G. A. SCHOBERT.

HAT HOLDER.

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954,472.

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Fig. 1.

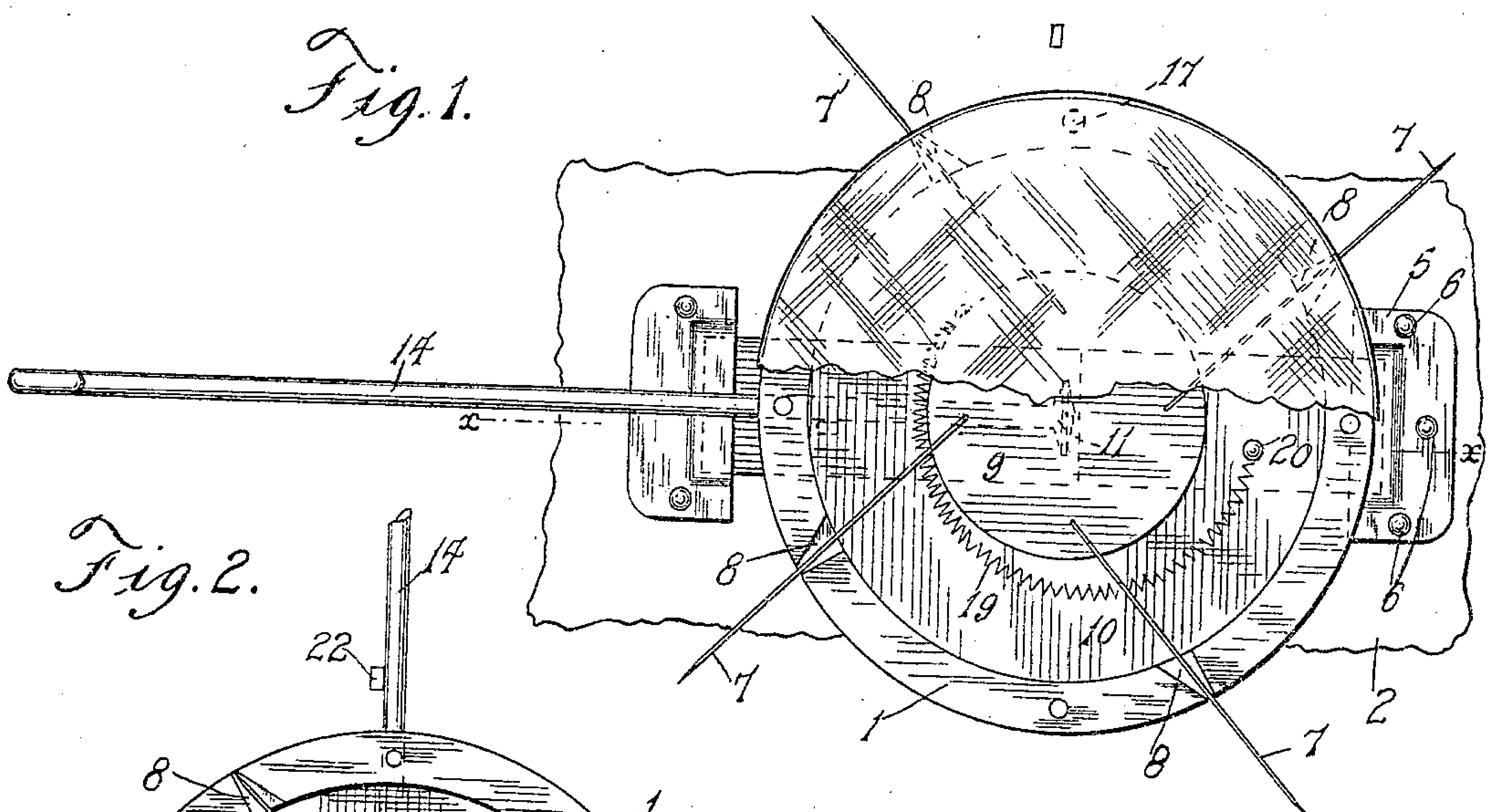


Fig. 2.

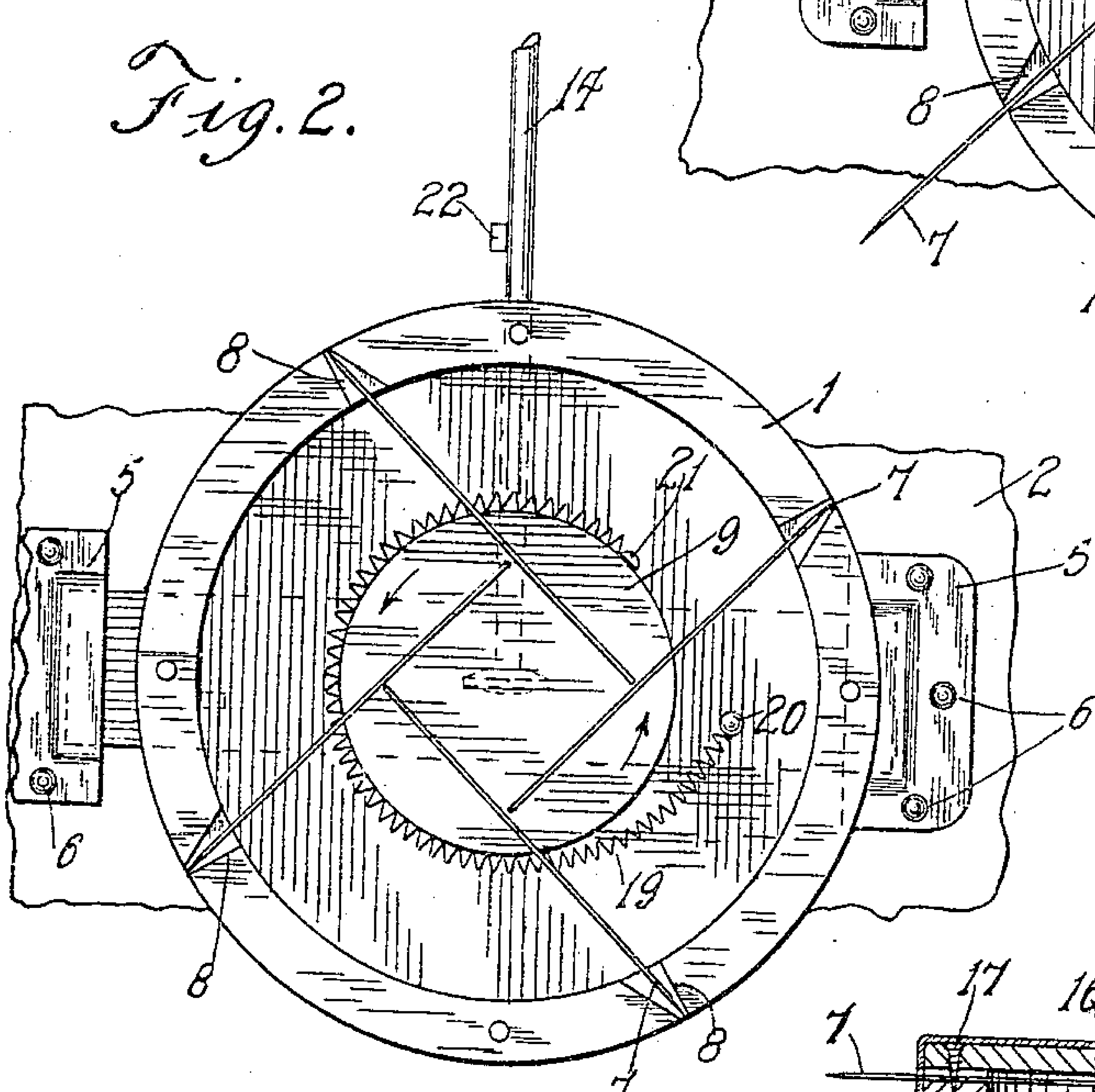
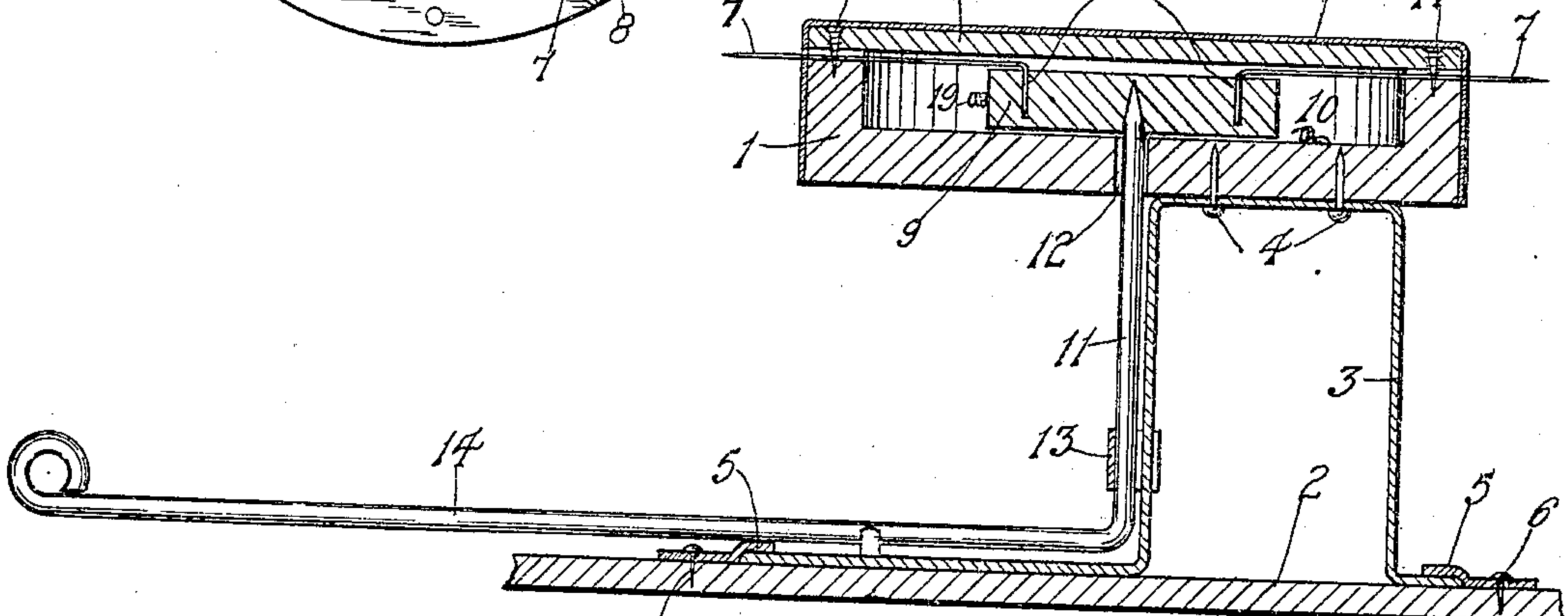


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE ADAM SCHOBERT, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

HAT-HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE ADAM SCHOBERT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Racine, county of Racine, and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hat-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a device for securely supporting a lady's hat, or the like, and the same is especially adapted to be used for holding a hat in connection with the top or vertical walls of a trunk, whereby the liability of its becoming loose and thrown about by the rough usage of the trunk as the latter is being moved or shipped, is avoided.

The construction of my device is explained by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view, part broken away, to show the interior, the hat supporting needles being shown in their extended position. Fig. 2 is a similar view to that shown in Fig. 1 with the hat supporting needles withdrawn, preparatory to placing a hat upon the supporting block, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section, drawn on line *x*—*x* of Fig. 1.

Like parts are identified by the same reference numerals throughout the several views.

1 represents a cylindrical block, which is preferably made of wood and is supported from a stationary wall 2 by the bracket 3 to which it is secured by a plurality of tacks 4, while the bracket 3 is secured to the wall by keepers 5, 5, which keepers are in turn secured to the walls by a plurality of tacks 6, or other equivalent means.

7 are the hat supporting needles, which are slidably supported near their outer ends in the apertures 8 of the block and are connected at their inner ends with the revoluble block 9, which block 9 is also preferably made of wood or other similar material and is centrally supported in the chamber 10 of the block 1 upon the revoluble shaft 11, which shaft 11 is revolubly supported at its upper end in the aperture 12 of the block 1 and near its lower end in the metallic loop 13, which loop 13 is in turn supported from one side of the bracket 3, reference being had to Fig. 3.

14 is an operating arm which is preferably formed integrally with or rigidly connected to the shaft 11, whereby as the arm 14 is moved in a circular course, said revoluble block 9 is revolved a partial revolution, and whereby the needles 7 are extended or contracted, as desired.

The needles 7 are provided at their inner ends with angular bends 15, which are adapted to loosely fit in apertures provided therefor in the revoluble block 9 and said angular bends are retained in their apertures by contact of the radial portions of the needles with the inclosing cover 16 of the block. When the revoluble block and needles are in place, the cover 16 is secured to the block 1 above the chamber 10 by a plurality of tacks or screws 17. When all of said parts are together, they are preferably covered with plush or other fabric 18, whereby the hat supporting block is given a neat and attractive appearance.

While the needles and needle supporting block 9 may, if desired, be manually operated in both directions, I preferably operate the block and needles in one direction by the elastic member 19, which member may be either a spiral spring, as shown, or a band formed of rubber or other elastic substance.

The elastic member 19 is rigidly affixed at one end to the bottom of the chamber 10 by the pin 20 and is connected at its opposite end to the side of the revoluble block 9 by a pin 21, whereby said block 9 is automatically moved a partial revolution from the position shown in Fig. 2 to that shown in Fig. 1, and whereby the hat supporting needles 7 are extended and adapted to engage the crown of the hat which is supported upon said block. When, however, it is desirable to remove the hat from the block, the needles are withdrawn from the hat by turning the operating arm from the position shown in Fig. 1 to that shown in Fig. 2, whereby the block 9 is turned a quarter of a revolution and the needles are thereby drawn into the block as shown in Fig. 2, when they are retained in such position by the engagement of the operating arm 14 with the stop 22.

It will be understood that when the hat is in place on the block, it is necessary simply to raise the operating arm 14 sufficiently to pass over the stop 22, when the revoluble block 9 will be turned back to its original position by the recoil of the resilient member 19, whereby the needles will be again caused to protrude through the apertures 8 until they penetrate the hat, whereby the

hat will be securely supported as stated, from the block. It will also be understood that the hat supporting device, including the block 1, bracket 3, operating arm 14 and other corresponding parts may be readily removed from the trunk, as is sometimes desirable by pressing the arms of the bracket 3 toward each other slightly whereby they are disengaged from the keepers 5.

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

1. In a device of the described class, the combination of a stationary hat supporting block provided upon one side with a central chamber and at its periphery with a plurality of radial apertures, a revoluble block centrally supported in said chamber from an operating shaft, an operating shaft connected at one end with said revoluble block, and extending through an aperture in the stationary block, an operating arm connected with the outer end of said shaft, a plurality of needles pivotally connected at their inner converging ends with said revoluble block, and slidably supported at their outer ends in the radial apertures of said stationary block, whereby as said operating arm is turned in one direction, said needles will be extended and whereby as said arm is moved in the opposite direction, they will be contracted.

2. In a device of the described class, the combination of a stationary hat supporting block provided upon one side with a central chamber and at its periphery with a plurality of radial apertures, a revoluble block centrally supported in said chamber from an operating shaft, an operating shaft connected at one end with said revoluble block, and extending through an aperture in the stationary block, an operating arm connected with the outer end of said shaft, a plurality of needles pivotally connected at their inner converging ends with said revoluble block and slidably supported at their outer ends in the radial apertures of said stationary block, a resilient member connected at one end with said revoluble block and at its opposite end with said stationary block, said revoluble block being adapted as said operating arm is turned in one direction, to retract said needles and expand said resilient member and whereby as said operating arm is released said revoluble block will be turned in the opposite direction by the recoil of said resilient member and said needles will be extended, together with means for holding said operating arm against the recoil of said resilient member when said needles are contracted, all substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

GEORGE ADAM SCHOBERT.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. METZ,

LIZZIE SCHOBERT.