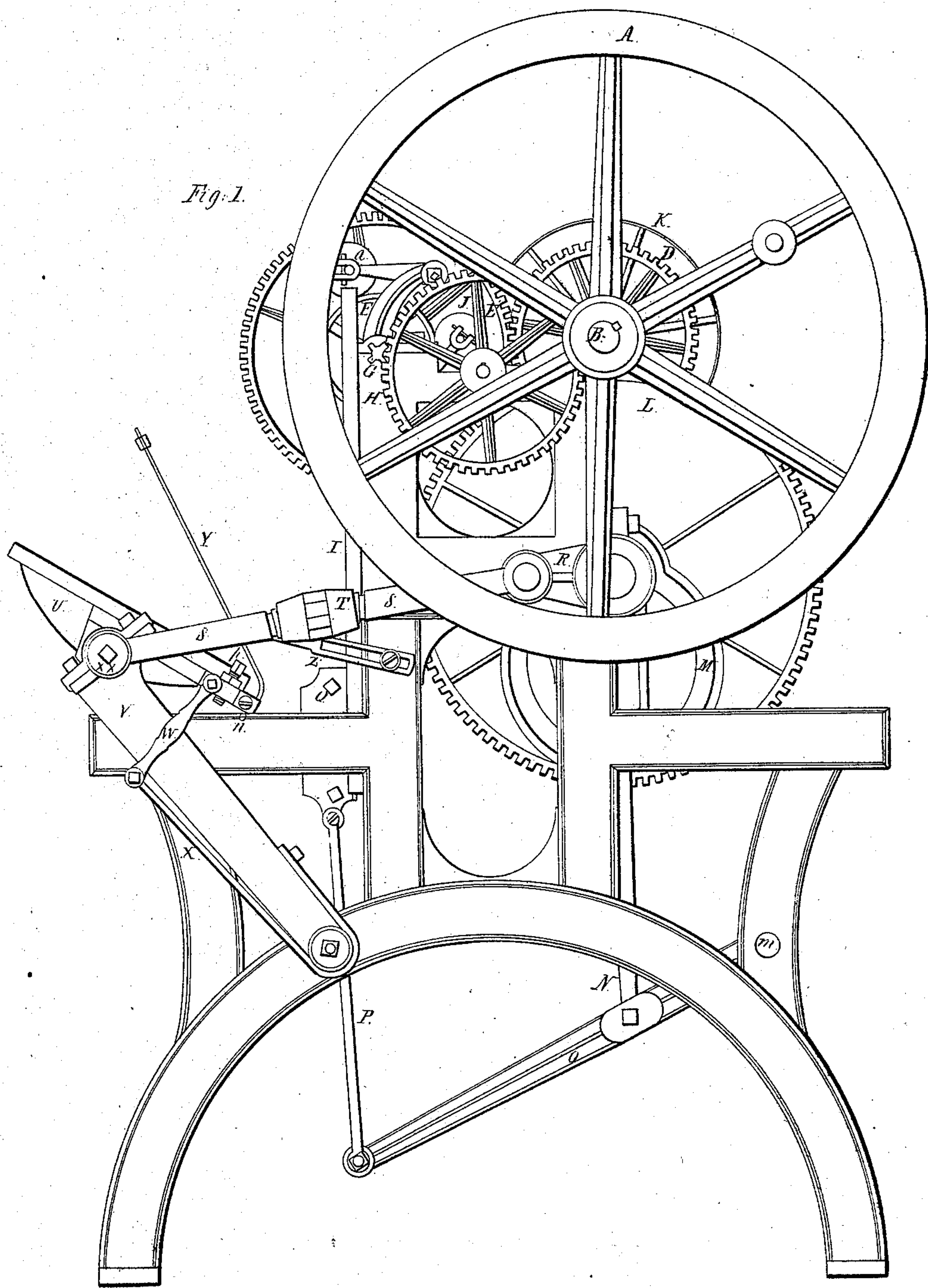
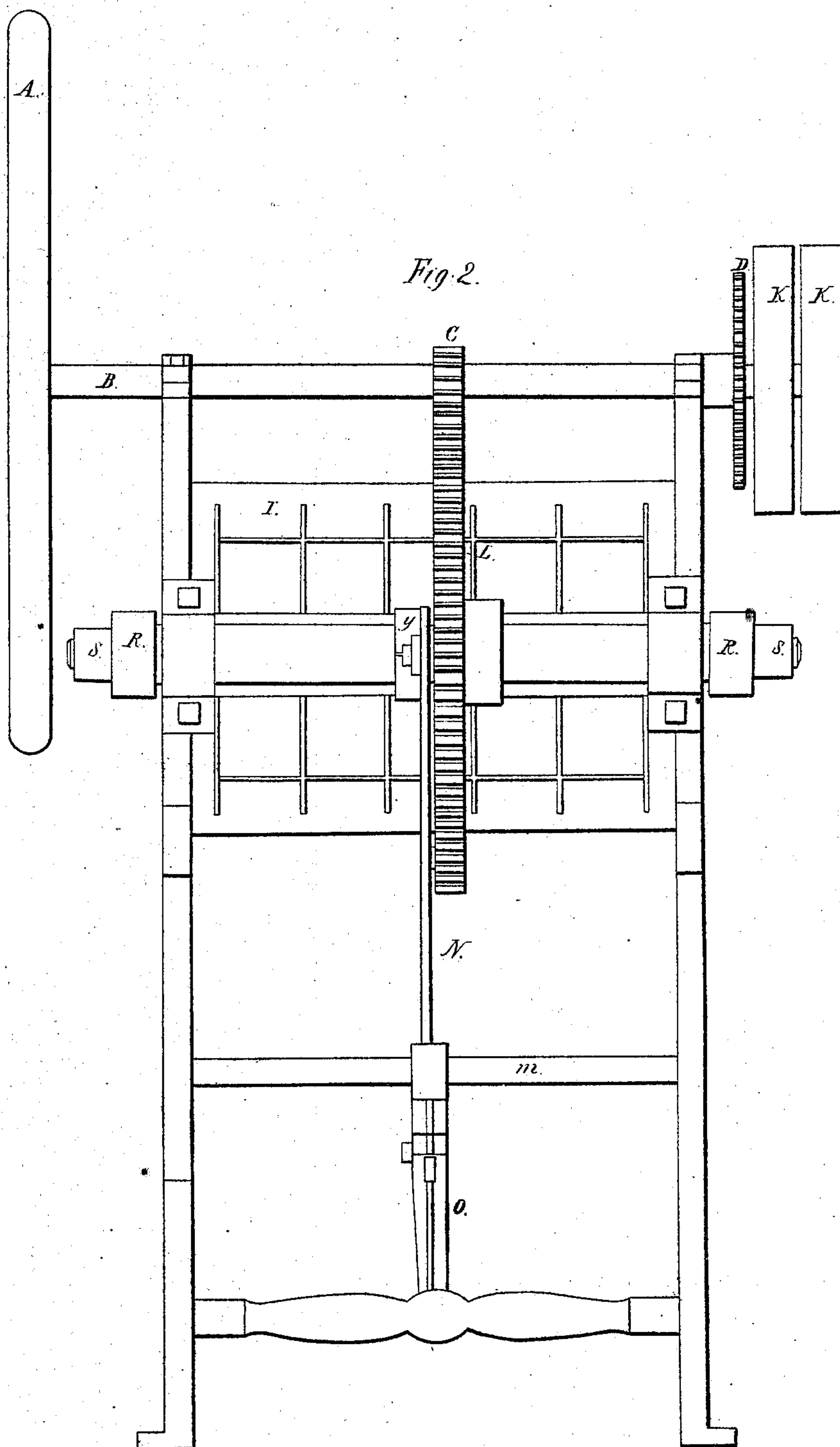


L. T. Wells. Sheet 1. 3 Sheets.
Printing Press.
N^o 12568. Patented Mar. 20. 1855.

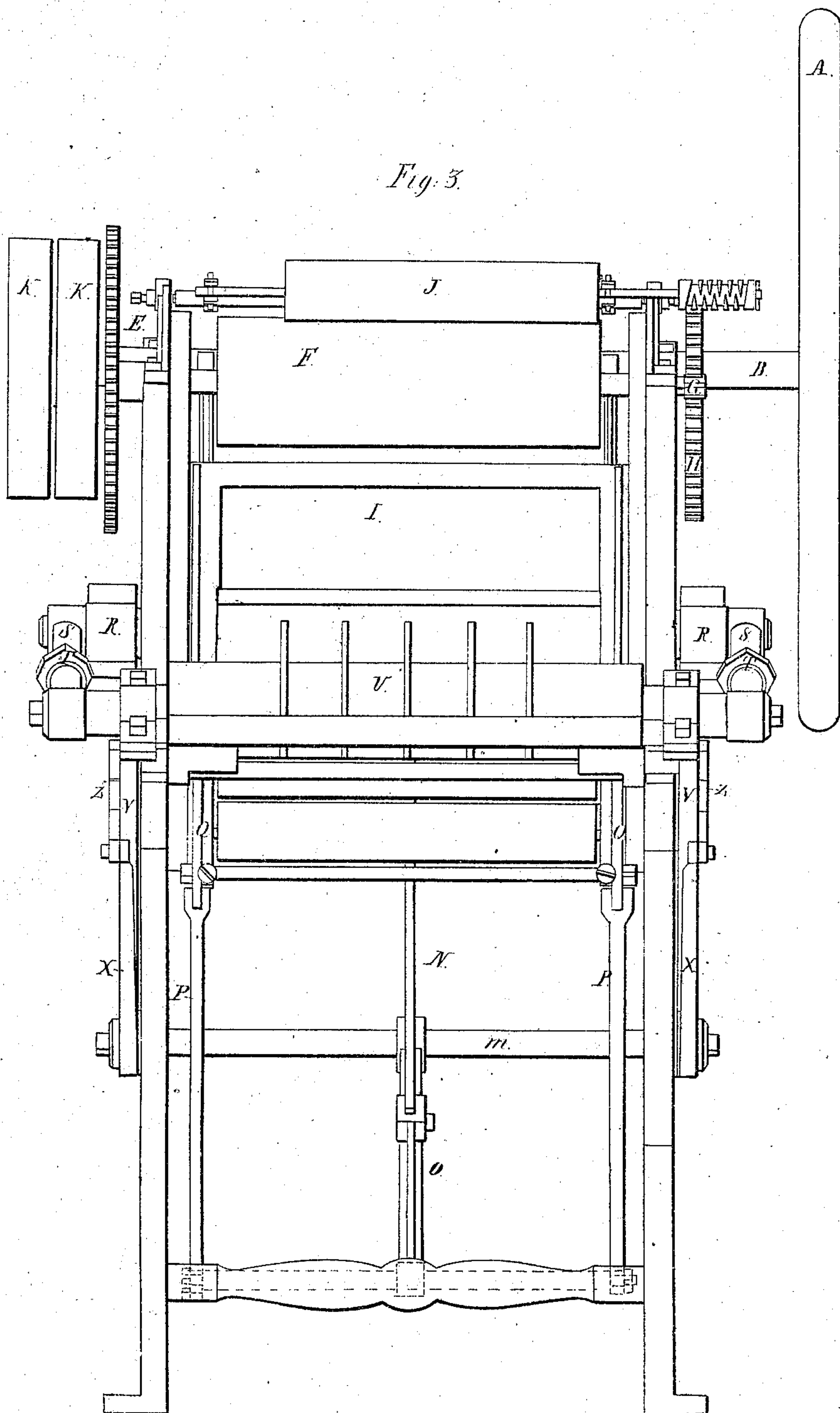


L. T. Wells. Sheets 3 Sheets.
Printing Press.
Nº 12568 Patented Mar. 10. 1855



L.T. Wells Sheet 33 Sheets.
Printing Press.
N^o 12568. Patented Mar. 20. 1855.

Fig. 3.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEMUEL T. WELLS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

PRINTING-PRESS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 12,568, dated March 20, 1855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMUEL T. WELLS, of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Printing-Presses; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification.

10 It being necessary for convenience of feeding that the platen should stand at or about an angle of thirty degrees from the horizontal, it is customary—in order to secure the above position and at the same time to economize the power expended in opening and closing the press, to give the type bed a leaning position forward. This feature is objectionable, particularly in printing large forms, because the central type, being inefficiently sustained, are liable to be shaken out by the motion of the press, and this takes place occasionally, even when the clamps are forced so tight, as to injure the type which is situated at the margin. Another circumstance which renders the swinging platen ill adapted to large sheets, is the great power that is required to swing the arms and platen sufficiently to afford the requisite opening for feeding and delivery.

20 25 30 By my plan of construction I am able to produce a wide opening by means of a short powerful crank.

It is my aim in this invention to extend the usefulness of the vibrating press by presenting the bed and platen in their most convenient respective positions—both for printing and for feeding without too great an expenditure of power in swinging the arms, and without the liability of displacing the type.

40 In the accompanying drawings Figure 1 is a side view of my press. Fig. 2 is a back view thereof. Fig. 3 is a front view.

45 The actuating mechanism, and the various devices for gathering, distributing and applying the ink, not differing essentially from other plans now in use, need no specific description.

50 The bed (I) is permanently attached in a vertical or somewhat back leaning position to the frame. The arms (V) may be vibrated by the usual crank (R) and pitman (S). The length of the latter being ad-

justable by a suitable screw (T) or its equivalent. The platen (V) instead of having a uniform vibration with the arms (V) is capacitated for a distinct rotation upon a pivot (XX). This distinct rotation is effected by the reaction of a stationary pin (N) projecting from the frame, and against which—at a certain stage of its opening motion—the lower portion of the platen impinges: this results in a compound motion of the platen as follows; The platen at first moving with the arm a distance sufficient to lift the sheet square off of the type, then—impinging against the pin (N) the lower edge is held nearly stationary, while the outer or upper edge, immediately sinks or settles down so as to present the platen in any approach to a horizontal position that may be deemed to best facilitate the action of feeding.

The sheets being customarily “pointed” (adjusted to their place) at their lower edge this nearly stationary condition of the lower part of the platen at the time of feeding is of the greatest convenience, and very much expedites and facilitates the accurate placing of the sheet—the hand not having to place and adjust the sheet upon a retreating surface. The facility for any desired opening of the platen, without much expenditure of power, and also the secure position of the type, enable me to apply this most economical form of press to much larger impressions than are now practicable.

When not under the action of the pin (N), the lower edge of the platen is held down firmly against the arms (V) by a spring X and rod (W) or this service may be performed by a cam or weight. I therefore do not desire to be understood as conforming my claim to any specific means of retraction.

I claim as new and of my invention—

The platen (U) hinged or pivoted to vibrating arms (V) in combination with the stationary pin or pins (N) and retracting springs (X), or equivalent devices for the purposes explained.

L. T. WELLS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. S. KAUFFMAN,
HENRY BARTH.