

O. SALLBACH.
MECHANICAL LEDGER.

No. 178,961.

Patented June 20, 1876.

Fig: 1.

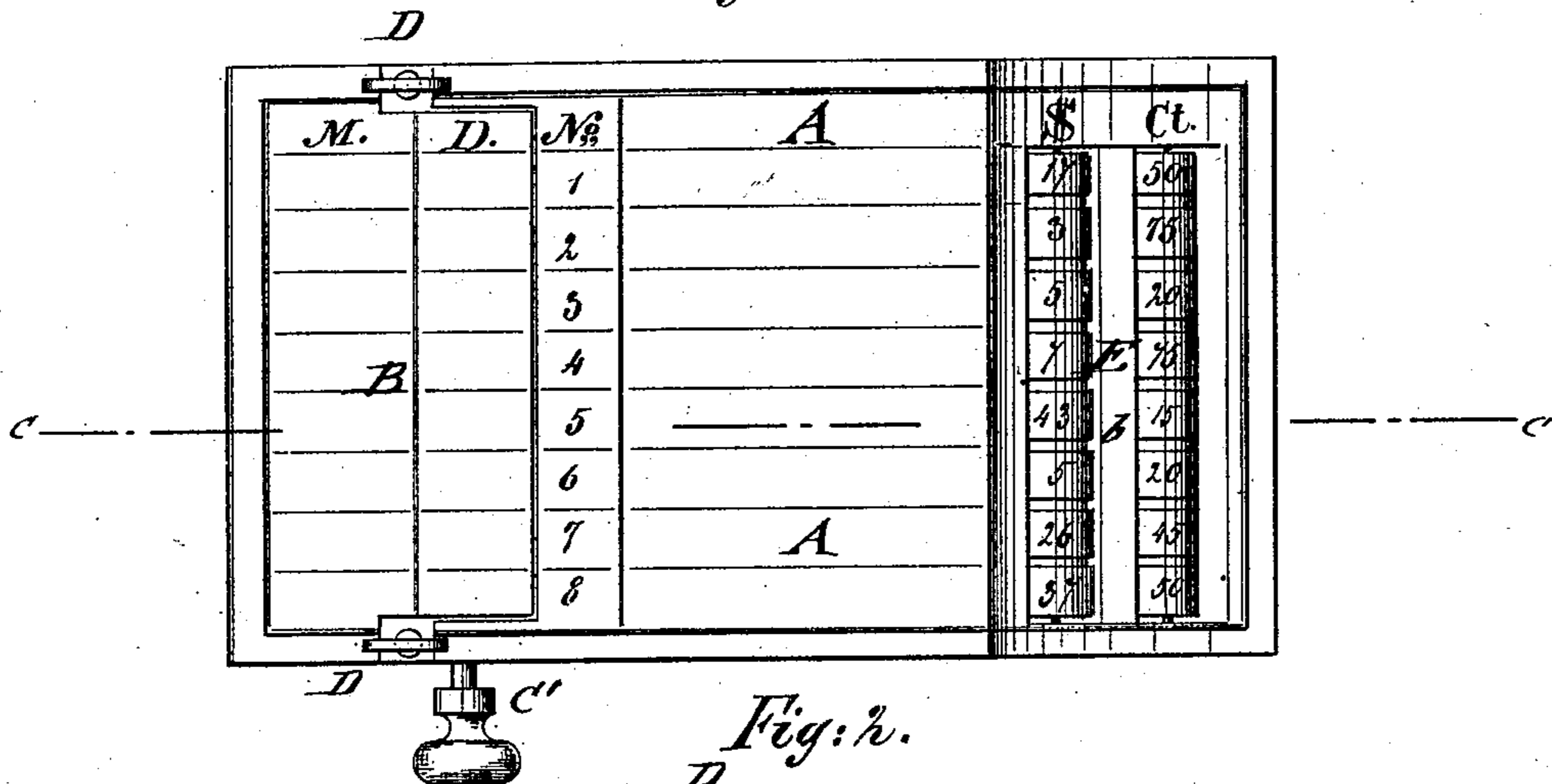


Fig: 2.

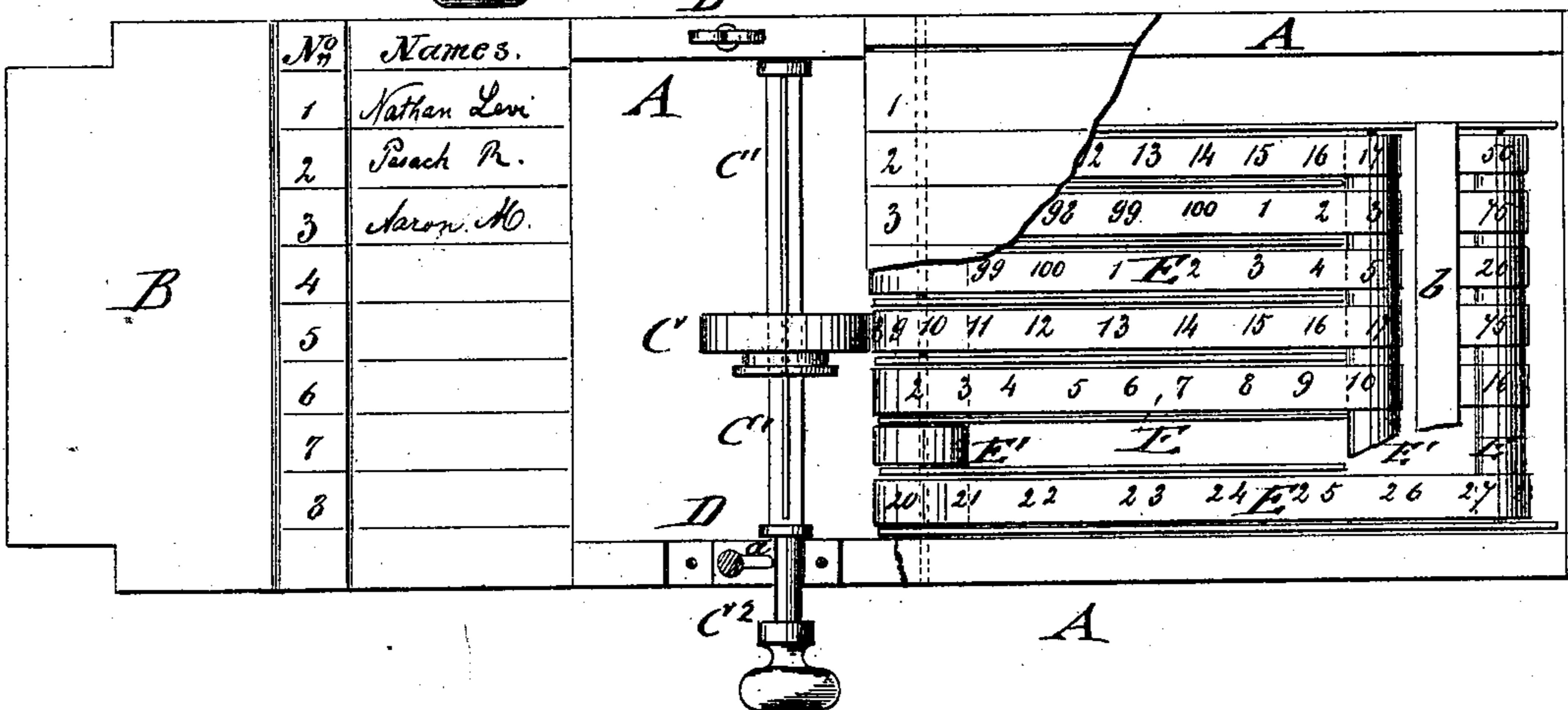
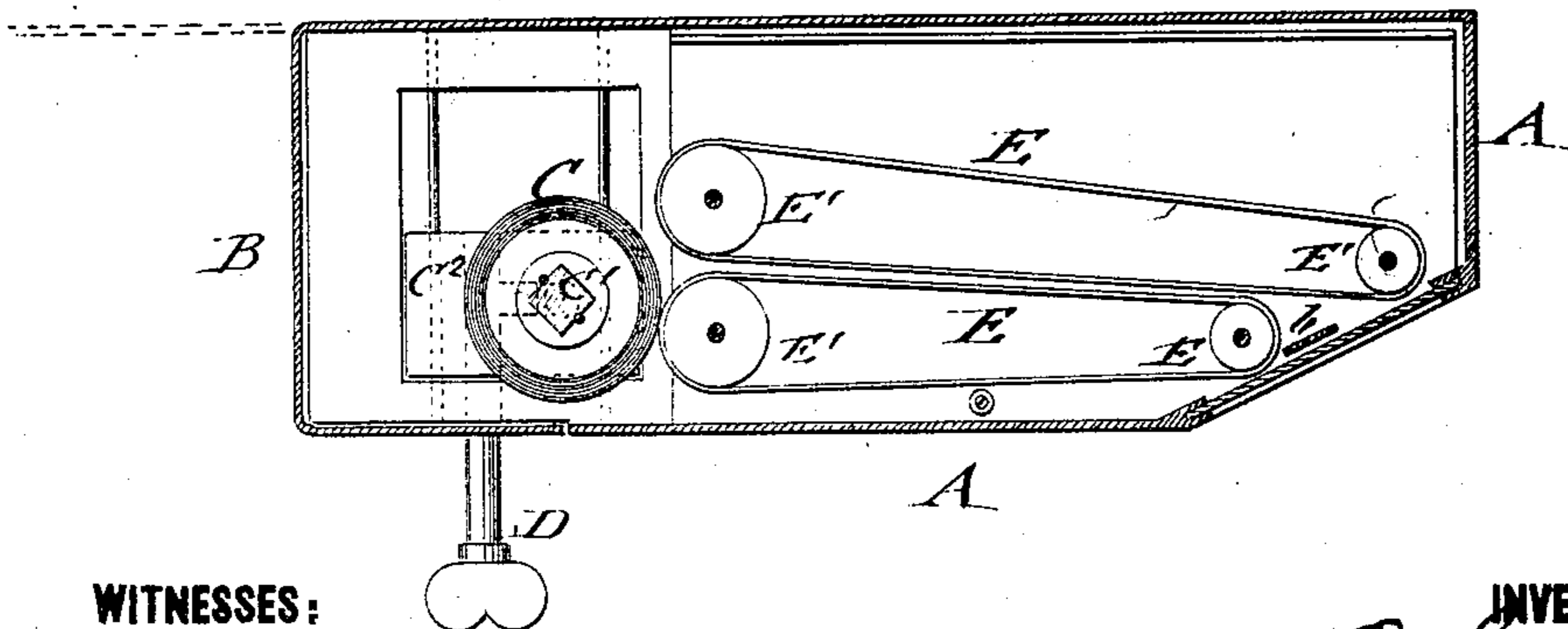


Fig: 3.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OTTO SALLBACH, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF
AND CHARLES RUHE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN MECHANICAL LEDGERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **178,961**, dated June 20, 1876; application filed
May 16, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OTTO SALLBACH, of Pittsburg, county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Mechanical Ledger, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figures 1 and 2 represent top views of my improved mechanical ledger, one in closed the other in open position, and Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same on line *cc*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention is intended as a mechanical device for business men to keep the accounts of the customers in a convenient manner without requiring any knowledge of book-keeping, the device being so hung up in the store that the customer may at any time see the exact state of his account.

The invention consists of a series of revolving strips, with numerals indicating dollars and cents, which strips are moved by an adjustable friction roller and shaft, the whole being inclosed in suitable manner.

In the drawing, A represents an oblong box of any suitable size, whose right-hand corner is broken off, and covered by a plate of glass. A door, B, at the opposite end of the box A, may be opened and closed when necessary, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The bottom of the box is provided with a slate, which may be taken out at pleasure, and upon which the different names and numbers are written, the same number and date being placed on the outer surface of the cover at places corresponding in position to the names below. A friction-wheel, C, is placed on a lateral spindle, C¹, that turns in suitable bearings C² of the box, the wheel being made to slide on the spindle or shaft, while it is fast thereon axially. The spindle is turned from the outside by a knob. The bearings C² slide in guide-recesses of the side walls of the box A, so that the wheel may be set into higher or lower position, suitable keys D serving to raise or lower the bearings. Lugs or tumblers *a* of the keys engage the shaft C¹ and carry the friction-wheel to one side toward a series of endless revol-

ving strips E, or to release it from the same. The strips E are stretched on rollers E', a suitable number of them, according to the size of the ledger, being arranged in the box. The strips are arranged in two groups, one above the other, the lower one extending beyond the upper, so that the ends of both are visible through the corner glass-plate. The strips are printed with numerals, which indicate dollars on one and cents on the other set. A lateral dividing-strip, *b*, is placed between the ends of the strips to admit the easier reading of the numbers sidewise of each other.

The amount is kept for each customer by entering his name to a certain number on the inside slate, and setting the printed strips to the exact number of dollars and cents by setting, first, the friction-wheel to move the lower strip, and then to the upper. The amount due will then be visible through the corner glass plate and indicate to the customer the state of his account, his number and date of last purchase only being placed on the outside. When the account-strips have been adjusted, the friction-wheel is released from contact with the strips, so that no accidental changing of the same is possible. If desired, the box may be enlarged to have a credit as well as a debit account by simply doubling the mechanism.

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

1. A mechanical ledger, composed of an adjustable friction-wheel and spindle, in connection with a series of endless revolving account-strips, substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of the spindle of the friction-wheel, turning in sliding bearings, with keys, having lugs to engage spindle and set or release friction-wheel from contact with account-strips, substantially as described and specified.

OTTO SALLBACH.

Witnesses:

PHILIP HOEUR,
E. WM. BUHL.