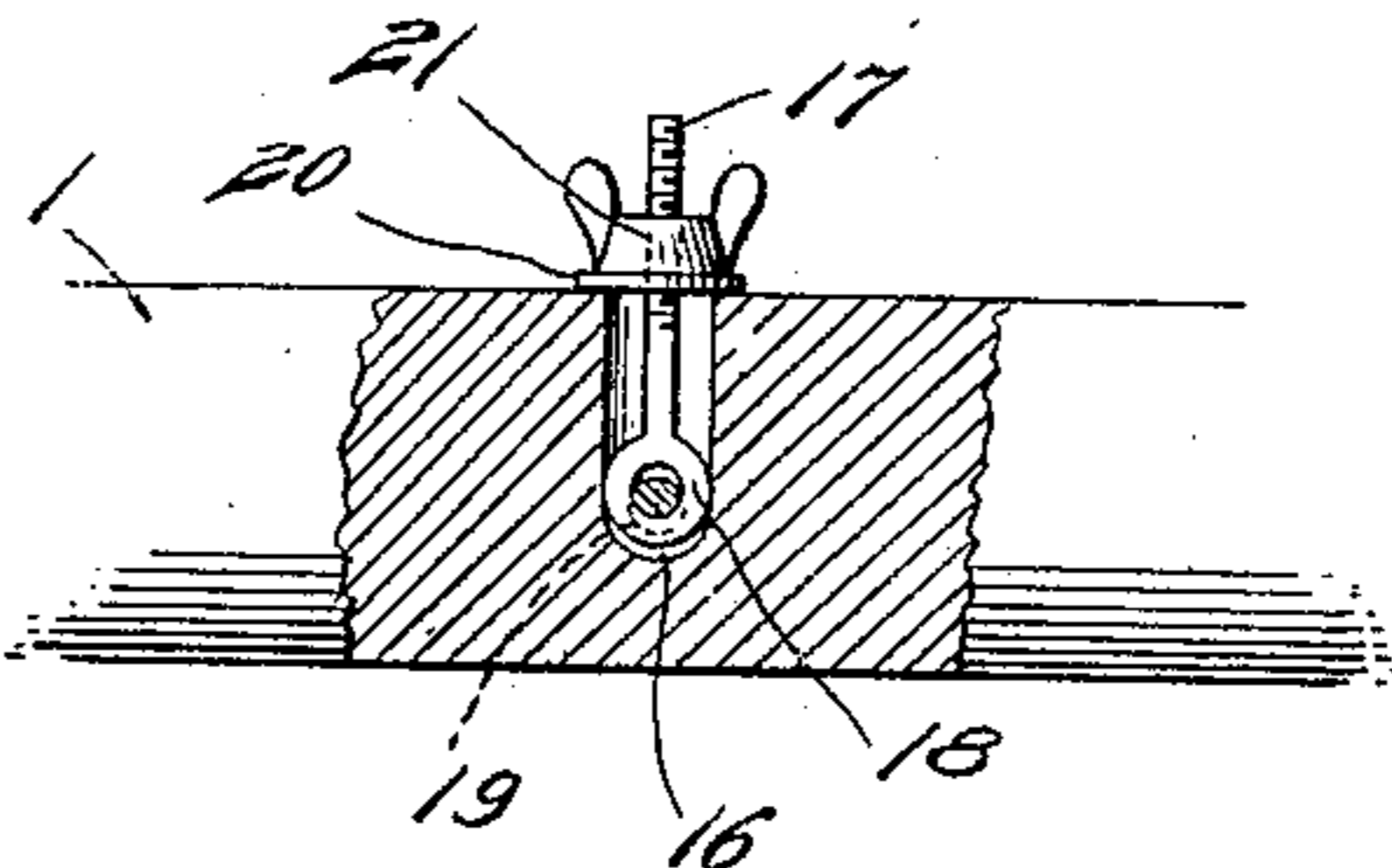
*Fig. 1.*



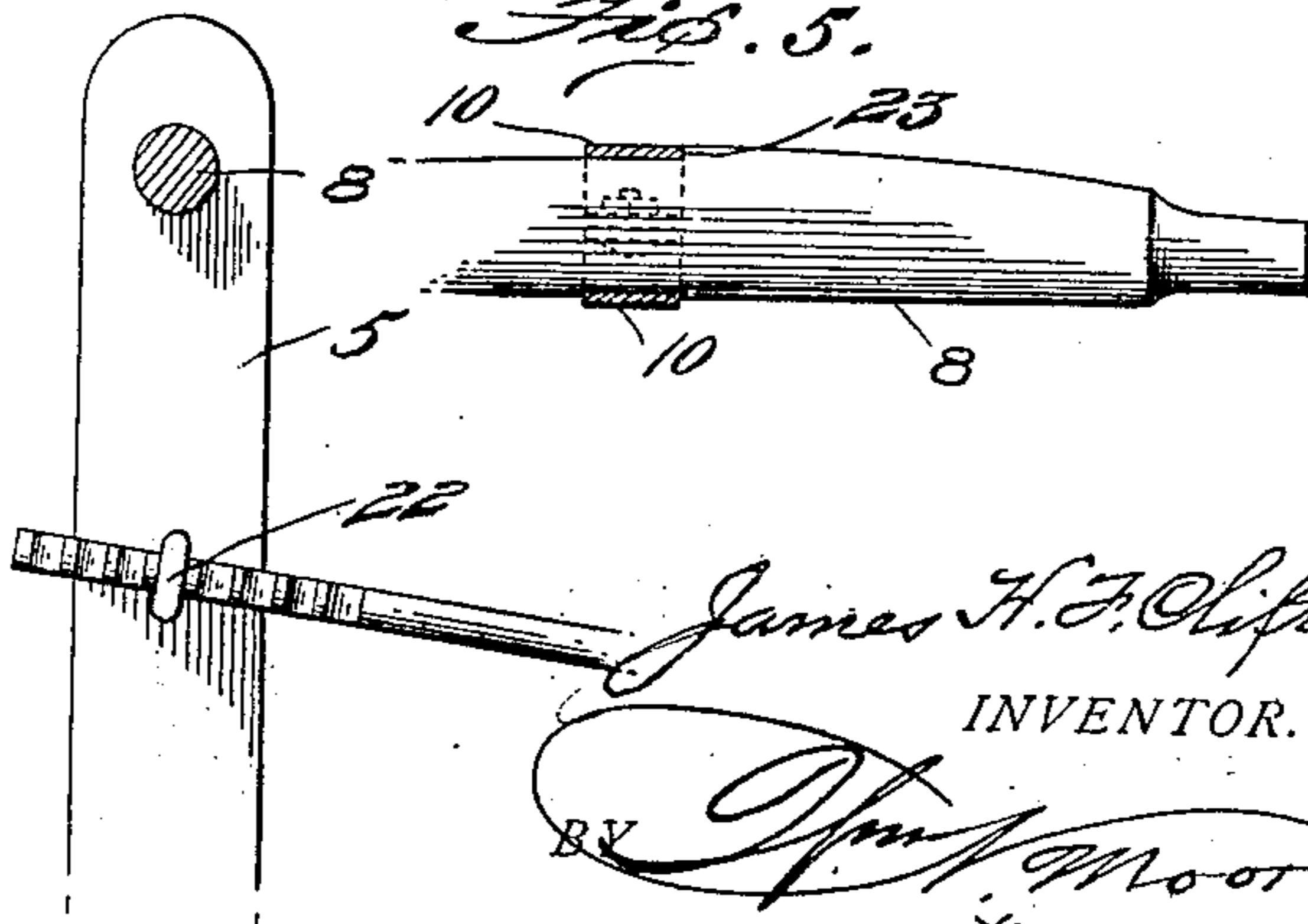
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 5.*



*Fig. 4.*

WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. F. CLIFTON, OF PILOTMOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA.

## GRAIN-CRADLE.

No. 925,297.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 15, 1909.

Application filed July 2, 1908. Serial No. 441,516.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES H. F. CLIFTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pilotmountain, in the county of Surry and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grain-Cradles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in grain cradles, and has for its main object, the provision of simple and practical means for bracing and staying the cradle and for quickly adjusting the angle of the cradle with respect to the sned or snath.

Another object of my invention is the provision of an improved form of brace for the cradle fingers which will hold the fingers properly braced and spaced and in the use of which it will not be necessary to make any openings in the fingers or otherwise weaken the fingers so that they will thus be less liable to breakage.

With these objects in view and others as shall hereinafter appear my invention consists of a removable clamp brace for the fingers of the cradle and stay rods adjustably connected between the cradle and the snath.

My invention further comprises a grain cradle embodying certain other novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts substantially as disclosed herein and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1, is a perspective view of a cradle constructed in accordance with and embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 2, is a sectional view of two of the cradle fingers taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, to show the construction and arrangement of the clamp brace for the fingers. Fig. 3, is a fragmentary sectional view of the snath showing the manner of clamping the stay rods therein. Fig. 4, is a detail view of the end portion of the supporting bar illustrating the fastener for securing the stay rod thereto. Fig. 5 is a detail view of a part of the grain cradle.

In the drawings the numeral 1, designates the snath or sned, which, it will be noted, is practically straight, it having only a single bend 2, therein, near the lower end thereof and in that portion to which the handle 3, and the stay rods 4, are connected. A supporting bar 5, has its end entered in a seat or opening 6, in the extreme lower end of the snath and this opening is large enough to allow of an angular adjustment of the bar

with respect to the snath. A screw, nail, or a like fastening 7, may be driven in through the side of the snath and into the supporting bar to secure the end of the bar in its seat and at the same time, allow pivotal adjustment thereof.

The cradle fingers 8, have their ends secured in the supporting bar and in order to hold the fingers properly spaced, I employ a novel form of brace, said brace consisting of a pair of sheet metal straps 9, which are looped or spread as at 10, to receive the fingers. Bolts or other adjustable fastenings 11, serve to clamp the straps together at the inner side of each finger, and the threaded ends 12, of the stay rods 4, are passed through the straps just at the outside of each finger, there being nuts 13, engaged on the threaded ends of the stay rods, so that by these means, the fingers are adjustably clamped in the brace. The inner end of the brace engages the outer edge of the scythe blade 14. The straps are preferably held together at points between the fingers by rivets or suitable fastenings 15, and in fact, rivets could be used in place of the bolts or screws 11, as the nuts on the threaded ends of the stay rods provide for the proper clamping action of the brace. I find this clamping brace to be desirable over all other forms as it is light and inexpensive, secures the fingers properly braced and spaced apart, should a finger become broken, it may be readily replaced without loss of time by loosening the brace clamps and inserting a new finger in place, and as it is not necessary in the use of this brace to make any openings in the fingers, the fingers are not weakened in any way. The brace is kept from slipping on the fingers by providing the fingers with shoulders 23, which are engaged by the brace.

A stay rod extends from a point just outside of each finger to the snath, the ends of the rods being seated in the openings 16, provided in the snath. In order to adjustably secure the ends of the stay rods in the snath, screw bolts 17, are provided, each having a loop 18, on its inner end through which the stay rod passes, and the rods are notched at 19, so that the loops will the more readily grip the rods. Washers 20, and wing nuts 21 are engaged on the outer ends of the clamping bolts and by such means the stay rods are adjustably clamped in the snath. It will be noted that the uppermost stay rod has its end secured stationary in the snath and the

outer end of this rod is adjustably secured near the end of the supporting bar by means of the adjustable loop fastener 22, which is similar to the fasteners on the snath. It will be evident that by means of the clamping fasteners, the stay rods are held at any desired adjustment and by means of such fasteners, the angle of the cradle may be quickly adjusted with respect to the snath.

10 From the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawings, it will be evident that I have produced a practical and efficient grain cradle and one which accomplishes all the results set forth as the objects  
15 of the invention.

I claim:

1. A grain cradle consisting of a supporting bar and fingers carried thereby, a brace  
20 adjustably clamping and holding the fingers, said brace consisting of a pair of straps, the straps being looped to receive the fingers and fastenings for clamping the straps to the fingers, stay rods connected between the brace,  
25 supporting bar and the snath, and means for adjustably securing the stay rods.

2. In a grain cradle, the combination with the snath, supporting bar and fingers, of an adjustable clamp brace holding the fingers  
30 properly spaced, said brace consisting of a pair of straps, the straps being looped to re-

ceive the fingers and fastenings for clamping the straps to the fingers, stay rods connected to the brace and having their ends entered in the snath, adjustable clamps securing the stay rods in the snath, and a stay rod adjustably connected between the snath and supporting bar.

3. In combination with the fingers of a grain cradle, a brace for holding the fingers properly spaced, said brace consisting of a  
40 pair of straps, the straps being looped to receive the fingers, and fastenings for clamping the straps to the fingers.

4. A cradle comprising a snath, a supporting bar and fingers, an adjustable brace  
45 clamping the fingers in place said brace consisting of a pair of straps, the straps being looped to receive the fingers and fastenings for clamping the straps to the fingers, stay rods connected to the brace, fasteners adjustably clamping the stay rods to the snath,  
50 a stay rod connected between the snath and supporting bar, and means adjustably holding the stay rod to the supporting bar.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, 55 in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES H. F. CLIFTON.

Witnesses:

McK. R. SMITH,  
C. S. WALTERS.