

(No Model.)

J. A. WILLIAMS.

SELLING MACHINE.

No. 388,101.

Patented Aug. 21, 1888.

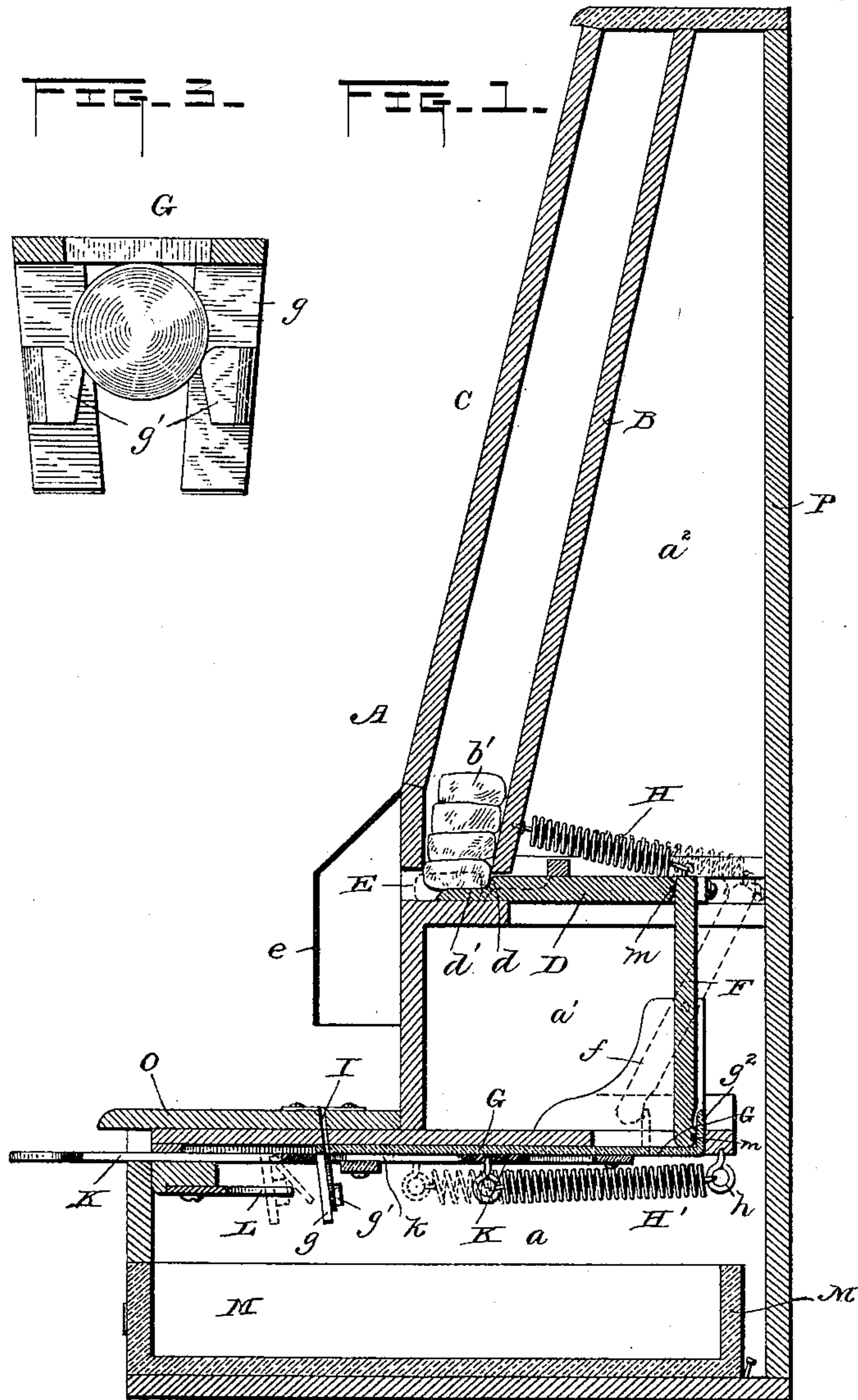


FIG. 3 -

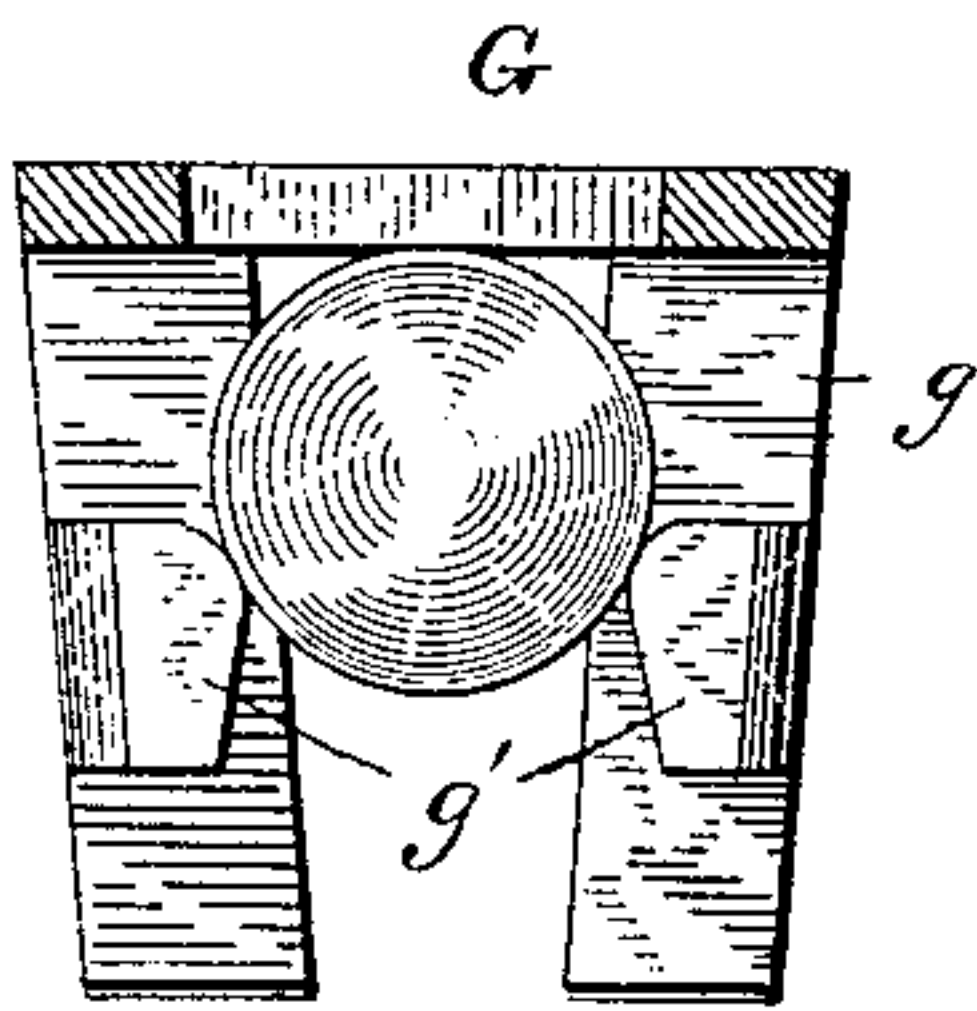
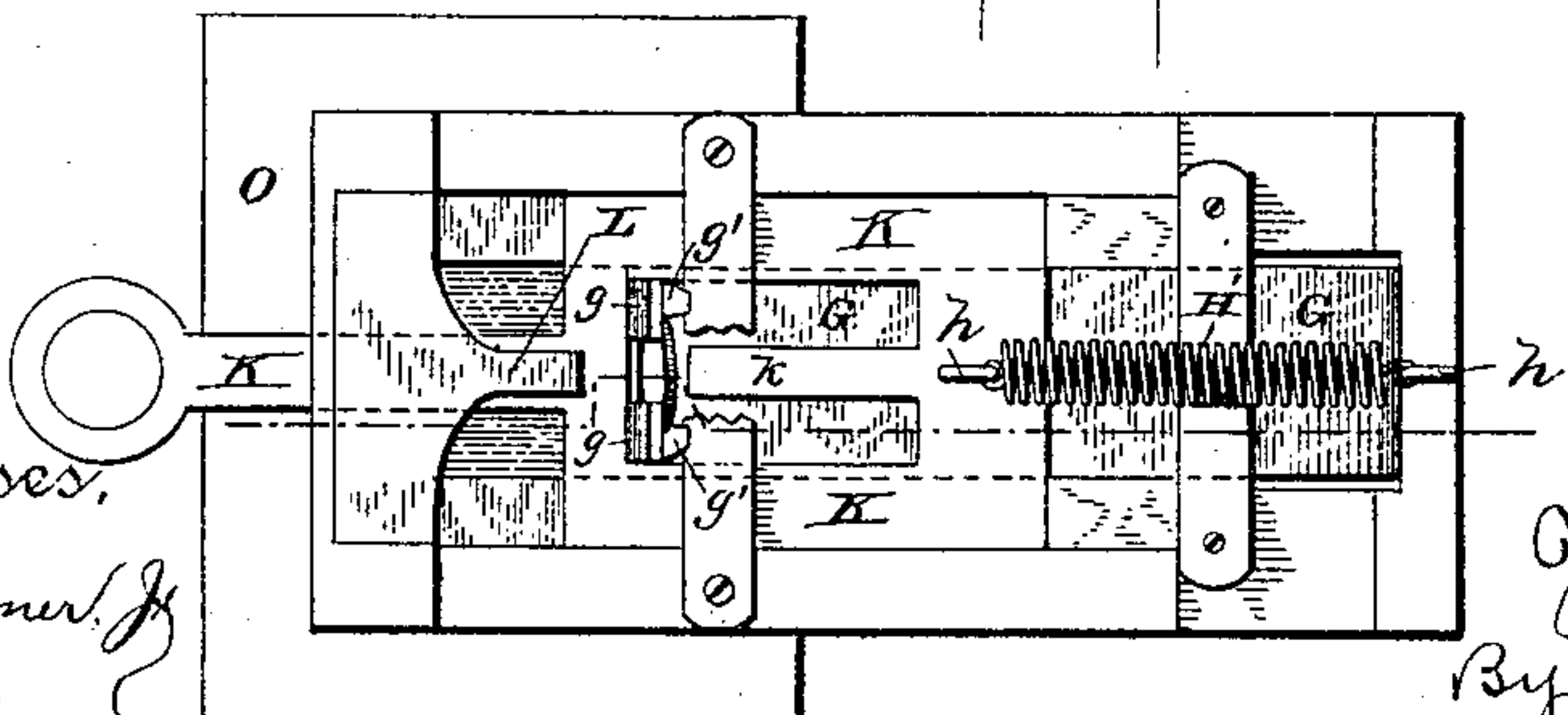


FIG. 1 -

FIG. 2 -



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. WILLIAMS, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

## SELLING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,101, dated August 21, 1888.

Application filed January 31, 1888. Serial No. 262,528. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN A. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Selling-Machines; and I do hereby 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.

My invention relates to an improvement in selling devices.

The object is to provide a device which will deliver an article or a package of goods when a piece of money representing the value of the article or package is deposited therein, and which shall be proof against the delivery of an article or package when a piece of money of any other size than that for which it is intended is deposited therein.

A further object is to provide a device of the above character which shall consist of few parts and which shall be durable and inexpensive.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain features of construction and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the device in vertical section, showing in full lines the positions of the parts when the coin has been dropped in, and showing in dotted lines the position of the parts when the pull has been drawn outwardly. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view, the case being removed; and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the coin-holder.

A represents a suitable casing. In the present instance it is made with a lower portion, *a*, a middle portion, *a'*, and a tapered upper portion, *a''*, the rear sides of the three portions being located in the same vertical plane. The particular form of the casing is not essential; but that shown is adopted as being convenient and as being as economical in use of material as is consistent with the free operation of the device. The upper portion, *a''*, is provided with a slanting rest or partition, *B*, forming a hopper, calculated to sustain a series of articles or packages, *b*, in order one upon another from the base upward. The front of the said casing *a''* is provided with a door, *C*,

for the placing of the articles or packages in position, the said door being provided with a suitable lock to prevent the removal of the said articles or packages without authority. At the base of the rest *B* there is located a delivery-slide, *D*, having on its end toward the casing a shoulder, *d*, and a portion, *d'*, reduced in thickness, on which the lowermost of the articles or packages rests. In front of the slide *D* the casing is cut away and provided with a slot, *E*, of sufficient size to allow one of the articles or packages to be freely passed through it. On the outer side of the casing is a shield, *e*, closed at the top and open at the bottom, which shield hides from view the slot *E*.

An upright bar or lever, *F*, is pivotally secured along its central portion between a pair of supports, *f*, located in the present instance near the rear end of the central portion, *a'*, of the casing, the said bar *F* being pivotally connected at its upper end to the horizontal delivery-slide *D* and at its lower end to a horizontal coin-holding slide, *G*. The said bar *F* is further connected at its upper end to the rest *B*, or some other suitable support, toward the front of the casing by a spring, *H*, the tension of which tends to hold the upper end of the bar *F*, and hence the slide *D*, connected therewith, as far toward the front of the casing as possible. The horizontal slide *G* is supported in suitable guides to be slid toward and away from the front of the casing, and is held normally in its position as far toward the rear of the casing as it can move by means of the spring *H*, hereinbefore described.

The slide *G* is preferably of elongated form and constructed of thin metal plate, and is provided near its forward end with a pair of depending arms, *g*, which gradually converge as they extend downwardly and are slightly inclined toward the rear end of the casing, as shown. The arms *d* are each provided with a rearwardly-extending lug, *g'*, which is intended to form a rest for a coin which may be slid down along the rear faces of the arms *g* into contact therewith. When the slide *G* is in its normal adjustment toward the rear end of the casing, the rear faces of the arms *g* are intended to register with the front wall of a slot, *I*, formed in the front portion of the cas-



ing-section *a*, the slot I being made of such size as to admit a coin of the desired size or denomination.

Beneath the slide G an operating or pull slide, K, is supported in suitable guides and adapted to move toward and away from the front of the casing sufficiently far to throw the delivery-slide D from underneath the lowermost article or package *b*, as will appear.

The operating slide-pull K is conveniently of rectangular form and made of thin sheet metal and has an open center, centrally along which extends a tongue, *k*, projected forwardly from the rear portion of the pull. The location of the pull K with respect to the slide G is such that when the pull K is in its adjustment toward the rear of the casing there will be sufficient space left between the rear faces of the depending arms *g* and the front end of the tongue *k* to allow a coin of the desired size or denomination to slide freely down the arms into contact with the lugs *g'*. The pull K is held normally in its rearward position by means of the spring H', one end of which is attached to a staple, *h*, set in the cross-bar of the casing, and the other end of which is secured to a staple, *h'*, set in the under side of the pull K. The tongue *k* is of such width that when the pull K is drawn forward the said tongue will be slid freely between the depending arms *g* and the coin-holding slide G will not be affected thereby; but when a coin has been slid into position and rests on the lugs *g'* the end of the tongue *k*, when the pull K is drawn forwardly, will engage the coin and cramp it between the end of the tongue *k* and the depending arms *g*, and thereby lock the pull K to the coin-holding slide G and cause the latter to be drawn forward simultaneously with the drawing forward of the pull K, which operation will at the same time, through the vibrating bar F, cause the slide D to move rearwardly from beneath the lowermost article or package *b* and allow the latter to drop down into position along the rear of the slot E. Just before the pull K reaches the limit of its forward stroke the lower portion of the coin will be brought into contact with a stationary stop or pusher, L, secured to a cross-bar of the casing, as shown, whereby the lower portion of the coin will be thrown rearwardly over the ends of the lugs *g'*, and the coin thereby will be left free to drop, since the tilting of it will cause the end of the tongue *k* to slide over its upper portion; but the moment the coin is relieved from its position between the pull K and the coin-holding slide G the latter is free to return to its rearward position, which position it is caused to quickly assume by the tension of spring H. This quick return of the slide G, and simultaneously therewith the forward movement of the delivery-slide D, gives the lowermost article or package *b* a forward push through the slot E, whence it is free to drop through the open bottom of the shield *e* within reach of the operator. The coin in the meantime is received in a till or

drawer, M, located in the base of the casing, and is securely locked in its position.

The vibrating bar F, when constructed of wood for the purpose of making it light, is reinforced along its upper and lower ends by wires or metallic strips *m*, which prevent undue wear, and the joint between the slide G and the lower end of the bar F is conveniently formed by turning up the rear end of the coin-holding slide G, as shown at *g'*, and cutting away the rear face of the bar F, as shown at *f'*, to allow the said bar to assume without undue friction its position.

The supports *f* may be of metal, and the several slides or bars either of metal, wood, or other durable material suited for the purpose.

For convenience in removing the operative parts the lower portion, *a*, of the casing is provided with a hinge-cover, O, and the back of the casing is provided with a door, P.

It is evident that by varying the distance between the lugs *g'* or the arms *g* coins of various sizes and denominations may be retained thereon or allowed to pass freely between them, and the device be thereby adapted to different-sized coins. It is also evident that the package-receptacle and discharge-opening may be varied in size to suit articles and packages of a variety of shapes and sizes. My invention also comprehends the making of change where the value of a quarter or half dollar may be inserted in package form in the package-receptacle, and upon depositing the coin to be changed the package of small change will be forthcoming.

It is evident that numerous slight changes may be resorted to in the construction and arrangement of the several parts described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention; hence I do not wish to limit myself strictly to the construction herein set forth; but,

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

1. The combination of an operating-slide, a retracting-spring therefor, a coin-holding slide provided with arms extending across the plane of the operating-slide and adapted to sustain a coin intermediate of said slides to lock them together, a delivery-slide, a lever for connecting the coin holding and delivery slides, and a spring for returning the delivery-slide to its normal position, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of an operating-slide, a retracting-spring therefor, a coin-holding slide having a coin-sustaining projection extending through an opening in the operating-slide, and a stop located in the path of the coin sustained on said projection, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination, the operating slide or pull provided with a central opening and a forwardly-projected tongue therein, a coin-holding slide provided with arms extending through the opening on the said pull or slide and set far enough apart to allow the said tongue to pass freely between them, and a guideway



to direct a coin into position on the arms in front of said tongue, substantially as set forth.

4. In combination, a suitable case, a horizontal operating slide or pull, a delivery-slide supported in the case, a vibrating bar or lever connecting the ends of said slides, a coin-holding slide in position to engage a coin, a spring to retract the coin holding and delivery slides, and a spring to retract the operating slide or pull, substantially as set forth.

5. In a vending apparatus, the combination of the case provided with an inclined hopper adapted to support the packages or articles to be sold one above the other, and with an opening in the bottom of the hopper in front of the articles, an operating slide or pull, a coin-holding slide adapted to be locked to the operating slide, a delivery-slide extending across the bottom of the hopper, a lever connecting the operating and the delivery slides, the delivery-slide being adapted to be withdrawn from be-

neath the articles by the operating slides or pull, and to be returned by the spring to force the articles out of the case, substantially as set forth.

6. The herein-described case, consisting essentially, of the extended lower section, *a*, provided with a lock-drawer and an opening in its top for the reception of coins, the less-extended middle section, *a'*, and the tapered upper section, *a''*, the slanting package-rest secured in said upper section parallel with its said tapered portion, an opening for the discharge of the packages, and a shield over the discharge-opening, substantially as set forth.

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

JOHN A. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

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