(No Model.)

J. F. SCRIBNER.

WATCHMAN'S CLOCK STATION.

No. 412,045. Patented Oct. 1, 1889.

Fig. 3.

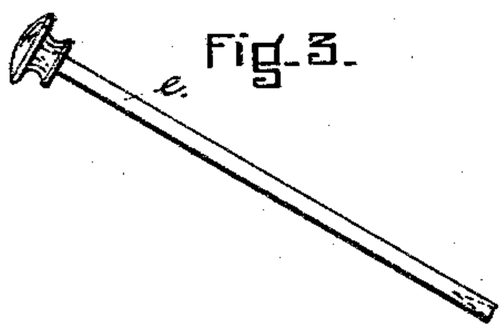


Fig. 1.

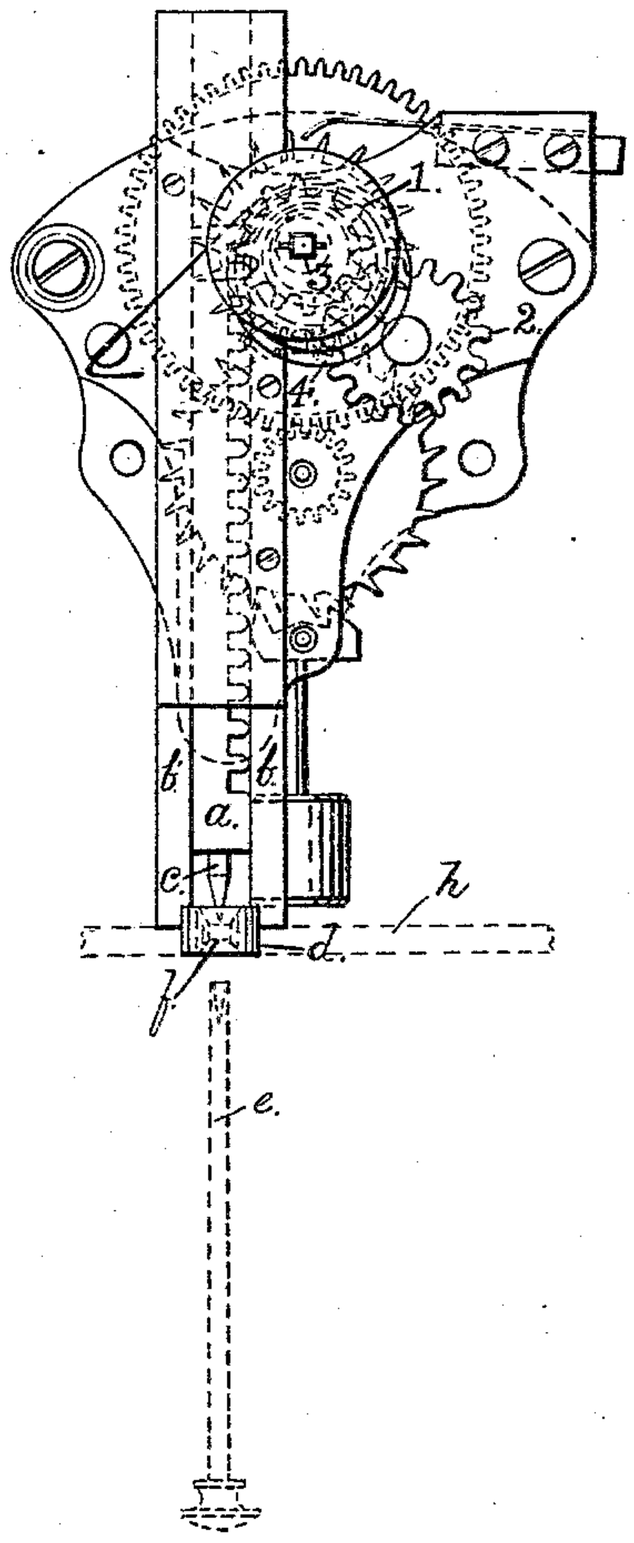
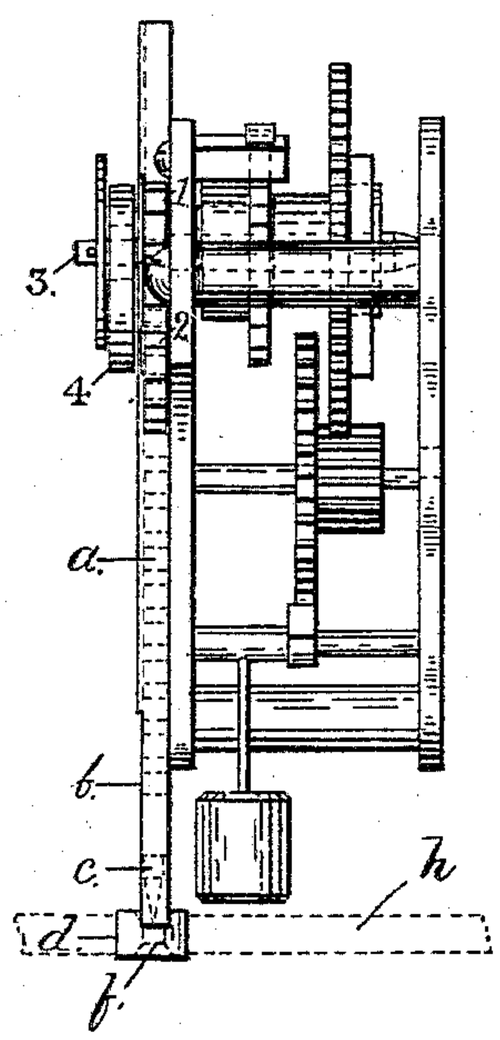


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES.
A. D. Harrison.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. SCRIBNER, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR TO THE E. HOWARD WATCH AND CLOCK COMPANY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

WATCHMAN'S CLOCK-STATION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 412,045, dated October 1, 1889.

Application filed December 17, 1888. Serial No. 293,825. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES F. SCRIBNER, of the city of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Watchmen's Clock-Stations, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stations used in connection with a watchman's clock, from which stations records are transmitted electrically and automatically after certain manipulations have been performed by the watchman by means of a key or its equivalent.

The special object of this invention is to provide means for operating the mechanism of the station preparatory to transmitting its record without leaving an opening in the case in such a position and of such dimensions that any one malicious or mischievous can operate the station without using the special key provided for the purpose, or render the station inoperative by introducing into the opening any foreign substance.

To this end my invention consists in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of the mechanism of the watchman's clock-station to which my invention is applied, and Fig. 2 represents a side elevation of the same, the part of box or casing which incloses said mechanism being shown in section in dotted lines in both figures. Fig. 3 represents a view of the key.

All the parts in the accompanying drawings not referred to by letters or numbers are the same as in well-known standard stations in common use.

The same letters and numbers of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

1 and 2 represent spur-wheels which act as stop-wheels, and allow the winding-arbor 3 to be wound one revolution. This winding has heretofore been performed by a key slipped onto the square of winding-arbor 3 through a hole in the front or cover of the case *h*, which holds the mechanism of the station. Upon the release of arbor 3 it is unwound one revolution by means of the coiled spring 4. It is necessary to use a key of considerable size to rotate the arbor 3, so that the hole for the reception of the cover has been necessarily so large as to enable the box to be tampered with by the introduction of foreign matter into the casing through said hole. It has been found that in insane-asylums, where the apparatus is used, many of the patients persist in injecting tobacco-juice and other matter into the casing through the key-hole. To prevent this tampering with the apparatus and render the key-hole inaccessible, I provide a vertical rack *a*, which is fitted to slide between guides *b b'* in the casing and meshes with the stop-wheel 1. To the lower end of the rack *a* is affixed a pointed stud *c*, which projects downwardly into a contracted orifice *f*, formed in a key guide or bushing *d* in the bottom of the casing *h*. The key *e* is a slender rod having one end recessed or cupped to receive the pointed end of stud *c*. The normal position of the pointed end of the stud *c* is just within the hole *f* of the guide *d* and concentric, or nearly so, therewith.

The method of operation is as follows: The cupped end of the key *e* is put through the hole *f* in the key-guide *d*, and comes in contact with the pointed end of stud *c*, and is held in contact with it until released by the operator. The operator pushes in the key *e* until it comes to a dead stop. In so doing the stop-wheel 1 is rotated one turn, and in so turning winds the winding-arbor 3, which prepares the station to transmit its record the same as when wound by a key through the case-cover, as in the standard form of station apparatus. Upon the removal of the key *e* the winding-arbor 3 is rotated backwardly by the coiled spring 4, and the pointed end of the stud *c* goes back to its original normal position near the hole *f* in key guide or bushing *d*. The key guide or bushing *d* is snugly fitted into the case at the joint between the case and cover, with its lower end just flush with the bottom outside of the case, leaving as the only easily-available opening into the case the opening *f*, in key-guide *d*, which opening is vertical and is nearly filled by the stud *c*, so that tobacco-juice, pieces of metal, wood, cotton, &c., cannot be introduced into the casing by insane persons or by operatives in factories.

The key, having to do its work by an endwise movement, can be made much smaller and more slender than a key which has to be rotated, so that a smaller orifice will accommodate it than would be required for a rotary key.

I claim—

The combination, with the mechanism of a watchman's clock-station, said mechanism including the arbor 3, stop-wheels 1 and 2, and spring 4, of the rack *a*, meshing with the wheel 1 and provided with the stud *c*, the guides for said rack, and the key guide or bushing in the bottom of the case arranged with its opening coincident with the stud *c*, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 25th day of October, A. D. 1888.

JAMES F. SCRIBNER.

Witnesses:
E. V. CLERGUE,
JOHN F. STOUT.