No. 626,425. Patented June 6, 1899.

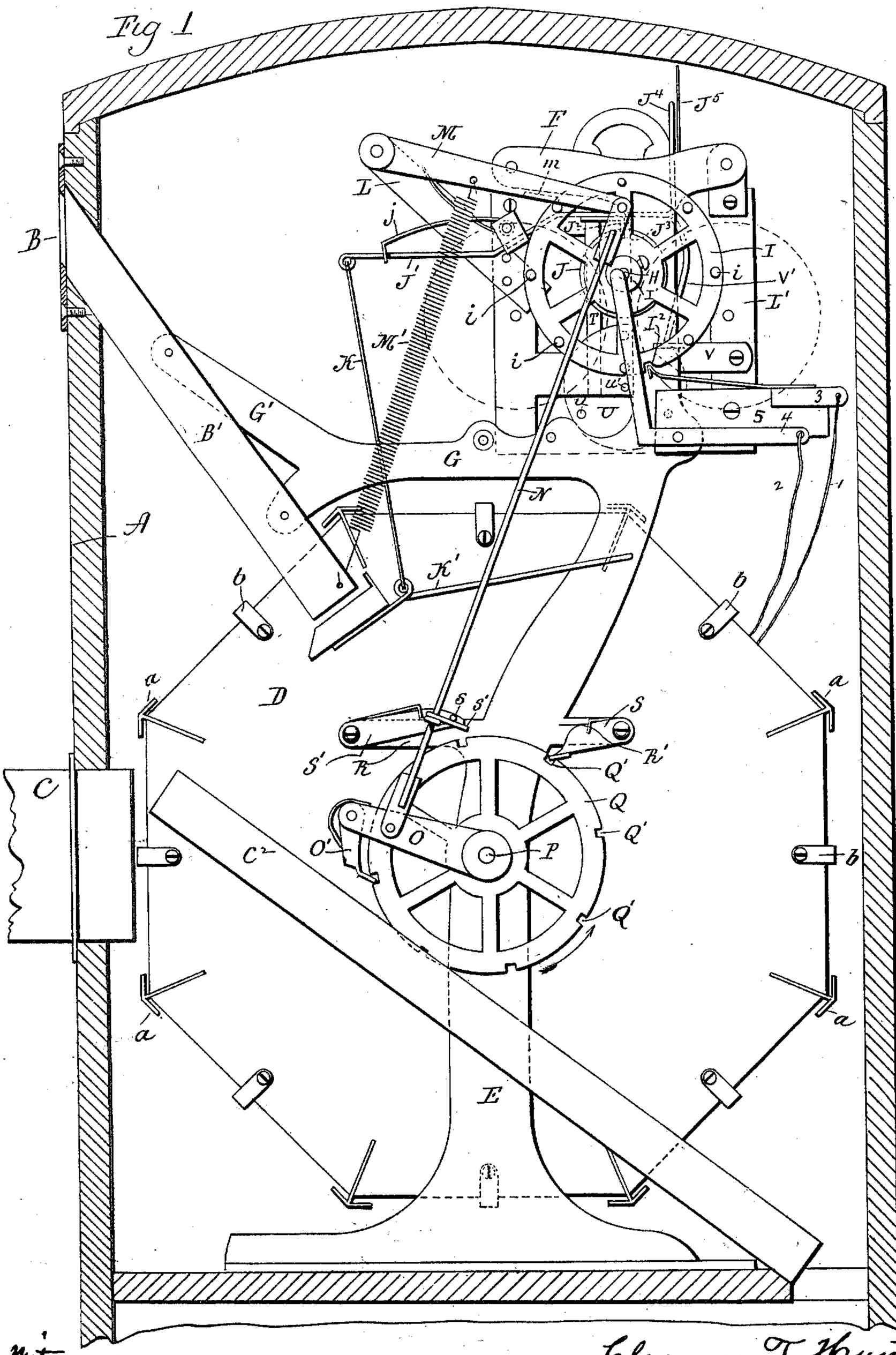
C. T. HUNT.

COIN CONTROLLED PICTURE EXHIBITOR.

(Application filed Mar. 9, 1899.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig 1



Witnesses.
J. H. Shumway.
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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 2

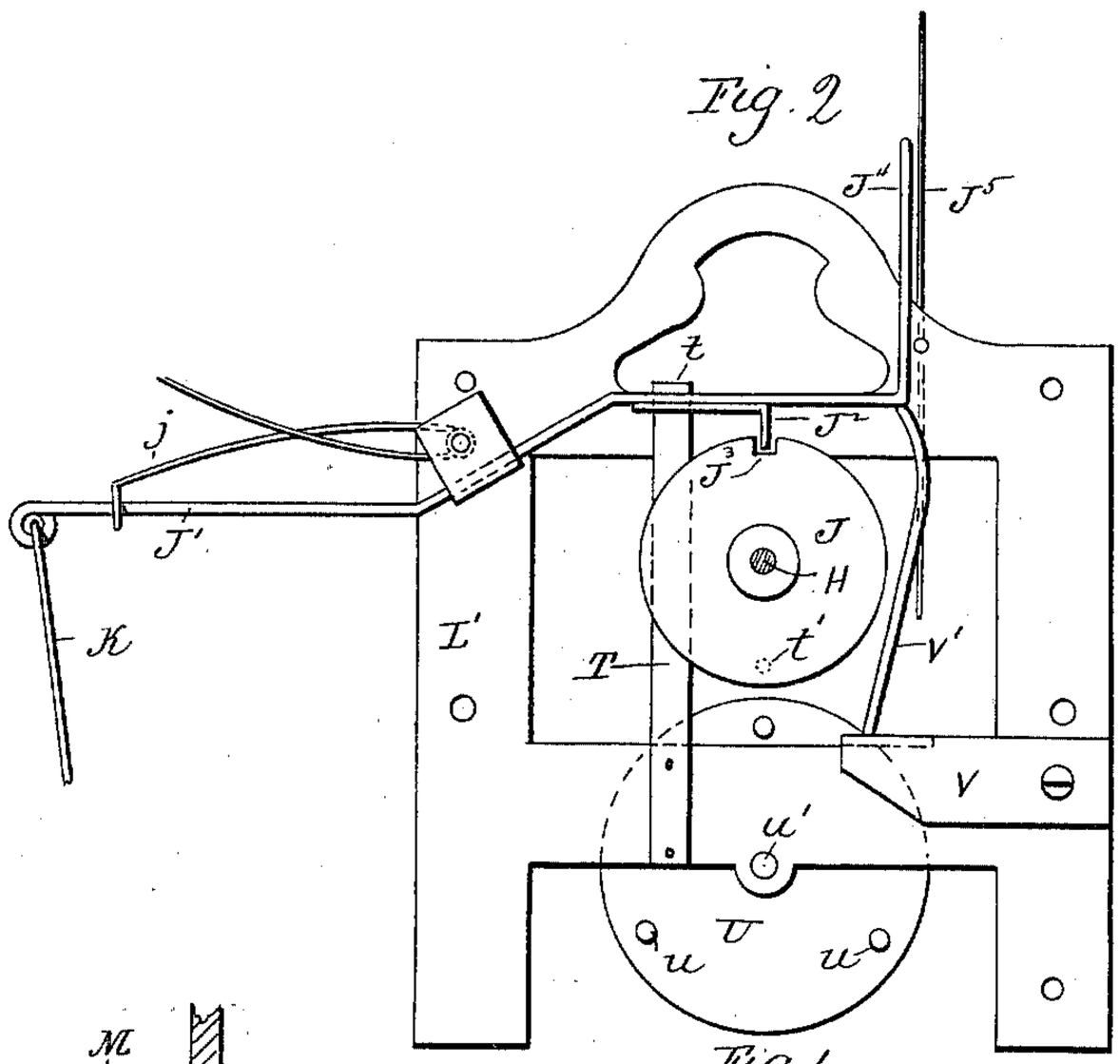


Fig. 3

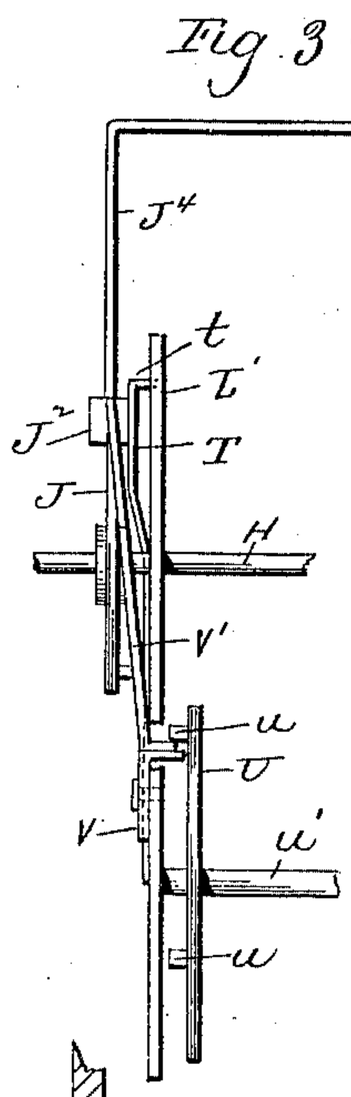
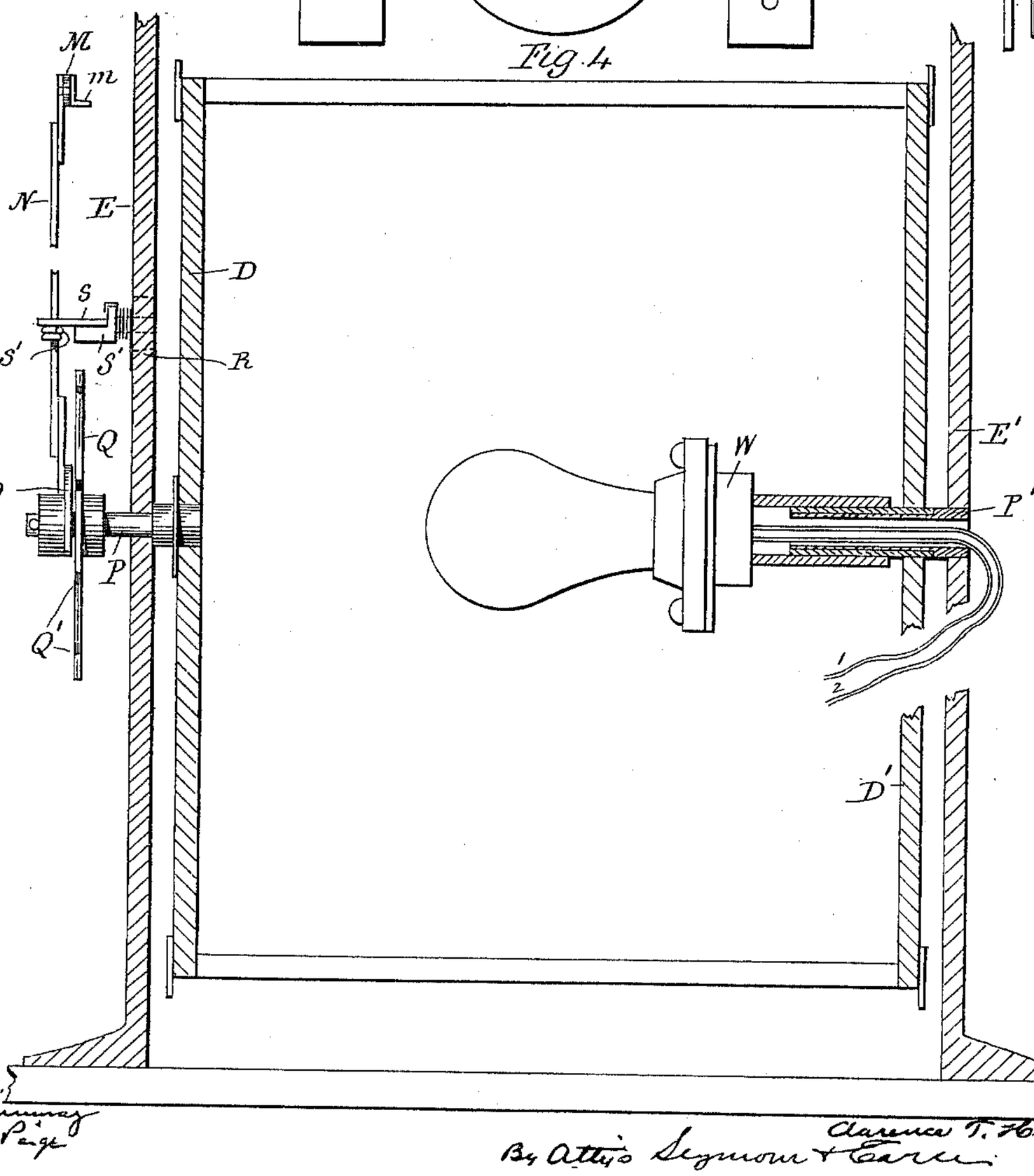


Fig. 4



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE T. HUNT, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

COIN-CONTROLLED PICTURE-EXHIBITOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,425, dated June 6, 1899.

Application filed March 9, 1899. Serial No. 708,363. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE T. HUNT, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Coin-Controlled Picture-Exhibitors; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a side view of a device constructed in accordance with my invention, a part of the case only being exhibited; Fig. 2, a broken view illustrating the secondary releasing device; Fig. 3, an edge view of the same; and Fig. 4, a sectional view of the picture-holder, illustrating the arrangement of the lighting device.

This invention relates to an improvement in coin-controlled picture-exhibitors, and particularly that class in which the stereopticon or double pictures are passed before the sight-opening in the case and in which the mechanism for moving the pictures is set in operation by the weight of a coin dropped upon a lever in the case, the object of the invention being to arrange a simple device in which the mechanism carrying the pictures will be positively fed and held in proper position before the sight-opening; and it consists in certain details of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and particularly recited in the claims.

The case A may be of any approved design, having a coin-slot B and a sight-opening C, which is provided with magnifying-glasses in the usual manner of devices of this character. The picture-holder consists of two plates D D′, herein shown as octagonal, but which may have any number of sides corresponding to the number of pictures to be exhibited, and on each plate are fingers *a*, beneath which the pictures may be passed, so as to be retained thereon. Preferably the fingers on one plate form a stop to limit the movement of the picture, and the other plate is provided with turn-buttons *b*, which after the pictures have been passed into the holder are turned upward to hold them in position. This holder is mounted on bearings fixed to side frames E E′ in such position that as the holder is rotated its faces will be successively presented before the sight-opening C. The side frame E extends above the picture-holder and is formed with an upwardly-extending T-shaped arm F and a forwardly-extending brace G, the outer end G′ of which is turned upward and to which the coin-chute B′ is attached.

To the upwardly-extending arm F of the frame is attached a clock striking mechanism of any approved construction, and which includes a center arbor H, at the outer end of which is a count-wheel I, and which shaft also carries a stop-wheel J. Pivoted to the frame is a stop-arm J′, which passes over the stop-wheel J, above which it is provided with a stop-finger J^2, adapted to enter a notch J^3 in the stop-wheel, and with an upwardly and rearwardly extending end J^4, which normally stands in the path of the fly J^5. The arm J′ is connected by a link K with a coin-lever K′, which is pivotally connected to the frame and projects beneath the chute B′, and so that the weight of a coin will depress the lever K′, and hence move the stop-arm, the said stop-arm J′ having a spring *j* connected with it, the tendency of said spring being to lift the arm.

Pivotally connected to an arm L, extending upward from the frame L′ of the clock mechanism, is a lever M, which extends into the path of the count-wheel J and at its free end is pivoted to a connecting-rod N, which extends downward into engagement with an arm O, loosely mounted on the trunnion P, which is secured to the plate D of the picture-holder. Secured to this trunnion P is a notched wheel Q, with the notches Q′ of which a pawl O′, which is pivoted to the outer end of the arm O, engages. Pivotally connected with outwardly-extending lugs R R′ on the frame are spring-actuated pawls S S′, which extend toward each other and are adapted to enter the notches Q′ of the wheel Q. From the pawl S′ projects a pin *s* into engagement with a finger *s*′, carried by the connecting-rod N, and so that as the connecting-rod rises the pawl S′ will be lifted out of engagement with the notch-wheel Q, as will be more fully hereinafter described.

Upon the lever M is an inwardly-extending shoulder *m*, which will be successively engaged by the pins *i* of the count-wheel I, and

to hold this arm in position I arrange a coiled spring M′, which extends into engagement with the chute B′ or other convenient point in the frame. To hold the finger J^2 of the stop-arm J′ out of the notch J^3 until the wheel J has turned, so as to move the notch J^3 beyond the finger J^2, I attach a flat spring T to the frame of the movement and turn its upper end inward to form a shoulder *t*, which is adapted to snap under the stop-finger J^2 after it has been raised by the action of the coin in starting the mechanism. This spring T is in the path of the movement on a short stud *t′* on the inner face of the stop-wheel J, and so that as the said stop-wheel rotates the stud will ride up over the surface of the spring T and press it inward, so as to force the shoulder *t* out of engagement with the stop-finger J^2, which then rides on the periphery of the wheel J, and so as to be ready to again enter the notch J^3 when the wheel J has completed its revolution.

The mechanism thus far described is sufficient when the number of faces in the picture-holder corresponds with the number of pins on the count-wheel, and so that the movement of the mechanism will be arrested after the picture-wheel has made one revolution; but, if desired, a picture-holder having double the number of faces that there are pins in the count-wheel may be employed, in which case I provide the wheel U on the second shaft *u′* with studs *u*, and to the frame pivot a lever V in position to extend into the path of movement of the studs *u*, and so that as the wheel revolves the said lever V will be raised. To this lever I attach a wire arm V′, which extends upward into engagement with the stop-arm J′, as shown in Fig. 2. The pins *u* are so arranged that just as the wheel J completes its revolution and the finger J^2 is about to enter the notch J^3 one of them will engage with the lever V and so as to lift the arm V′ and hold the stop-arm J′ upward and so as to permit the stop-wheel J to continue its revolution. As soon as the stud *u* has passed the lever V, the lever is returned to its normal position and so as to allow the stop-finger J^2 to enter the notch J^3 after the wheel J has completed its second revolution. With this addition to the mechanism the picture-wheel may have two or more times as many faces as there are pins on the count-wheel, it being understood that there will be one notch in the wheel Q for each face in the picture-holder.

As herein shown, a supplemental chute C^2 is provided, which will catch the coin as it drops from the coin-lever K′ and conduct it to a suitable receptacle. (Not shown.)

Preferably the pictures shown in a device of this character are semitransparent and require a light back of them in order to bring them out, and to accomplish this I form the trunnion P′, which is attached to the upright E′ and upon which the picture-holder revolves, from a piece of tubing, and to its inner end attach an electric-light holder W, the wires 1 2 thereof extending through the bearing P′, respectively, to an arm 4 and finger 3, which are attached to an insulating-block 5, mounted on the frame. The arm 4 extends into contact with the hub I′ of the count-wheel I, the edge of which is formed with a notch I^2, into which the end of the finger 3 extends when the count-wheel is at rest, and so that the finger 3 is normally out of contact therewith; but as the count-wheel starts its revolution the periphery comes into contact with the finger 3, thus completing the circuit and lighting the lamp within the picture-holder, it being understood that the wires 1 2 pass through the source of lighting power.

The operation of the device is as follows: A coin being dropped through the slot B passes downward through the chute B′ and onto the end of the lever K′, depressing that lever, which, through the link K, pulls the stop-arm J′ downward and lifts the finger J^2 out of the notch J^3 of the stop-wheel J, at the same time lifting the end J^4 away from the fly-wheel J^5. In this position the stop-arm is held by the shoulder *t* of the spring T snapping beneath it. The spring mechanism thus released turns the shaft H, and hence the count-wheel I, which in revolving moves the studs *i* against the shoulder *m* of the lever M and lifts that lever, which in turn, through the medium of the connecting-rod N, lifts the arm O, which draws the pawl O′ out of one of the notches Q′ of the wheel Q and lifts it until it engages with the next succeeding notch. The connecting-rod in thus lifting causes the finger *s′* to engage with the finger *s* of the pawl S′ and lift that pawl out of the notches Q′, in which it rested, and so permits the wheel to be turned in the direction of the arrow in Fig. 1, the said wheel being held against reverse movement by the pawl S. After the stud *i* has passed the shoulder *m* the arm M under the action of the spring M′ descends and forces the arm O downward, and the pawl O′ being engaged with one of the notches Q′ turns the wheel Q one step and presents another face or picture in the picture-holder to the sight-opening, and this continues until the stop-wheel J has made one revolution, when the finger J^2, under the action of the spring *j*, will again enter the notch J^3 and so lock the mechanism. At the same time the arm J^4 falls into the path of the fly-wheel J^5. During the first part of the movement of the wheel J the stud *t′* therein acts upon the face of the spring T and throws the shoulder *t* thereof out of engagement with the lever J′, so that the lever is free to enter the notch, as above described, when the wheel J has completed its revolution. At each step in the movement of the picture-holder the pawl S descends, so as to enter one of the notches Q′, and so holds the wheel Q against rotation during the first part of the upward movement of the connecting-

rod N. As soon as the count-wheel I starts its revolution the periphery thereof comes into contact with the finger 3, and so completes a circuit through the wires 1 2 and arm 4, and hence lights the lamp within the picture-holder.

The mechanism thus described is sufficient to operate a device in which the number of pictures corresponds to the number of pins on the count-wheel; but when the number of pictures is double the number of pins on the count-wheel the lever V is employed in connection with the arm V′ and studs *u* of the wheel U, and so that just before the finger J^2 drops into the notch J^3 upon the completion of the first revolution of the wheel J one of the studs *u* will lift the lever V and, through the arm V′, hold the stop-arm J′ upward, and hence prevent the finger J^2 entering the notch J^3, which allows the wheel J, and hence the count-wheel I, to make a second revolution, the other features of the device operating substantially as before.

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

1. The combination of a revolving picture-holder and a notched wheel secured thereto, and a lever mounted on the shaft of the notched wheel and having a pawl at its outer end for engagement with said notches, of reversely-turned pawls for engaging other notches in the wheel, a spring-actuated movement carrying a count-wheel, a lever connected with the lever on the shaft of the notched wheel and adapted to be lifted by said count-wheel, and mechanism released by the weight of a coin for setting the spring movement in motion, substantially as described.

2. The combination with a picture-holder comprising two side plates mounted in bearings between opposite sides of a frame, one of said bearings projecting through the frame and having a notched wheel secured thereto, of an arm loosely mounted on said bearing and carrying at its outer end a pawl for engagement with said notched wheel, reversely-turned pawls mounted for engagement with said notched wheel, a spring-actuated mechanism arranged above the picture-holder and including a count-wheel, a lever having an arm in the path of pins projecting outward from said count-wheel, said lever connecting with the arm on the notched-wheel bearing by a connecting-rod having a finger adapted to lift one of the pawls out of said notched wheel, a stop-arm adapted to be turned in one direction by the weight of a coin, and having a finger adapted to enter a notch in a stop-wheel, a spring adapted to snap beneath said stop-lever when the same is raised, and a stud on said stop-wheel adapted to force said spring out of engagement with the stop-lever, substantially as described.

3. In a coin-controlled picture-exhibitor, the combination with the stop-lever thereof and means for actuating the same by the weight of a coin, of a wheel in the movement having outwardly-extending studs, and a lever pivoted to the frame and having an arm extending upward into engagement with the stop-lever and adapted to be lifted by one of said studs, and whereby the stop-lever is raised to permit two revolutions of the stop-wheel, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CLARENCE T. HUNT.

Witnesses:
FRED. C. EARLE,
J. H. SHUMWAY.