

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. H. SCOTFORD.
VOTING MACHINE.

No. 512,994.

Patented Jan. 16, 1894.

Fig. 1.

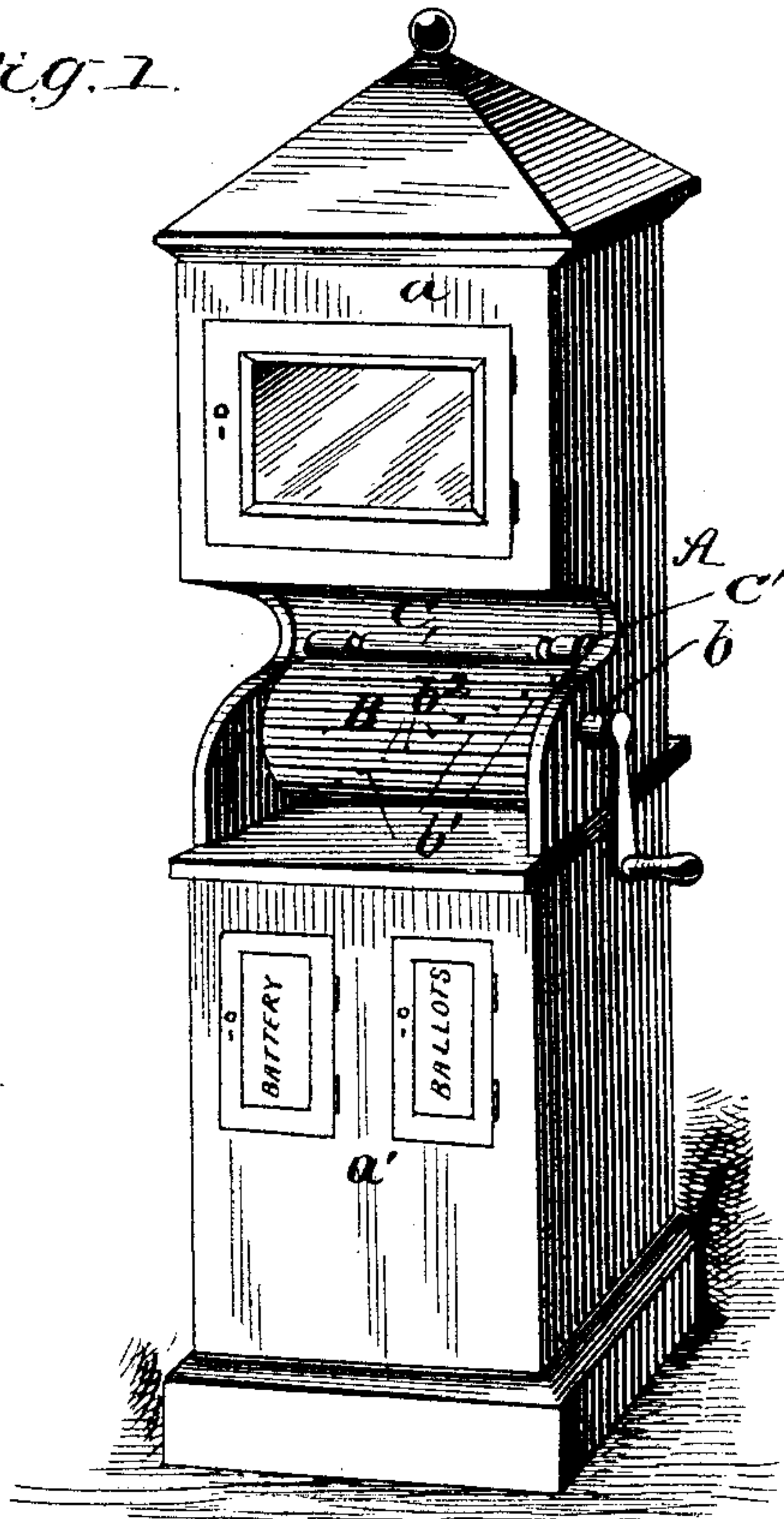


Fig. 5.

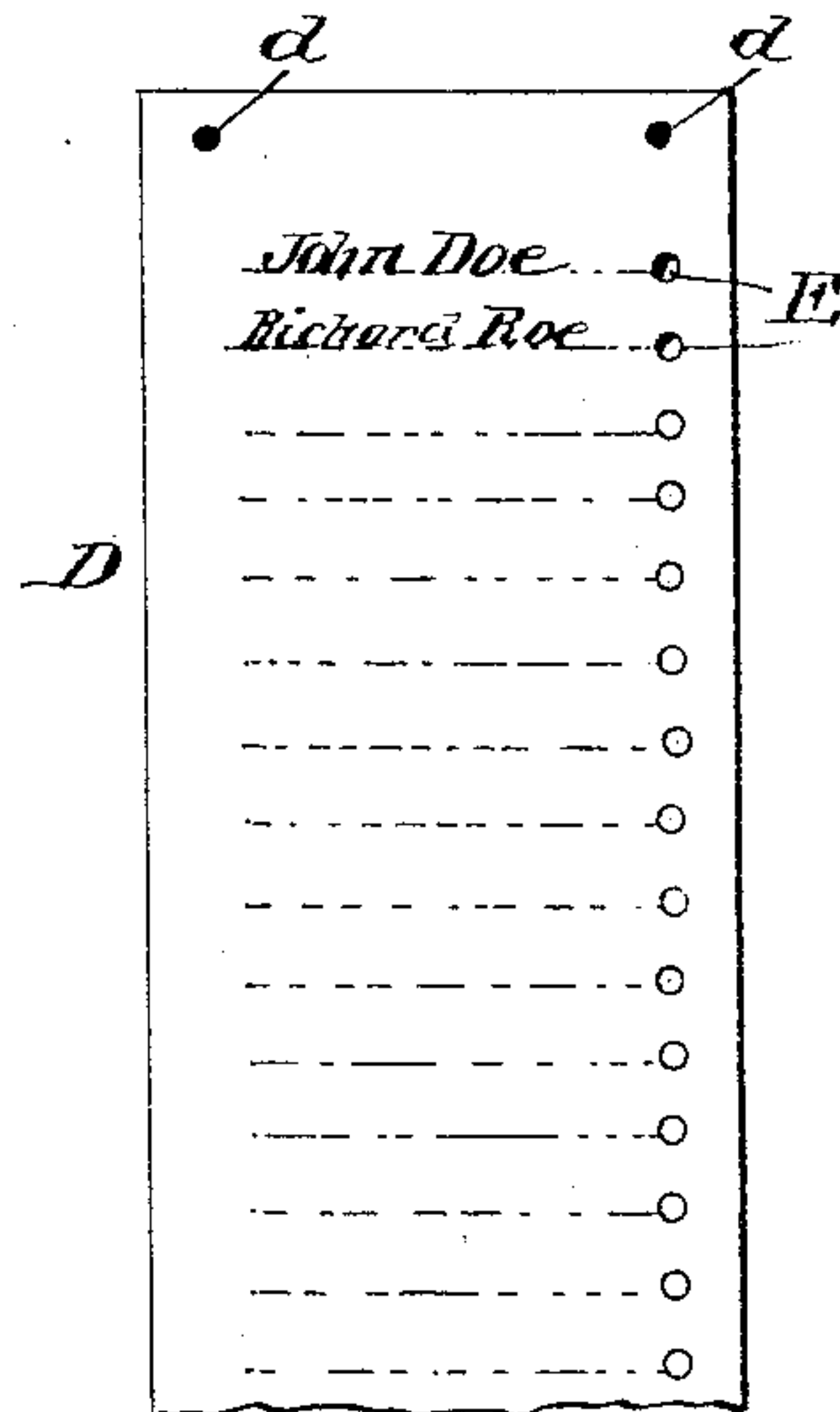
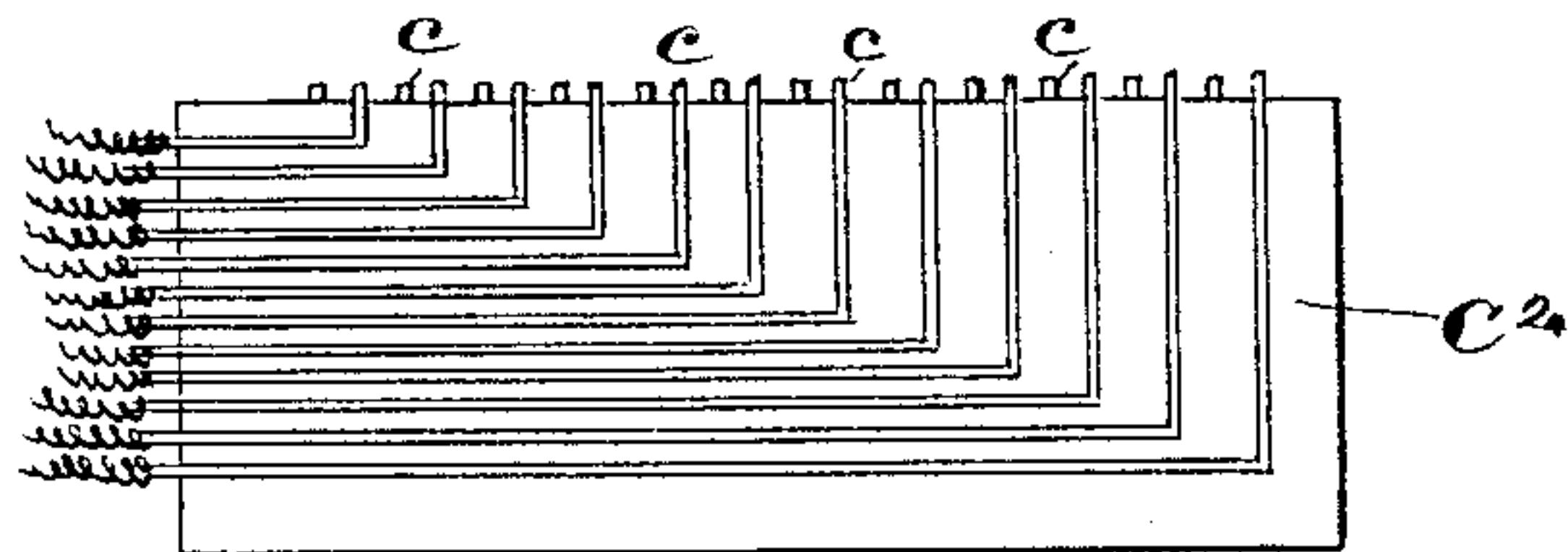


Fig. 6.



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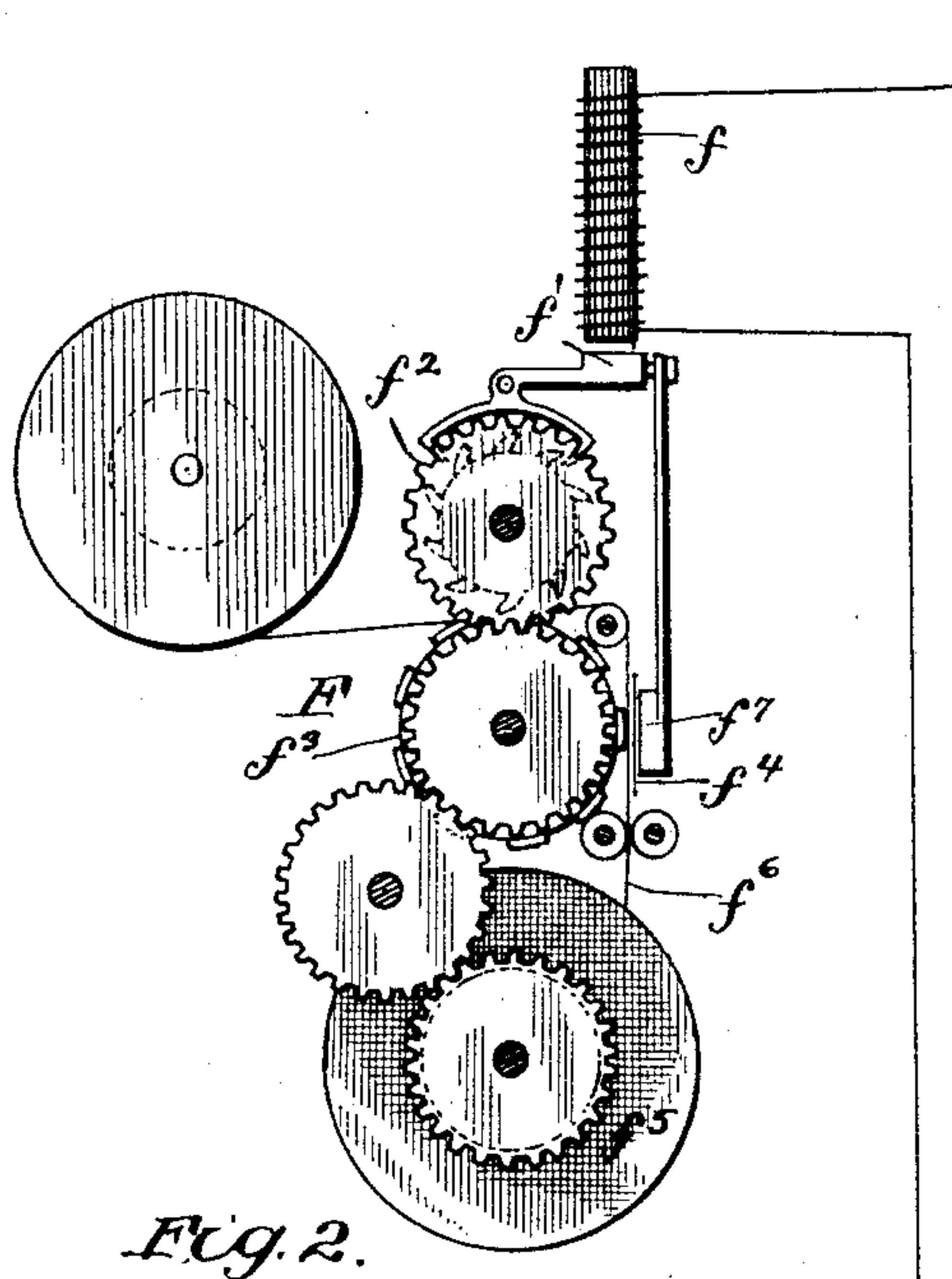


Fig. 2.

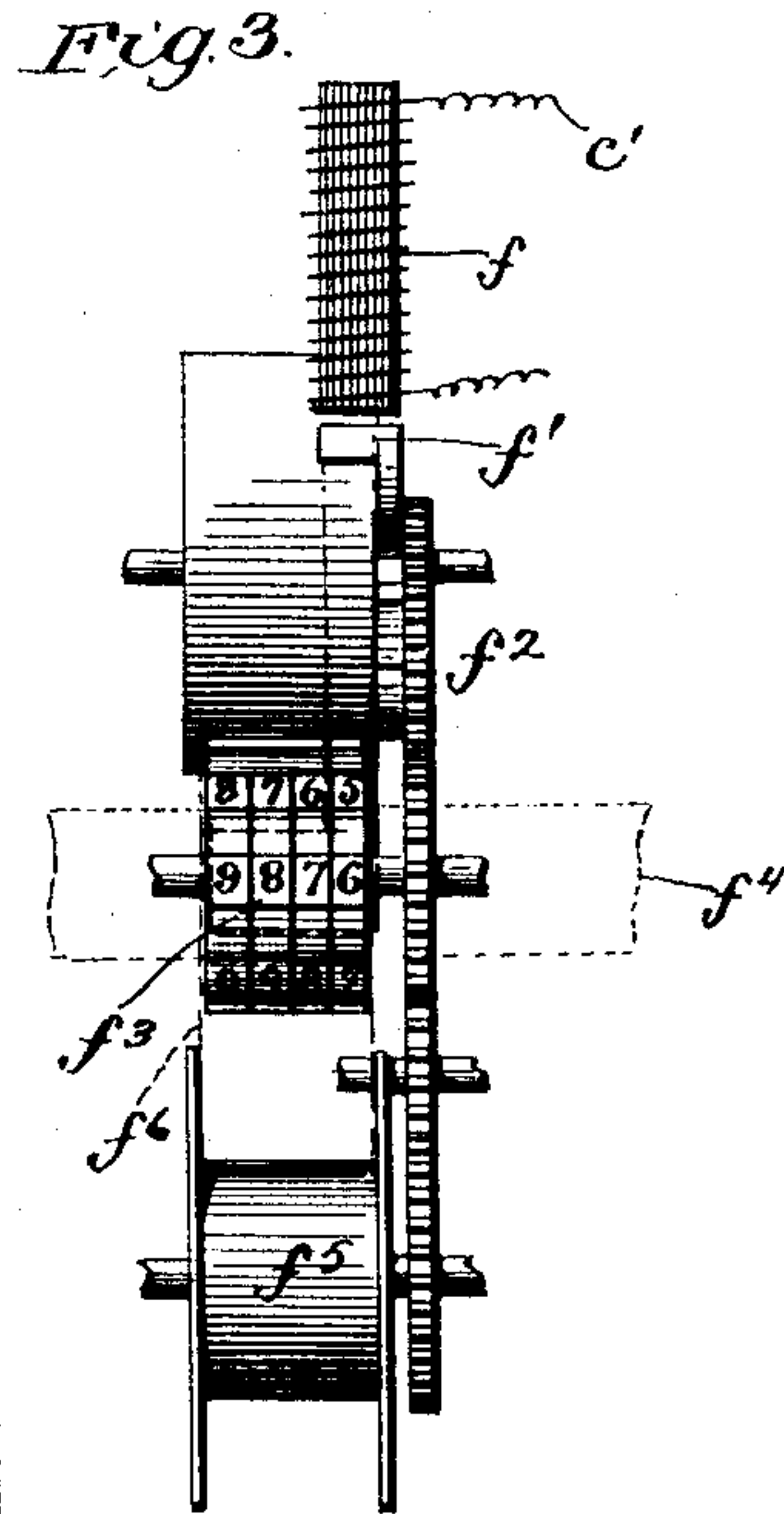


Fig. 3.

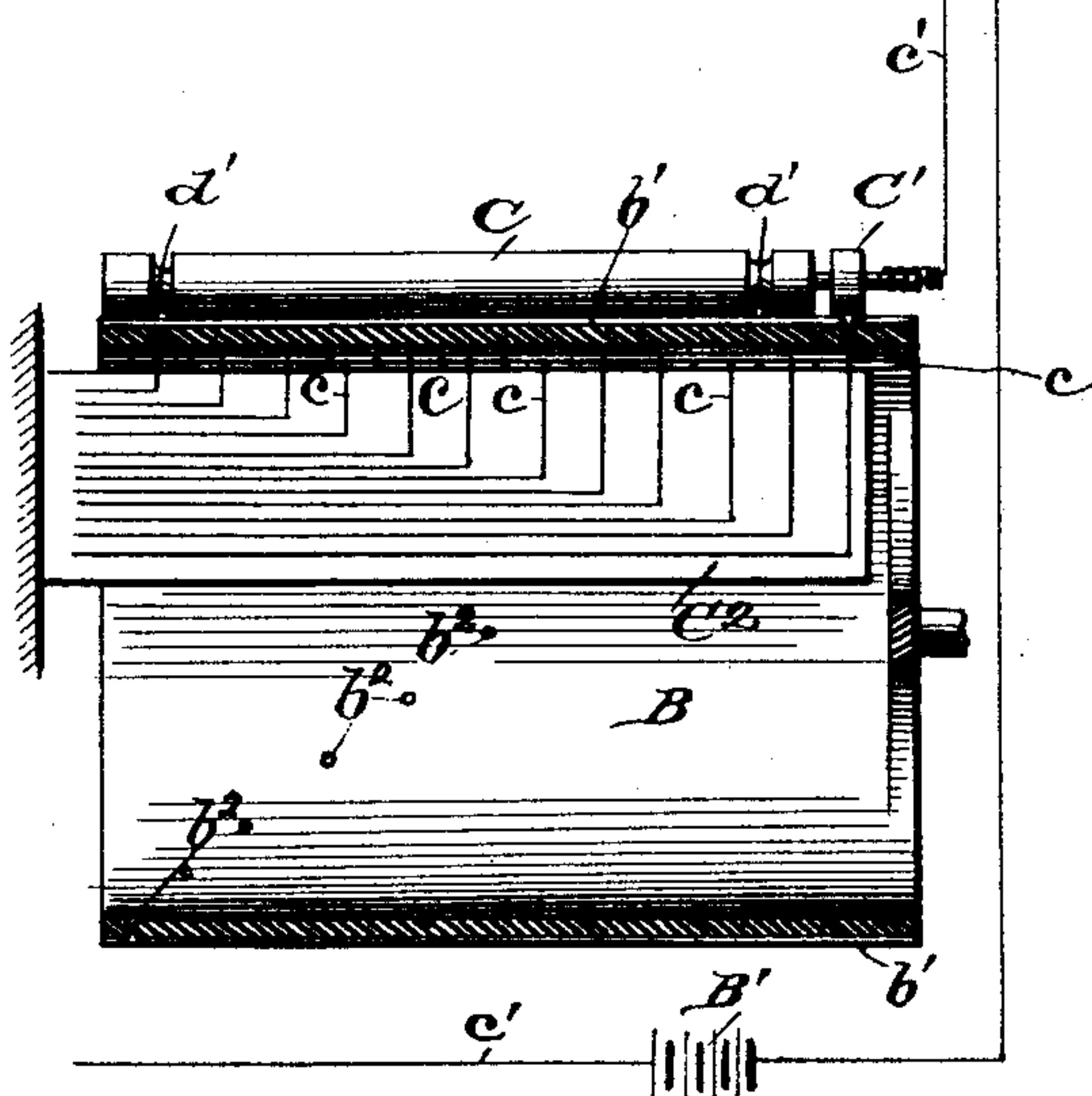


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. SCOTFORD, OF PORTLAND, OREGON.

VOTING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 512,994, dated January 16, 1894.

Application filed April 21, 1893. Serial No. 471,282. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SCOTFORD, of Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented a new and
5 useful Improvement in Vote-Registering Machines, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improved vote numbering, registering and indicating device, the
10 object of my invention being to provide a machine which will accurately count and register each vote for each candidate so that when the polls are closed, the aggregate vote for each candidate will appear registered in
15 a definite manner thus obviating the necessity of counting the vote.

The machine is intended to be used in connection with the system known as the Australian system and will tend to give freedom
20 and honesty to the ballot.

With these objects in view my invention consists broadly of a cylinder adapted to carry a ballot, a contact wheel, a numbering and registering device, an electric magnet
25 for operating the same, and electrical connections between the said magnet and cylinder, whereby when the cylinder is revolved with a ballot thereon the numbering and registering device will be operated to count and
30 print the vote.

My invention consists also in certain details of construction and combination of parts all of which will be fully described and then pointed out in the claims.

35 In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a view illustrating the electrical connections between the cylinder and registering device. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the registering and
40 printing mechanism. Fig. 4 is an end view of the cylinder. Fig. 5 is a view of a portion of the ballot and Fig. 6 a view of the switch board.

In constructing my improved machine I
45 employ a suitable cabinet or frame A having an upper case *a* and a lower case *a'*. Between these cases *a* and *a'* the cabinet is open as shown and at said open portion is journaled a cylinder B said cylinder being mounted
50 upon a shaft *b* which is journaled only at its

right hand end. This cylinder B is of non-conducting material such as gutta-percha or ebonite, and has its outer surface covered by a series of longitudinal metallic strips *b'*. A series of pins *b²* passes through the strips *b'* 55 into the interior of the cylinder, said pins being arranged in spiral order as shown and for a purpose hereinafter explained. Above the cylinder B and contacting therewith is a pressure roller C and at one end of said roller 60 is arranged a metallic contact wheel C' which is adapted to contact with the metallic strips *b'* upon the surface of the cylinder B. The inner ends of the pins *b²* contact with the conductor wires *c* as shown in Fig. 2 said wires 65 being arranged in a switch board *c²* (Fig. 6) located in the cylinder B, and the spiral arrangement of said pins gives ample room for such connections and prevents any entanglement. The contact wheel C' is connected 70 with a conductor wire *c'* said wires being connected with a battery B' thus making a complete electric circuit whenever the wheel C' contacts with one of the metallic strips which is in connection with one of the wires *c*. 75

D indicates the ballot which consists of a strip of paper with the names of the candidates printed thereon, the names being spaced with reference to the metallic strips *b'* so that when the ballot is placed upon the cylinder 80 each name will rest upon a certain one of these strips. Two holes *d d* are punched in the top of the ballot, by means of which it is fastened to the cylinder, said holes fitting over two pins *d' d'* attached to the cylinder. 85

In preparing the ballot for voting, the voter punches a hole E opposite the name of each candidate he wishes to vote for. Those candidates he does not wish to vote for he leaves the paper opposite the name untouched. The 90 ballot thus prepared is secured upon the cylinder and the cylinder revolved. As it revolves the contact wheel C' will contact with a metallic strip *b'* wherever there is a perforation E thus closing the electric circuit. Connected with each conductor wire *c* is an independent numbering and registering device F 95 and these devices F are marked according to the strip *b'* with which they are connected so that if one candidate's name, John Doe, is 100

printed to contact with one particular strip the device F connected with said strip will bear the name of John Doe also so that every vote cast for each candidate will be counted.

5 The numbering and registering device consists of an electric magnet f , the armature f' , of which is connected with the escapement lever of a spring clock mechanism f^2 which drives a numbering wheel f^3 , said numbering wheel being of the usual construction. The numbering wheel f^3 contacts with an ink ribbon f^4 , and the same train of gearing that drives the wheel f^4 also drives the spool f^5 carrying a narrow strip of paper f^6 , upon which is printed the vote counted upon the wheel f^3 , a printing hammer f^7 being connected with the armature of the magnet for this purpose so that after the wheel f^3 has been operated by closing the circuit, the hammer, will press the paper against the wheel when the circuit is broken, thus printing the number upon the paper strip.

G indicates a guide for holding the paper ballot upon the cylinder and H indicates a stripper which strips the ballot from the cylinder and guides it into the lower case, where they may be counted if so desired, after the polls have closed for the purpose of verifying the registering device.

The upper case is provided with a glass door through which can be seen the various votes for the different candidates.

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

35 1. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cylinder and contact wheel of the battery and circuit and the combined numbering and registering device ar-

ranged within said circuit and operated by the opening and closing of said circuit substantially as described. 40

2. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cylinder having a series of metallic strips of a contact wheel, conductor wires connected with the cylinder and wheel, the battery and numbering, registering and printing devices arranged in the circuit substantially as shown and described. 45

3. In a device of the character described, the combination with a cylinder having a series of metallic strips, the pins passing into the interior of the cylinder, the conductor wires arranged in a switch board to contact with said pins, and the contact wheel, conductor wires and battery all arranged substantially as shown and described. 50 55

4. In a device of the character described, the combination with an electric circuit and magnet of an escapement lever, connected with the armature and a clock mechanism, the number wheel, paper strips and printing hammer all arranged substantially as shown and described. 60

5. In a device of the character described the combination with a cylinder of two studs secured therein and adapted to hold the ballot, a curved guide plate located above the cylinder and adjacent thereto to hold the ballot down, and a curved stripping plate arranged beneath the cylinder to strip the ballot from the cylinder substantially as shown and described. 65 70

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Witnesses:

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