

(No Model.)

R. L. APPLEBY.
INDICATOR.

No. 467,910.

Patented Feb. 2, 1892.

Fig. 1.

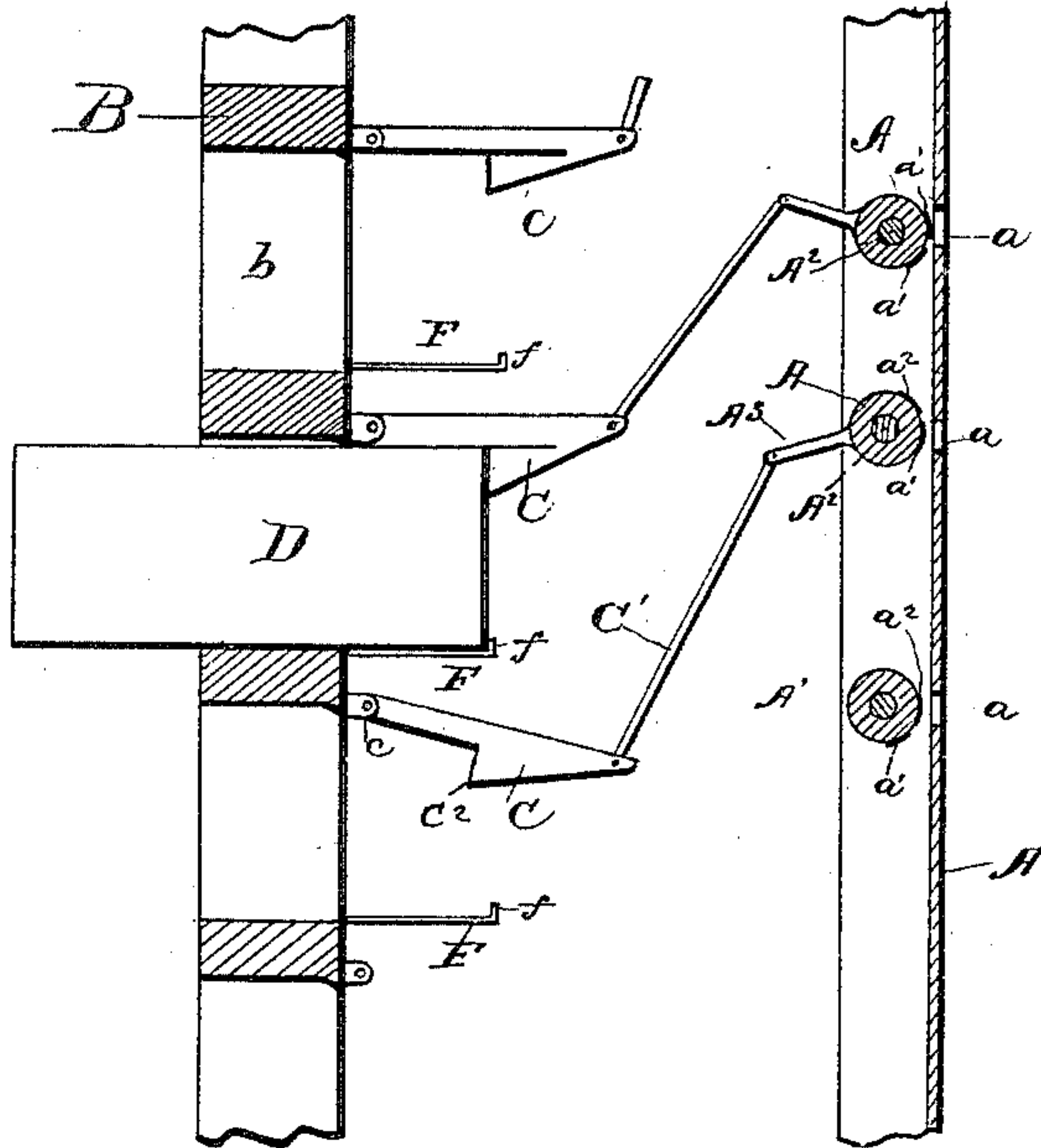


Fig. 2.

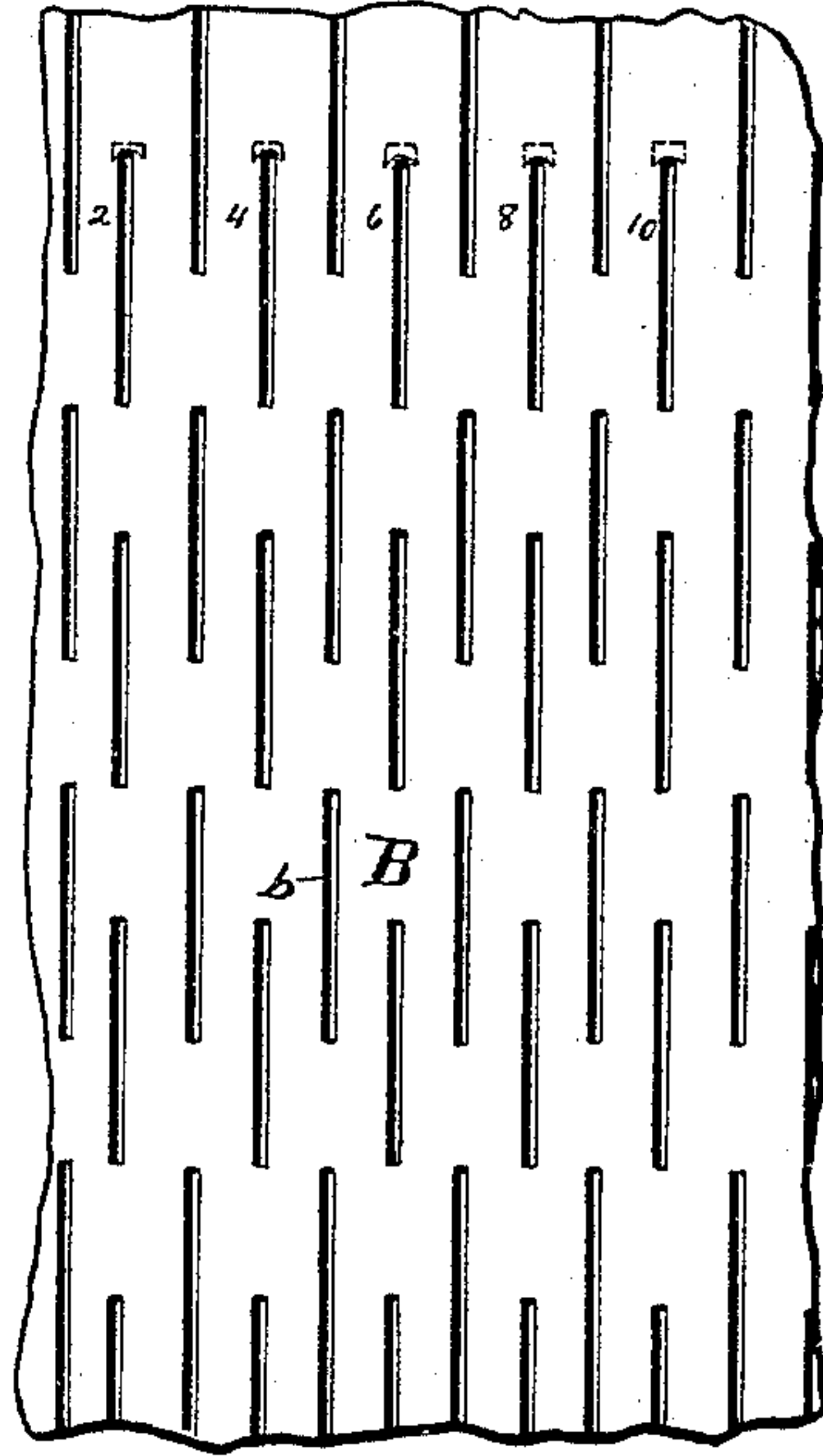


Fig. 3.

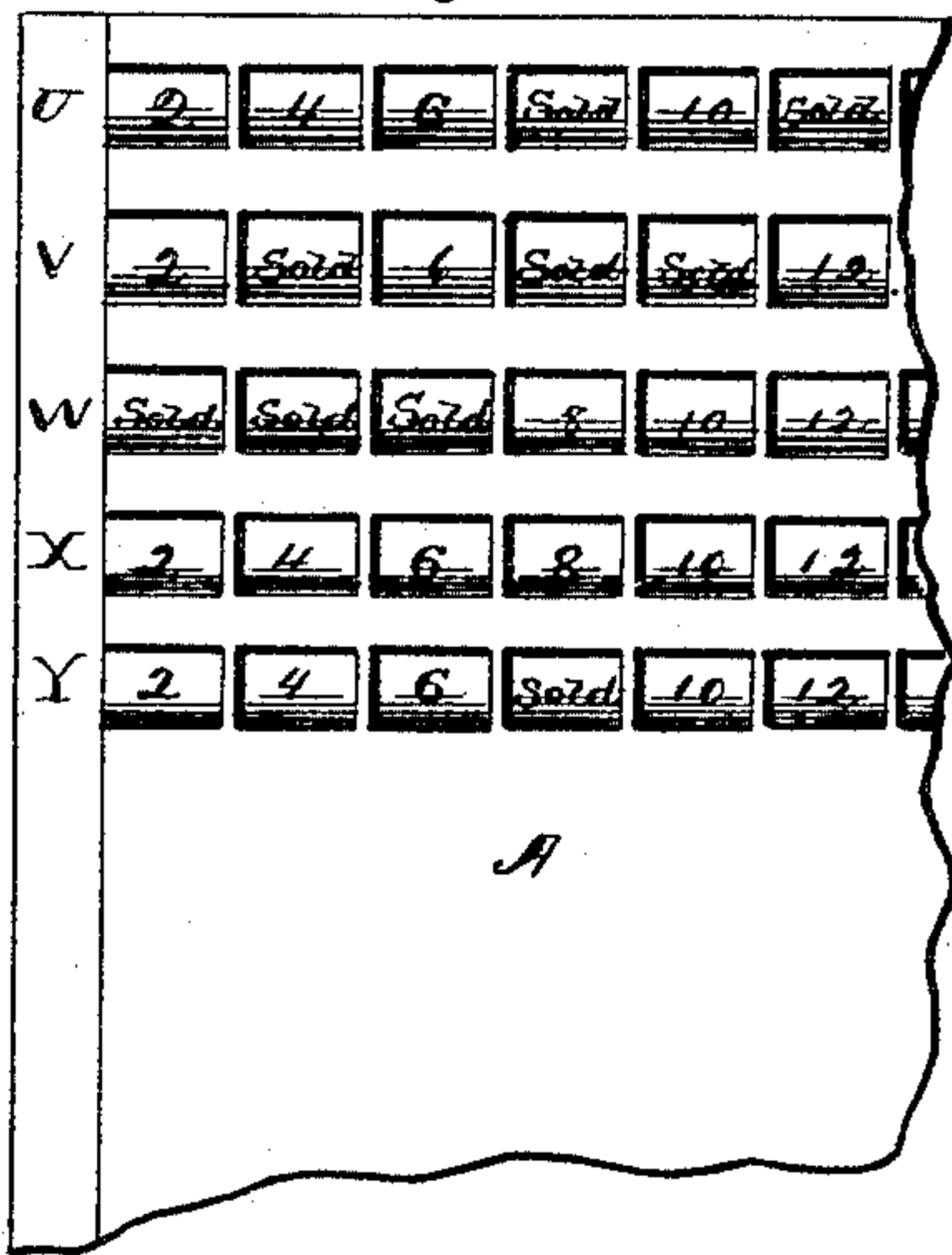
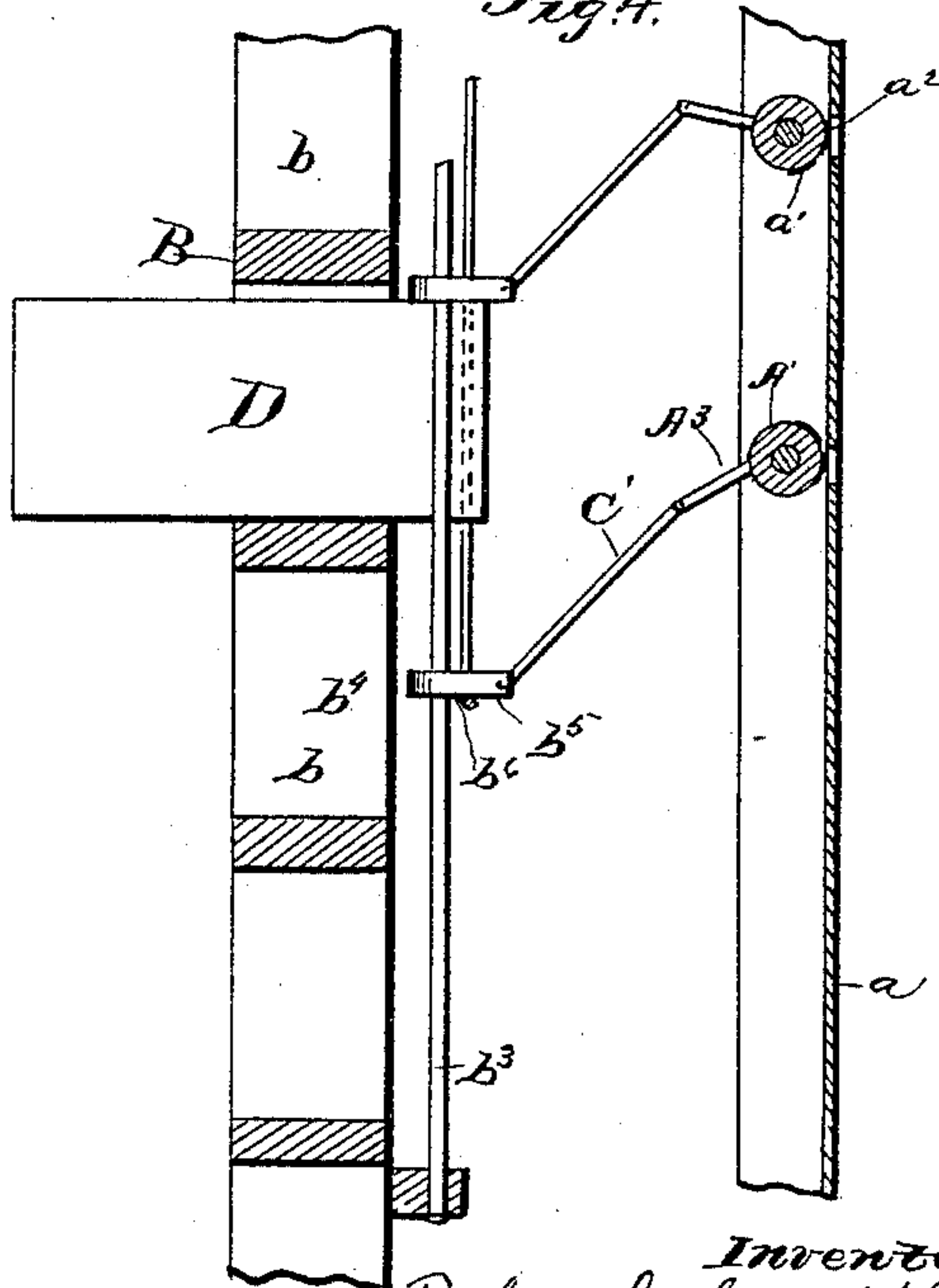


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
J. M. Fowler
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REUBEN LESLIE APPLEBY, OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE, ASSIGNOR OF
ONE-HALF TO JOSEPH N. WHEELER, OF SAME PLACE.

INDICATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 467,910, dated February 2, 1892.

Application filed August 27, 1891. Serial No. 403,886. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REUBEN LESLIE APPLEBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wilmington, in the county of New Castle and State of Delaware, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Indicators; 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 indicators, and may be used with equal advantage in selling theater-tickets, letting rooms on steamships and in hotels, and, in fact, in connection with anything that is designated by a character.

The object of my invention is to produce an indicator (for purposes of illustration and description, I will say) whereby a person upon entering a theater can ascertain in an instant what seats are not sold as well as those that are sold, and for this purpose a diagram of the seats in the theater is provided with openings in which the word "Sold" or the number of the seat is exhibited, said word or number being suitably secured upon drums which revolve immediately in the rear of the openings. Situate directly behind the above-described diagram is a face-board having slots or other suitable openings, each of which have characters to correspond with those on the diagram hereinbefore referred to. Secured to one side of this rear face-board, directly in line with each slot, are weighted bodies which are by suitable means connected with the drums hereinbefore referred to. A ticket or check suitably numbered is placed in the slot bearing a similar number. Upon removing one of the tickets from the rear board the weighted body falls by gravity, which in turn revolves the drum and the word "Sold" is exhibited in the opening on the diagram that corresponds with the number of the ticket withdrawn. Thus it is obvious that a person can by simply glancing at the diagram see what seat or seats are not sold, its exact location, and purchase accordingly. Further, persons in line waiting their "turn" can, while they are thus waiting, pick out the seat they want by simply looking at the diagram, which is in full view, and as soon as they reach the ticket-window they ask for the tickets bear-

ing the numbers of the seats which they have thus selected, and the ticket-seller (the numbers of the tickets being in view) can without delay produce the same. Thus it will be seen that tickets can by this device be sold much quicker and without the seller being annoyed with the usual and unnecessary questions which he is supposed to answer. Further, by means of the diagram having the sold and unsold tickets designated, a person can with more deliberation select the chair desired; and with these objects in view my invention consists of the parts and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

Figure 1 is a vertical central section through my indicator, parts being broken away. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the rear face-board, part being broken away. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the diagram, showing the drums in their different positions. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1 of a modification of my device.

A represents the diagram having the openings a . A' are drums working on an axis A^2 , said axis being suitably journaled. a' and a^2 are raised surfaces on the drum, upon which are placed, respectively, the word "Sold" and the number of the ticket. These surfaces are illustrated in the drawings as raised; but it is obvious that the characters may be stamped in the drums or printed upon a slip of paper, which can be pasted around the drums. Extending from each drum is a lever A^3 , which may be cast integral with or separate from the drum, as found most desirable.

B is the rear face-board, through which are cut slots or openings b . Directly in line with the slots b are weighted levers C, which are pivoted at c to the rear face-board B. These levers are concaved on their under side, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 2, and have a shoulder c^2 , which forms a stop for the ticket or check. In the outer or free end of these levers are small openings in which one end of a link or rod C' is loosely secured, and the other end of the link or rod is secured in a similar manner to the levers A^3 , which extend from the drums A^2 .

D is the card or check.

The operation is as follows: Suppose that all of the tickets have been sold, in which

case the levers c' are in a position similar to the bottom lever C. (Shown in Fig. 1.) While the levers are in this position, the word "Sold" is exhibited on the drums A. It is now desired to refill the device with tickets for the next performance and the ticket-agent or some other person enters the tickets or checks in the proper slot b , in the rear face-board B, and one corner of the ticket enters the concave on the under side of the lever C, by which it is now guided, and as the ticket is further pushed in it gradually raises the lever C until it comes into contact with the shoulder c^2 , formed on said lever. The lever C is now in a position similar to the second lever, represented in Fig. 1, and the drums A' exhibit the respective number of the seats.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a slight modification, which is similar to my invention hereinbefore described, with the following exception: Immediately to the rear of the face-board B are secured standards b^3 , and sliding on these standards are weighted bodies b^4 , said bodies having a projection b^5 , provided with a suitable aperture in which is loosely secured one end of the link C' . This body b^4 is concaved on its under side like the levers C and for the same purpose, all of which has been hereinbefore described. b^6 are rods which run entirely across the rear face-board and directly under the bodies b^4 , and b^7 are rods connected with the rods b^6 , and extend to the top of the device, where they are connected with a suitable lifting means, whereby the bodies may, after all or part of the tickets have been sold, be raised to a position similar to the top body (shown in Fig. 4) and held there until the desired ticket or tickets have been placed in the slots b in position. Then the rods b^6 are lowered and the bodies b^4 rest upon the tickets. As soon as a ticket is withdrawn, the body resting on it slides down on the standards b^3 until it comes in contact with the rod b^6 . This operation of course revolves the drums A', as described in connection with Fig. 1. Attached to the rear face-board, under the slot for the ticket to slide in, is a guide F, concaved on its upper surface. This guide F is preferably made of resilient material to allow for any slight variations there may be in the width of the tickets, and has a shoulder f to correspond with the shoulder c on the lever C.

It is obvious that many slight changes and alterations may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention. Hence I do not confine myself strictly to the parts herein shown.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with an indicator of the character described, of front and rear face-boards having openings, weighted levers secured to the rear face-board directly in line with said openings, and drums secured to the front face-board, said drums and levers being suitably connected.

2. In an indicator, the combination, with a diagram having openings therein and indicators located directly behind said openings, of a rear face-board provided with openings similar to those in the diagram and means connecting the openings in the rear face-board with the indicators, substantially as described.

3. In an indicator of the character described, the combination, with a rear face having slots adapted to receive tickets and the like and a weighted body engaging said tickets, of a diagram having openings, and indicators adapted to be exhibited in said openings, said weighted body being mechanically connected with the indicators.

4. In an indicator, the combination, with a diagram and indicators, of the rear face having slots or openings adapted to receive tickets and the like, and weighted levers pivoted to said rear face directly in line with the said slots, and means connecting said levers with the indicators, substantially as described.

5. In an indicator of the character described, the combination, with a diagram having openings therein, of bodies journaled to work immediately behind said openings, said bodies having characters, the link, and weighted levers, said link connecting the weighted levers with said bodies, substantially as described.

6. The combination, with the diagrams having openings therein, drums bearing characters and adapted to work directly behind said openings, and levers connected with said drums at one end and at their other ends to a link, of a rear face having slots therein adapted to receive tickets or the like, and levers connected with said links and pivoted directly in line with said slots and having depending shoulders, said levers being concaved on their under side from the pivoted point to the shoulder and the guide F, substantially as described.

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

REUBEN LESLIE APPLEBY.

Witnesses:

JOS. N. WHEELER,
FRANK E. SMITH.