T. L. THOMPSON.

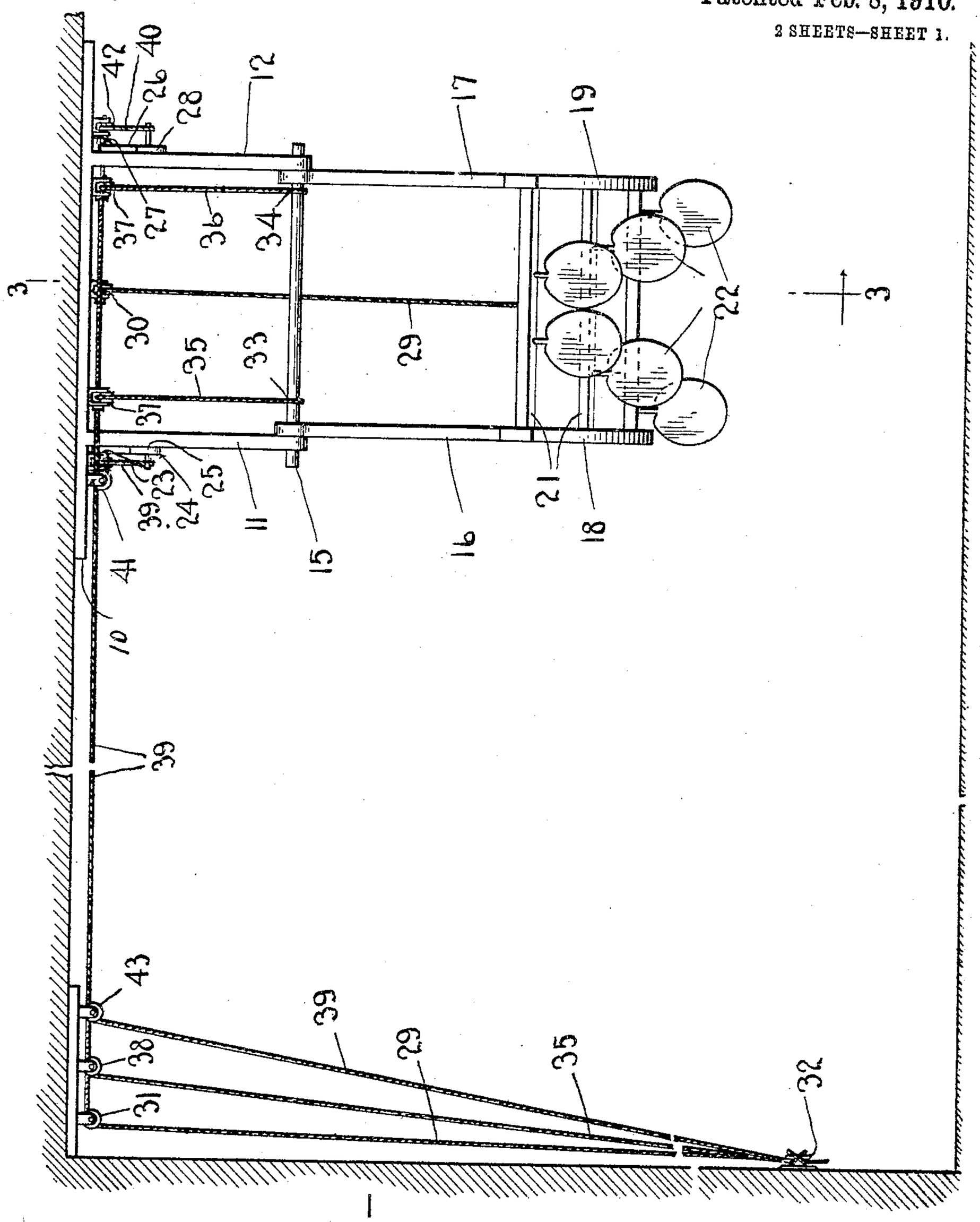
FLY FAN.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 6, 1909.

948,356.

Patented Feb. 8, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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FIG. 1.

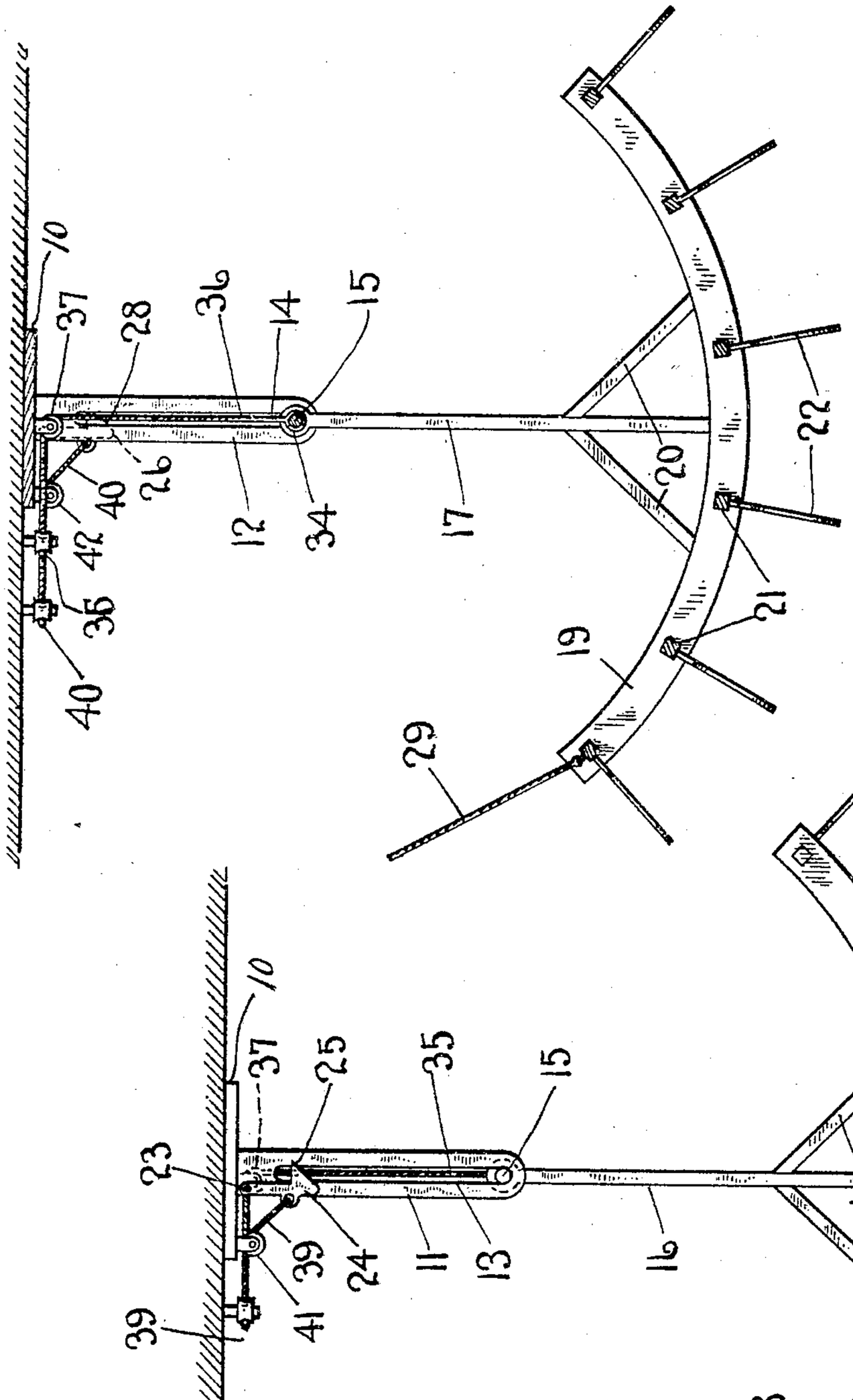
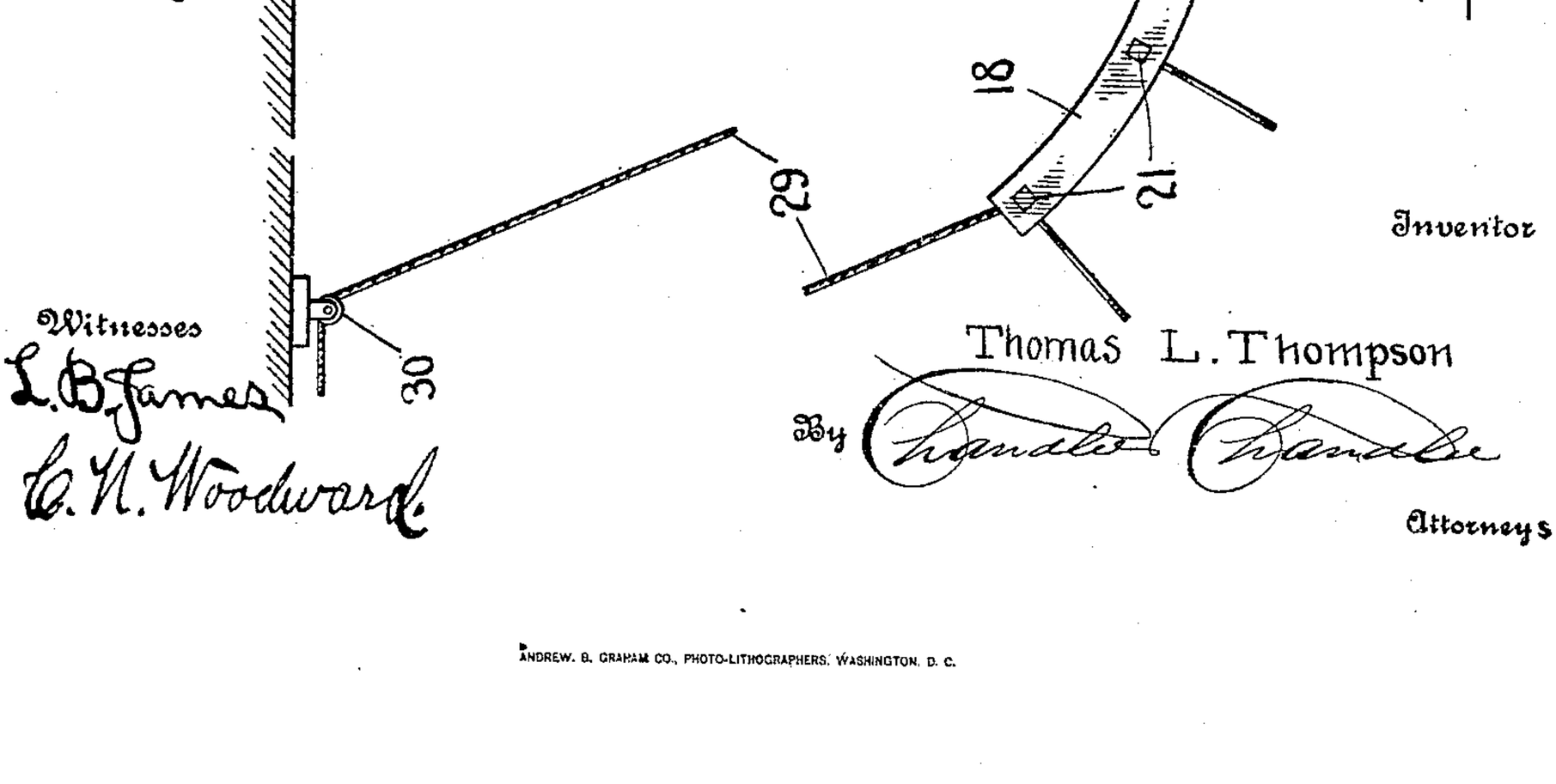


FIG. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS L. THOMPSON, OF WILLISTON, TENNESSEE.

FLY-FAN.

948,356. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Feb. 8, 1910.**

Application filed July 6, 1909. Serial No. 506,138.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS L. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Williston, in the county of Fayette, State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fly-Fans; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to fly fans, or of the class usually termed "punkas", and has for one of its objects to improve the construction and increase the efficiency and utility of devices of this character.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simply constructed device of this character which may be suspended from a ceiling and adjusted to the height of the ceiling from the floor.

Another object of the invention is to provide a simply constructed device which may be elevated to the ceiling when not in use.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction as hereafter shown and described and then specifically pointed out in the claims, and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved device applied. Fig. 2 is an end elevation. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

The improved device comprises a supporting frame formed of an upper member 10 preferably in plate form, and adapted to be attached to a ceiling of a room and spaced vertical members 11—12 depending from the upper member, the member 11 provided with a longitudinal slot 13, and the member 12 provided with a correspondingly longitudinal slot 14. Passing through the slots 13—14 is a roller or bar 15, the bar being thus rotatable and slidable in the slots. Depending from the bar 15 are two arms 16—17, and connected to the lower end of the arm 16 is a segmental member 18, while a similar segmental member 19, is connected to the lower end of the arm 17. The segmental member 18 is supported from the arm 16 by suitable braces 19′, while similar braces 20 connect the member 19 to the arm 17. By this means the arms and the segmental members are firmly united, as will be obvious. Extending between the segmental members 18—19 are a plurality of rods 21, the rods being preferably square transversely. The rods 21 are designed to support a plurality of fans, and any suitable form of fan may be employed, but for the purpose of illustration a plurality of ordinary palm-leaf fans 22 are attached to the rods. The fans may be arranged in any desired order, but for the purpose of illustration each rod is shown provided with two of the fans, the fans of one rod being located opposite the space between the fans of the next rod.

Pivoted to swing at 23 to the member 11 is a catch device 24 having an inclined lower end 25, while a similar catch device 26 is pivoted at 27 to the member 12 and provided with an inclined lower end 28. The inclined portions 25—28 extend across the slots 13—14 and in the path of the bar 15, so that when the latter is elevated it will displace the catch devices which will automatically lead beneath the bar and thus hold it in elevated position. By this means when the bar 15 and its attachments are elevated the catch devices automatically retain it in its elevated position. The swinging portion of the device may be actuated in any suitable manner, but preferably by a cord 29 leading from one of the terminal rods 21 over guide pulleys 30—31 and down to a suitable fastening cleat represented at 32. The guide pulleys 30—31 will be connected to the ceiling of the room at suitable points, while the cleat will be located at a suitable point upon one of the side walls of the room.

Connected at 33—34 to the bar 15, preferably near its ends, are pull cords 35—36 leading over suitable pulleys 37—38 and thence to the cleat 32. Pull cords 39—40 are likewise connected to the catch device 24—26 and lead thence over guide pulleys 41—42—43 to the cleat 32. By this simple means it will be obvious that when the device is to be actuated the bar 15 is located at its lowest point in the slots 13—14 and the pull cord 29 actuate to cause the supporting portion which carries the fans to be vibrated upon the bar 15, as a center, the vibrations being of any required length, and as rapidly as may be desired.

If it is desired to locate the fan frame at a point intermediate the slots 13—14, the pull cords 35—36 are operated and con-

nected to the cleat to hold the member 15 and its attachment at any desired point. By this means the fans may be located at any point above the floor within the range of the slots. If it is desired to elevate the fans supporting portion to its fullest extent, the pull cord 29 is actuated to draw the member 15 above the catches 24—26 and in position to be engaged thereby and thus maintained in its uppermost position.

The fan device may be actuated when in its highest position, if preferred, but generally the catches will be employed only to support the fan devices when not in use. The member 15 may be of any required length and the members 11—12 spaced at any required distance corresponding thereto and the rods 12 may be of any required length to enable the fan area to be increased or decreased as required. The structure will preferably be formed of light wood, bamboo, or other similar material, and it is not desired therefore to limit the device to any specific material from which it may be constructed.

The device may be readily adapted to ceiling of any height without material structural changes, as will be understood.

What is claimed is:—

1. In a device of the class described, supports spaced apart and provided with longitudinal slots, a bar extending through said slots, arms depending from said bar, segmental members connected to said arms, a plurality of rods spaced apart and extending between said segmental members, fan devices carried by said rods, means for moving said bar in said slots, and means for swinging said segmental members and their connections.

2. In a device of the class described, a longitudinal bar arranged to be adjusted vertically, arms spaced apart and depending from said bar, a segmental member connected to each of said arms, a plurality of rods connected between said segmental members, a plurality of fan devices connected to said rods, and means for vibrating said arms and their connections.

3. In a device of the class described, supports spaced apart and provided with longitudinal slots, a bar extending through said slots, arms depending from said bar, segmental members connected to said arms, a plurality of rods spaced apart and extending between said segmental members, fan devices carried by said rods, means for moving said bar in said slots, catch devices carried by said supports and engaging said bar when elevated.

4. A supporting frame including spaced vertical members, a fan frame including laterally extending portions and connected for movement longitudinally of said vertical members and swingingly coupled thereto, means for moving said fan frame vertically of said supporting frame, and means for vibrating said fan frame upon said supporting frame.

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

THOMAS L. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:
F. T. KING,
E. B. SUMMERS.