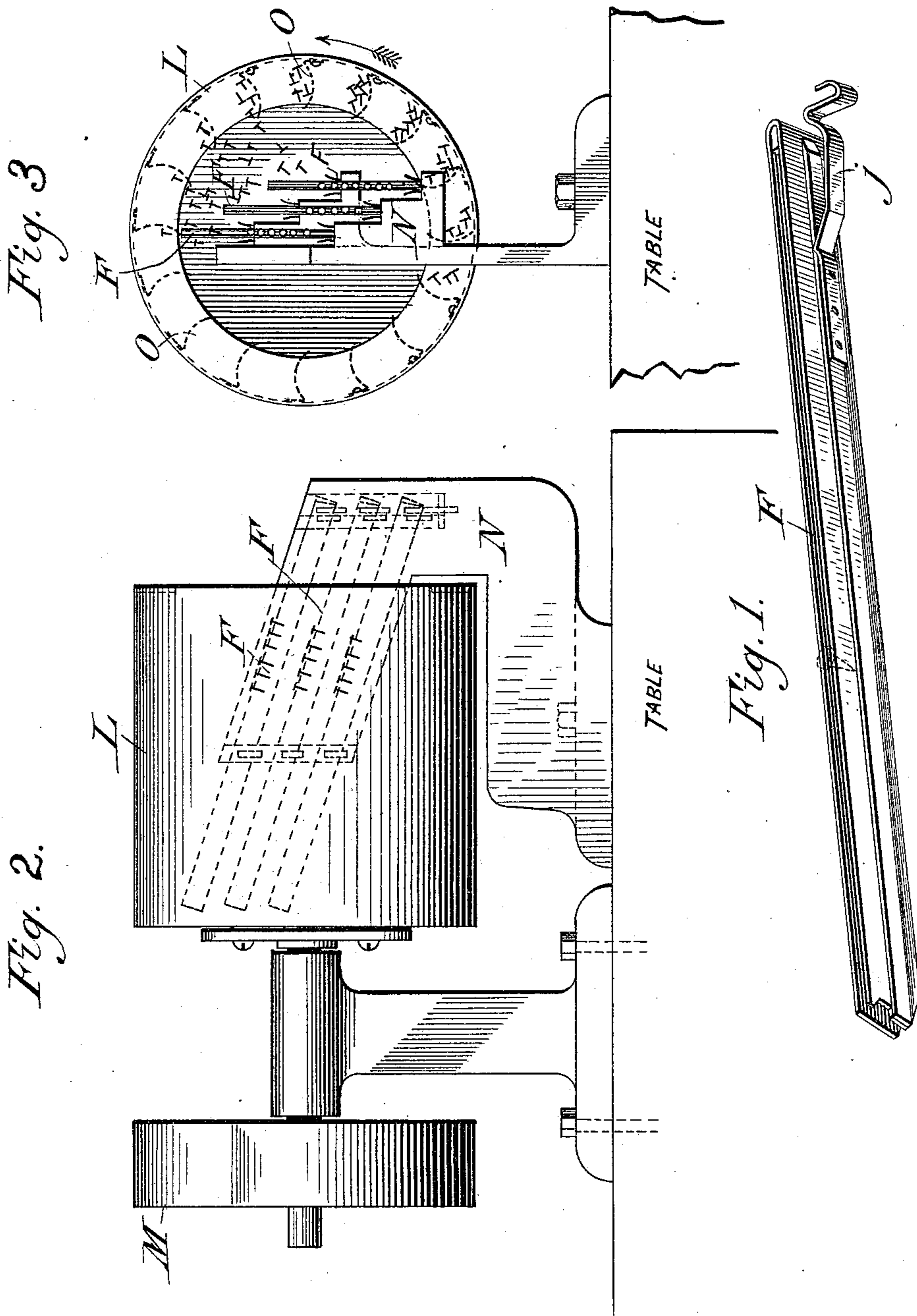


(No Model.)

M. V. B. ETHRIDGE.
TACK FILLING MACHINE.

No. 335,514.

Patented Feb. 2, 1886.



Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TACK FILLING MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 335,514, dated February 2, 1886.

Application filed July 29, 1885. Serial No. 172,967. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN V. B. ETHRIDGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filling Devices; 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.

This invention relates to a device for filling with tacks the chute-pieces which are used with certain kinds of tack-driving machines for automatically supplying the said machines with tacks; and it consists in a construction and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter specifically set forth and described.

In the annexed drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective of the chute-piece for the tacks. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the chute filling device, and Fig. 3 is an end view of the same.

Like letters designate like parts.

With certain kinds of tack-driving machines it is customary to use a chute by means of which tacks are conveyed to the driving mechanism. These chutes are ordinarily constructed of the form shown in Fig. 1, and designated by the letter F. It will be seen that this chute is constructed with a channel extending from end to end, which channel is to be filled with a series of tacks. The heads of the tacks will be suspended by and will slide along upon the top of the inclined side walls of the channel, and be thus fed into the machine one at a time, according as its predecessor in the series is taken by the driving mechanism and utilized in accomplishing the objects of the machine. These chute-pieces are therefore separable and removable from the tack-driving machine, and they may be taken therefrom whenever desired in order to be filled with tacks. It becomes, therefore, a matter of great importance how these chutes can be easily, quickly, and properly filled. Hitherto it has been done generally by hand; but this is a very slow and laborious method. The device herein described is intended therefore to overcome previous dis-

advantages and provide a rapid means for filling the chutes, and it is therefore so constructed that several chutes may be filled at one time.

The mechanism of my present invention consists, essentially, of a rotary drum provided with internal buckets, within which drum the chutes are situated in an inclined position, the channels opening uppermost to receive the tacks as they are thrown into them from the rotary drum.

L represents the rotary drum, affixed to a shaft which revolves in a bearing supported by a standard, as shown in Fig. 2. This shaft carries at its other end a pulley or band wheel, with which a belt-connection may be made with any suitable driving-power. The interior surface of the rotary drum is provided with a circular series of buckets, O O, of any shape and size suitable for holding tacks, and within and outside of the drum, or located in any proper position, is arranged a suitable frame, N, upon which the chute-pieces, several in number, if desired, may be placed, preferably in an inclined position, to receive the tacks. This will be seen by reference to Figs. 2 and 3. As the buckets attached to the inner surface of the drum occupy but comparatively a small portion of the interior of the drum, enough room is left to contain many of the chutes. Now, in order to fill with tacks the chutes which are situated within the drum, the buckets O O are first filled with tacks, and then the drum is rapidly rotated. It is evident that as this rotation proceeds the buckets will be tipped over to such an angle as to empty out the tacks which they contain. These tacks will fall partly upon the chutes and be caught by them, while the rest will fall down into the lower buckets; but those that are caught by the chutes will enter the channels of these chutes point downward, as shown in Fig. 2, for otherwise they would not be stopped and held by the chutes, but would fall down into the buckets. After this rotation of the drum has proceeded long enough the channels of the chutes will be entirely filled, so that they may be taken from the drum for use in the machine proper.

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

In a device for filling chutes with tacks, the drum L, open at one end, mounted on a stand-ard, provided with buckets O O, attached to its interior surface, and driven by a wheel, M,
5 within which drum the chutes are placed up-on a frame, N, the whole arranged and oper-ating as shown and described.

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

MARTIN V. B. ETHRIDGE.

Witnesses:

CHAS. HALL ADAMS,
CHAS. F. BALDWIN.