

No. 669,333.

Patented Mar. 5, 1901.

H. WOODWORTH & J. COWIE.

CHECK REGISTER.

(Application filed Oct. 8, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

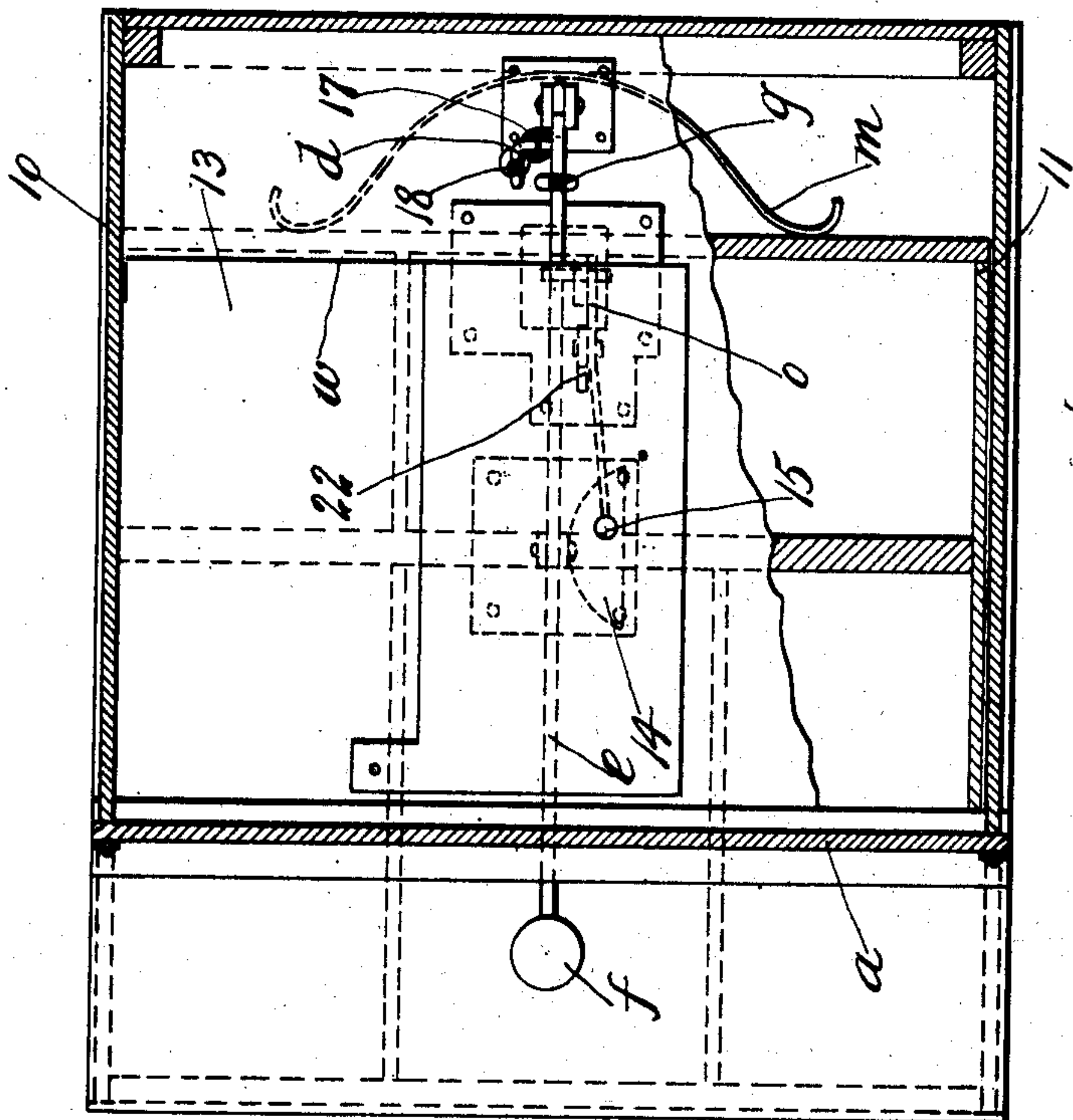


Fig. 1.

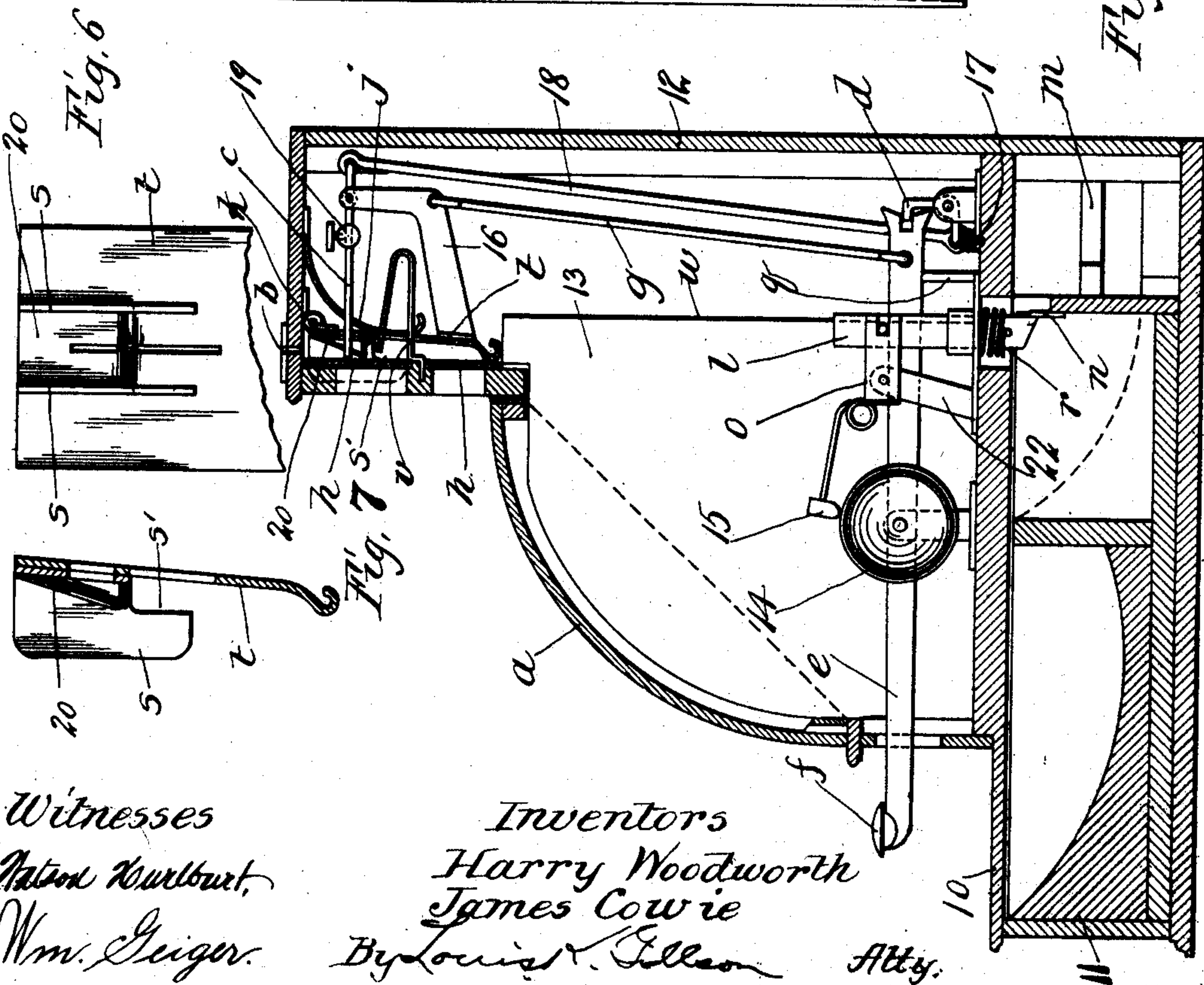


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

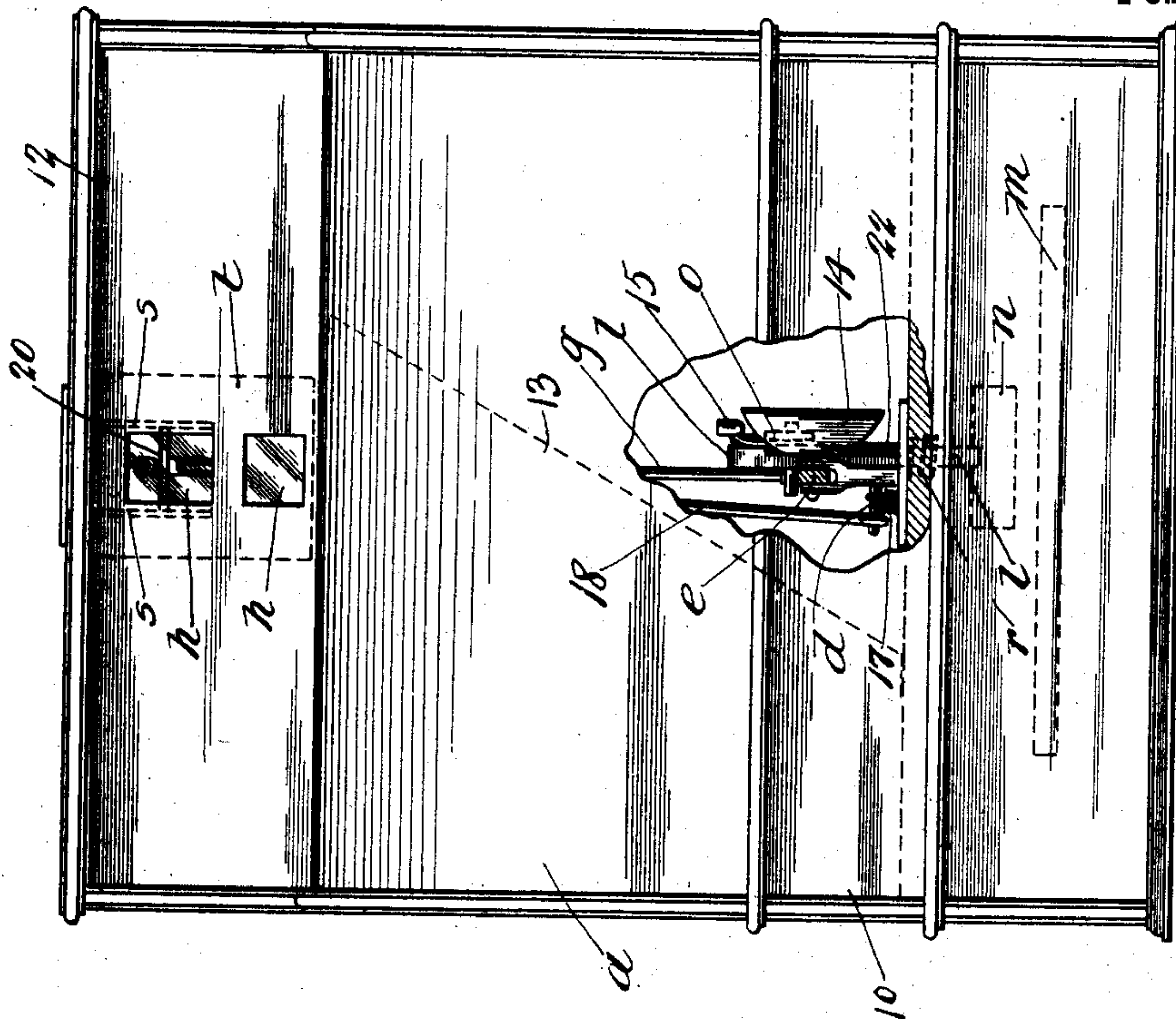


Fig. 3.

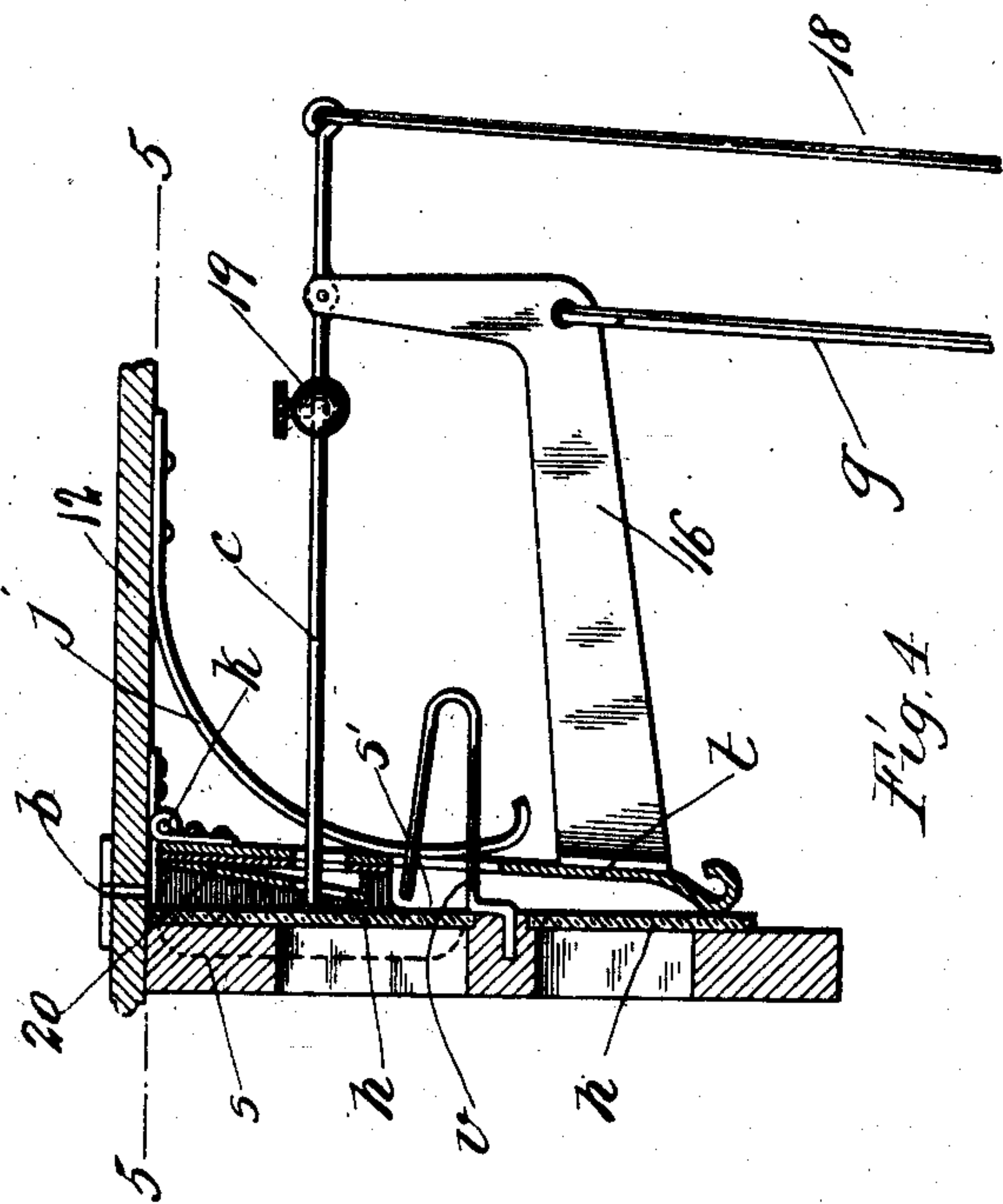


Fig. 4.

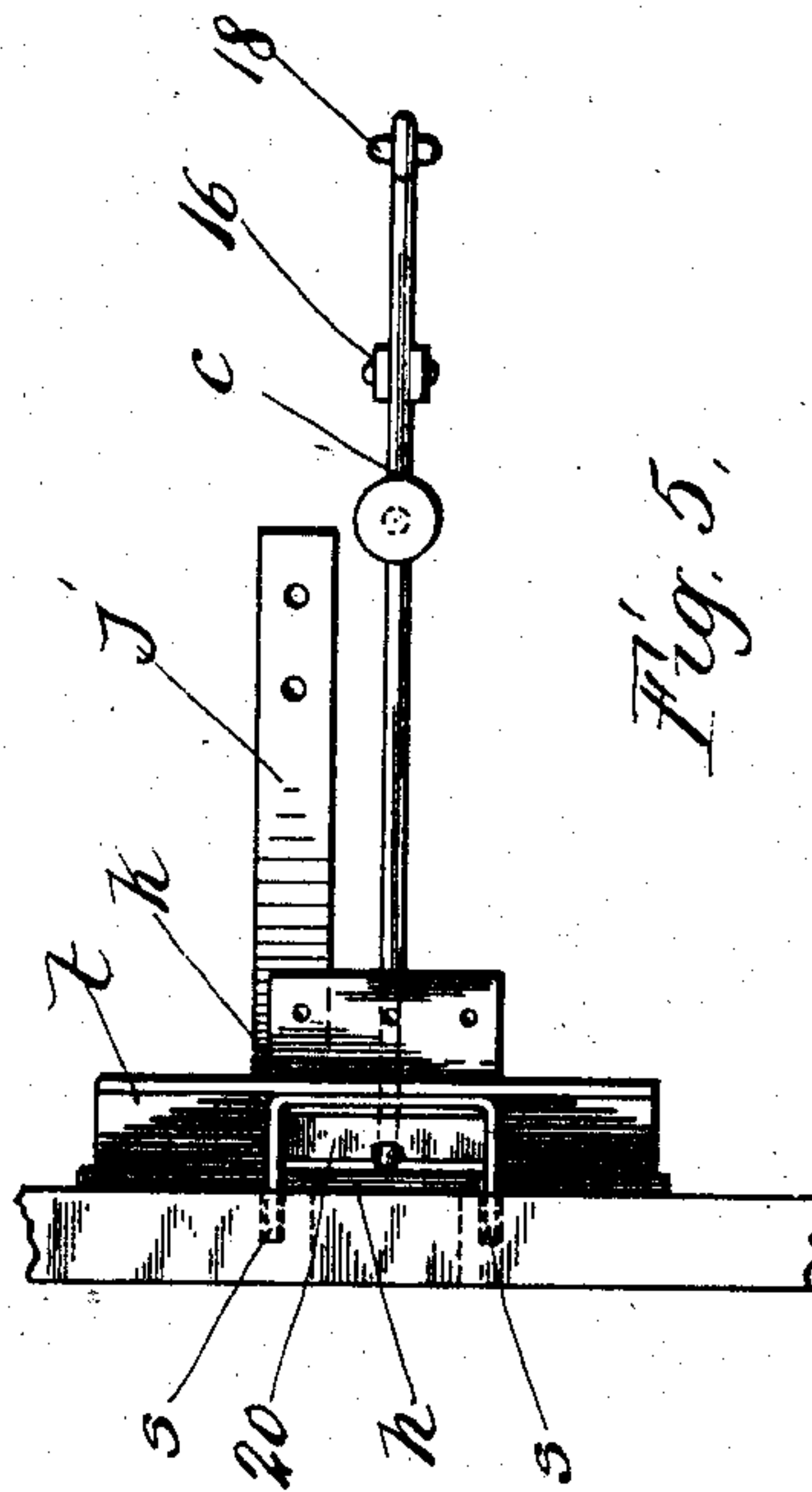


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY WOODWORTH AND JAMES COWIE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CHECK-REGISTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 669,333, dated March 5, 1901.

Application filed October 8, 1900. Serial No. 32,385. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HARRY WOODWORTH, a citizen of the United States of America, and JAMES COWIE, a citizen of the Kingdom of Great Britain, both residents of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check-Registers, of which the following is a specification and which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

This invention relates to that form of register for the use of cashiers in barber-shops and like situations in which an account is kept by means of checks, preferably of metal, a separate check being used to indicate the amount of each sale or cash transaction.

One object of the invention is to provide in a device of this character which has a manually-controlled locking device for the cash-drawer, means for locking such controlling mechanism, and means for releasing such locking means by the insertion of a check into the slot leading to the check-receptacle, a further object being to provide means for retaining each check within the passage leading to the check-receptacle and in such position as to be visible until the next succeeding cash transaction, when it is dropped into the receptacle. These objects are attained in the mechanism hereinafter fully described, and which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a transverse vertical central section of the entire device. Fig. 2 is a plan section of the same. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the device, certain of the internal parts being indicated in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a detail vertical central section upon an enlarged scale. Fig. 5 is a detail section on the line 5-5 of Fig. 4, and Figs. 6 and 7 are details of certain parts of the device.

An oblong rectangular case 10 forms the base of the structure, within which there is housed a sliding drawer 11 for receiving cash. A superstructure 12 rises from the rearward portion of the base and incloses a check-receptacle, (indicated at 13,) to which access is gained by means of a hinged door *a*. Back of and above the check-receptacle space is provided within the upper portion 12

of the case for the hereinafter-described mechanism for controlling the locking device.

A spring *m* is located back of the drawer 11, so as to eject the same when unlocked. A striker-plate *n* is fixed to and projects above the upper edge of the rear wall of the drawer 11 and is engaged by a reciprocating dog *l*, which is thrown downwardly by means of a spring *r*. The lower end of the dog *l* is beveled, so that the striker-plate *n* may pass it as the drawer is forced inwardly. The dog *l* is pivoted to a rock-lever *e*, the forward end of which projects through the front wall of the case and is provided with a finger-piece or push-button *f* by which it may be depressed, so as to raise the dog.

A gong or bell 14 may be provided and is sounded by means of the clapper 15, carried by a suitably-mounted rock-lever *o*, which is pivoted to the support 22. A stop *q* is provided for limiting the downward movement of the inward end of the lever *e* and hence of the dog *l*.

A slot *b* is formed in the top of the case to receive the checks, (not shown,) but which are preferably of metal and circular in form, a suitable size being that of the half-dollar. A plate *t* is hinged at *k* to and depends from the top of the case immediately back of the slot *b*, and from the lower end of this plate there projects backwardly and upwardly a rigid arm 16, which is connected by means of a link *g* with the inward end of the lever *e*, so that when the drawer 11 is locked the lower end of the plate *t* is thrown against the front wall of the case 12, thereby forming with it a pocket to receive and retain the check that has been inserted and hold it before one of the glass plates *h h*, set in the front wall of the case. A spring *j* may be provided for bearing against the rearward face of the plate *t* to hold it in its advance position.

The lever *e* is automatically secured when its inner end is depressed by means of a bell-crank detent *d*, one arm of which enters a suitable aperture in the end of the lever and is thrown therein by the action of a spring 17. This locking mechanism is released by the insertion of a check through the slot *b* by the following means: A rod or link 18 leads

upwardly from the bell-crank *d* to a rock-lever *c*, pivoted to the upper end of the arm 16 and projecting through the plate *t*, so as to cross the path of the check. A weight 19 5 is mounted upon the lever *c*, so as to almost counterbalance the spring 17, and thereby provide for a sufficiently sensitive action of the locking mechanism, so that the weight of the check will depress the lever *c* and with- 10 draw the bell-crank *d* from the aperture of the lever *e*. When pressure is applied to the finger-piece *f*, so as to swing back the plate *t*, the lever *c* is carried backwardly with it, and the check is thus released and permitted 15 to fall upon a wire support *v*, which projects backwardly from the front wall of the case 12 through the plate *t*. When in this position, the check is exposed to view behind the upper glass plate *h* and indicates the amount 20 of the present transaction. The plate *t* is flanked by forwardly-projecting wings *s s*, which prevent the check from rolling side-wise off from the supporting-wire *v* when the plate *t* is in its rearward position. The wire 25 *v* is U-shaped, its return end being spaced apart sufficiently from the plate *h*, so that the check may pass it, but will be by it retained in an upright position. A guide-plate 20 extends downwardly and forwardly from 30 the upper edge of the plate *t*, so as to guide the check past the forward end of the lever *c* and the return end of the wire *v*.

The wings *s s* are apertured at their lower ends and adjacent to the plate *t*, as shown at 35 *s'*, so that when the latter plate is thrown forwardly the check may fall laterally from the wire *v* through one of these apertures and will then be caught by the lower end of the plate *t* and held behind the lower glass plate 40 *h*, and thus be exposed to view until the cash-drawer is again opened.

The operation of the device is as follows: A check having been presented to the cashier by a customer is dropped into the slot *b* and 45 by its contact with the lever *c* withdraws the bell-crank *d* from the aperture in the lever *e*, the check itself remaining upon the end of the lever *c*. The cashier now depresses the outer end of the lever *e*, thereby raising the dog *l* and allowing the drawer to be ejected 50 by the spring *m*. By the same action the plate *t* is withdrawn, and with it the lever *c*, allowing the previously-inserted check to drop into the receptacle 13 and the check last inserted to fall to and rest upon the wire *v*, the 55 solid portions of the wings *s s* preventing it from falling therethrough and the free or return arm of the wire *v* holding it in vertical position before the upper glass plate *h*. When 60 the lever *e* is released by the cashier, the plate *t* swings forwardly, bringing the apertures of the wings *s s* opposite the check resting upon the wire *v*, and the check thereupon rolls laterally upon the wire and descends into the 65 pocket at the lower end of the plate *t* and is exposed to view before the lower glass plate

h, remaining there until the mechanism is again put into operation. The return of the lever *e* to its normal position, its inner end resting upon the stop *q*, allows the bell-crank 70 *d* to enter the aperture in its end, and to facilitate this action the end of the lever *e* is made concave, so that the end of the bell-crank is guided to its aperture. The front *a* of the case is of course secured by a suitable 75 lock and may be opened, so as to permit access to the receptacle 13, and at the close of business the checks within this receptacle may be compared with the cash in the drawer and correctly indicate the amount that should 80 be found therein.

The receptacle 13 preferably occupies but one end of the case, so as to allow proper space for the operating mechanism, the inner wall of the receptacle being shown at *w*. 85

We claim as our invention—

1. In a check-register device, in combination, a case, a drawer, means for latching the drawer, means for locking the latching means, and means actuated by the insertion of a 90 check for automatically releasing the locking means.

2. In a check-register device, in combination, a case, a drawer, means for latching the drawer, means for locking the latching means, 95 means actuated by the insertion of a check for automatically releasing the locking means, and means for releasing the drawer.

3. In a check-register, in combination, a suitable case, a cash-drawer and a check-re- 100 ceptacle therein, a dog for securing the drawer, a manually-controlled lever for releasing the dog, a spring-controlled detent for engaging the lever, a rock-lever projecting into the passage leading to the check-receptacle and 105 adapted to be actuated by a check entering the same, and a link connecting such lever with the detent.

4. In a check-register, in combination, a case, a cash-drawer and a check-receptacle 110 within the case, an aperture in the case for the admission of checks to the receptacle, a hinged plate forming one wall of the passage leading from such slot to the receptacle and being adapted to swing against the opposite 115 wall thereof to form a retaining-pocket, a wire or rod fixed across such passage, wings projecting forwardly from the sides of the hinged plate and having apertures at their lower ends through which the check may fall 120 from the fixed wire or rod, manually-controlled locking mechanism for the cash-drawer, and connection between the hinged plate and such mechanism whereby the plate is swung backwardly by the unlocking of the 125 drawer.

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