

(No Model.)

R. E. EBERSOLE.
COIN CONTROLLED APPARATUS.

No. 592,004.

Patented Oct. 19, 1897.

Fig. 1.

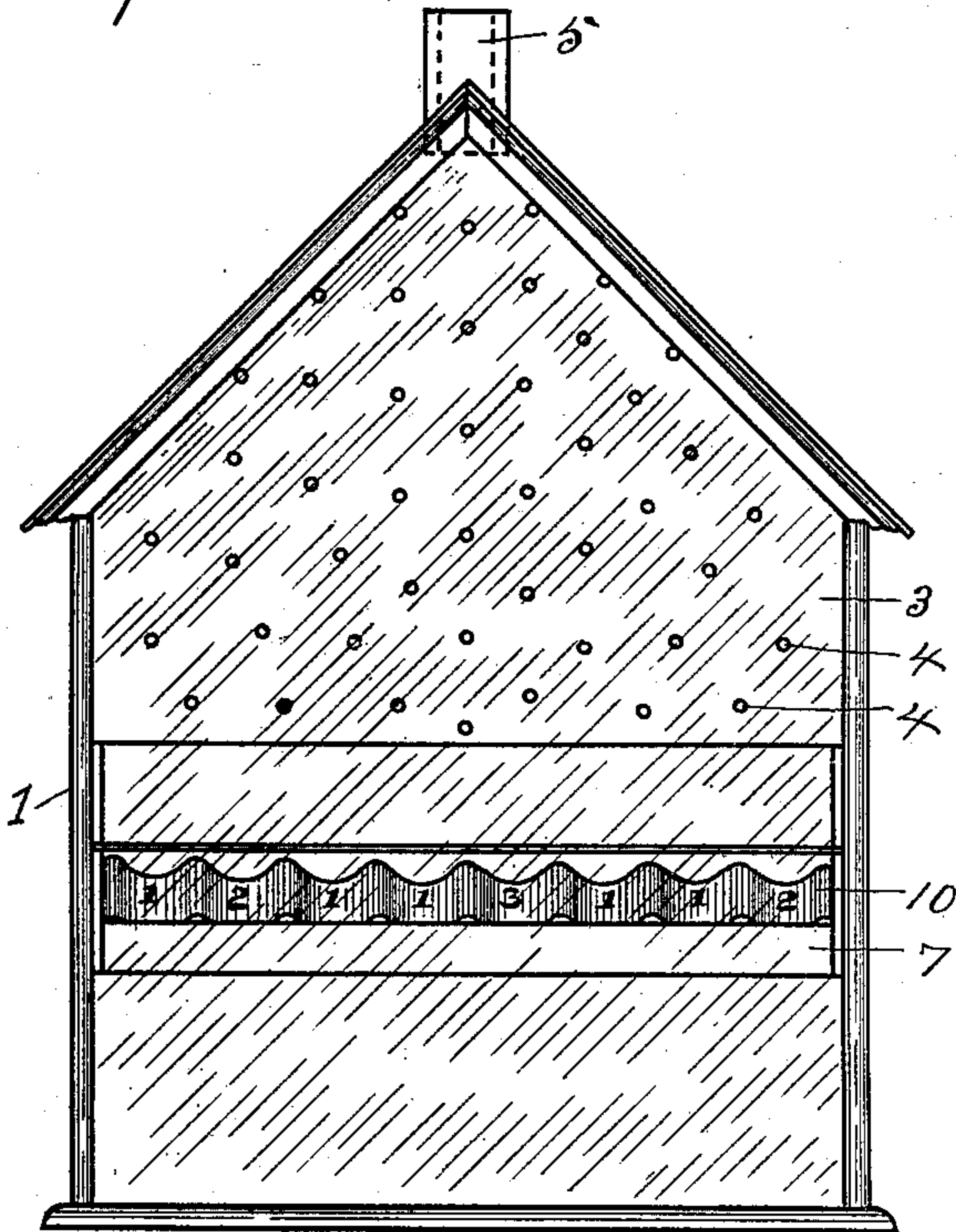


Fig. 2.

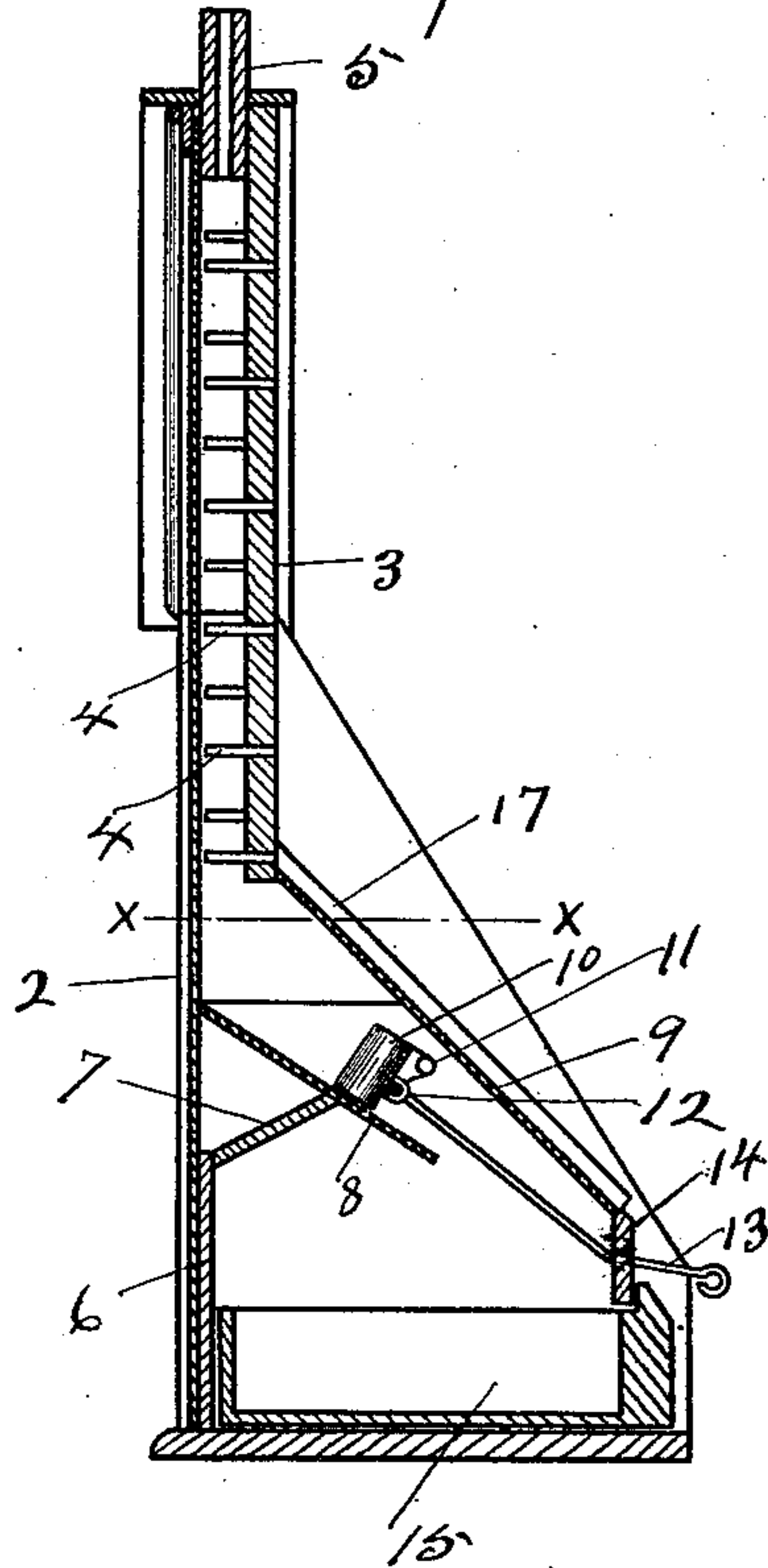


Fig. 3.

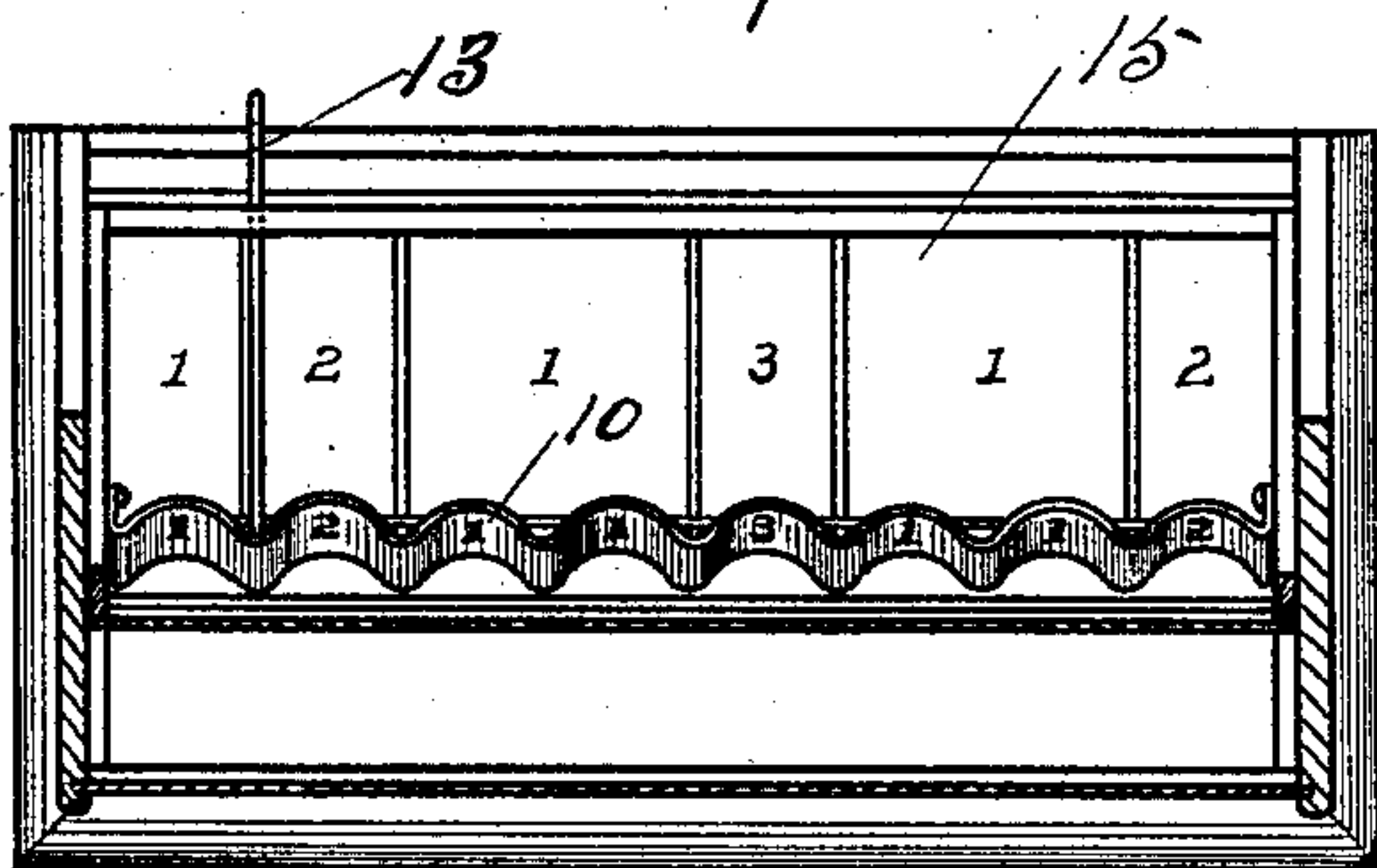
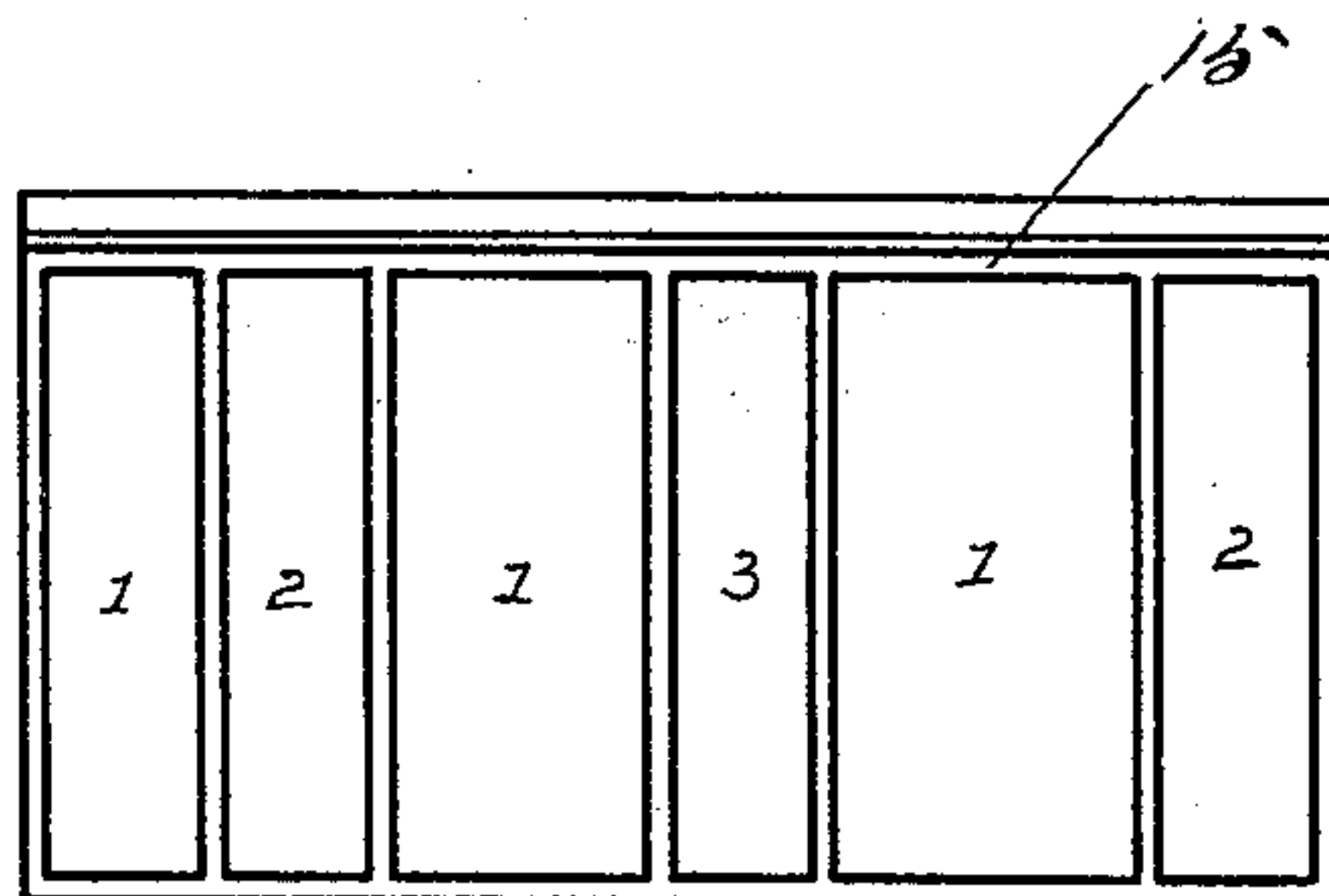


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RAPHAEL E. EBERSOLE, OF ROANOKE, INDIANA.

COIN-CONTROLLED APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 592,004, dated October 19, 1897.

Application filed July 28, 1897. Serial No. 646,187. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RAPHAEL E. EBERSOLE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Roanoke, in the county of Huntington, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coin-Controlled Apparatus; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in a coin-controlled apparatus for use in cigar and confectionery shops; and the object of the invention is to provide a simple, cheap, and easily-constructed device to be used in connection with selling small articles, by dropping a coin or token in a chute which will be deflected in its downward course into receptacles upon a shelf, which by numbers upon the receptacles will indicate the number of articles purchased and which coin can then be discharged into a compartment-drawer beneath the shelf, the compartments being numbered to correspond with the numbers upon the indicator. The apparatus is portable and can be placed upon the counter in a shop or store or in any other conspicuous place and affords an attractive method of selling goods and can be also utilized as an advertising medium. I attain this object by the apparatus illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of the apparatus in elevation. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view from front to rear of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view through the line $x x$ in Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a plan view of the drawer or receptacle for the coins at the lower part of the apparatus.

Similar reference-numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views, in which—
1 is the exterior casing or frame, having a suitable top, sides, and base.

2 is a full-sized glass front secured within the frame.

3 is a back preferably of wood secured within the frame, and in which are inserted forwardly-projecting pins 4 4 of any desired

number irregularly arranged for the purpose hereinafter described.

5 is a chute at the apex of the frame having an orifice for inserting a coin or token. At the front lower part, back of the glass, is secured a board 6, upon which may be placed advertising matter or the rules of using the machine, and 7 is an inclined shelf upon which is secured a glass shelf 8, which at its upper edge meets the glass front 2. At the rear is secured, to the sides, a board 14, and upon this is a glass 9, extending to and meeting with the back 3, as shown in Fig. 2. The glass 9 incloses the works and is secured in position by cleats 17, fastened to the sides of the frame in any proper manner.

At the base beneath the board 14 is a removable drawer 15, having suitable sides, ends, and bottom, and open at the top, and which can be withdrawn from the rear. This drawer is subdivided into compartments, (indicated by numerals 1, 2, and 3, Figs. 3 and 4.)

An indicator 10, preferably of tin or other sheet metal, is pivotally mounted upon the shelf 8 by pivots 11 in the sides of the frame. This indicator is corrugated, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, thereby forming recesses on its front, and which recesses are numbered 1 2 3, &c., as shown. To the rear side of this indicator is pivotally attached an operating-rod 13 by the joint 12. The rod 13 extends to the rear through an aperture in the board 14, as shown in Fig. 2, and by pushing it forward the indicator 10 can be raised from its seat on the shelf 8.

The figures upon the indicator correspond with the like numbered compartments in the drawer 15. The figures upon the indicator represent the number of the articles to which the customer is entitled, as follows: When a coin is dropped in chute 5, in falling it will strike against the pins 4 and be deflected in a zigzag course and lodge upon the shelf 8 in one of the recesses of the indicator 10. If it lodges in one of the recesses having a number 1, it entitles the customer to one cigar or box of confections or other article that is for sale. If it falls into a recess having a number 2, it entitles the customer to two like articles, and if in 3, to three like articles. The recesses

having the numeral 1 are more numerous than the higher numbers, and thus increase the chances that but one will be drawn.

The open glass front enables the customer to see the operation and to what he is entitled, thus insuring perfect fairness. After ascertaining the number of articles to which the customer is entitled by his venture the seller by pushing in the rod 13 raises the indicator from the shelf 8, and the coin glides into the receptacle in the drawer having a corresponding number, and the indicator being placed back upon the shelf the apparatus is again ready for use.

The drawer 15 can be secured within the frame by lock and key, and the owner can thus whenever he opens it ascertain just how many articles have been paid for, and it thus becomes a check upon the carelessness or dishonesty of clerks.

The shape of the frame and the corrugations in the indicators and the numbers and arrangement can be varied without departing from the scope of my invention. The operating-rod for manipulating the indicator can also be adjusted upon the side of the machine or in various other ways without departing from the scope of my invention. Also any suitable symbols, as letters, may be substituted for numerals on the indicator.

The apparatus can be made quite ornate and will form an attractive addition to the store or shop, and the mode of operation being plainly visible through the glass front all chance of cheating or trickery is eliminated, while the little element of uncertainty as to the result makes it attractive to customers.

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

1. A coin-controlled apparatus, comprising a suitable frame having a glass front; a coin-chute in the upper edge of the frame, a back having a plurality of forwardly-projecting pins arranged as described; a rearwardly-inclined shelf below said back adapted to receive a coin or token dropped in said chute; a recessed indicator having numbers as stated and pivotally attached to the frame, and hav-

ing its base resting upon the said shelf; an operating-rod for manipulating said indicator so arranged that the indicator can be raised from its seat upon the said shelf; all arranged substantially as described and shown.

2. A coin-controlled apparatus, comprising a suitable frame having a glass front; a coin-chute in the upper edge of said frame, a back having a plurality of forwardly-projecting pins arranged as described; a rearwardly-inclined shelf below said back adapted to receive a coin or token dropped in said chute; a recessed indicator having its recesses numbered as described, and being pivotally attached to the sides of the frame and having its base resting upon the said inclined shelf; an operating-rod so arranged as to raise the said indicator from said inclined shelf and permit the coins to glide into a drawer beneath the same; a drawer beneath said shelf having compartments to receive the said coin or token; and the recesses in the indicator and the compartments beneath having corresponding numbers or letters; all arranged substantially as described and shown.

3. A coin-controlled apparatus, comprising a suitable frame having a glass front and suitable orifice for inserting a coin or token; a back having a plurality of forwardly-projecting pins, arranged as described; a rearwardly-inclined shelf below said back adapted to receive a coin or token inserted in said orifice; a recessed indicator having its recesses numbered or lettered, and pivotally attached to said frame and its base in contact with said inclined shelf; an operating-rod pivotally attached to said indicator, and so arranged as by means thereof to elevate the indicator from its contact with said shelf and permit the coin or token to glide into a receptacle or drawer having numbers or letters corresponding to like numbers or letters upon the recesses of the indicator; all arranged as described.

Signed and dated this 26th day of July, 1897.

RAPHAEL E. EBERSOLE.

Witnesses:

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C. H. MCPHERSON.