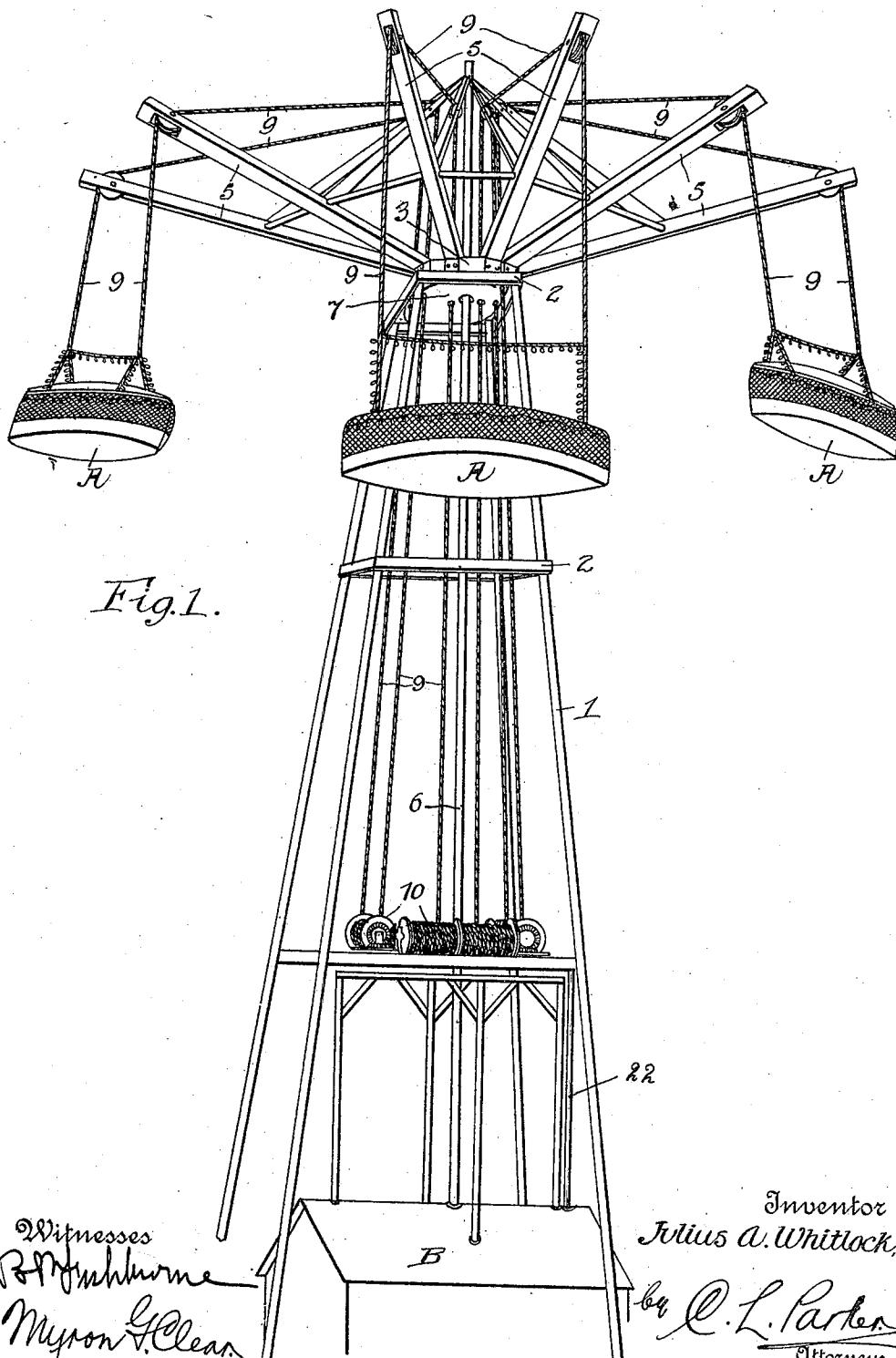


J. A. WHITLOCK,
CIRCULAR PLEASURE SWING.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 16, 1910.

987,419.

Patented Mar. 21, 1911.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

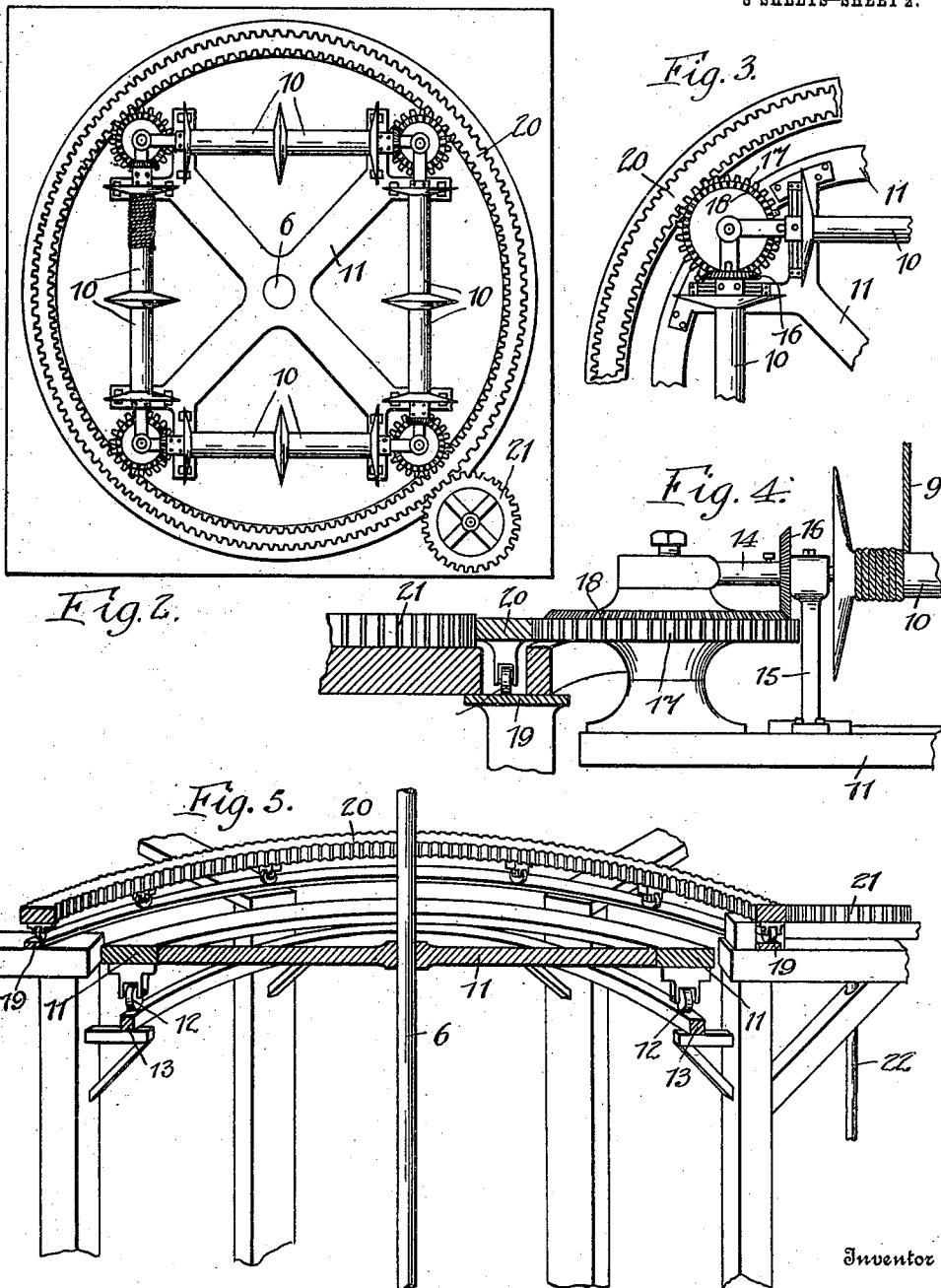


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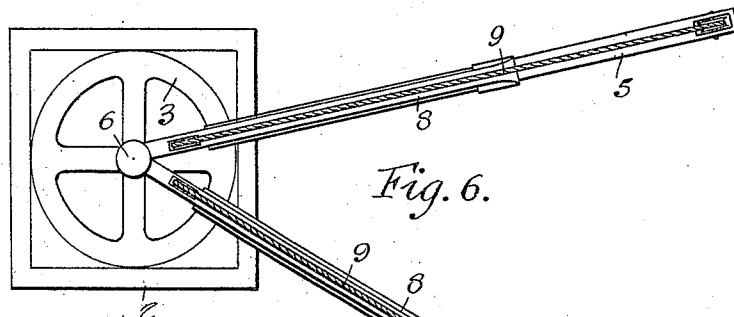


Fig. 6.

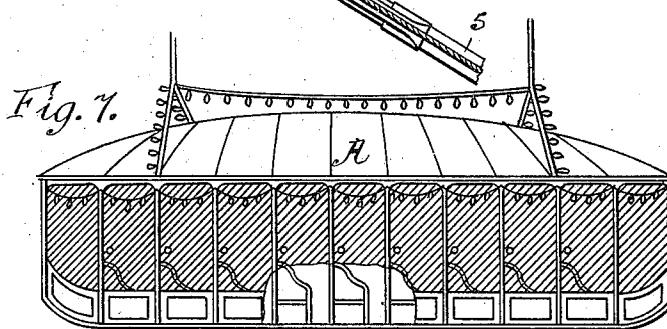


Fig. 7.

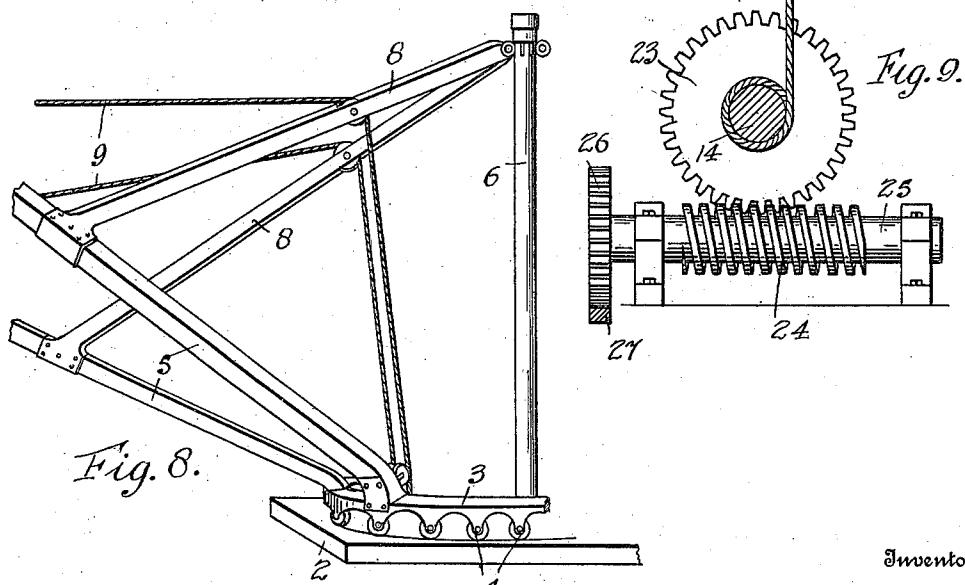


Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CIRCULAR PLEASURE-SWING.

987,419.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 21, 1911.

Application filed September 15, 1910. Serial No. 582,168.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS A. WHITLOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newark, in the county of Essex and State 5 of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Circular Pleasure-Swings, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a circular pleasure swing and particularly contemplates the provision of a novel structure comprising broadly a stationary structure having a rotating turret carrying a plurality of cars suspended therefrom and rotatable therewith, together with means carried within the stationary structure for raising and lowering said cars during their rotation.

My invention further and specifically resides in the following features of construction, arrangement and operation as will be hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which like numerals are used to indicate like parts throughout the 25 several figures, and in which,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete swing constructed according to my invention, Fig. 2 is a detail plan view of the car raising and lowering mechanism, Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail plan view of a portion thereof, broken away, Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail elevation, partly in section, Fig. 5 is an enlarged perspective view of a portion of the raising and lowering mechanism, 35 partly in section and parts thereof being removed, Fig. 6 is a plan view of the turret, Fig. 7 is a side elevation of one of the cars, Fig. 8 is an enlarged partial elevation of the turret, and Fig. 9 is a detail elevation partly 40 in section illustrating a modified form of mechanism for raising and lowering the cars.

In the practical embodiment of my invention, I provide a stationary upright frame 45 1 tapering toward its upper end and provided in its length with spaced brace frames 2, on the upper one of which at the top of said frame 1 is mounted a rotating turret comprising an annulus 3 supported 50 by a plurality of rollers 4 mounted upon the upper brace frame 2 to roll thereon. The annulus 3 carries a plurality of radial outwardly extending arms 5, each two of said arms being designed to support one of cars 55 A. Mounted centrally within the stationary frame 1 and extending upwardly there-

through from an engine room or the like B is a rotating mast 6 connected adjacent its upper end to a circular plate 7 formed integral through the annulus 3 and carrying 60 secure thereto at its extreme upper end a plurality of radially extending brace arms 8 extending downwardly therefrom and connected to the radial arms 5 intermediate their ends to brace the same. The cars A are 65 suspended from their respective arms 5 by ropes 9 extending over pulleys mounted in openings in the said arms 5 and in the brace arms 8 and downwardly through openings in the circular plate 7 of the annulus 3. The 70 mast 6 is adapted to be driven by a suitable motor arranged in the engine room B, to rotate the turret carrying the cars A around in a circular path therewith. The ropes 9 by which the cars A are suspended extend 75 downwardly within the frame 1 in pairs and are, in operation, wound about drums 10 mounted at right angles to one another upon a supporting frame 11 secured upon and extending around the rotating mast 6. 80

The supporting frame 11 may be either in the form of a spider as shown in Fig. 2, or the same may be in the form of a circular ring as shown in Fig. 5, said frame being provided with rollers 12 mounted below the 85 same and adapted to engage upon a track 13 formed within a supplemental stationary frame formed within the mounted frame 1. Each of the drums 10 about which the ropes 9 are wound are mounted upon shafts 14 arranged from brackets 15 extending from the frame 11 and provided thereon with a beveled gear 16. Each of the shafts 14 carries two of said drums 10, thus winding or unwinding simultaneously upon the two ropes 95 carrying one of the cars A. Mounted near and below each end of the shafts 14 is a pinion 17 having a beveled gear 18 formed integral therewith upon its upper face and in engagement with the beveled gear 16 of each 100 of the shafts 14. Mounted with rollers engaging upon a track 19 formed on the supplemental frame outside of the drum supporting frame 11 is a free moving annular ring 20 having inner and outer rack faces, 105 said inner rack face being engaged by each of the pinions 17 of the drum operating mechanism. As shown in Figs. 2 and 5 I provide a single pinion 21 mounted to engage the outer rack face of the annular ring 110 20 and provided with a depending shaft 22 driven from its lower end from the electric

motor or the like within the engine room B at a different speed of rotation from that of the vertical mast 6.

In the operation of the apparatus, the cars 5 A are initially disposed near the lower end of the supporting frame or tower 1 so that passengers may enter therein. The engine or motor is then started and the mast 6 set rotating. The turret is accordingly rotated 10 carrying with it the cars A. The shaft 22 may now remain stationary, whereby the ring 20 remains stationary, which results in the rotation of the drums 10 for raising the cars A by winding the cables 9 about said 15 drums. The engine or motor for actuating shaft 22 may now be started, and the pinion 21 set in motion to effect the rotation of the ring 20. If this ring is driven at the same speed as the supporting frame 11, it is obvious 20 that the drums 10 will remain stationary and hence the elevation of the cars A stopped. It is thus seen that by proper rotation of the shaft 22, the speed at which cars A are elevated may be regulated and 25 said cars even stopped in their elevation while the mast 6 is being continuously rotated at the same speed. If the shaft 22 is rotated sufficiently to cause the ring 20 to rotate faster than the supporting frame 11, 30 the rotation of the drums 10 will be reversed and the cars A lowered. It is obvious that if the ring 20 is being rotated at a slower speed than the rotation of the supporting frame 11, whereby the cars A are being elevated, upon the stopping and reversing of the engine or motor which drives the mast 6, the supporting frame 11 will be rotated in a 35 reverse direction to rotate the drums 10 for lowering the cars A. Special attention is 40 called to the fact that the vertical movement of the cars A may be regulated during the rotation of the turret and mast 6, and such regulation is entirely independent of such rotation, that is to say, the cars may be 45 raised, lowered or stopped without changing the speed of rotation of the mast 6.

In the modified form of the invention, as shown in Fig. 9, the cars A are elevated when the mast 6 is rotated in one direction, 50 and lowered when the mast is rotated in a reverse direction.

In place of the mechanism illustrated in Figs. 2 to 5, for operating the drums 10, I may provide the mechanism shown in Fig. 55 9, in which each of the shafts 14 upon which the ropes 9 are wound are provided with worm gears 23 engaged and rotated by a worm 24 mounted upon a shaft 25 carrying a pinion 26 on its end engaging the upper 60 rack face, a stationary annular ring 27 mounted within the stationary frame 1.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In a circular pleasure swing of the 65 character described, the combination of a

stationary frame, a rotatable turret arranged thereon, a central mast mounted through said frame and connected to said turret to rotate the same, a plurality of ropes trained through said frame and said turret, and a 70 plurality of cars suspended from said turret by said ropes to swing therewith, winding drums for said ropes mounted within said frame, a frame secured upon said mast for supporting said drums and rotating the same 75 to allow said ropes to move around said mast with their respective cars, and means for rotating said drums to wind or unwind said ropes to raise and lower said cars during their swinging movement, substantially 80 as described.

2. In a circular pleasure swing of the character described, the combination of a stationary upright frame, a rotatable turret arranged at the top thereof, a central mast 85 mounted through said frame and connected to said turret to rotate the same, a plurality of ropes loosely trained through said frame and said turret and extending downwardly about said mast, a plurality of cars suspended from said turret by said ropes to swing therewith, separable winding drums for said ropes holding each of said cars, a supporting frame secured upon said mast within said stationary frame for supporting 90 said drums and revolving the same thereabout to allow said ropes to move with their respective cars and means for rotating said drums to wind or unwind said ropes to raise and lower said cars during their 95 swinging movement, substantially as described.

3. In apparatus of the character described, a tower structure, a turret rotatably mounted upon the same, cars disposed to operate below said turret, means to effect the rotation of said turret, a plurality of drums to rotate with said turret, cables connecting said drums and cars and having engagement with said turret, and means to control the rotation of said drums about their longitudinal axes, so that said cars may be moved vertically at different speeds independently of the rotation of said turret.

4. In apparatus of the character described, a tower structure, a turret rotatably mounted upon the same, cars disposed to operate below said turret, a mast connected with said turret to rotate the same, a supporting structure connected with said mast, a plurality of drums mounted upon said supporting structure, a rotatable ring disposed near said supporting structure, driving connecting means between said ring and drums, means to rotate said ring, and flexible means engaging said turret and connected with said drums and cars.

5. In apparatus of the character described, a tower structure, a turret rotatably mounted upon the same, cars disposed to

operate below said turret, a mast connected with said turret to rotate the same, a supporting structure connected with said mast for rotation therewith, a plurality of drums 5 mounted upon said supporting structure, a ring disposed near said supporting structure and provided with gear-teeth, gears for connecting said ring and drums, cables engaging said turret and connecting said cars and drums, and means to rotate said ring.

6. In apparatus of the character described, a tower structure, a turret rotatably mounted upon the same, cars disposed to operate below said turret, a mast connected 10 with said turret to rotate the same, a supporting structure connected with said mast for rotation therewith, a plurality of drums mounted upon said supporting structure, a ring disposed near said supporting structure 15

and provided with gear-teeth, gears for connecting said ring and drums, and cables engaging said turret and connecting said cars and drums.

7. In apparatus of the character described, a tower structure, a turret rotatably mounted upon the same, cars disposed to operate below said turret, a mast connected 20 with said turret to rotate the same, a supporting structure connected with said mast for rotation therewith, drums rotatably 25 mounted upon said supporting structure, and cables engaging said turret and connected with said cars and drums.

JULIUS ALOYSIUS WHITLOCK.

In the presence of—

FREDERICK GERMANN, Jr.,
ETHEL B. RIED.

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