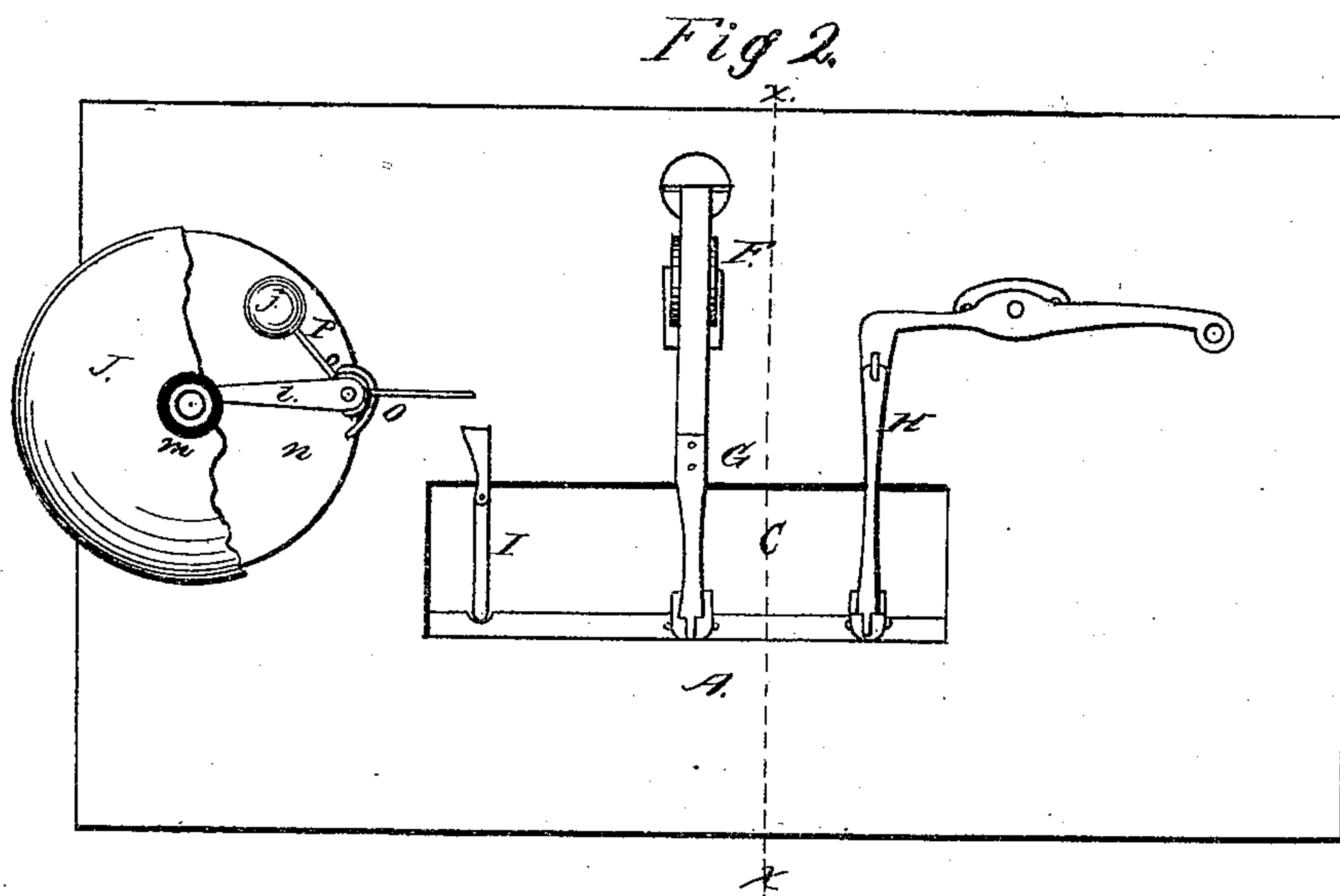
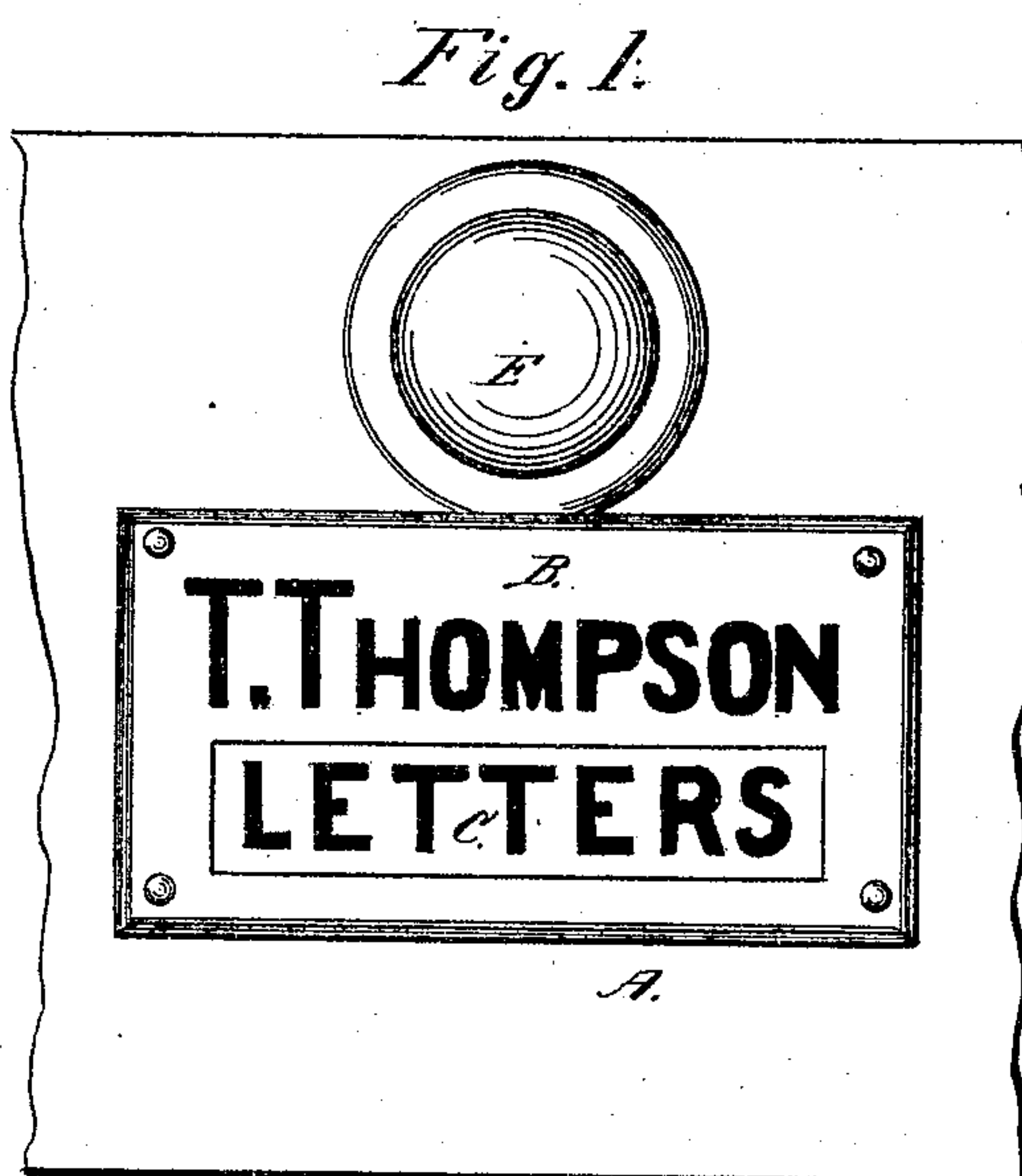
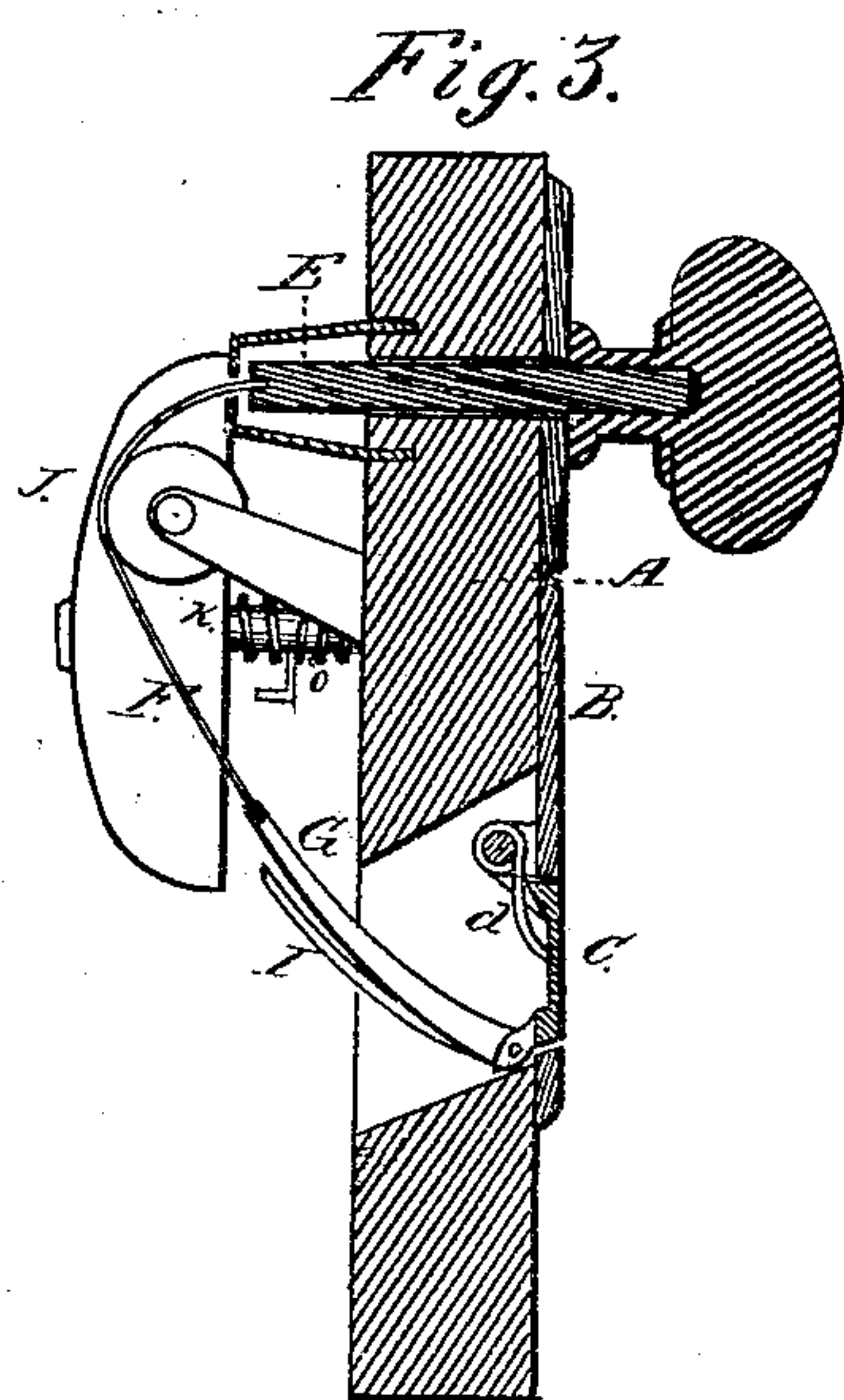


T. THOMPSON.

Improvement in Combined Door-Plate, Letter-Box, and Bell-Pull.

No. 132,378.

Patented Oct. 22, 1872.



Witnesses,

Geo. W. Tibbitts
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Thomas Thompson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS THOMPSON, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED DOOR-PLATES, LETTER-BOXES, AND BELL-PULLS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **132,378**, dated October 22, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS THOMPSON, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Door Name-Plate, Letter-Plate, and Bell-Pull combined, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to that class of door-plates which are provided with a hinged portion covering an opening for the introduction of letters, said hinged part being connected with a bell or gong so as to sound the same. The invention consists in the combination of an ordinary bell-pull with the hinged plate, a bell or gong, suitable connections, and means for striking the bell, the parts being so arranged that the letter-box is opened and the bell sounded by drawing out the bell-pull. The invention further consists in the combination of peculiar means for striking the bell with the hinged plate, all as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is an outside view of the said name-plate and letter-plate, and bell-pull, as seen attached to a door. Fig. 2 is an inside view of the door, showing the manner of connecting the letter-plate with the bell-wire or gong. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same in the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

A represents a portion of a door to which is attached a plate, B, in which is made an opening for the purpose of inserting mail-matter through the door, and which has a flap, C, hinged at the upper side for covering the said opening. On the plate B may be engraved or painted the name of the occupant of the house, and on the flap the word "letters." A spring, *d*, keeps the said flap closed. Above the plate B is placed a bell-pull, E, the inner end of which is connected to the flap C by a strap or chain, F, attached to a rod or arm, G, hinged to the lower side of the flap C. The flap C may have a second arm, H, connected with a bell-wire, thus connecting the plate with the bell in another part of the

house; or instead of the arm H there may be a rigid arm, I, which, when thrown upward, will push the hammer of a gong, J, and cause it to strike an alarm. The hammer *j* is attached to a short shaft, *k*, having its bearings in an arm, *l*, of the center post *m* and the base plate *n*. The shaft *k* is surrounded with a spring, *o*, one end of which is secured to the post and the other to the base-plate, by which it is caused to fly back, released by the arm I of the flap C, the lever of the hammer projecting outward sufficiently to be operated by the said arm I. A lug or pin, *p*, on the base-plate limits the motion of the hammer.

The letter-plate is operated without the aid or independently of the bell-pull, though the bell-pull is connected with the letter-plate and lifts it when pulled. The plate B may be made in a variety of forms, either plain or ornamental, having the bell-pull at the upper side, and leave a place for the number of the house at the lower side.

I am aware that it is not new to arrange an alarm-bell to be sounded by opening the letter-box; and I am also aware that a separate device for ringing the bell has been employed; therefore I do not claim these features, broadly; but

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of the ordinary bell-pull E, with the letter-plate C, connections F G, a bell or gong, and means for sounding the same, the bell-pull E being arranged to lift the plate C and sound the bell at the same time, all constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as herein described.

2. The hammer *j*, shaft *k*, spring *o*, arm *l*, post *m*, lug or pin *p*, and base-plate *n*, with the gong J, when all are constructed and arranged to operate with the letter-plate C, by means of the rigid arm I on said plate striking the spring *o*, as as described.

THOMAS THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

GEO. MENDER,
GEO. L. CHILDS.