

(No Model.)

G. GREBE.
BURGLAR TRAP.

No. 308,488.

Patented Nov. 25, 1884.

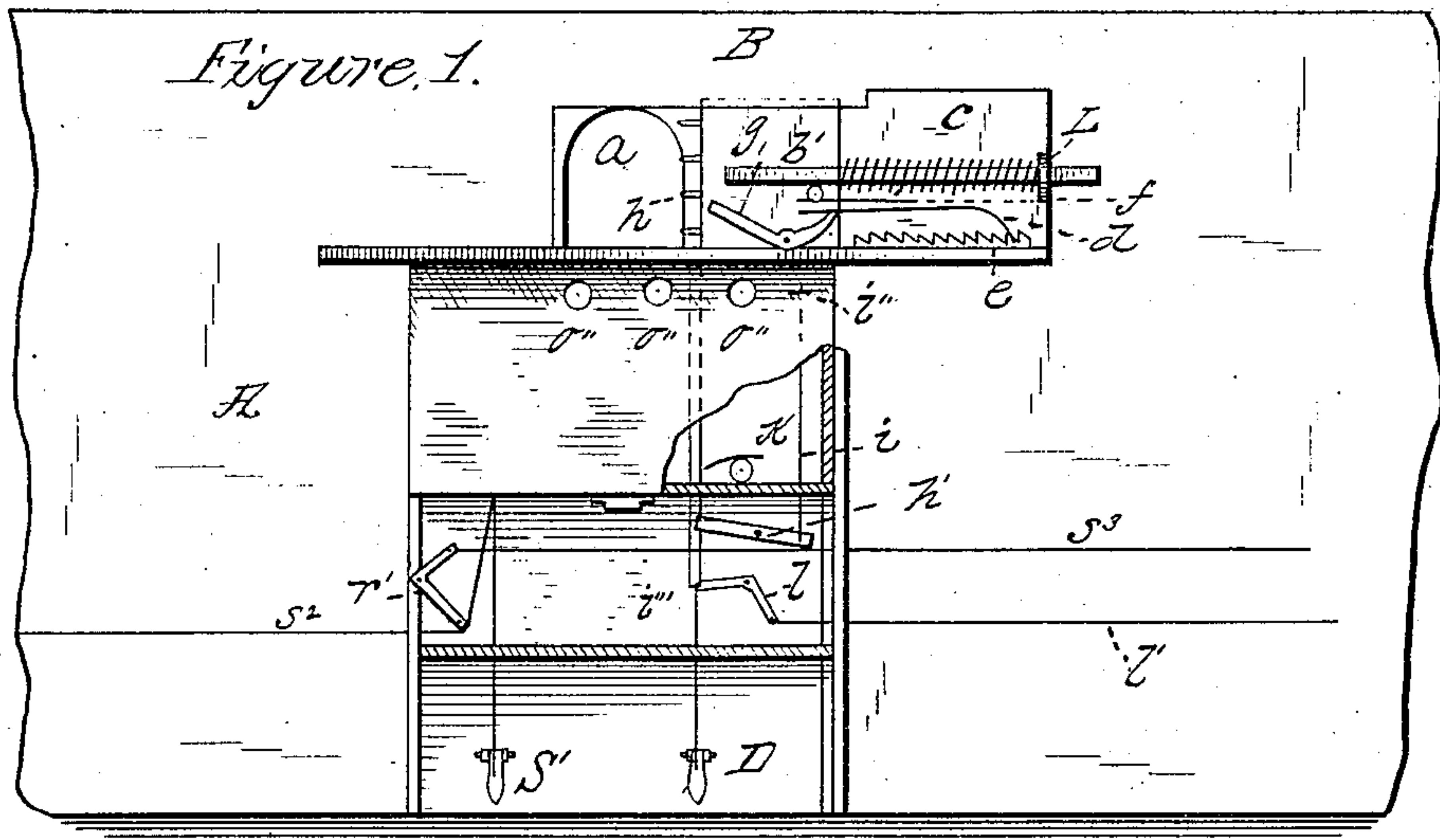


Figure 3.

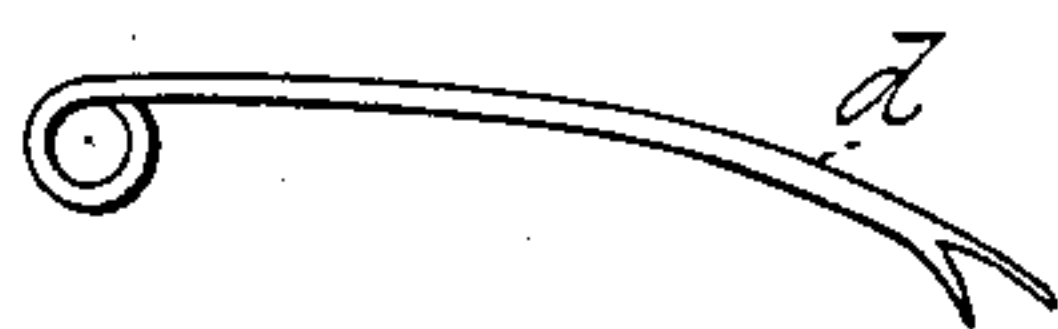
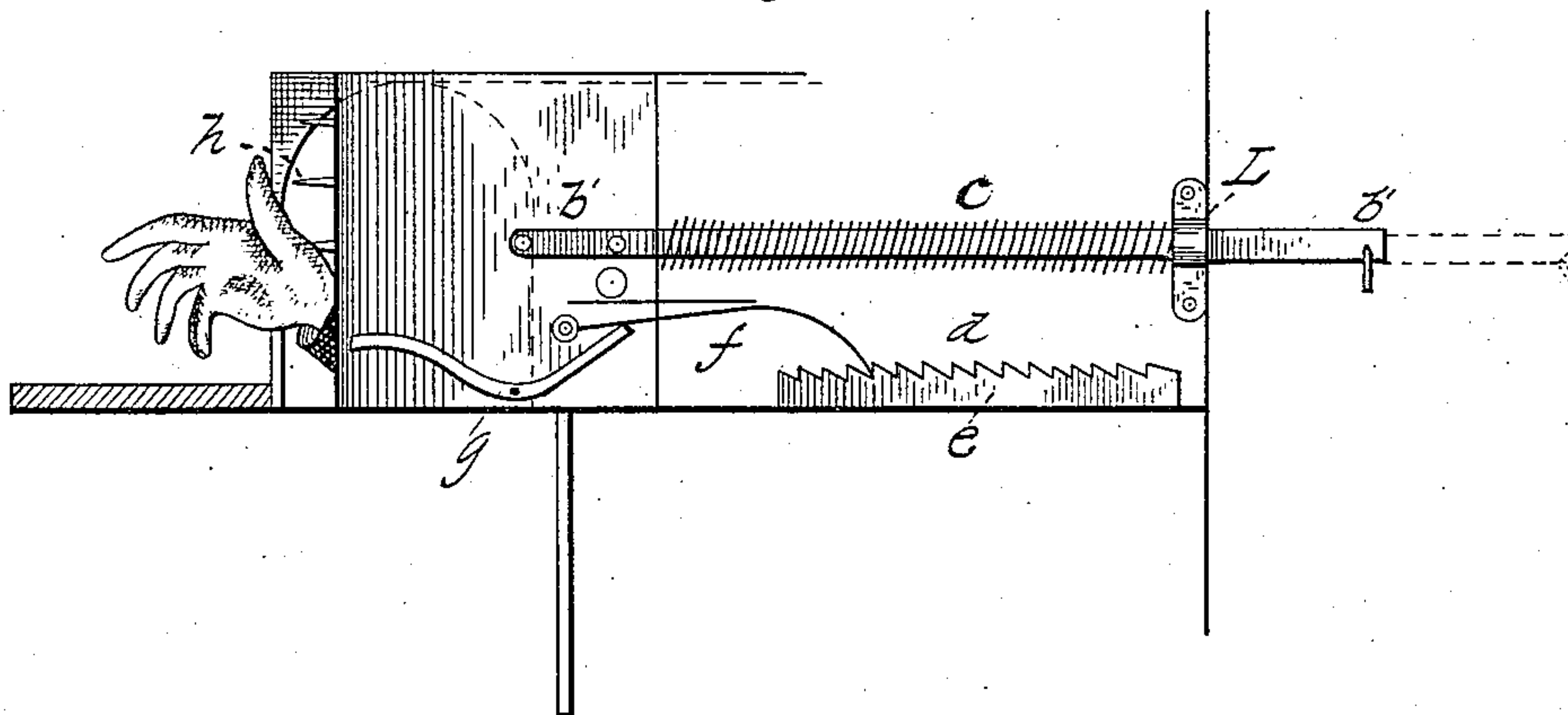


Figure 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE GREBE, OF DE WITT, NEBRASKA.

BURGLAR-TRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 308,488, dated November 25, 1884.

Application filed May 3, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE GREBE, of De Witt, in the county of Saline and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar-Traps and Systems for Preventing Bank Robberies; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

I have devised suitable apparatus for erection in banks, dwellings, baggage-cars, stores, and such like places for entrapping thieves in their attempt at robbery; and my present invention relates to novel mechanism by which a sliding door by suitable operation is made to automatically close over the space it is designed to cover and entrap the hand or arm of a person in the attempt at theft being made by reaching through from without.

The invention consists, substantially, in the construction of parts and their combination and arrangement with respect to each other, as will hereinafter be distinctly described.

I have illustrated my invention in connection with the apparatus hereinbefore referred to as devised for erection in banks, &c., and Figure 1 represents a vertical front elevation of the same, partly broken away, and with a portion removed, showing the mechanism for operating the sliding door, either by the hands or feet, and also showing wire connections by which the same can be operated from a distant point. Fig. 2 is an enlarged front elevation of the sliding door and its operative mechanism, and Fig. 3 is a view in detail of the pawl or detent by which the door is prevented from being opened from without.

Reference being had to the several parts by letters, A represents the frame-work or casing in which the several parts are suitably arranged to operate, as hereinafter set forth.

B represents the partition or screen, dividing, say, for instance, a cashier's department from the main room of a bank or store, and is provided with an opening or cash-window, *a*, designed to be covered by the door when closed. Arranged to one side of said cash-window, and moving in suitable guideways

prepared on the inside of the partition, is the spring-actuated sliding door *b*, which closes over and across the cash-window. The operative mechanism of said door consists of a rod or bar, *b'*, secured at one end to the door, while its opposite end is free to move in and out of a guide, *L*, on the partition, a coiled spring, *c*, located on said bar and bearing between the guide *L* and the outer edge of the door, the said spring being compressed when the door is drawn back or opened and expanded when the same is closed, a forked detent or pawl, *d*, engaging the teeth of a ratchet-bar, *e*, when the door is closed, thereby preventing it from being opened from without, the said detent being pivoted to the door, as shown, and the ratchet-bar arranged to one side thereof, a spring, *f*, arranged on the inner side of the door and bearing downward on the pawl *d*, to keep it in engagement with the ratchet-bar, and a lever, *g*, having its fulcrum or said door beneath the pawl *d*, by which the said pawl is lifted free of its engagement with the ratchet-bar, thereby permitting the door to be opened. The door is provided with spikes or teeth *h* (see Fig. 2) by which the hand of the thief is caught in an attempt to reach through.

Extending up from beneath a shaft or other structure located at the window is a rod, *C*, whose upper end comes up behind the door when it is opened to its fullest extent, and serves to maintain it thereat. This rod has a projection at its lower end, against which rests the shorter arm of a crank or lever, *h'*, whose opposite or free end connects with a wire or rope, *i*, that is in turn connected at its opposite end with a bell-crank. (Not shown.) Attached to this bell-crank is another wire, (also not shown,) that extends out through the front of the apparatus and terminates in a ring or pull, *i''*. The free end of a spring, *k*, that is secured to the inside of the frame, as shown, passes through the upright rod *C*, and serves, when the upright rod has been drawn downward, to always restore it. By pulling the wire *i''* the larger arm of the crank or lever *h'* is by the described connections elevated, thus causing the shorter arm to bear or pull the rod *C* downward. In doing this the door is released, and is strongly closed by the reaction of the coiled spring *c*, the spring *k* re-

storing the rod. This rod works slightly side-wise in a slot, so that in opening the door it is moved aside and the door passes over it, but always coming up behind the door to prevent it closing until operated upon, as just described. The rod C has also connected with it at the lower end a wire, *i'''*, that is operated to close the door by a treadle, D, in like manner as the other way. Similarly, a bell-crank, *l*, connects with it, by which the same operation can, through the medium of a wire, *l'*, be performed from a distant point.

The operation of my invention will be well understood from the foregoing description.

15 Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination, with the door *b*, having the spikes, of the bar secured thereto, its free end moving in guide L, a coiled spring located on said bar, a ratchet-bar, *e*, and a forked detent engaging the same, a spring secured to the door and bearing on the detent,

and a lever fulcrumed beneath said detent, the rod C, for holding the door in an open position, and lever *h'*, resting against a projection thereon, and wires extending from said rod, whereby the door may be operated, substantially as set forth and described. 25

2. The combination, with the door *b*, the bar secured thereto, its free end moving in guide L, and a coiled spring located on said bar, of the rod C, formed with a projection at or near its lower end, the pivoted lever *h'*, bearing on said projection, spring *k*, whose free end passes through an opening in said rod, bell-cranks *l* and *r'*, and foot-treadle D, all arranged to operate substantially as set forth and described. 30 35

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE GREBE.

Witnesses:

EDWARD E. ELLIS,
O. E. DUFFY.