

C. EURICH & C. RAETTIG.

Fire-Proof Safes.

No. 152,553.

Patented June 30, 1874.

Fig. 1.

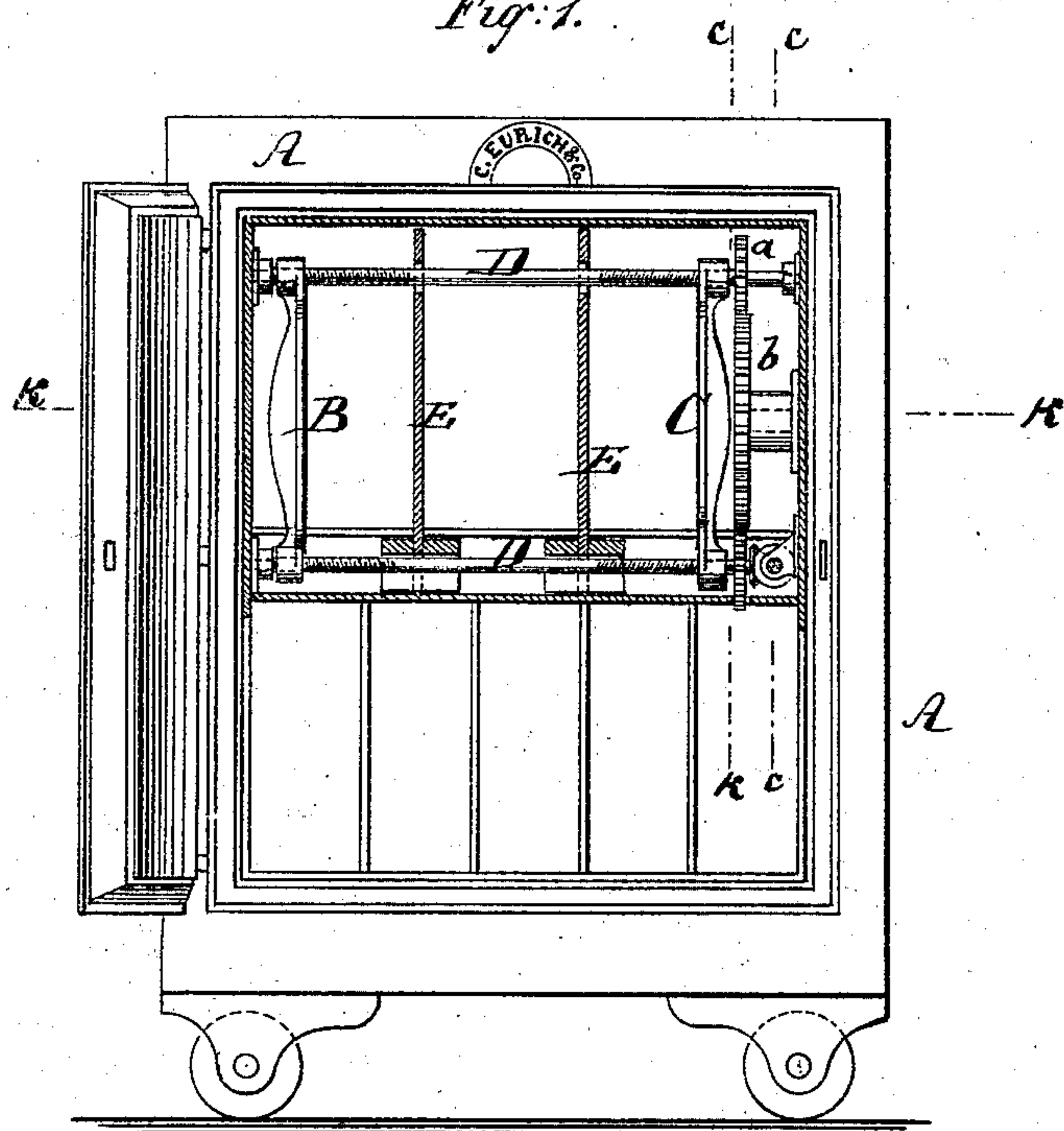


Fig. 2.

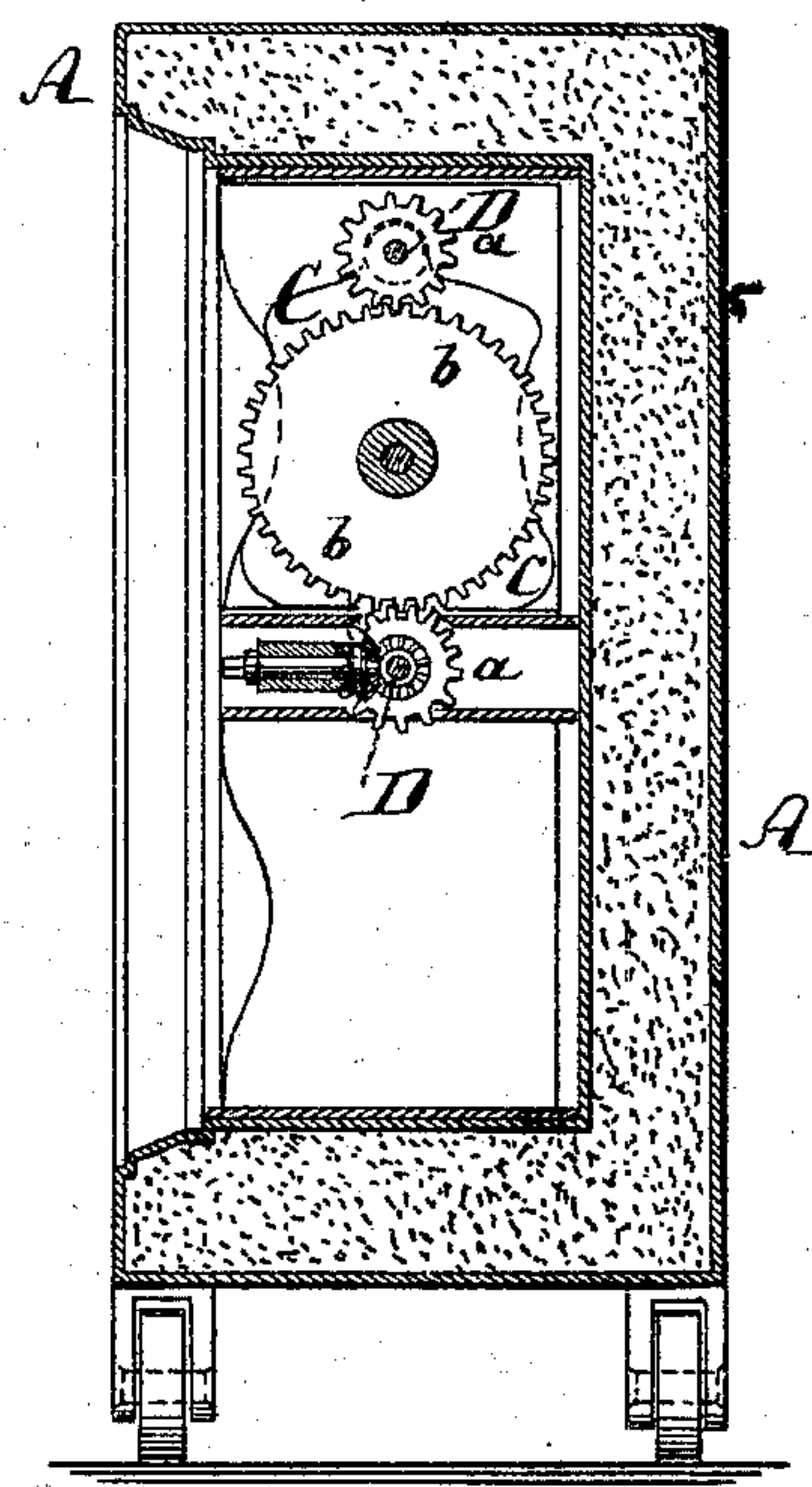


Fig. 4.

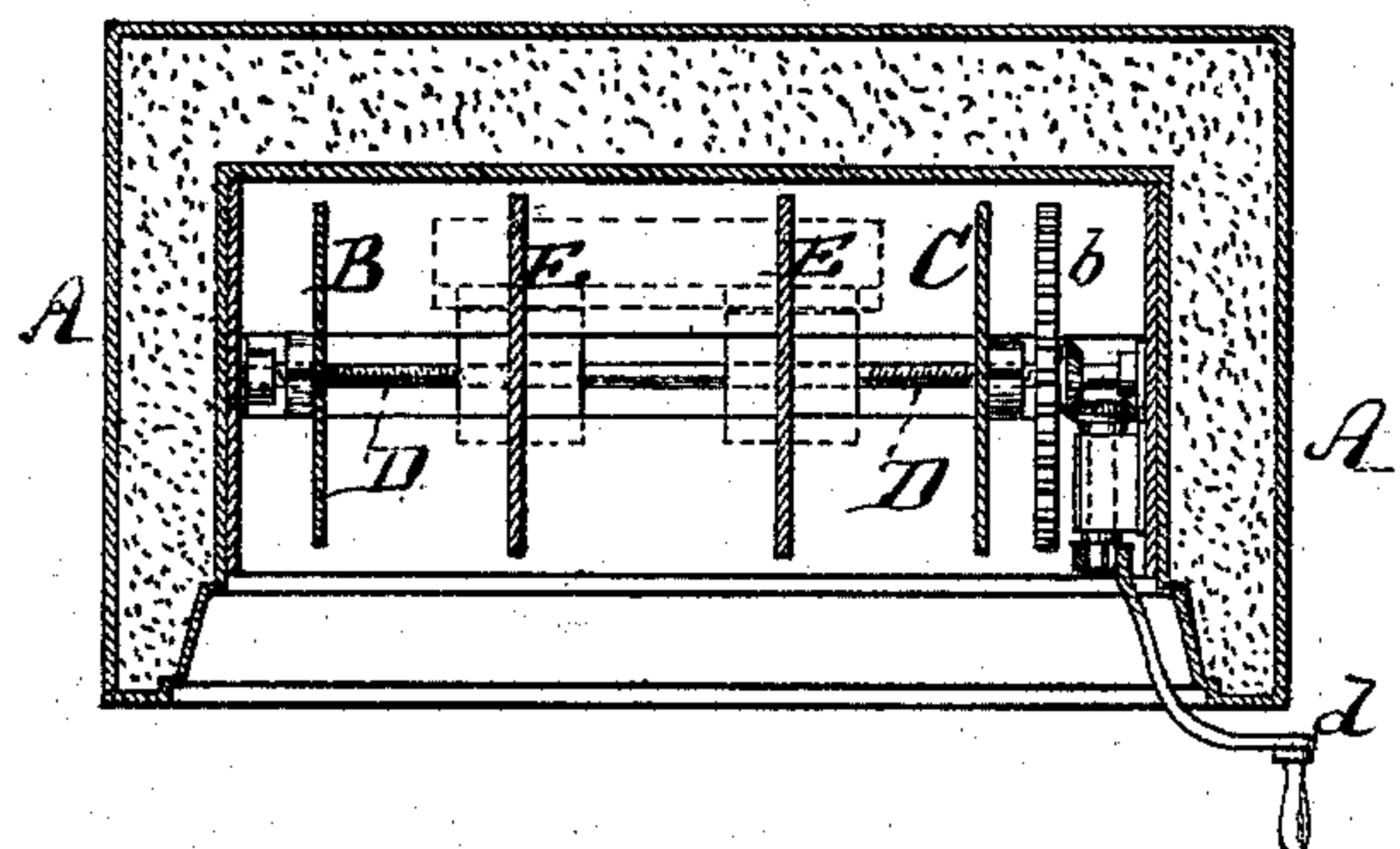
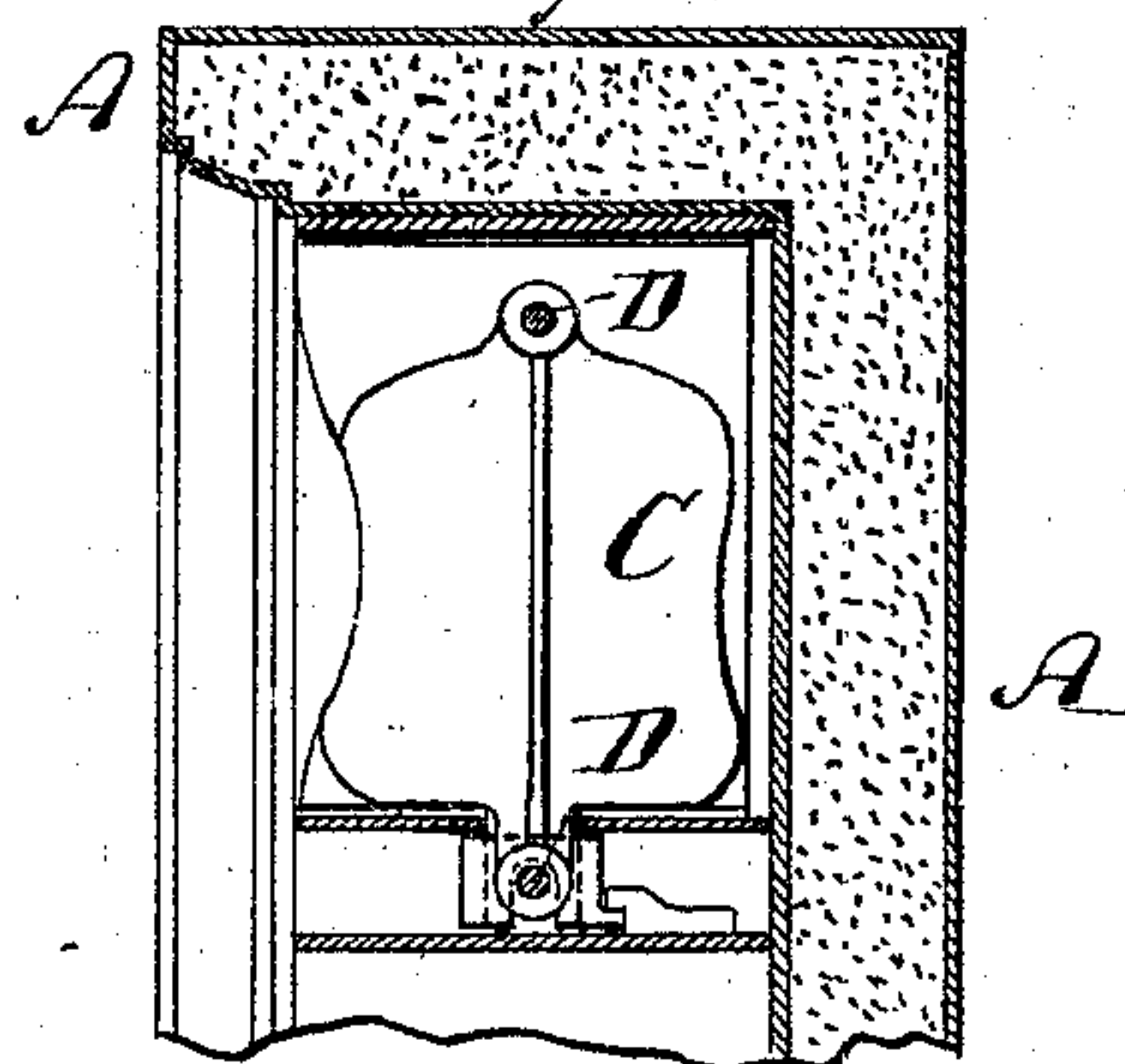


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
E. Webb
F. Priesen

Inventors:
C. Eurich
C. Raettig
by their attorney
A. V. Priesen

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTIAN EURICH, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, AND CHARLES RAETTIG,
OF STAPLETON, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FIRE-PROOF SAFES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **152,553**, dated June 30, 1874; application filed
June 1, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, CHRISTIAN EURICH, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, and CHARLES RAETTIG, of Stapleton, in the county of Richmond and State of New York, have invented an Improved Compressing Attachment to Fire-Proof Safes, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a front elevation, partly in section, of a fire-proof safe provided with our improved compressing attachment. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section of the same, taken on the plane of the line *c c*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section of the same, taken on the plane of the line *c k*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 4, a horizontal section of the same on the line *k k*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

The object of this invention is to provide fire-proof safes with an attachment, whereby their most valuable contents may be most positively protected against even the charring effect of great heat. Our invention consists in supplying a safe with a pair of parallel movable plates which, by means of screw-shafts, may be brought nearer to or farther away from each other, so that valuable books and papers may be firmly clamped between them, in order to exclude air from between the leaves of the compressed papers. The latter will then, even if exposed to a direct flame, be proof against its effects, as oxygen, necessary for combustion, cannot reach the leaves. Our invention also consists in combining with the movable plates of the press intermediate sliding plates, which will constitute adjustable partitions for the compressed books or papers, and increase the efficiency of the attachment.

In the drawing, the letter A represents the body of a fire-proof safe of ordinary or suitable construction. B and C are the two plates of the press, placed within the safe parallel to and in line with each other. These two plates

are suspended from screw-shafts D D, that are hung in the safe, the plates containing proper female screws where the shafts D pass through them. The two shafts D D are, by means of pinions *a a*, connected to a toothed wheel, *b*, which is hung in the safe, so that when said wheel is turned by a crank-handle, *d*, the two shafts will be revolved in the same direction, and with equal speed. The plates B and C will thereby be moved toward each other or apart, according to the direction in which the screws are turned.

The books or papers that are to be insured against all possible danger of fire are placed between the plates B C, and the latter are then screwed toward each other until they firmly compress the said books or papers.

In order to properly subdivide different sizes of books or papers, and different classes thereof, we arrange between the plates B C one or more sliding partitions, E E, which can be placed at any desired position with respect to each other and to B C, to divide the books that are in the press into lots of the required extent.

It is clear that our press may be used with like effect without being placed within a fire-proof safe, provided the plates B and C and the bars that connect them are made of fire-proof material.

We claim as our invention—

1. A press for protecting books and papers against fire by compression, composed of the two parallel movable plates B and C, which are connected with and hung on shafts D D, having right and left screw-threads, substantially as and for the purpose herein shown and described.

2. The sliding plates E E, arranged within a fire-proof press, B C, to serve as adjustable partitions, as described.

CHRISTIAN EURICH.
CHARLES RAETTIG.

Witnesses:

F. V. BRIESEN,
E. C. WEBB.