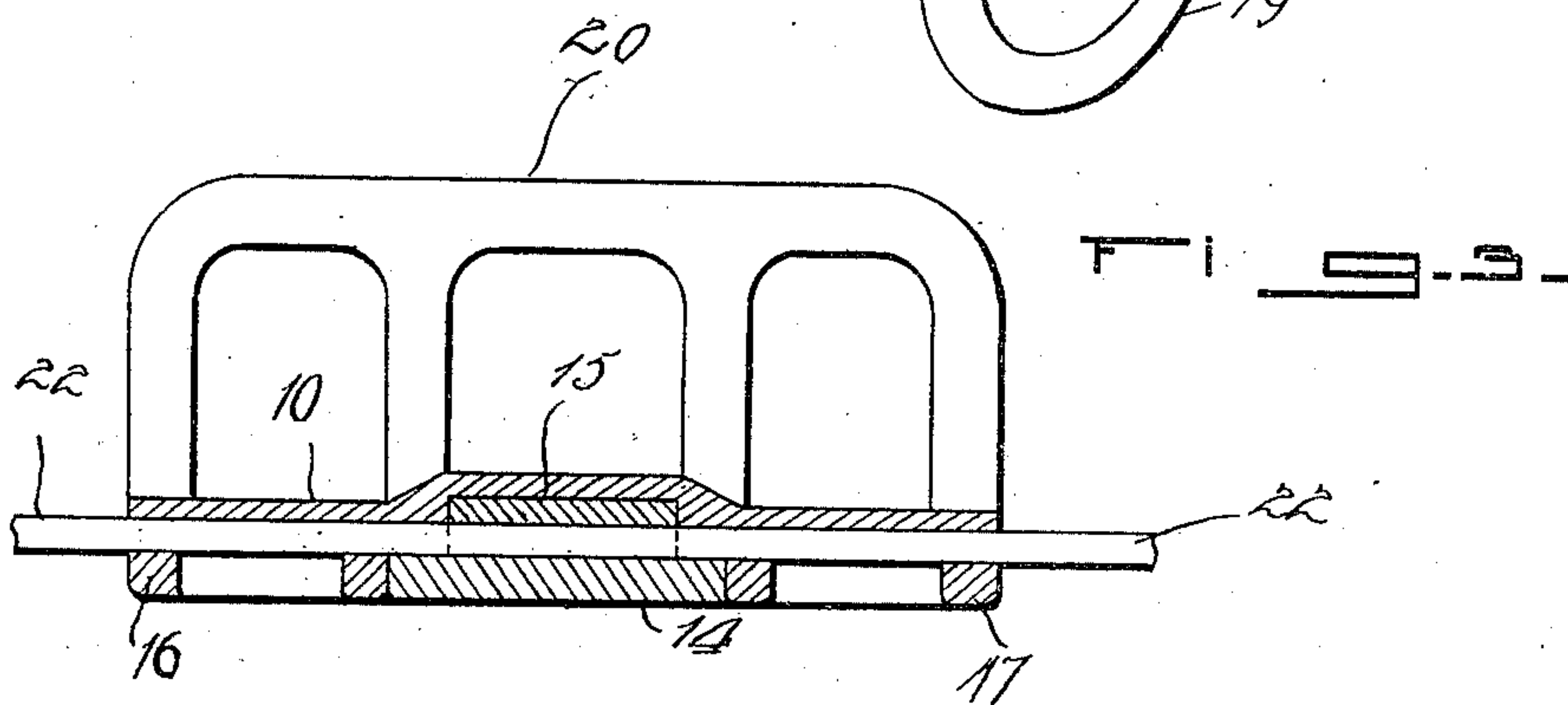
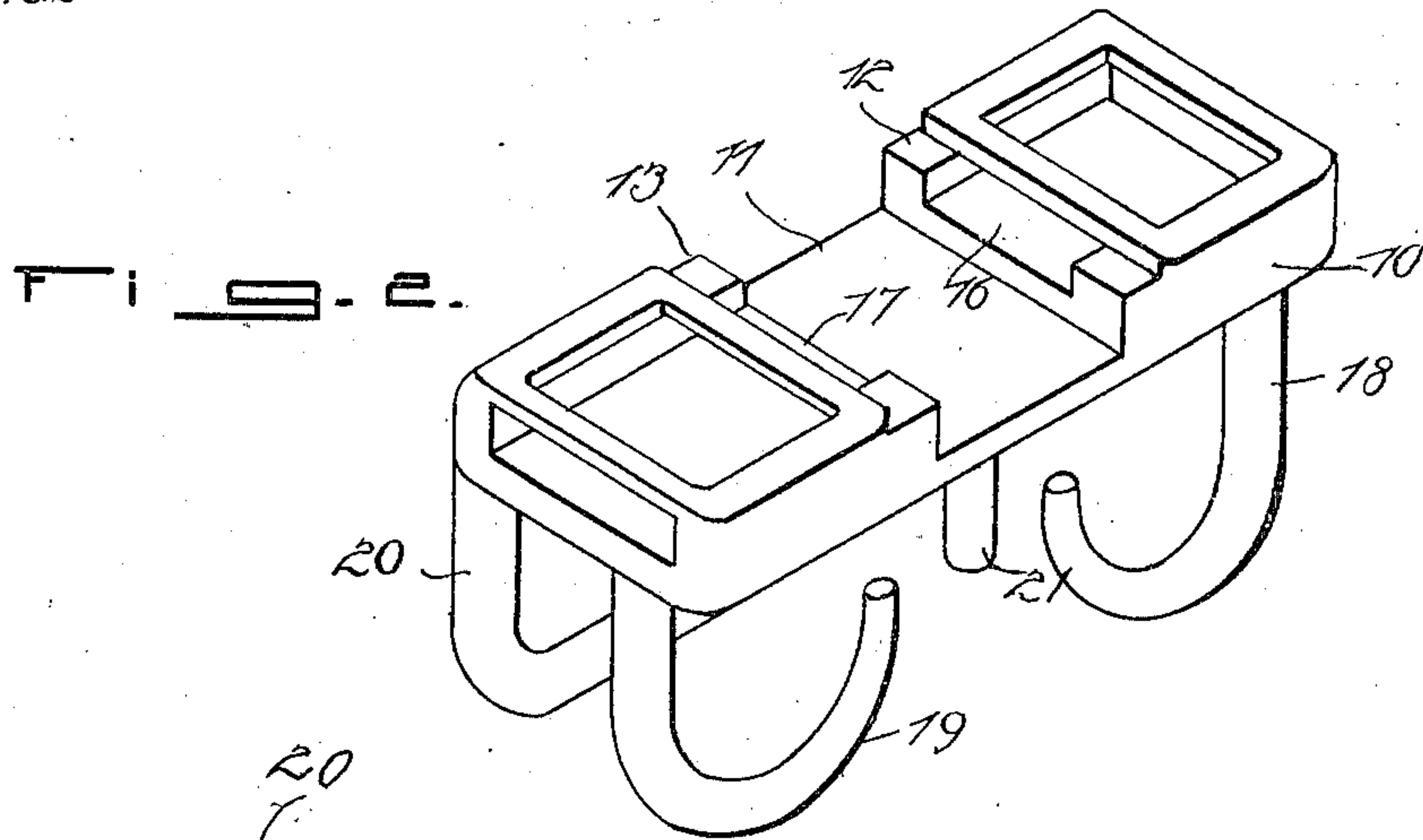
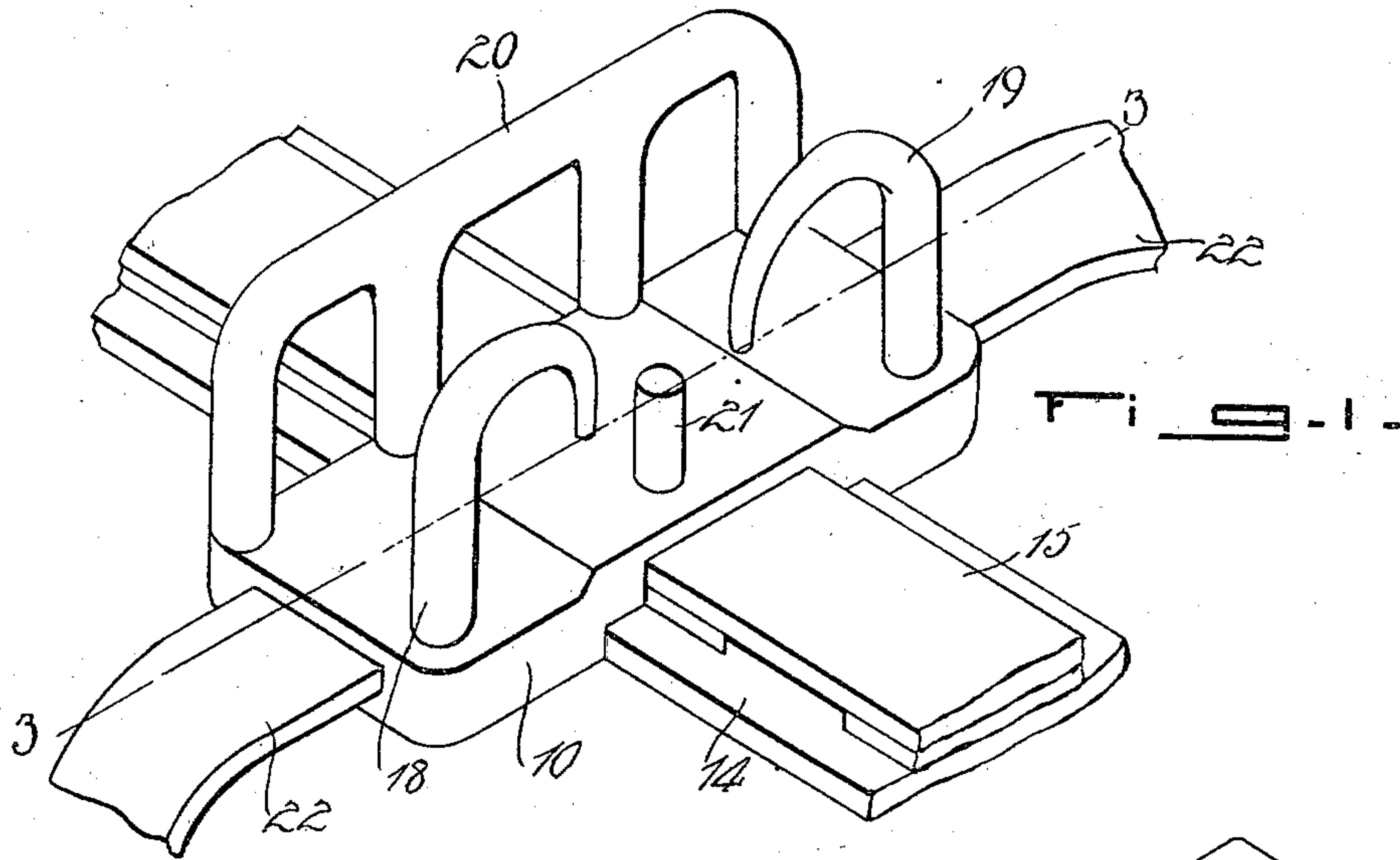


O. S. PITTENGER.
TRACE CARRIER.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 12, 1909.

961,009.

Patented June 7, 1910.



Witnesses

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By *[Signature]* *[Signature]*

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ORLO S. PITTENGER, OF CRAB ORCHARD, NEBRASKA.

TRACE-CARRIER.

961,009.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 7, 1910.

Application filed April 12, 1909. Serial No. 489,331.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORLO S. PITTENGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Crab Orchard, in the county of Johnson, State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Carriers; 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 trace carriers, more particularly to devices of this character employed for supporting the free ends of traces when the horses are unhitched, and has for its object to simplify and improve the construction and increase the efficiency and utility of devices of this character.

With this 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 claim, and in the drawings illustrative of the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved device viewed from above. Fig. 2 is a perspective view from beneath. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

The improved device comprises an oblong base plate or frame 10 having an intermediate recess, the central portion 11 of the recess being relatively deep and the side portions 12—13 of the recess being relatively shallow. The shallow portions are designed to bear over the body portion 14 of the back strap and the deeper portion of the recess designed to bear over the narrower upper portion 15 of the back strap, the back strap being of the usual construction.

Formed at the ends of the base 10 are strap loops 16—17, the aperture through the strap loops communicating with the transverse recess as shown.

Rising from the base member 10 near one edge and likewise near its ends are inwardly directed hooks 18—19, designed to receive the cock-eyes of the traces, and rising from the plate 10 at its opposite edge is a guard device 20, preferably in the form of a frame constructed with openings to reduce the weight. Rising from the base 10 between the terminals of the hooks 18—19 is a stop stud 21 against which the inner ends of the

cock-eyes are designed to bear in event of their being moved inwardly inadvertently to prevent premature displacement.

The loops 16—17 are designed to receive the hip strap a portion of which is represented at 22, the hip strap passing through the usual loops formed between the narrower upper portion 15 and the lower wider portion 14 of the back strap.

To attach the improved device to a harness, the hip strap is detached and the frame 10 located over the back strap with the narrower upper portion thereof within the relatively deep portion 11 of the recess and the wider portion 14 of the back strap within the shallow portions 12—13 of the recess. The hip strap is then thrust through the loops 16—17 and likewise through the loop between the back strap members. By this means the device is secured in position upon the back strap, as will be obvious. The improved device is simple in construction, can be inexpensively manufactured from one single piece of metal preferably malleable iron, japanned, plated, galvanized, or otherwise protected.

The improved device does not interfere with the ordinary operations of the harness and does not detract from its appearance, and will not therefore be detrimental to the harness to which it is attached. The improved device is thus attachable upon the harness without material structural changes therein, and does not require riveting, sewing or other fastening devices, while at the same time it is firmly secured in place and will not become disarranged when in use.

The plate 10 extends without the openings or break from end to end so that a relatively large bearing area is produced against which the cock-eyes bear when applied to the hooks 18—19. The relatively soft harness members 15—22 are thus effectually protected from contact with said cock-eyes, while the member 20 effectually prevents the displacement of the cock-eyes when the harness is removed from the horses and suspended from the hooks in the stable, the member 20 also effectually preventing the cock-eyes from coming in contact with the harness members when the device is in suspended position.

What is claimed, is:—

A buckle comprising a base formed with

a continuous upper face and with a longitudinal opening and a transverse opening communicating with the longitudinal opening, a guard member rising from said base
5 at one side edge, a pin rising from said base intermediate the ends thereof at the other side edge, and inwardly and downwardly directed hooks carried by said base in longi-

tudinal alinement with the pin, the terminals of the hooks being spaced from the pin. 10

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

ORLO S. PITTENGER.

Witnesses:

C. L. ROTHELL,

T. R. RICHARDSON.