

(No Model.)

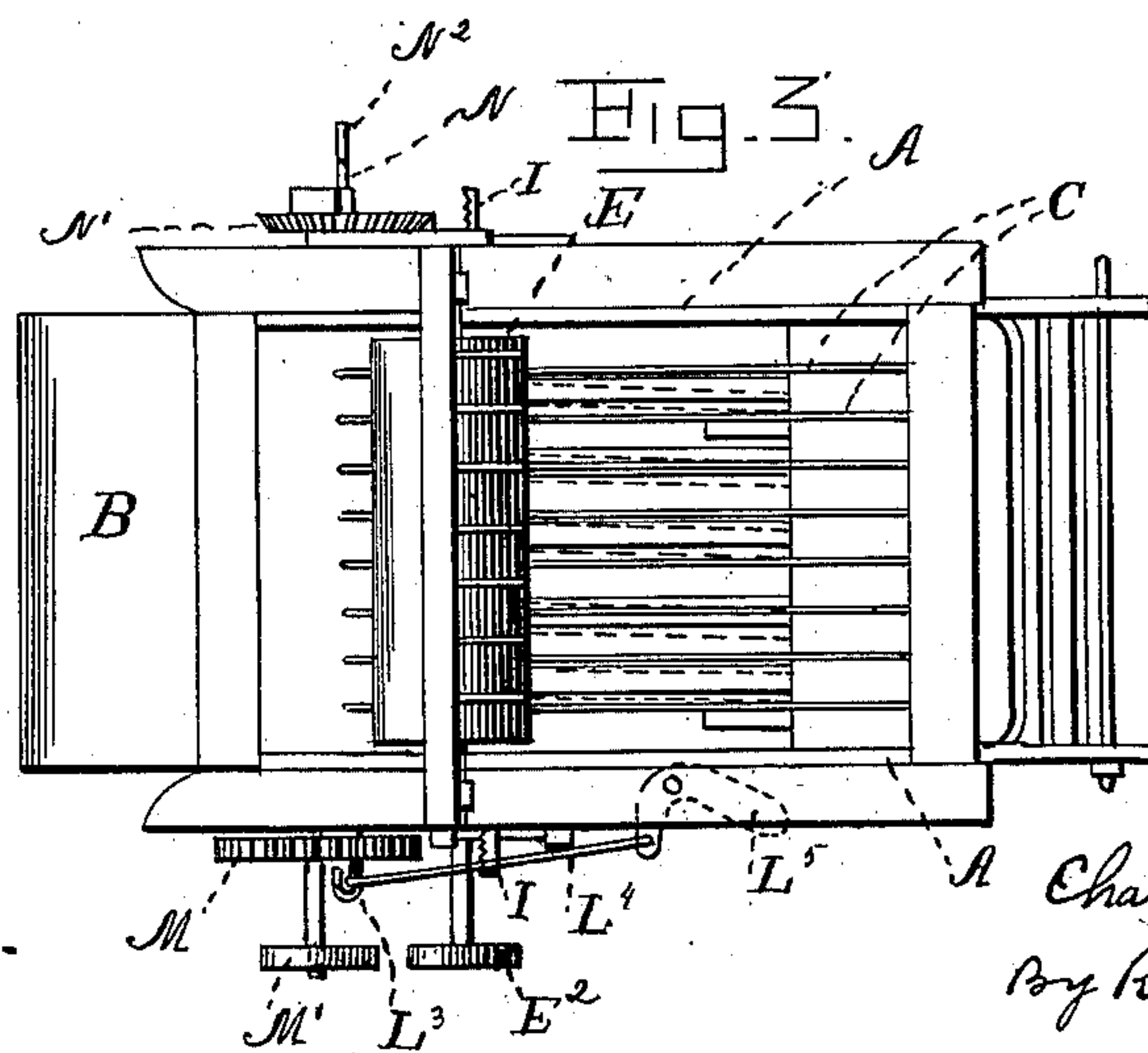
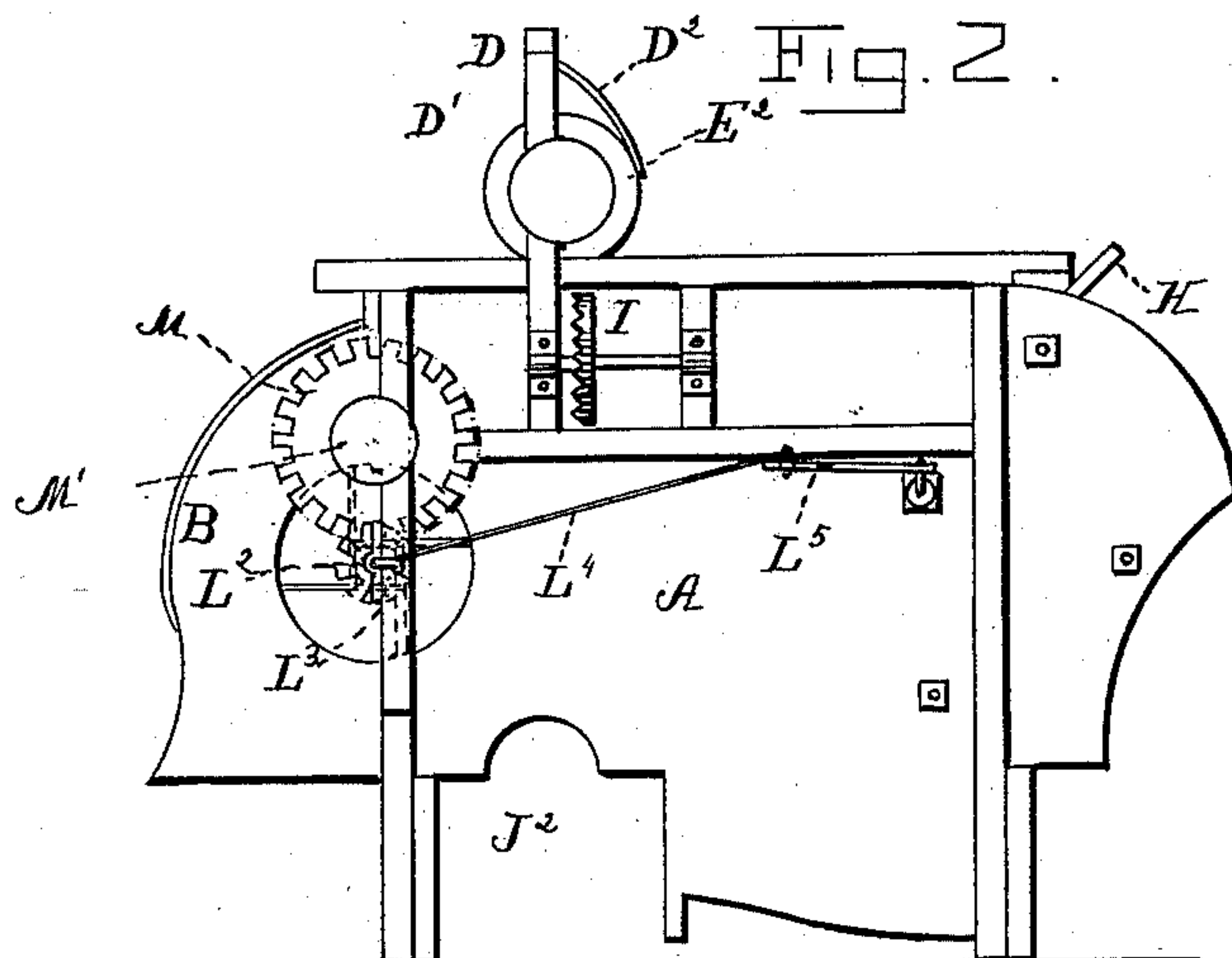
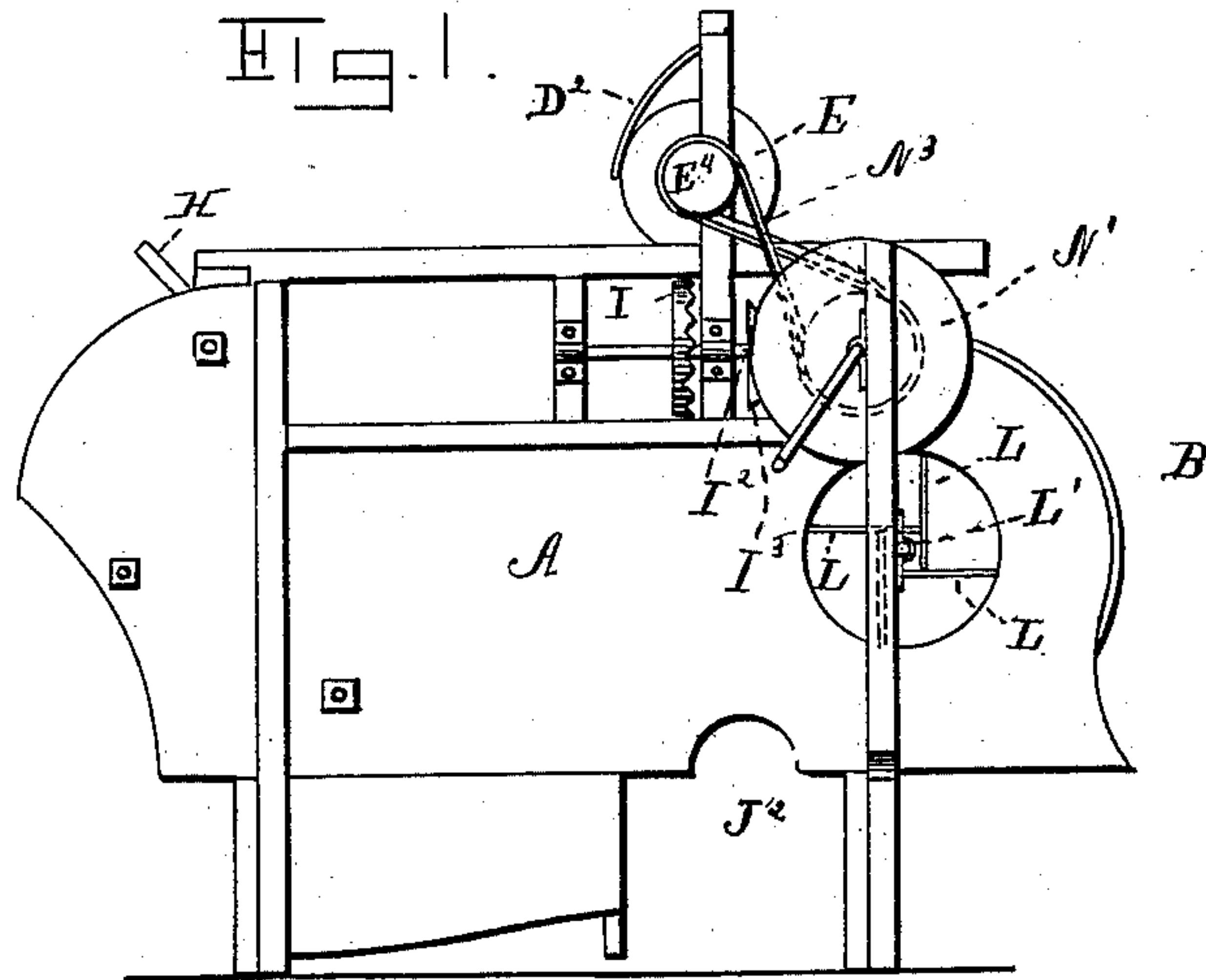
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C. W. NICHOLSON.

PEANUT STRIPPER.

No. 308,690.

Patented Dec. 2, 1884.



WITNESSES
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P. B. Turpin

INVENTOR
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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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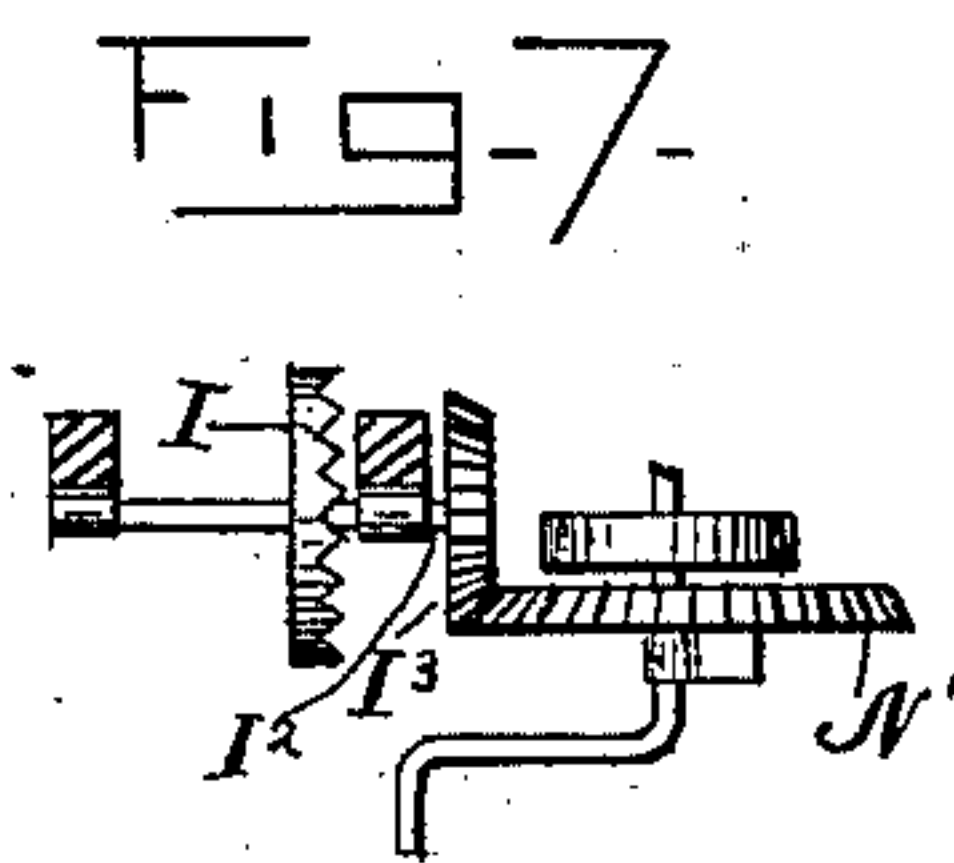
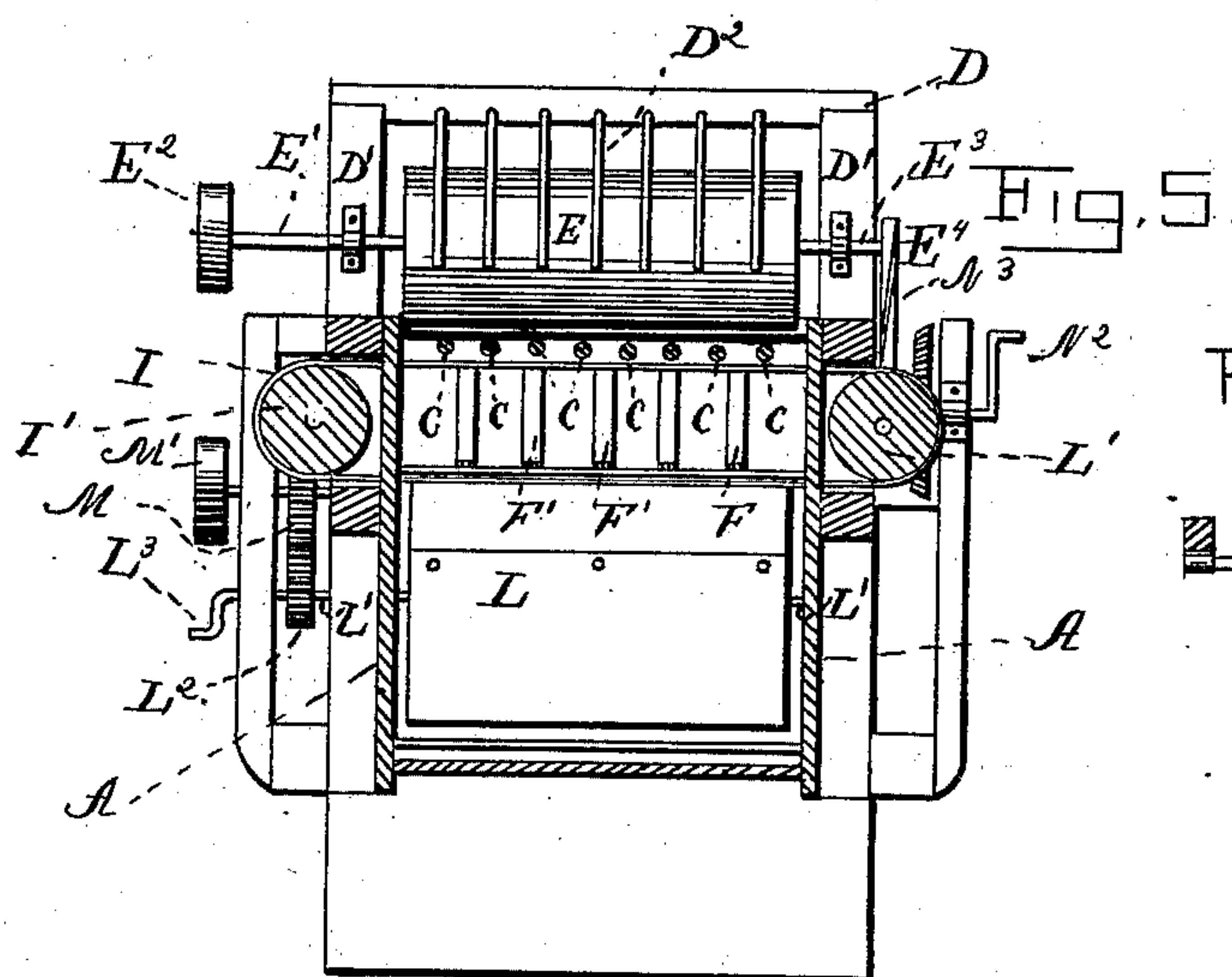
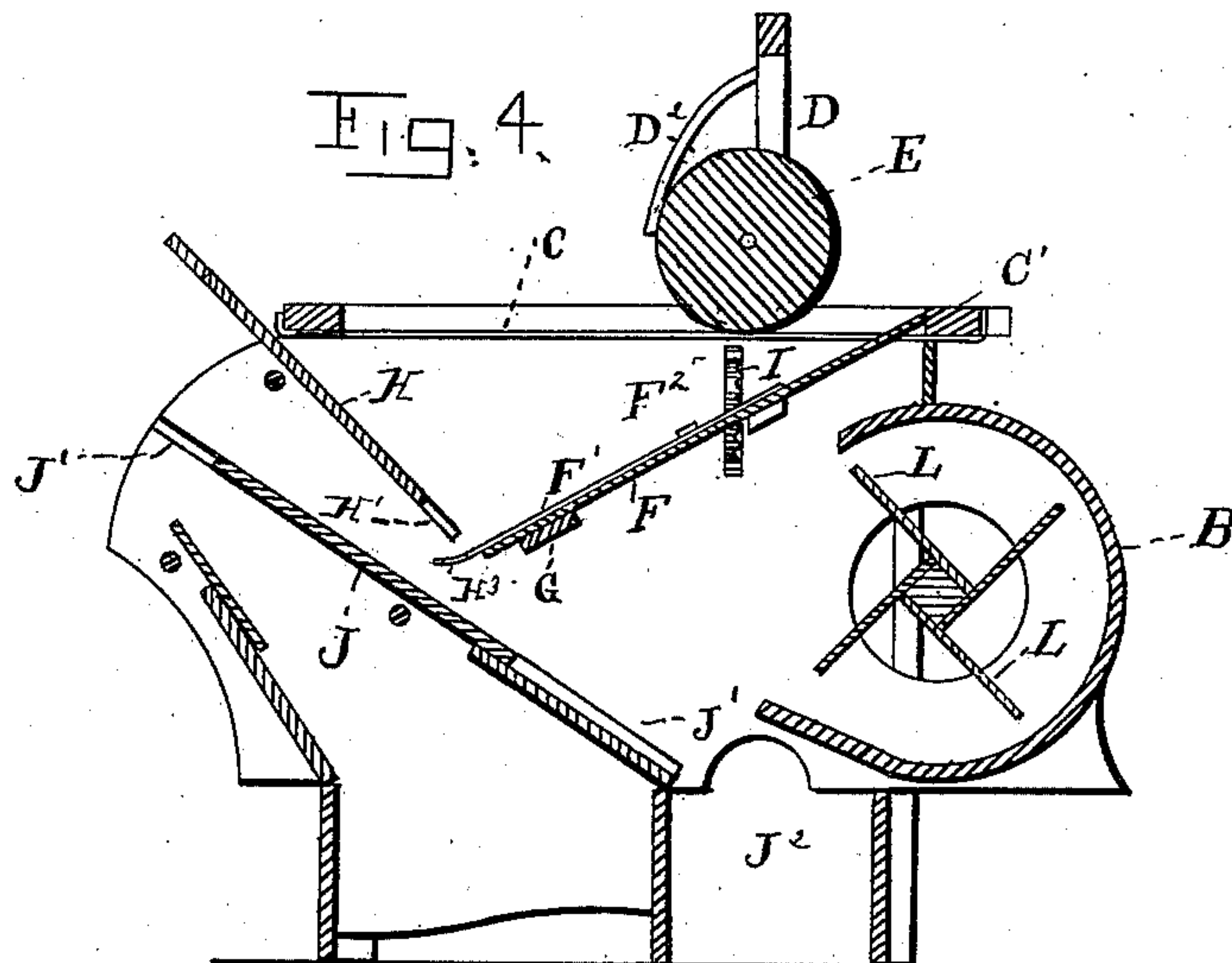
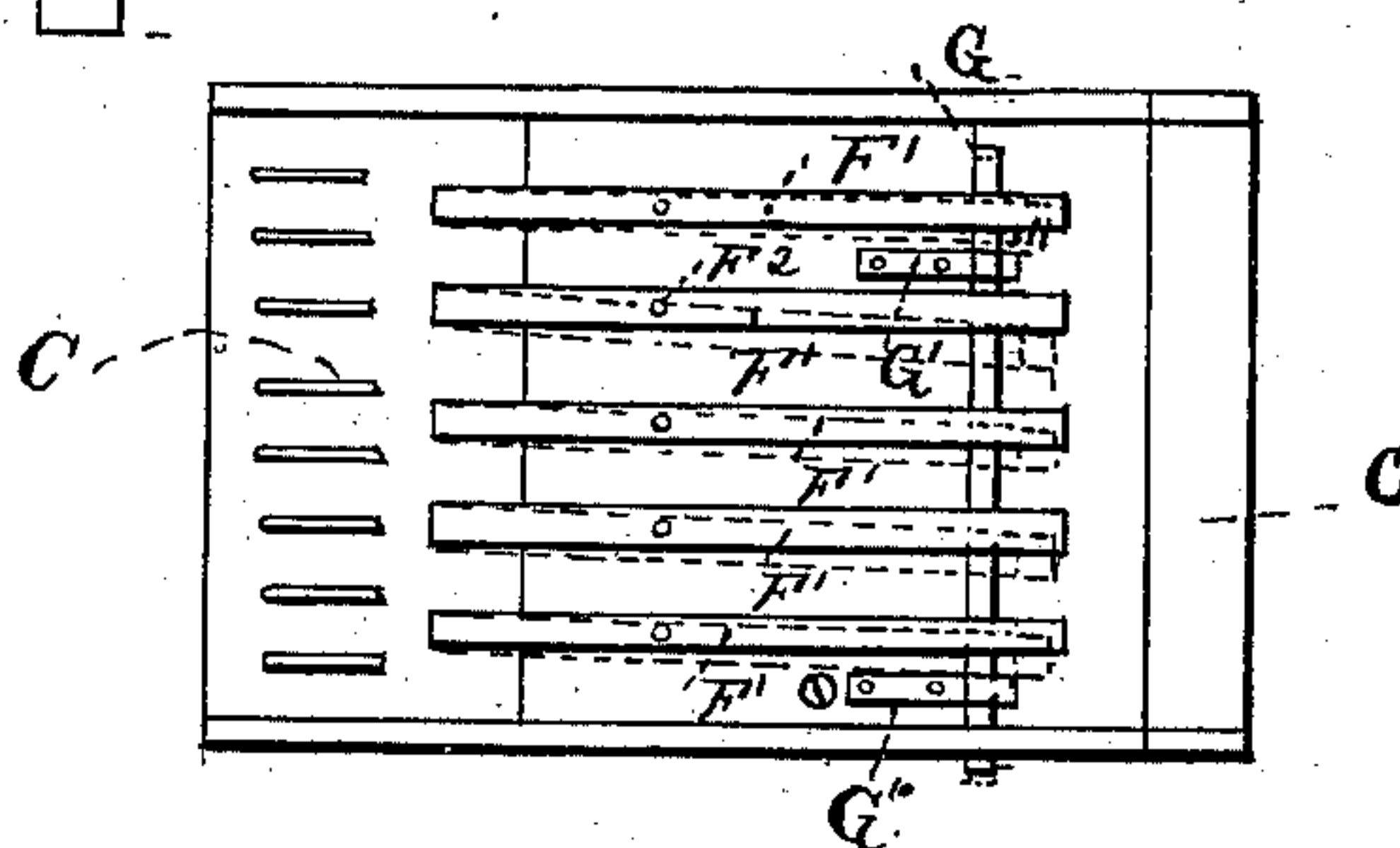


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES WESLEY NICHOLSON, OF ASSAMOOSICK, VIRGINIA.

PEANUT-STRIPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 308,690, dated December 2, 1884.

Application filed May 31, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. NICHOLSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Assamoosick, in the county of Southampton and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Peanut-Strippers; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as 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 and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to vine and seed strippers, and is intended especially for use in separating peanuts from the vines; and it consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are elevations of the opposite sides of the machine. Fig. 3 is a plan view of same. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section; Fig. 5, a vertical transverse section of my machine. Fig. 6 is a detail view of the agitator-table, and Fig. 7 is a detail plan view of the saw-operating mechanism, all of which will be presently described.

The main casing of my machine is composed of the side boards, A A, and the fan-case B, arranged between the boards A A at one end. On the casing I mount or form the separating-frame, composed of wires or other suitable rods, C, extended between the end top bars, C' C', and parallel with the sides A A. The fan-case is arranged at what, for convenience of reference, I term the "front" of my machine. An arch-frame, D, is mounted on the casing near the front end of the machine, and has journaled in its standards D' the roller E. The trunnion or shaft E' of this roller is extended, and has on its outer end the pulley E². The trunnion E³ has a pulley, E⁴, secured on its outer end. Cleaners D² have one end secured to the top bar of the arch-frame, and their other ends bear against the roller and clear same of any vines that may be carried up thereby. I make these cleaners of spring rods or wires having a tension at their lower ends

toward or against the rollers, so as to clear therefrom vines or nuts that may be carried up by the said rollers. The roller E moves close to or against the rods C, and serves as a feed and presser roller in the operation of the machine. The agitator-table F is extended between the sides A, and has one end arranged close under the front end of the separating rod-frame, and is inclined thence downward and to the rear, its lower end resting nearly under the rear end of the separating-frame. The agitator-bars F' are arranged on the table in longitudinal line therewith, and are pivotally secured near their upper ends to said table at F², as shown. These bars are secured at their lower ends to a connecting-bar, G, held by keepers G', formed, preferably, of metallic strips secured at one end on the upper side of the table F, and bent around the bar G, and secured at their lower ends to the under side of the said table F, to the lower edge of the agitator-table, so the said bar G may be moved longitudinally, in order to give the agitator the desired oscillatory movement indicated in Figs. 3 and 6. I extend the agitators beyond the connecting-bar, forming the fingers H³, which extend under the guide-board H. This guide-board is inclined in opposite direction to the agitator-table, and is held in slots H', formed in the inner faces of the sides A. The board H may, it will be seen, be adjusted in these slots to any suitable position toward the lower end of the agitator-frame. The grooves terminate close over the fingers H³. A saw, I, is arranged to operate close below the separating-rods at a point approximately vertically under the roller. The toothed edge of this saw is toward the front or feed end of the machine. The main broad object is to provide a saw for cutting the nuts from the stems, and the saw may be made with its ends detached and be operated horizontally in any desired way. By preference, however, I make the saw in the band form shown, pass it around the agitating-table, and support it on the pulleys I' I', journaled on the sides of the casing. The shaft I² of one of these pulleys is extended, and has keyed on it the bevel-pinion I³, whereby the saw is driven in the manner presently described.

An inclined return-board, J, is arranged under the lower end of the agitator-table, preferably in grooves J', in such manner as to direct the nuts into the space J², while the dust and dirt will be blown out between boards J and H by the fan L. This fan is arranged in the case B, and has its shaft L' extended on one side and provided with the pinion L². A crank, L³, is formed on the shaft L', and is connected by pitman L⁴ with one arm of a bell-crank, L⁵, the other arm of which is connected with bar G, so as to reciprocate said bar and oscillate the agitators in the operation of the machine. The pinion L² is meshed with gear M. The shaft of gear M has a pulley, M'. A shaft, N, is journaled in the framing at right angles to the axis of the bevel-pinion I³, and this shaft N has on it the bevel-gear N', meshed with and adapted to revolve the pinion I³. This shaft N may have a hand-crank, N², (shown,) or a band-pulley or other expedient whereby to facilitate the application of power, as will be understood from the drawings. A pulley is secured on the shaft N in line with pulley E⁴, and is connected therewith, as shown by belt N³. By connecting the pulleys E² and M' by belt I complete the gearing of the machine, so all parts are driven from a single source of application of power.

I do not desire to be limited in the broad features of my invention by the particular form or arrangement of the gearing employed, as such may manifestly be varied in many ways without departing from said broad principles.

The operation of my machine is simple, and will be readily understood from the description before given. As the vines are fed under the roller the nuts are pressed thereby through between the rods of the separating-frame, where they are cut from the roots by the saw. The vines are passed to the rear of the roller and removed from the frame. The nuts fall onto the table and are shaken by the agitator-bars in their descent on said table. This loosens the dirt from the nuts, and when they fall on the return-board the blast from the fan will force dust and light stems out of the open end of the case, and the nuts will fall into the space J².

I prefer to use the roller form of presser shown, as thereby the same part serves to press the nuts through between the rods C, and also to draw the vines through to rear of the cutting. It is manifest, however, that the presser could be formed in various ways—for instance, a hinged board may be arranged to press the nuts through the frame. It will also be understood that the presser may be dispensed with and the nuts pressed down by hand. I prefer, however, to use a mechanical presser and to make same in the roller form, as shown.

Instead of operating the saw by the mechanism described, said saw may be operated by hand. It will also be appreciated that the blade may be made with a straight edge instead of the saw-teeth, though I prefer to employ the construction as shown and before described.

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

1. The combination of the separating-frame, the inclined table arranged below the frame, the agitators pivoted on said table, and the saw, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the separating-frame, the agitator-table, the endless band-saw passed around the agitator-table, suitable pulleys supporting the band-saw, and the operating mechanism, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the separating-frame provided with a series of rods, C, of the cutter-blade arranged below and in a plane parallel with the separating-frame and extended and operating longitudinally at right angles to the rods C thereof, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of the separating-frame, a presser arranged above said frame, and an endless band-saw supported on suitable rollers and operating close to the under side of the separating-frame, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination of the separating-frame adapted to permit the passage of the nuts and to stop the vines, a presser arranged above the frame, an endless band-saw, suitable pulleys supporting the band-saw, and the operating mechanism, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination, with the separating-frame, of an endless cutter-blade suitably supported and operating close to the under side of the separating-frame, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination, with the separating-frame, the presser-roller, and an overhanging frame, of spring rods or cleaners having one end secured to the overhanging frame and their other ends bearing against the presser-roller, substantially as set forth.

8. The combination of the separating-frame, the table F, the bar G, held to and movable along the lower edge of the table F, the agitators F', pivoted near one end to the table F, and having their other ends connected with the bar G, and the necessary operating mechanism, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES WESLEY NICHOLSON.

Witnesses:

M. W. TURNER,
R. H. BARRETT.