

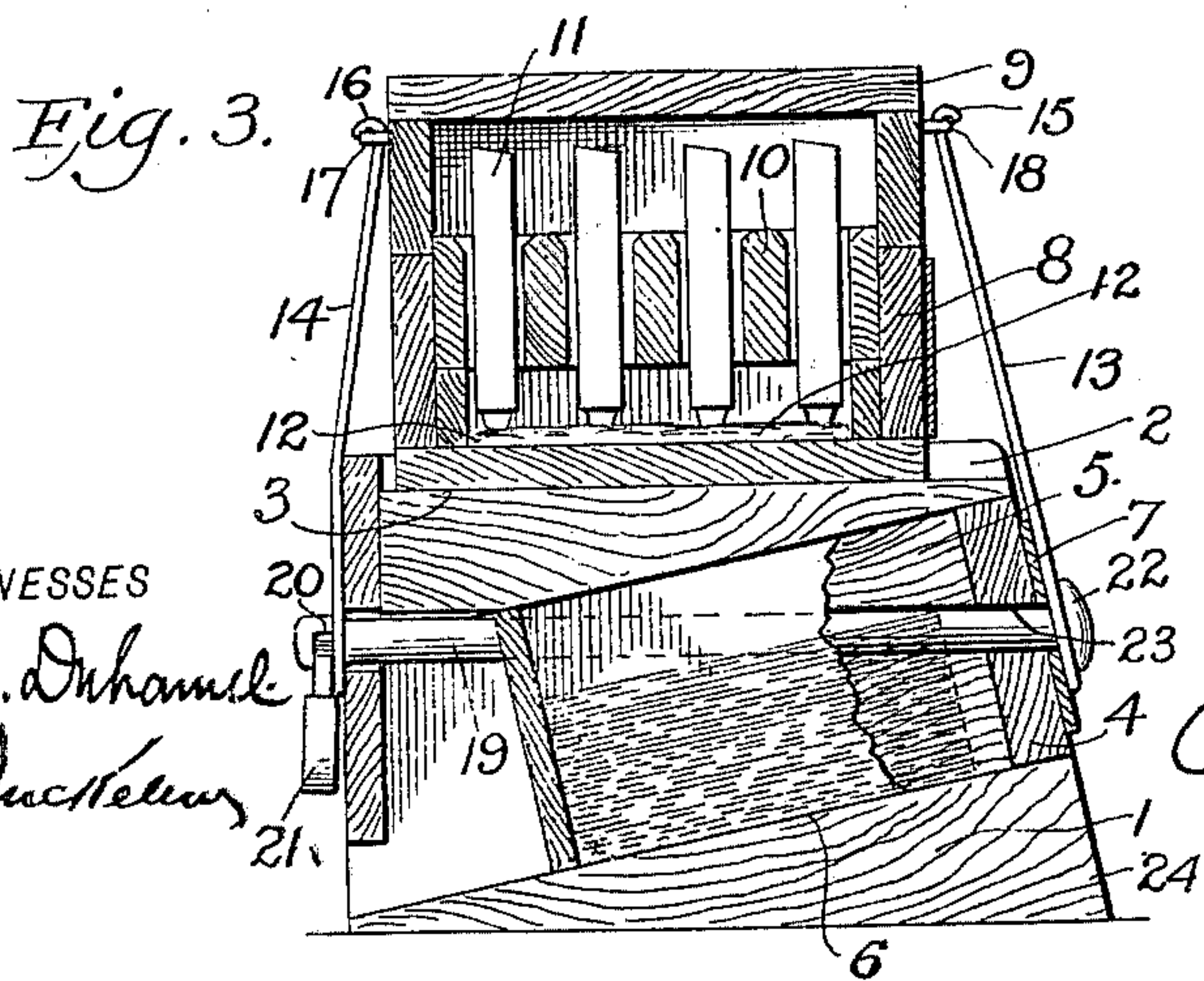
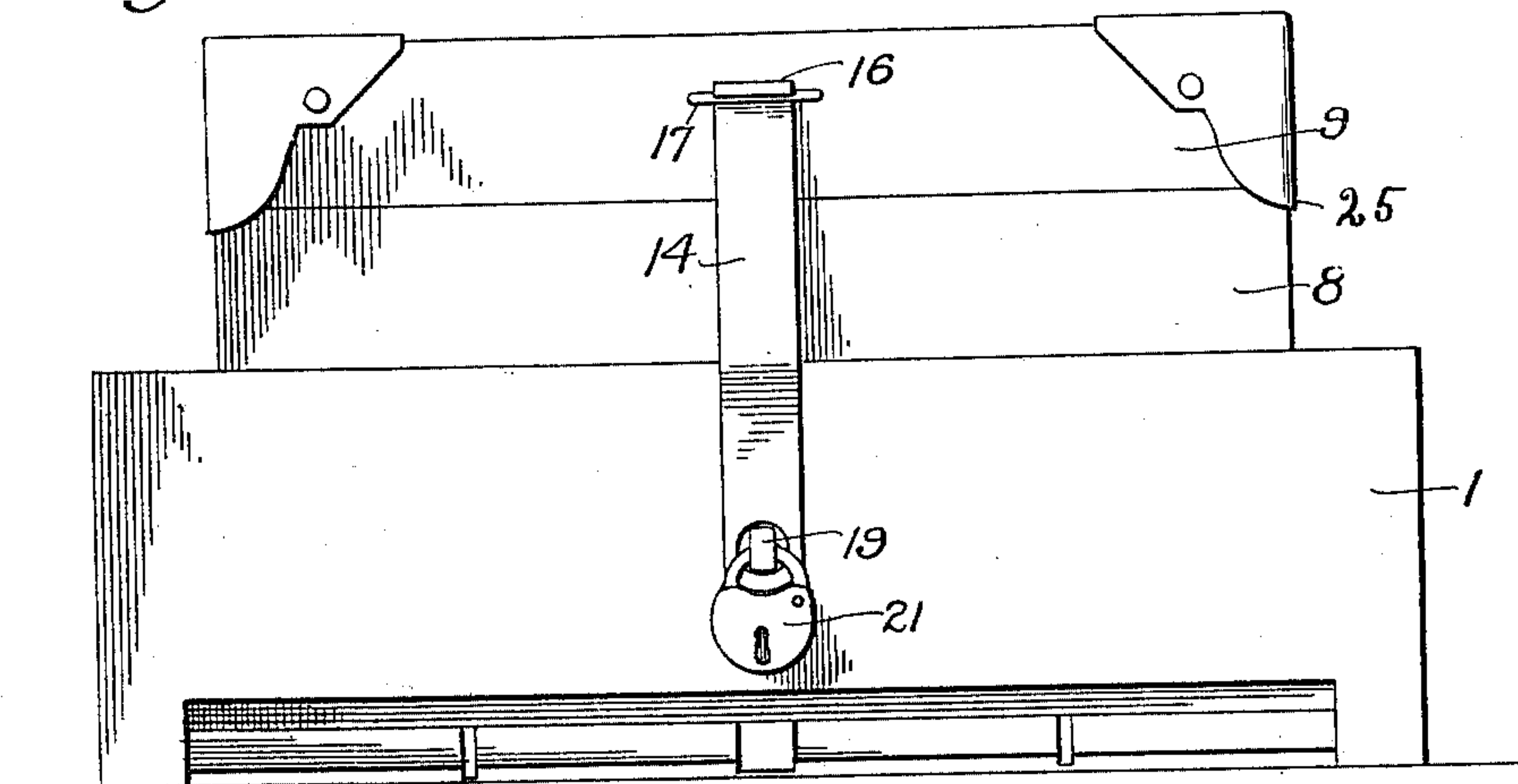
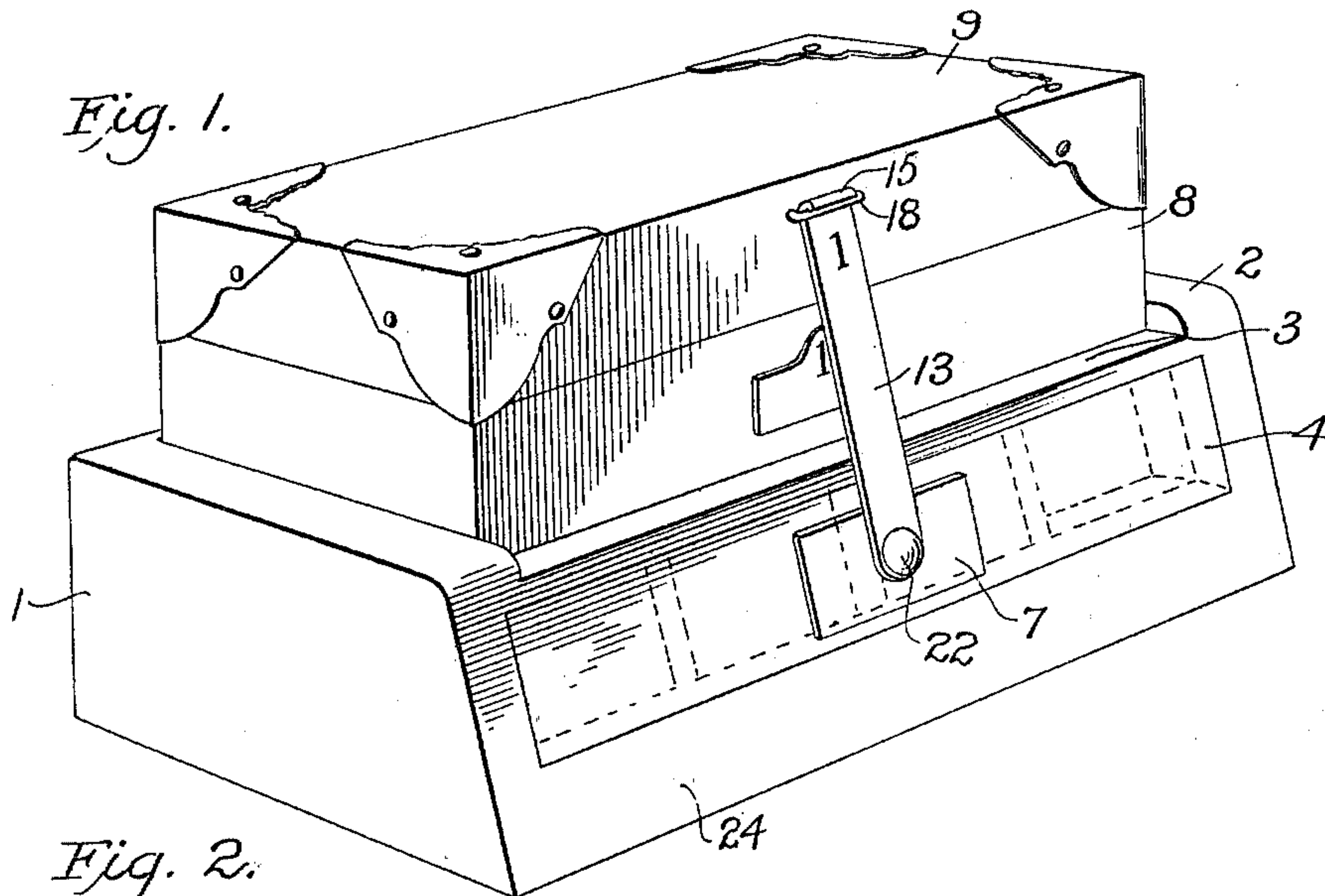
No. 626,278.

Patented June 6, 1899.

J. T. HICKS.
COMBINED DIE BOX AND CHECK BOX.

(Application filed Feb. 1, 1899.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. HICKS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

COMBINED DIE-BOX AND CHECK-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,278, dated June 6, 1899.

Application filed February 1, 1899. Serial No. 704,160. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN T. HICKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locking Mechanism for a Combined Die-Box and Check-Box; and I do hereby 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.

My invention refers to a locking mechanism for the door of a check-containing box, the lid of a die-receiving box, and the combination of the said two boxes, the object of the invention being to provide efficient and easily-concealed means for effecting the closures and combinations mentioned; and it consequently consists, essentially, in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, substantially as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the annexed drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a die-box and a check-box provided with my improved triple-locking mechanism. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation. Fig. 3 is a cross-section.

Like numerals of reference denote like parts in all the different figures of the drawings.

1 designates the main body of a box designed to contain checks, slips, or blanks, such as are commonly used by waiters in hotels or restaurants for the notation of purchases by guests, and intended more especially to receive and hold the checks employed in that checking system known as the "Hicks" system and conducted in accordance with Letters Patent granted to me June 20, 1893, said box having transverse pockets formed by divisions or partitions 5 and an inclined interior bottom 6, the front exterior face of the box being likewise inclined, as shown at 24. The front ends of the partitions 5 stop a little short of the front face 24, leaving sufficient room at this point to accommodate the flat cover 4, which fits into the rectangular opening in the front face 24 in such a manner as to lie flush with said face. (See Figs. 1 and 3.)

The object of the inclined bottom 6 is to enable the checks to be more securely held within the compartments that contain them and

prevent them from slipping out. On the top of the check-box 1 is a flange 2, running around three edges of said top, and thus enclosing on three sides the flat seat 3, which is adapted to hold the body 8 of the die-box. This die-box consists of body 8 and cover 9, fitting thereover, but readily removable therefrom. Within the box is a reversible cell-frame 10, containing the dies 11 and an inking-pad 12, on which the marking-faces of the dies rest.

On the front edge of die-box cover 9 is a horizontal staple 18 and on the rear edge a similar staple 17. These are to be engaged by parts of the locking mechanism. At the front of the check and die boxes is a depending metal strip 13, having at its upper end a hook 15, engaging the staple 18. At the rear of the boxes is a similar metal strip or bar 14, having at its upper end a hook 16, engaging the staple 17.

The central partition 5 of the check-box 1 is bored with a horizontal passage 23, designed to receive the bolt 19, which is provided on its forward end with a head 22, inclined, as shown, to correspond with the bevel of cover 4, and is slotted at the rear end at 20. The strips or bars 13 and 14 are provided with holes or perforations that are in horizontal alinement with each other and also with the passage 23 when said strips are in the effective position shown in Fig. 3, so that the bolt 19 can be passed through the perforation in bar 13, the passage 23, and the perforation in bar 14, and after this has been done the slot 20 in the part of bolt 19 projecting behind the check-box is engaged by a padlock 21 or other securing device, and thus the parts are all fastened firmly together.

Thus it will be seen that by means of the various mechanical parts constituting the locking mechanism just described I am enabled to fasten the die-box cover to the die-box, to fasten the check-box cover to the check-box, and to fasten the two boxes firmly together, so that one box cannot be separated from the other and neither box can be entered without unlocking. The boxes are easily unlocked, however, by releasing the padlock 21, removing the bolt 19, and detaching the strips 13 and 14. The die-box can then be easily removed from the check-box, if desired. Af-

ter this is done and the cover 4 has been taken off the check-box the bolt 19 may be reinserted in the passage 23, the cover 4 suspended on the rear end of bolt 19, and the lock 21 again
 5 caused to engage slot 20; also, while the boxes are in use the strips or plates 13 and 14 and likewise the padlock 21, if desired, may be placed on top of the check-box behind the die-box.

10 The die-box cover 9 has corners 25, that project slightly below the corners of the cover, so that when cover 9 is reversed the box 8 may be placed thereon reversed and within the corners 25. In this position the
 15 cover 9 is placed over the box 8.

What I claim is—

1. The herein-described locking mechanism for check-containing boxes which consists in the combination with a partitioned box hav-
 20 ing an inclined removable cover set into the front thereof and covering the check-box openings, of a horizontal rod passing through a central perforation in said cover, and a registering tubular passage through the body of
 25 the box, said rod having on its outer front end a head which rests against the front face of the cover, a lock for engaging the rear slotted end of the rod, all the parts being so arranged that when the cover is removed
 30 from its front position it may be suspended on the rear projecting end of the rod, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the check-box hav-
 35 ing a flanged top to provide a seat for the die-box, and having likewise a flush-set front removable cover for closing the cells of said check-box, a horizontal rod passing through a perforation in the cover and likewise
 40 through the body of the check-box and provided on its rear end with a retaining-pad-

lock, a die-box having front and rear staples on the cover thereof, a depending front metal strip having at its upper end a hook engag-
 ing one of the said staples, a depending rear metal strip having at its upper end a hook
 45 engaging with the other of said staples, said depending strips being perforated near their lower ends in order that the aforesaid horizontal rod may pass through the perforations, all the parts being so arranged that the cover
 50 of the die-box may be locked thereon, the cover of the check-box may be locked thereon, and the two boxes may be locked together, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the check-box hav-
 55 ing a flange thereon to provide a seat for the die-box, and having likewise a removable cover, a horizontal headed rod passing through a perforation in the cover and likewise
 60 through the body of the check-box, a padlock mounted upon the check-box and having a removable cover provided with staples, the front and rear metallic strips or plates that
 65 engage the staples and are perforated near their lower ends, said perforations being in line with the cover perforation and check-box perforation so that the aforesaid horizontal
 70 rod may pass through all of them, all arranged so that the said strips or plates, the check-box cover, the check-box, and the die-box, may be locked together, substantially in the manner and for the purpose specified.

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

JOHN T. HICKS.

Witnesses:

FRED E. TASKER,
 J. R. BUCKELEW.