

No. 688,530.

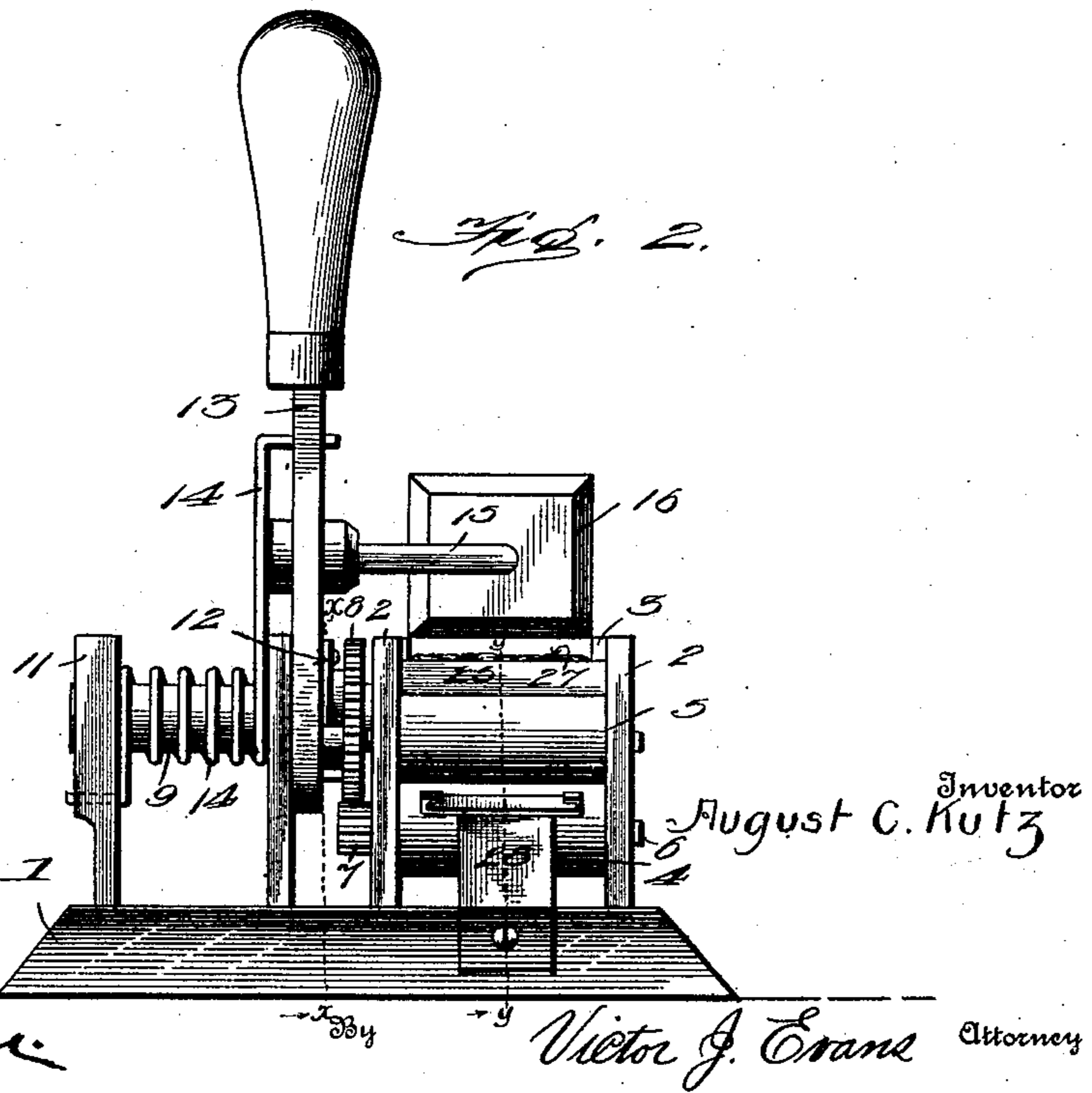
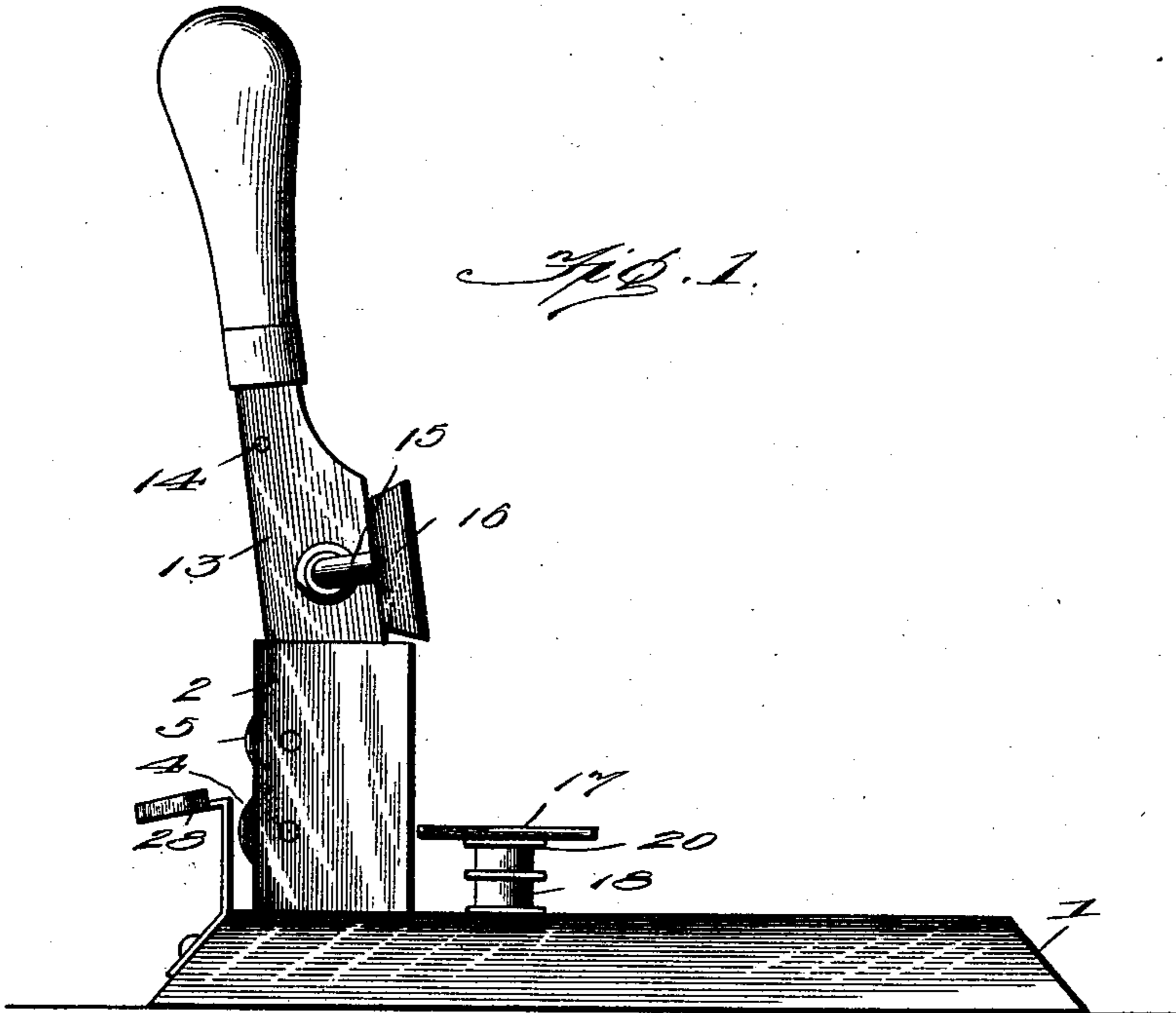
Patented Dec. 10, 1901.

A. C. KUTZ.
STAMP AFFIXER.

(Application filed Nov. 16, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 4

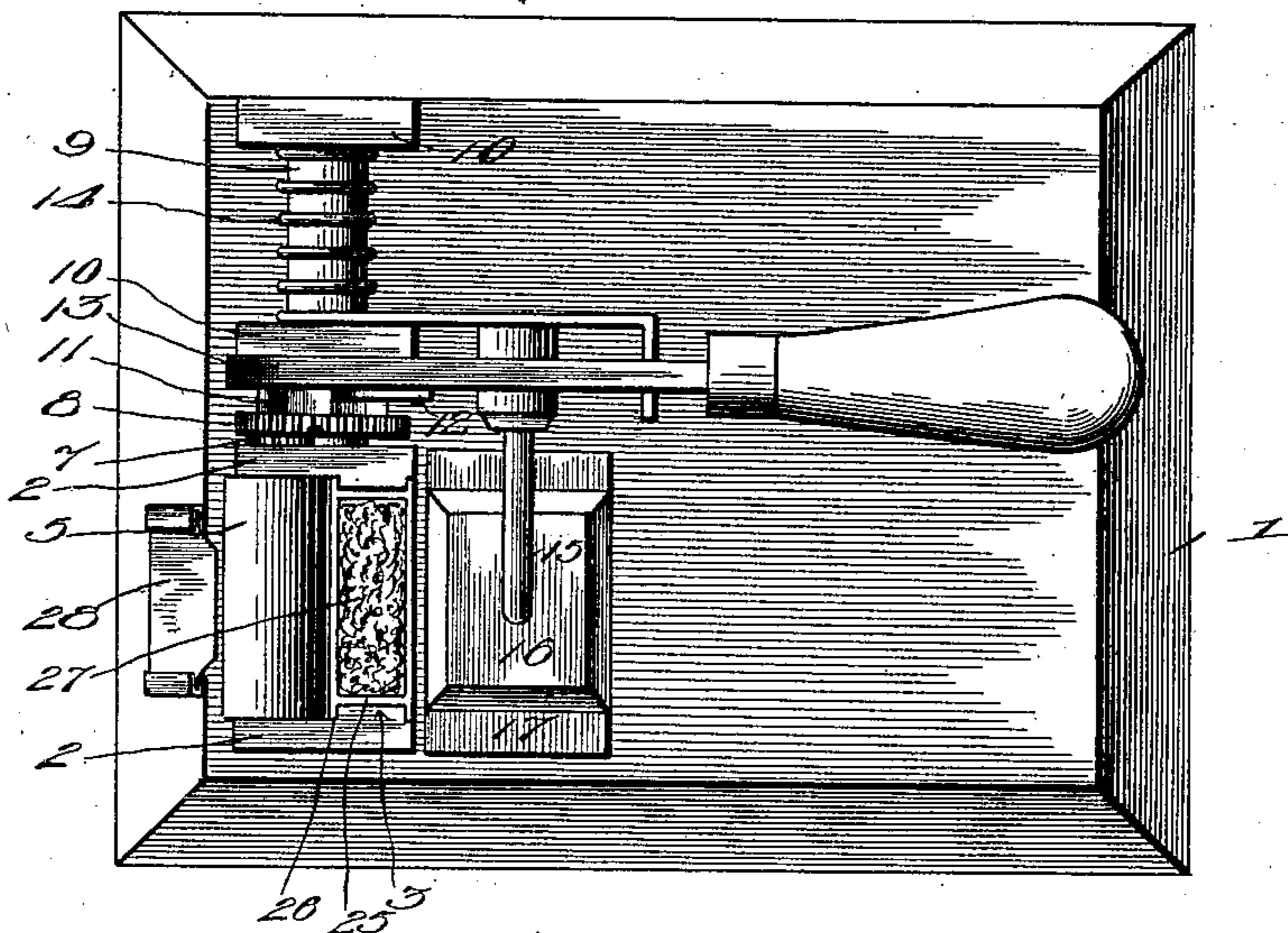


Fig. 6.

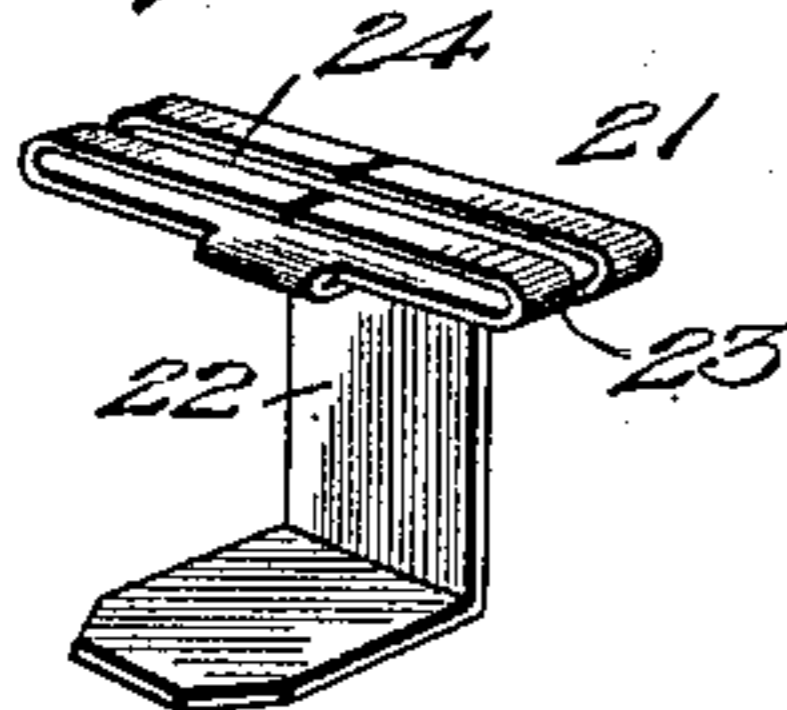


Fig. 7

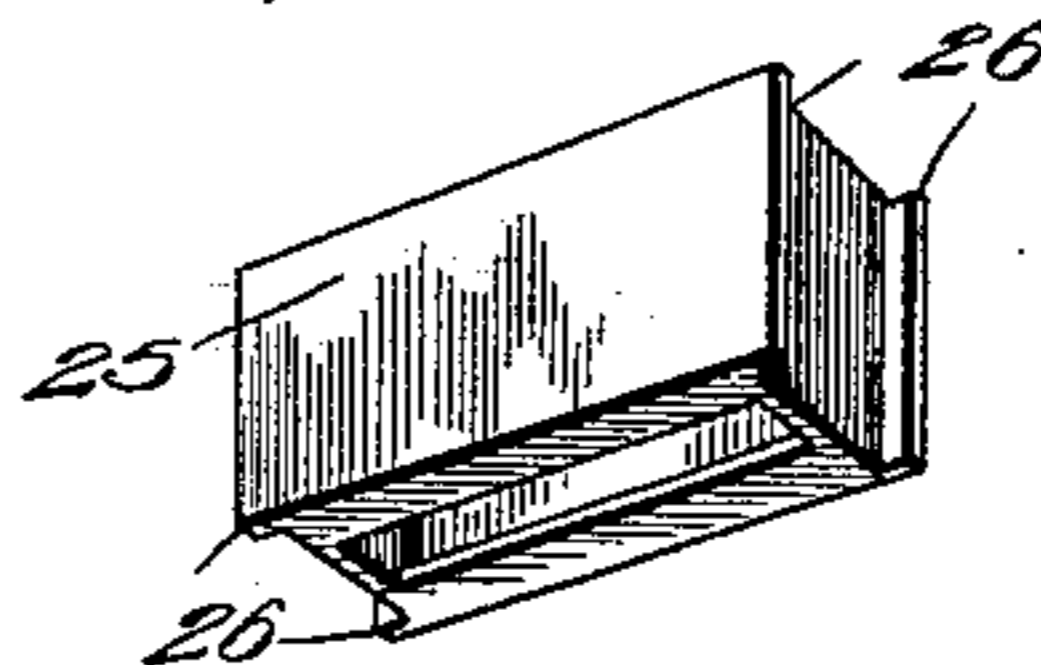


Fig. 5.

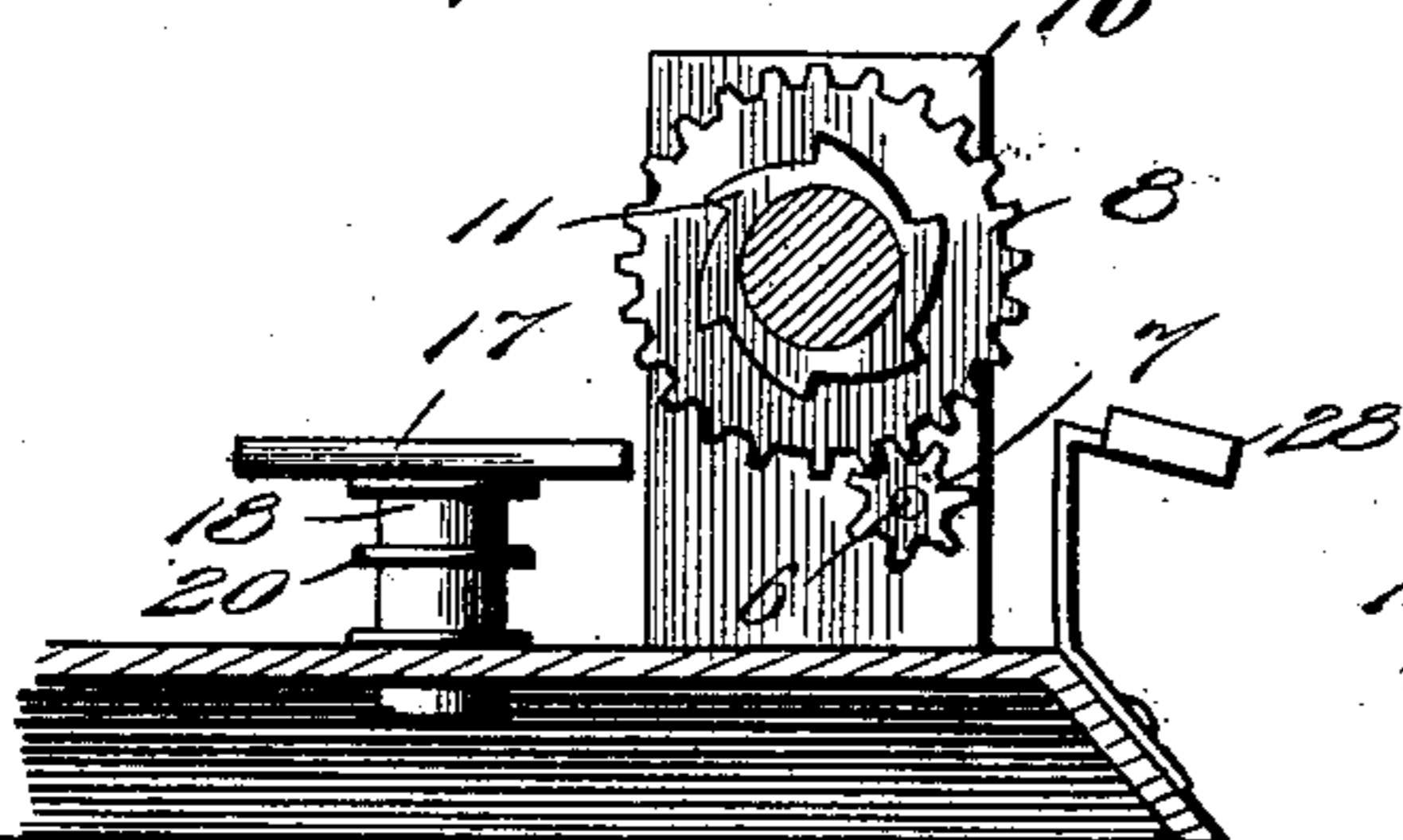
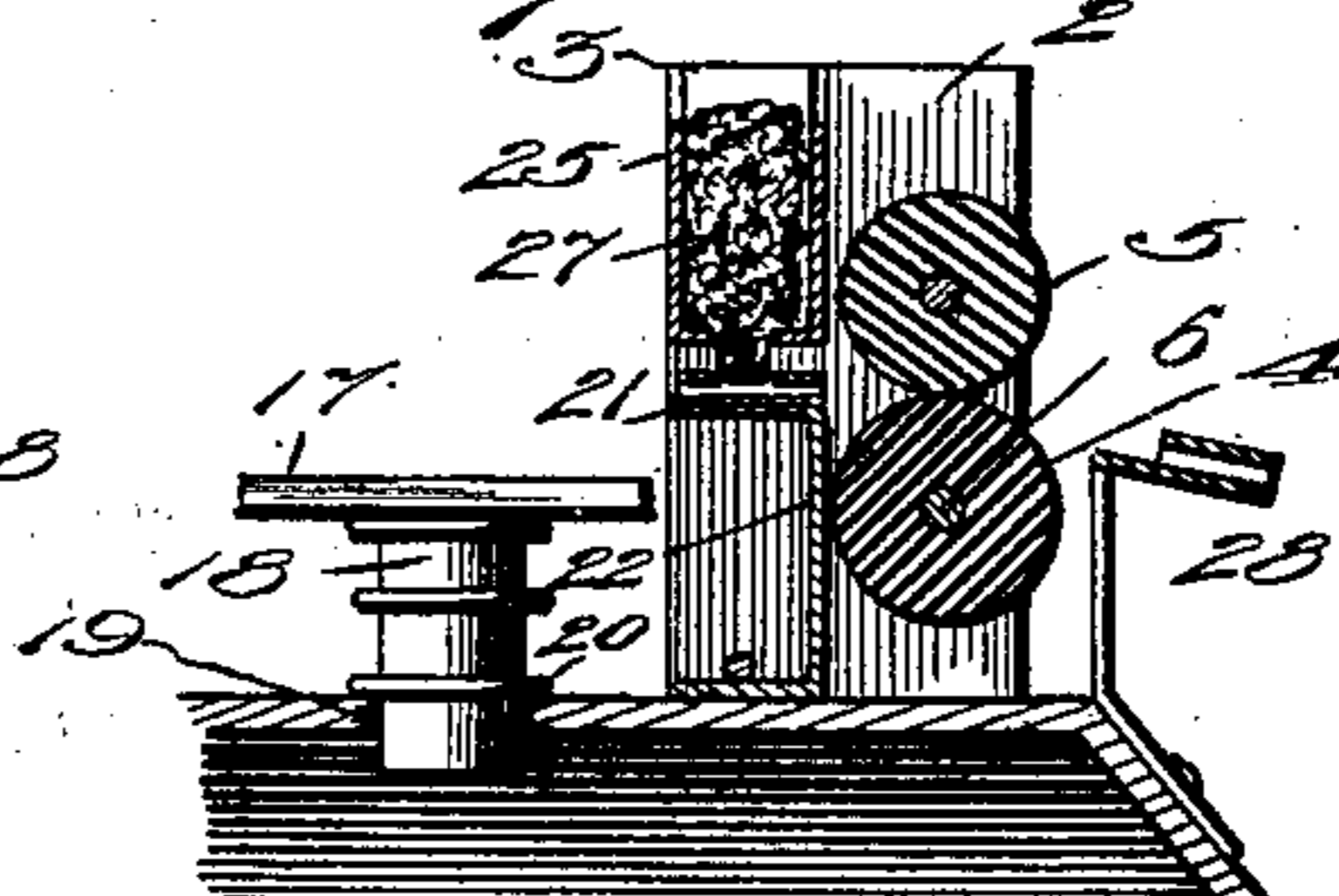


Fig. 5



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AUGUST C. KUTZ, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

STAMP-AFFIXER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 688,530, dated December 10, 1901.

Application filed November 16, 1900. Serial No. 36,769. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST C. KUTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Stamp-Affixers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in stamp-affixers; and its primary object is to provide a device whereby stamps may be automatically fed to a suitable moistener and then affixed to an envelop or other article placed in position upon the device.

A further object is to employ an affixer having a moistening device which may be readily removed and replaced.

Another object is to provide novel mechanism for feeding the stamps to the moistener.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in providing a base, upon which are mounted standards. Rollers are journaled between two of the standards, one above the other, and are adapted to receive motion through suitably arranged gears from a shaft mounted above the base. A lever is loosely fitted upon this shaft and is provided with pawl-and-ratchet mechanism, whereby the shaft will be revolved when the lever is raised, but will remain stationary when said lever is moved downward. A spring is provided for holding the lever normally in raised position and a suitable pad is connected to said lever and is adapted to be swung downward upon a platen which is mounted in alinement with the rollers before referred to. A vertically-movable box is arranged between the standards of the rollers and is adapted to contain a suitable absorbent, such as a sponge. This absorbent material projects through the bottom of the box into the path of the material fed between the rollers.

The invention also consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, showing the preferred form of my invention, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is an end view thereof. Fig. 3 is a section on line $x x$, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a top plan view showing the lever in lowered position.

Fig. 5 is a section on line $y y$, Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a detail view of the platen of the moistener, and Fig. 7 is a similar view of the moistener.

Referring to the figures by numerals of reference, 1 is a base, upon which are formed or secured suitable standards 2, having vertically-extending ribs 3 arranged upon the inner faces adjacent to their rear edges. A roller 4, preferably formed of rubber, is journaled between the standards 2 and contacts with a second roller 5, formed of similar material, and the shaft 6 of which extends through the inner standard 2 and is provided with a gear 7. This gear engages a larger gear 8, which is loosely mounted upon a shaft 9, journaled within standards 10, extending upward from the base. A ratchet-wheel 11 is secured to this gear 8 and is adapted to be engaged by a pawl 12, pivoted to a lever 13, which is also loosely mounted upon the shaft 9 before referred to. A spring 14 encircles the shaft 9 and is secured at opposite ends to one of the standards 10 and the lever 13, respectively, and is adapted to hold the lever normally in raised position. A curved arm 15 extends laterally from the lever 13 and is provided at its free end with a pad 16, preferably formed of rubber and which is adapted when swung downward to contact with a platen 17, formed at the upper end of a stem 18. This stem projects into an aperture 19, formed within the base, and a spring 20 encircles the same and bears at opposite ends upon the platen and base, respectively, and serves to hold said platen normally elevated. A platen 21 is supported by means of a strip 22 at a point between the standards 2 and in horizontal alinement with the pass between the rollers, and the ends 23 of this platen are bent upward and inward, forming a passage thereunder, through which the material fed between the rollers is adapted to travel. The ends 23 are slotted longitudinally, as at 24, and arranged thereabove is a box 25, having flanges 26 at the edges of the ends thereof, which embrace the ribs 3 before referred to. The bottom of this box is slotted longitudinally in alinement with the slot 24 before mentioned, and suitable absorbent material 27 is placed within the box and is adapted to project through the slot in the bottom thereof. A suitable guide-plate 28 may, if desired, be

secured to the base at a point in front of the rollers 4 and 5, so that the stamps may be properly fed thereto.

In operation a strip of stamps is placed
5 upon the guide-plate 28 and the end thereof forced between the rollers 4 and 5. The lever 13 is then swung downward, causing its pawl 12 to slip over the teeth of the ratchet-wheel 11. Said lever is then released and will then
10 promptly swing upward, propelled by the spring 14. This movement will cause the pawl 12 to engage the teeth of the ratchet-wheel 11 and the gear 8 will be revolved, thereby imparting motion to the lower roller
15 4, which in turn will revolve the roller 5. This movement will be sufficient to force the strip which has been fed with its gummed face upward through the passage formed above the platen 21, and during such move-
20 ment the face of the strip will be moistened by the absorbent 27, projecting from the bottom of the box 25. One stamp will be brought to a position above the platen 17, and an envelop or any other article which it is desired
25 to stamp is placed thereover with the addressed face downward. The lever 13 is then swung down until the pad 16 contacts with the letter. This will cause the platen to move downward, thereby compressing its
30 spring 20 and tearing the stamp adhering to the envelop from the rest of the strip. The envelop is then removed, and when the lever is released the above-described operation of the rollers is repeated.

35 It will be seen that the box 25 bears upon the ends 23 of the platen 21 by force of gravity. As the absorbent 27 is loosely fitted within the box, it can be readily removed for cleaning, &c. It will also be understood that
40 this absorbent can be easily moistened by placing a suitable amount of water through the open top of the box.

In the foregoing description I have shown the preferred form of my invention; but I do
45 not limit myself thereto, as I am aware that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, and I therefore re-

serve the right to make such changes as fairly fall within the scope of my invention. 50

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

1. The combination with parallel standards; of contacting rollers mounted between 55 the standards, a platen between the standards in horizontal alinement with the pass between the rollers; a spring-supported platen in front of the standards; a lever carrying a pawl and a pressure-pad; gear-wheels 60 for revolving the rollers; a ratchet-wheel concentric with one of said gear-wheels and adapted to be actuated by said pawl; a spring for elevating the lever; and a box containing absorbent material, said box resting upon the 65 platen between the standards and guided by said standards.

2. The combination with a base, of standards thereon, rollers journaled between the standards and contacting with each other, a 70 gear to one of the rollers, a shaft, a gear loosely mounted thereon and meshing with the gear of the roller, a ratchet-wheel connected to the gear of the shaft, a lever loosely mounted upon said shaft, a pawl thereto 75 adapted to engage the ratchet-wheel when the lever is raised, a spring for holding the lever normally raised, a platen in alinement with the pass between the rollers, a box slidably mounted between the standards and above 80 said platen, means for limiting the downward movement of said box, an absorbent within the box adapted to project from the bottom thereof, a second platen in alinement with 85 said pass, a stem thereto slidably mounted within the base, a spring encircling the stem and adapted to support the platen and a pad connected to the lever and adapted to be swung into contact with said platen and depress the same. 90

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

AUGUST C. KUTZ.

Witnesses:

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