

H. E. Piquet,

Shuffling and Dealing Cards.

N^o 83540.

Patented Oct. 27, 1868.

Fig: 2.

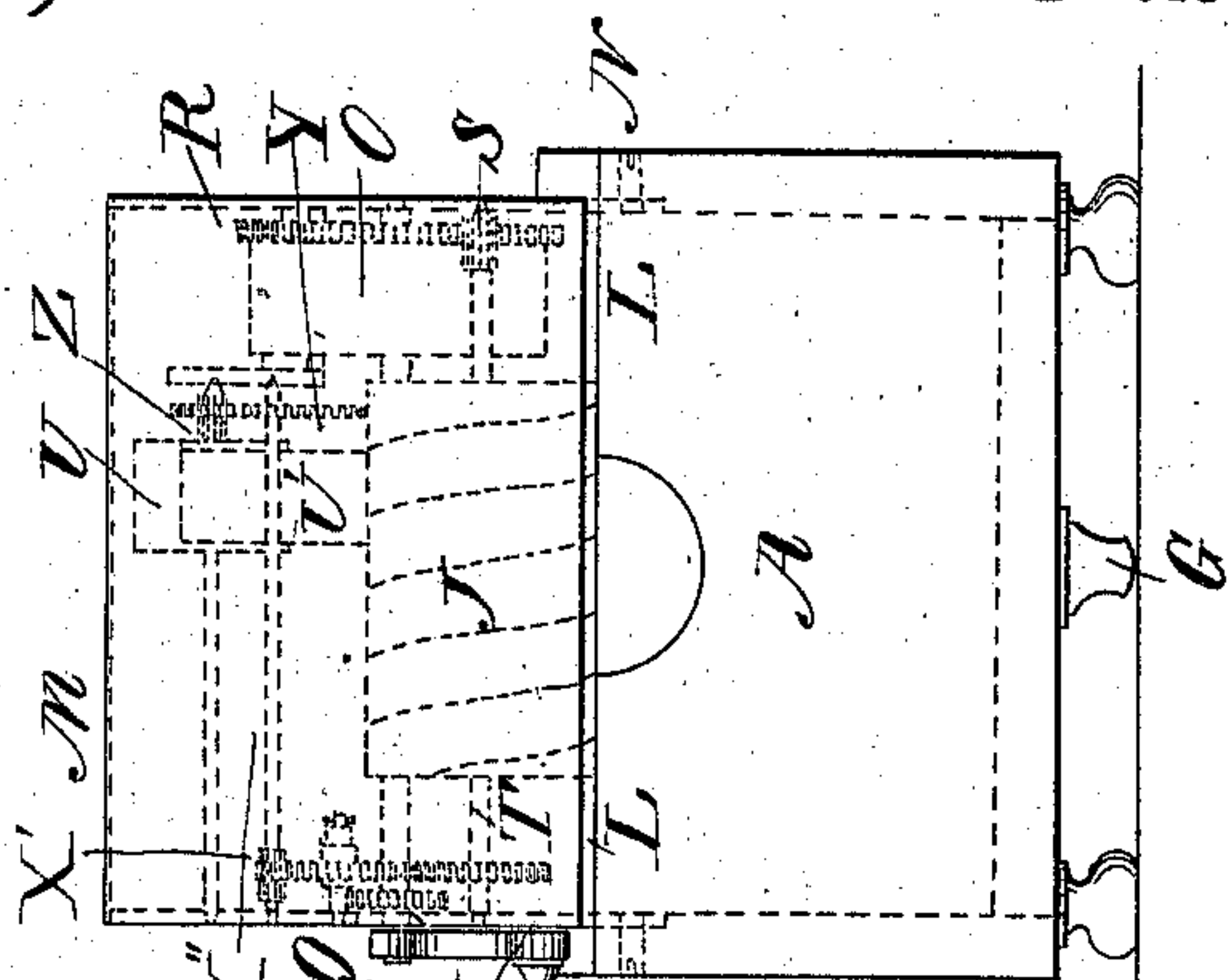


Fig: 1.

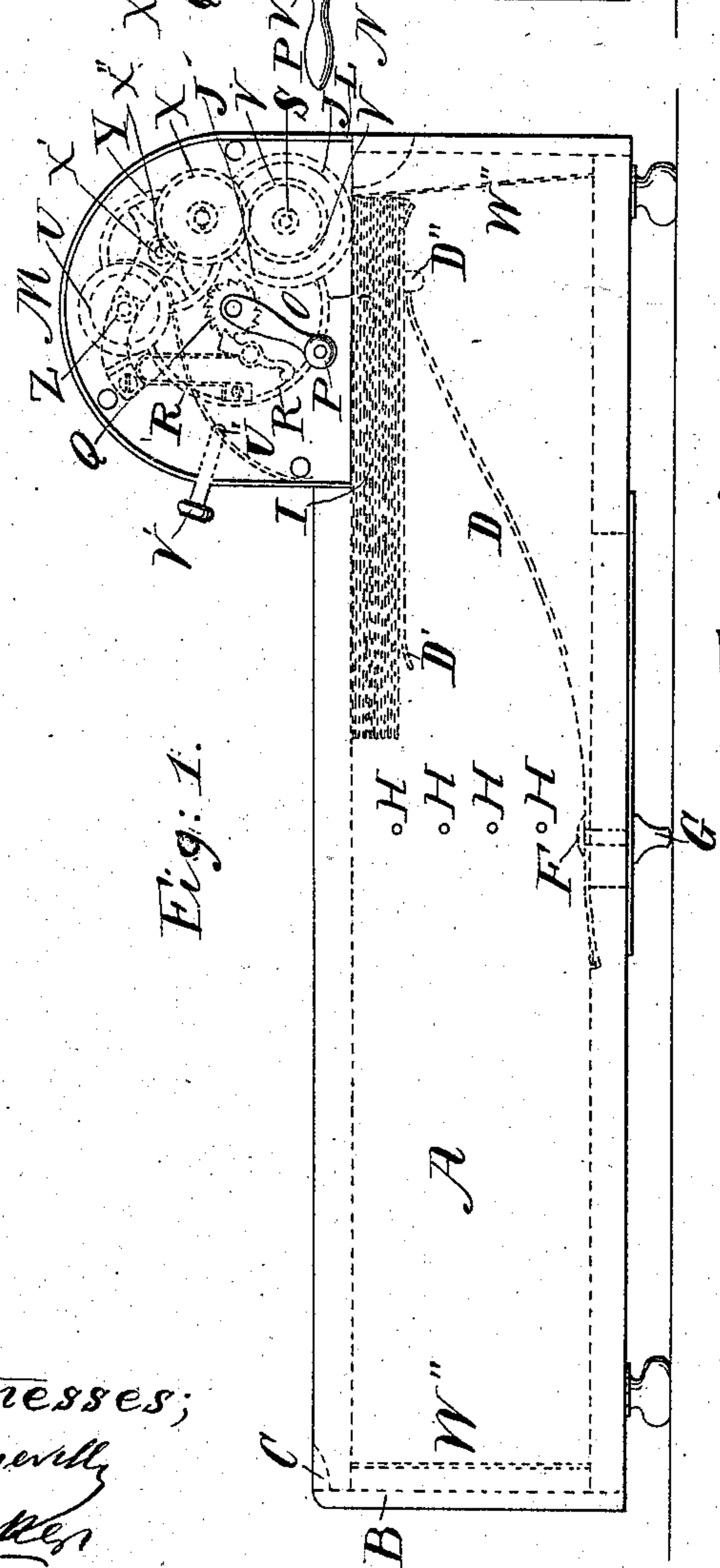
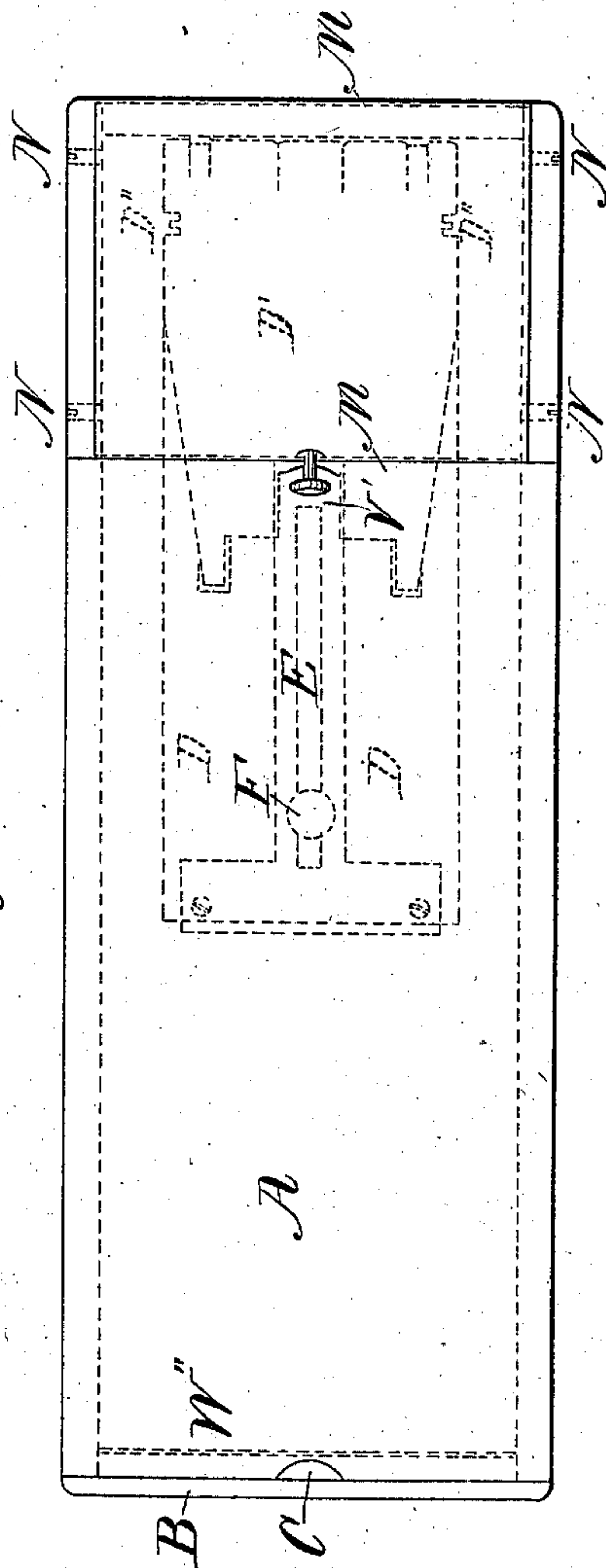


Fig: 3.



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HONORE ETIENNE PIQUET, OF SARTROUVILLE, FRANCE.

Letters Patent No. 83,540, dated October 27, 1868.

APPARATUS FOR SHUFFLING AND DEALING CARDS.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HONORÉ ETIENNE PIQUET, of Sartrouville, in the Empire of France, engineer, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Shuffling and Dealing Cards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 is a side view of the apparatus;

Figure 2, a front end view; and

Figure 3, a top view.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in a box, made of wood or any other material, combined with a clock-movement. This box, which has the width, or thereabouts, of an ordinary playing-card, twice its length, and a depth about equal to three times the thickness of a pack or game of cards, is divided in the middle, transversely, by several steel, brass, or copper wires fixed in its sides, at a certain distance from one another. After the cards have been put in the box, which is furnished with a little door, said box is shaken in the direction of its length, and thereby the cards are shuffled by being divided by the transverse and metal wires.

After the shuffling of the cards has been effected, the box is inclined, and said cards are all brought forward to the front part, and pressed, towards the top thereof, against a roller of cork or wood, covered or not with cloth or caoutchouc. This roller receives a rotary movement by hand or from a clock-movement which is placed in a case fixed on the upper extremity of the box, and this rotary motion has for its object to carry away, and, in succession, push out one of the cards after the other, through an opening or slot at the end of the box.

Having thus given an outline of the said invention, I will now proceed more fully to describe the same by referring to the annexed drawings.

A is the box; it is closed at its rear end by a sliding or hinged door, B, which is opened by means of the notch C to introduce the pack of cards.

D is a flat spring, having a slot, E, a pin, F G, the head, F, of which rests on the spring, passes through this slot, and through a corresponding slot which is in the bottom of the box.

If by the pressure of the finger on the button G, the pin F G is caused to slide in the slot of the box, the spring D will be depressed to the bottom of the box.

D¹ is a movable platform, connected, by a hinge, D², to the spring D. This platform, on which the cards are placed for distribution, assumes the horizontal position, when the spring D is permitted to rise, the front end of said platform resting against the distributing-roller.

H H H are little steel, brass, or copper wires, which

extend transversely across the box. They serve to separate and divide the cards, when shaken to and fro to shuffle them, the spring D and the platform D¹ being, during this operation, depressed to the bottom of the box.

Instead of causing the box to be opened at the side it might be so arranged as to open at the top or front by means of a sliding or hinged closing piece.

After the pack of cards has been brought back to the front part of the box, the button G is slid back, and the spring D causes the platform to rise, and the pack of cards I resting thereon, as shown in fig. 1, is pushed up against the distributing-roller J.

This roller, which is made of cork or wood, presses on the cards, and by its rotary movement pushes out, successively, one card after the other, through the slot or opening L in the front of the case.

This roller may be covered or not with cloth, caoutchouc, or any other suitable elastic substance.

The clock-work is enclosed in a thin brass case, M, connected with a box, A, by means of the screws N N or otherwise.

O is the ordinary barrel enclosing the main spring, the arbor of which spring protrudes from the case, and carries a little handle, P, which serves to wind it up. This arbor carries inside a ratchet-wheel, Q, with its spring-catch, to prevent it from turning back, as usual in every clock-movement.

The main wheel R of this barrel gears into the pinion S, keyed on the arbor T of the roller J, whereby said roller receives its motion, which is governed by means of the brake-spring U bearing on the little roller U.

On the arbor T of the roller J is keyed a wheel, V, which gears into the wheel X, gearing into the pinion X¹ that is keyed on the arbor X², at the other extremity of which is secured the wheel Y, which gears into the pinion Z, and imparts to it a certain speed. On the arbor of this pinion is keyed the little roller U.

These devices, however, differ in nowise from the ordinary combination of clock-movements as used in alarms, musical boxes, and such like analogous devices.

In order to arrest the movement, the spring U¹ is caused to bear on the little roller U. When the rotation is to take place, a button, V, should be pressed in, and thereby the little roller U is freed and the movement is started. Between the front edge of the box and that of the clock-case there is just sufficient space for the passage of a single card.

At its front and rear ends the box is lined with a sheet, W, of cloth or caoutchouc, to protect the edges of the cards when shuffled. When a plain box for the shuffling of the cards only is required, the clock-work, the roller J, the spring D, and the platform D¹ can be omitted, and the box A alone retained, with its wires H H H. This would considerably simplify the apparatus.

A box may also be made without any clock-move-

ment, and merely furnished with a distributing-roller, J, which might be actuated with the hand by means of a handle. Such a box being less complicated, would be less expensive.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patents, is—

1. The transverse metal wires H, in combination with the box A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the clock-movement with

the distributing-roller J, the spring D, the platform D', and the pin F G, constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The platform D', in combination with the spring D', the pin F G, and distributing-roller J, constructed and operating as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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