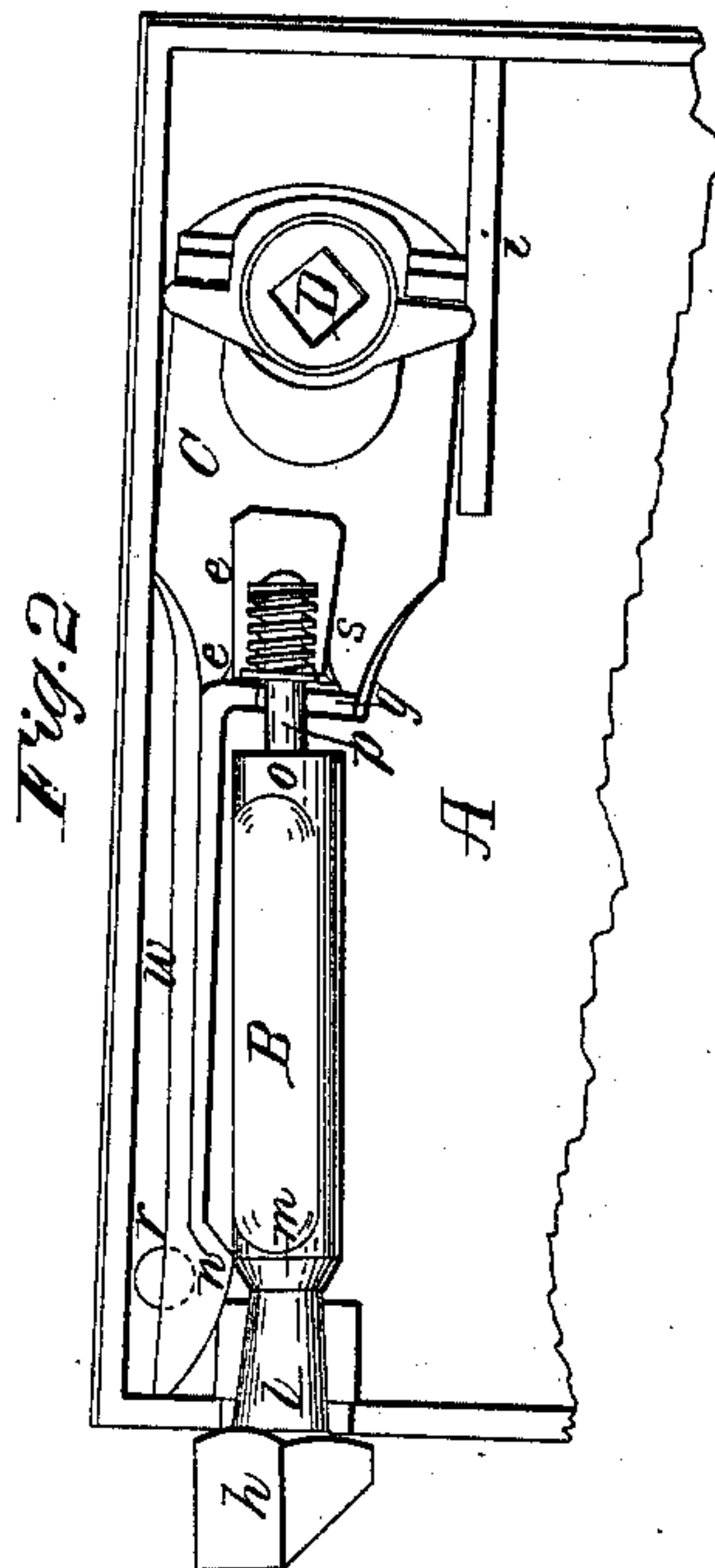
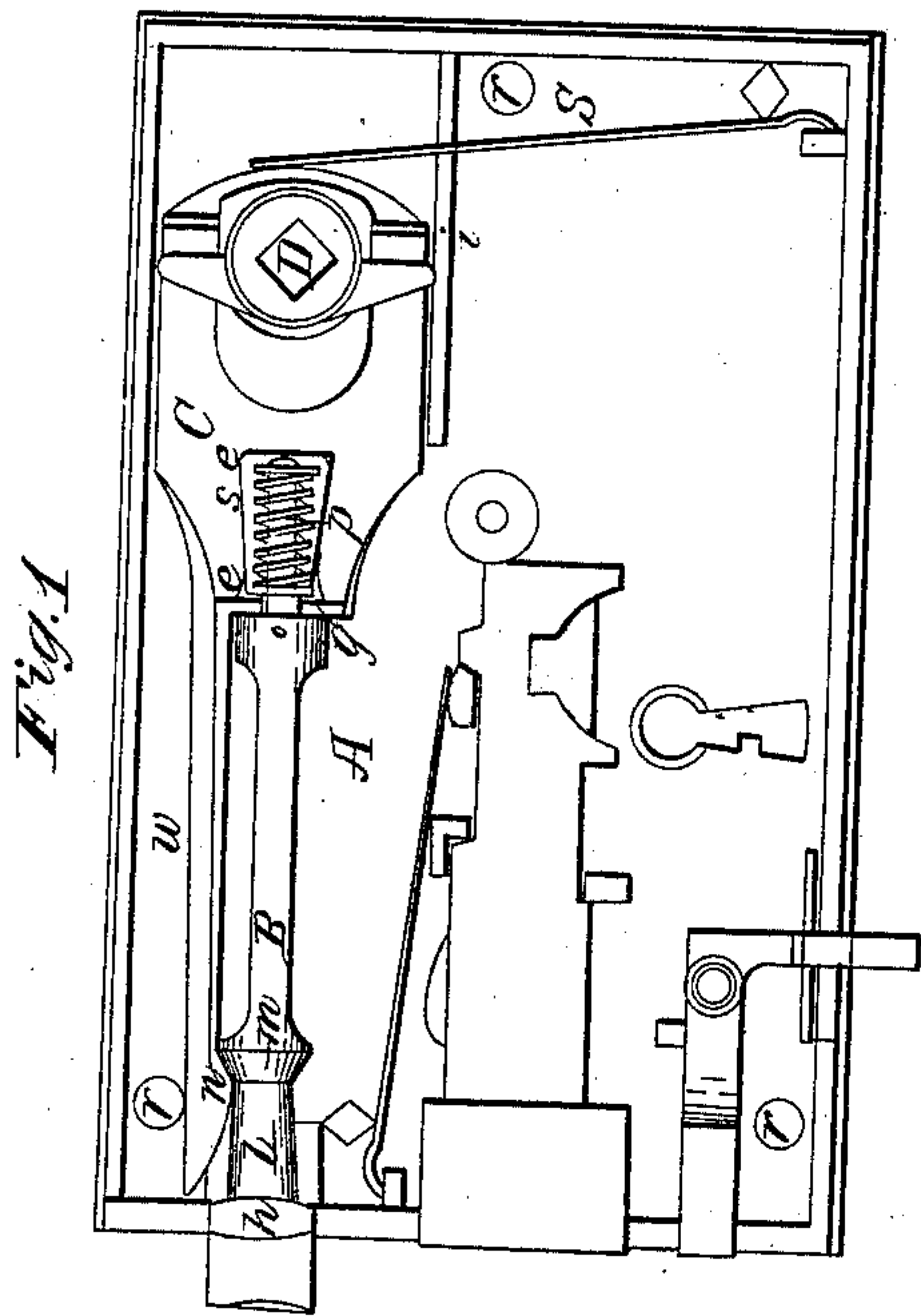
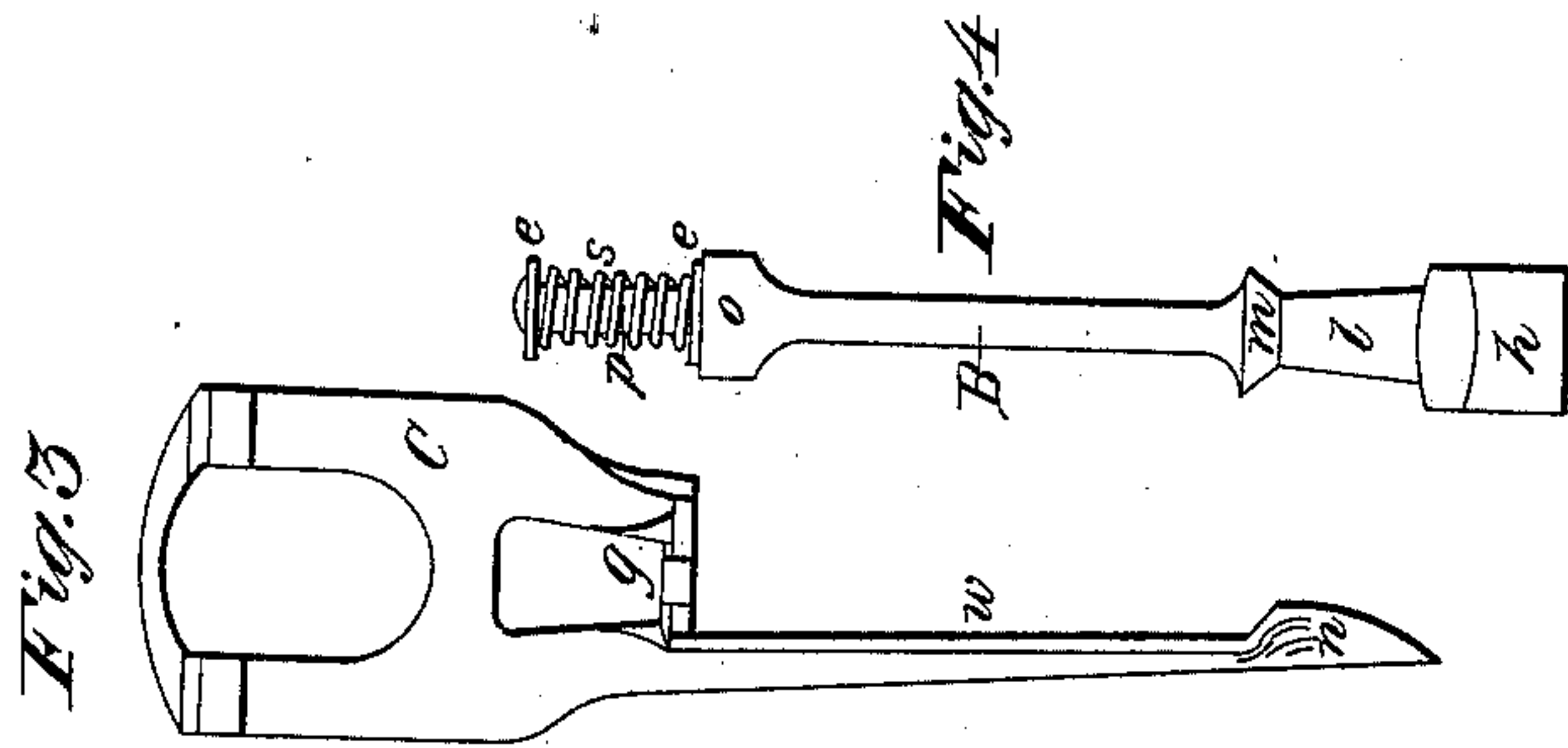


B. Erbe,

Reversible Latch.

N^o 77,966.

Patented May 19, 1868.



Witnesses:

J. H. Jones
Samuel Jacobus

Inventor:
Barthel Erbe

United States Patent Office.

BARTHEL ERBE, OF BIRMINGHAM, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 77,966, dated May 19, 1868; antedated May 12, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN REVERSIBLE KNOB-LATCHES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

Be it known that I, BARTHEL ERBE, of the borough of Birmingham, Allegheny county, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in the Manner of Constructing Reversible Right and Left-Hand Door-Latches; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, and to the letters of explanation marked thereon.

My invention relates to that class of reversible latches in which the latch has a supplemental motion in the case, so as to permit the head of the latch being drawn out of the case, so that it may be reversed without disconnecting it from its internal attachments. In the drawings—

Figure 1 exhibits interior of a door-lock, embodying my improvement in position as when in use.

Figure 2 exhibits the same when in process of being reversed.

Figure 3 is a separate view of the sliding frame or yoke.

Figure 4 is a separate view of the latch which operates in connection with fig. 3, being connected therewith at the swivel-bearing *g*, as shown in figs. 1 and 2, and in which bearing *g* the latch turns freely. When at rest, the latch is drawn into its proper position as in fig. 1, by the action of the spiral spring *s*, figs. 1, 2, and 3. Heretofore the latch and yoke have been used without other connection or attachment than this swivel-bearing and spring, but it has been found not reliable, for it frequently happens that the friction of the keeper or other parts in contact with the latch is sufficient to compress the spring *s*, and prevent the proper action of the latch when being drawn into the case to permit the opening of the door.

To obviate this difficulty, I form the yoke with the projecting hook *n*, and the forward end of the latch with the depression *l*, into which the hook *n* falls, as seen in fig. 1. I place the screw-hole *r* in such relation to the hook *n*, that when a screw is inserted through this hole, the hook cannot be withdrawn from depression *l* in the latch, and the yoke and latch are securely and rigidly held in the position shown in fig. 1, and all strain is taken off the spring *s* when the latch is operated.

The hook *n* and the rear end of the depression *l*, at *m*, are bevelled as shown, so that when relieved of restraint by the absence of the screw from *r*, a slight strain is sufficient to withdraw the square end of the latch entirely out of the case, as shown in fig. 2, when it may be readily revolved on its axis, and adapted to a right or left-hand door, as is desired.

Having thus described my improvement, and its mode of operation, and advantages, I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The hook *n*, in combination with the depression *l* on the latch, arranged and operating as described, for the purpose set forth.

BARTHEL ERBE.

Witnesses:

A. S. NICHOLSON,
JAS. RICHARDSON.