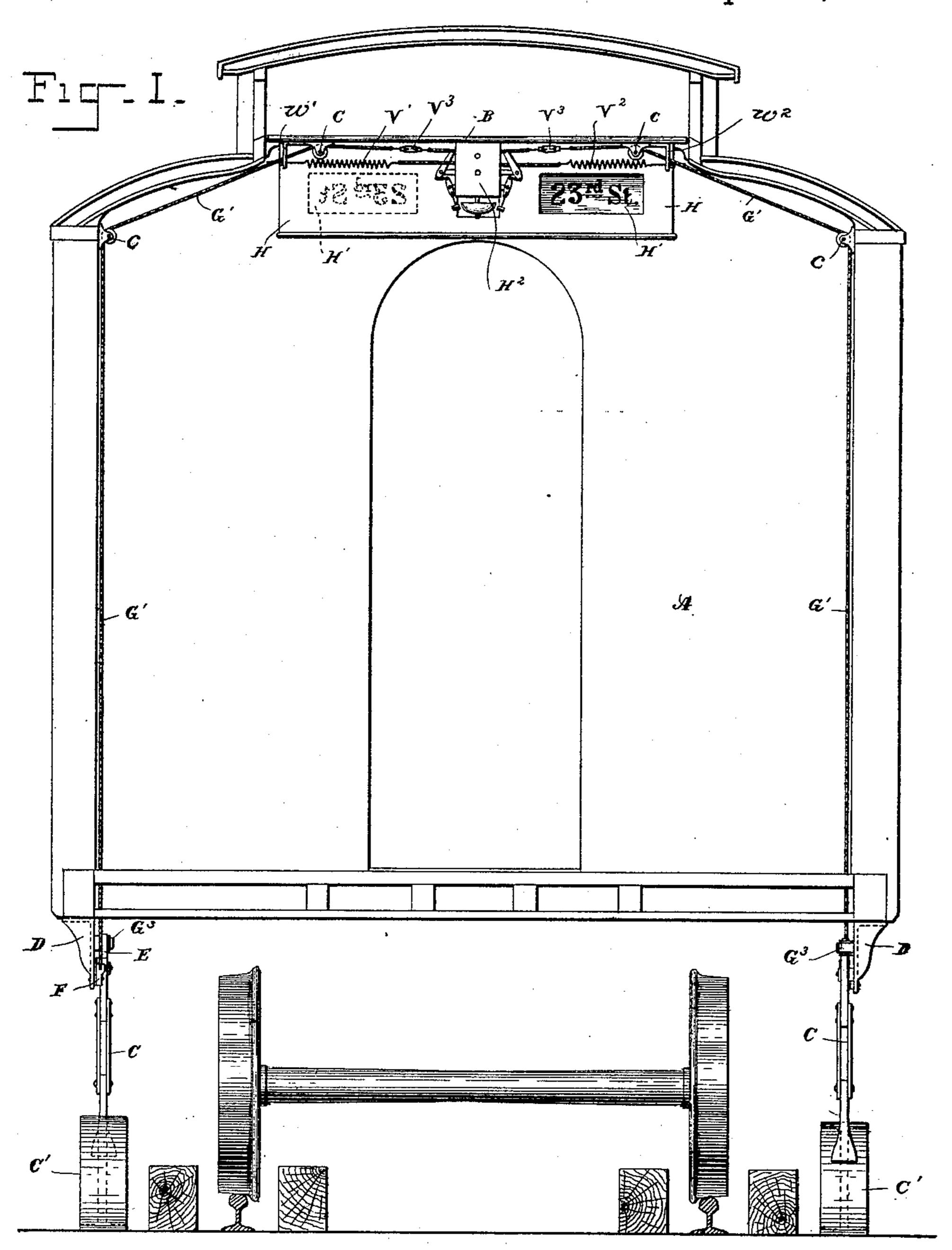
F. ROCHOW. STATION INDICATOR.

No. 437,001.

Patented Sept. 23, 1890.



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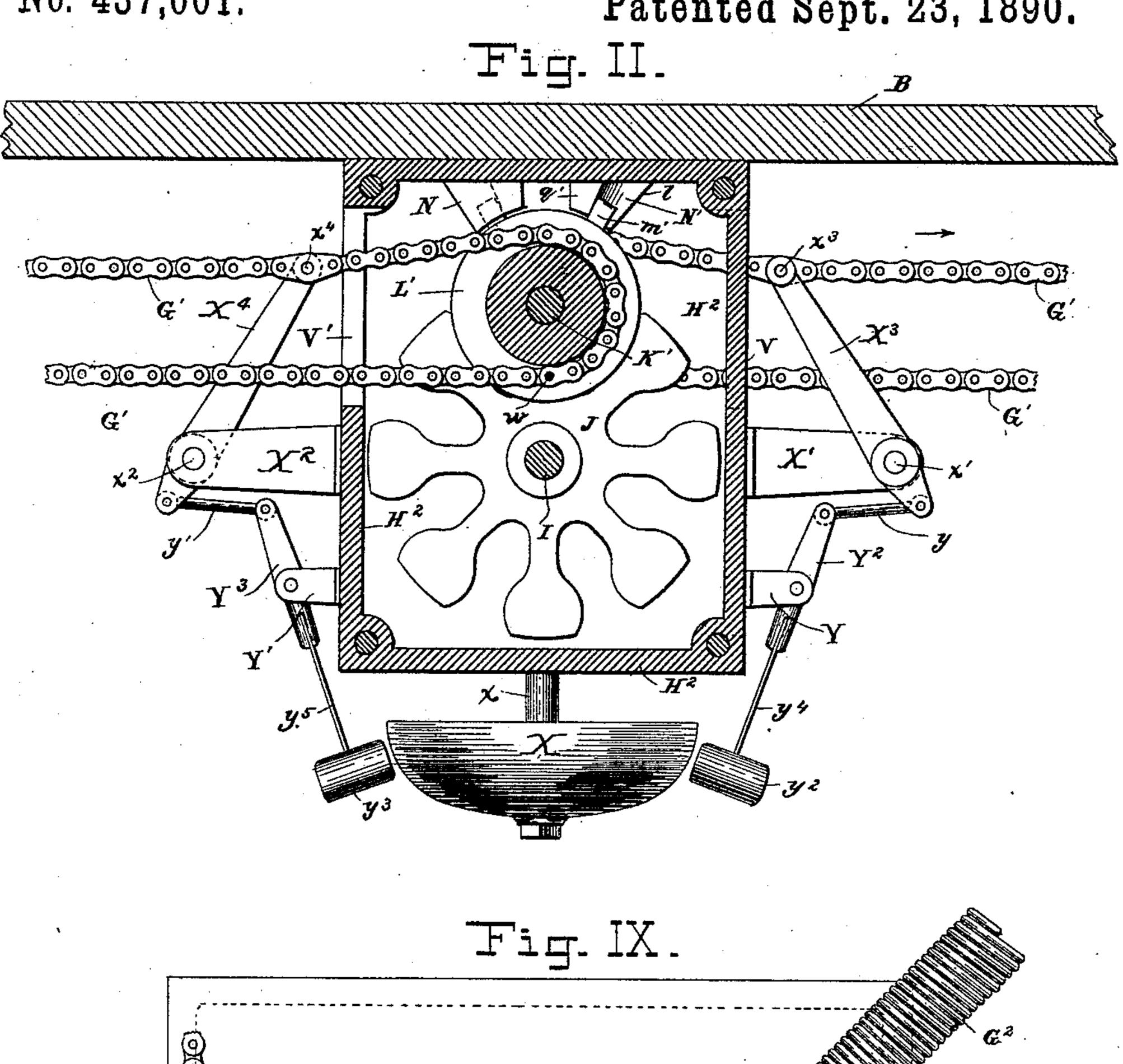
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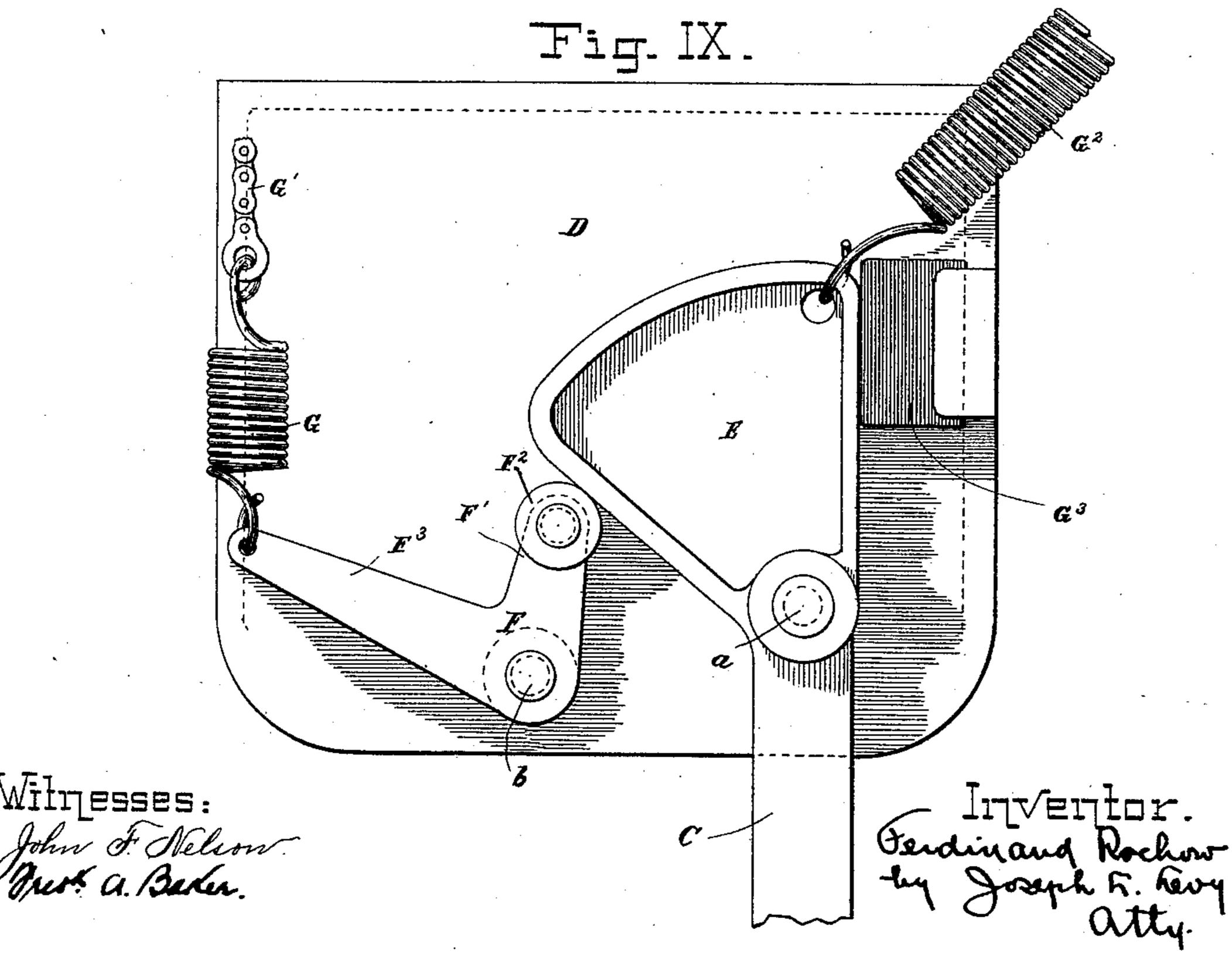
THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

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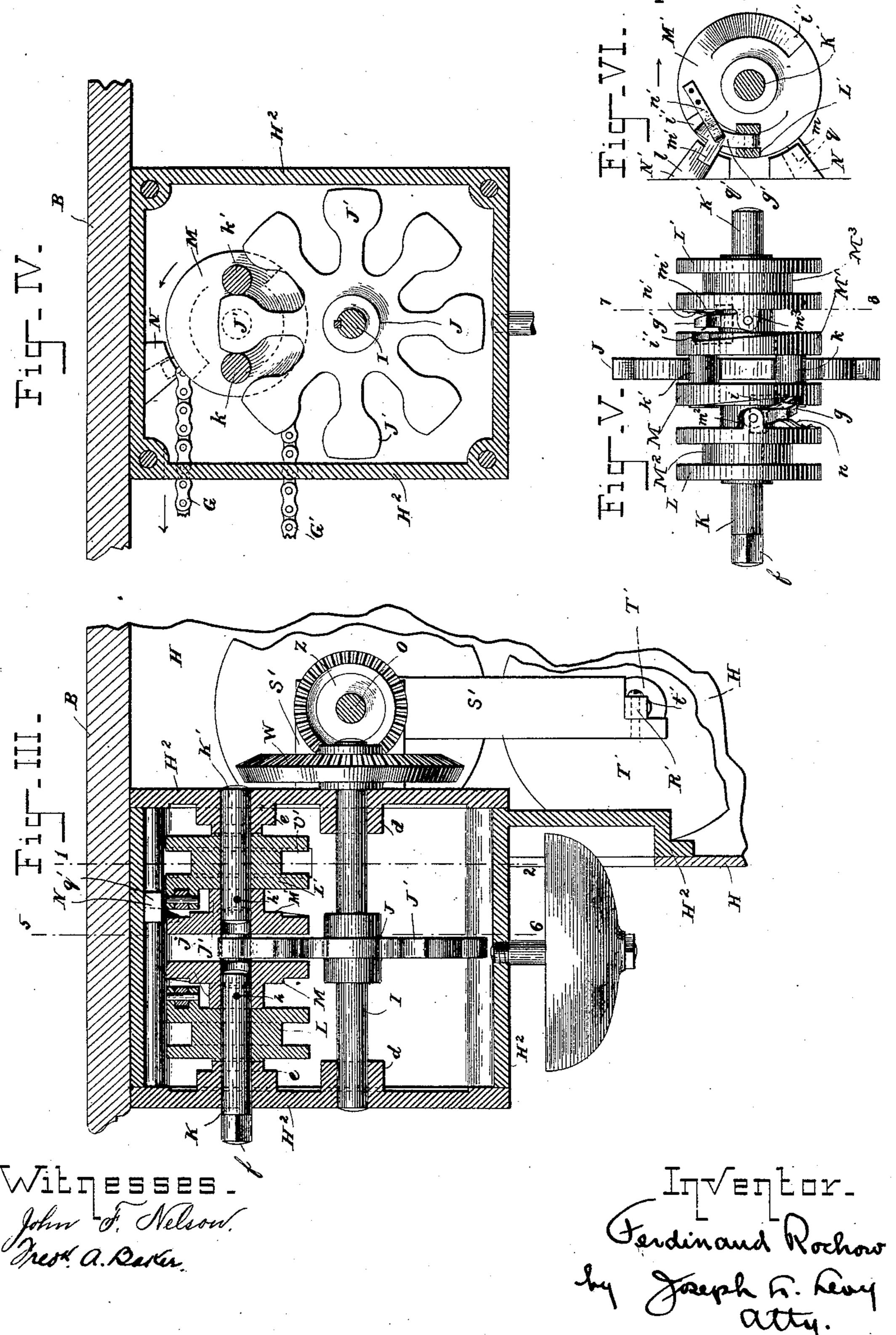




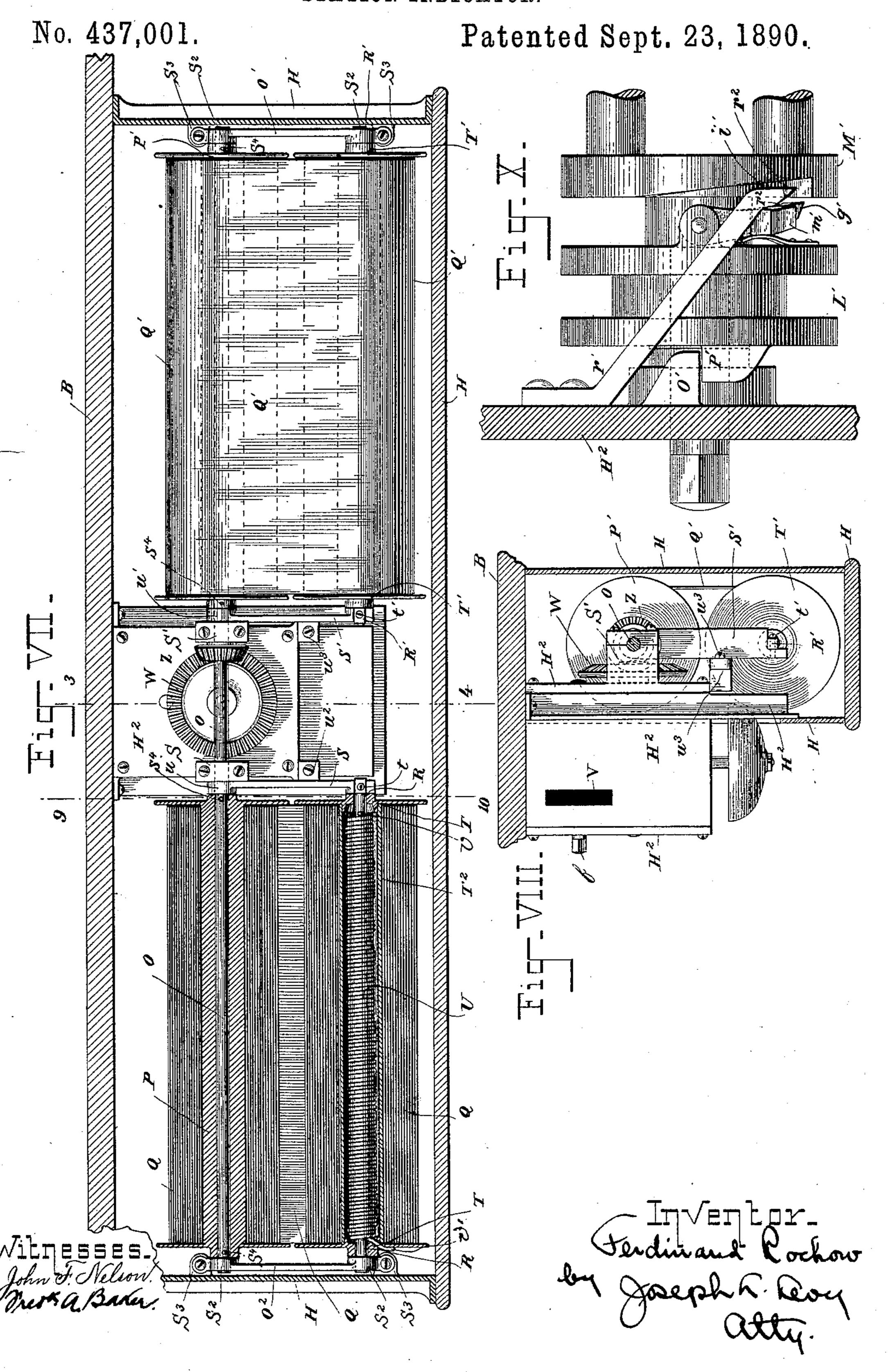
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F. ROCHOW.
STATION INDICATOR.



United States Patent Office.

FERDINAND ROCHOW, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO ROBERT SENFTNER, OF SAME PLACE.

STATION-INDICATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 437,001, dated September 23, 1890.

Application filed January 9, 1890. Serial No. 336,441. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FERDINAND ROCHOW, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and a resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings 5 and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Station-Indicators, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object the auto-10 matic indication, by means of an indicator in which rolls having printed or otherwise produced upon their exposed surface the names of the stations, and which is to be placed conspicuously in a car or other vehicle, of the 15 station to which said vehicle is approaching, either as it departs from or arrives at a station on the line, as may be desired, and for other purposes of like nature to which it may be advantageously applied.

My invention essentially consists of the combination of two specific devices, each separate device having its own sub-combinations, and therefore for the better identification of such specific devices I shall in the follow-25 ing description term them, respectively, the "striking" and "indicator operating" mechanism, and as such they will be known in the

description and claims.

While I have described in detail the mech-30 anism shown in Figs. II, III, IV, V, VI, and X of the drawings, I do not herein claim it, as the same forms the subject-matter of another application filed by me June 6, 1890, and given Serial No. 356,775.

I attain the before-mentioned objects by the mechanisms herein described and claimed, and further illustrated by the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification,

in which—

Figure I is a vertical cross-section of a car, showing the manner of using my invention; Fig. II, a central cross-section through the indicator-operating mechanism on the line 12, Fig. III, showing the bell-acting mechanism;

45 Fig. III, a like view, partly in section, on the line 3 4, Fig. VII; Fig. IV, a like view on the line 5 6, Fig. III; Fig. V, a front elevation of the pawl and ratchet and detent of the indicator-operating mechanism. Fig.VI is a view,

V, but reversed, the top being at the left-hand side; Fig. VII, a front elevation, partly in section, of the case containing the indicator-rolls, showing the indicator-operating mechanism operatively attached thereto; Fig. VIII, a sec- 55 tion of the same, taken on the line 9 10, Fig. VII; Fig. IX, a front elevation of the striking mechanism with a portion of the striking-lever broken away; Fig. X, a plan view of a portion of the indicator-operating mechanism, show- 60 ing a modified construction.

Similar letters refer to similar parts through-

out the several views.

Referring now to Fig. I, A is a car or other conveyance upon which my device is placed, 65 and as its particular construction forms no part of my invention it is not necessary to describe it in detail. I suspend, preferably, in the center of the car by means of a straddle B, or in any other desirable manner, my 70 automatic indicating device, which can either be placed facing the ends or the sides of the car, whichever way may be desired to use it.

For actuating the indicator-operating mechanism, I use the striking mechanism shown 75 and described in Letters Patent to Robert Senftner, No. 379,292, March 13, 1888, and No. 392,693, November 13, 1888, to which reference is here had for a full and clear description thereof. As the operation of such mechanism 80 is clearly set forth in the before-mentioned patents, I shall only briefly refer to it herein.

Reference will now be had to Fig. IX, in which the striking mechanism is shown. This consists, substantially, of a pendent lever C, 85 pivoted at a to a block D, fastened to the body of the car, and which carries at its upper end a cam-shaped block E. Pivoted at b is a bellcrank lever F, which may be adjustably secured as in the before-mentioned patents or go ashereshown. One arm F' of the lever F carries a roller or other friction-reducing point F² for contact with the cam E, the other arm F³ being connected to the take-up spring G, and that to the linked chain G', which is led 95 up into the car A over pulleys cc to the indicator-operating mechanism. A spring G² is fastened at one end of the cam E and at the other to the body of the car, and serves to re-50 partly in section, taken on the line 78, Fig. I turn the pendent lever to its position of rest. 100 437,001

G³ is an elastic abutment-block secured to the block D, and held in position in any desired manner, and which arrests the recoil of the lever C.

In actual use I place a striking mechanism on both sides of the car at or near its center, and connect them by a chain with the indicator, and locate at any suitable place on the line of track the stationary striking-blocks 10 C', upon which the lever C rides, and by its deflection actuates the indicator-operating mechanism, as will be hereinafter set forth.

The indicator-operating mechanism consists of devices for operating the rolls bear-15 ing the necessary inscriptions and a detent for staying and regulating any inopportune

action of the rolls.

By reference to Figs. I and VII it will be seen that the indicator-operating mechanism 20 and the indicating-rolls are both located within a case H, which is suspended from the straddle B across the top of the car A. The case H has apertures H', Fig. I, through which the names of the stations on the indicating-25 rolls may be seen from both sides of the case. These rolls find bearings in the sides of the case H and on the case H² containing the indicator-operating mechanism, which case H² is also suspended from the straddle B within 30 the case H.

By reference to Fig. III it will be seen that | the case H^2 is provided with bearings d d, through which a spindle I is passed and which 35 rigidly and preferably centrally affixed a detent-wheel J, having radial teeth J', with segmental surfaces on their ends, which serves both for the purpose of holding the rolls in the position assumed after their operation 40 and for actuating them.

Directly above the bearings d d are bearings e e, in which are mounted to rotate spindles K K', the spindle K being squared, as at f, for engagement with a key, as will be here-

45 inafter set forth.

Upon the spindles K K' are rotatably mounted two wheels L L', having outwardlyextending lugs $m^2 m^3$, carrying pawls g g', and which will be called "pawl-wheels," Fig. V. 50 The pawl-wheels have the peripheral grooves M² M³, in which the chain G' rests. Upon the same spindles are rigidly secured by pins h h'two wheels M M', which have ratchets i i' (which are inclined inwardly and are concen-55 tric with the periphery of their respective wheel) formed within their inner peripheries for engagement with the pawls, and which will be called "ratchet-wheels." There are two ratchets formed exactly opposite each other on 60 each wheel or the pawl-wheels. The ratchetwheels are provided with hubs j j', which serve to keep them the requisite distance apart.

The spindles K and K', carrying the pawl-65 and-ratchet wheels, are united together by the pins k k', which not only serve to unite the two

tegral system, but act intermittently as the detent and roll-propelling mechanism, and they will be hereinafter known as the "detent." 70

Located at any convenient place, either on the case H² or on the spindle I, are two deflectors N N', used for deflecting the pawls g and g' out of contact with the corresponding ratchets and having an inclined surface l, 75 Figs. II and VI, upon which the arms m and m'of the pawls slide, the said arms when moving over the deflector-surface withdrawing the pawl from its ratchet against the pressure of a spring n n', located on the pawl-wheels. 80

In combination with the last-stated arrangement the following may be used, thus insuring absolute certainty of operation and relieving the parts of undue strain. On the walls of the case H^2 are produced stops o o', 85 (but one set being shown,) which are intended to engage like stops p p' (but one set being shown) on the pawl-wheel, and prevent, in conjunction with a like engagement of the arms m m' of the pawls with the stops q q' on 90 the deflectors N N', the further rotation of the pawl-wheels in the direction opposite to that in which the indicator-rolls are being moved.

Instead of the foregoing arrangement of 95 stops and deflectors being used, I can use separately that shown in Fig. X, in which but one set of pawl-and-ratchet wheels is shown. In this modification it will be seen that the construction of the pawl-and-ratchet 100 is free to turn therein. Upon this spindle is | wheels is the same and that the stops o' and p' are used in the same manner as before set forth; but instead of using the deflectors before shown and described, a deflector constructed as here shown at r', fastened to the 105 wall H², may be used. It is provided with an inclined face r^2 , by which the pawl is removed from the ratchet.

> Instead of the arm m' of the pawl being used to assist the stops o'p' in arresting the 110 motion of the pawl-wheels, as before described, the stops o' and p' may be set in advance in relation to the deflector r' and arm m', so that the rotation of the pawl-wheel will be entirely arrested before the deflector and 115 arm m' come together, thus relieving the pawl of any undue strain.

> Having thus far described the means whereby the spindle I is rotated, I will now describe its mode of connection with and op- 120 eration of the rolls having the names of the

stations printed upon them.

Referring to Figs. VII and VIII, it will be seen that the rear wall of the case H2, containing the indicator-operating mechanism, 125 is provided with bearings S'S', in which a shaft O finds bearings. This shaft extends completely across the case H and finds further bearings in the journals S² S², carried by the hangers O' O2, said hangers being de- 130 tachably attached to the lugs S³ S³ on the walls of the case H.

Rigidly affixed, as at S⁴, to the shaft O, are sets of pawl-and-ratchet wheels into one in- I two spools P P', (which I term in the claims

as the "primary spools,") which are adapted to have the ribbons Q Q', bearing the names of the stations, wound upon or unwound from them. These ribbons are made of any suit-5 able material which is sufficiently strong and flexible, and are securely fastened at both their ends to their respective spools.

Located below the shaft O are two other and distinct shafts RR', rigidly affixed at t10 t' to the bearings S S' at one end, and finding a support in the hangers O'O² at the other. The hangers S S' are held in position by encircling the shaft O at u u', and by being screwed to the case H^2 at $u^2 u^3$. The shafts 15 R R' carry spools T T', (which I term in the claim as the "companion spools",) mounted to turn free upon them, and to which one end of the ribbons Q and Q' are rigidly affixed. The spools have their cylindrical portions T² 20 (only one is shown) made hollow, either by casting the spool or by constructing it in sections and then assembling it; and within this tubular portion T² is located a spiral spring U, (but one is shown,) wound around the 25 shaft R, and made fast to it at v. The other end of the spring U is made fast to the spool T at v'.

As will now be seen, the springs U are fastened respectively to their shafts R R' at one 30 end, and to the spools T T', carrying the ribbons Q Q', at the other, the points of connection of the springs with the shafts being on their inner ends, and the points of connection of the springs with the spools being on 35 their outer ends. As a result of this arrangement the springs, when the shaft O, spools P P', and the ribbons Q Q' are turned, imparting a like motion to the spools T T', act in a direction exactly opposite to each other—that 40 is, when one spring is being wound by the rotation of the spools the other is being unwound—and as it is intended that the springs should be long enough to permit this being done for the length of any journey undertaken by a car having the indicator on it, this will continue during the whole of such journey. The spools unwind in opposite directions, and as a result of this, if some resisting medium were not placed within their 50 moving parts the lower spools would unwind indefinitely at each turn of the upper spools, thereby incurring danger of tearing or snarling up the ribbons, and confusion would result. By providing the rolls with springs, as 55 shown, this is prevented, and the ribbons (particularly the one fastened to the spool in which the spring is being unwound) after they are loosened by their rotation are brought up taut by their respective springs.

A further object is attained by the presence of these springs. As before stated, they are made sufficiently long, so that they can perform their simultaneous winding and unwinding operation for the whole journey, and 65 when that is completed and the return journey commenced that roll which was pre-

wound spring will then begin to wind again by its own resiliency, the reverse happening to the previously-wound spring and spool, 70 thus making the operation both continuous and automatic.

As before stated, the linked chains G' G', Fig. I, pass up into the car from the striking mechanism over the pulleys c c, then through 75 the slots V, cut into the case H², around the ratchet-wheels L L', to which they are rigidly secured by the pin w, Fig. II, thence out through the same slots, and are linked to the retracting-springs V' V2, Fig.I, which 80 are held at one end by brackets w'w2. Turnbuckles V³ are placed in the linked chain G' to adjust its length. By this means the striking and indicator-operating mechanism are operatively connected.

On the end of the shaft I of the indicatoroperating mechanism is rigidly secured the large bevel-gear wheel W, which meshes with the smaller bevel-pinion Z on the shaft O of the upper indicator-rolls, and in this way the 90 indicator-operating mechanism and the indicator-rolls are operatively connected together.

The ratchet-wheels M M' require two operations in order to give them a complete revolution; the detent-wheel J, eight. The gear 95 W makes two revolutions to one of the pinions Z.

In Fig. II is shown a device used in conjunction with the indicator-operating mechanism, whereby the attention of the passenger 100 is attracted to the indicator whenever the same is operated. A bell X depends from the case H^2 by means of the rod x. Extending outwardly from the case H² and fastened thereto are brackets X' X2, provided with 105 holes in their outer ends for the reception of pins x' x^2 , and below these brackets smaller brackets Y Y' are fastened to the case H². Arms X^3 X^4 are pivotally connected to the brackets X' X² at x' x^2 , and at their upper 110 ends are also pivotally connected at x^3 x^4 to the linked chains G' G'. Upon the brackets Y Y' are pivotally supported hammer-arms Y^2 Y^3 , having spring-extensions y^4 y^5 , provided with hammers y^2y^3 . The arms X^3X^4 115 are pivotally connected to the hammer-arms by means of the links y y'. Each hammer being operatively connected to its individual link-chain, it will operate independently of the other. These parts in Fig. I are not let- 120 tered, for the purpose of avoiding confusion.

Having thus described the construction of my device, I will now proceed to describe the operation of the same.

The car in passing over the line of track in 125 either direction necessarily carries with it the striking-lever C, and when this lever encounters one of the stationary striking-blocks C' it is vibrated and the cam E with it. This sets the striking mechanism in motion, as de- 130 scribed in the patents before referred to, and by which the chain G' is moved. This movement of the chain, which passes around the viously wound will be unwound and the un-I pawl-wheels and is fastened to them at w,

Fig. II, gives the pawl-wheels one-half a revolution, and in turning, the pawls being freed from the deflectors N or r', Fig. X, are forced by the springs n on the pawl-wheels into the 5 ratchets i in the ratchet-wheel, carrying the ratchet-wheel with it, thereby giving it onehalf a revolution. The two ratchet-wheels being connected together by the pins k k'both ratchet-wheels and but one pawl-wheel 10 move together, the pawl-wheel, which the chain G' does not rotate, by reason of its not having been actuated by its respective striking-lever coming in contact with the projection on the track, being held in its normal 15 position (it being loose on its shaft) by the springs V'. The release of the striking-lever from the block C' and the recoil of the striking mechanism releases the strain on the retracting springs V', which then retracts and 20 rotates the pawl-wheels in a direction opposite to that which they previously had been moved, the movement in a measure being assisted by the spring G² of the striking mechanism. This return rotation of the pawl-wheels brings the 25 stops o' and p' or the arm m on the pawl and stops q in contact, thereby arresting the further rotation of the latter mechanism at the same time the arm m on the pawl passes over the inclined deflector-surface l or r^2 , and 30 thereby removes the pawl from contact with its ratchet. In Fig. X the stops o' p' arrest the motion of the mechanism before the arm m comes in contact with the deflector r', and, as before stated, the same can be done in the 35 other arrangement, there being two ratchets on each ratchet-wheel exactly opposite each other, so that as the wheel makes one halfturn each time it is operated a ratchet will be presented in the proper position for co-40 operation with its respective pawl. The rotation of the pawl-and-ratchet system brings the pins k k' in contact with the segmental surface of the teeth J' of the detent-wheel J, and as the pin k moves farther into the space 45 between the respective teeth J' it rotates the detent-wheel J in the opposite direction, and before the pin k' has entirely left the segmental surface opposite to that which the pin k is operating on, and on the same tooth, the pin 50 k has entered the space between that tooth and the one following it, thus locking the mechanism and holding it until the pin k'has rotated and entered another space between the teeth, when it is more firmly held 55 by both, besides rotating the wheel J. It will be seen that the segmental surfaces of the teeth J' are parts of a circle struck from the same center as the spindles K or K', the same point being the center of the circle from which 6c the pins k k' are struck, thereby insuring the absolute certainty of co-operation of the pins k k' with the teeth J' at all times, and securing the double function of operation and detention for one and the same device. The 65 rotation of the wheel J rotates the shaft I and with it the gear W fast on it, which in

its turn rotates the pinion Z fast upon the l

shaft O. This winds up the spool P, carrying with it the ribbon Q, unwinding the spiral spring U, at the same time unwinding the 70 spool P' and its ribbon Q', and unwinding the spring contained in the lower spool T'. When the recoil of the striking and indicator-operating mechanism has taken place, the detent-wheel J, in combination with the pins 75 k k' and ratchet-wheels, will hold or detain the rolls from further rotation, and any slack which may have been caused in the ribbons will be taken up by the springs in their respective spools. In this way a complete and 80 automatic indication of the station will be made.

If at any time it should be found necessary to turn the spools by hand without vibrating the striking-lever C, a key or other tool may 85 be placed on the squared end f of the spindle K, Fig. III, and the rolls turned or operated as desired.

The bell X, Fig. II, is sounded as follows: When the chain G is moved in the direction 90 of the arrow, the lever X^3 , which is fast to the chain x^3 and pivoted at x' will be vibrated. This will push forward the link y and vibrate the hammer-arm Y^2 , and upon the recoil of the chain G', assisted, as before 95 stated, by the spring V', the hammer y^2 will be forcibly brought into contact with the bell, thus sounding it.

I have used in the specification the words "rolls" and "indicator - rolls." By that I 100 mean the assemblage of the spools, their contained springs and ribbons, and their means of connection with the indicator-operating mechanism. I use the word "disk" as measuring the body of the pawl or ratchet-wheel, 105 wherever used, free from its contained mechanism. I have also used the words "spindle" and "shaft" alternately in referring to the same thing.

Having thus described my invention, what I 110 claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a station-indicator, the combination of the striking mechanism on the body of the car, the indicator-operating mechanism suspended with the car, and a chain passing from the striking mechanism to, over, and fast to the pawl-wheel of the indicator-operating mechanism, ending in a coiled spring made fast, substantially as described.

2. In a station-indicator, a pawl-wheel loosely mounted upon a rotating spindle, and means for rotating it, in combination with a chain fast to the pawl-wheel, and a spring itself held and fast to the chain for returning 125 the pawl-wheel, substantially as described.

3. In a device for ringing a bell, in connection with a station-indicator, the combination of the chain G', means for supporting and operating the same, rocker-arm X³, fast to the 130 said chain and pivotally supported, hammerarm Y², pivotally supported, and bell X, the rocker-arm and hammer-arm being connected by link y, substantially as described.

4. In a station-indicator, the combination of a supporting-plate D, adjustably-pivoted lever F, cam E, lever C, pad G³, spring G², attached to said cam E, spring G, attached to 5 the lever F, chain G', attached to the spring G, spring V', attached to the chain at one end and secured at the other, and a turn-buckle V³, interposed in said chain G', substantially as described.

5. The combination, with the indicator-rolls, the pawl-wheel L, loosely mounted on the spindle K, and means for operating it, of a chain G', fast to the pawl-wheel, a spring V2, fast to the said chain, and bracket w^2 , the said 15 pawl-wheel and indicator-rolls being operatively connected, substantially as described.

6. In a station-indicator, the combination, with a pawl-wheel loosely mounted upon a rotating shaft, a ratchet-wheel fast upon and ro-20 tating with said shaft, pins extending from said ratchet-wheel, a detent-wheel provided with radial arms for engagement with said pins, and means for operating the same, of a primary spool mounted upon a spindle, a companion 25 spool rotatively suspended and connected to the primary spool by means of a ribbon, a spring for returning the companion spool, the said primary spool and detent being operatively connected, substantially as described.

7. In a station-indicator, the combination, with a pawl-wheel loosely mounted upon a rotating shaft, a ratchet-wheel fast upon and rotating with said shaft, pins extending from said ratchet-wheel, a detent-wheel provided 35 with radial arms for engagement with said pins, and means for operating the same, of a primary spool mounted upon a spindle, a companion spool comprising a hollow cylindrical portion, a shaft or spindle passing centrally through the cylindrical portion and finding suitable bearings, a coiled spring encircling said spindle and fast to it at one end and to the spool at the other, both spools being operatively connected by means of a ribbon, the 45 said primary spool and detent-wheel being operatively connected, and the pawl-wheel operatively connected with the striking mechanism, substantially as described.

8. In a station-indicator, the combination, 50 with a pawl-wheel L, loosely mounted upon a rotating shaft K, a ratchet-wheel M, fast upon said shaft, pins k k', extending from k

said ratchet-wheel, a detent-wheel J, provided with radial arms J' for engagement with said pins, and means for operating the same, of 55 a primary spool P, mounted upon a spindle O, a companion spool T, rotatively suspended and connected to the primary spool by means of a ribbon Q, a spring U for returning the companion spool, the primary 60 spool and detent-wheel being operatively connected, and the pawl-wheel operatively connected with the striking mechanism, substantially as described.

9. In a station-indicator, the combination, 65 with a pawl-wheel L, loosely mounted upon a rotating shaft K, a ratchet-wheel M, fast upon said shaft, pins k k', extending from said ratchet-wheel, a detent-wheel J, provided with radial arms J' for engagement with the 70 said pins, and means for operating the same, of a primary spool P, mounted upon a spindle O, a companion spool T, comprising a hollow cylindrical portion T², a spindle R for rotatively supporting said spool, a spring U, 75 fast to the spindle at one end and to the spool at the other, both of said spools being operatively connected by means of a ribbon Q, and the gear-wheels W and Z for operatively connecting the detent-wheel and spindle O, 80 substantially as described.

10. In a station-indicator, the combination, with a pawl-wheel loosely mounted upon a rotating shaft, a ratchet-wheel fast upon and rotating with said shaft, pins extending from 85 said ratchet-wheel, a detent-wheel provided with radial arms for engagement with said pins, and means for operating the same, of a primary spool mounted upon a spindle, a companion spool rotatively suspended and con- 90 nected to the primary spool by means of a ribbon, a spring for returning the companion spool, and detachably-secured hangers for rotatively suspending the rolls, the said primary spool and detent being operatively con- 95 nected, substantially as described.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 16th day of December, A.D. 1889.

FERDINAND ROCHOW.

Witnesses: Joseph L. Levy, GEORGE W. BORCHERS.