

(No Model.)

R. A. HABERSHAM.
ELECTRIC TREASURE GUARD.

No. 539,737.

Patented May 21, 1895.

Fig. 1

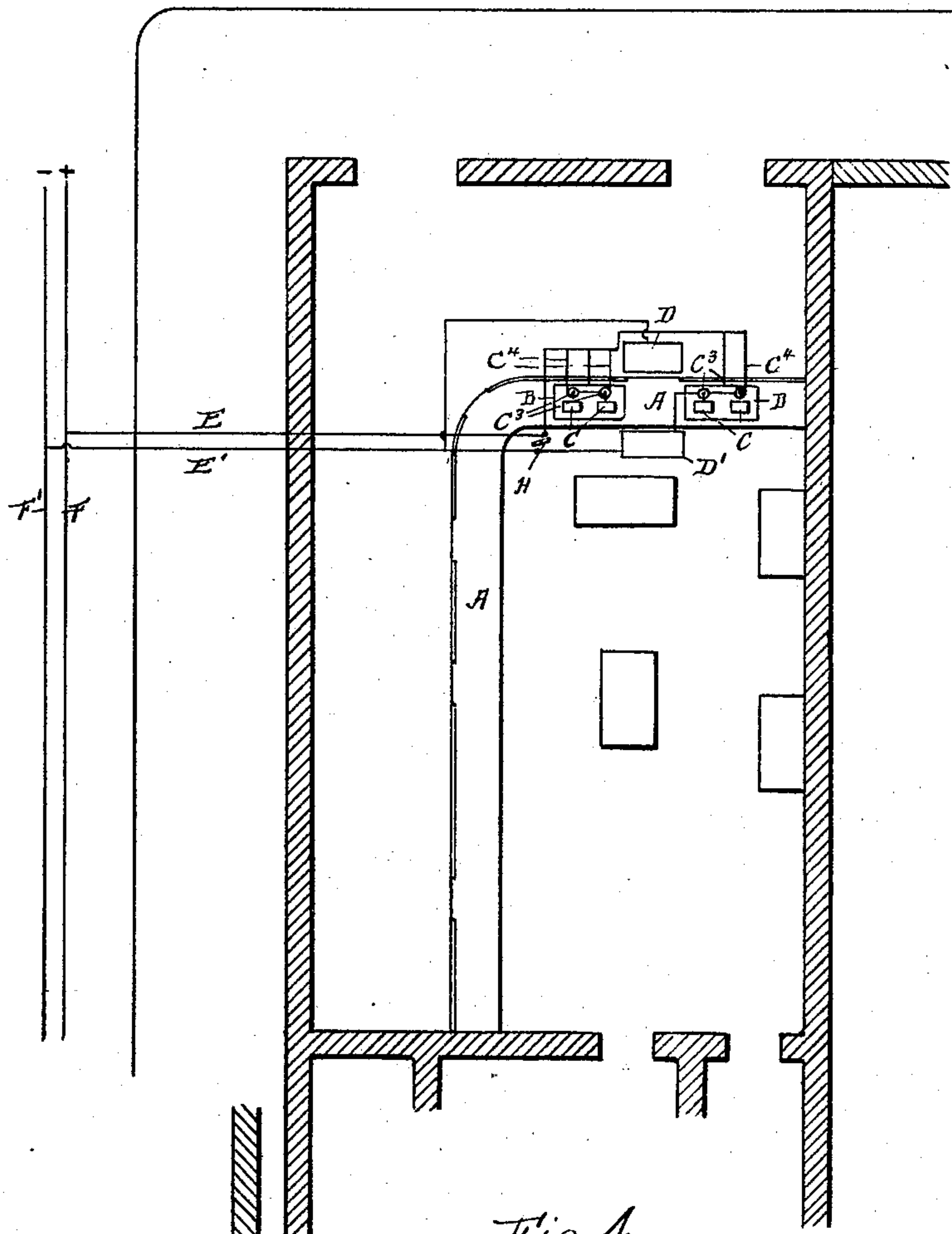


Fig. 2.

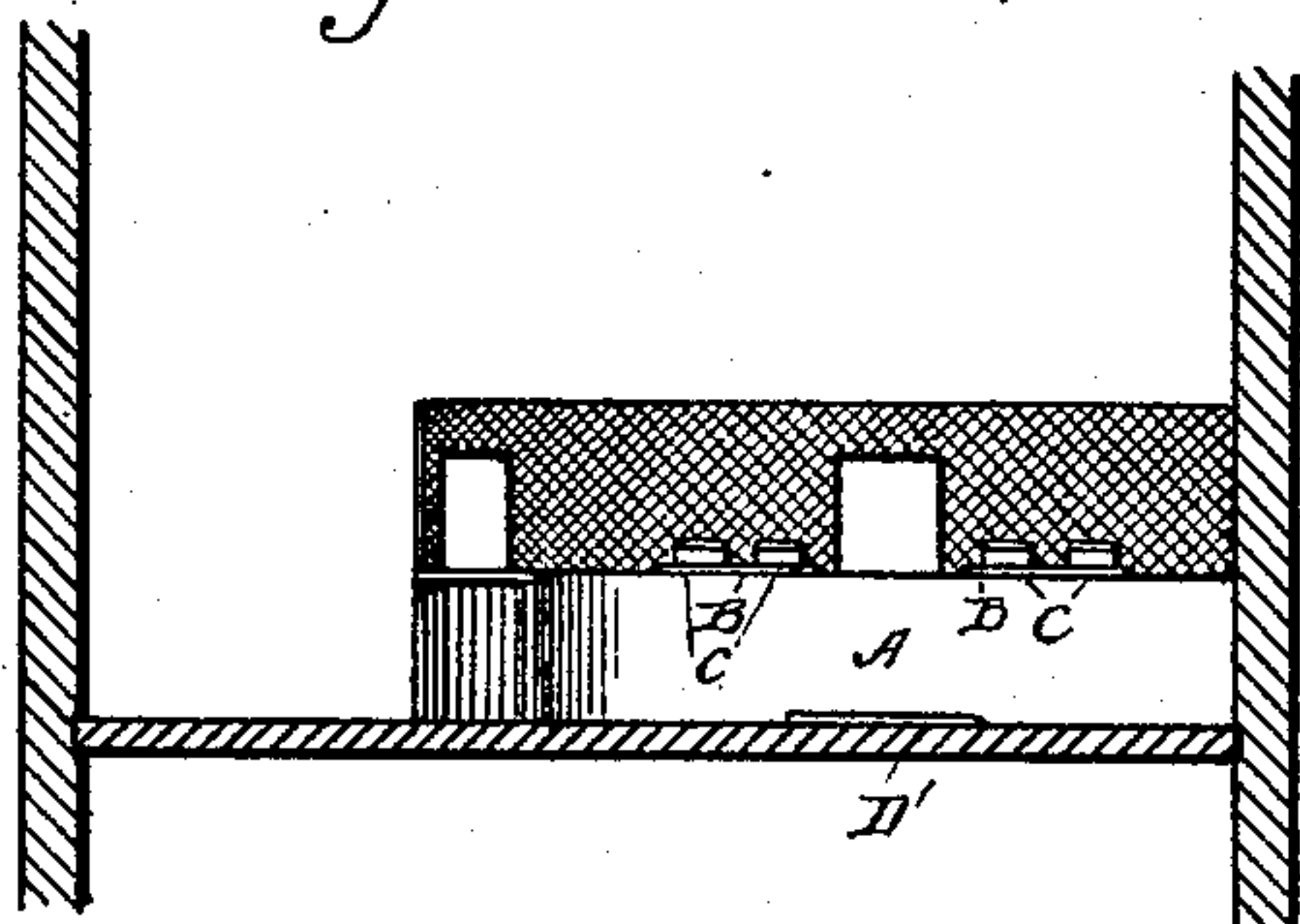


Fig. 4.

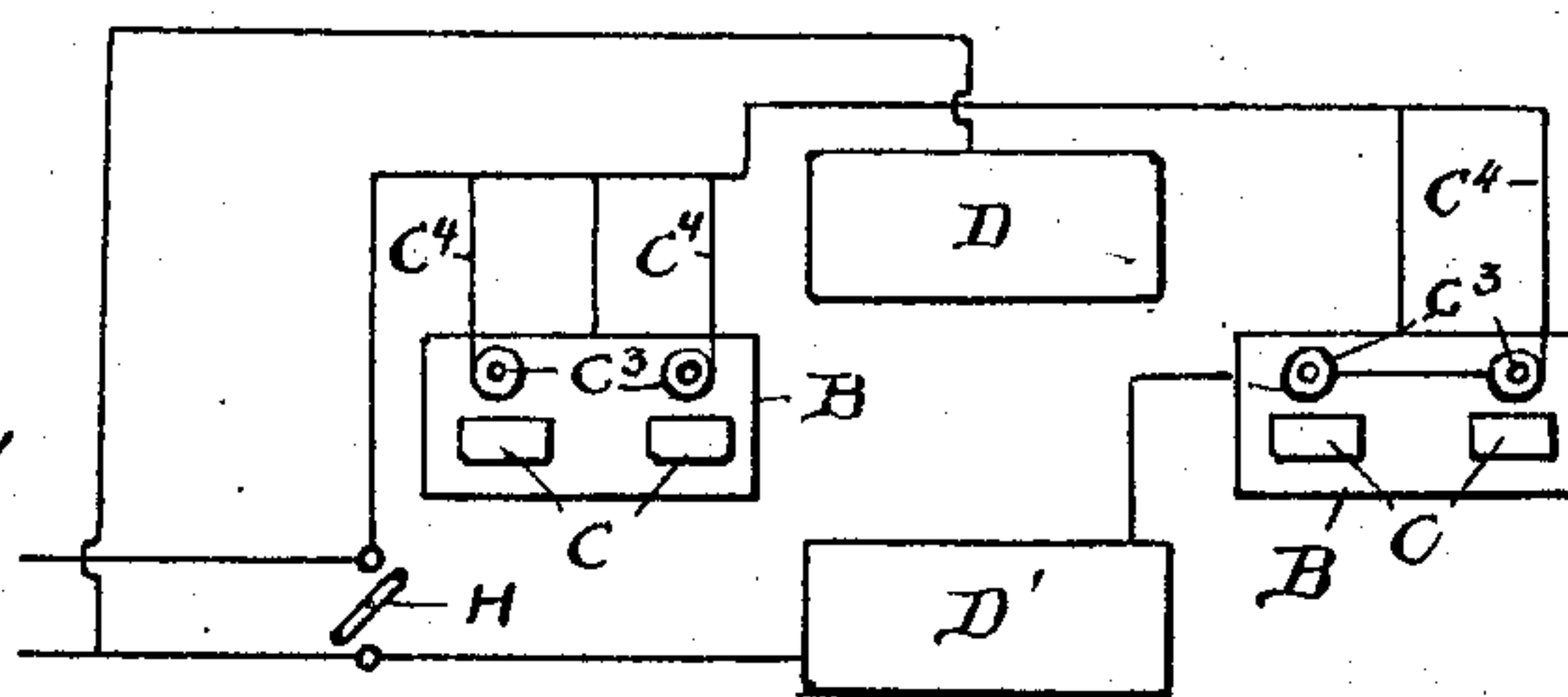
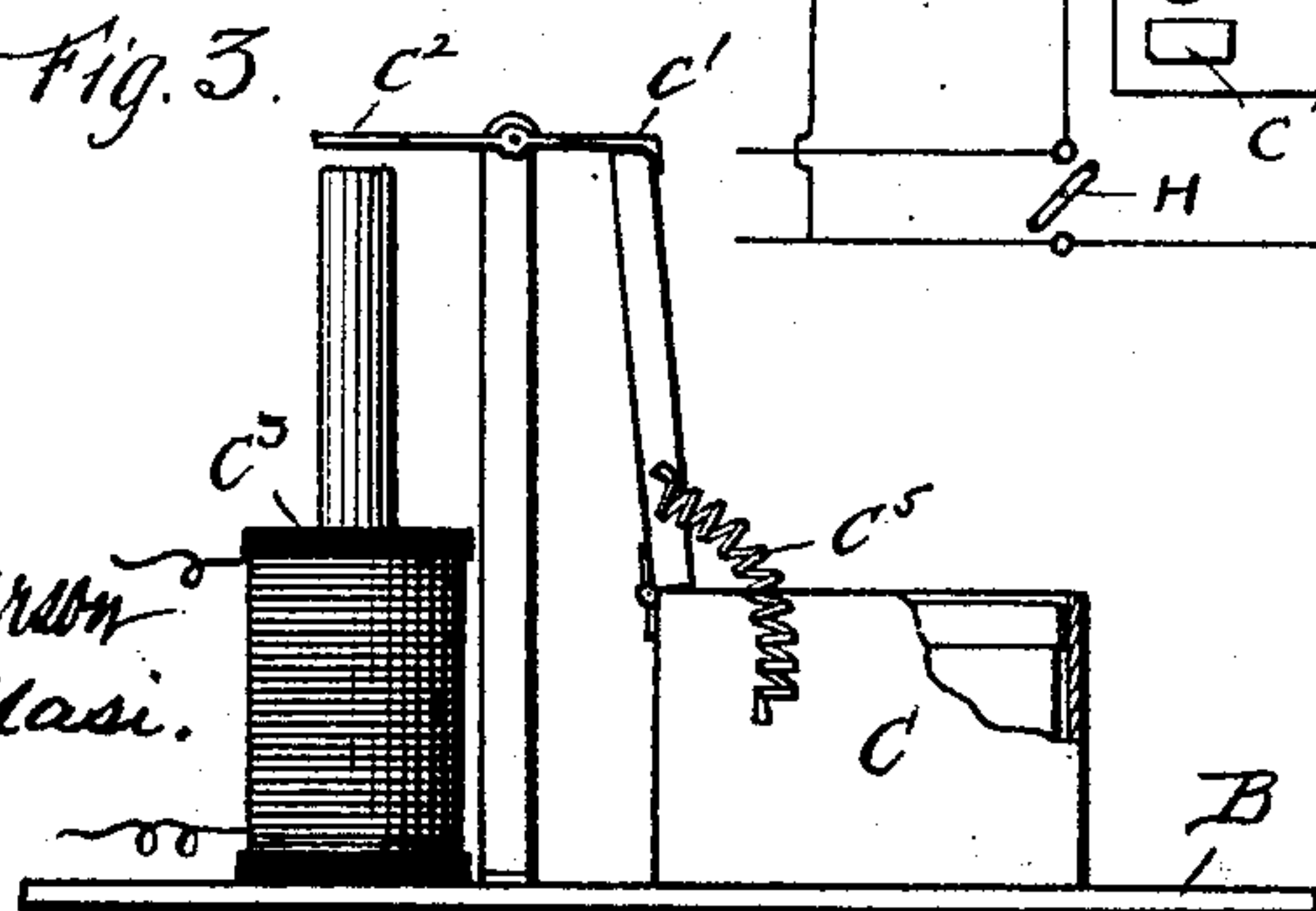


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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ELECTRIC TREASURE-GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 539,737, dated May 21, 1895.

Application filed January 3, 1895. Serial No. 533,740. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT A. HABERSHAM, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Portland, in the county of Multnomah and State of Oregon, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electric Treasure-Guards; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a diagrammatic view illustrating the application of the invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view showing the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view showing the devices for holding and releasing the coin-box cover, and Fig. 4 is a diagram showing the circuits on a larger scale.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple and efficient means for the protection of those engaged in handling money and other valuables against robbery by violence; and the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described and pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in Fig. 1 of which I have represented diagrammatically the interior of a bank, or similar building, the letter A designates the counter or desk upon which money or other valuables are handled during business hours. Upon this counter I secure one or more brass or other metallic plates B, according to the business of the bank or other institution, and the amount of valuables which it is desired to protect. Upon these plates are placed money or treasure boxes C. These boxes are formed of steel or brass, strong enough to prevent their being easily forced open, and having lids of the same material closing with a spring lock. These boxes are secured to the plates B in such a manner as to be immovable, and are of sufficient capacity to receive the ordinary coin boxes during business hours.

D, D' are metallic plates, usually of brass which are secured to the floor upon each side of the counter.

E-, E', designate electric wires which re-

ceive their current from the positive and negative wires F, F', of the nearest electric plant, or in the absence of such a plant, from an electric battery capable of furnishing a current of considerable power. The wire E is connected to each of the metallic counter plates, as indicated, while the wire E' is branched and connected to the two floor plates.

H is a double pole switch of which there may be several placed in points behind the counter within convenient reach of the employés, but where they will not be liable to be closed by accident.

The lid of each money or treasure box C is held open by means of a catch C' carried by an armature C², controlled by an electro-magnet C³, whose current may be derived from a battery whose circuit is closed by the operation of the switch H, but I prefer to obtain this current by connections C⁴ from the main wires as indicated. A spring C⁵ may be employed to throw the lid down when the catch is released, or the lid may be arranged to close by gravity. Upon occasion of attempt at robbery, any one in the bank by closing the switch completes the circuit through the magnets C³, closing the outer box C, and at the same time charging the floor plates, counter plates and boxes. The complete circuit through the said plates and boxes is however not made until the robber by stepping on the floor plates and placing his hand upon the counter plate or box completes it through his body and receives the full force of the current.

This form of the invention is more particularly designed for the protection of non-metallic articles. Where coin only is handled, the ordinary coin box, provided with a brass bottom will be sufficient. These coin boxes will rest on the brass counter plates when not in the safe or vault, and the coin itself can be charged with sufficient current at any moment to render it dangerous to touch.

The floor plates and counter plates should be well insulated from their supports where the character of the latter is such as to render insulation necessary.

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

1. As a treasure guard, the combination

with a counter upon which money or other
valuables are handled, of one or more metallic
plates forming part of said counter, a metal-
lic floor plate or plates adjacent to said coun-
5 ter, an electric circuit including therein said
counter and floor plates, and capable of sup-
plying a current of dangerous strength, a
treasure box or boxes arranged to have me-
tallic contact with said counter plates, and a
10 switch for closing said circuit, substantially
as specified.

2. The combination with a metallic plate
forming part of an electric circuit, of a coin
box arranged to have metallic contact with

said plate, a lid or closure for said box, an 15
electro-magnetic device for normally holding
said lid or closure open, means for supply-
ing current to said device, and a switch for
controlling the circuit of both the box and
the electro-magnetic device, substantially as 20
specified.

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

ROBERT A. HABERSHAM.

Witnesses:

J. R. STODDARD,
WM. FELDMAN.