No. 621,781. Patented Mar. 28, 1899.

J. BALSLEY.

BURGLAR ALARM.

(Application filed Nov. 25, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

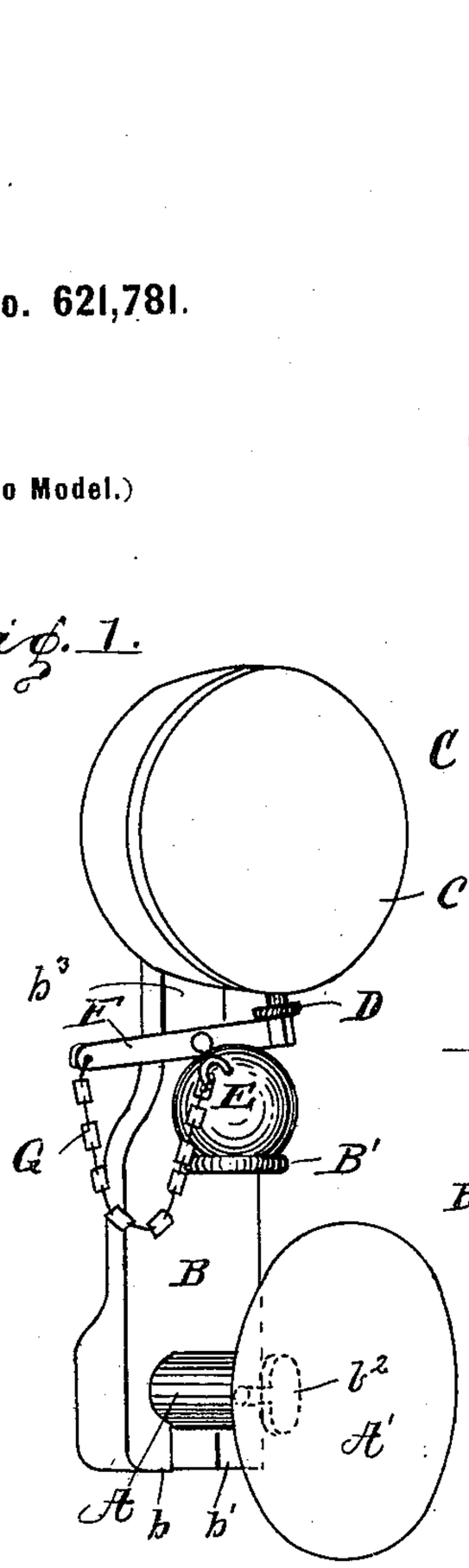


Fig. 2.

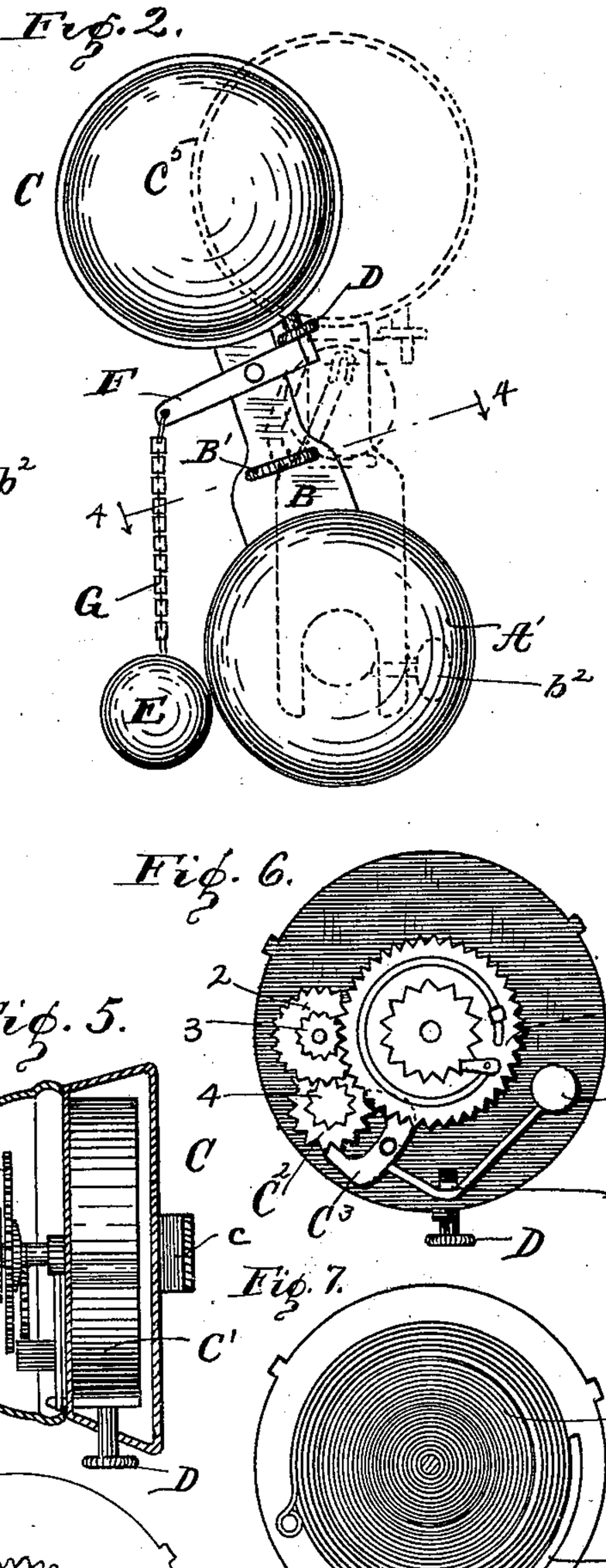


Fig. 4.

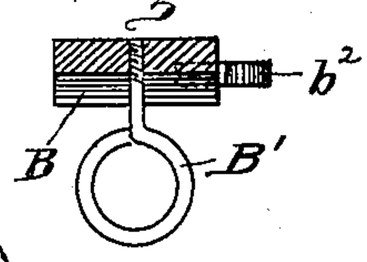


Fig. 3.

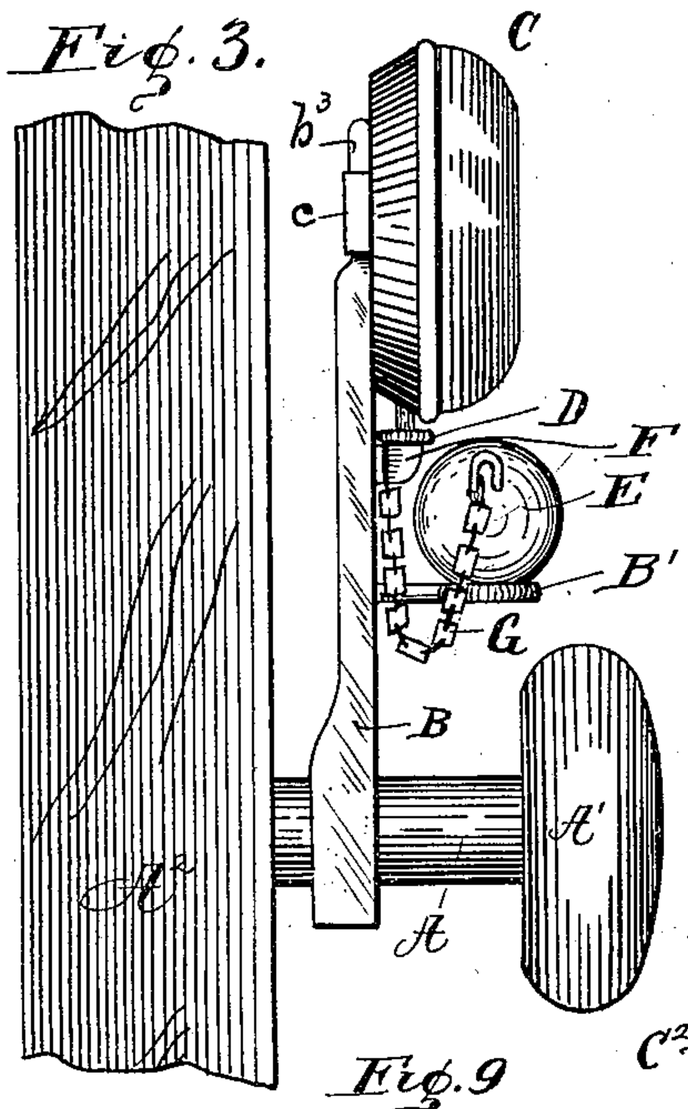


Fig. 5.

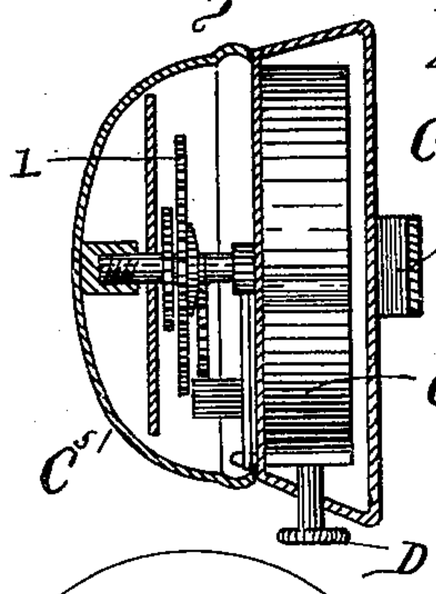


Fig. 6.

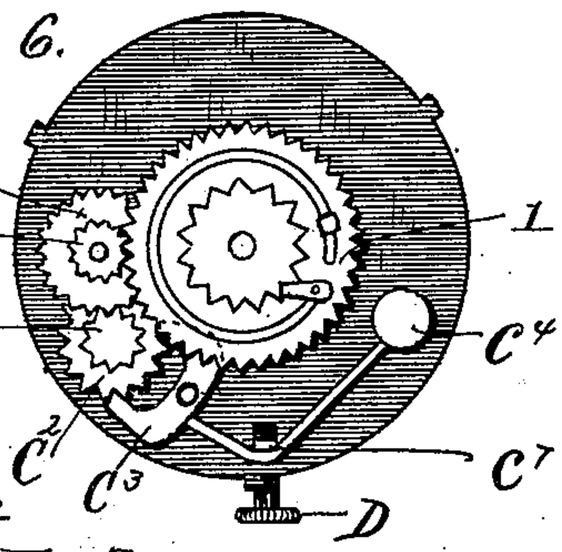


Fig. 7.

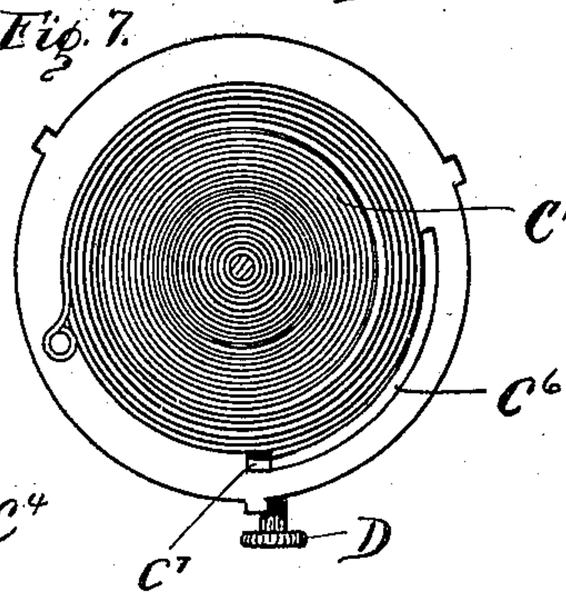


Fig. 8.

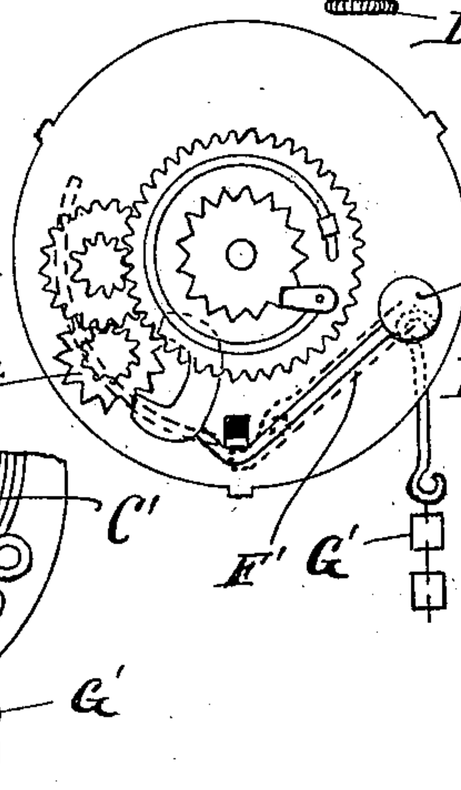
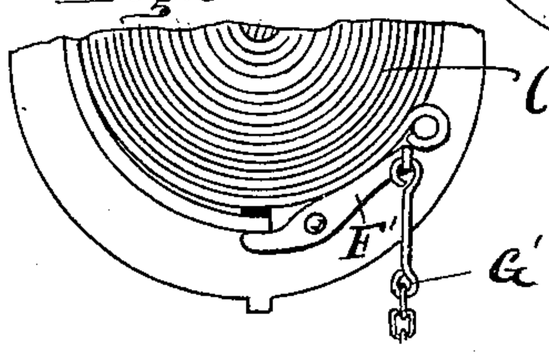


Fig. 9



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH BALSLEY, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

BURGLAR-ALARM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 621,781, dated March 28, 1899.

Application filed November 25, 1898. Serial No. 697,411. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH BALSLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar-Alarms, of which the following is a specification.

The first impulse of a burglar in attempting to enter a house or room through a closed doorway is to turn the knob of the door to see whether the door is locked, and no matter how the door may be secured it is uniformly necessary to turn the knob before the door can be opened.

The object of this invention is to provide an alarm which will be sounded by the rotation, whether to the right or to the left, of the door-knob, thereby frightening the intruder away before even the beginning of an entrance-way has been effected.

The object also is to provide an alarm which will keep on sounding until it runs down or is stopped by some one on the inside of the house or room.

The object also is to provide a device which can be quickly and removably attached to any door-knob.

A further object is to provide a simple, cheap, and durable device, such as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

I accomplish the objects of the invention by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention in its silent position on a door-knob spindle; Fig. 2, a front elevation of same in full lines in its ringing position and in dotted lines in its silent position; Fig. 3, a view in side elevation of the alarm on the knob-spindle; Fig. 4, a transverse section on the dotted lines 4 4 of Fig. 2; Fig. 5, a detail in vertical central section of the clockwork bell-ringing mechanism; Fig. 6, a front view of same with the gong of the bell removed; Fig. 7, an under side view of the plate shown in Fig. 6, to which the works are secured; Fig. 8, a modified construction showing the tripping-lever (in dotted lines) inside of the case; and Fig. 9, a reverse side of the plate shown in Fig. 8, with the tripping-lever in full lines.

Similar letters and figures of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

A represents the door-knob spindle, A′ the knob itself, and A^2 the door, all of which parts may be and are of any usual and desired construction.

B is the body part of my invention, to which the bell and its operative mechanism are attached and by which the same are fastened to the knob-spindle. To accomplish the means of removably securing the device to the knob-spindle, I bifurcate the lower end of the body, thereby providing the prongs *b* and *b′*, between which the spindle will be located, and a fixed attachment secured by the set-screw b^2. The top end of this body part will be reduced in width and thickness to provide a tongue b^3, which will slip into a loop *c* on the back side of the bell-housing C, contained within which is a spring-actuated clockwork which rings a bell upon the inward movement of a push-button or stop D.

Formed integral with or screwed onto or otherwise secured to the body B is a shelf B′, which will have a central depression to make a seat for a spherical weight E. In practice I prefer to use an eye-screw, such as is shown in Fig. 4, for this shelf. I prefer a spherical weight because it is less liable to be interfered with by obstructions and will move more readily—that is, be more sensitive in its action—than a weight of any other shape, and the central depression of the shelf holds the weight against accidental displacement when the alarm is in upright position.

Pivotally secured to the body between the bell and the shelf is a lever F, one end of which is in contact with the push D. The outer end of the lever is connected, by means of the chain or other flexible attachment G, with the weight E. When the body or standard of the alarm is turned out of a vertical position, as shown in Fig. 2, the weight rolls off the shelf and hangs suspended from the lever, thereby forcing one end of the latter against the push, which liberates the bell-ringing mechanism, and though the knob may be turned back the weight will not be taken off of the lever, and the bell will continue to

ring until its spring has run down or until the weight has been lifted onto its shelf by some one inside.

The bell-ringing mechanism comprises a coiled spring C′, an escapement-wheel C^2, rotated from the spring by gear-wheels 1, 2, 3, and 4, and an escapement or arbor C^3, working in the wheel C^2 and having a hammer C^4, which strikes the gong C^5. A second spring C^6 has a tongue C^7, which engages the hammer-stem and holds it against movement until liberated by the push D, previously referred to, which is fastened to the spring C^6, whereby pressure upon the push D presses the spring out of engagement with the hammer-stem.

In the modification shown in Figs. 8 and 9 the lever F′ is mounted inside of the bell-housing, and its short arm presses against the hammer-locking spring to liberate the hammer without the intervention of the push, which is therefore omitted.

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

1. The combination of a bell rung by clockwork, a stop to check the ringing of the bell, a lever to move the stop in a direction to release the clockwork and ring the bell, said mechanism being removably secured to the door-knob, a shelf, a weight resting on the shelf and thrown off by the rocking of the knob or spindle, said weight being attached to the lever by a flexible connection whereby when the weight is released the lever will be moved by the weight to release the clockwork and ring the bell substantially as described.

2. The combination of a bell rung by clockwork, a stop to check the ringing of the bell, a lever to move the stop in a direction to release the clockwork and ring the bell, all of said mechanism being mounted vertically over the spindle of a door-knob, and connected therewith whereby the turning of the spindle will move the bell-ringing mechanism from its vertical position over the spindle, a knob-spindle, a weight released by the rocking of the spindle and attached to the lever, whereby, when the weight is released, the lever will be moved by the weight to release the clockwork and ring the bell, substantially as described.

3. The combination, of a door-knob spindle, a superimposed bell rung by clockwork, a stop to check the ringing, a lever to release the stop and a weight to move the lever in a direction to release the stop, said weight being supported vertically above spindle and liberated to act on the lever when thrown out of its vertical position by the rocking of the spindle, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 22d day of November, A. D. 1898.

JOSEPH BALSLEY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
CARL SCHLEGEL,
JOSEPH A. MINTURN.