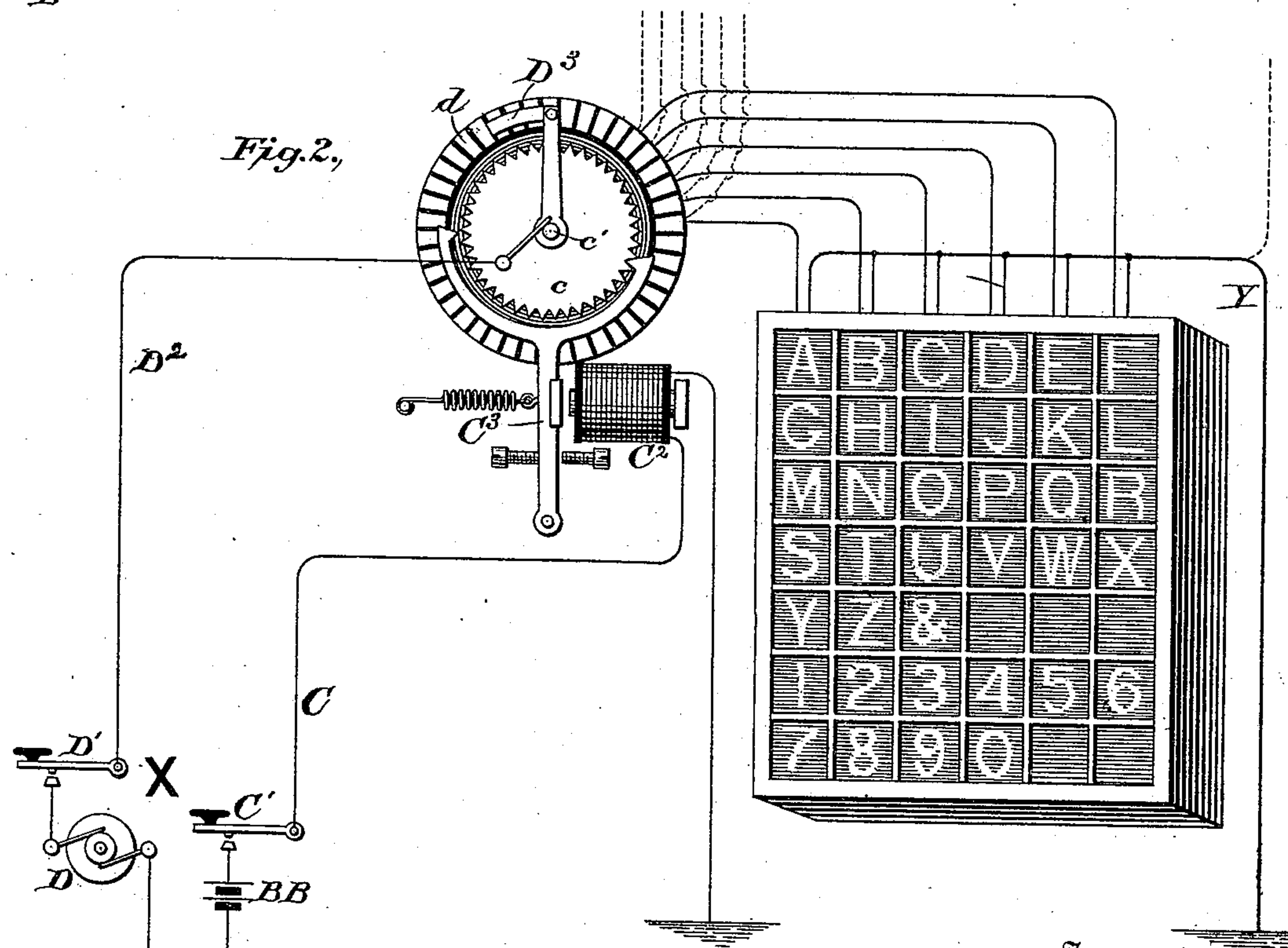
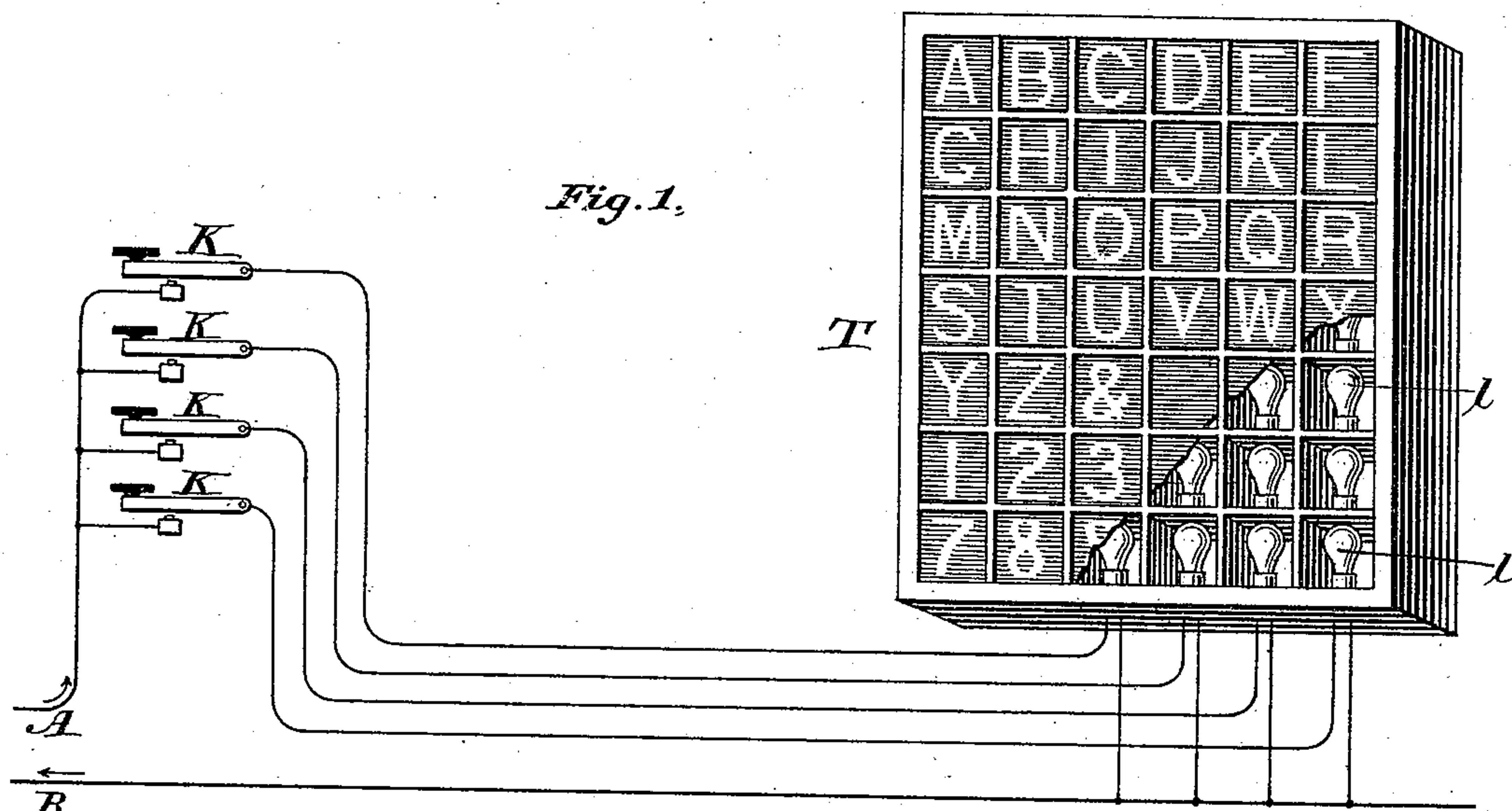


(No Model.)

P. B. DELANY.
MEANS FOR COMMUNICATING INFORMATION.

No. 450,615.

Patented Apr. 21, 1891.



Witnesses
Geo. W. Drexler
Carrie C. Ashley

Inventor
Patrick B. Delany
By his Attorneys
P. Baldwin, Davidson & Wright

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PATRICK B. DELANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MEANS FOR COMMUNICATING INFORMATION.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 450,615, dated April 21, 1891.

Application filed November 26, 1888. Serial No. 291,831. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PATRICK B. DELANY, of New York, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Means for Communicating Information, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved organization by which any desired news or matters of interest may be communicated to observers who may be at a considerable distance at night or in the dark.

In carrying out my invention I employ the letters of the alphabet and the numerals in connection with lights, each of which when lighted or flashed displays its corresponding letter or number. The letters and numerals may be arranged upon a transparency, in the rear of which the lights are flashed.

The lights, which are preferably incandescent electric lamps, may be flashed by means of electric circuits controlled from a key-board; or when operated from a distance I may employ a main circuit and a distributing or selecting device controlled from the transmitter, by means of which the operator is enabled to connect with the circuit of any lamp in the line and flash the light by a transmitted impulse. By this organization I am not restricted to the communication of predetermined signals, but may spell out upon the transparency all kinds of information.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a diagram view illustrating a transparency, local circuits, and keys, by means of which the lights may be flashed to display their respective letters or numbers. Fig. 2 is a diagram view showing a transmitting-station and a distant transparency and an interposed distributor or selector.

The invention may be carried out in the manner shown in Fig. 1, in which A B represent the leads of an incandescent-electric-light circuit. A series of keys K, one for each letter or number on the transparency or flash-light bulletin, have their front stops connected with one side of the circuit, while the keys are respectively connected in branch circuits with the opposite side of the main circuit through incandescent lamps *l*, each located in a compartment of the transparency T having the letters or numerals thereon. By op-

erating the keys, which are like those of any ordinary key-board, the lights *l* may be individually flashed to prominently display the letters or figures.

Where it is desired to operate one or more transparencies or illuminated bulletins from a central station, an arrangement like that shown in Fig. 2 may be adopted. At the central or transmitting station the current from a source B B of electric energy may be sent over the line C by means of a key C' to energize an electro-magnet C², whose armature C³ is provided with pallet-teeth working upon a star-toothed wheel *c* on a spindle *c'*, carrying a rotating trailer D³. The trailer traverses a circle of segments *d*, each connected through a lamp in the transparency, and thence, say, to earth by wire Y. The trailer, which normally rests upon a segment, is connected by the main line D² with a key D' and a source D of electric energy. By operating the key C' the trailer may be brought to the desired segment, and then by depressing the key D' the corresponding light may be flashed to display its letter or numeral. Any suitable number of transparencies or illuminated bulletins may be operated in multiple by making multiple connections with the segments, as indicated by dotted lines, or in series by extending the line Y, as shown by the dotted line, instead of directly carrying it to earth.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, with a transparency or bulletin having the letters of the alphabet and numerals thereon, of electric lamps, one for each letter or numeral, for displaying the same, the circuit of said lamps, the selector consisting of a trailer traversing insulated segments, with which the circuits of the lamps are respectively connected, electro-magnetic devices for actuating the trailer, the main line in which the trailer is included, a source of electric energy, and current-transmitting devices, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

PATRICK B. DELANY.

Witnesses:

EDWD. A. CALAHAN,
CHAS. C. ZUKSCHWERDT.