J. R. MESA.

Improvement in Check-Punches.

No. 132,593. Patented Oct. 29, 1872.

Fig. 1.

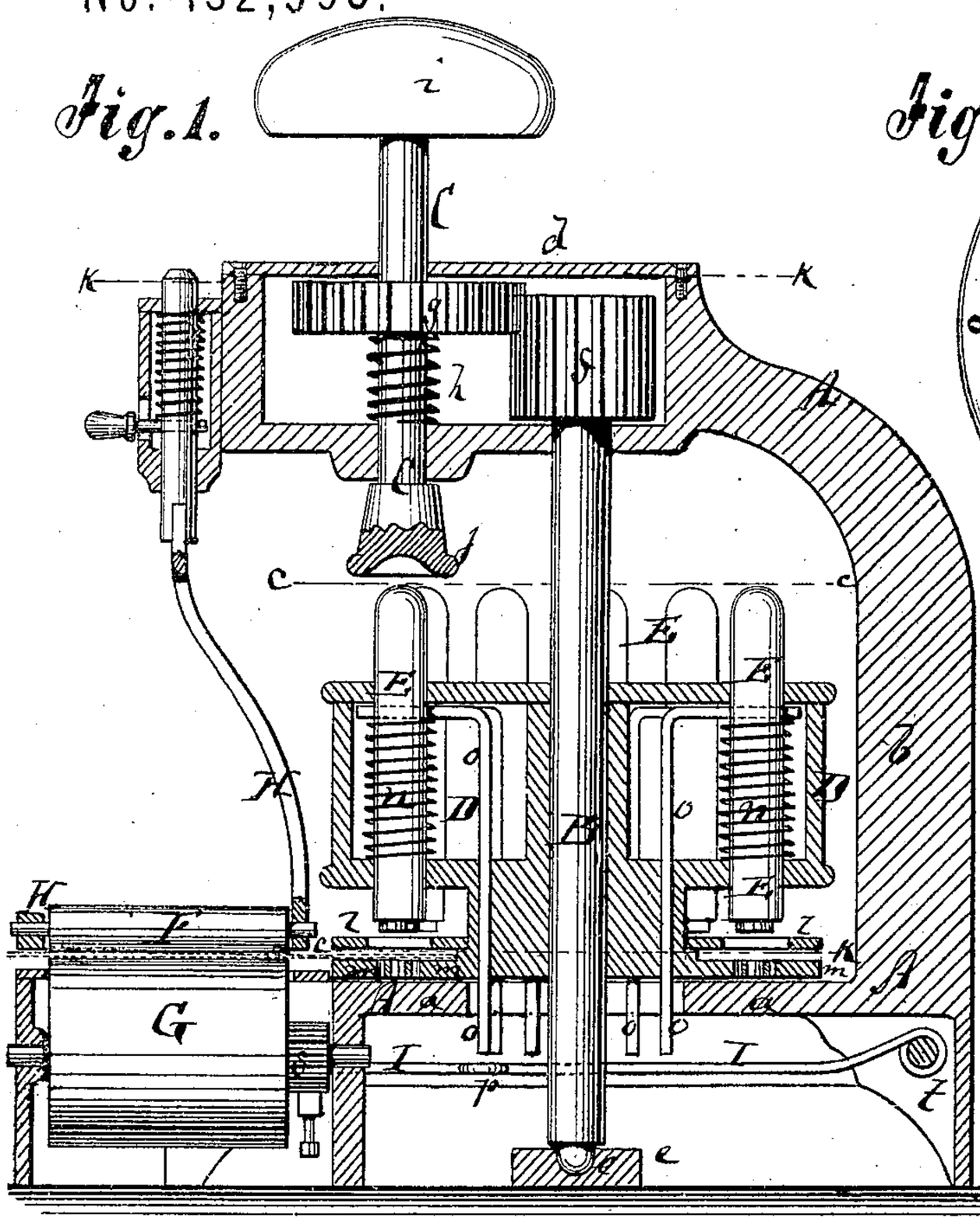


Fig. 3.

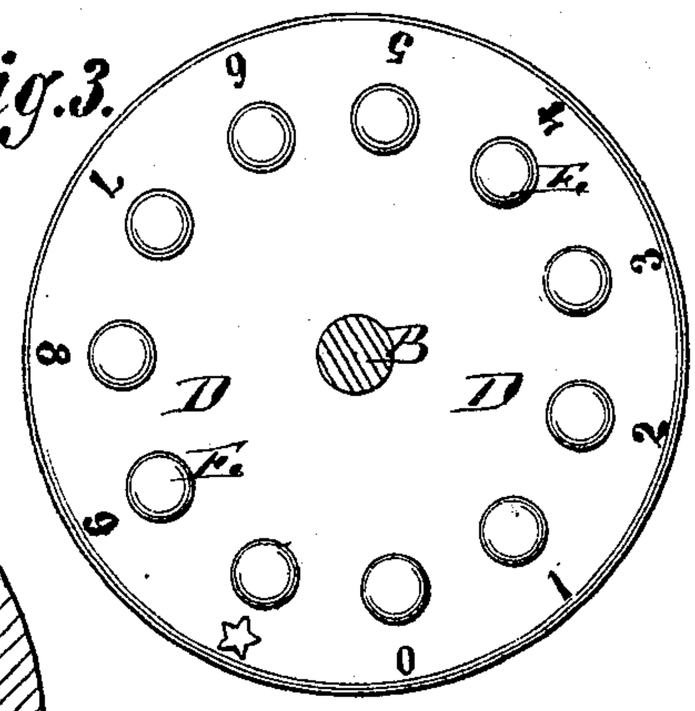


Fig. 4.

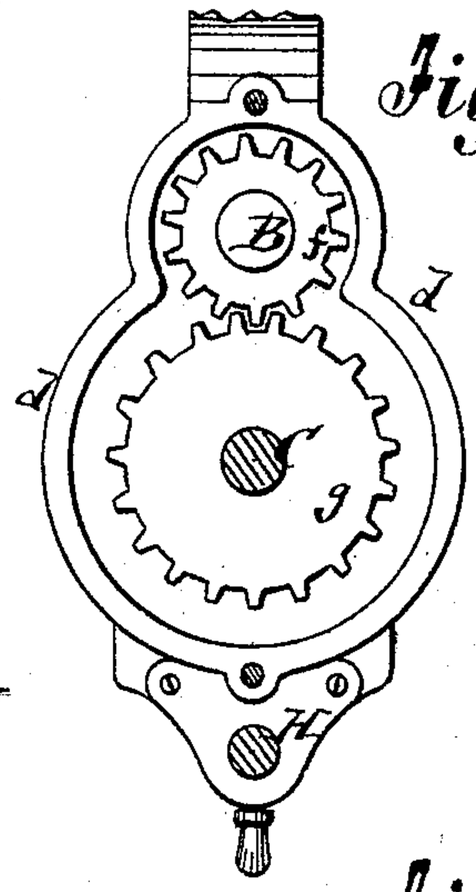


Fig. 2.

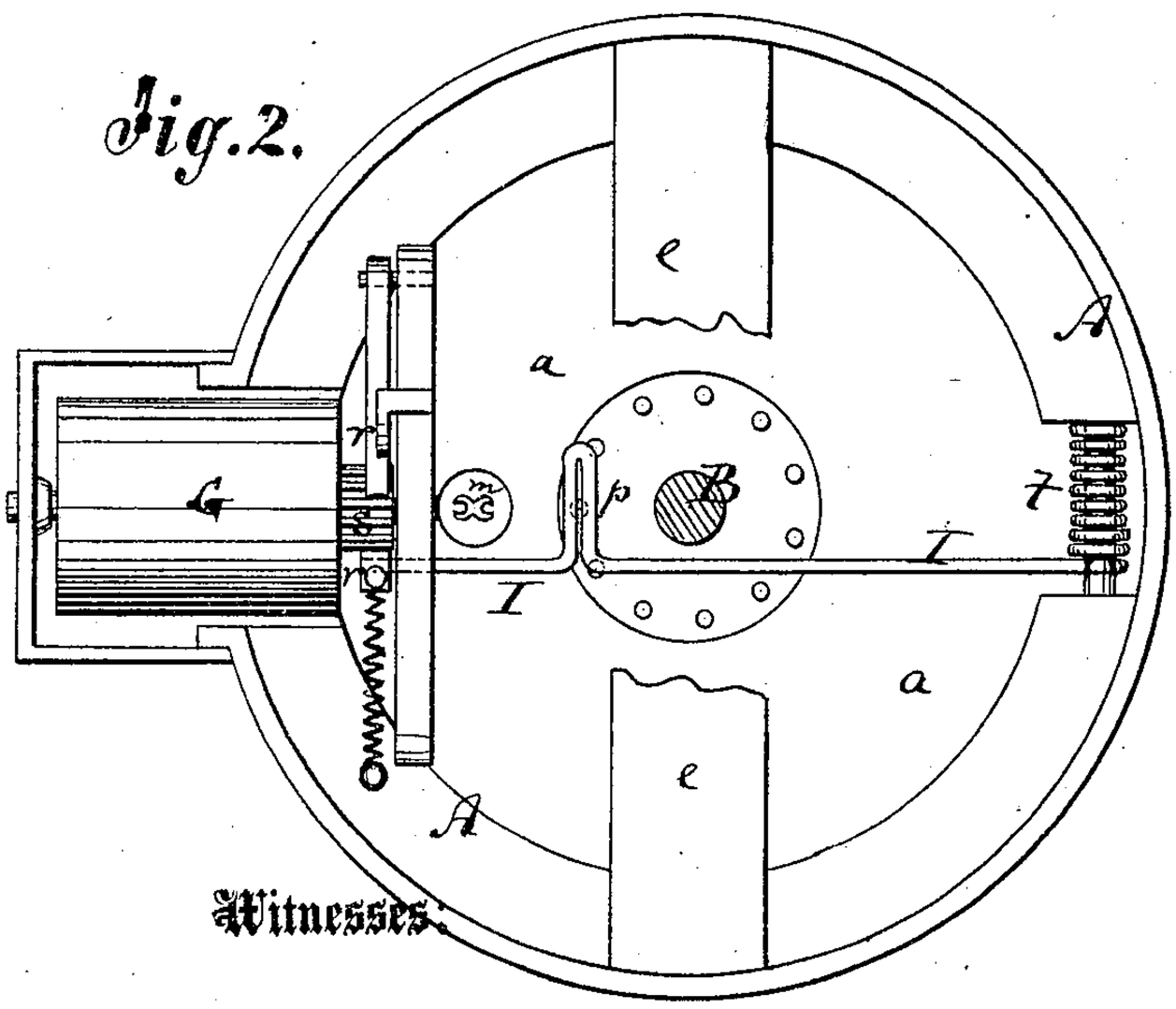
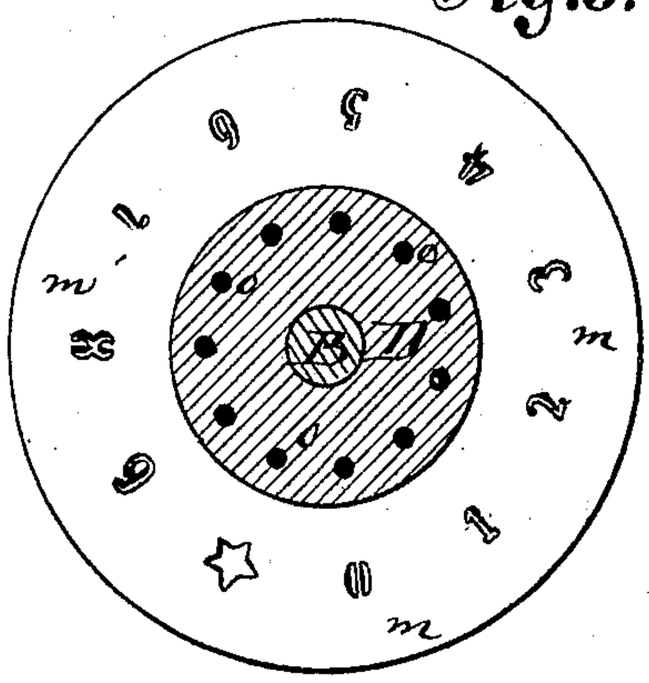


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSÉ R. MESA, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHECK-PUNCHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **132,593**, dated October 29, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSÉ R. MESA, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Revolving Check Punch and Feeder, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a vertical central section of my invention; Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the same; Fig. 3, a horizontal section on the line *c c*, Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a horizontal section on the line *k k*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 5, a horizontal section on the line *c k*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention has for its object to produce an instrument for punching the number or amount to which checks or similar documents of value are drawn, through the same, and feeding the same forward to obtain the necessary spaces between the figures punched.

For carrying out this object I have provided a rotary cylinder with a series of vertical punches that represent the several figures and characters to be punched through the paper. The cylinder can be turned so as to bring any one of the punches under a knob or button, which, when struck by hand, forces the punch under it against the paper to perforate the same in the desired manner. Each punch is provided with a pendant by which, in its descent, it will work a pawl and ratchet, and thereby turn one of the rollers between which the paper is held to feed the paper in the requisite ratio.

In the accompanying drawing, the letter A represents the frame of this improved instrument. It is made of cast metal or other suitable material, preferably in the shape of a nearly circular platform, *a*, from which projects a standard, *b*, to hold an arm, *d*, above the platform. B is a vertical shaft, hung in the upper arm *d* and extending through the platform *a*, its lower end resting on a step, *e*, that is formed in a cross-bar of the frame. The upper end of the shaft B has a pinion, *f*. This pinion is in gear with a toothed wheel, *g*, that is mounted upon a vertical arbor, C, which is hung in the arm *d*. The arbor C has vertical play in the arm *d*, a spring, *h*, holding it up. A button, *i*, is affixed to the upper end of the arbor C, and is struck whenever the said arbor is to be forced down. The lower end of the arbor projecting below the arm *d* contains a concave enlargement, *j*, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1. The pinion *f* is of such length that it will always be in gear with the pinion *g* whenever the same is moved up or down with the arbor C. D is a cylinder mounted upon the shaft B, directly above the platform *a*. It contains and carries eleven, more or less, vertical punches, E E, whose lower ends are provided with the characters that are to be cut through the paper. These lower ends of the punches are above two flanges, *l m*, that project around the lower part of the cylinder D, the flange *l* being perforated to admit the punches, and the flange *m* also perforated in conformity with the characters on the punches to let the paper punched out escape. The paper to be punched is held between two rollers, F and G, that hang in bearings formed on the frame A. The bearings of the upper roller F are or may, ~~however,~~ be formed in a spring slide, H, so that it can be raised up to facilitate the insertion of a check or document to be stamped. The paper held between the rollers F and G extends also between the flanges *l* and *m* of the cylinder D, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 1. The punch to be used is by turning the knob *i*, and thereby also revolving the cylinder D, brought under the arbor C and over that portion of the check to be punched. The knob *i* is then struck and forced upon said punch, thus causing the latter to perforate the paper in the desired manner. Each punch E is lifted off by a spring, *n*, as soon as the pressure is removed by the arbor C. Each punch is likewise provided with a pendent rod or arm, *o*, which, on the descent of the punch, strikes a crank, *p*, of a rock-shaft, I, that hangs under the platform A and connects with the pawl *r* that engages with a ratchet-wheel, *s*, which is mounted upon the axis of the roller G. Thus whichever punch is struck down by the above-mentioned action of the arbor C also vibrates the rock-shaft I, and thereby causes the pawl to slip on the wheel *s* as soon as the pressure is removed from the punch and the same lifted by the spring *u*. A spring, *t*, vibrates the shaft I, and returns it to its neutral position, thereby making the pawl *r* engage the ratchet-wheel *s*, turning the same and the wheel G, and feeding the check to bring a new portion thereof

under the punch to be next struck. The spring *t* may be connected with the rock-shaft I at the end in the manner indicated in Fig. 2, or in any other suitable way. The cylinder D may be marked on the upper face, as in Fig. 3, or at its edge, with the characters of the several punches, so that the person using the instrument can readily tell which character is under the arbor, to avoid mistakes.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The cylinder D, provided with the punches E E, which carry the pendent rods *o o*, substantially as herein described.

2. The arbor C, made vertically adjustable and provided with a spring, *h*, knob *i*, gear-wheel *g*, and connected with the shaft B to operate the same, substantially as set forth.

3. The flanges *l* and *m*, formed on the cylinder D beneath the punches, substantially as set forth.

4. The spring rock-shaft I, provided with a crank, *p*, and connected with the pawl to be operated by the descending rods *o*, as set forth.

5. The combination of the cylinder D with the intermittently-revolving feed-wheel G, as set forth, to operate as specified.

6. A combined check punch and feeder, made substantially as herein shown and described.

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