

L. HURSHMAN.
RAIL DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 16, 1910.

995,065.

Patented June 13, 1911.

Fig. 1.

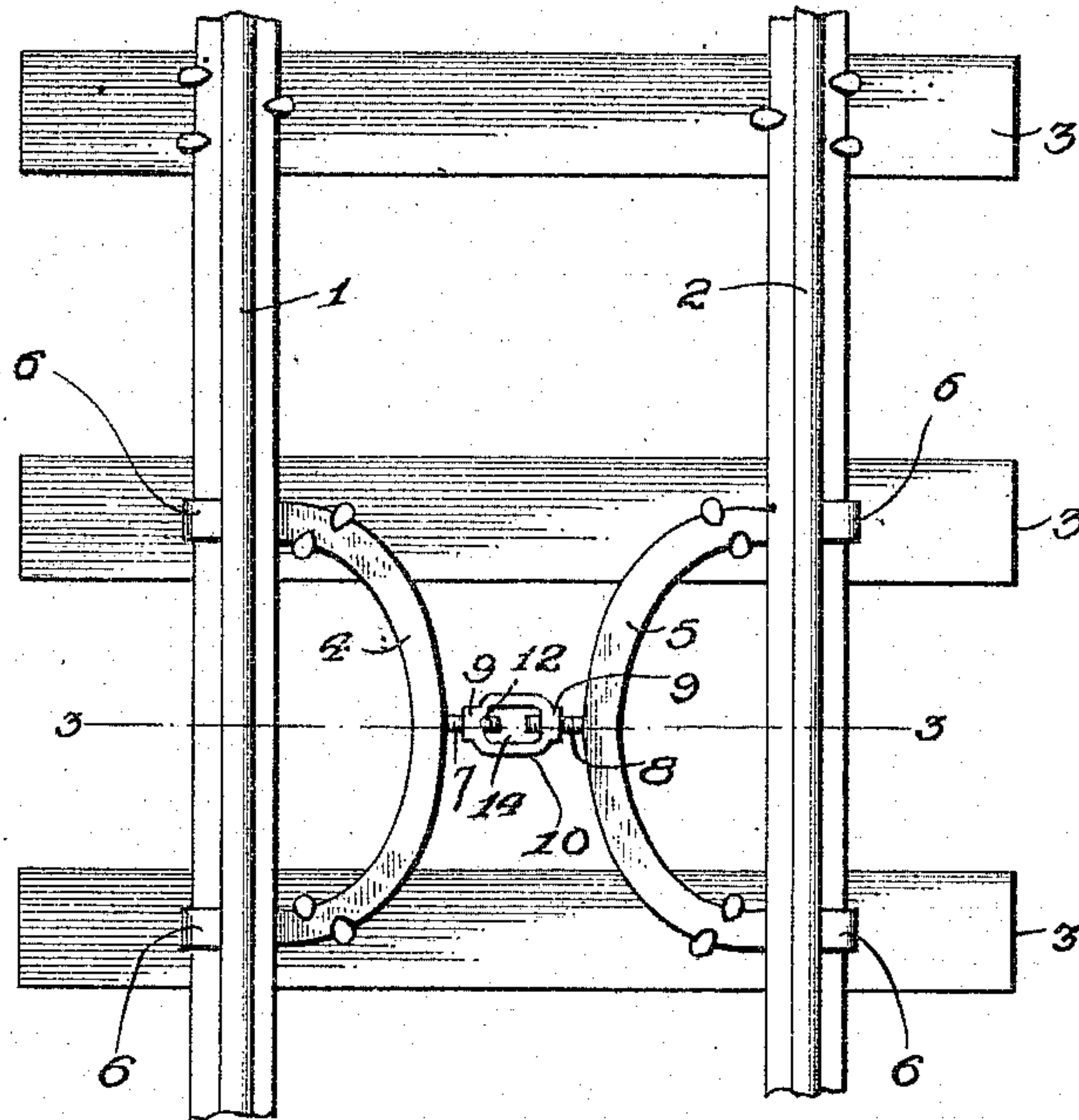


Fig. 2.

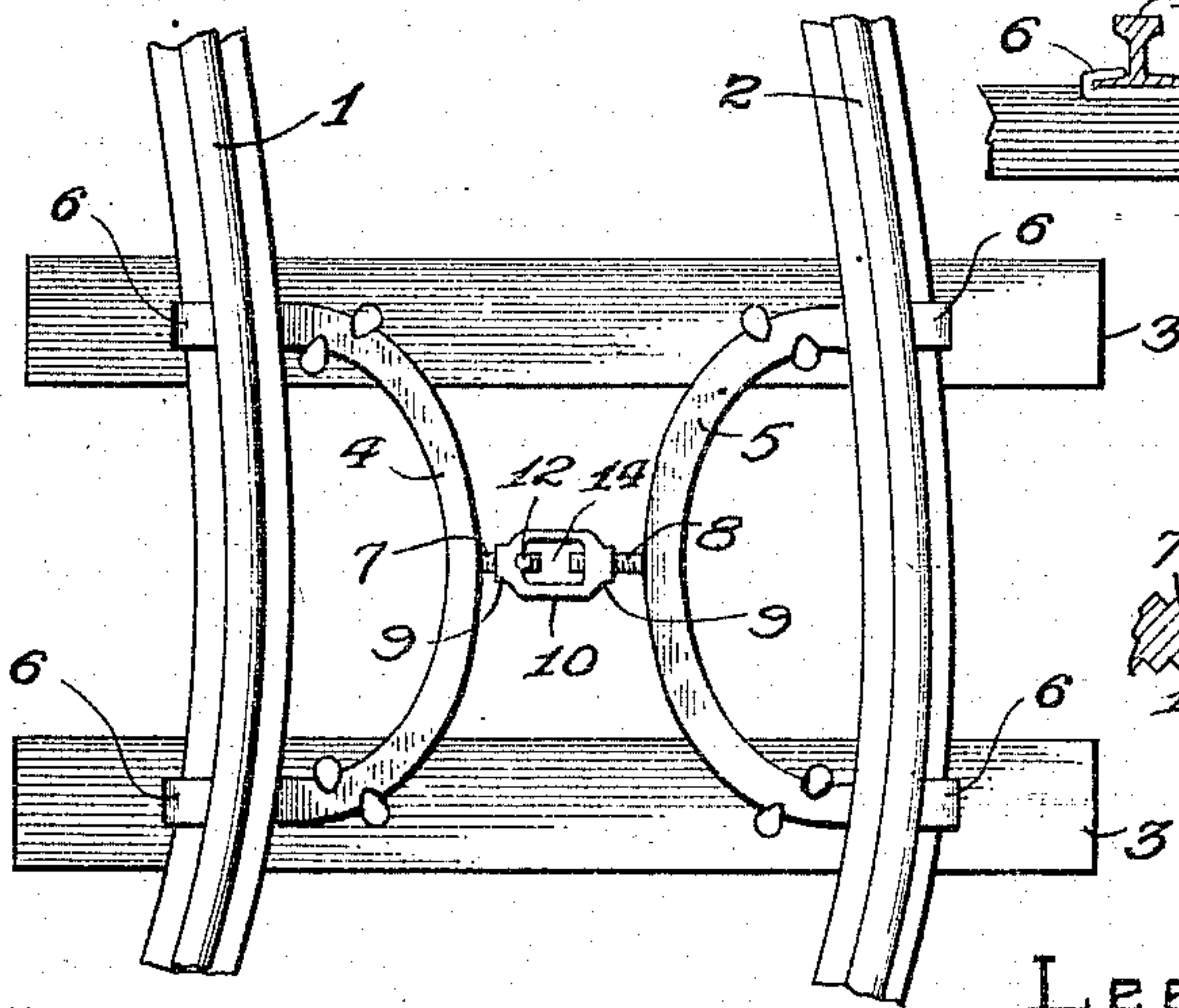


Fig. 3.

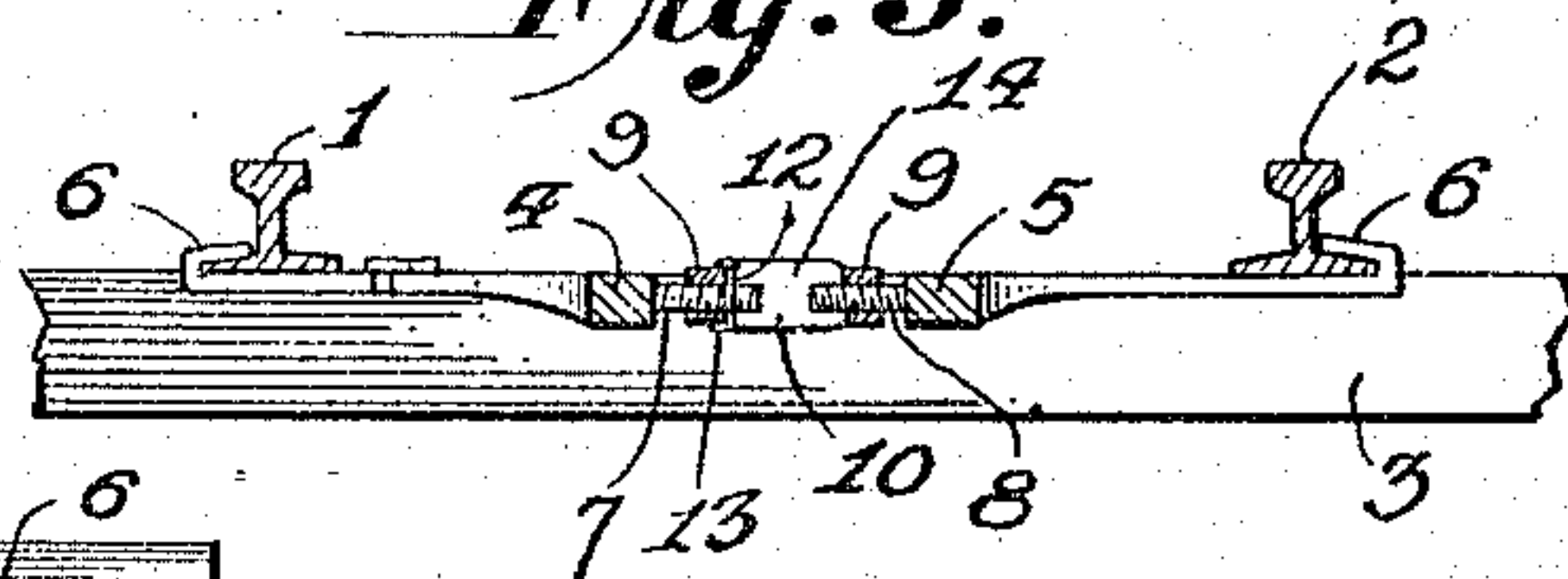
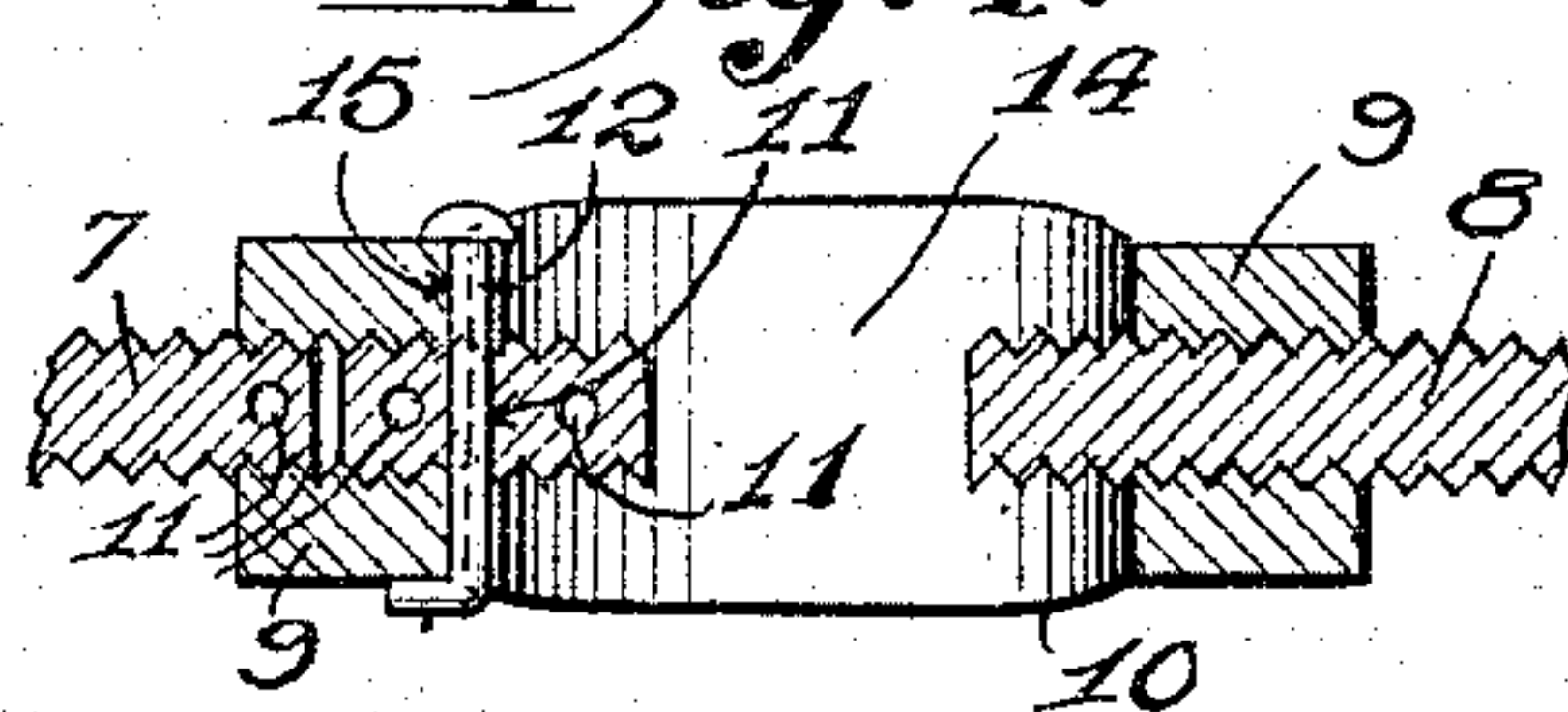


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RAIL DEVICE.

995,065.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEE HURSHMAN, citizen of the United States, residing at Elkins, in the county of Randolph and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rail Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to rail braces for connecting opposite rail sections so that spreading of said sections is prevented, and the principal object of the same is to provide a brace of the type specified that may be used on straight or curved rails and in which each rail section is engaged at two points by a brace bar, the brace bars being oppositely disposed and having an adjustable connection so that the tension on the rail sections may be regulated.

In carrying out the objects of the invention generally stated above, it will be understood, of course, that the essential features thereof are necessarily susceptible of changes in details and structural arrangements, one preferred and practical embodiment of which is shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

30 Figure 1 is a plan view of a straight portion of a track showing the opposite rails connected by the improved brace. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the brace applied to a curved portion of a track. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view showing the manner of adjustably connecting the brace bars.

Referring to said drawing by numerals 1—2 designates the opposite rails forming the track, said rails being fastened to the ties 3 in the usual manner.

The improved brace comprises a pair of bars 4—5 that are preferably formed of flat metal shaped to the arc of a circle, the ends thereof being upturned and bent upon themselves to provide flange-engaging hooks 6. At their center, the bars are each provided with an outwardly projecting threaded bolt, said bolts being designated by the numerals 7, 8 respectively, and said bolts are adapted

to enter the threaded ends 9 of a turnbuckle 10. The outer end portion of bolt 7 has a transverse opening 11 formed through it for the reception of a locking key 12 whose free end is bent at right angles, as indicated at 13 and hooked over the base of turnbuckle 10. The inner end of the open portion 14 of turnbuckle 10 that is adjacent key 12 is recessed to provide a seat 15 for the projecting portion of said key, so that said key will prevent rotation of said turnbuckle relative to bolt 7.

In use, the bars are arranged as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the accompanying drawings, the bars 4—5 having their ends passed beneath the base of opposite rails and hooked over the outer edges thereof. Said braces span two of the ties 3, and their end portions are bolted or otherwise rigidly secured thereto. The bolts 7—8 are then connected by the turnbuckle 10, and said buckle adjusted on bolt 7 until recess 15 aligns with opening 11 of bolt 7, whereupon the locking key 12 is passed through said recess and opening to lock said turnbuckle against rotation.

It will be seen from the foregoing that as the brace bars engage the rails at spaced apart points, the danger of said rails being buckled when the braces are adjusted is obviated. It will also be seen that the improved brace may be readily placed in position to prevent the rails spreading and securely locked in such position, yet the same may be easily released when desired.

What I claim as my invention is:—

A rail brace comprising a pair of bars curved on the arc of a circle and each provided with rail-engaging ends, a bolt projecting from the center of each bar, a turnbuckle connecting said bolts, and a locking key adapted to be passed through one of said bolts and engaged with said turnbuckle to prevent rotation of the same.

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

LEE HURSHMAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. WEYMOUTH,
C. RAYMOND SURRETT.