(No Model.)

W. H. TOFT.

CHANGE MAKER.

No. 393,939. Patented Dec. 4, 1888.

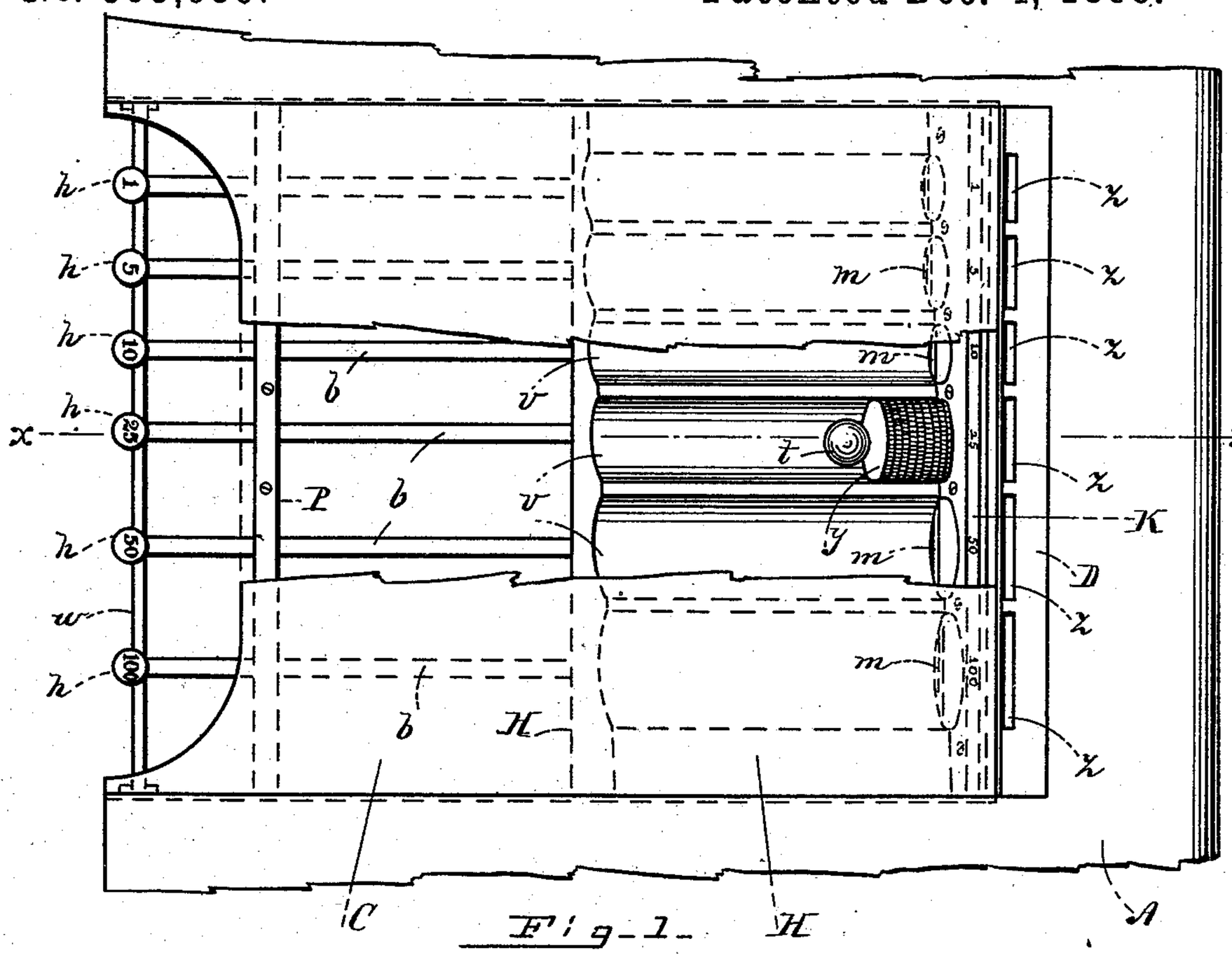

Fig. 1.

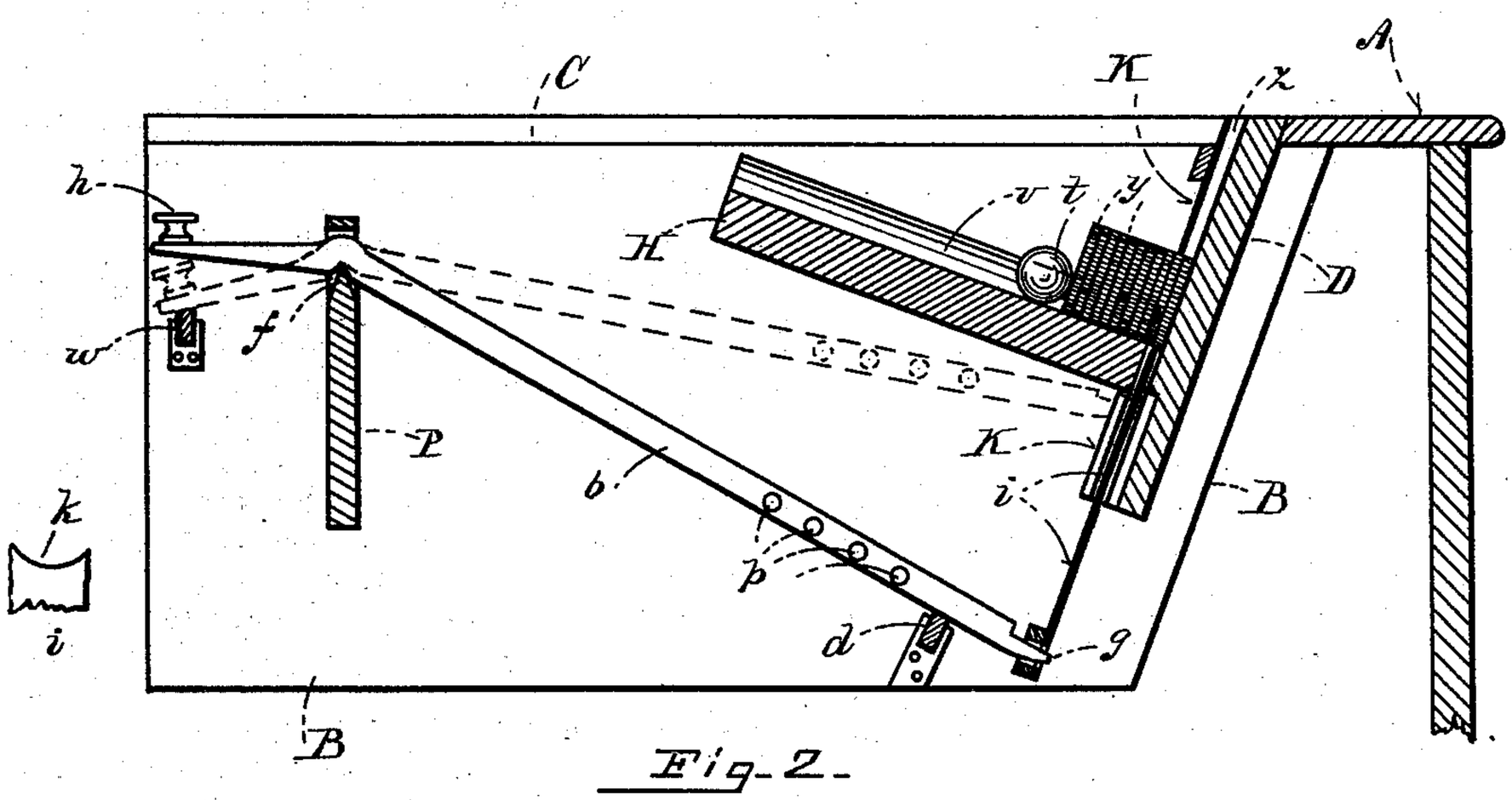

Fig. 2.

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CHANGE-MAKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 393,939, dated December 4, 1888.

Application filed July 2, 1888. Serial No. 278,805. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. TOFT, of Salem, in the county of Essex, State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Change-Makers, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which said invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved coin-holder, represented as in position for use, the cover being shown as partially removed and the table or counter as broken off; and Fig. 2, a vertical longitudinal section taken on line *x x* in Fig. 1, with the cover removed.

Like letters and figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

My invention relates to mechanism for holding and delivering coins, whereby cashiers, ticket-sellers, &c., are enabled to make change readily and accurately in transacting their business; and it consists in certain novel features, as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, the object being to produce a simpler, cheaper, and more effective device of this character than is now in ordinary use.

The nature and operation of the improvement will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters from the following explanation.

In the drawings, A represents the table or counter, and B the body of the holder.

The holder, which consists primarily of a box or body, B, is designed to be fitted to the top of the table or counter A, as shown in Fig. 1, or to some other convenient and suitable support, and is provided with a sliding cover, C, as shown in Fig. 1, which is flush with the top of said counter when in use, and which may be locked when closed.

Secured within the box B, near the outer end thereof, is a transversely-arranged inclined plate or brace, D, provided on its face with a series of vertically-arranged channels, *z*, which open upward through the top of the counter A, as shown at *z*, said channels varying in size to correspond to the sizes of the different coins employed.

A transversely-arranged shelf or support, H, is secured to the rear face of the plate D and at approximately right angles thereto, said shelf being provided on its upper side with a series of semicircular grooves, *v*, corresponding in width with the width of the channels *z*, with which they respectively register.

A plate, K, is secured to the face of the inclined plate D, said plate serving as a cover to the channels *z*, and being provided with circular openings *m* opposite the grooves *v*, which are respectively formed on the same arc as said grooves, the purpose of said openings being to permit the passage of the coins from the grooves *v* into the corresponding channels *z* of the plate D, as hereinafter described.

The plate K is marked above each circular opening *m* with the numerals designating the denomination of the coin said opening is adapted to admit, as shown in Fig. 1.

A transversely-arranged brace or bar, P, is secured to the sides of the box B near the inner end thereof, said bar being provided on its upper edge with a series of knife-edge bearings, *f*, each of which is situated directly opposite one of the channels *z*.

A series of longitudinally-arranged bent levers, *b*, are fulcrumed on the bearings *f*, the long arms of said levers respectively projecting into the box B beneath the channels *z*, and resting on a cushioned bar or stop, *d*, secured to the bottom of the box. The outer ends of the short arms of said levers are provided with thumb pieces or knobs *h*, which are respectively marked with numerals corresponding with numerals on the plate K.

Fitted to slide vertically in each of the channels *z* is a push-bar, *i*, having its upper end curved, as shown at *k* in the detail view in Fig. 2, and its lower end loosely connected with one of the levers *b*, as shown at *g* in said figure. The tops of the push-bars *i* are flush with the bottoms of the grooves *v*, opposite which they respectively stand when their levers *b* are depressed, as shown in Fig. 2, the long arms of said levers being weighted at *p*,

to cause them to fall onto the stop *d* after being elevated and released.

A transversely-arranged cushioned stop, *w*, is secured to the sides of the box B near its rear end, said stop being adapted to engage the short arms of the levers *b* and prevent them from being depressed too far in ejecting the coin.

The cover C is recessed at its rear end, whereby the keys or knobs *h* of the levers *b* may be struck for throwing out the coins and the numbers on said keys or knobs be exposed to view.

In the use of my improvement the coins *y* are placed upon their edges in that groove *r* which is numbered to correspond with the denomination of said coins, in the present instance coins of the denomination of twenty-five cents being shown in the drawings to illustrate the operation of the device.

A gravitative follower, *t*, consisting of a lead ball, is then placed in the groove *r* behind the row of coins, to force them forward and cause one of them to pass through the circular opening *m* and rest upon the top of the push-bar *i*.

The parts being in the position shown in Fig. 2, if now it is desired to use one of the coins, the short arm of the lever *b* (marked 25) is suddenly depressed by striking the thumb or finger percussively on the knob *h*, thereby thrusting the push-bar *i* quickly upward in its channel *z* and forcing the coin which rests on said bar out of said channel onto the counter A, in a manner that will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters without a more explicit description. As soon as the lever is released, the weights *p* will cause its long arm to immediately fall onto the stop *d* and withdraw the bar *i* past the hole *m* in the plate K, the follower *t* at the same time forcing another coin forward through said hole above the push-bar and leaving it in position to be thrown out of the channel when the lever is again operated.

The coin-holder may be readily refilled by opening the cover and placing the coins on the grooved shelf H.

As coins frequently become worn in use, and hence vary in thickness, the push-bars are slightly beveled at their upper ends, to enable them to readily pass the adjacent or second coin in the rows as they are moved upward by the levers.

It will readily be seen that by the use of my improvement accurate change can be made with great rapidity, thus rendering the device especially applicable for use by ticket-sellers, cashiers, and others engaged in similar occupations.

For convenience of reference the grooves *r* are denominated in the claims "horizontal" grooves, and the channels *z* "vertical" channels, although not strictly so, as appears in the drawings.

The coins will usually pass down the grooves *r* without aid; but to insure having them properly delivered to the push-bars the balls *t* are employed, springs being used in place of the balls, if preferred.

It will be understood that coins of other denominations or sizes are manipulated in substantially the same manner as described for the twenty-five-cent coins.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination of a counter provided with an opening in its top and a movable cover for closing said opening, a plate secured within said counter and provided with one or more channels for the coins, said channels opening upward above the top of the counter, a shelf secured to said plate below said movable cover and provided with one or more grooves for the coins, which grooves register with said channels, a plate secured to the channeled plate and provided with circular openings which register with the channels therein, push-bars fitted to slide in said channels for forcing the coins therefrom, and levers fulcrumed in said counter beneath said cover for actuating said push-bars, said movable cover being recessed at its rear end to expose the outer ends of said levers.

2. The combination of a counter provided with an opening in its top and a movable cover for closing said opening, a plate secured within said counter and provided with one or more channels for the coins, said channels opening upward above the top of the counter, a shelf secured to said plate below said movable cover and provided with one or more grooves for the coins, which grooves register with said channels, a plate secured to the channeled plate and provided with circular openings which register with the channels therein, push-bars fitted to slide in said channels for forcing the coins therefrom, a knife-edged bar within said counter, levers journaled on said bar for actuating said push-bars, and cushioned stops fixed in said counter adjacent to both the long and the short arms of said levers.

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