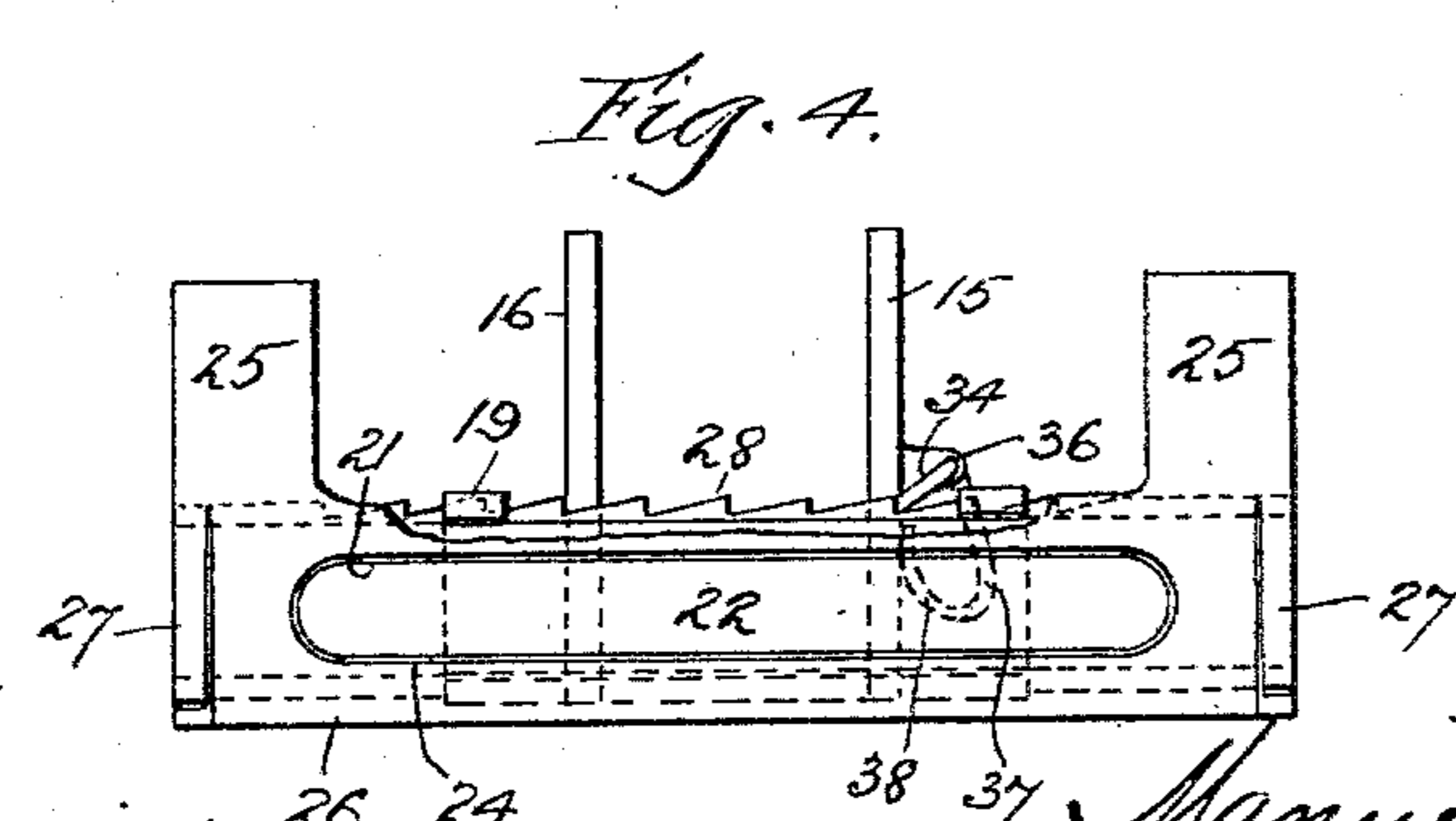
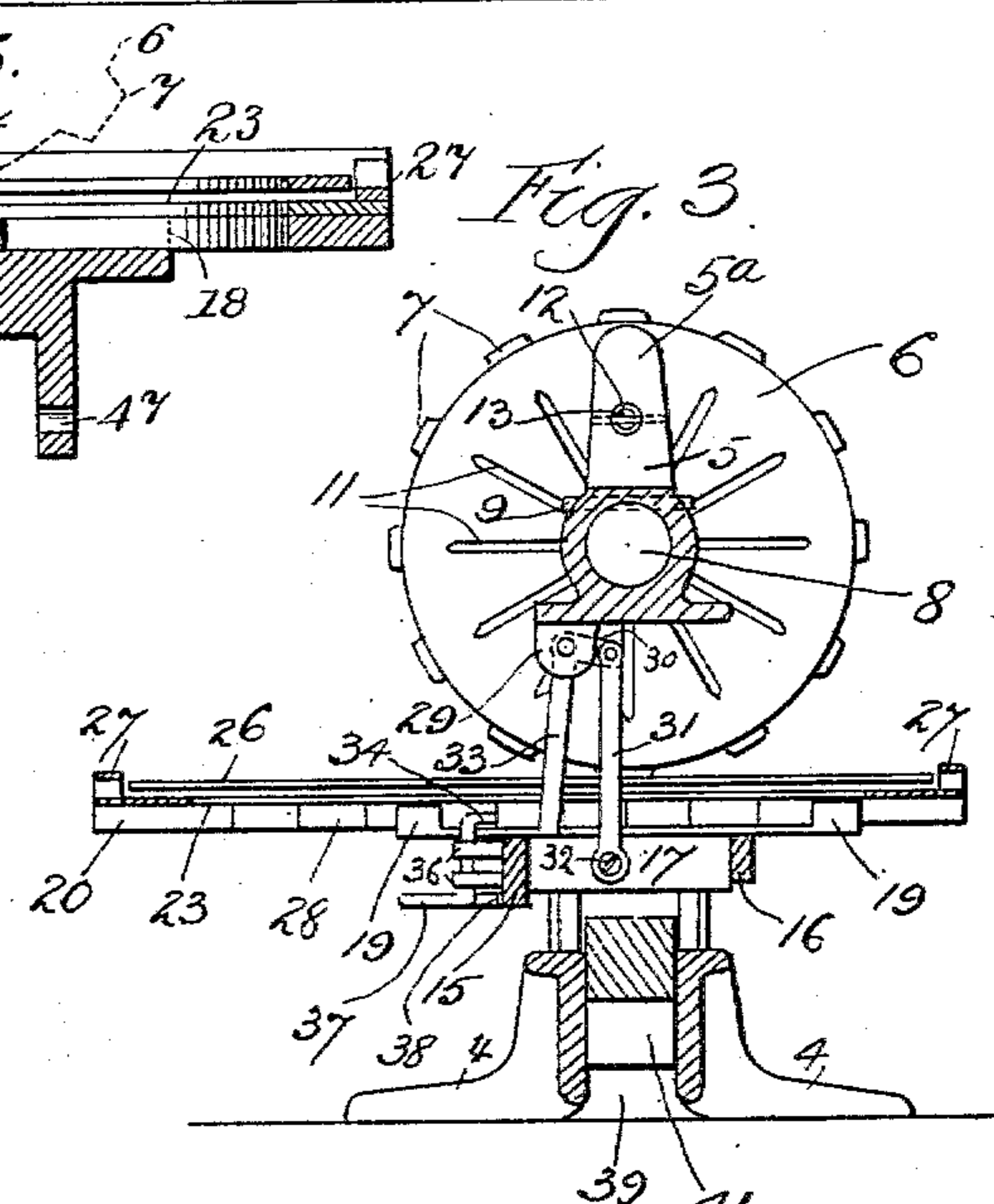
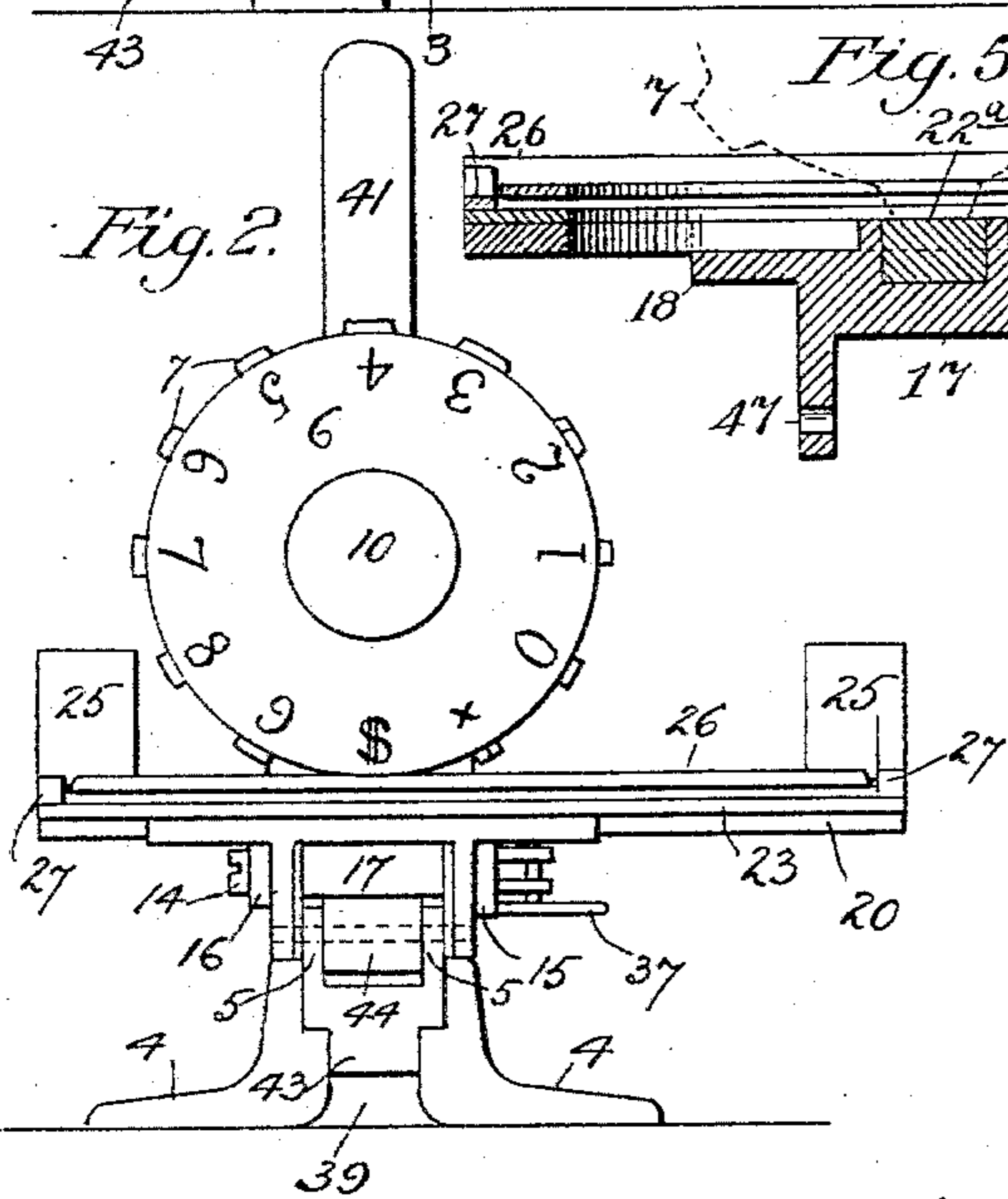
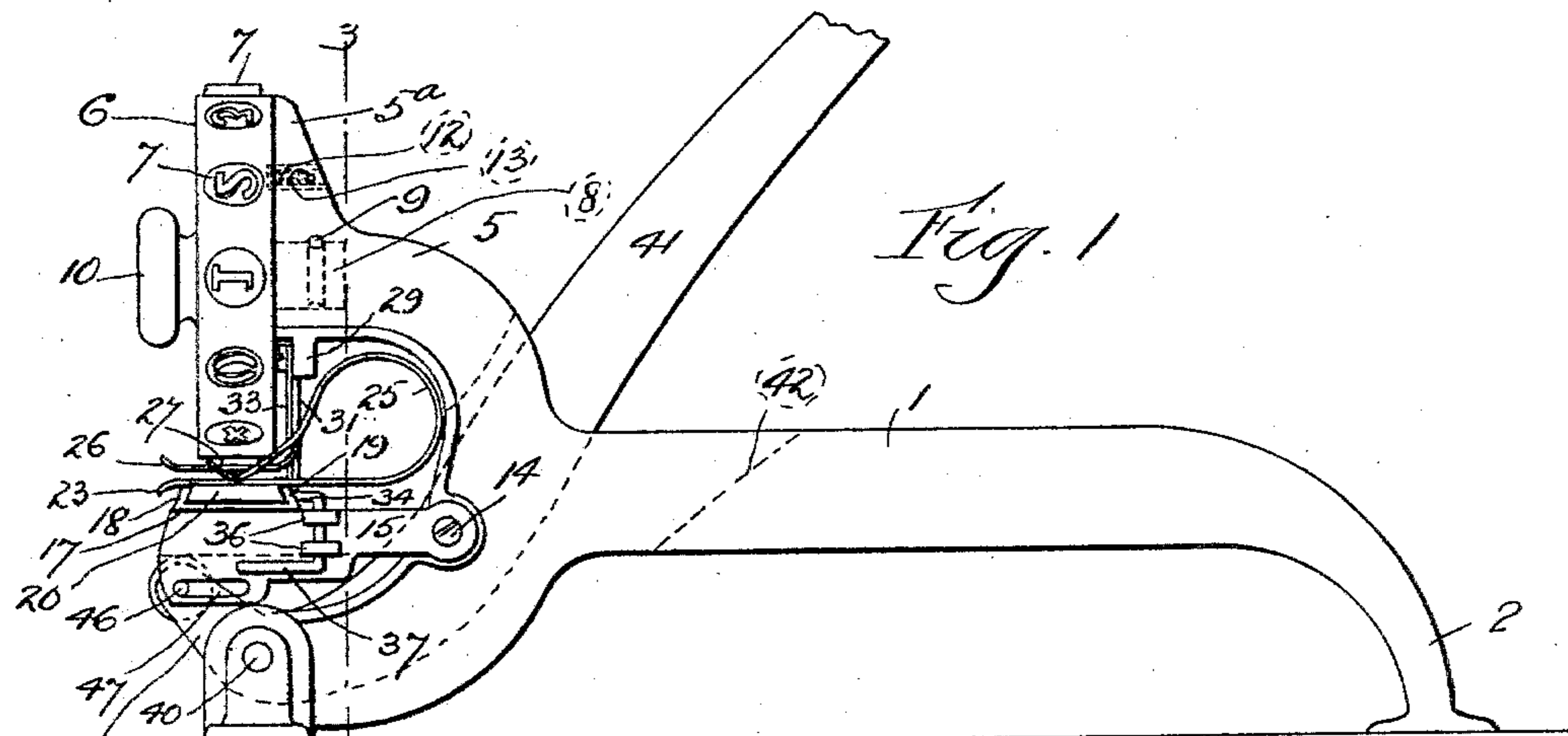


(No Model.)

M. HIRSH.
CHECK PUNCH.

No. 597,413.

Patented Jan. 18, 1898.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MANUEL HIRSH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CHECK-PUNCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 597,413, dated January 18, 1898.

Application filed July 16, 1896. Serial No. 599,402. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MANUEL HIRSH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check-Punches, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

My invention relates to improvements in devices for perforating or punching checks and other negotiable or valuable papers to insure against the amount or other matter therein being altered without detection; and my invention is more particularly designed for the use of small merchants and private parties whose business or need for a check-punch does not warrant the considerable outlay necessary to procure a punch of the desirable and effective types heretofore known. The object of my invention is to provide an improved, effective, and inexpensive check-punch of the described character.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain features of novelty in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts by which the said objects and certain other objects hereinafter appearing are attained, all as described in the specification, shown in the drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the said drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved check-punch. Fig. 2 is a front view thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section taken on the line 3 3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail plan view of the movable jaw and check-feeding carriage hereinafter described, and Fig. 5 is a detail vertical sectional view illustrating certain modifications hereinafter described.

In carrying out my invention I employ a frame 1, which is so formed as to constitute a handle if it should be desired to hold the check in the hand while operating it, but this frame is provided at one end with a downturned foot portion 2, which serves to support the frame 1 upon the table in a substantially horizontal position, the other end of the frame 1 being formed with a bifurcated end whose lower fork or prong 3 curves downwardly and is provided with laterally-extending foot portions 4, which serve, in conjunc-

tion with the foot-piece 2, to support the device squarely upon the table should it be desired to use it in a horizontal position. The other fork or member 5 of this bifurcated end of the frame curves upwardly and over the member 3 and has journaled on its outer end a die-wheel 6, upon whose periphery are formed dies 7 in the shape of characters or figures, which serve to cut or punch the check or paper. This wheel 6 is secured to a pivot-pin 8, which is journaled loosely in the arm or member 5, so as to rotate freely therein, and may be held against withdrawal from such arm by any suitable device—such, for instance, as a pin 9 passing through the arm 5 and engaging in a peripheral groove in the pivot 8. The outer extremity of the pivot 8 is formed with a knob 10, which serves as a means for rotating the die-wheel 6 to the desired position, and in order that the operator may readily determine when the proper die has reached a position immediately under the center of the wheel 6, the rear face of the wheel 6 is provided with a number of notches 11, having beveled or V-shaped edges in which engages an elastic or spring-actuated dog or detent 12, which is mounted in a socket in an upward extension 5^a of the arm 5 and is held normally in engagement with the notches 11 by means of a suitable spring 13, but the edges of the notches 11 are not sufficiently abrupt to prevent the rotation of the die-wheel when sufficient power is applied by the knob 10. If desired, the characters 7 may be duplicated on the outer face of the die-wheel 6, so as to be visible to the operator and enable him to determine the position of the die at the under side of the wheel, or such characters may be duplicated on the periphery of the wheel 6 to one side of the dies 7 and in such a relation thereto that the duplicate number will be at the top and opposite the extension 5^a when the die corresponding thereto is at the bottom of the die-wheel and in position to effect the punching of the check.

Pivoted at 14 to each side of the frame 1, so as to project forwardly between the members 3 5, are arms 15 16. The outer ends of these arms are formed with or joined to a block or plate 17, whose upper side is pro-

vided with converging flanges 18 19, which form means for holding a plate 20, whose edges are beveled and fit under said flanges, as more clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 4, whereby the plate is capable of sliding to and fro on the block 17. This plate 20 is provided with a longitudinal opening or slot 21, in which is inserted a filling of rawhide 22, gutta-percha, or any other yielding material, but preferably rawhide, for forcing the check firmly against the dies 7 and causing the paper to be punched or perforated without injury to the die, thus avoiding the necessity of employing a female die. This opening 21 is about as long as a line composed of six or eight numbers, which are sufficient to express the maximum amount of checks used in ordinary business, and the rawhide filling 22 may be of a similar length, or, if desired, a small block 22^a of the rawhide filling may be arranged immediately under the center of the wheel 6, so that it will always be under the die doing the punching. When such modification is employed, the rawhide filling would of course be permanently fixed in the block 17 and would be independent of the plate 20, so that the latter might move forward with the check, the filling 22^a in this instance, of course being projected upwardly through the opening in the plate 20, so as to be flush with the surface of the latter, and a portion of the block 17, if desired, being also extended upwardly flush with the surface of the plate 20, so as to prevent the filling 22^a from being mashed out of shape, as shown in Fig. 5. Secured to the upper side of this plate 20 is a check-holder composed, preferably, of a sheet of thin metal, comprising a horizontal flat portion 23, having an opening or slot 24, coinciding with the slot 21 in the plate 20, and a pair of arms 25, arranged at each end of the plate 23, which curve rearwardly, upwardly, and then forwardly, and carry over the plate 23 a second plate 26, which is immediately over and parallel with the plate 23, and is also provided with an opening which is coincident with the opening in the plate 23, the purpose of these openings in the plates 23 26 being to permit the dies 7 to come into engagement with the check. The outer edges of the plates 23 26 are curved in opposite directions, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, so as to be capable of readily receiving the check between them. The arms 25 are curved upwardly in the manner described for the purpose of permitting the check being pushed under the punch the desired distance. The ends of the plate 26 have struck-up tongues 27, which curve downwardly against the plate 23 and form means for clamping the check against the plate 23 and causing it to move forward with the plate 20 and parts 23 26, which constitute the check-carriage.

The inner edge of the plate 20 is provided with a series of teeth 28, and pivoted to a boss or projection 29 on the under side of the arm

5 is a pawl, in the form of a bell-crank lever, whose one arm 30 is pivoted to a link 31, which is connected at its lower end by a pivot-pin 32 to the block 17. The other arm 33 of this pawl is in the form of a flat spring, which presses against the notched edge 28 of the plate 20 and which when the block 17 rises and falls in the act of punching the check engages with the teeth 28 and causes the plate 20 and parts carried thereby to move forward the distance of one space. When the block 17 descends, the spring 33 passes over the teeth 28 without moving the plate 20 and engages with the next tooth in readiness to advance the plate 20 another space. In order that the plate 20 may not be given a retrograde movement by the friction of the spring 33 in passing over the inclines of the teeth 28, I provide a dog 34, which is so arranged as to engage behind the teeth 28 and prevent the said retrograde movement of the plate 20, but as the plate moves forward this spring is automatically deflected by the advancing tooth and drops behind the succeeding tooth when the movement of the plate 20 ceases. This dog 34 is formed with a shaft 35, which is journaled in perforated ears or lugs 36, formed on the side of the arm 15, and it is provided with a releasing-lever or thumb-piece 37, which, if desired, may be formed with a spring-tailpiece 38, bearing against the side of the arm 15 and serving to hold the dog 34 normally in engagement with the teeth 28, as shown in Fig. 4. When the thumb-piece 37 is pressed toward the arm 15, the dog 34 will be released and the check-carriage, with the plate 20, may be returned to its former position.

The arm 3 is split, as shown at 39, Figs. 2 and 3, so as to form an opening, and in this opening is pivoted on a pin 40 an operating-lever 41, whose upper end projects upwardly through an opening 42 in the portions 1 and 5, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, and its relation to the portion 1 is such that the punch may be held in one hand and the lever 41 and portion 1 squeezed together for operating the device. The lower end of the lever 41 is provided with an upturned portion 43, in which is journaled a roller 44, the upturned portion 43 being provided with ears 45, in which a pin or pintle 46 of the roller 44 is journaled at each end. This roller bears under the plate or block 17 and serves to force the section of rawhide supported thereon firmly against the lower one of the dies 7 and thus punch the check. If desired, the under side of the block 17 may be provided with slotted flanges 47, in which slots the ends of the pintles 46 are continued, so as to compel the plate 17 to descend when the pressure on the lever 41 is released. When the parts are in their normal position, the flanges 47 rest upon the upper edges of the foot-pieces 4.

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

1. A check-punch having in combination a frame, a die-wheel pivoted to said frame, a jaw pivoted to said frame, a lever pivoted in said frame and having a roller provided with projecting pintles and being adapted to engage with said jaw and force it against said die-wheel, said jaw being provided with slotted flanges in which said pintles engage, substantially as set forth.

2. A check-punch having in combination a die-wheel, a pivoted jaw arranged under said die-wheel, means for forcing said jaw toward said wheel, a check carriage or support sliding upon said jaw and being provided with the overhanging plate 26 provided with down-

turned tongues 27 for gripping the check, substantially as set forth.

3. A check-punch having in combination the frame 1 provided with the feet 2 4 and the arms 3 5, a rotary die-wheel pivoted to said arm 5, a jaw pivoted between the arms 3 5, the lever 41 pivoted in said frame and engaging under said jaw for forcing it toward said die-wheel, and means for holding and advancing the check between said jaw and die-wheel, substantially as set forth.

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