

W. G. Brady

Door Plate and Bell Alarm.

N^o 91,820.

Patented Jun. 29, 1869.

Fig. 1.

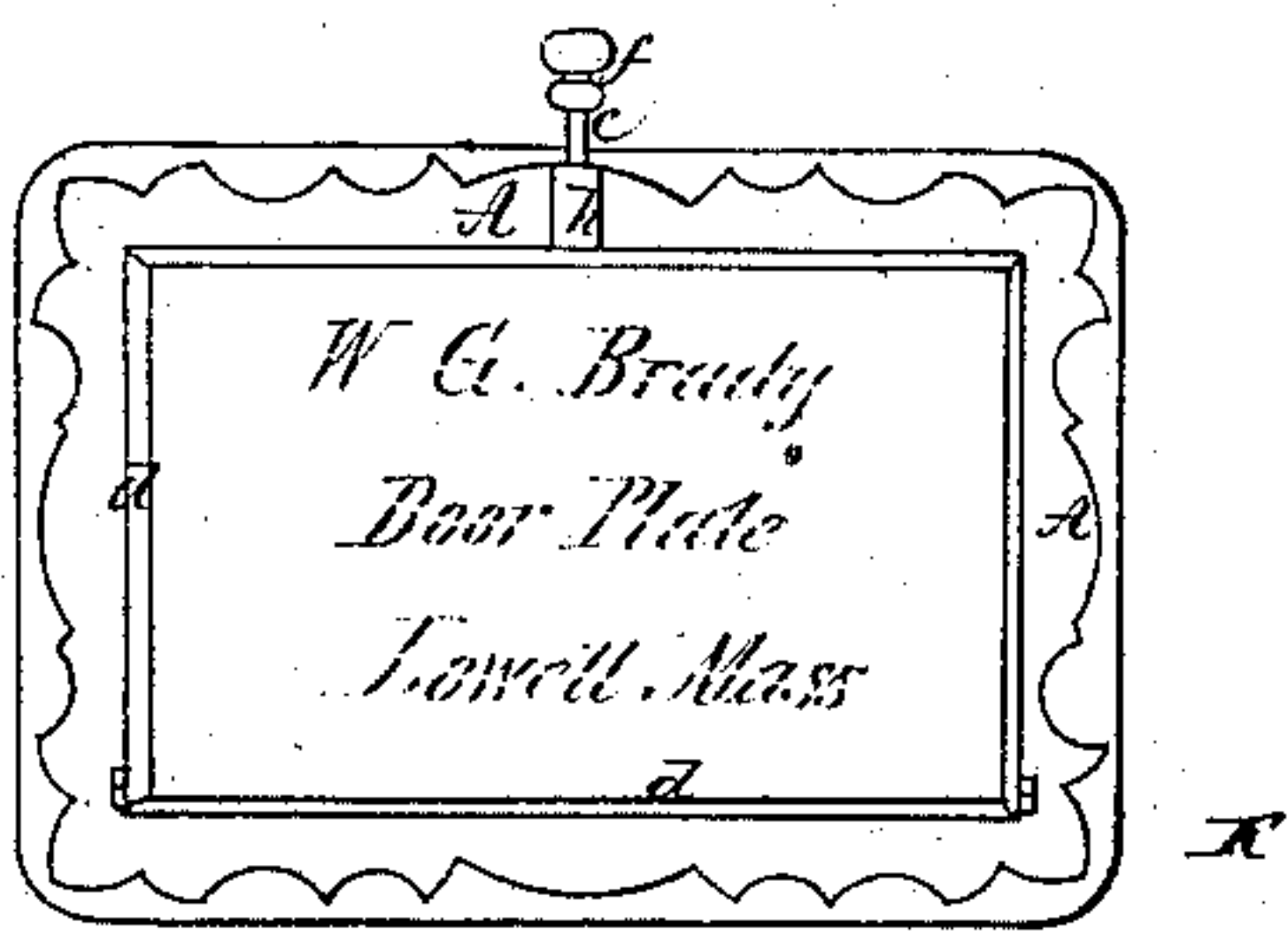


Fig. 3.

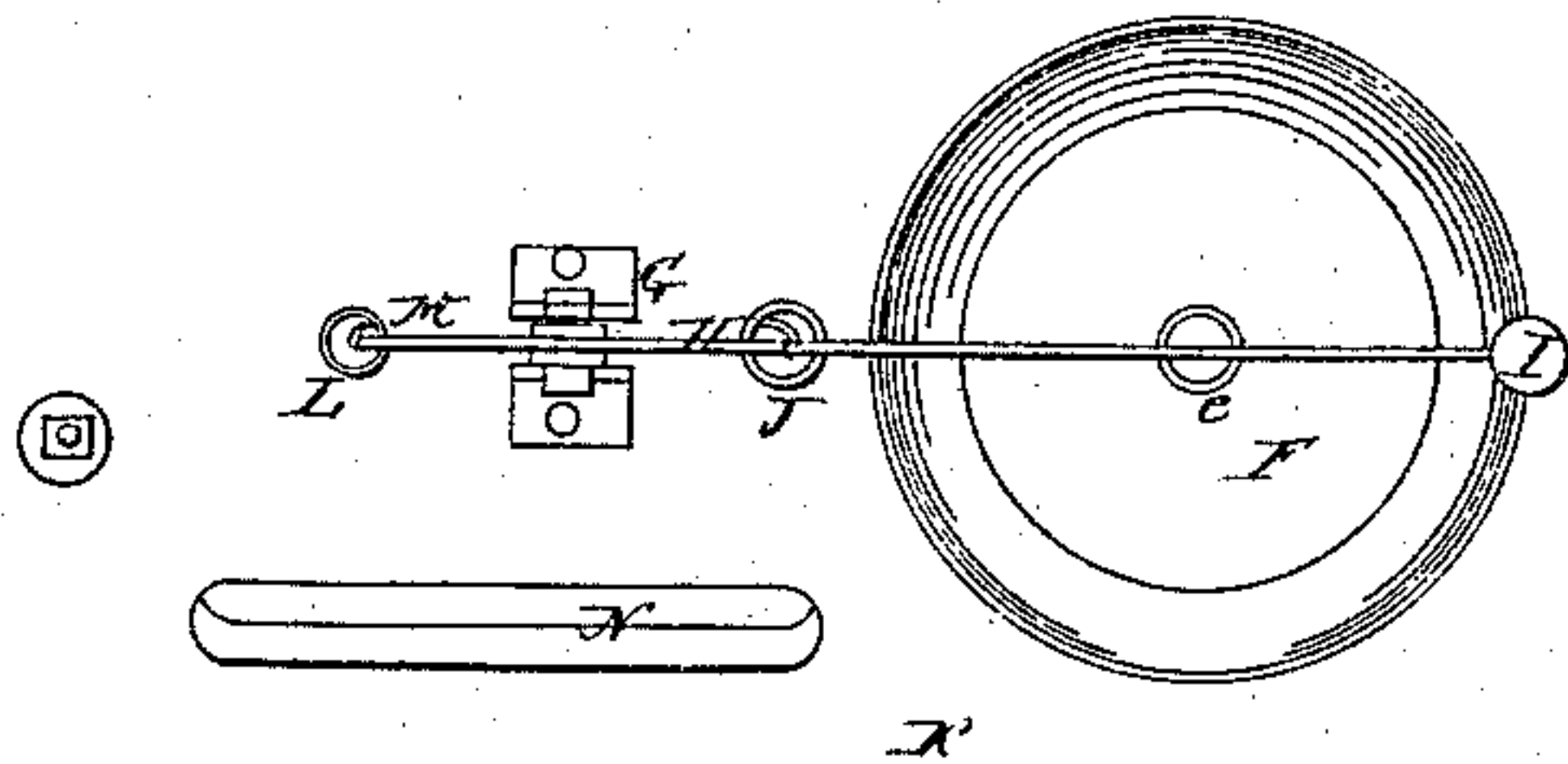
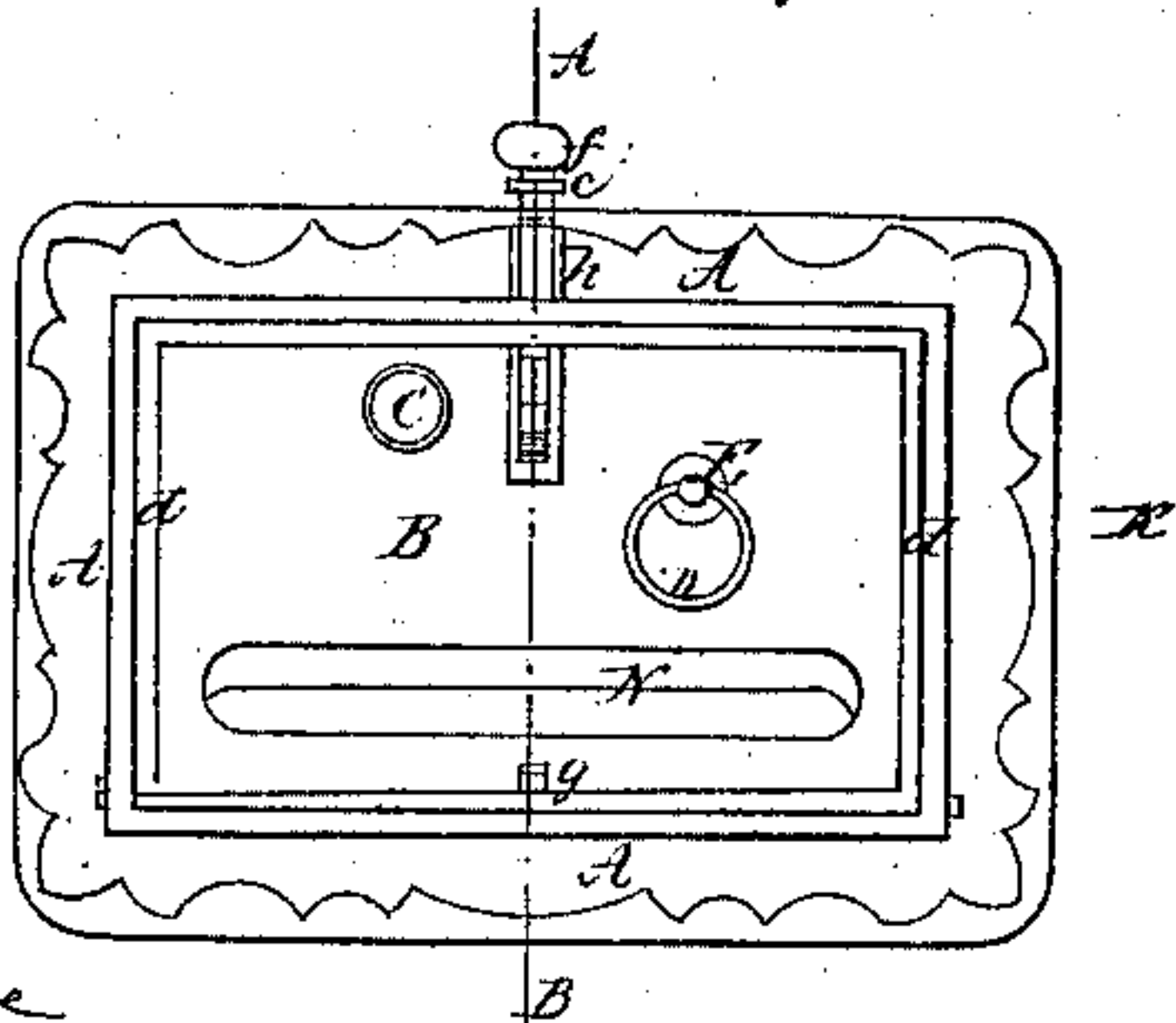
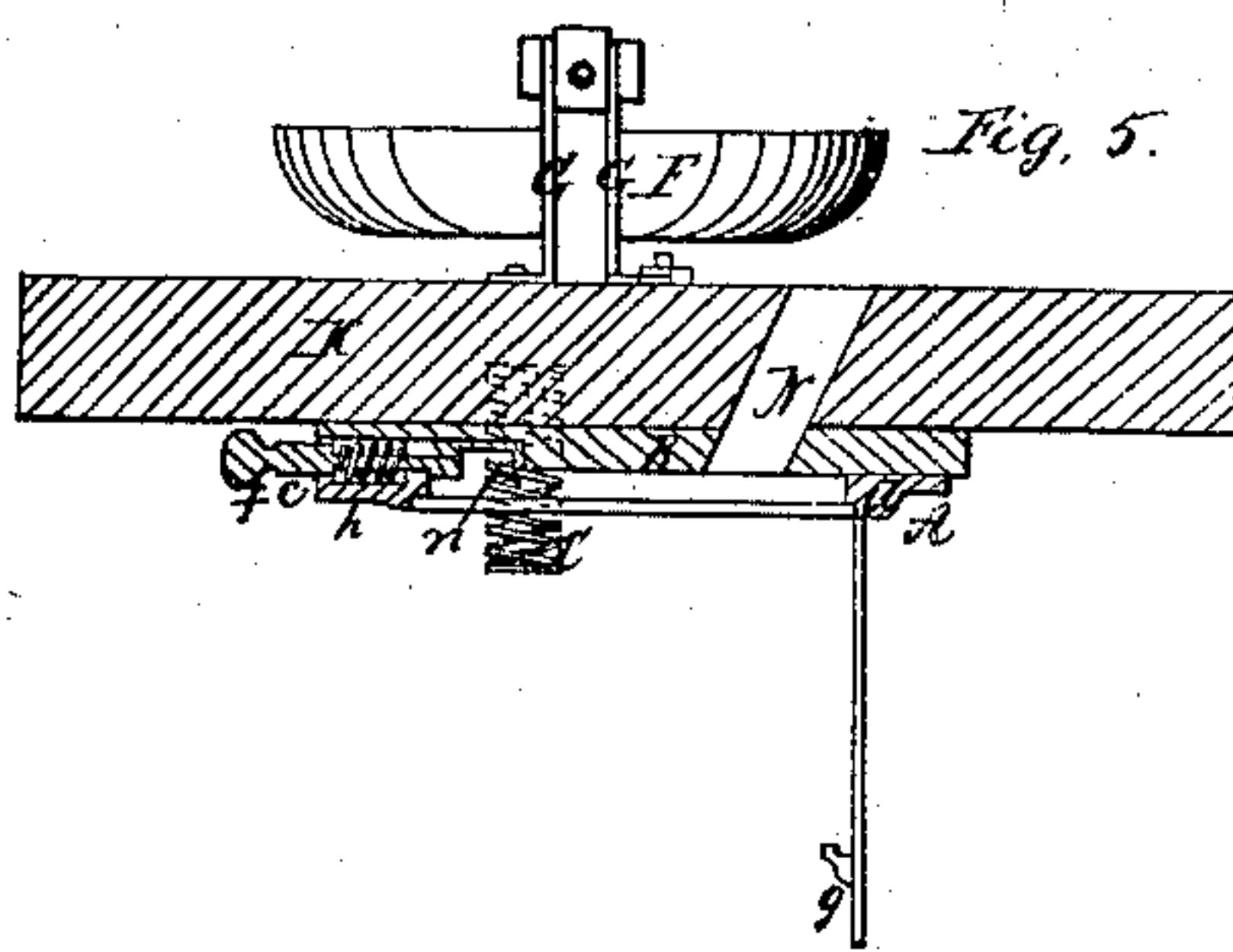
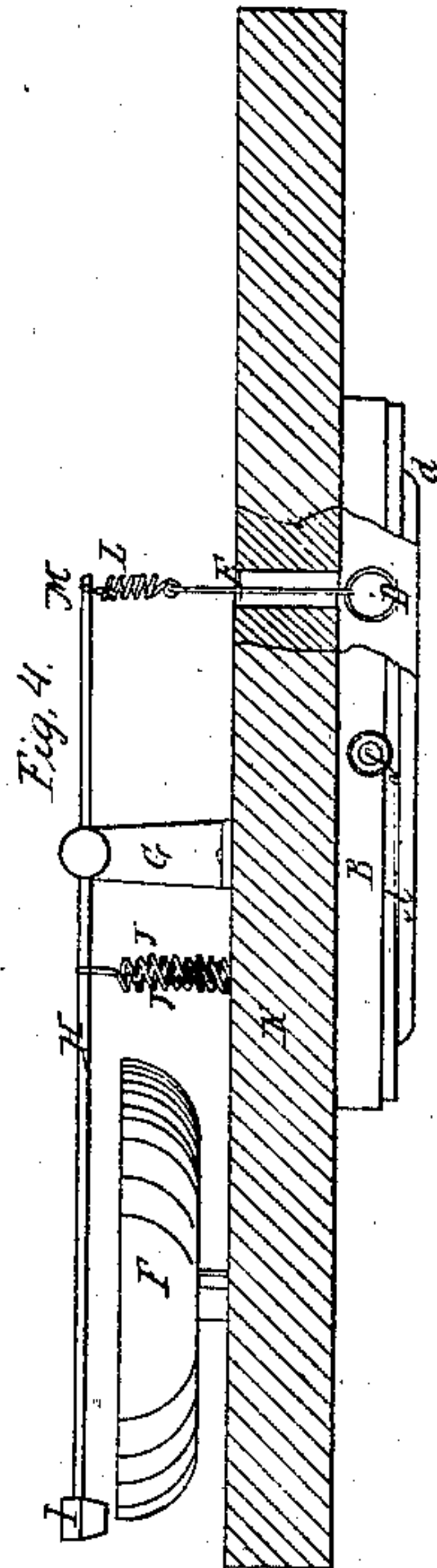


Fig. 2.



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WILLIAM G. BRADY, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 91,820, dated June 29, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN DOOR-PLATE AND BELL-ALARM.

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, WILLIAM G. BRADY, of Lowell, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Door-Plates, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are each a front or face view of my improvement as applied to the outside of the door, the former with the hinged door-plate closed, and the latter with it opened.

Figure 3 represents that part of my apparatus which is connected with the inside of the door, showing in what manner it is applied.

Figure 4 is a horizontal section of a portion of the door above the plate, and a top view of my apparatus.

Figure 5, a central vertical section on the line A B of fig. 2.

This invention relates to that kind of door-plates which are hinged or pivoted to a frame, which, with the plate, covers a letter-drop, or opening through the door, for the reception of letters, and has for its object to provide not only for that convenience, but also for notifying the occupants of the house, or persons within, whenever a letter has been left for them, or passed through the door.

In constructing and applying my invention, I provide a suitable frame, A, having raised ribs *d*, which form a rebate to receive the name-plate.

This name-plate is hinged or pivoted at its lower edge to the frame, and when closed it is retained by a spring-catch, *c*, and a hook-plate, *g*. The latter is fastened to the inside of the name-plate, as seen in figs. 2 and 5, and the former is arranged to slide in a hollow hub, *h*, forming part of the top edge of the frame.

A spiral spring winds around the stem of the catch *c*, to actuate the same, to lock or fasten the plate when closed.

Within the frame, and projecting from the face of the door or the raised surface B, is a spiral spring, C, which throws the name-plate open when the spring-catch *c* is released from the hook-plate *g*. This is done by pressing downward on the head of the stem of the catch.

In fig. 2 is seen a ring, D, connected with the end of a rod, E, which passes through the door above the letter-chute N.

In figs. 3, 4, and 5, I have shown a bell, F, which is fastened to the inner side of the door by a screw, *e*.

At a short distance from the bell, and opposite the door-plate, two braces, or stands G project, and between these two stands a pivoted rod, H, is hung.

On one end of this rod is a hammer, I, directly in the range of the edge of the bell.

Between the bell and the stands a spiral spring, J, is connected with the rod H and with the door K.

The other end of the rod H is attached to a spiral spring, L, connected with the rod E, passing through the door.

The ring D provides for operating the rod E to strike the bell.

When a letter is to be deposited or passed through the chute N, the head *f* of the stem of the spring-catch is pressed downward, to release the catch from the hook-plate *g*, when the spring C throws the name-plate open; the letter is then passed through the chute, and a slight pull on the ring D draws the end M of the rod H toward the door, carries the hammer off from the bell, quickly releasing the ring.

The spring J draws the hammer suddenly and forcibly into contact with the edge of the bell, thus giving the alarm or signal to the occupants of the house.

The name-plate is then closed, as shown in fig. 1, which compresses the spring C, or forces it back ready to throw the plate open, and at the same time brings the hook-plate *g* into holding-contact with the notched lower end *n* of the spring-catch, and secures the name-plate in position. (See fig. 1.)

As a large portion of all mail-matter is delivered by letter-carriers, and as each carrier is expected to deliver a considerable number of letters in a given time, necessity seems to demand some better facility for the delivery of mail-matter. The ordinary mode of ringing a door-bell, and then waiting the slow and uncertain motion of servants or others to answer the call, seems to be too great a sacrifice of the time of the carrier, and as people are frequently annoyed by pedlers, distributors of circulars, and others, they are liable to wait the second, third, or fourth call of the door-bell, which, if rung by the letter-carrier, is no small impediment to the performance of his task.

My invention provides a remedy for all such delays and their causes, for when the door-plate bell is sounded, it will be understood that some letter or mail-matter awaits some person within; the whole operation is performed in a few seconds, saving much time for the carrier, and delivering the letter with reasonable dispatch.

I do not claim a hinged or pivoted door-plate, nor do I claim a bell for calling the occupants of a house to the door; but

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The alarm-device, constructed as herein described, the pivoted door-plate, arranged to cover or uncover a letter-chute made through the door, each part arranged to operate in connection with the other, as described and shown.

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Witnesses:

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