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(54) **HAIRCLIP WITH A TWISTABLE PIVOT**

(76) Inventor: **Wen-Hsiung Chang**, Tainan City (TW)

Correspondence Address:
Charles E. Baxley
5th Floor
59 John Street
New York, NY 10038 (US)

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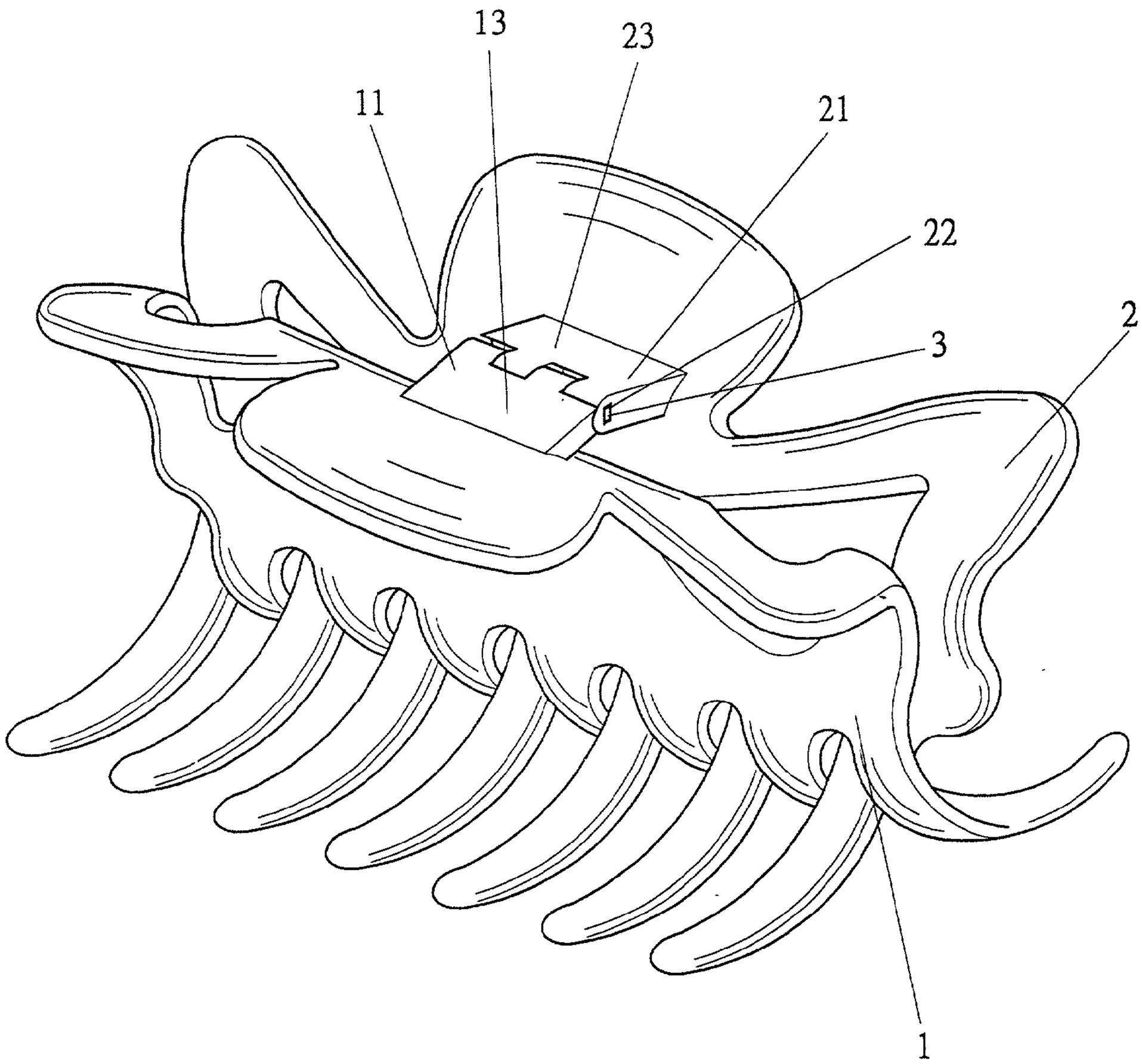
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A hairclip includes two clip members and a connecting rod. Each clip member includes an engaging portion extending along a longitudinal direction thereof. The engaging portions are aligned with each other for pivotal connection, each engaging portion having an engaging hole. The twistable connecting rod has two ends respectively, securely fixed in the engaging holes of the clip members such that an intermediate portion of the connecting rod is twisted when the clip members are pivoted relative to each other and that the twisted intermediate portion of the connecting rod resumes its shape after the clip members are released.



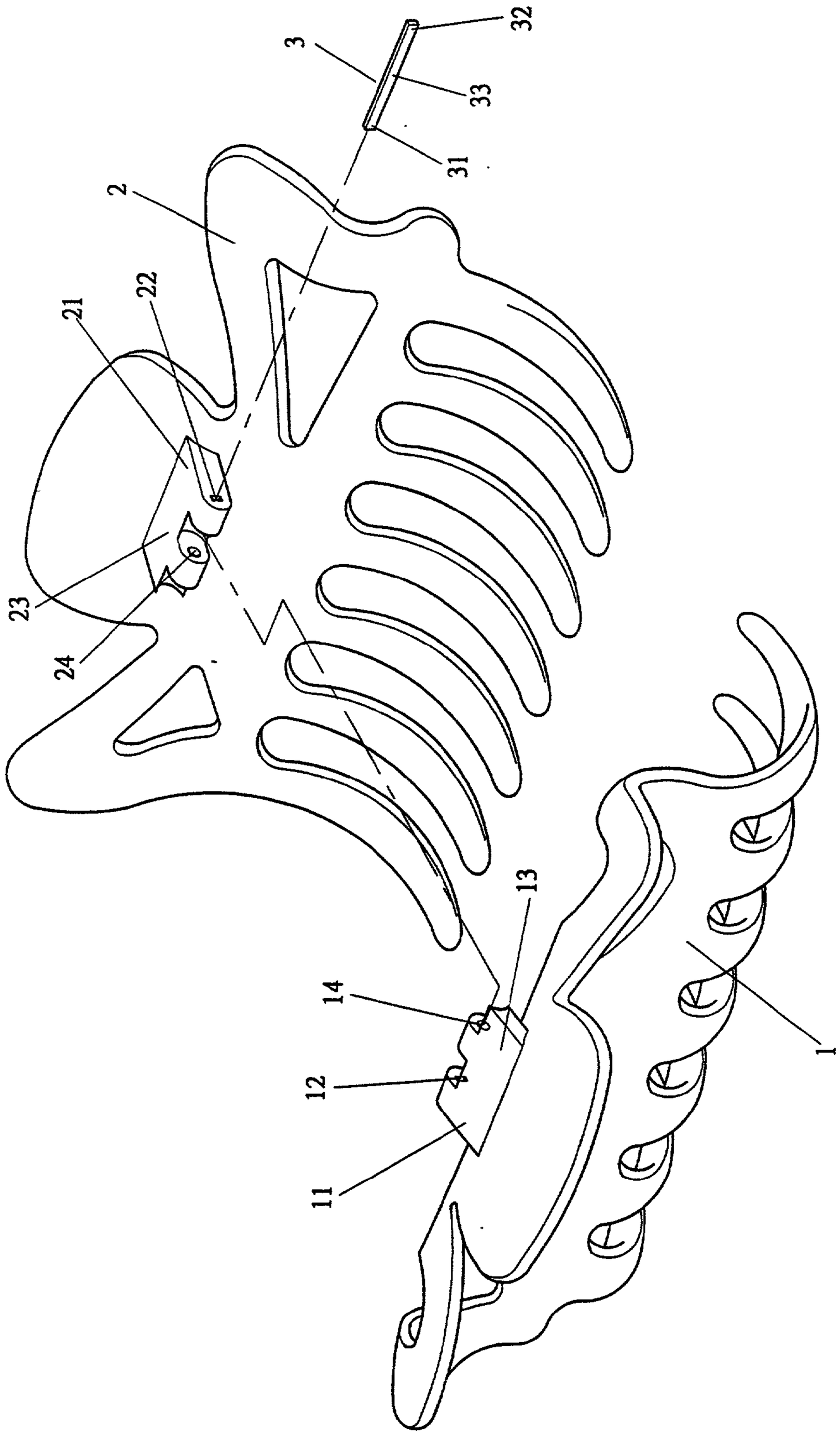


FIG. 1

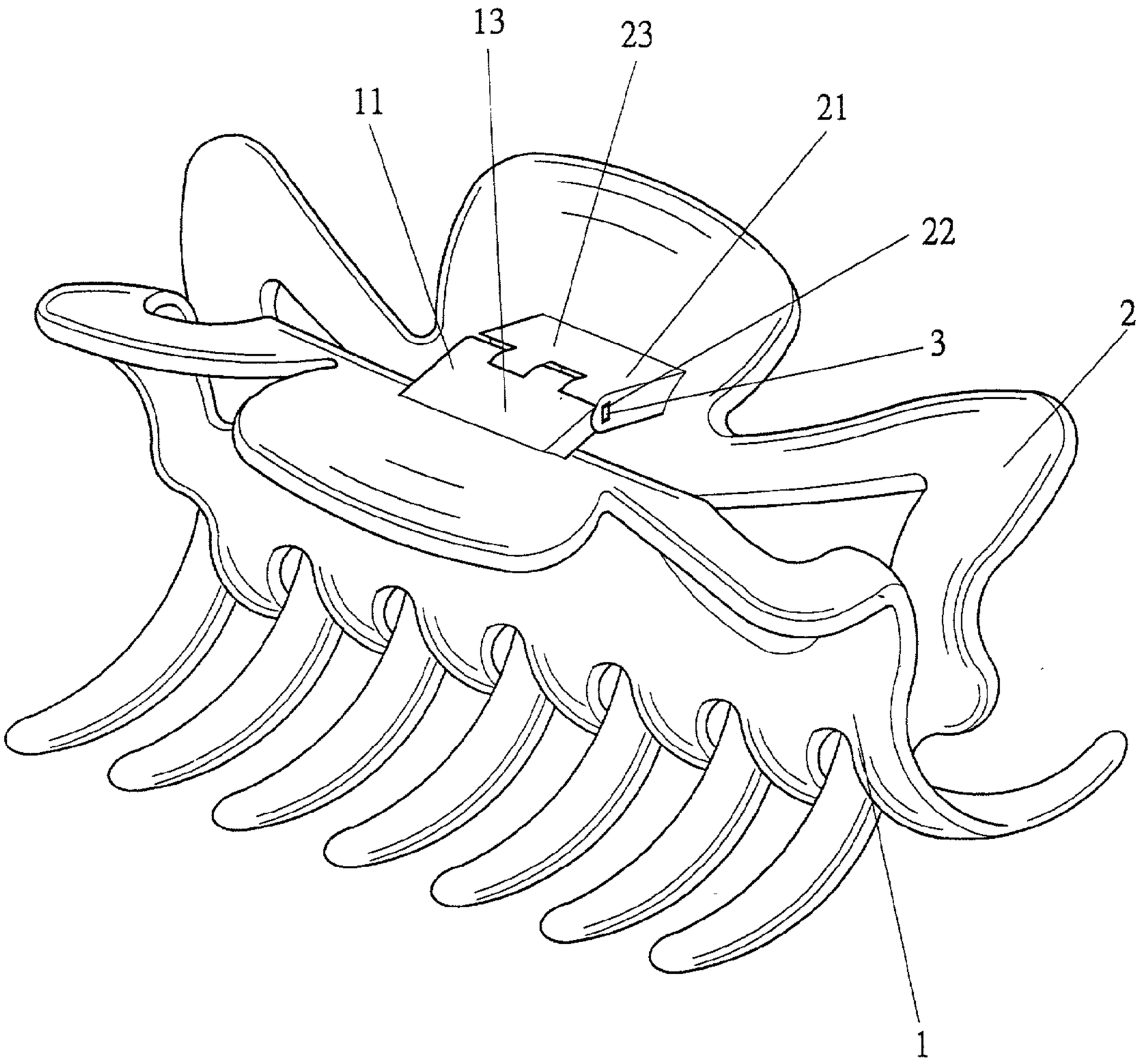


FIG. 2

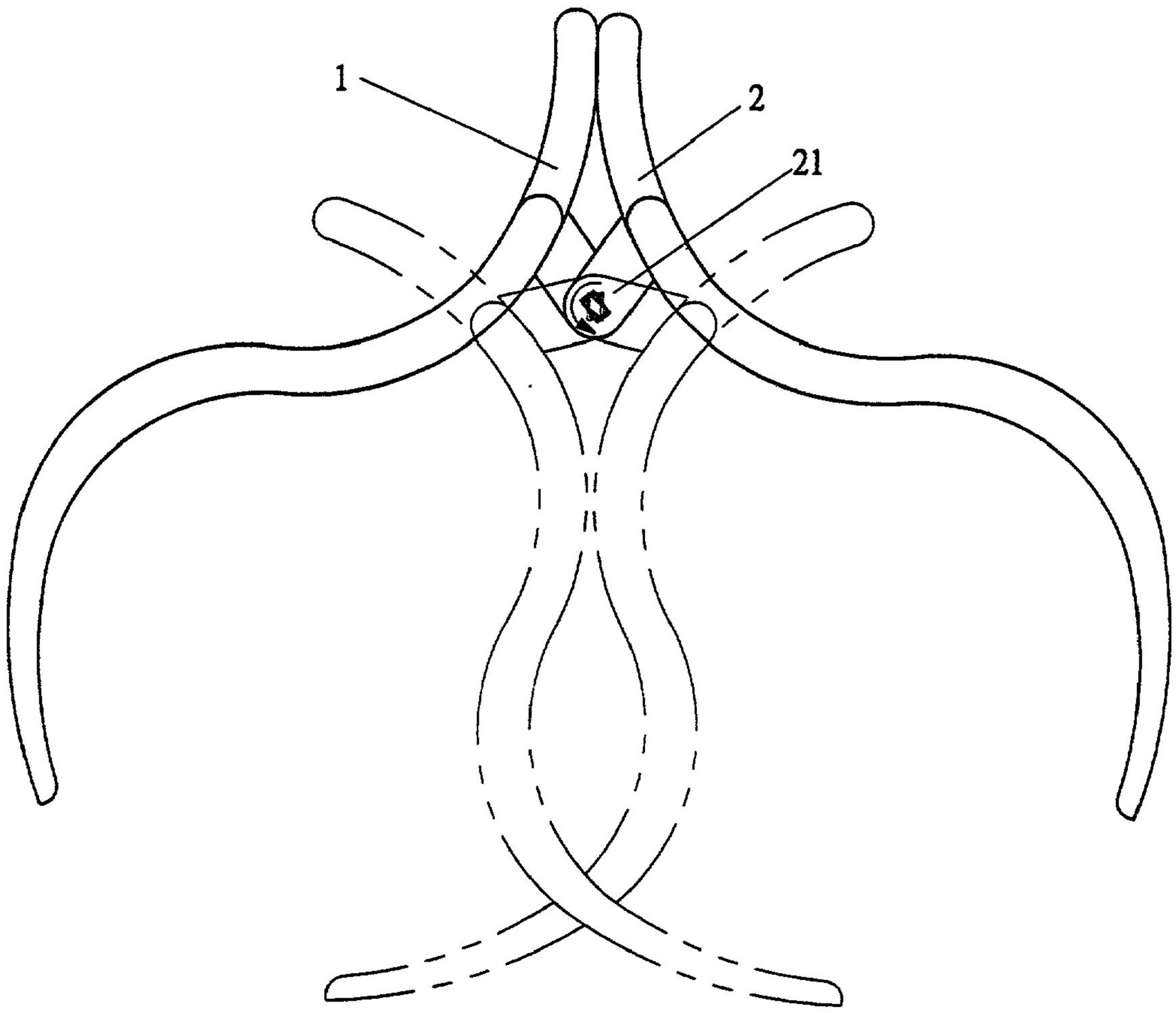


FIG. 3

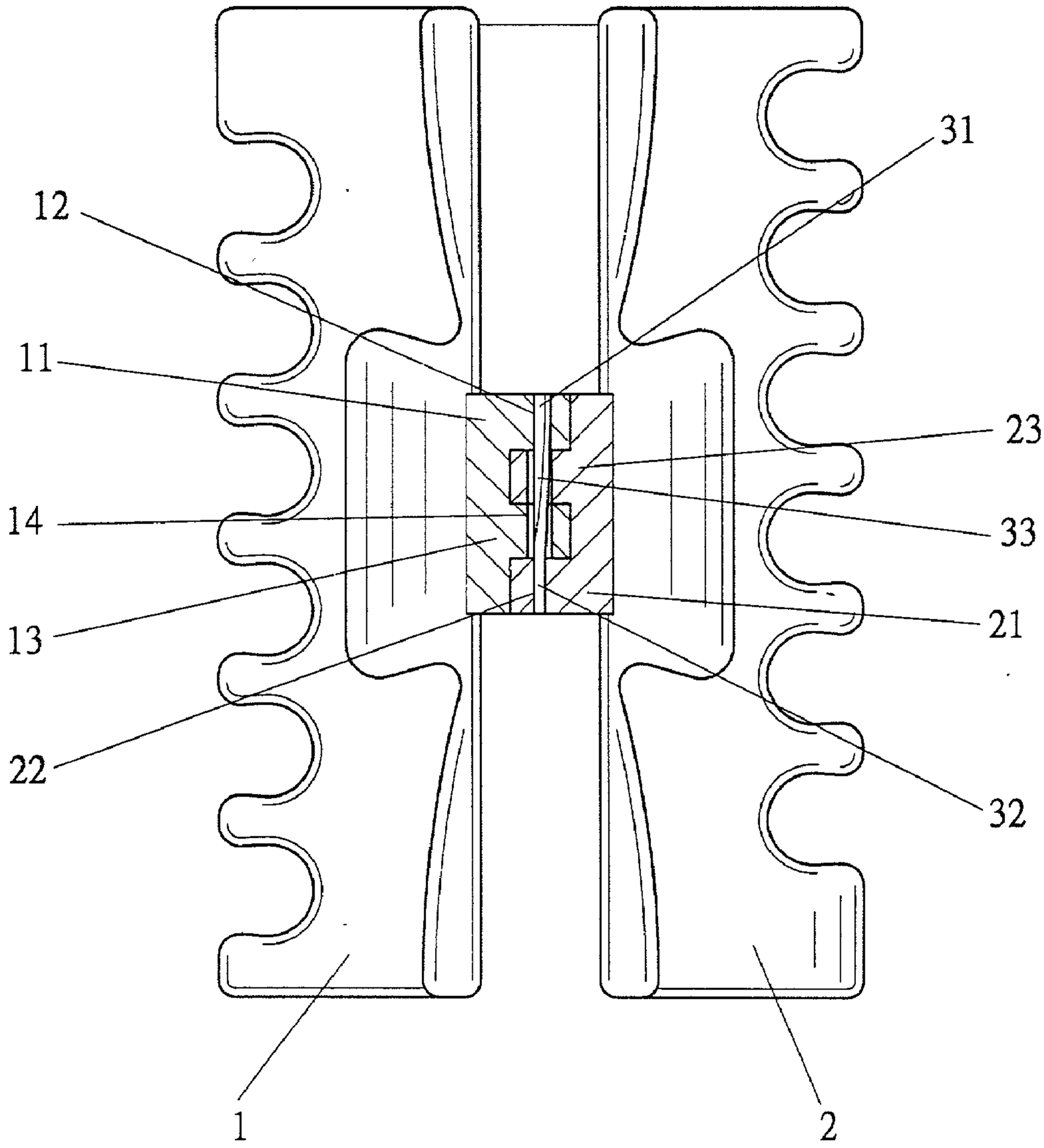


FIG. 4

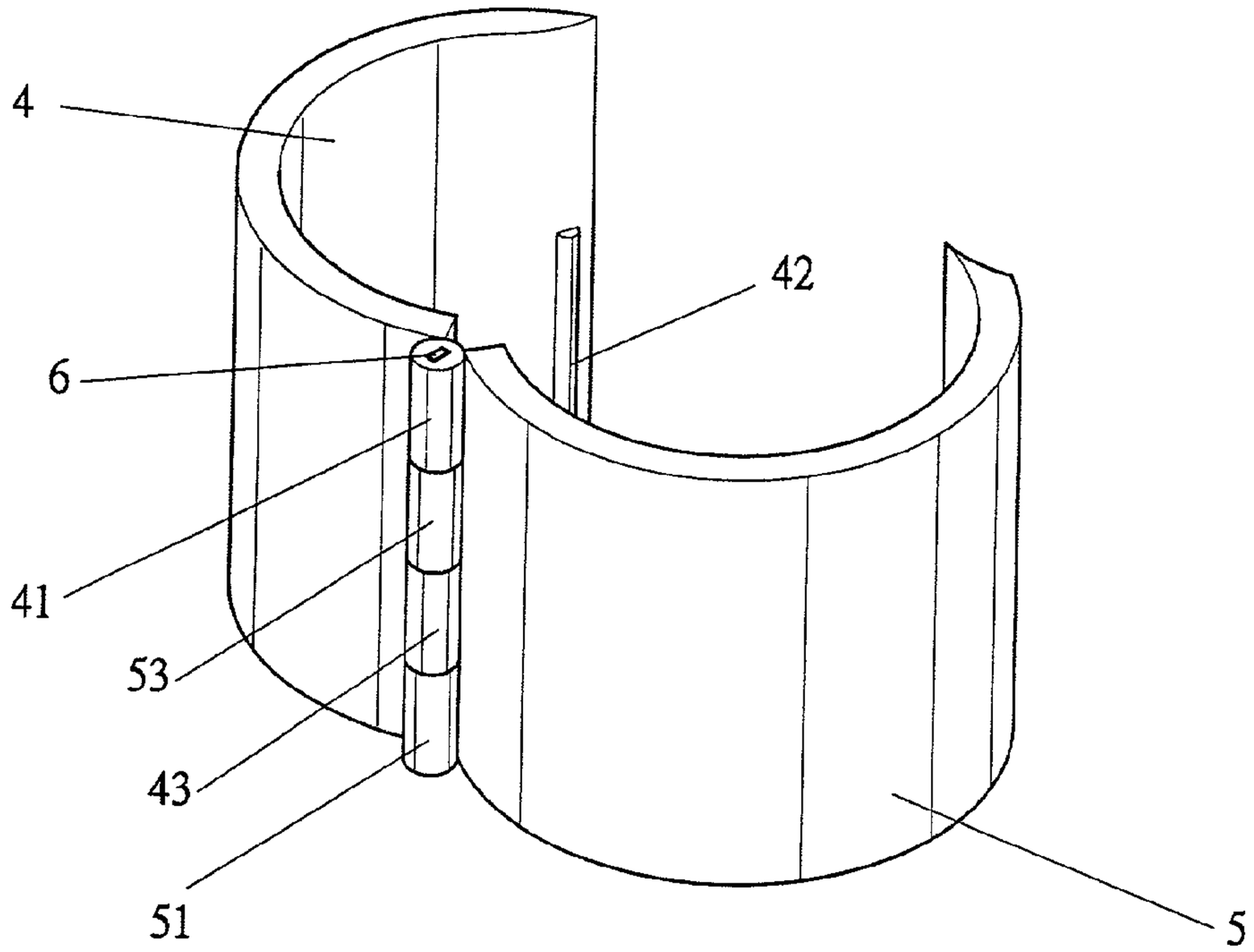


FIG. 5

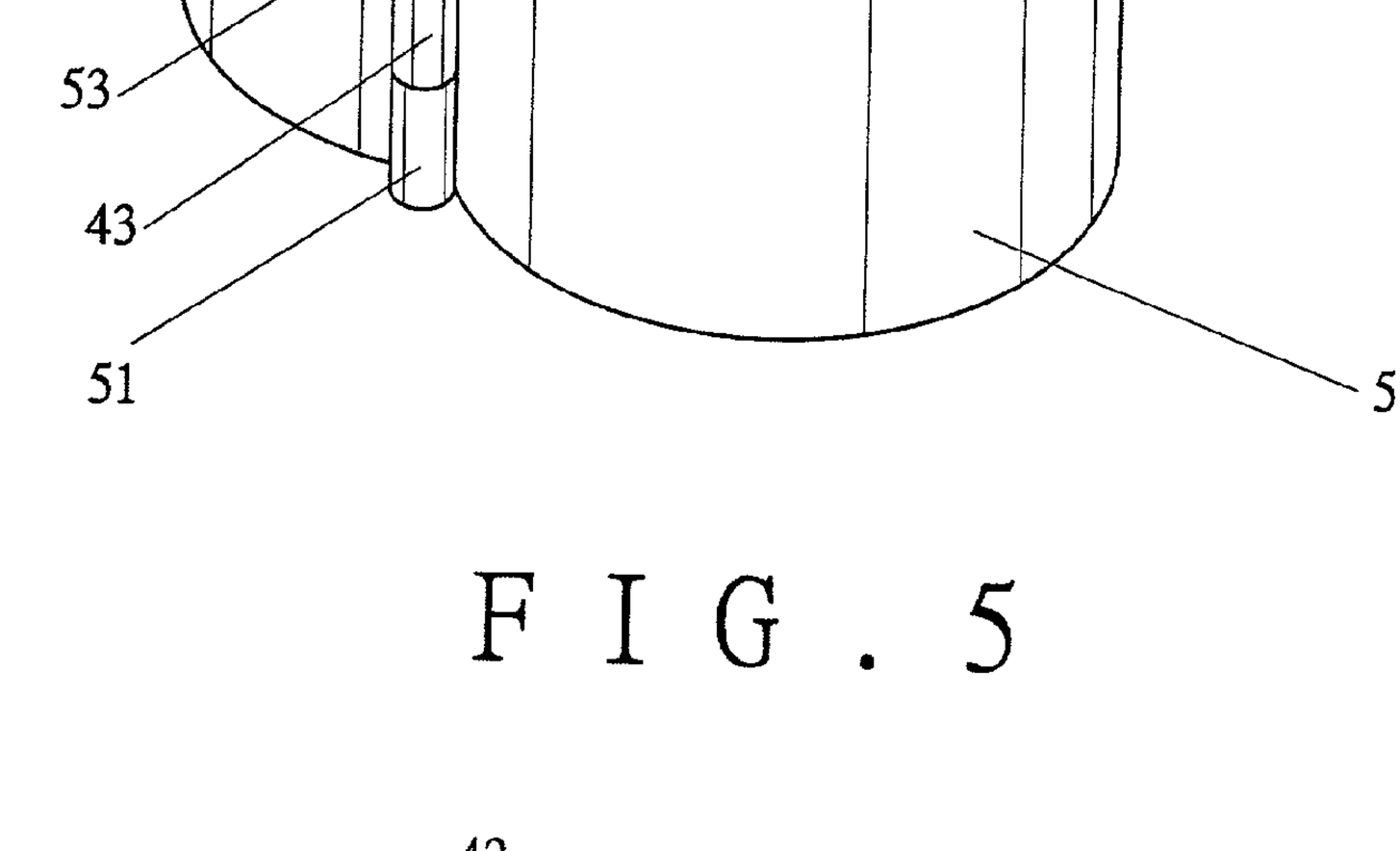


FIG. 6

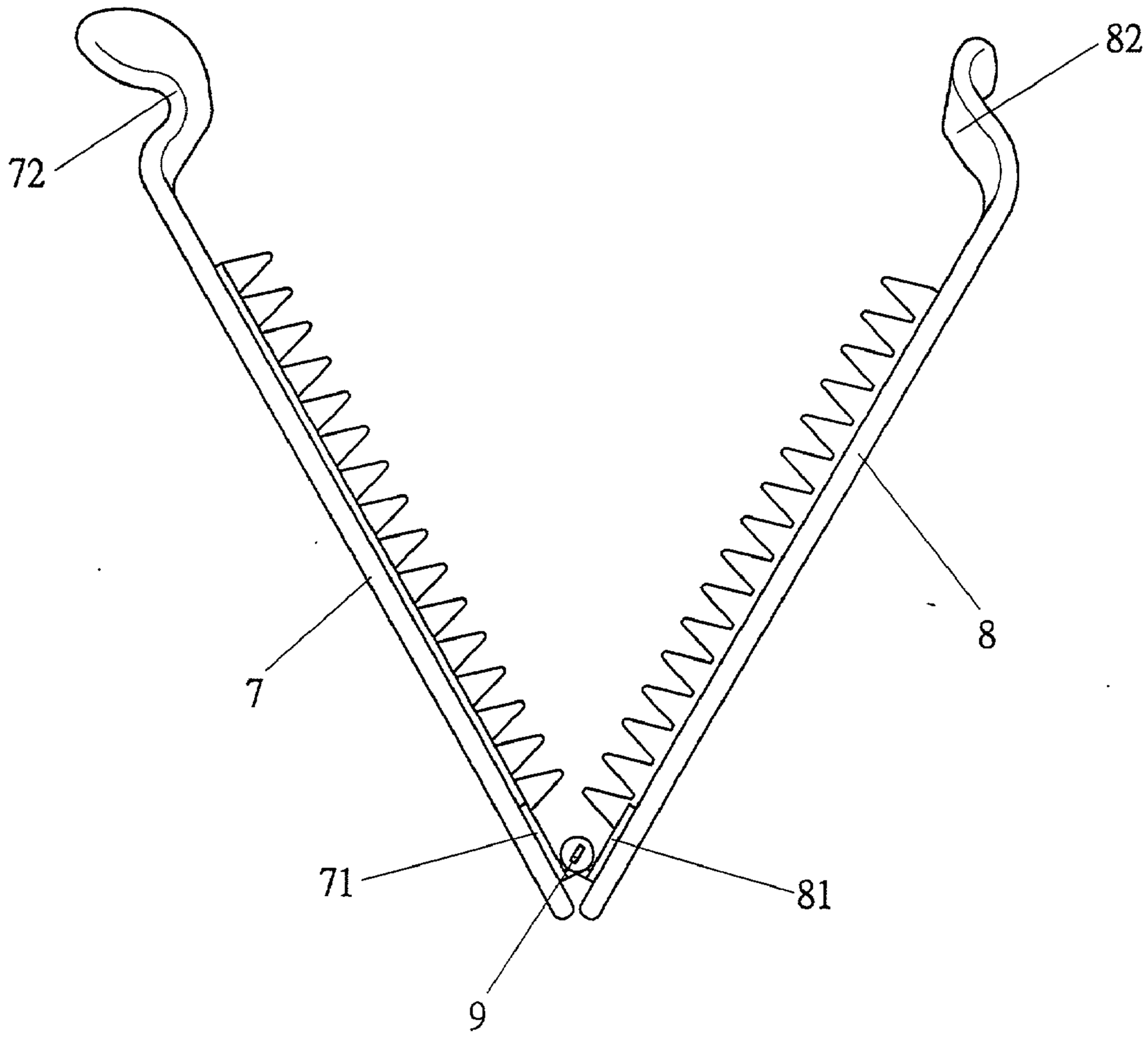


FIG. 7

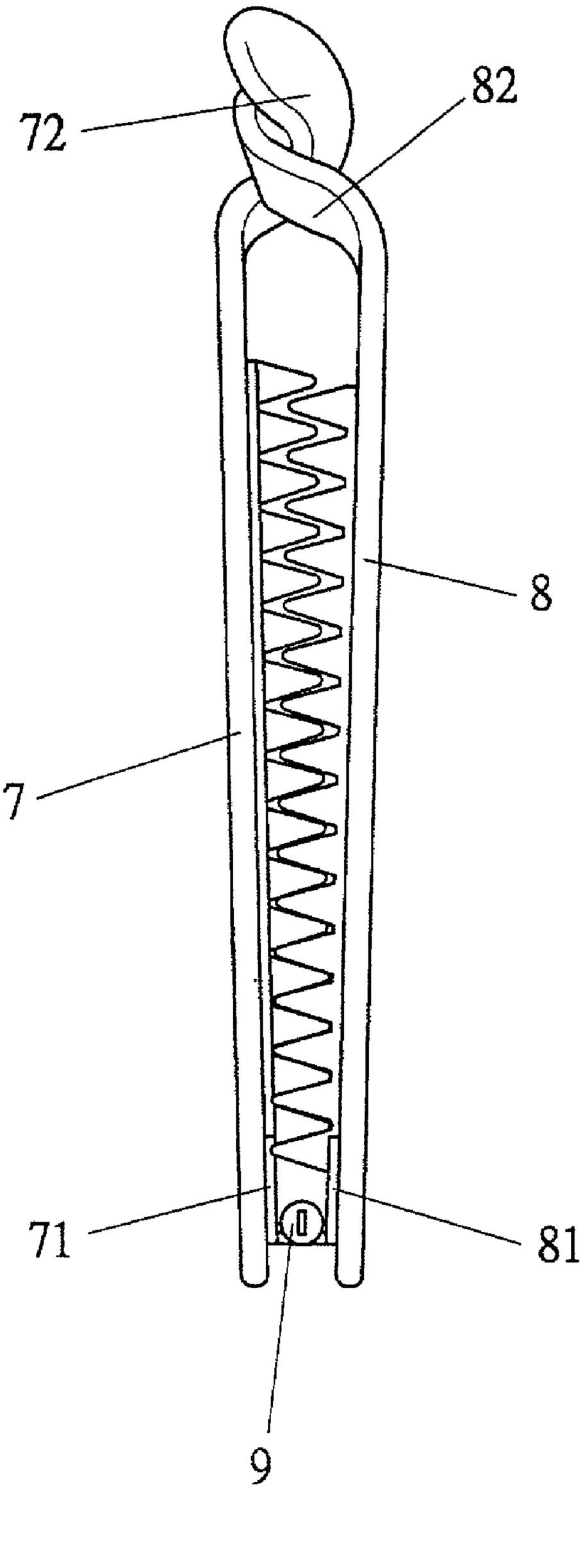


FIG. 8

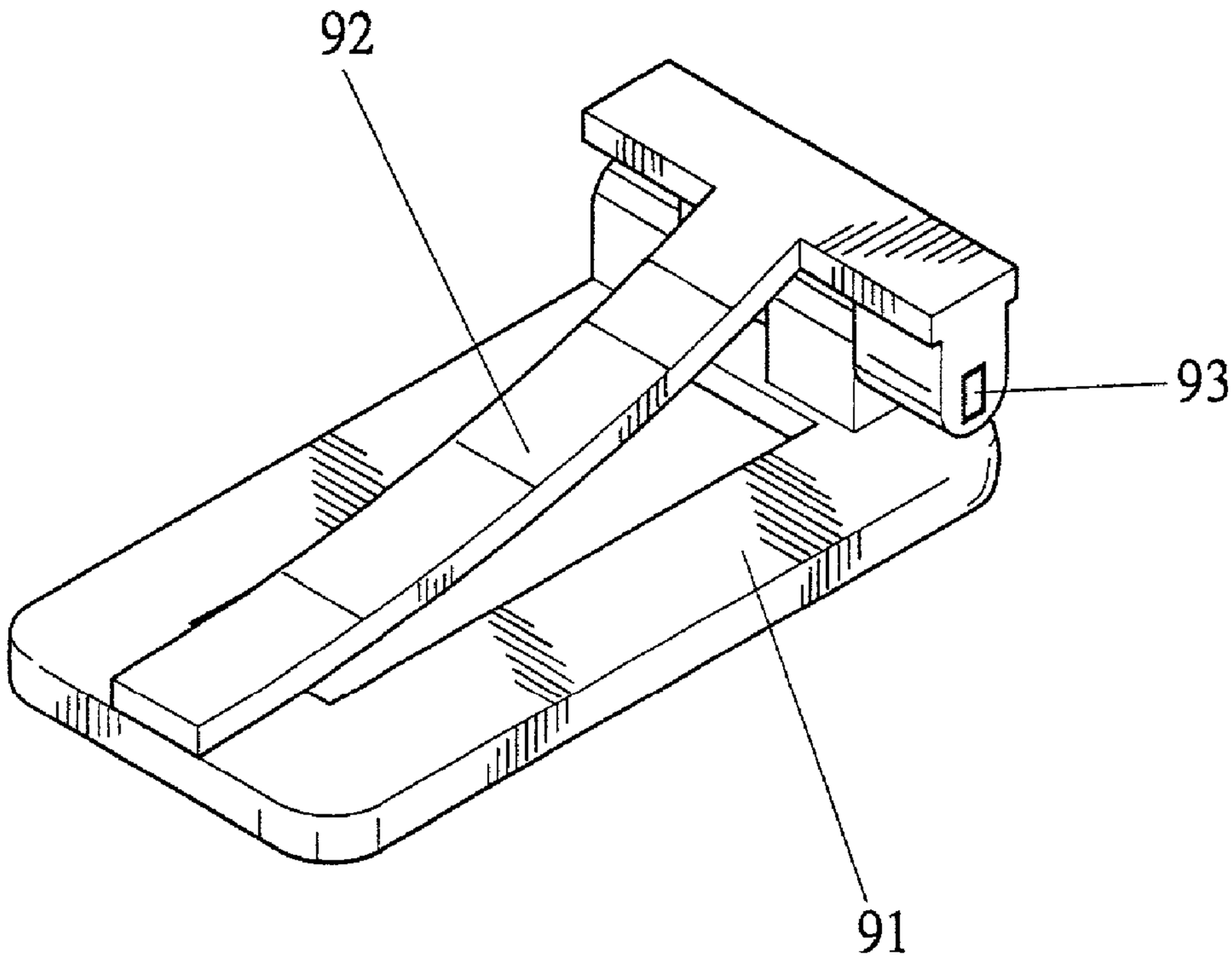


FIG. 9

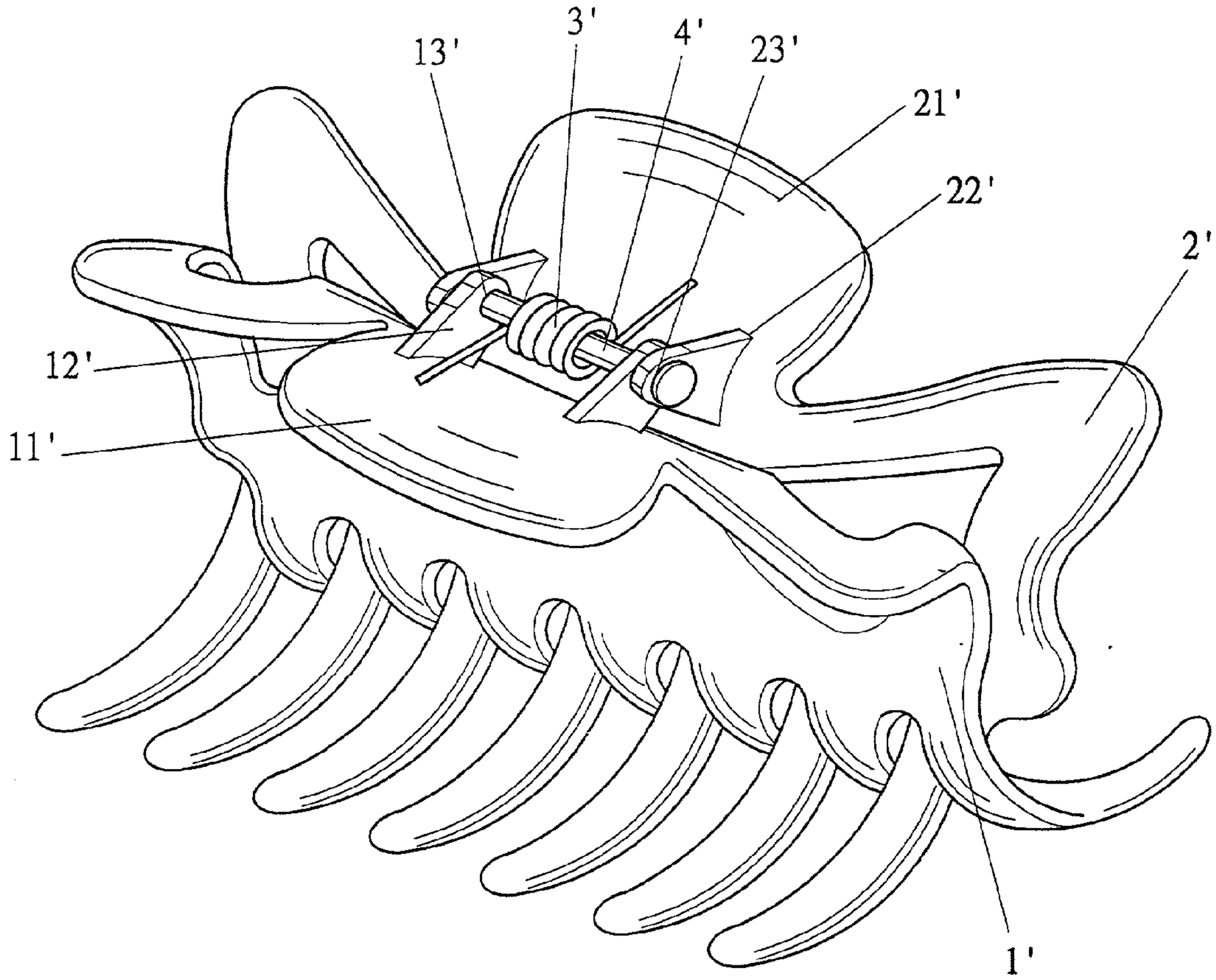


FIG. 10(PRIOR ART)

HAIRCLIP WITH A TWISTABLE PIVOT

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0001] 1. Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention relates to a hairclip with a twistable clip to provide an easy-to-assemble structure and an aesthetic appearance.

[0003] 2. Description of the Related Art

[0004] **FIG. 10** of the drawings illustrates a conventional hairclip comprised of two clip members **1'** and **2'**, a spring **3'**, and a pivot **4'**. Each clip member **1'**, **2'** has a pressing portion **11'**, **21'** on a top thereof; each pressing portion **11'21'** having two lugs **12'**, **22'** formed on an inner side thereof. The spring **3'** is mounted between the lugs **12'**. The pivot **4'** is extended through holes **13'** and **23'** of the lugs **12'** and **22'** and through the spring **3'**. The clip members **1'** and **2'** are normally in a closed state under the action of the spring **3'**. The assembly procedure for this hairclip is troublesome and time-consuming. Further, the spring **3'** is exposed and thus adversely affects the overall appearance. Shielding components have been proposed on the pressing portion **11'**, **21'** or the lugs **21'**, **22'** for shielding the spring **3'**. However, the assembling time and the cost are both increased.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] An object of the present invention is to provide a hairclip with a twistable clip to provide an easy-to-assemble structure and an aesthetic appearance.

[0006] In accordance with a first aspect of the invention, a hairclip includes two clip members and a connecting rod. Each clip member includes an engaging portion extending along a longitudinal direction thereof. The engaging portions are aligned with each other for pivotal connection, each engaging portion having an engaging hole.

[0007] The twistable connecting rod has two ends respectively, securely fixed in the engaging holes of the clip members such that an intermediate portion of the connecting rod is twisted when the clip members are pivoted relative to each other and that the twisted intermediate portion of the connecting rod resumes its shape after the clip members are released.

[0008] In accordance with a second aspect of the invention, a hairclip comprises two clip members and a connecting rod. Each clip member includes an engaging portion on an end thereof. The engaging portions are aligned with each other for pivotal connection, each engaging portion having an engaging hole. Each clip member further includes an engaging member on another end it thereof. The engaging members of the clip members are releasably engaged with each other.

[0009] The twistable connecting rod has two ends respectively, securely fixed in the engaging holes of the clip members such that an intermediate portion of the connecting rod is twisted when the clip members are pivoted relative to each other and that the twisted intermediate portion of the connecting rod resumes its shape after the clip members are released.

[0010] Other objects, advantages, and novel features of the invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] **FIG. 1** is an exploded perspective view of a first embodiment of a hairclip in accordance with the present invention.

[0012] **FIG. 2** is a perspective view of the hairclip in **FIG. 1**.

[0013] **FIG. 3** is a side view of the hairclip in **FIG. 2**.

[0014] **FIG. 4** is a top view, partly sectioned, of the hairclip in **FIG. 2**.

[0015] **FIG. 5** is a perspective view of a second embodiment of the hairclip in accordance with the present invention.

[0016] **FIG. 6** is a top view of the hairclip in **FIG. 5**.

[0017] **FIG. 7** is a perspective view of a third embodiment of the hairclip in accordance with the present invention.

[0018] **FIG. 8** is a perspective view of the hairclip in **FIG. 7** in a closed state.

[0019] **FIG. 9** is a perspective view of a fourth embodiment of the hairclip in accordance with the present invention.

[0020] **FIG. 10** is a perspective view of a conventional hairclip.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0021] Referring to **FIGS. 1 and 2**, a first embodiment of a hairclip in accordance with the present invention generally comprises two clip members **1** and **2** and a twistable connecting rod **3**. Bach clip member **1**, **2** includes a longitudinally extending engaging portion **11**, **21** that has an engaging hole **12**, **22** for securely receiving an associated end **31**, **32** of the twistable connecting rod **3**. Further, the engaging portion **11**, **21** includes a receiving section **13**, **23** with a receiving hole **14**, **24** through which the twistable connecting rod **3** is rotatably extended. Thus, the receiving sections **13** and **23** cover the twistable connecting rod **3** and provide a space allowing twisting of the connecting rod **3**.

[0022] In this embodiment, the connecting rod **3** is rectangular in section and has an appropriate twistability allowing it to be twisted and then resuming its original shape. Two ends **31** and **32** of the connecting rod **3** are respectively inserted into the engaging holes **11** and **21** of the clip members **1** and **2** with an intermediate twisting portion **33** of the connecting rod **3** being received in the receiving holes **14** and **24** of the clip members **1** and **2**.

[0023] Referring to **FIGS. 3 and 4**, the clip members **1** and **2** are connected together by the connecting rod **3**. Since two ends **31** and **32** of the connecting rod **3** are fixed in the engaging holes **12** and **22** of the clip members **1** and **2**, the ends **31** and **32** of the former turn together with the latter when the latter are pressed (see the solid line in **FIG. 3**). Thus, the intermediate twisting portion **33** of the connecting rod **3** is twisted. When the clip members **1** and **2** are released, the twisted connected rod **3** resumes its shape and thus returns the hairclip to a closed state shown by the broken-dashed lines in **FIG. 3**. The assembly procedure is simple, as no spring is required, and the resultant hairclip has an aesthetic appearance.

[0024] **FIGS. 5 and 6** illustrate a second embodiment of the invention, wherein the hairclip includes two clip members **4** and **5** of another type and a twistable connecting rod **6**. Each clip member **4, 5** includes an engaging portion **41, 51** in an end thereof for engaging with the connecting rod **6**. Further, each clip member **4, 5** includes an engaging member **42, 52** on the other end thereof. The connecting rod **6** is engaged with the engaging portions **41** and **51** of the clip members **4** and **5** when the clip members **4** and **5** are in an open state shown in **FIG. 5** such that the clip members **4** and **5** are normally open after assembly. When the clip members **4** and **5** are moved to the closed state shown by the solid lines in **FIG. 6**, the connecting rod **6** is twisted and thus stores a resuming force. The engaging members **42** and **52** are engaged together to achieve the hair-clipping purpose. When the engaging members **42** and **52** are disengaged from each other, the twisted connecting rod **6** resumes its shape and thus moves the clip members **4** and **5** to the open state. Each clip member **4, 5** may include a receiving portion **43, 53** with a receiving hole for receiving and allowing twisting of the intermediate portion of the connecting rod **6**.

[0025] **FIGS. 7 and 8** illustrate a third embodiment of the invention, wherein the hairclip includes two clip members **7** and **8** of another type and a connecting rod **9**. Each clip member **7, 8** includes an engaging portion **71, 81** in an end thereof for engaging with the connecting rod **9**. Further, each clip member **7, 8** includes an engaging member **72, 82** on the other end thereof. The connecting rod **9** is engaged with the engaging portions **71** and **81** of the clip members **7** and **9** when the clip members **7** and **8** are in an open state shown in **FIG. 7** such that the clip members **7** and **8** are normally open after assembly. When the clip members **7** and **8** are moved to the closed state shown in **FIG. 8**, the connecting rod **9** is twisted and thus stores a resuming force. The engaging members **72** and **82** are engaged together to achieve the hair-clipping purpose. When the engaging members **72** and **82** are disengaged from each other, the twisted connecting rod **9** resumes its shape and thus moves the clip members **7** and **8** to the open state.

[0026] **FIG. 9** illustrates a fourth embodiment of the invention, wherein the hairclip includes two clip members **91** and **92** of another type and a connecting rod **93**. The clip members **91** and **92** are connected together by the twistable connecting rod **93**.

[0027] It is noted that two ends of the connecting rod **3, 6, 9** may be engaged with the engaging portions **11, 21, 41, 51, 71, 81** of the clip members **1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 91, 92** by means of bonding or any other suitable means.

[0028] Although the invention has been explained in relation to its preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that many other possible modifications and variations can be made without departing from the scope of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. A hairclip comprising:

two clip members each including an engaging portion extending along a longitudinal direction thereof, said engaging portions being aligned with each other for pivotal connection, each said engaging portion having an engaging hole; and

a twistable connecting rod having two ends respectively, securely fixed in the engaging holes of the clip members such that an intermediate portion of the connecting rod is twisted when the clip members are pivoted relative to each other and that the twisted intermediate portion of the connecting rod resumes its shape after the clip members are released.

2. The hairclip as claimed in claim 1, wherein the engaging portion of each said clip member includes a receiving section with a receiving hole for rotatably holding the intermediate portion of the connecting rod and for allowing twisting of the intermediate portion of the connecting rod.

3. A hairclip comprising:

two clip members each including an engaging portion on an end thereof, said engaging portions being aligned with each other for pivotal connection, each said engaging portion having an engaging hole, each said clip member further including an engaging member on another end thereof, said engaging members of said clip members being releasably engaged with each other; and

a twistable connecting rod having two ends respectively, securely fixed in the engaging holes of the clip members such that an intermediate portion of the connecting rod is twisted when the clip members are pivoted relative to each other and that the twisted intermediate portion of the connecting rod resumes its shape after the clip members are released.

4. The hairclip as claimed in claim 3, wherein the engaging portion of each said clip member includes a receiving section with a receiving hole for rotatably holding the intermediate portion of the connecting rod and for allowing twisting of the intermediate portion of the connecting rod.

5. The hairclip as claimed in claim 3, wherein the clip members are open when in a normal sate.

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