

(Model.)

J. H. & T. D. MORRIS.

COMBINATION LOCK.

No. 269,954.

Patented Jan. 2, 1883.

Fig. 1.

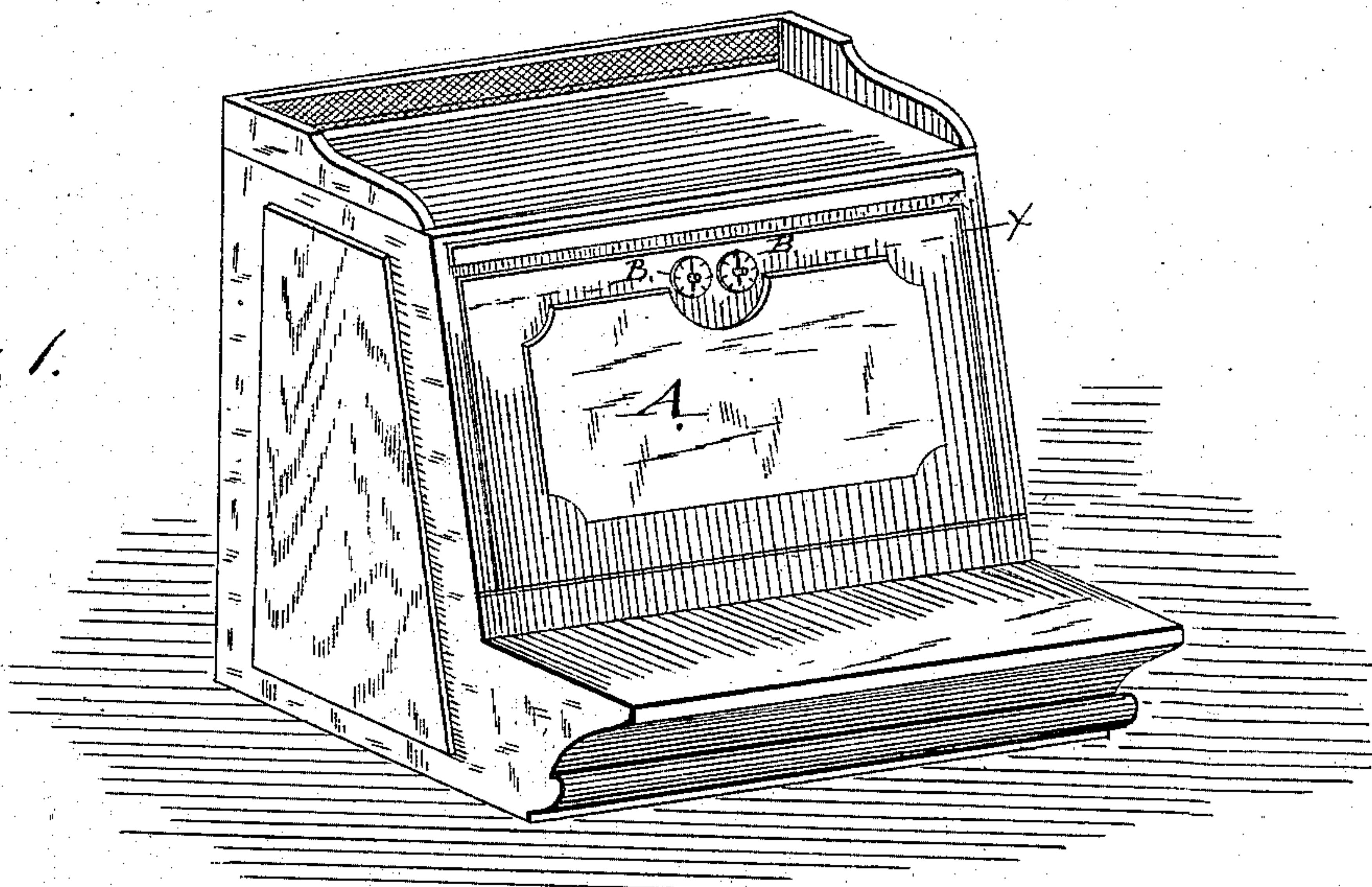


Fig. 2.

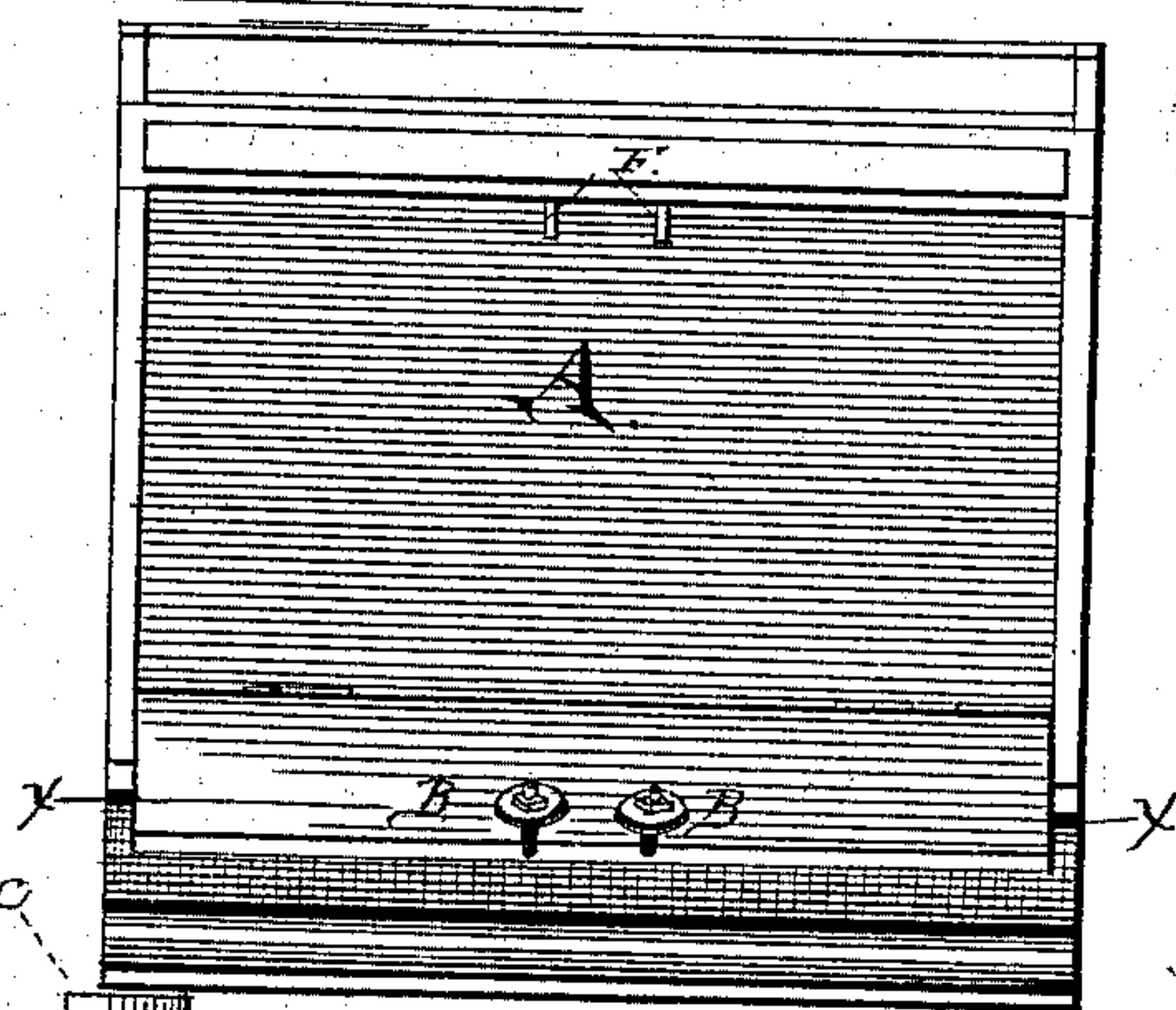


Fig. 3.

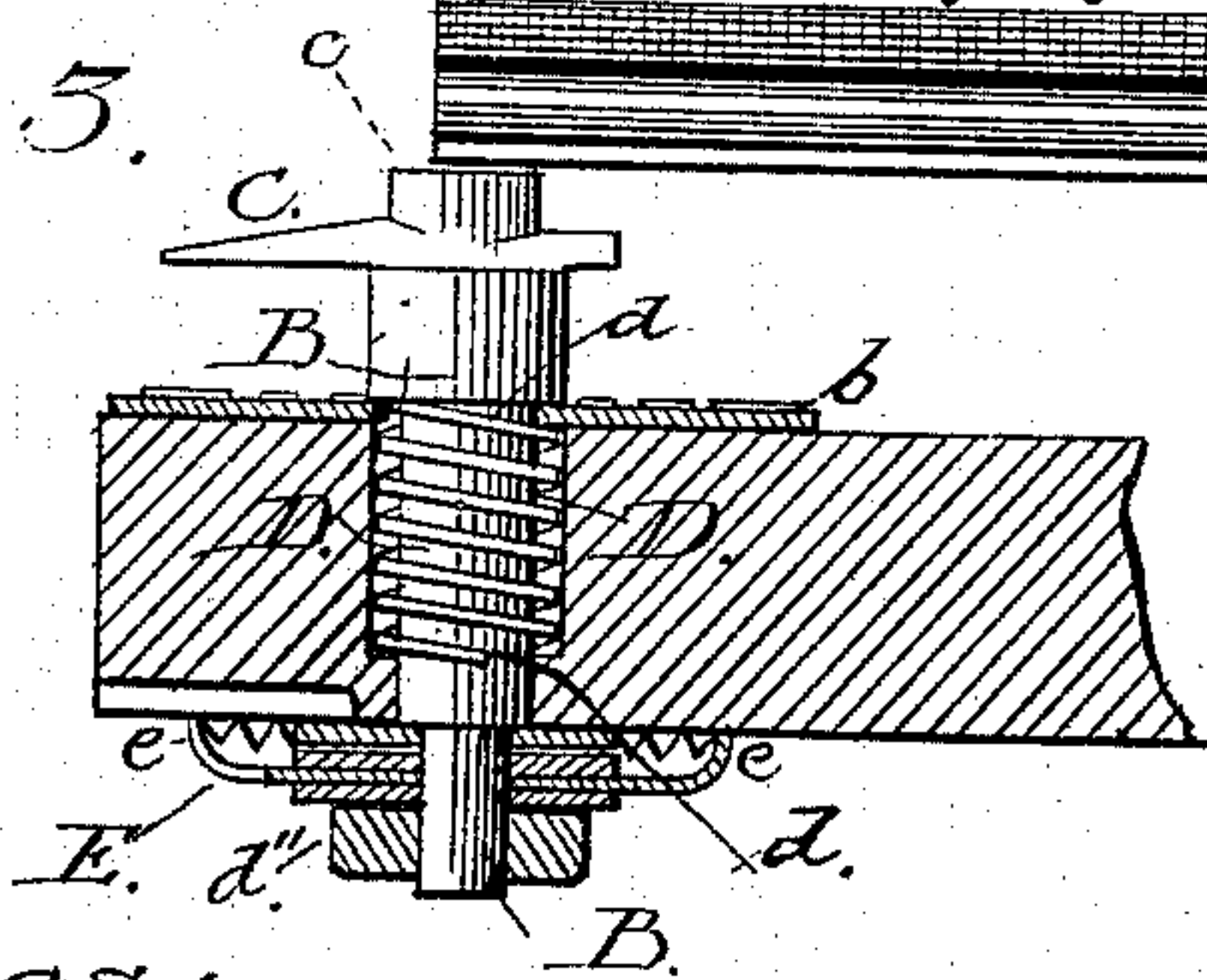
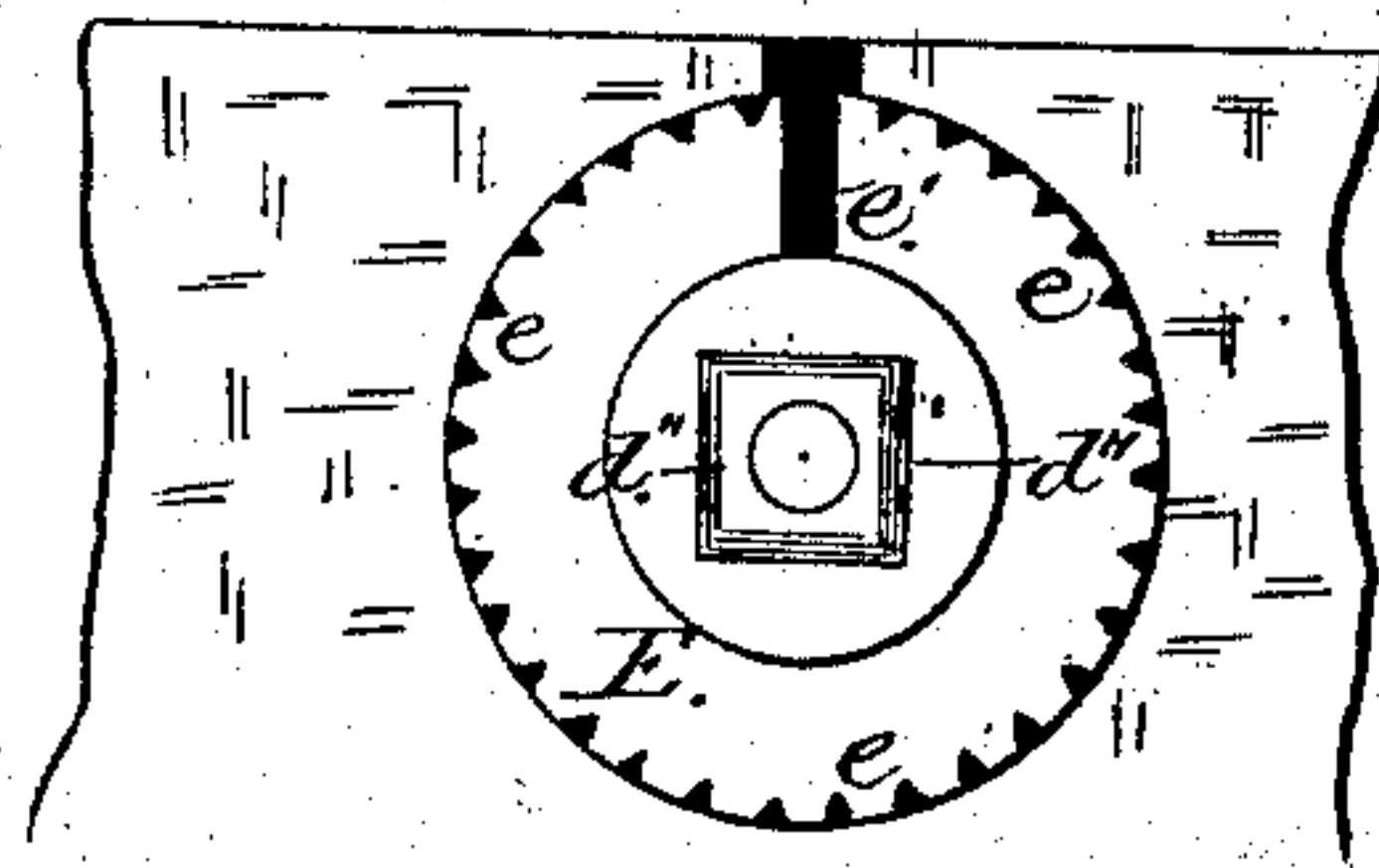


Fig. 4.



Witnesses;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. MORRIS AND THOMAS D. MORRIS, OF SEWARD, NEBRASKA.

COMBINATION-LOCK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 269,954, dated January 2, 1883.

Application filed May 15, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN H. MORRIS and THOMAS D. MORRIS, of Seward, in the county of Seward and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combination-Locks, of which the following is a clear, full, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet with our improved combination-lock attached. Fig. 2 is same view with the door opened. Fig. 3 is a section through *xx* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an inside view of locking device.

Our invention relates to that class of locks which depend upon a combination of figures in order to be released or unfastened; and it consists in a combination of devices hereinafter described and claimed.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe the exact manner in which we have carried it out.

In the drawings, A represents a cabinet with our improved lock attached thereto. This lock is constructed with the spindle B, which passes through the door, and around the aperture is secured, to the outside of the door, the escutcheon-dial *b*, stamped with any desired figures. On the end of the spindle is formed the index C, and outside of this extends a flattened portion, *c*, of the shank, by means of which the spindle of the lock is readily turned in the aperture. Around the spindle and inclosed within the aperture is a coiled spring, D, the inner end of which is secured to the spindle at *d*, while the loose end rests upon the shoulder *d'* within the aperture. The purpose of this spring will be hereinafter explained. On the inner end of the spindle is secured, by a screw-nut, *d''*, a thin circular metal locking-plate, E, provided on its periphery with the serrated flange *e*, and having a radial slot, *e'*, through which the catch F on the door-facing passes whenever it is desired to fasten the door. The plate E lies sufficiently close to the inner face of the door to allow the teeth of the serrated flange *e* to nearly or quite touch

the door, being kept in this position by means of interposed washers. By pressing upon the outer end of the spindle the coiled spring yields and allows the spindle B to pass through the door sufficiently far to remove the serrated flange from contact with the door, so as to admit the catch F to pass between the face of the door and the teeth of the flange. When pressure is removed from the spindle the spring assumes its normal condition; the catch is held by the teeth in any desired position.

The operation of our lock is as follows: With the slots in both of the plates E arranged immediately opposite the catches F, so that on shutting the door the catches will pass through these slots, adjust the index C on each spindle so as to point to any desired number or figure on the escutcheon. For instance, fix one index pointing to the figure 5 and the other to the figure 7. When thus arranged, secure the parts in position by the screw-nut *d'*. Now press upon the spindles so as to pass the teeth of the plates E beyond the catches F, and turn the spindles to remove the slots away from their position opposite the catches, and the door is locked, and it is evident that it cannot be unlocked again until each spindle is brought back to the original combination—five and seven. The combination may be on any two numbers or any space between numbers. The ordinary mode used in trying to discover a combination of this kind is defeated by the use of the teeth on the serrated flange, as these render it almost impossible to detect the slots by gently moving the plates around. To move the plates it becomes necessary to depress the spring, and when that is done the catch does not come in contact with the plate, and its slot cannot therefore be discovered. This secures to the public a very simple and effective combination-lock, which will answer all the ordinary purposes for which combination-locks are used, and one which is not easily to be thrown out of order, while an endless number of combinations may be made and any number of spindles and dials may be used.

Having thus described our invention, what

we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 In a combination-lock, the spindle B, provided with the index C and spring D, in combination with the escutcheon-dial *b*, plate E, provided with the serrated flange *e* at a right angle thereto, and radial slot *e'*, and catch F upon the door-facing, all constructed to oper-

ate substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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