

No. 638,528.

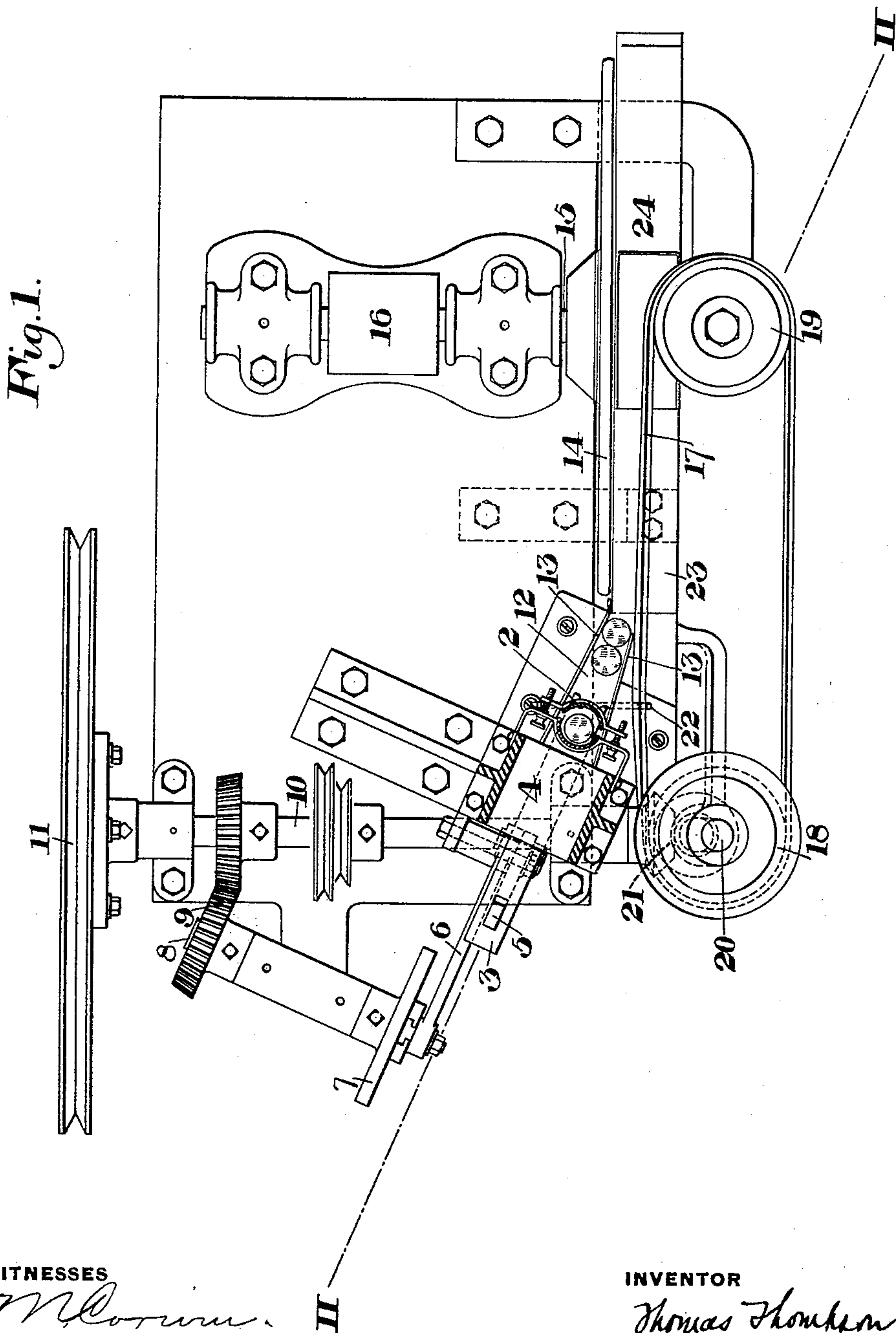
Patented Dec. 5, 1899.

T. THOMPSON.
CORK FINISHING MACHINE.

(Application filed Sept. 19, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES

W. M. Corwin.
Geo. B. Blumming

INVENTOR

Thomas Thompson.
By Barker & Barker
his atty's.

No. 638,528.

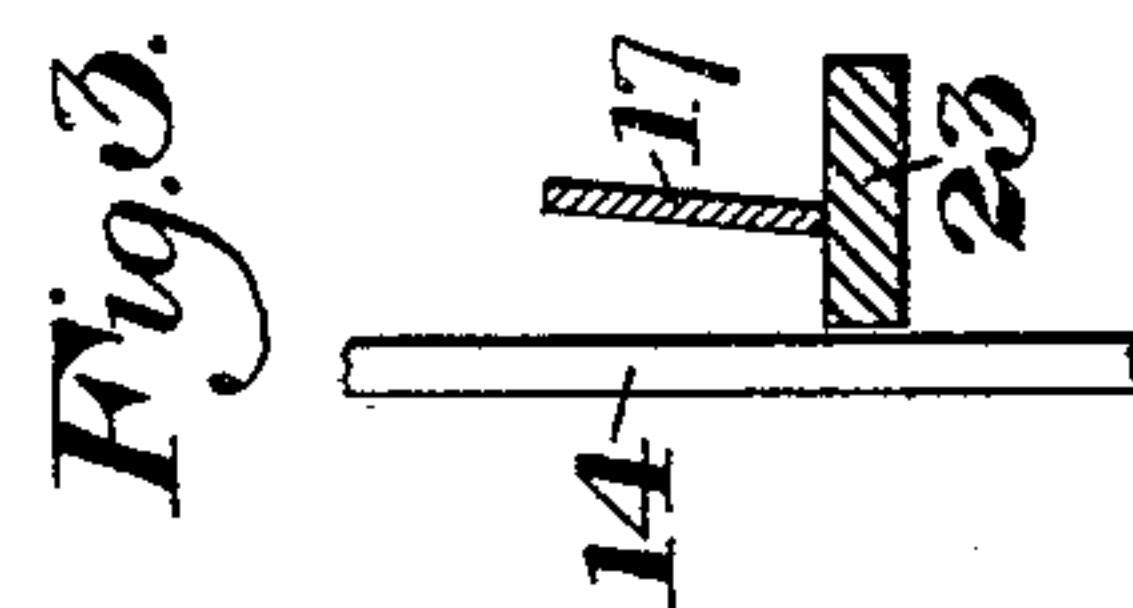
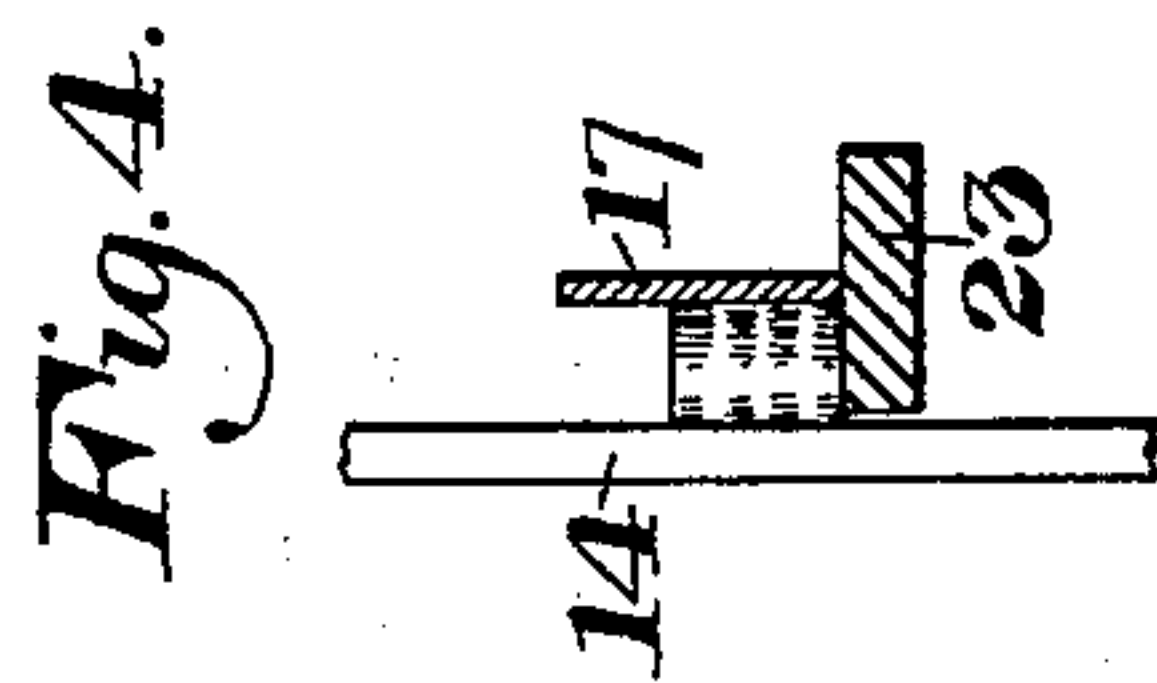
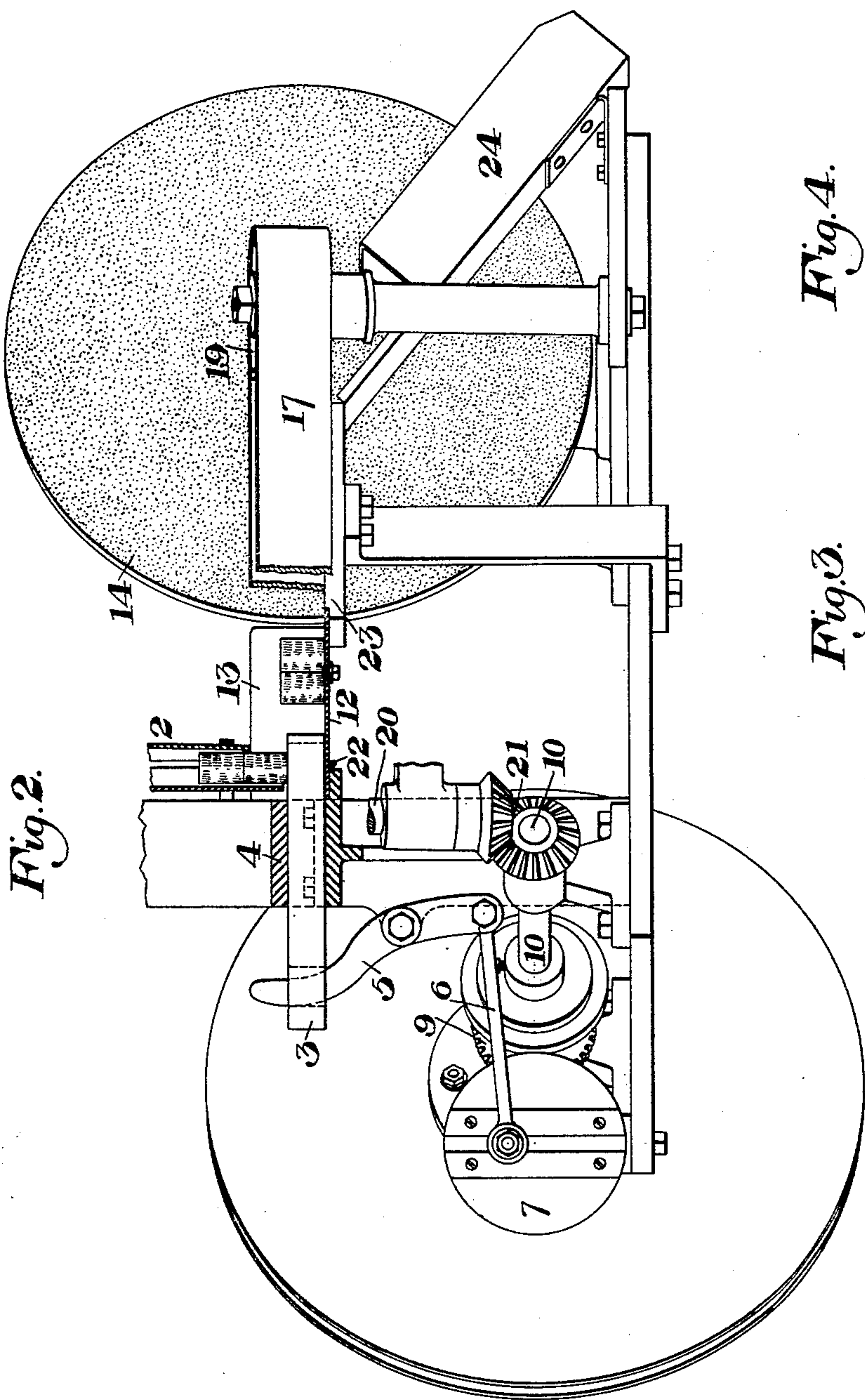
Patented Dec. 5, 1899.

T. THOMPSON.
CORK FINISHING MACHINE.

(Application filed Sept. 19, 1899.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



WITNESSES

W. M. Corwin
Geo. B. Blumming

INVENTOR

Thomas Thompson
by B. A. B. & B. A. B.
his atty's.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS THOMPSON, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO THE
ARMSTRONG CORK COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

CORK-FINISHING MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 638,528, dated December 5, 1899.

Application filed September 19, 1899. Serial No. 730,995. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS THOMPSON, of
Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and
State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new
and useful Improvement in Cork-Finishing
Machines, of which the following is a full,
clear, and exact description, reference being
had to the accompanying drawings, forming
part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved
machine with the feeding-hopper broken
away. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line
II II of Fig. 1, and Figs. 3 and 4 are broken
detail views showing the position of the belt
before and after its engaging the cork.

My invention relates to the finishing of
corks and sandpapering or polishing their
sides, and is designed to provide a simple
and effective machine for this purpose which
will automatically adjust itself to slight va-
riations in the cork and which will automat-
ically and rapidly polish their sides.

In the drawings, 2 represents a vertical
channel or chute leading downwardly from
any suitable hopper and through which the
corks descend, one upon the top of the other.
The feeding-hopper may be provided with
any suitable stirring device, and corks are
fed forward from the lower end of the chute
by a plunger 3, supported within a guide 4,
and operated by a curved lever 5, projecting
through a slot in its rear portion. The lever
5 is operated by a pitman 6, adjustably con-
nected to a crank-disk 7, mounted on a shaft
8, having bevel-gear connections 9 with a
shaft 10, which is driven by a suitable pulley
11. The lowermost cork normally rests on
the top of the plunger, and as the plunger is
moved back the cork drops in front of it.
The forward movement of the plunger then
forces the cork forward on a supporting-plate
12 and between spring clips or fingers 13.

The polishing device consists of a disk 14,
faced with sandpaper or other suitable ma-
terial and mounted at the end of a shaft 15,
actuated by pulley 16. The corks are rotated
and moved across the face of this disk by a
belt 17 passing over pulleys 18 and 19, the
pulley 18 being secured to a shaft 20, having
bevel-gear connection 21 with the shaft 10.

22 is an inclined pin over which the belt
passes and which normally causes the inner

portion to assume an inclined position, as
shown in Fig. 3. The belt feeds each cork
forwardly from the plate 12 over a support-
ing-plate 23, which extends toward the center
of the polishing-disk and is provided at its
end with a chute or guideway 24, down which
the polished corks pass.

The operation is apparent. The corks pass-
ing down the chute on top of each other are
forced forward one by one, and thus force
the forward cork of the series held in the
spring-clips between the face of the polish-
ing-disk and the inner portion of the belt.
The disk being rotated counter-clockwise
holds the corks down on the supporting-
plate, while the belt rotates them and moves
them across its face. As soon as each cork
reaches the end of the support it is forced
down the chute. As each cork is forced out
from the clips and engages the belt the belt
will be forced into a more nearly vertical po-
sition, as shown in Fig. 4, and will hold the
cork securely and rotate it in its forward
movement.

The advantages of my invention result
from the use of the belt as a means for feed-
ing the corks across the face of the polishing-
disks, as this belt will yield slightly and
accommodate itself to the corks while rotat-
ing them and moving them along the sup-
porting-plate.

Many variations may be made in the form
and arrangement of the belt, its driving mech-
anism, and the polishing-disk without de-
parting from my invention.

I claim—

1. In a cork-finishing machine, a polishing-
disk, a supporting-plate, and a belt carried
on rotary supports mounted in stationary
bearings and arranged to move the cork along
the plate and across the face of the disk;
substantially as described.

2. In a cork-finishing machine, a polishing-
disk, a belt carried on rotary supports mount-
ed in stationary bearings and arranged to ro-
tate the corks in contact therewith, and a de-
flector arranged to force the belt into an in-
clined position before engaging the corks;
substantially as described.

3. In a cork-finishing machine, a vertical
rotating polishing-disk, a horizontally-ex-
tending support, a feeder arranged to force

corks one by one upon the support, and a belt carried on rotary supports mounted in stationary bearings and arranged to move the corks along the support and in contact with
5 the face of the polishing-disk; substantially as described.

4. In a cork-finishing machine, a vertical chute, spring-fingers extending from its lower end, a plunger arranged to force the corks
10 one by one into the fingers and forwardly therefrom, a polishing-disk, and a belt ar-

ranged to engage the corks forced forwardly from the clips, and rotate them in contact with the face of the disk; substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set
my hand.

THOS. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

H. M. CORWIN,
G. B. BLEMMING.