(No Model.)

A. & W. NIMMO.

LINE FINDER FOR STENOGRAPHERS' USE.

No. 332,410. Patented Dec. 15, 1885.

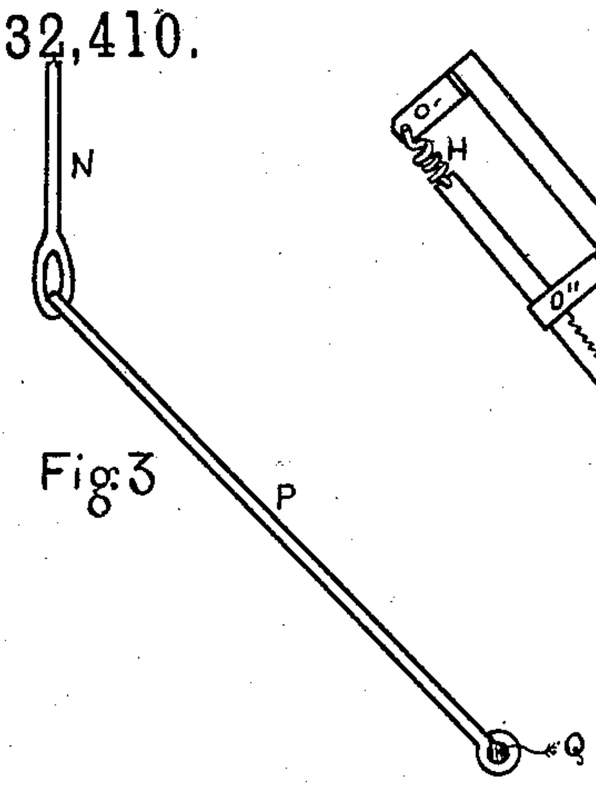

Fig. 3

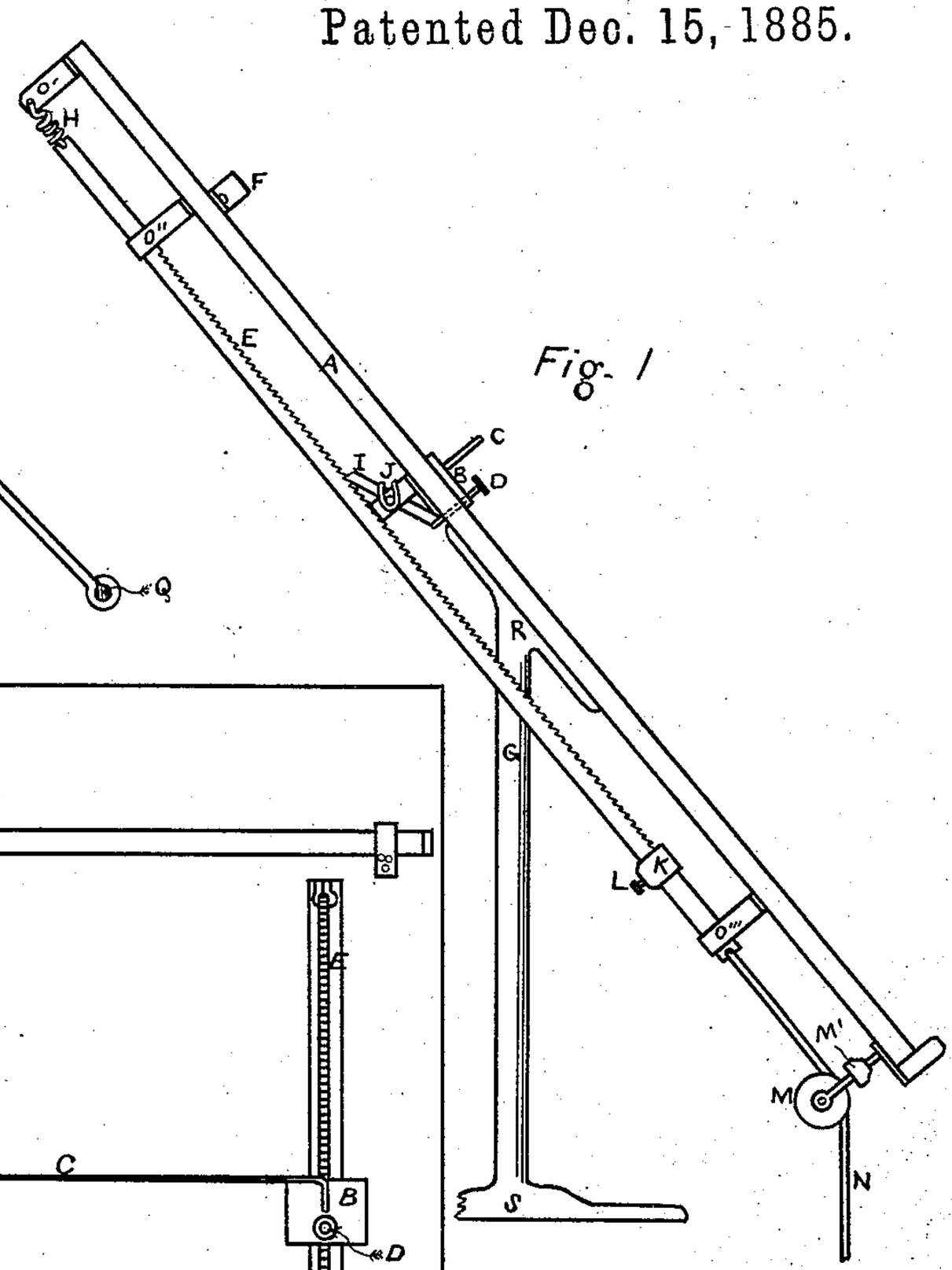

Fig. 1

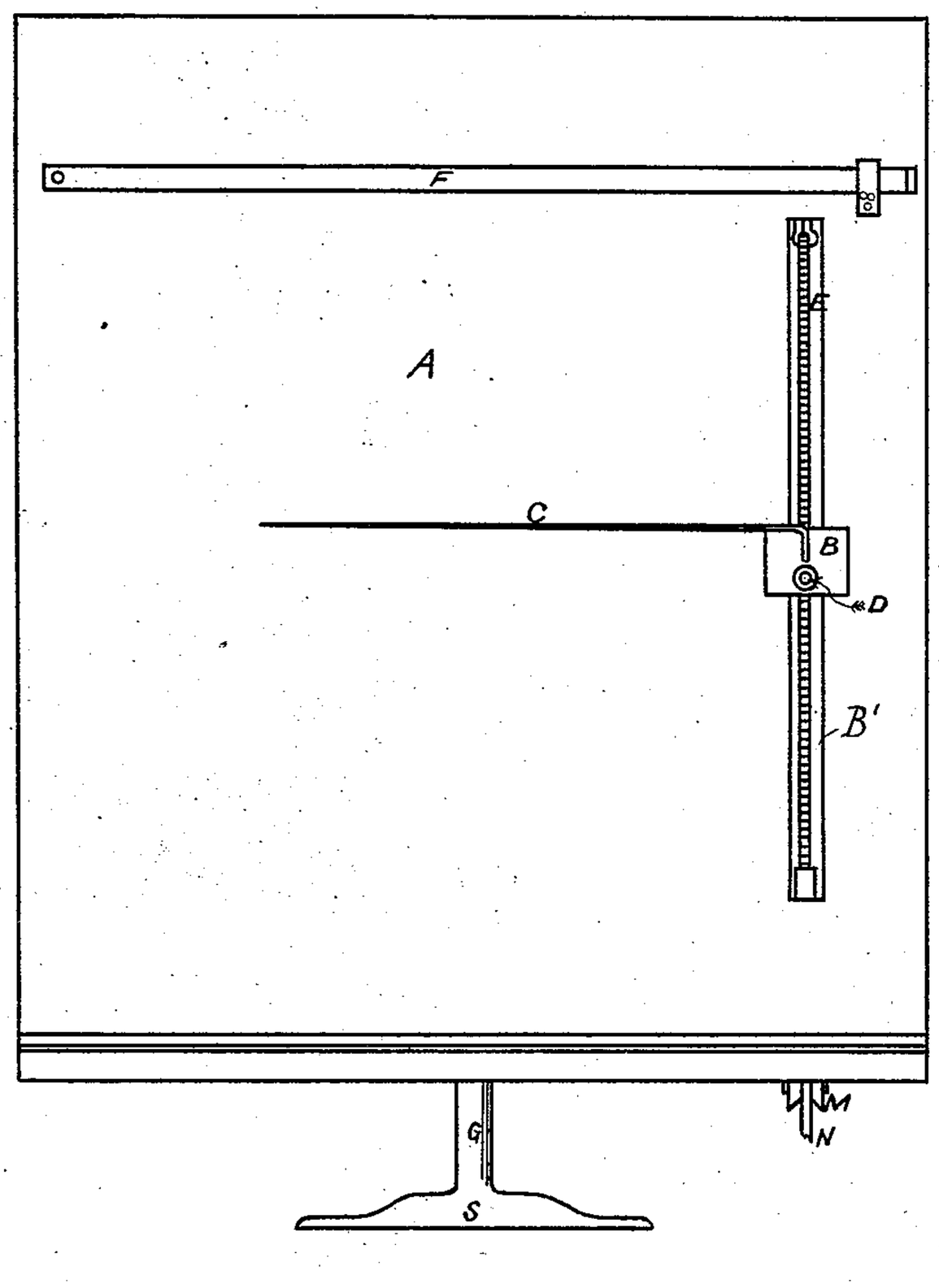

Fig. 2

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW NIMMO AND WILLIAM NIMMO, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

LINE-FINDER FOR STENOGRAPHERS' USE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 332,410, dated December 15, 1885.

Application filed July 24, 1885. Serial No. 172,591. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANDREW NIMMO and WILLIAM NIMMO, citizens of Great Britain, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a Line-Finder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in line-finders for stenographers, and it is carried out as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, where—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation, and Fig. 2 represents a front elevation, of the apparatus. Fig. 3 represents a detail view of the pedal by which the indicator is worked.

Similar letters refer to similar parts wherever they occur on the different parts of the drawings.

In making a long-hand copy from short hand, or vice versa, or for making any other kind of copying, it is desirable to use a line-finder adapted to be adjusted line for line as the copying proceeds, and thus serve to find the line copied from with the greatest ease and without loss of time. For this purpose we have constructed our invention, as follows: R G S is a standard or support, of any desirable form, to the upper end of which is secured the inclined plate or book-rest A, having attached to its upper end a suitable bar or clip, F, for holding the leaves of the book or manuscript to be copied from in position. Through the book-rest A is made a slot, B′, in which the block B is guided and permitted to travel up and down. To the block B is attached, above the plate A, the horizontal indicator or line-finder C, as shown, and this is made to move with the block B. To that portion of block B which projects below the plate A is hinged the pawl I, the lower end of which engages in the teeth of the ratchet-bar E, and is normally held in contact therewith by means of a small spring, J. (Shown in Fig. 1.) The ratchet-bar E is supported and made to slide in the guides O″ and O‴, secured to the under side of plate A, and is normally drawn upward to its highest position by the influence of a spring, H, secured to the upper end of ratchet-bar E, and to a projection, O′, attached to the under side of the upper end of plate A, as shown in Fig. 1. The downward motion of ratchet-bar E is limited each time by means of the adjustable stop K coming in contact with the lower guide, O‴, as shown in Fig. 1. Said stop K is made adjustable on the ratchet-bar E, according to the horizontal distance between each line on the copy, and when so adjusted it is firmly secured in place on the ratchet-bar E by means of the set-screw L, as shown in Fig. 1. To the lower end of the ratchet-bar E is attached a cord or strap, N, running over a pulley, M, that is journaled in a bearing, M′, secured to the under side of plate A at or near its lower end, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The lower end of the strap or cord N is attached to a pedal, P, the lower end of which is hinged at Q to the floor or other convenient place, as shown in Fig. 3.

For the purpose of disengaging the pawl I from the ratchet-bar E, to permit the block B and the indicator C to be adjusted up or down on plate A relative to the lines on the copy resting on the latter, either in commencing work on a new page or during any portion of the work, as the case may be, we employ a thumb piece or button, D, passing through block B, and having its lower end attached to the pawl-piece I, as shown in Fig. 1, and thus by simply pressing on button D the lower end of pawl I is raised out of the teeth on ratchet-bar E, when the block B and line finder or indicator C may be moved up or down on table or plate A to any desired position, as may be desired.

The operation is as follows: After the book or manuscript has been secured to the plate A by means of clip F or other suitable fastening device, we press the button D downward, by which the pawl I is disengaged from ratchet-bar E and move the block B upward, so that the indicator C shall come to the desired line for commencing the work. The stop K is then secured by means of set-screw L to the ratchet-bar E at the desired distance from guide O‴, equal to the distance between the successive lines on the copy. After one line has been copied the operator depresses treadle P, causing the ratchet-bar E to be drawn downward against the influence of spring H until the stop K comes in contact with guide O‴, and during such motion of ratchet-bar E, by means of the pawl I, the block B is carried downward sufficiently to bring the line-finder C to the next line on the copy, after which the operator re-

leases his foot-pressure on the treadle P, when the spring H will draw the ratchet-bar E up to its normal position, and during such upward motion of ratchet-bar E the pawl I will pass freely by the teeth of said ratchet-bar, causing the block B and line-finder C to remain in the position left by the previous downward motion of the ratchet-bar E, and so on. When the indicator C has traveled to the lowest line on the book or manuscript copied from, a new leaf is turned, the button D depressed, and the block B and indicator C moved upward to the desired position for commencing work, and the successive operations for feeding the line-finder C downward continued, as above described.

What we wish to secure by Letters Patent and claim is—

1. The herein-described line-finder, consisting of the stationary rest A, having slot B′ for the movable block B, to which is attached the indicator C, said block having hinged to it the pawl I, with spring J, and adapted to engage in the toothed ratchet-bar E, the latter being guided in the parts O″ O‴, and operated by means of treadle P and strap N against the influence of spring H, and provided with the adjustable stop K, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a line-finder, the stationary plate A, the block B, movable thereon, with indicator C attached to it, and having pawl I, spring J, and press-button D, as described, combined with the reciprocatory ratchet-bar E, for operating the block B and its indicator C, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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