

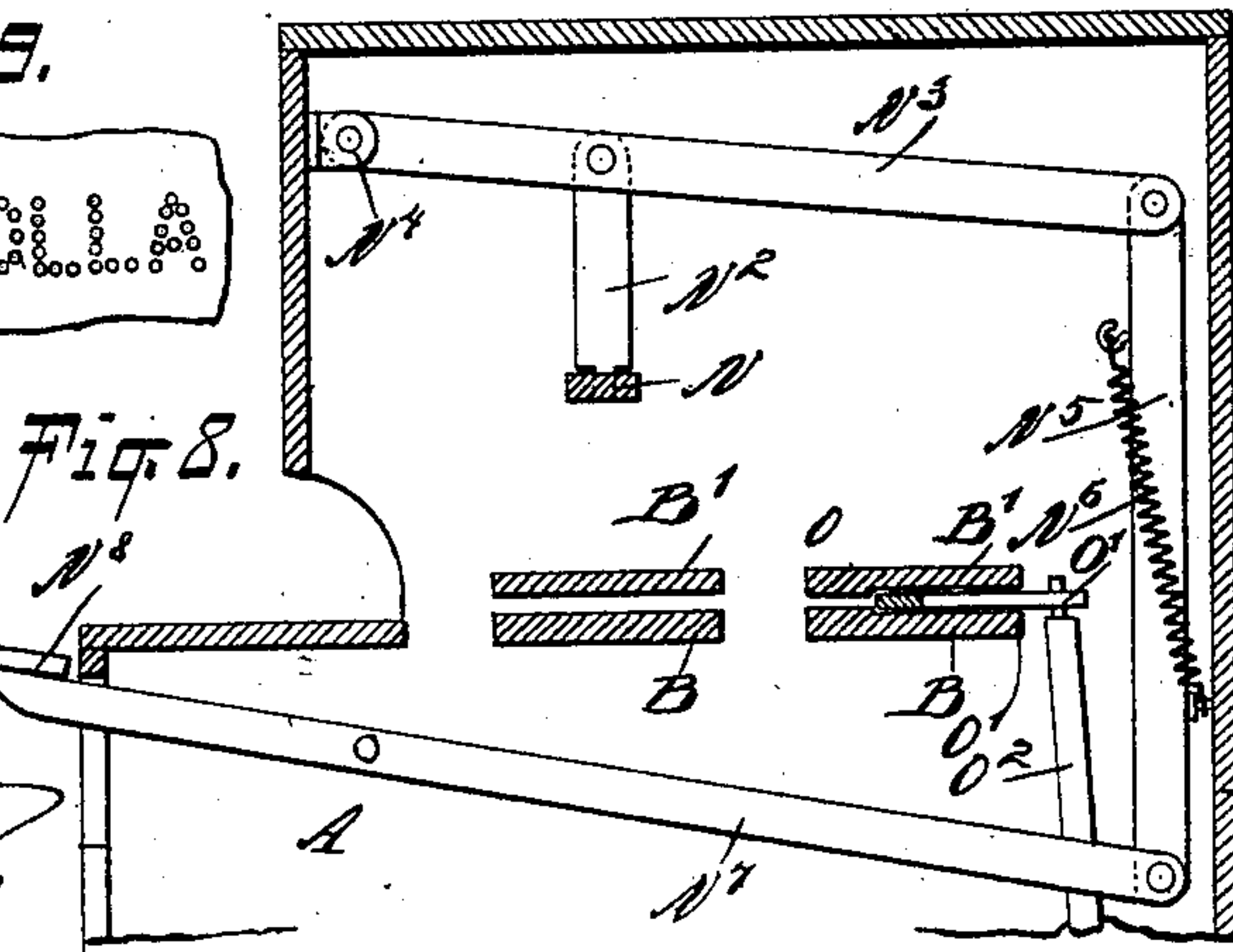
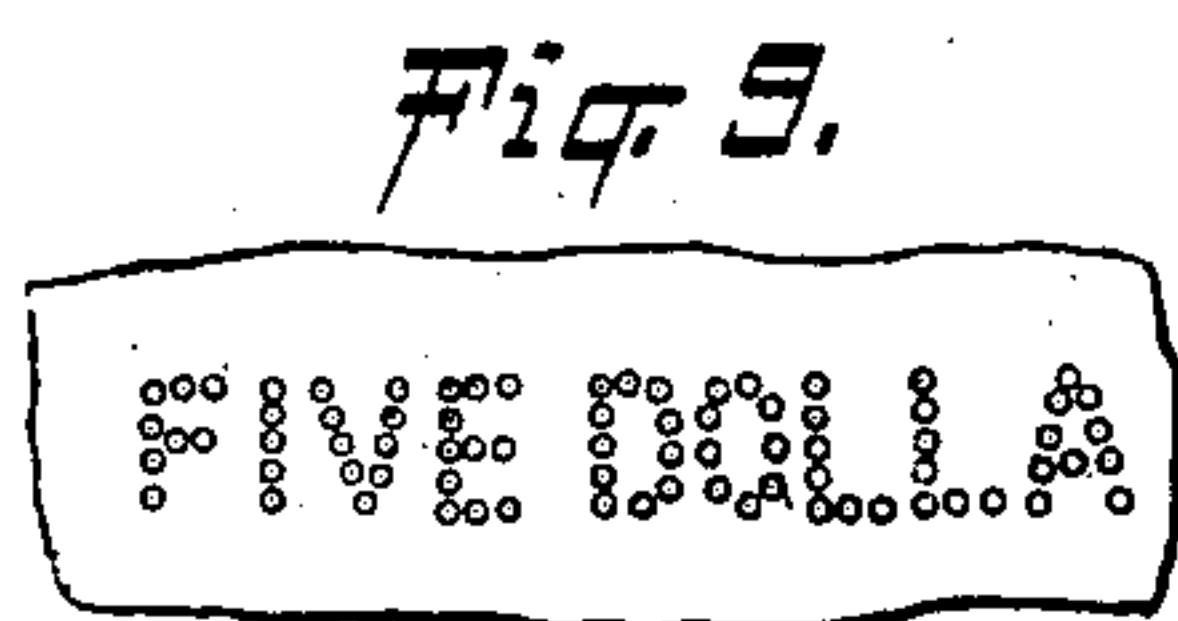
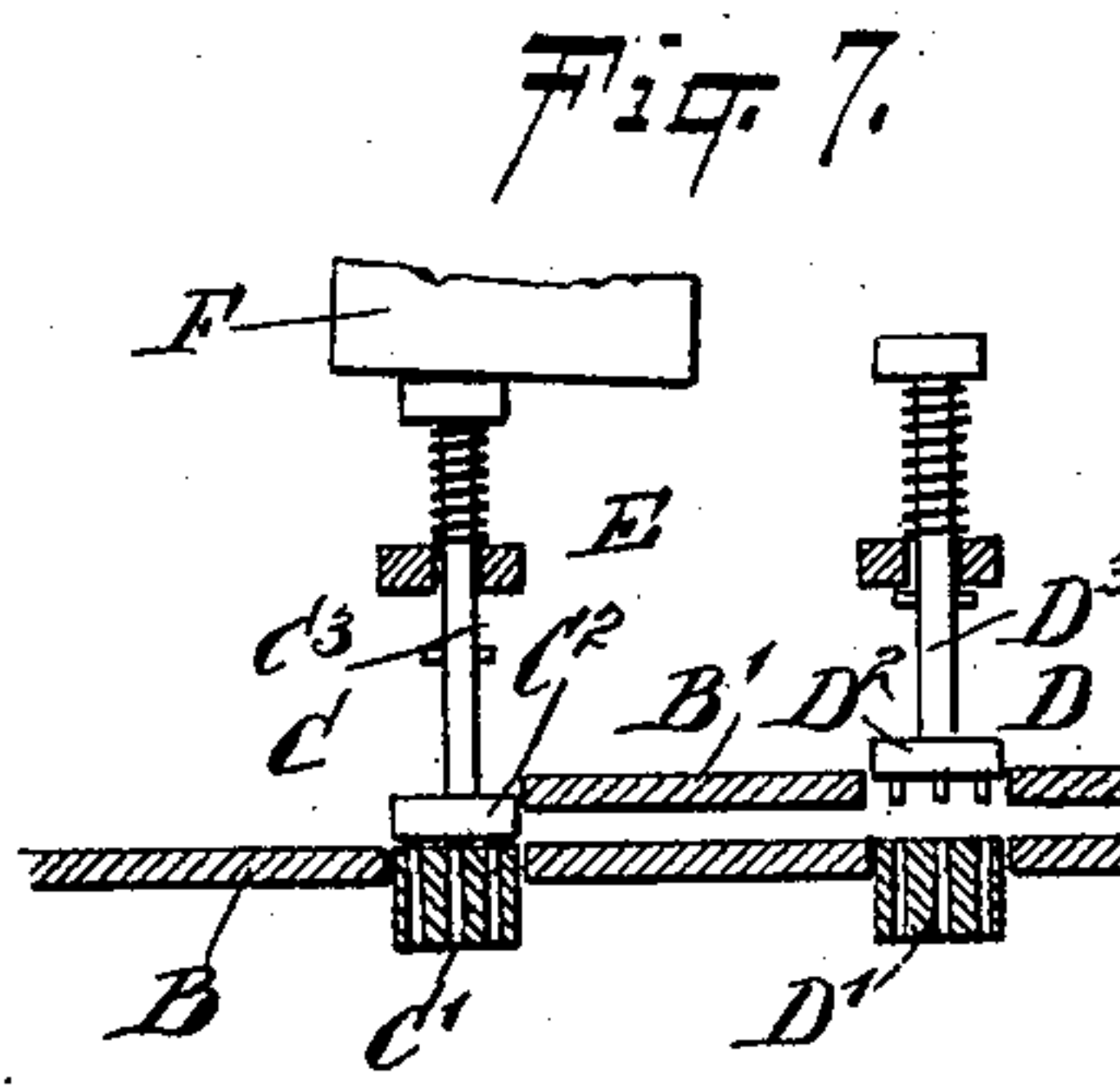
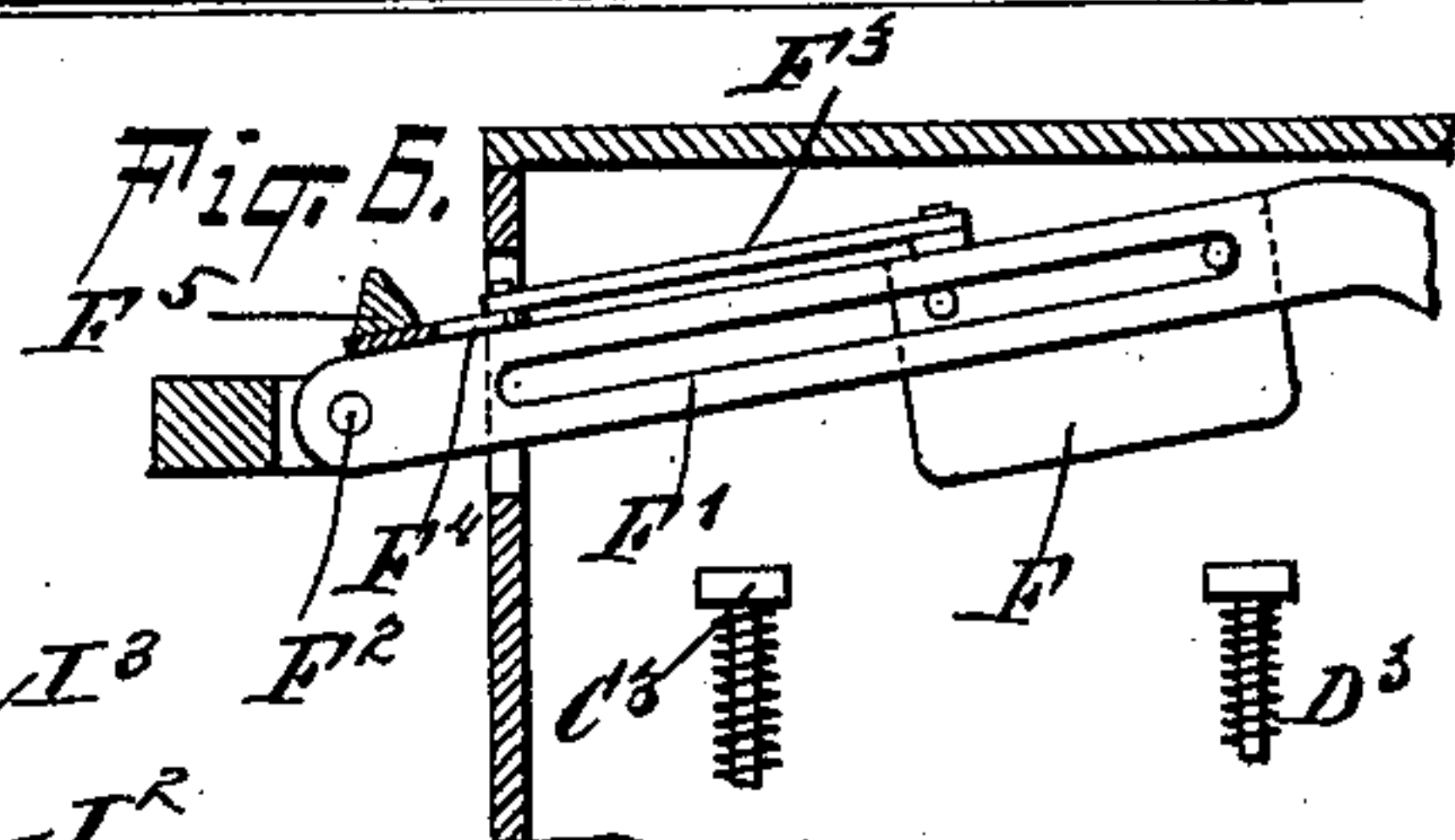
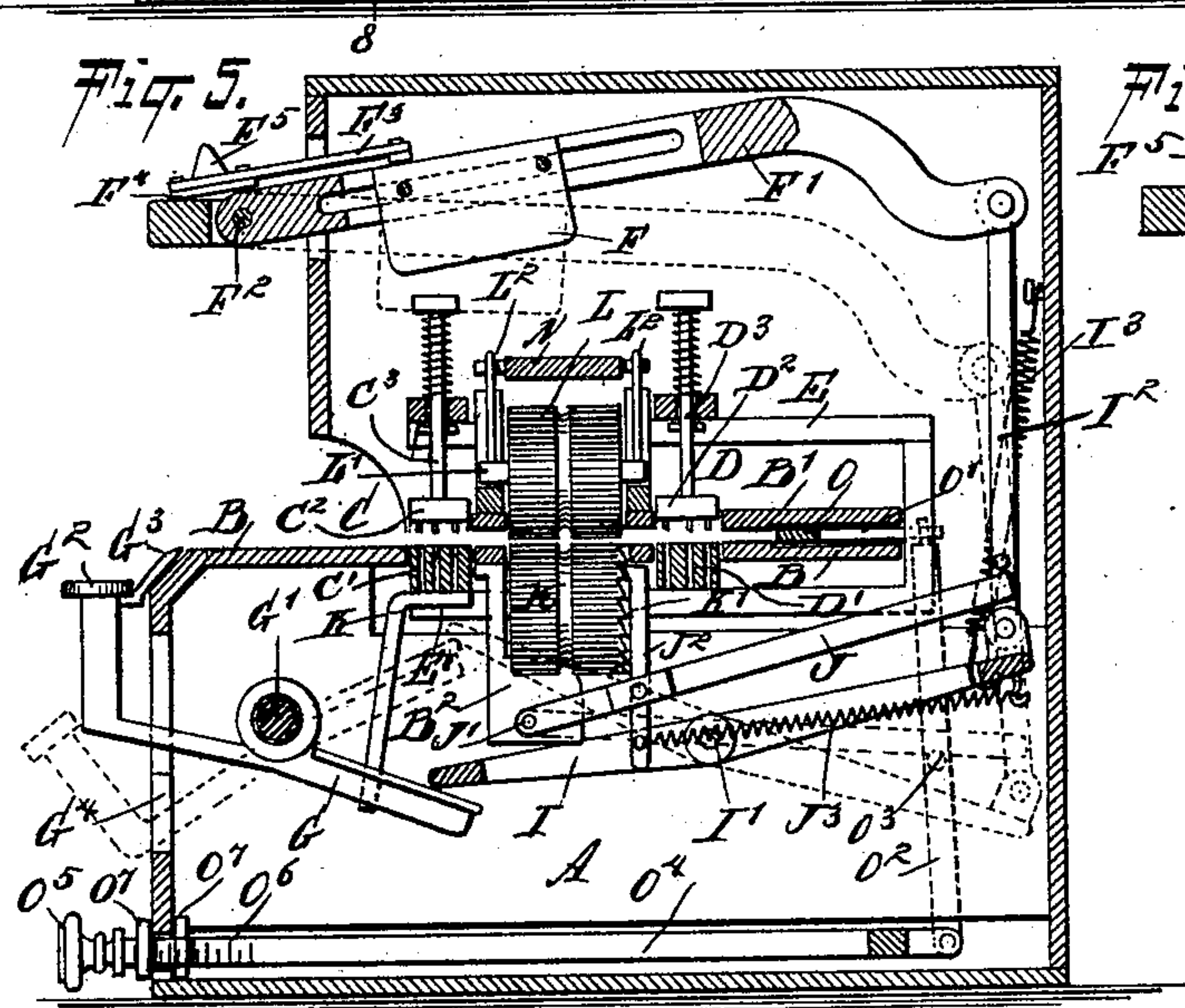
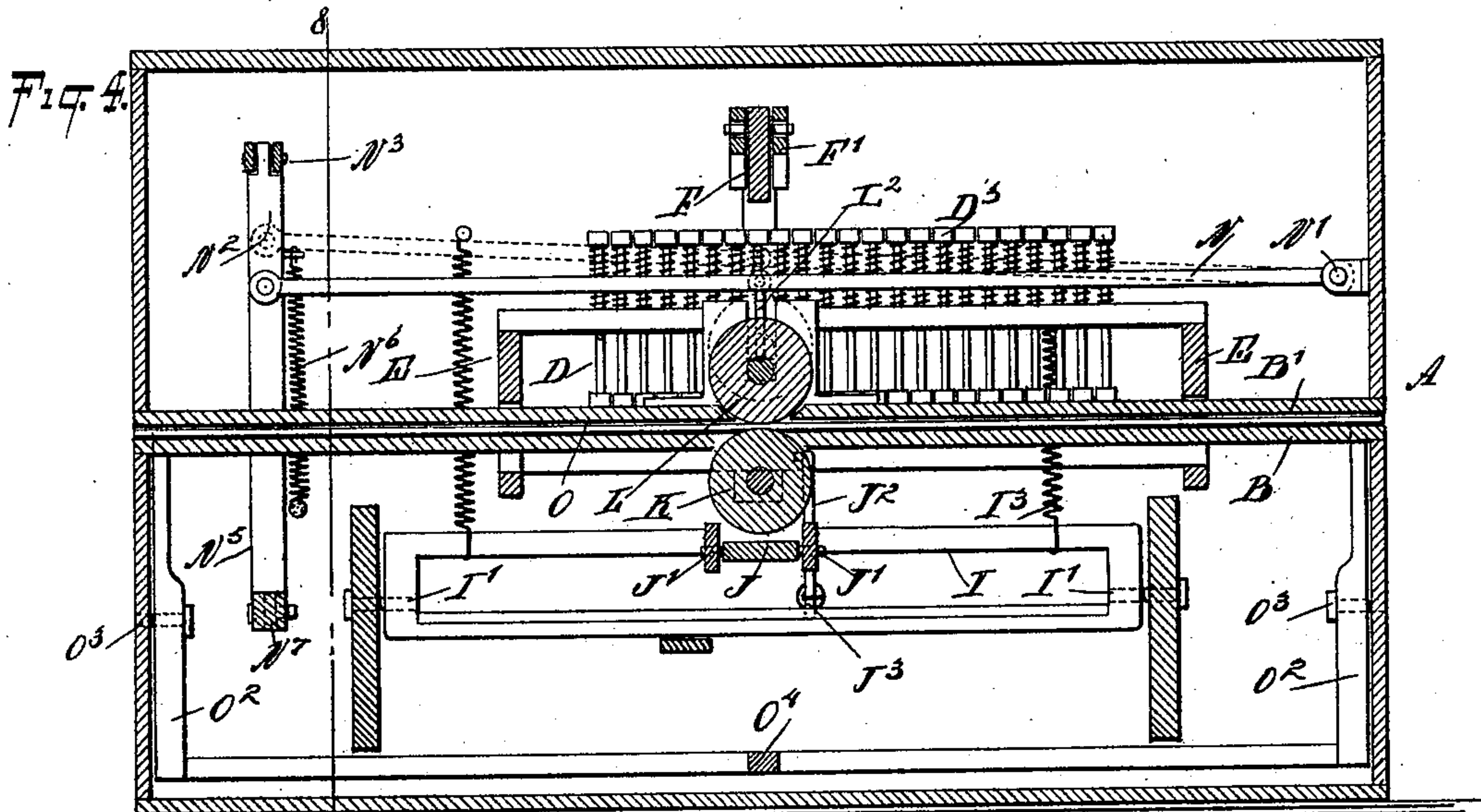
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

G. O. BROSNAM, Jr.
CHECK PUNCH.

No. 599,163.

Patented Feb. 15, 1898.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE,

GEORGE OTHMAN BROSNAHAM, JR., OF PENSACOLA, FLORIDA.

CHECK-PUNCH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 599,163, dated February 15, 1898.

Application filed July 30, 1897. Serial No. 646,502. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE OTHMAN BROSNAHAM, Jr., of Pensacola, in the county of Escambia and State of Florida, have invented a new and Improved Check-Punch, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved check-punch arranged for conveniently punching the amount of a check both in letters and numerals instead of writing the same to prevent persons from fraudulently erasing the amount of the check.

The invention consists of certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improvement. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with the cover removed. Fig. 3 is a like view of the anvil-shifting device in a different position from that shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a sectional side elevation of the improvement on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a transverse section of the same on the line 5 5 of Fig. 1. Fig. 6 is a cross-section of the anvil and shifting device therefor in the position corresponding to that shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 7 is a cross-section of the perforating devices with one of the letter-dies depressed. Fig. 8 is a cross-section of the improvement on the line 8 8 of Fig. 4; and Fig. 9 is a plan view of a check, showing letter perforations.

The improved check-punch is mounted in a suitably-constructed casing A, supporting at or near its middle two horizontally-disposed partitions B B', of which the lower partition B projects in front of the other partition B' to form a table for a check to rest on, it being understood that the partitions are placed but a short distance apart, so as to hold the check in place during the perforating process, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the partitions B B' are fitted to slide longitudinally two sets of dies C and D, of which the set of dies C is for perforating letters in the check (see Fig. 9) and the other set of dies is for perforating the check with numerals,

both perforations indicating the amount of the check and taking the place of the amount as now written in by hand in the body of the check. The sets of dies C and D are held on a carriage E, fitted to slide on the partitions B B', so as to bring the desired numeral or letter to a desired place on the check, as hereinafter more fully described.

The dies C and D are provided with the lower or female dies C' D' and the male dies C² D², respectively, in the form of pins arranged to represent letters and numerals and adapted to pass into apertures formed in the female dies C' D', respectively. The male dies C² D² are secured on spring-pressed stems C³ D³, respectively fitted to slide vertically in suitable guideways in the carriage E, and the upper end of the said stems are adapted to be engaged by an anvil F for pressing the male dies downward to force the pins thereof through the paper into the female dies, it being understood that the said dies are normally held in an uppermost position by the action of their springs. The anvil F is fitted to slide transversely in a suitable guideway formed in a lever F', fulcrumed on the front end of the casing at F², and the said anvil F is shifted in the said lever F', so as to stand either over the stem C³ or the stem D³ of the dies C and D. The anvil F is for this purpose pivotally connected by a link F³ with the arm F⁴ of a bell-crank lever F⁵, fulcrumed on the lever F', at the outer end thereof, the said bell-crank lever being triangular in cross-section, displaying on the sides the legends "Letters" and "Figures." Thus when the bell-crank lever F⁵ is in the position shown in Fig. 2 the legend "Letters" is at the front of the lever, thus indicating that the anvil F is over the set of dies C, and when the said lever F⁵ is swung around to the position shown in Fig. 3 then the legend "Figures" is visible at the front of the machine to indicate that the anvil F is over the set of dies D, as shown in Fig. 6.

From the carriage E depends a fork E', engaged by the inner end of a lever G, fulcrumed on and fitted to slide on a longitudinally-extending rod G', secured in the sides of the casing A. The outer end of the lever G extends through an opening in the front

of the casing A, as is plainly indicated in the drawings, and on this outer end of the said lever is formed a finger-piece G^2 , adapted to be engaged by a finger of the operator to press the lever or to slide the same longitudinally on the rod G' . On the outer end of this lever G is also secured a pointer G^3 , indicating on graduations H H' , of which the graduation H represents the letters of the alphabet corresponding to the letters formed by the pins of the dies C , and the graduation H' represents the numerals from "0" to "9," the dollar-mark, and a star, all corresponding to the numerals and corresponding characters represented by the pins of the dies D . Thus when the pointer G^3 , for instance, indicates on the letter "F" on the graduation H then the die C representing this letter "F" is directly over the anvil F , provided the latter is in a forward position. If the anvil F is in a rearmost position and the pointer G^3 indicates on the numeral "7" of the graduation H' then the die D representing the numeral "7" is directly under the said anvil F . Thus if the anvil F is pressed, in the first case, the letter "F" will be perforated in the paper, and in the second case the anvil F , pressing on the die D , will cause a perforation in the paper representing the numeral "7." The inner end of the lever G also engages the under side of a lever-frame I , fulcrumed at I' in the sides of the casing A, and the rear end of the said lever-frame is pivotally connected by a link I^2 with the free end of the lever F' , so that when the finger-piece G^2 is pressed downward after the lever G has been moved to the proper position—that is, with the pointer indicating on the desired letter or numeral on the graduation H or H' —then a swinging motion is given to the lever-frame I to draw the link I^2 downward and swing the lever F' in the same direction. The lever F' during this downward movement brings the anvil F in contact with the stem C^3 or D^3 of the corresponding die C or D representing the letter or numeral to make the desired perforation in the paper. A spring I^3 presses on the rear end of the lever-frame I to hold the same normally in the position shown in Fig. 5 and to return the said lever-frame I and the lever G to their former positions when the operator releases the pressure on the finger-piece G^2 .

The link I^2 , above mentioned, is also slidably connected with a transversely-extending lever J , fulcrumed at J' on a bracket B^2 , attached to the partition B . This lever J is pivotally connected with a pawl J^2 , pressed on by a spring J^3 and engaging ratchet-teeth K' , formed on a feed-roller K , journaled in suitable bearings on the partition B , with the upper surface of the said roller flush with the top surface of said partition B . Directly above this feed-roller K is arranged a second feed-roller L , journaled in bearings L' , fitted to slide vertically in guideways attached to the upper partition B' , and the said bearings

are provided with upwardly-extending rods L^2 , pivoted on the sides of a lever N , extending longitudinally and fulcrumed at one end at N' to one side of the casing A, as is plainly indicated in Figs. 2 and 4.

The free end of the lever N is pivotally connected by a link N^2 (see Fig. 8) with a transversely-extending lever N^3 , fulcrumed at N^4 on the forward end of the casing A, the rear end of the said lever being pivotally connected by a link N^5 with a lever N^7 , extending through a slot in the forward end of the casing to carry on this outer end a finger-piece N^8 , adapted to be engaged and pressed by the operator. A spring N^6 presses on the link N^5 to hold the several parts normally in the position shown in Fig. 8—that is, holding the roller L down close on the paper between the feed-rollers K and L .

Now when the lever G is pressed and a swinging motion is given to the levers I and F' to actuate the corresponding die by the anvil F , as above described, then a downwardly-swinging motion is given to the lever J to cause the pawl J^2 to glide over the ratchet-teeth K' . Now when the lever G is released and the several parts are returned to their former positions, then the lever J is caused to swing upward, and the pawl J^2 now turns the feed-roller K , so as to move the paper longitudinally from the right to the left to bring another unoccupied space under the dies. The downward-swinging motion of the lever G is limited by the said lever striking on notches G^4 , formed in the front of the casing A, as is plainly indicated in Figs. 1 and 5, the said notches being of a like depth, with the exception of the last one, G^5 , which is but one-half the depth of the notches G^4 . The notch G^5 is engaged when the lever G has been shifted to its outermost position at the right-hand side for spacing between two words in the amount to be written. When the lever G is now successively pressed and released, the pawl J^2 moves the roller K the distance between two teeth instead of between three teeth K , as is the case when the lever is pressed into any of the other notches G^4 . Thus when the lever G is pressed down to the bottom of a notch G^4 the paper is moved the width of one character, letter, numeral, or the like indicated on the graduations H H' , and when the lever G is pressed to the bottom of the notch G^5 then the paper is shifted about one-half the width of a letter, numeral, or the like to form the proper space between two words.

In order to limit the rearward movement of the check when introduced in the machine and bring the line of the check on which the amount is to be written directly under the corresponding die C or D , I provide a longitudinally-extending stop-bar O , arranged between the two partitions B B' in the rear of the dies D . This stop-bar O is provided at its ends with rearwardly-extending arms O' ,

pivotally connected with the upper ends of levers O^2 , fulcrumed at O^3 on the sides of the casing and pivotally connected with a forwardly-extending bar O^4 , extending through an opening in the front of the casing A, to the outside thereof, the outer end of the bar O^4 being provided with a knob O^5 , adapted to be taken hold of by the operator to shift the said bar O^4 inward or outward to move the stop-bar O forward or rearward between the partitions B and B', according to the size of the check or lines thereon.

In order to gage the position of the stop-bar O, I provide the forward end of the bar O^4 with a graduation O^6 , reading on the front face of the casing A. This graduation indicates the distance from the top of the check to the line on which the amount is to be perforated and this distance corresponds to that between the forward edge of the stop-bar O and the corresponding dies D or C.

On the bar O^4 , at the graduation O^6 , are arranged collars O^7 , with set-screws or other fastening devices to hold the bar O in place after once adjusted to a certain size check.

The operation is as follows: The check to be perforated is introduced over the partition B and passes between the two partitions B and B' at the time the finger-piece N^8 is pressed, and the feed-roller L is lifted a suitable distance above the top of the feed-roller K to allow of passing the check transversely between the partitions until the rear end of the check abuts against the stop-bar O. The operator then releases the pressure on the finger-piece N^8 to allow the feed-roller L to come down upon the check. The operator now moves the lever G longitudinally on the rod G' until the pointer G^3 indicates on the first letter on the graduation H corresponding to the amount to be written. For instance, if the amount of the check is five dollars, then the operator first moves the pointer G^3 to the letter "F" on the graduation H, so as to bring the die C representing the letter "F" directly under the anvil F, which now stands in a forward position, with the bell-crank lever F^5 at the left, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 5. The operator now presses the finger-piece G^2 to impart a swinging motion to the lever-frame I to actuate the anvil F, as previously described, so as to depress the dies C and cause a perforation in the check corresponding to the letter "F." (See Fig. 9.) When the lever G is released, the several parts move back to their former position, as above explained, and the operator now shifts the lever G until the pointer G^3 stands on the letter "I" of the graduation H. The operation is then repeated—that is, the lever G is pressed downward to the bottom of the notch G^4 to cause the anvil F to press the die C representing the letter "I." The operation as above described is repeated—that is, the lever is shifted longitudinally to bring the pointer successively to the letters "V" and "E" and then to the

spaces marked at the right-hand end, so as to shift the check, as described, without making a perforation, and then successively to the letters "D O L L A R S," the lever being pressed after each shifting, as above explained, to cause a perforation in the check representing five dollars. When this has been done, the lever F^5 is swung to the right to shift the anvil F over to the dies D, and then the lever G is shifted longitudinally to bring the pointer G^3 to the numeral "5" on the graduation H', after which the lever is pressed to cause the anvil F to force the die D representing "5" downward to make such perforation in the check at the proper place. It is understood that other desired characters may be represented on the graduation and the corresponding dies, as indicated in the drawings.

Now it is evident that by the arrangement described the amount perforated in the body of the check, both in letters and numerals, is not liable to be erased or changed in any manner by unauthorized persons without destroying the check or rendering the fraud easily detected.

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

1. A check-punch comprising a carriage fitted to slide longitudinally, a set of perforating letter-dies held on the said carriage, a set of perforating numeral-dies held on the said carriage, means for shifting the carriage, and a slidable anvil adapted to engage the corresponding die of either set of dies, substantially as shown and described.

2. A check-punch comprising a carriage fitted to slide longitudinally, a set of perforating letter-dies held on the said carriage, a set of perforating numeral-dies held on the said carriage, means for shifting the carriage, a slidable anvil adapted to engage the corresponding die of either set of dies, and means, substantially as described, for shifting the said anvil from one set of dies to the other, as set forth.

3. A check-punch comprising a carriage fitted to slide longitudinally, a lever for imparting longitudinal motion to the said carriage, a set of perforating letter-dies held on the said carriage, a set of perforating numeral-dies held on the said carriage, an anvil adjustably held to engage either set of dies, and means for connecting the said anvil with the said lever for shifting the carriage, substantially as shown and described.

4. A check-punch comprising a carriage fitted to slide longitudinally, a lever for imparting longitudinal motion to the said carriage, a set of perforating letter-dies held on the said carriage, a set of perforating numeral-dies held on the said carriage, an anvil adjustably held to engage either set of dies, means for connecting the said anvil with the said lever for shifting the carriage, and a pair of feed-rollers for shifting the check step by

step, one of the rollers being actuated from the mechanism connecting the said anvil with the said lever on the return stroke of the latter, substantially as shown and described.

- 5 5. In a check-punch the combination with two sets of dies of an anvil-lever adapted to swing, an anvil slidable on the said lever, and a handled lever under the control of the op-

erator and connected with the said anvil, to shift the latter from one set of dies to the other, as set forth.

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