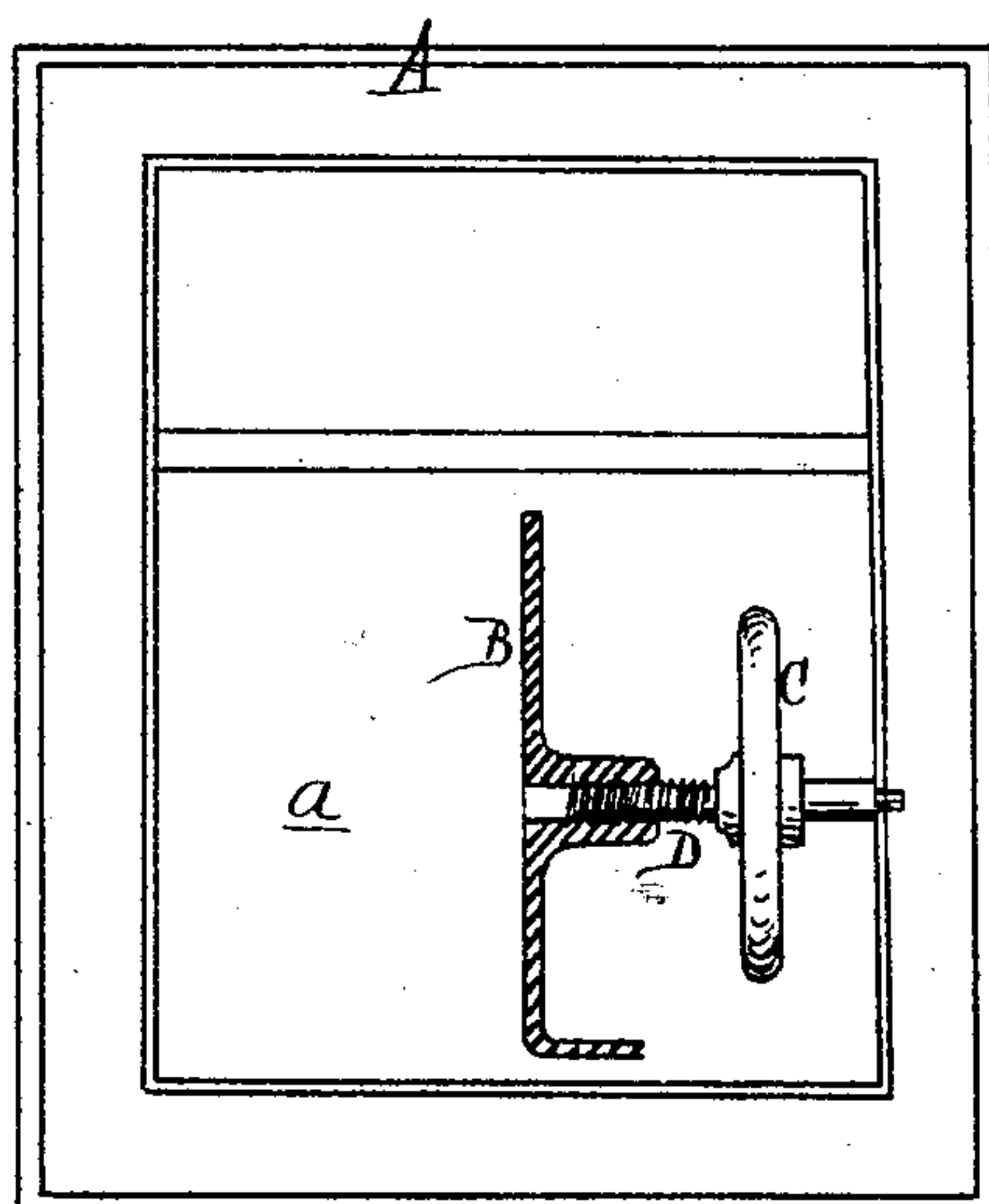
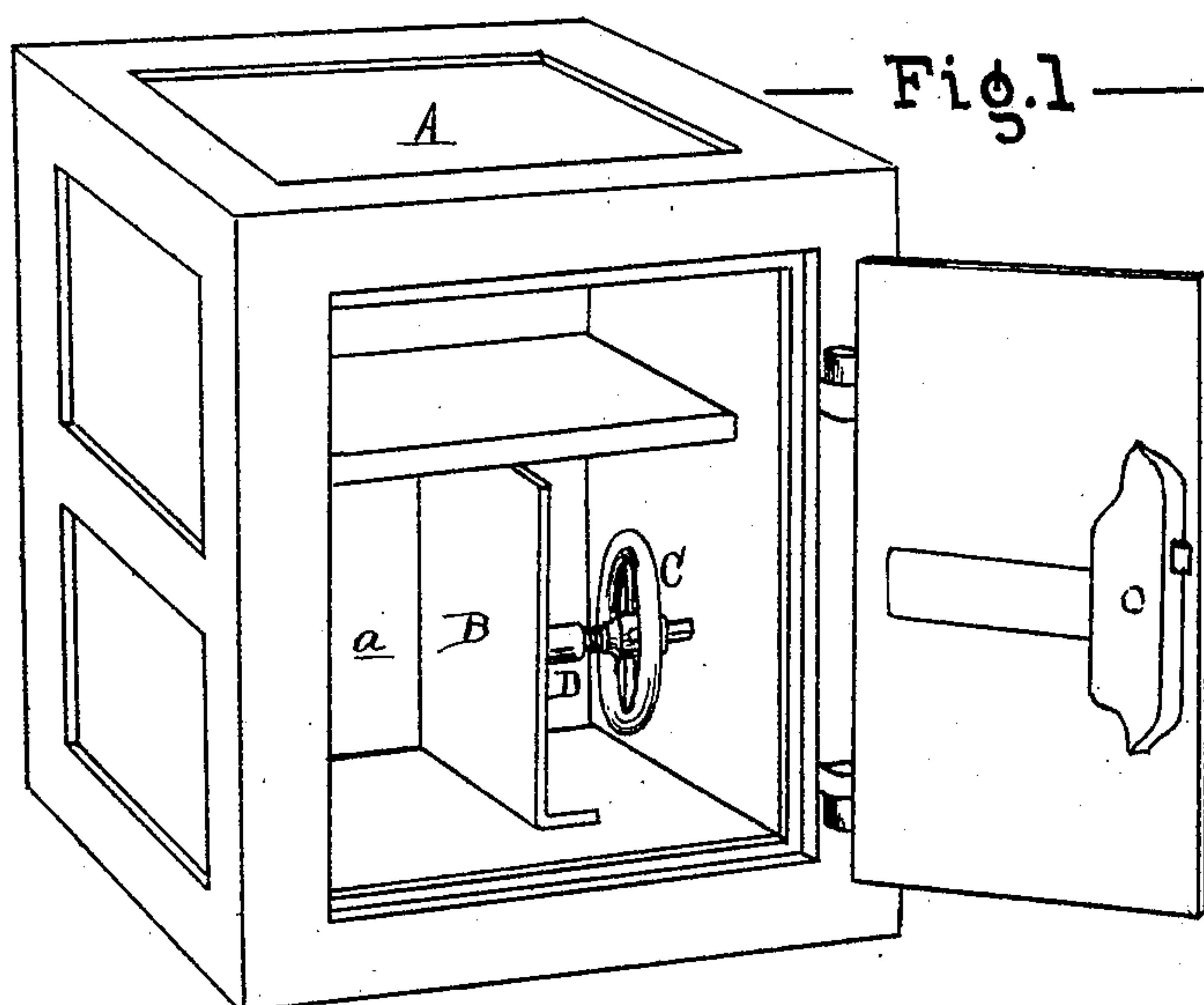


F. A. R. SONTAG & W. H. LOTZ.

Fire-Proof Safes.

No. 145,761.

Patented Dec. 23, 1873.



— Attest —

*H. Sprague*  
*Thos. S. Day*

— Inventor —

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRITZ A. R. SONTAG AND WILLIAM H. LOTZ, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-PROOF SAFES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **145,761**, dated December 23, 1873; application filed August 1, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, FRITZ A. R. SONTAG and WILLIAM H. LOTZ, of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented an Attachment to Safes, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of this invention relates to an attachment to be applied to the interior of safes, by means of which the books and papers therein contained may be compressed closely together before closing the safe.

It is well known that books and papers when under pressure will not readily burn, and the object of this invention is to provide the means for easily compressing such books and papers as may be placed in the safe.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the interior of a safe with compressing attachment. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the same.

Like letters indicate like parts in each figure.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a safe of ordinary construction, and *a* the usual chamber provided therein to receive the books.

B is a follower, and C a hand-wheel, with a screw, D, so arranged that the follower may be advanced or withdrawn at will.

This follower may be operated by either the screw, as described, or by a cam or lever, or any other convenient method, and it may be so arranged as to be operated from the outside of the safe, if preferred.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A follower or sliding plate, B, within the book-space of a safe for crowding the papers together, in combination with any suitable device for actuating the follower, substantially as described.

2. In combination with a safe, A, and follower B, the hand-wheel C and screw D, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

FRITZ A. R. SONTAG.  
WILLIAM H. LOTZ.

Witnesses:

THEO. KARLS,  
GEO. FROMMANN.