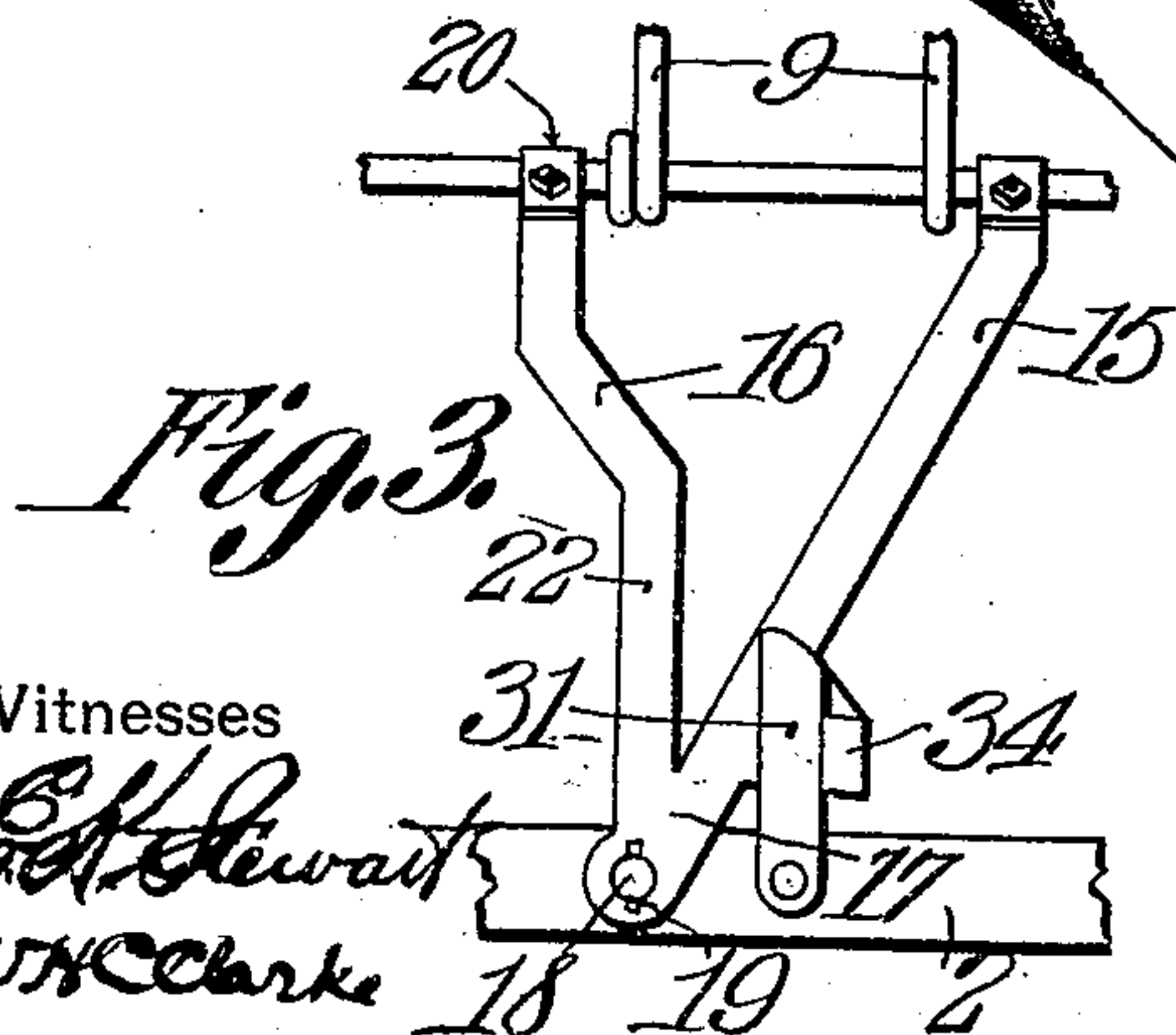
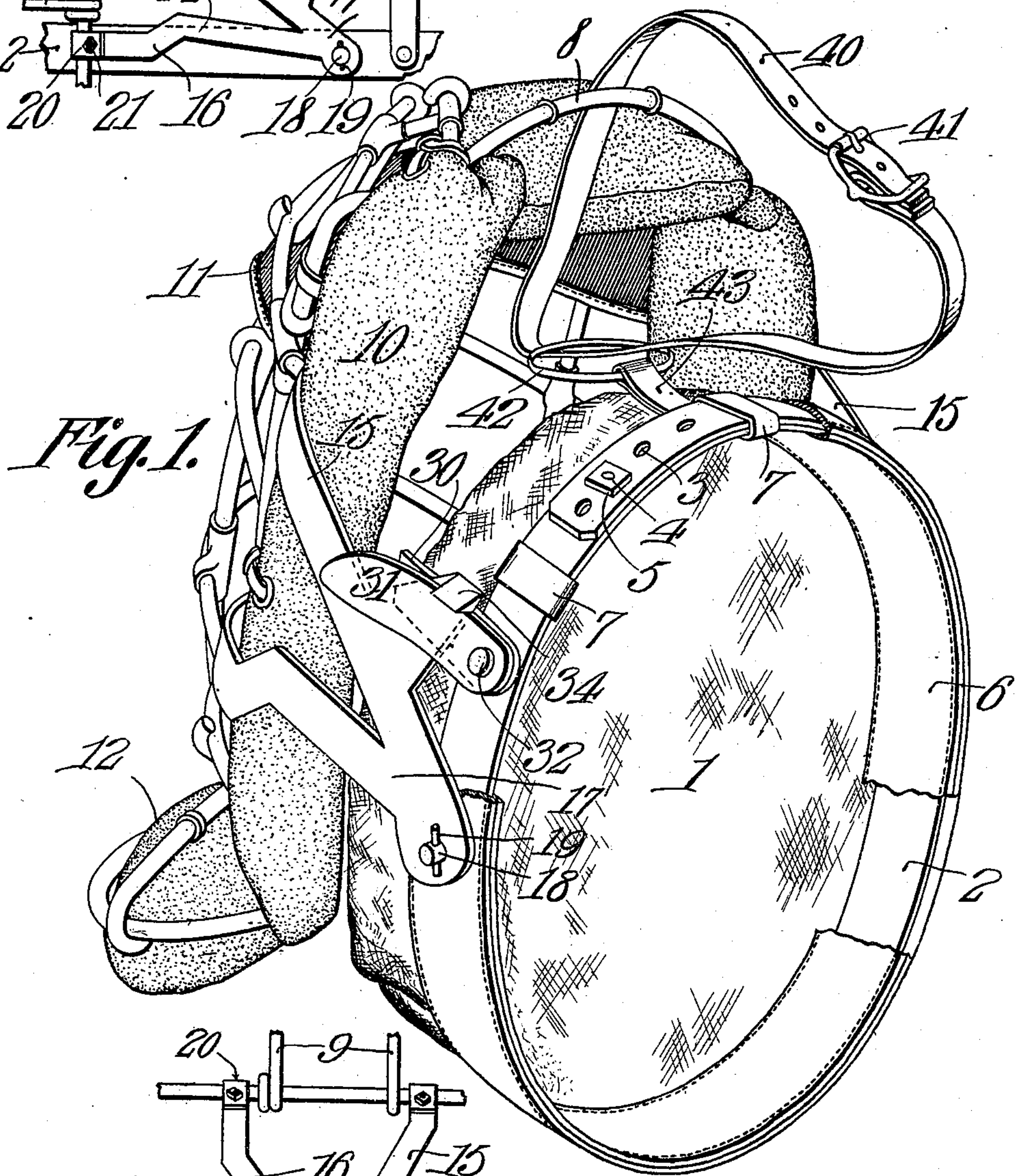
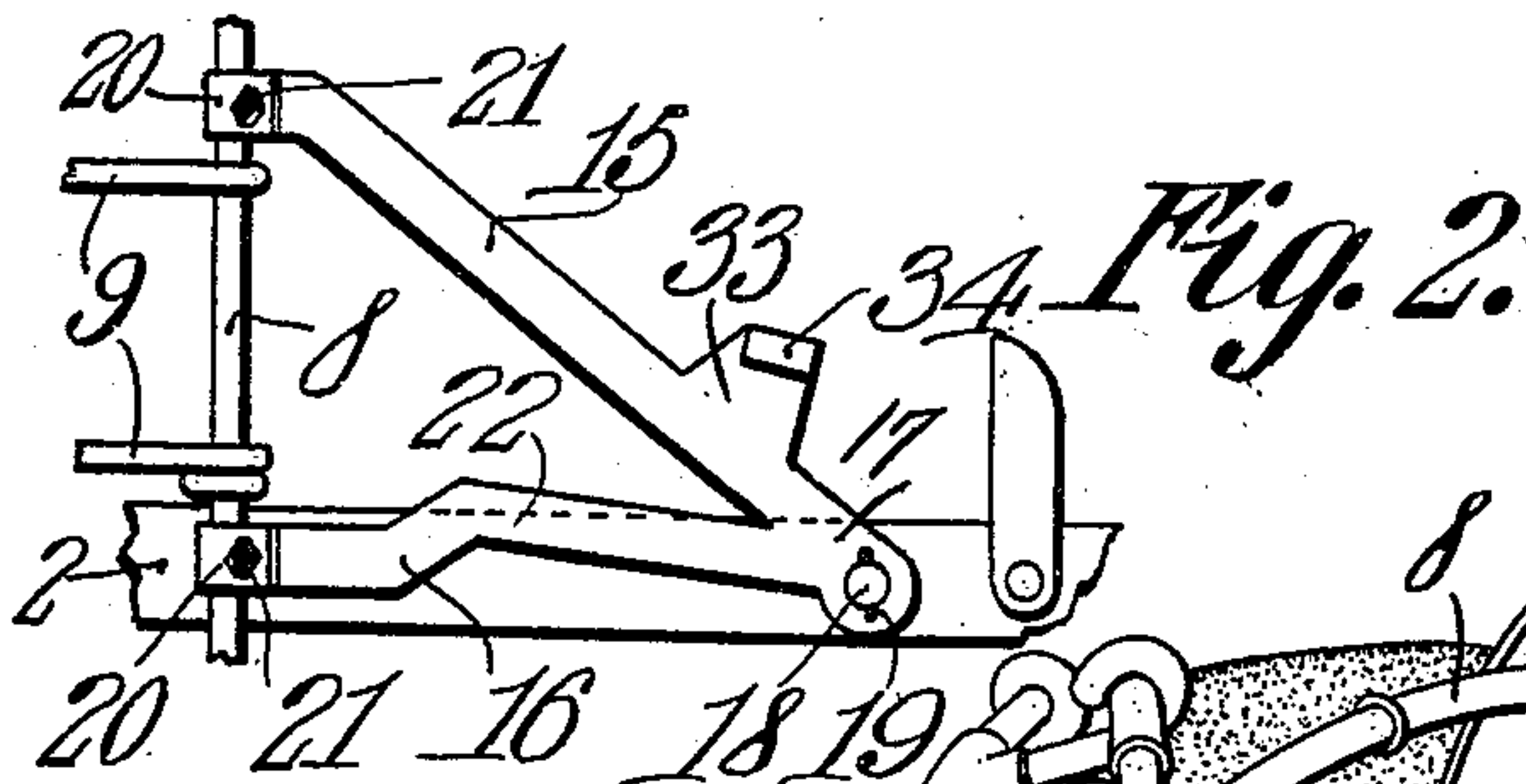


E. J. LAHAN.  
 BASE BALL MASK.  
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 29, 1910.

991,859.

Patented May 9, 1911.



Witnesses  
*E. J. Lahan*  
*W. H. Clarke*

*Edward J. Lahan*, Inventor  
 by *Cashner & Co.*  
 Attorneys



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. LAHAN, OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

## BASE-BALL MASK.

991,859.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 9, 1911.

Application filed March 29, 1910. Serial No. 552,133.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. LAHAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Quincy, in the county of Adams and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Base-Ball Mask, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to baseball masks.

Baseball players when attempting to catch a fly ball, frequently throw off the mask. It sometimes happens that they trip over it in the excitement of the occasion. Moreover with some styles of mask, difficulty is experienced in removing them with sufficient rapidity. Finally where means are provided for shifting the mask onto the top of the head, the mask is very apt to fall back on the face during the rapid movements of the player and thus disconcert him perhaps at a critical moment in the game.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide means for permitting the mask to be easily and quickly thrown into position on the top of the head and there locked securely in place.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for holding the face piece securely in position upon the face of the wearer.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for limiting the downward movement of the face piece when in position.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for readily adjusting the head piece so as to fit the heads of different players.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of invention herein disclosed can be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a mask constructed in

accordance with the present invention, the face piece being shown in position above the head piece and locked thereon so as not to fall forward accidentally onto the face. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view showing the head band, with the crown of the cap removed, and a portion of the face piece connected with the head band. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 with the parts in raised and locked position.

Like reference numerals indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

Briefly outlined, the baseball mask of the present invention comprises a head piece and a face piece pivotally connected with each other whereby the face piece can be thrown upward into position above the head piece and there locked securely in place. The head piece preferably is in the form of an ordinary cap 1 having a metallic head band 2 formed with overlapping ends in which are punched the perforations 3 which are engaged by the bolt 4 having the nut 5. By removing the bolt 4 and overlapping the ends of the head band 2 to a greater or lesser extent, the size of the headpiece can be adjusted to fit different players. The metallic head band 2 preferably is provided with a sheath or cover 6 formed of leather or other suitable material. Slidable loop members 7 are mounted upon the overlapping ends of the head band in order to prevent the said ends from being bent out of position.

The frame piece of the improved mask may be of any suitable form and construction, and consists preferably of the ring member 8 with which the cross bars 9 are connected. The face piece is also provided with the usual pad 10, the eye shield 11 and the throat piece 12.

The means for securing the face piece or frame to the head piece preferably comprises a pair of arms or bars 15 and 16 connected with each side of the face and head pieces. The bars 15 and 16 preferably converge with respect to each other so as to form an approximately V-shaped frame, said bars being preferably although not es-



5 essentially connected with each other in an  
 integral manner as indicated at 17 to form  
 a plate which is pivotally secured to the  
 side of the head band 2 by means such as  
 the fulcrum or pivot pin 18 through which  
 extends the cotter pin 19. Each of the  
 supporting members 15 and 16 preferably is  
 detachably connected with the circular  
 frame piece 8 by means such as the remov-  
 10 able clips 20 which are secured in position  
 by means such as the bolts 21. When the  
 face piece is thrown forward into position  
 upon the face of the wearer, the lower side  
 bar or support 16 preferably is approxi-  
 15 mately parallel with the head band 2 as  
 shown in Fig. 2. The supporting member  
 16 may if desired be angularly extended as  
 shown. By providing the converging sup-  
 porting members 15 and 16 connected with  
 20 the side portions of the head piece, the face  
 frame is prevented from wobbling upon the  
 face of the wearer, and at the same time it is  
 possible to throw the same readily upward  
 into the position illustrated in Figs. 1 and  
 25 3 of the drawings.

The means for locking the face piece in  
 raised position, as shown in Fig. 1, consists  
 of a pair of resilient plates 30 and 31 which  
 are secured at 32 to the head band 2. The  
 30 upper supporting member 15 is formed with  
 an extension 33 on which is mounted a lug  
 or catch 34 having a beveled face as shown  
 best in Fig. 1. When the face piece or mask  
 proper is moved from the position shown in  
 35 Fig. 2 to that shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the  
 beveled lug 34 passes in between the resilient  
 plates 30 and 31, its sharp forward edge  
 readily entering the space between said  
 plates, thus forcing them apart. After the  
 40 lug has passed between the plate, the outer  
 plate 31 snaps in back of the lug 34 and thus  
 holds the mask in raised position. While  
 this means of locking the mask in raised po-  
 sition has been shown and described, it is to  
 45 be understood that any other means may be  
 used for this purpose within the scope of the  
 claims. When it is desired to move the  
 mask downward onto the face, the outer re-  
 silient plate 31 is moved out of engagement  
 50 with the lug 34 and the mask is swung down-  
 ward. By providing means as herein shown  
 and described, for permitting the face piece  
 to be swung onto the top of the head and  
 there locked in position, it will be obvious  
 55 that the necessity for throwing off the mask  
 when about to catch a fly ball, and thus run-  
 ning the risk of tripping over the same, is  
 avoided. Moreover the liability of the mask  
 dropping accidentally onto the face is also  
 60 prevented by the locking means.

The means for preventing the mask from  
 settling too far down on the face, preferably  
 consists of a flexible member or strap 40  
 which is in the form of a loop, the ends of  
 65 the same being secured together by means

such as the buckle 41. The loop strap 40 at  
 its forward end engages the upper end of  
 the circular frame member 8 and at its rear  
 end is engaged with a ring 42 carried by a  
 metallic loop 43 which is riveted or other- 70  
 wise suitably secured to one of the ends of  
 the head band 2. When the face piece is in  
 lowered position, the strap 40 extends from  
 the rear portion of the head band, over the  
 top of the wearer's head and effectually pre- 75  
 vents the mask or face piece from dropping  
 too far down upon the face. The mask of  
 the present invention is strong, simple, dura-  
 ble and comparatively inexpensive in con-  
 struction as well as thoroughly practical and 80  
 efficient in use.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. A baseball mask comprising a head  
 piece provided with a head band, a face  
 piece, arms pivotally connected with the op- 85  
 posite sides of the head band and connected  
 with the face piece, resilient members con-  
 nected with the head band, and a pro-  
 jection connected with the face piece and  
 having a beveled lug adapted to pass be- 90  
 tween the resilient members for locking the  
 face piece in raised position.

2. A baseball mask comprising a head  
 piece provided with a crown, and a head 95  
 band having overlapping ends and means  
 for detachably securing the ends together, a  
 face piece, a pair of arms pivotally connect-  
 ed to the sides of the head band and detach-  
 ably secured at their forward ends to the  
 face piece, a projection on the face piece 100  
 having a beveled lug, a pair of resilient  
 plates mounted on the head band and ar-  
 ranged to be engaged by the lug to lock the  
 face piece in raised position, and means for  
 limiting the downward movement of the 105  
 face piece.

3. A baseball mask comprising a head  
 piece provided with a head band, a face  
 piece, a plurality of approximately V-shaped  
 members pivoted on the sides of said head 110  
 piece and detachably connected at their for-  
 ward ends with said face piece, a plurality  
 of resilient members connected with the head  
 band of said head piece, and a projection  
 connected with the face piece and having a 115  
 beveled lug adapted to pass between said re-  
 silient members for locking said face piece in  
 raised position.

4. A baseball mask comprising a head  
 piece provided with a crown and a head 120  
 band having overlapping ends and means for  
 detachably securing said overlapping ends  
 with each other, a face piece, a pair of ap-  
 proximately V-shaped frames pivotally con-  
 nected with the sides of the head band of 125  
 the head piece and detachably secured at  
 their forward ends to said face piece, a pro-  
 jection on said face piece having a beveled  
 lug, a pair of resilient plates mounted on the  
 head band of said head piece and adapted to 130



be engaged by said beveled lug to lock the  
said face piece in raised position, and a strap  
connected with the rear portion of the head  
band of the head piece and the upper por-  
5 tion of the frame of the face piece for limit-  
ing the downward movement thereof.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing

as my own, I have hereto affixed my signa-  
ture in the presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD J. LAHAN.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM E. MEYER,

LEO ULRICH.

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,  
Washington, D. C."

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