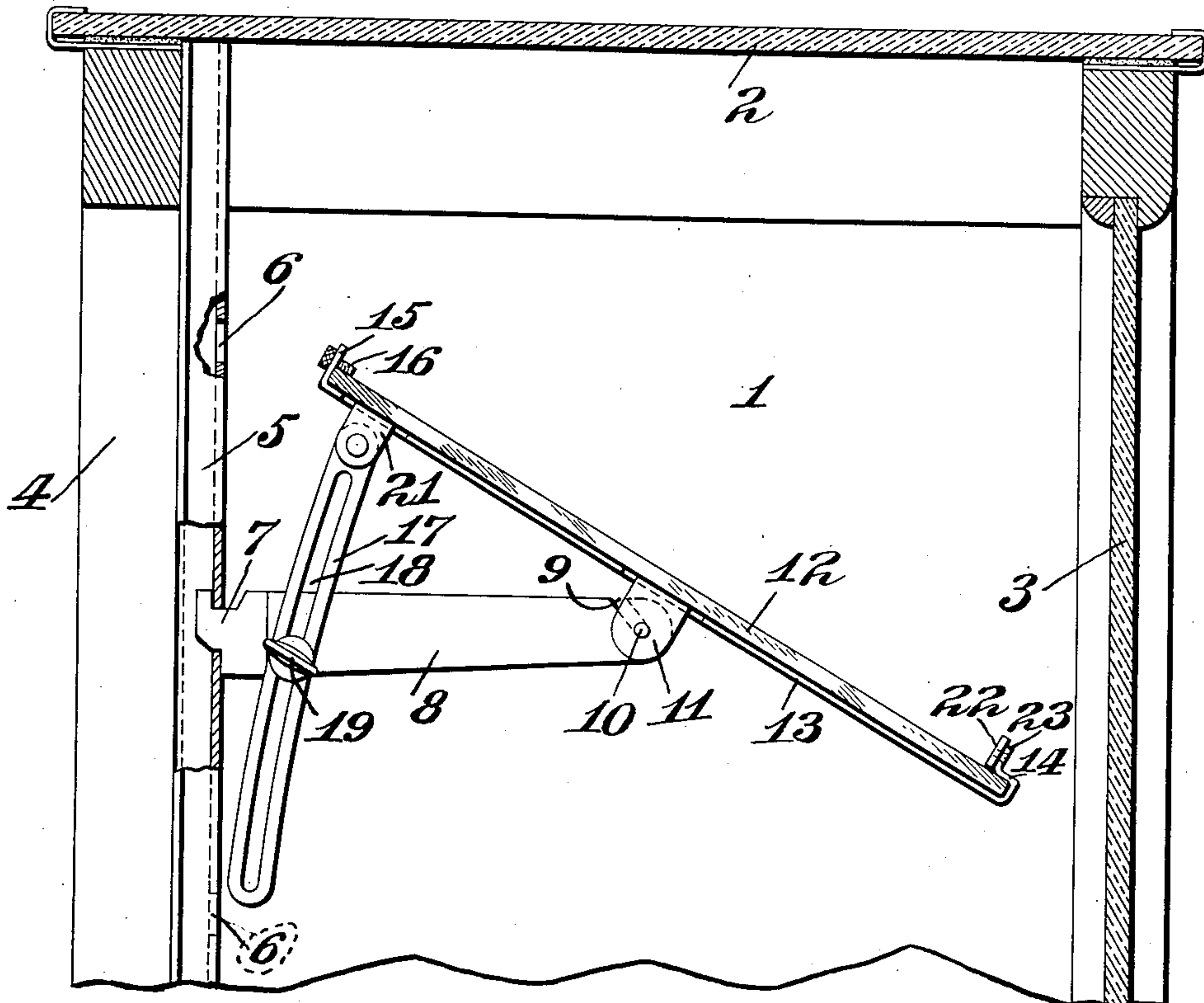


J. N. CLEAR.  
 DISPLAY SHELVING.  
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 5, 1909.

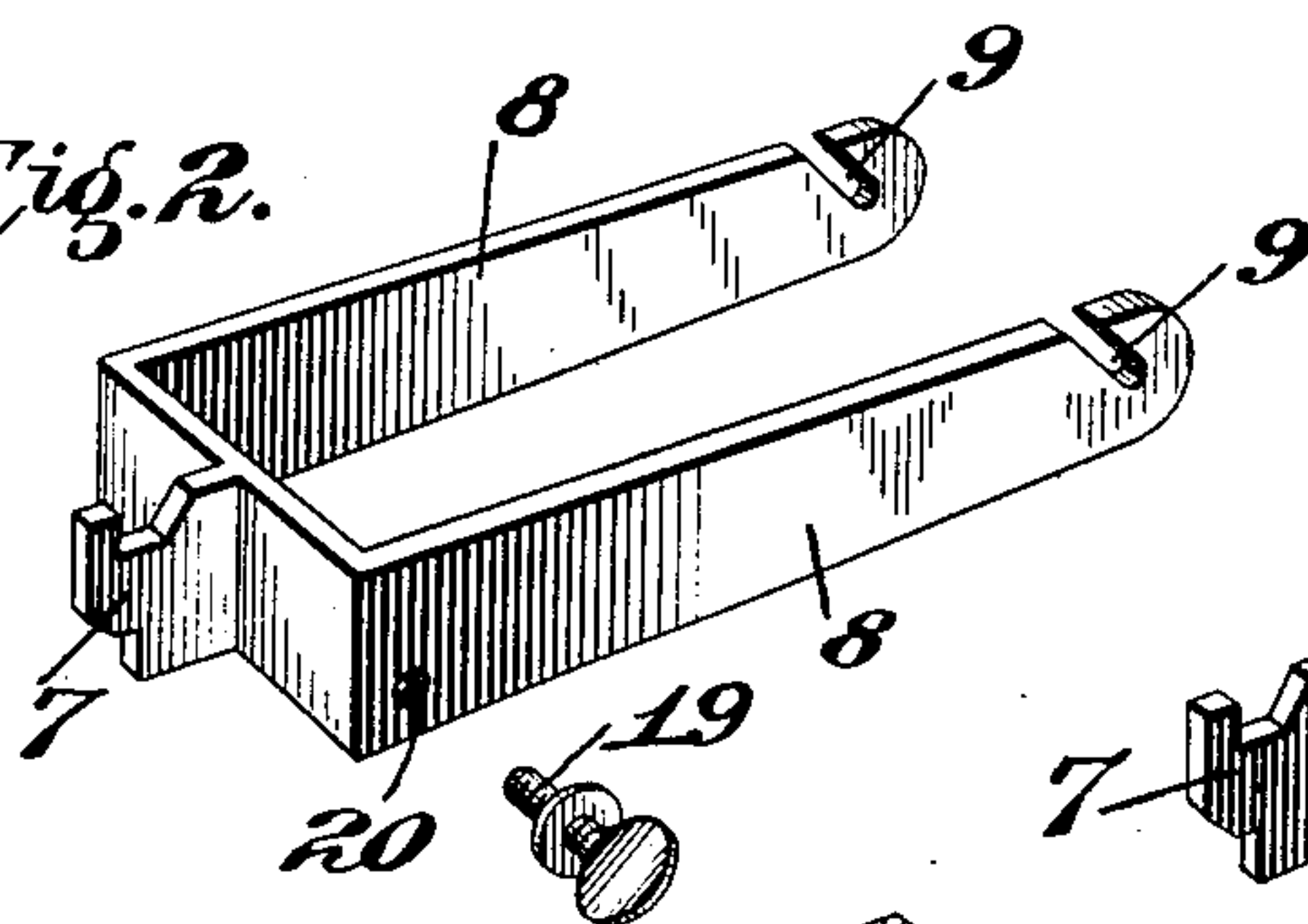
946,337.

Patented Jan. 11, 1910.  
 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

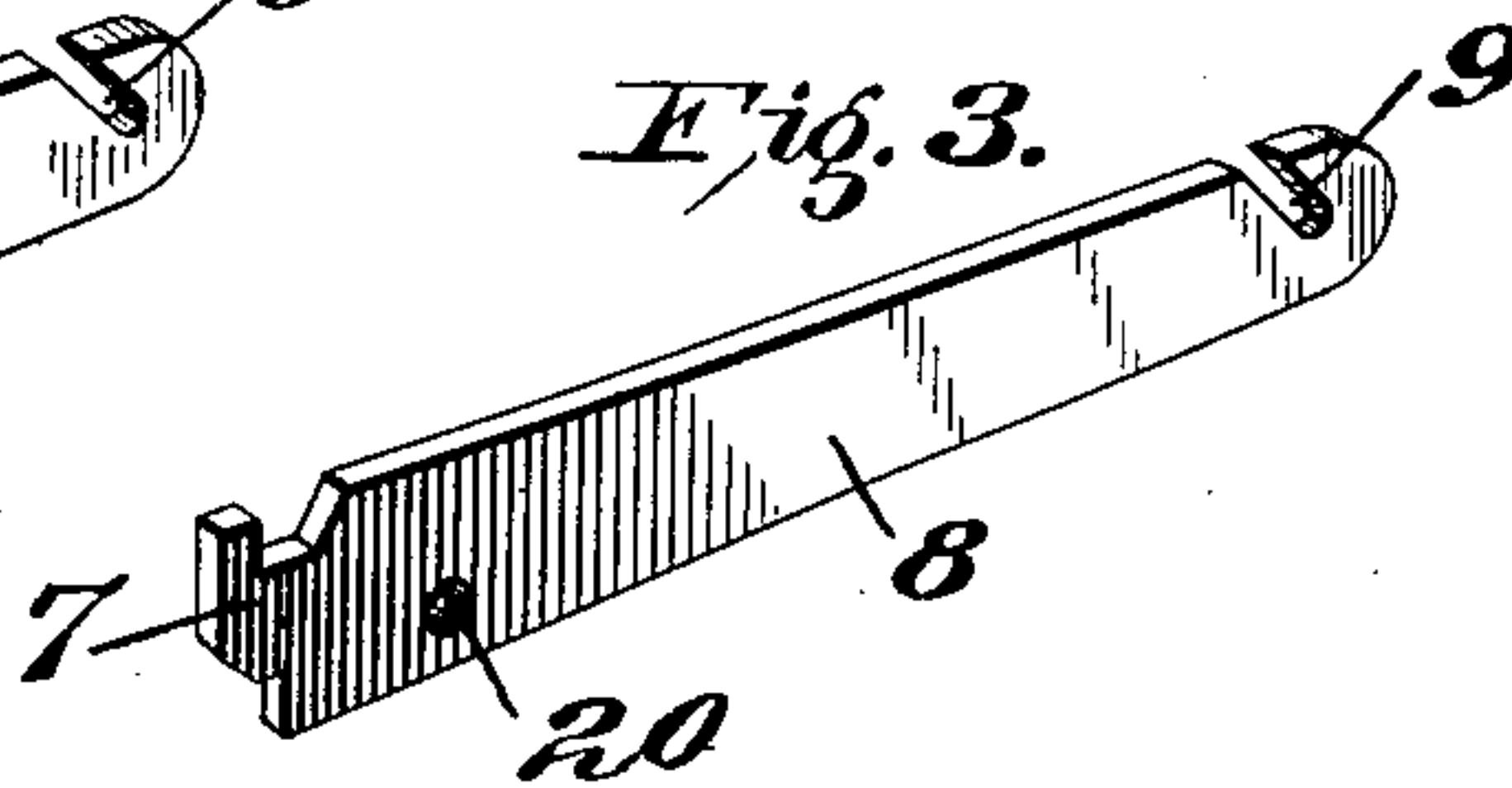
*Fig. 1.*



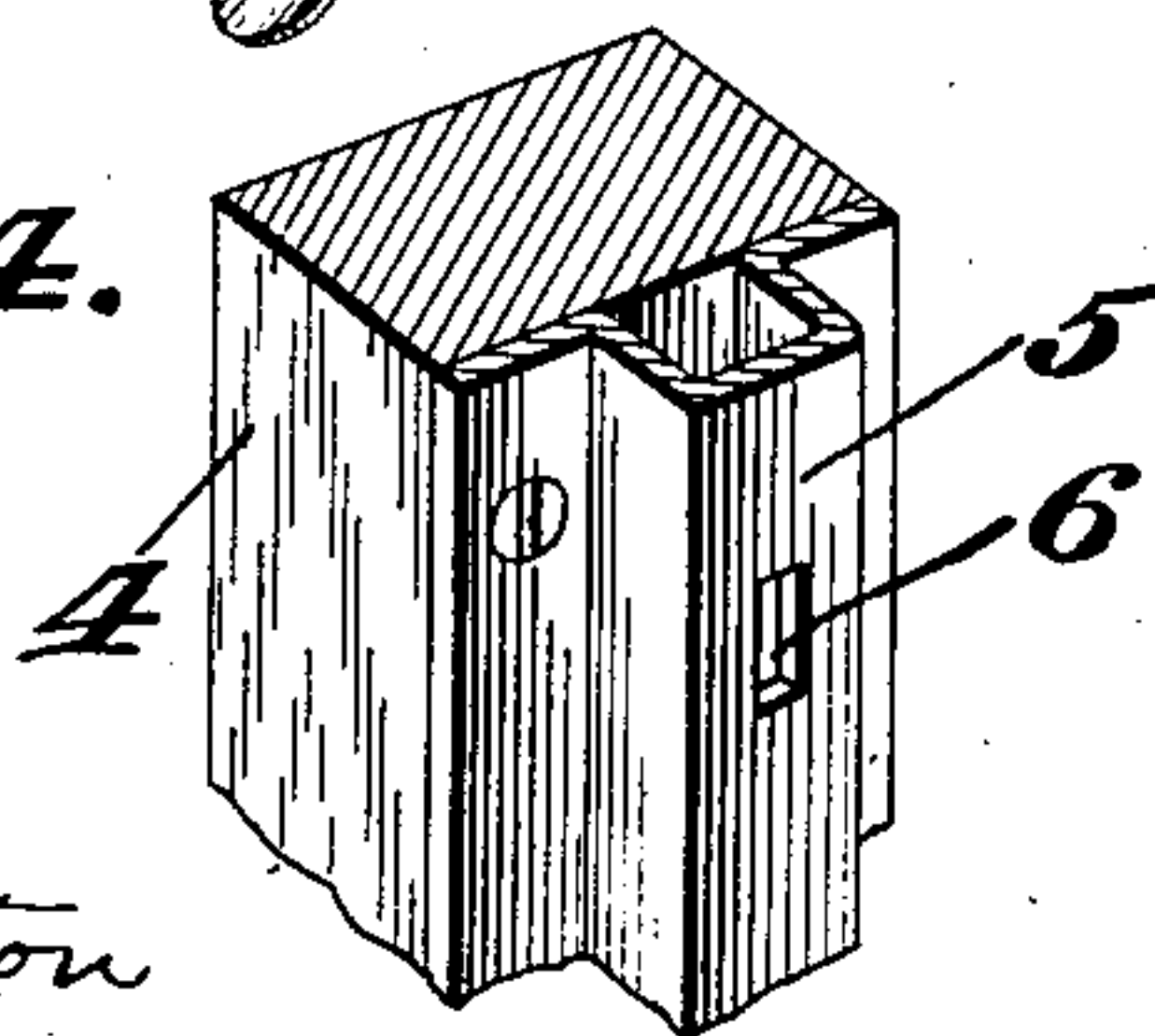
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



Witnesses:

Edgar T. Farmer.

G. A. Pennington

Inventor:

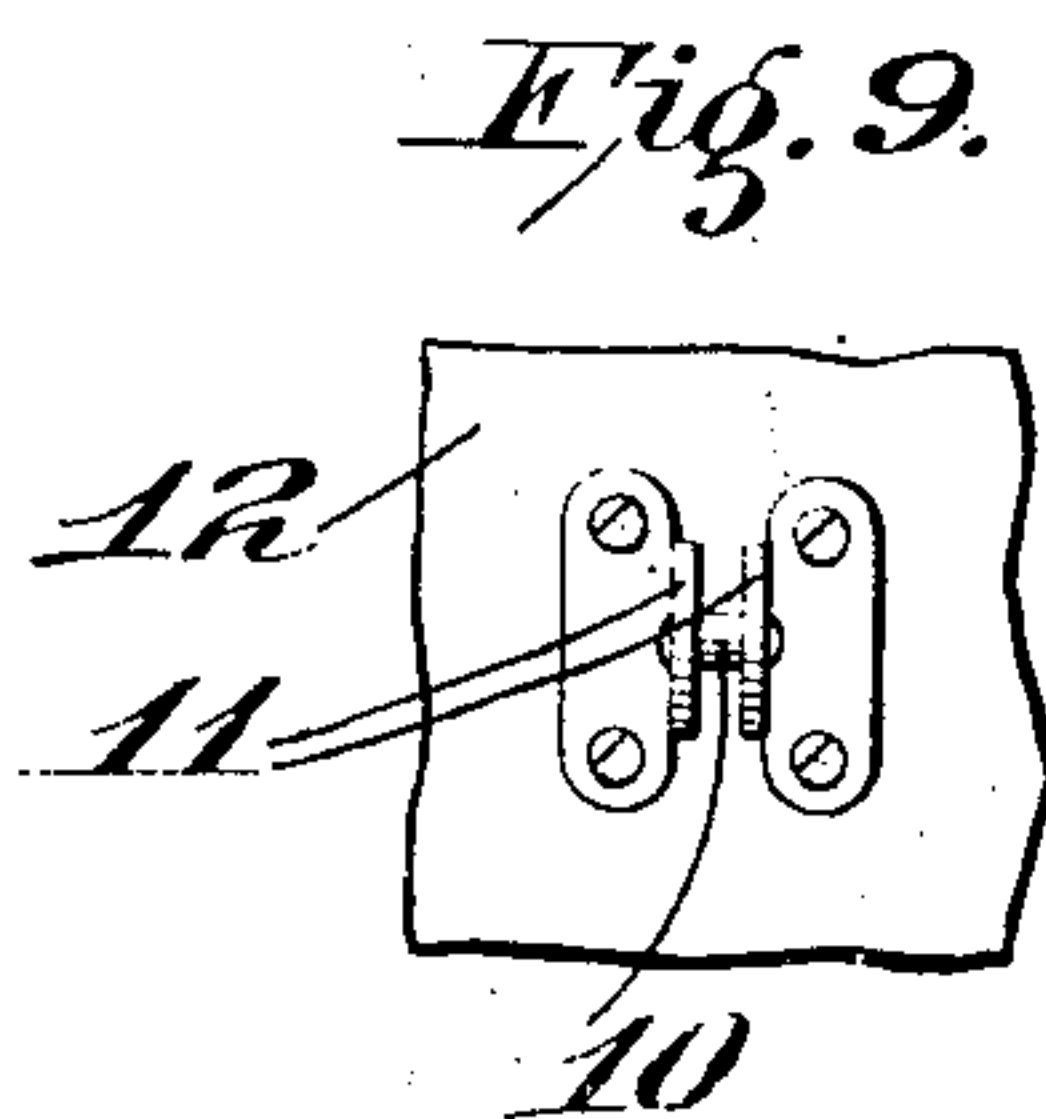
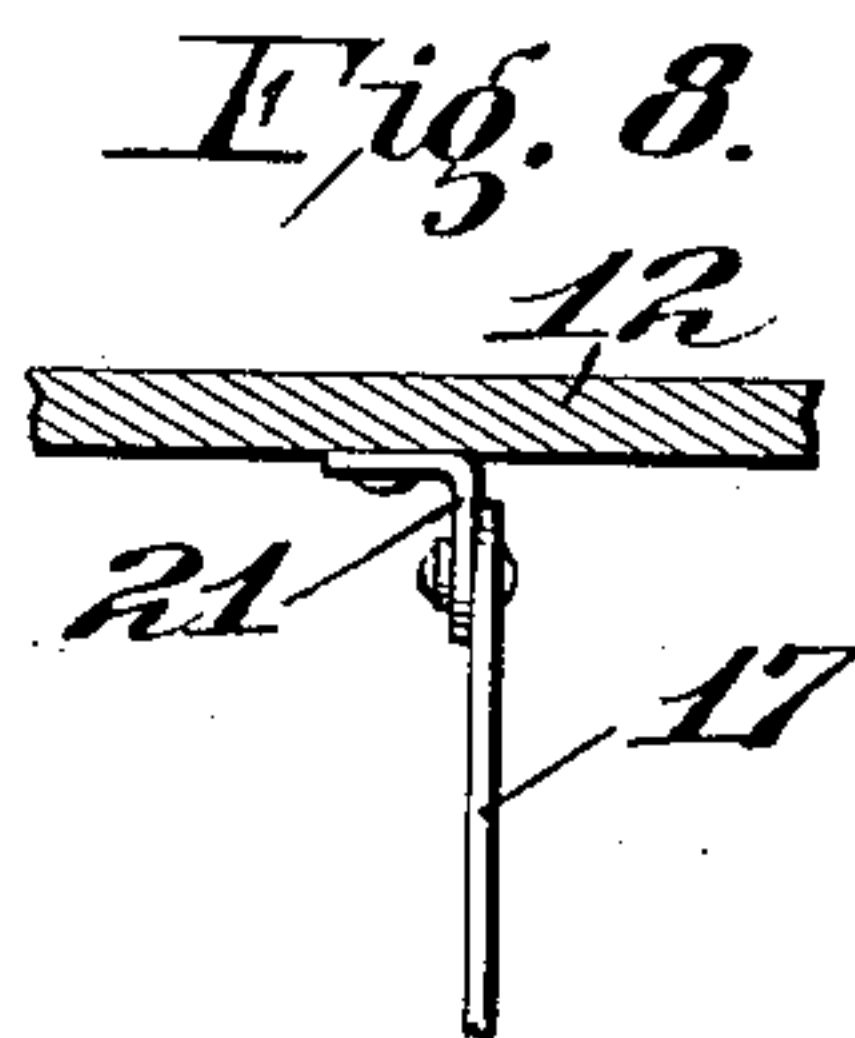
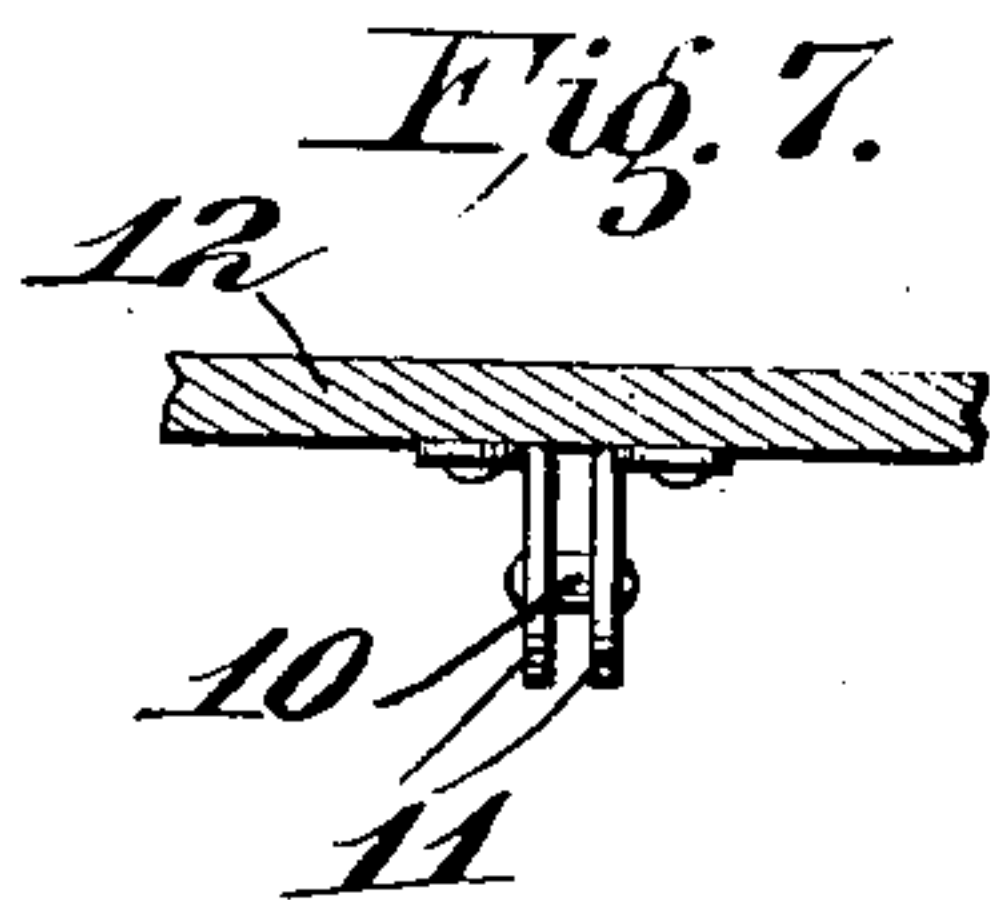
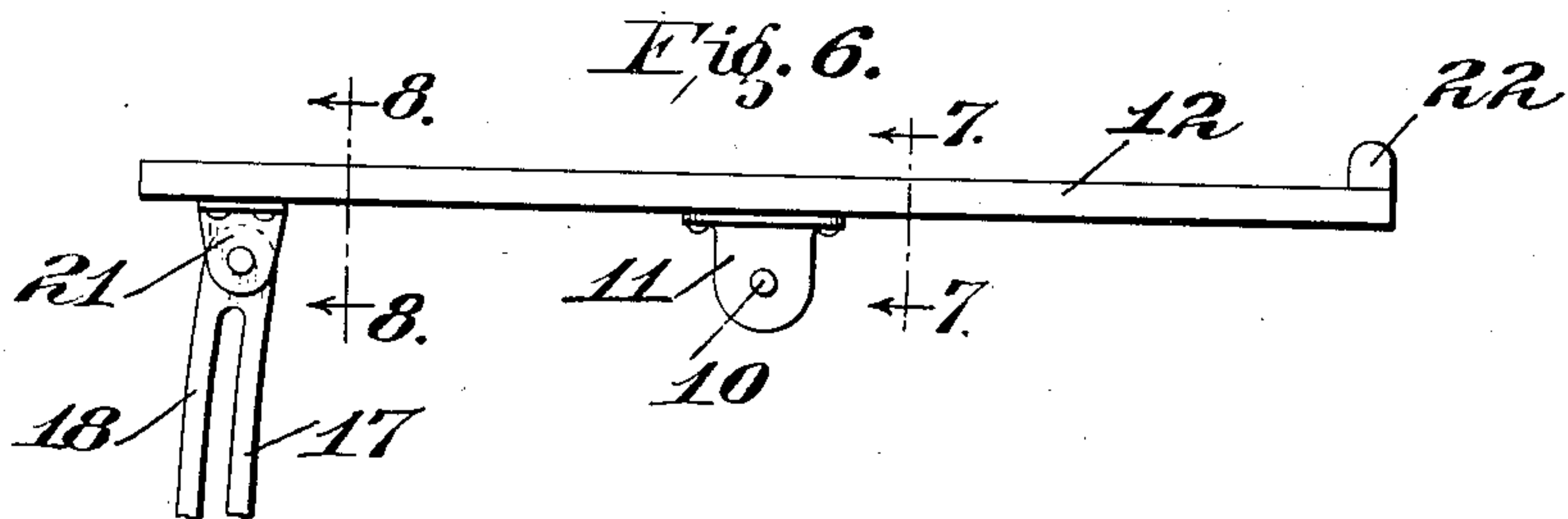
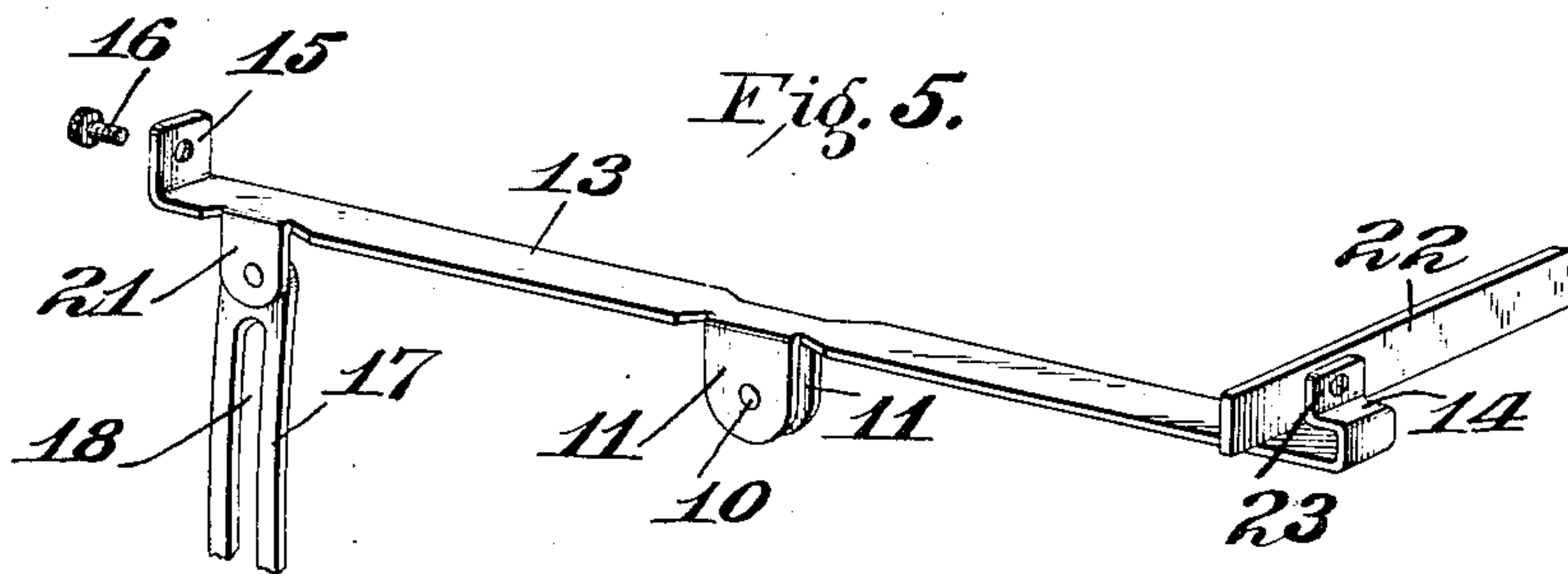
John N. Clear,  
 By *Amos Carr*,  
 Attys.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses:

Edgar T. Farmer:

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John N. Clear,

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 attys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN N. CLEAR, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## DISPLAY-SHELVING.

946,337.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 11, 1910.

Application filed June 5, 1909. Serial No. 500,248.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN N. CLEAR, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Display-Shelving, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to display shelving for show-cases and the like and has for its principal object to facilitate the attractive and advantageous display of merchandise.

In displaying some goods it is desirable to arrange the same upon a level surface, while other goods may be displayed to better advantage upon an inclined surface; and, in show-cases where series of shelves are arranged in one or more vertical rows, or tiers, it is desirable to tilt the several shelves or tiers of shelves to different inclinations.

The further objects of the present invention, therefore, are to provide for adjusting the shelves to various tilted positions; to provide for the use of a minimum number of supporting fixtures; to secure lightness and stability of structure, to secure interchangeability of parts, and to attain certain other advantages hereinafter more fully appearing.

The invention consists in the parts and in the arrangements and combinations of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, which forms part of this specification, and wherein like symbols refer to like parts wherever they occur, Figure 1 is a transverse vertical section through a portion of a show-case equipped with a shelf according to my invention, the shelf being shown in a tilted position; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a double supporting bracket; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a single supporting bracket; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of a portion of an upright to which the supporting brackets are adapted to be attached; Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a carrier member for a detachable shelf; Fig. 6 is an end view of a modification of the shelf; Fig. 7 is a fragmentary section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6; and, Fig. 8 is a fragmentary section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 6. Fig. 9 is a fragmentary inverted plan view showing the modified pivot member.

In the drawings, the shelving is shown as applied to a show-case 1 having a transparent top and side panels 2, 3, respectively,

and also having the usual uprights or columns 4 at the rear from which the shelves are supported. The uprights 4 may be made of wood and have metallic tubular or channel members 5 secured lengthwise of their front faces, or, the uprights may be constructed entirely of metal in any well-known manner.

At regular intervals throughout the length of the front walls of the vertical channel members 5 are rectangular slots 6 in which the hooked end portions 7 of the shelf-supporting bracket arms 8 are adapted to fit, and whereby the shelves may be adjusted to different heights. However, I do not limit myself to any particular interlocking connection between the supporting brackets and uprights as any well-known means for accomplishing the vertical adjustment of the brackets will come within the scope of my invention. The brackets may be made either in double or single arrangement, or both, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. In cases where only a single shelf or a single vertical row of shelves are provided, it is only necessary to use the single brackets shown in Fig. 3; but in cases where two or more vertical rows or tiers of shelves are provided or where two or more shelves are placed close together and end to end in a horizontal row, then the double brackets shown in Fig. 2 may be employed to support the meeting ends of the adjacent shelves and the single brackets need be used only at the outer ends of the endmost shelves in the row or rows. The front end portions of the bracket arms 8 are provided with notches 9 which are preferably inclined as shown. These notches provide bearings for the pivots 10 of supporting members 11 on the underside of shelves 12 and facilitate the attachment and removal of the shelf to and from the supporting bracket arm.

In some cases, and more particularly where glass plates are used for the shelves, it is preferable to mount the shelves in holders or carriers 13 and secure the members 11 to said holders or carriers. Preferably, the carriers 13 and the members 11 are made integral or formed from a single piece of sheet metal, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5. The carrier as therein illustrated comprises a strip having ears 11 bent downwardly parallel with each other from opposite sides of the strip. The ears have riveted or otherwise secured thereto the cross pivot pin 10 which



fits in the slot 9 in the bracket arm while the ears 11 straddle the end portion of the bracket arm. The front end portion of the strip 13 is bent upwardly and rebent inwardly parallel with the strip as at 14 to form a seat for the front edge portion of the shelf 12. The rear end portion of the strip is bent upwardly as at 15 and it is perforated and screw-threaded to receive a screw 16 which is adapted to project over the rear marginal portion of the shelf. In this manner, it is obvious that a glass plate may be securely held in place, it, of course, being understood that a carrier member is provided at each end of the shelf and, if desired, at a point or points intermediate its ends, depending upon the length and thickness of the glass and the weight to be carried thereupon. The arrangement also permits of a certain amount of expansion and contraction due to changes in temperature without cracking the glass as the same need not necessarily be fitted tightly to the carriages.

Pivotally attached to the underside of the shelf or to the carrier 13 at the rear is an elongated supporting member 17 which has an adjustable or sliding connection with the supporting bracket 8 and is adapted to be locked in different positions to support the shelf in various tilted positions. The member 17 is slightly curved so as to enable the lower end thereof to clear the rear wall of the show case when the shelf is tilted and yet not project forwardly in the show case a distance to interfere with the goods on a shelf below or with the tilting of said under shelf. The member 17 is preferably slotted lengthwise as at 18 to cooperate with a guiding and locking screw 19 which fits in a threaded perforation 20 in the bracket 8. The upper end portion of the member 17, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, is pivotally attached to an ear 21 integral with the carrier 13, while in Figs. 6 and 8, the member 17 is shown as being pivoted to a separate ear which is secured to the underside of the shelf.

In order to prevent the goods from sliding off the shelf when the same is tilted, a rib or ledge 22 is provided along the front edge portion thereof. The rib may be secured directly to the shelf, as shown in Fig. 6, or, as shown in Figs. 1 and 5, the rebent end portion 14 of the carrier 13 may be bent upwardly as at 23 and have a wooden or metal strip attached thereto to provide the ledge.

By the construction shown, and the parts being made interchangeable, the shelves may be adjusted to various heights and arranged horizontally or tilted to various angles to tastily, attractively and advantageously display merchandise. The supporting fixtures for the shelf occupy but a small space within the show-case and being practically invisible do not detract from the neat appearance thereof.

Obviously, the construction admits of considerable modification without departing from my invention. Therefore, I do not wish to be limited to the specific construction and arrangement shown.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A show-case having transparent panels, an upright in said case, a laterally projecting bracket mounted on said upright, a shelf pivotally supported on the outer end of said bracket, a member pivotally attached to said shelf and movable transversely of said bracket to hold the shelf in various angular positions, and means for locking said member to said bracket in its adjusted position.

2. A show-case having transparent panels, an upright in said case, a bracket adjustably mounted on said upright, a shelf pivotally supported on said bracket, an elongated link pivotally connected to said shelf and movable transversely of said bracket, and means on the bracket for clamping said link thereto.

3. A display shelf comprising a supporting bracket arm having a notch in its front end portion, a shelf having a depending pair of ears adapted to straddle the bracket arm and having a cross pivot secured therebetween and adapted to fit in the notch in said arm, an elongated member pivoted at one end to said shelf near its rear edge, said elongated member having a slot extending lengthwise thereof, and a screw fitted through the slot in said elongated member and into a threaded hole in said bracket arm, whereby said elongated member may be secured in adjusted positions to said bracket arm and the shelf be thereby held in different pivotal positions.

4. A display shelf comprising a supporting bracket arm having a notch in its front end portion, a shelf having a holder comprising a metal strip having one end rebent and adapted to overlies the edge portion of the shelf and its opposite end bent upwardly and having a screw threaded perforation therein adapted to receive a screw to overlies the edge portion of said shelf, said strip having a depending pair of ears intermediate its ends and adapted to straddle said bracket arm and having a cross pivot secured therebetween and adapted to fit in the notch in said bracket arm, and said strip having a depending ear near its rear end, an elongated member pivotally secured at one end to said last mentioned ear and having a slot extending lengthwise thereof, and a screw fitted through the slot in said elongated member and into a screw-threaded perforation in said bracket arm, whereby said elongated member may be locked in adjusted positions to said bracket arm and the shelf be thereby held in different pivotal positions.



5. A display shelf comprising a supporting bracket arm having a notch in its front end portion, a shelf having a detachable holder, said holder having a pair of depending ears adapted to straddle said bracket arm and having a cross pivot secured therebetween and adapted to fit in the notch in said bracket arm, an elongated member pivotally attached at one end to said holder near the rear end thereof, said elongated member having a slot extending lengthwise thereof, and a screw fitted through the slot in said elongated member and into a screw-threaded hole in said bracket arm, whereby said elongated member may be locked in its adjusted positions to said bracket arm and

the shelf be thereby held in different pivotal positions.

6. A display shelf having a detachable holder comprising a metal strip having one end portion rebent to overlies the edge portion of the shelf and an upstanding portion adapted to have a strip secured thereto to provide a retaining ledge for the shelf, and said strip having a depending pivot portion intermediate its ends.

Signed at St. Louis, Missouri, this 3rd day of June, 1909.

JOHN N. CLEAR.

Witnesses:

G. A. PENNINGTON,  
JULIA B. MEGOWN.