

C. C. HOTCHKISS.
SHIPPING CASE.

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934,810.

Patented Sept. 21, 1909.

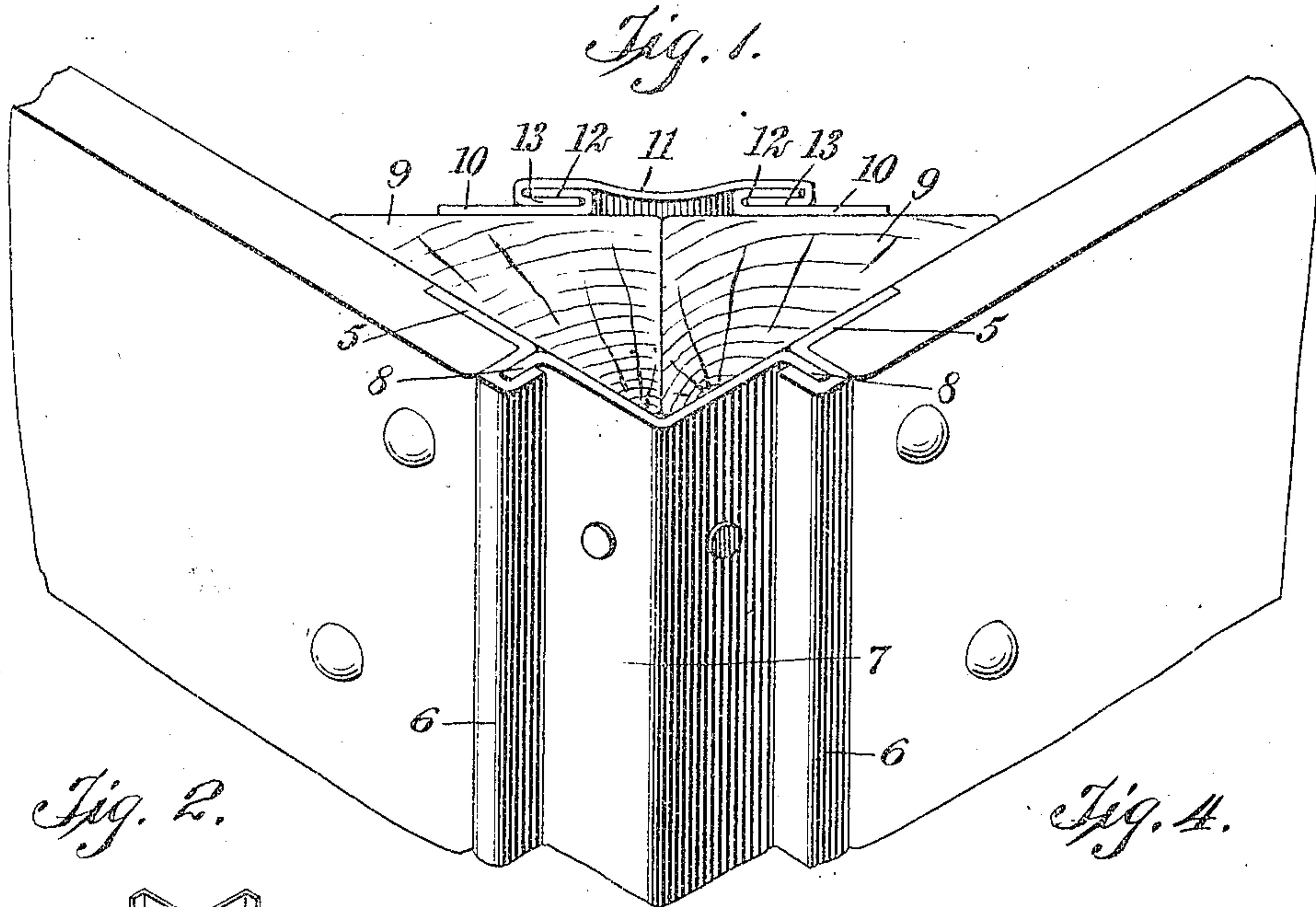


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

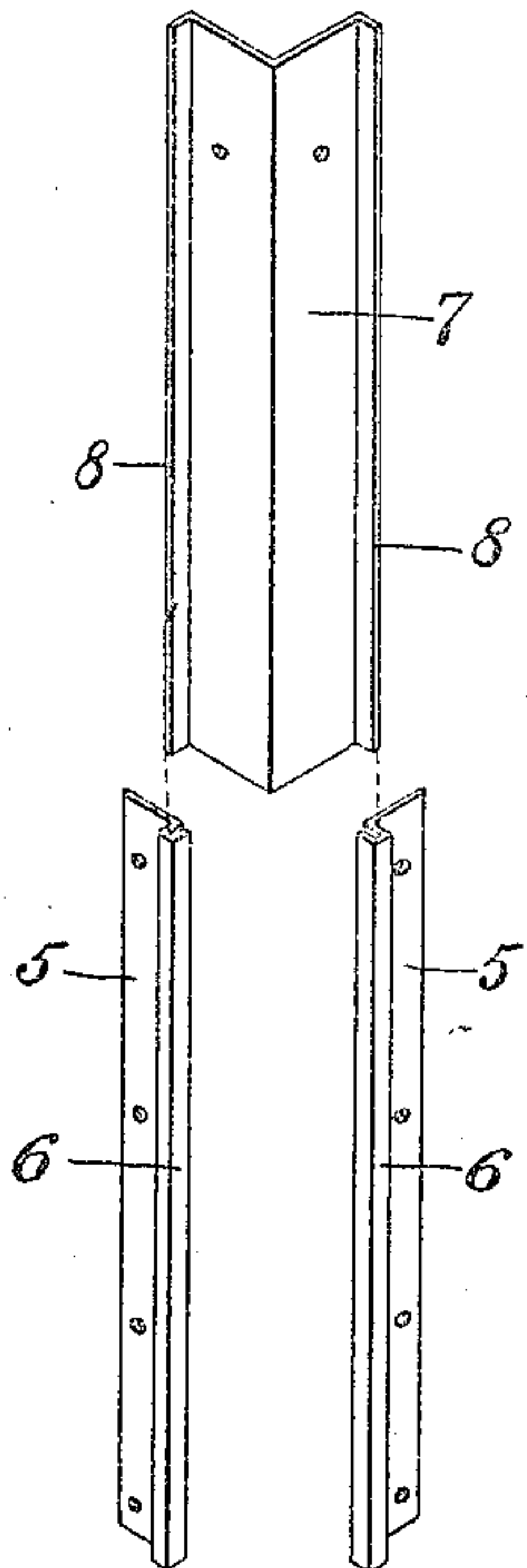
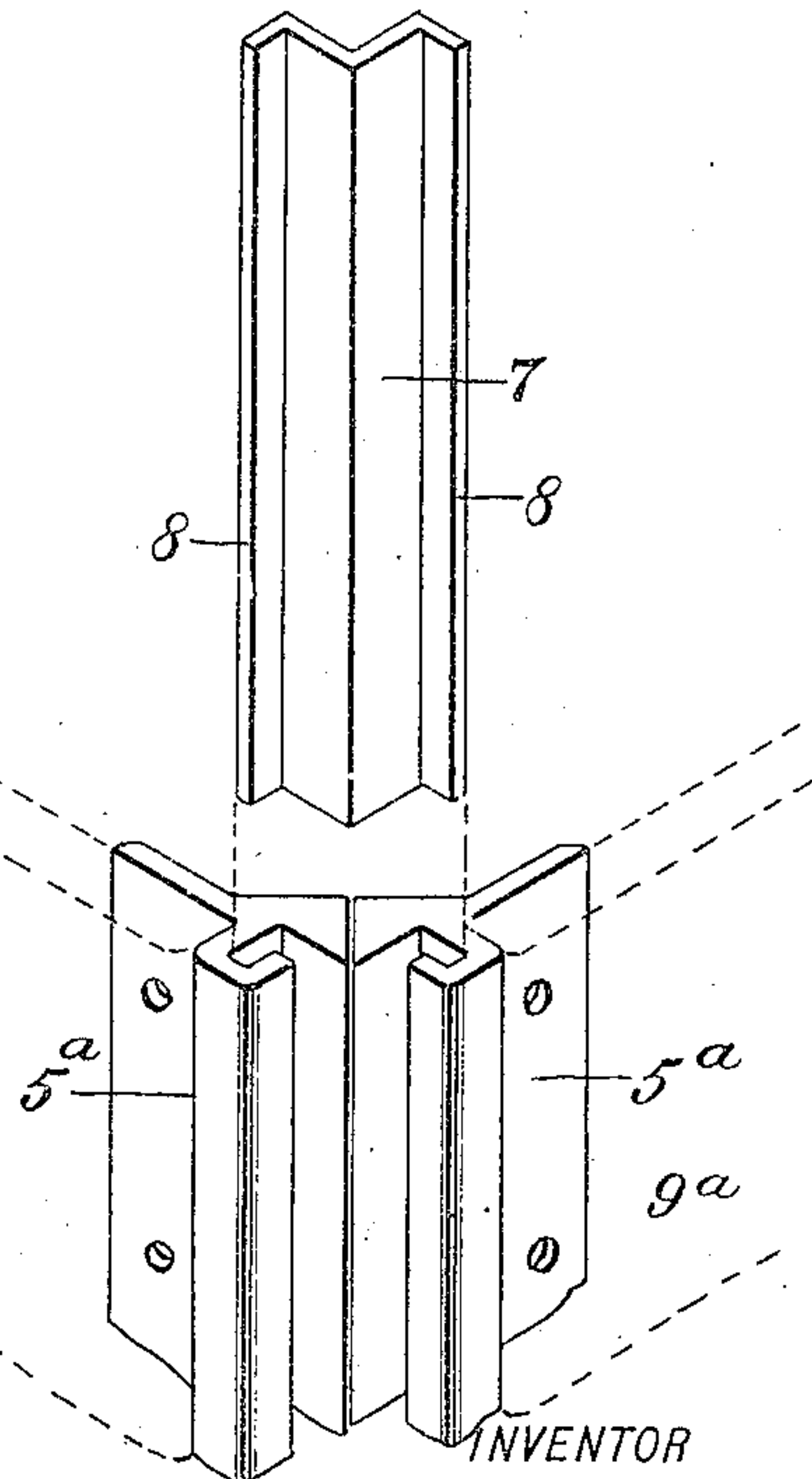
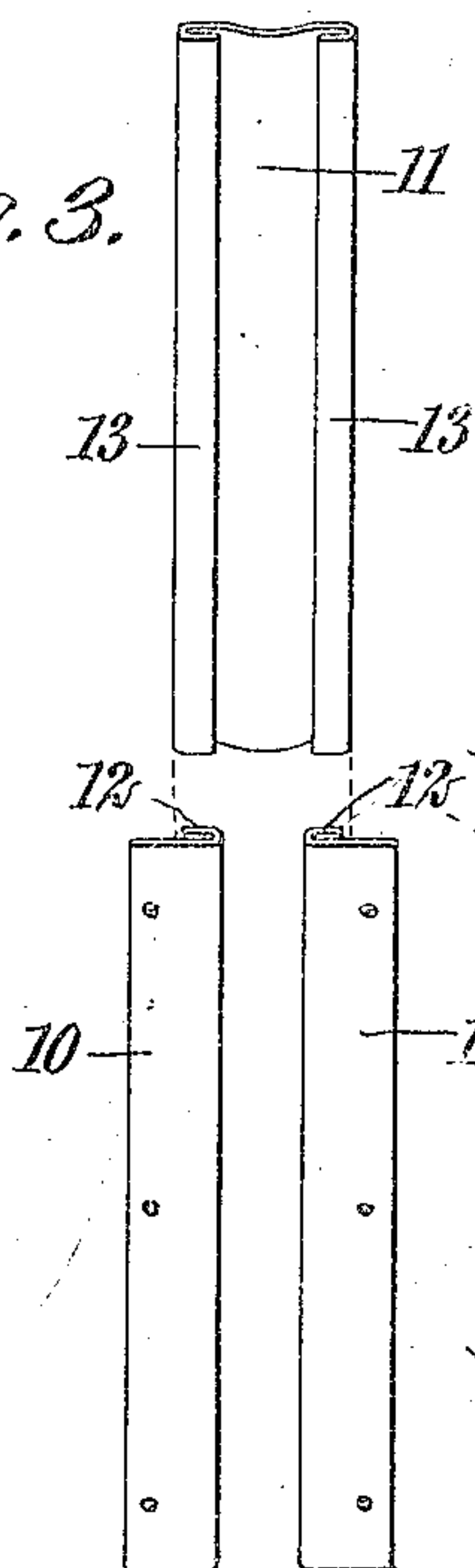


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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SHIPPING-CASE.

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834,810.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES CRITTENDEN HOTCHKISS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Great Bend, in the county of Barton and State of Kansas, have invented a new and Improved Shipping-Case, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention is an improvement in shipping cases, adaptable to various kinds of such devices, and relating primarily to the corner connections between the several walls of the case, the same being so constructed as to permit of the rapid and convenient assembling and disconnection of the parts, and producing, when erected, a case capable of withstanding rough usage.

To this end the preferred embodiment of the invention consists of plates respectively attached to the walls of the case and having ways overlying adjacent ends thereof, a corner plate slidably received in said ways, cleats secured into and fitting the corner inside of the plate and having contacting faces, plates having ways secured to the inner faces of the cleats, and a connecting plate slidable in the last mentioned ways.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of a shipping case having my improvements applied thereto; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the corner plate and the guide plates when detached from the case, showing the manner in which they are assembled; Fig. 3 is a similar view of the connecting plate and guide plates as used on the inner faces of the cleats; and Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing a modified form of construction.

In carrying out my invention, I secure to the inner faces of the walls of the case, guide plates 5 provided with offset ways 6 which overlap the adjacent ends of the said walls, as illustrated in Fig. 1. An angled corner plate 7 is provided with outwardly-turned flanges 8 at opposite edges, which are adapted to be slidably received into the ways 6 of the plates 5. Cleats 9 of approximately triangular cross-section are secured into and fit the corner of the case at the inside of the corner plate and have contacting faces which prevent the walls

from being forced inwardly, and accordingly relieve the corner plate from strain tending to bend it in at the angle. The corner plate is also relieved of strain tending to straighten out the corner angle, by guide-plates 10 and a connecting plate 11, the guide plates being secured to the inner faces of the cleats and provided with ways 12 oppositely turned and engaging the edge flanges 13 of the connecting plate, which flanges are inwardly turned from this plate at opposite edges. By this construction the connecting plate is adapted to be assembled with the guide plates by a sliding movement, as in the case of the corner plate. In order that the connecting plate 11 may at all times remain tight, it is inwardly curved intermediate its edges in the direction of its length, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1 and 3.

It will be observed from Fig. 1, that in the application of the guide plates 5 the inner edges of the side walls of the case are rabbeted to permit the flanges of the plates 5 to be let in flush, which not only avoids the necessity of cutting out the cleats in order that they may seat flat, but also admits of the packing of the side walls of the cases one upon the other in the least possible space for shipment or stowage.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a modification of my improvement, wherein it will be observed the cleats 9^a, instead of being made of wood or similar material and riveted or otherwise secured to the corner plate and side walls of the case, are integral with the guide plates 5^a, corresponding to the guide plates 5. Fig. 4 also illustrates a heavier construction of the guide plates and corner plate, as will be preferable when these plates are cast instead of stamped out of sheet metal.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A case having walls, with guide plates secured to the walls, provided with offset ways extending over the adjacent ends of the walls and opening inwardly, an angled corner plate having outwardly-turned flanges slidable in said ways, cleats fitting into and secured in the angle between the walls, having abutting faces, guide plates secured to the inner faces of the cleats, having ways opening from each other, and a connecting plate slidable in said ways securing the cleats together.

2. A case having the adjacent ends of its

walls separated and provided with ways, and a corner-plate forming the outer corner of the case engaging in said ways, with the ways and corner-plate confined to the space between the planes of the inner and outer faces of the walls.

3. A case having the adjacent ends of its walls separated, with the end of each wall provided with a way, a corner-plate interposed between the ends of the walls, forming a continuation thereof and extending into said ways, and a cleat in the inner corner of the case fitting within the corner plate.

4. A case having guide plates secured to the adjacent ends of its walls and provided with ways, an angled corner plate having flanges received in the ways of the guide plates, cleats of approximately triangular cross-section secured in and fitting the corner

inside of the corner plate and having abutting faces, and means on the inner faces of the cleats for holding the abutting faces thereof together. 20

5. A case having the adjacent ends of its walls separated, guide-plates attached to the walls and lying flat against the ends thereof, each guide-plate having a way opening inwardly, and a corner-plate forming the outer corner of the case and having outwardly-turned flanges received in said ways and connecting the walls of the case together. 25 3

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES CRITTENDEN HOTCHKISS.

Witnesses:

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