No. 725,508. PATENTED APR. 14, 1903.

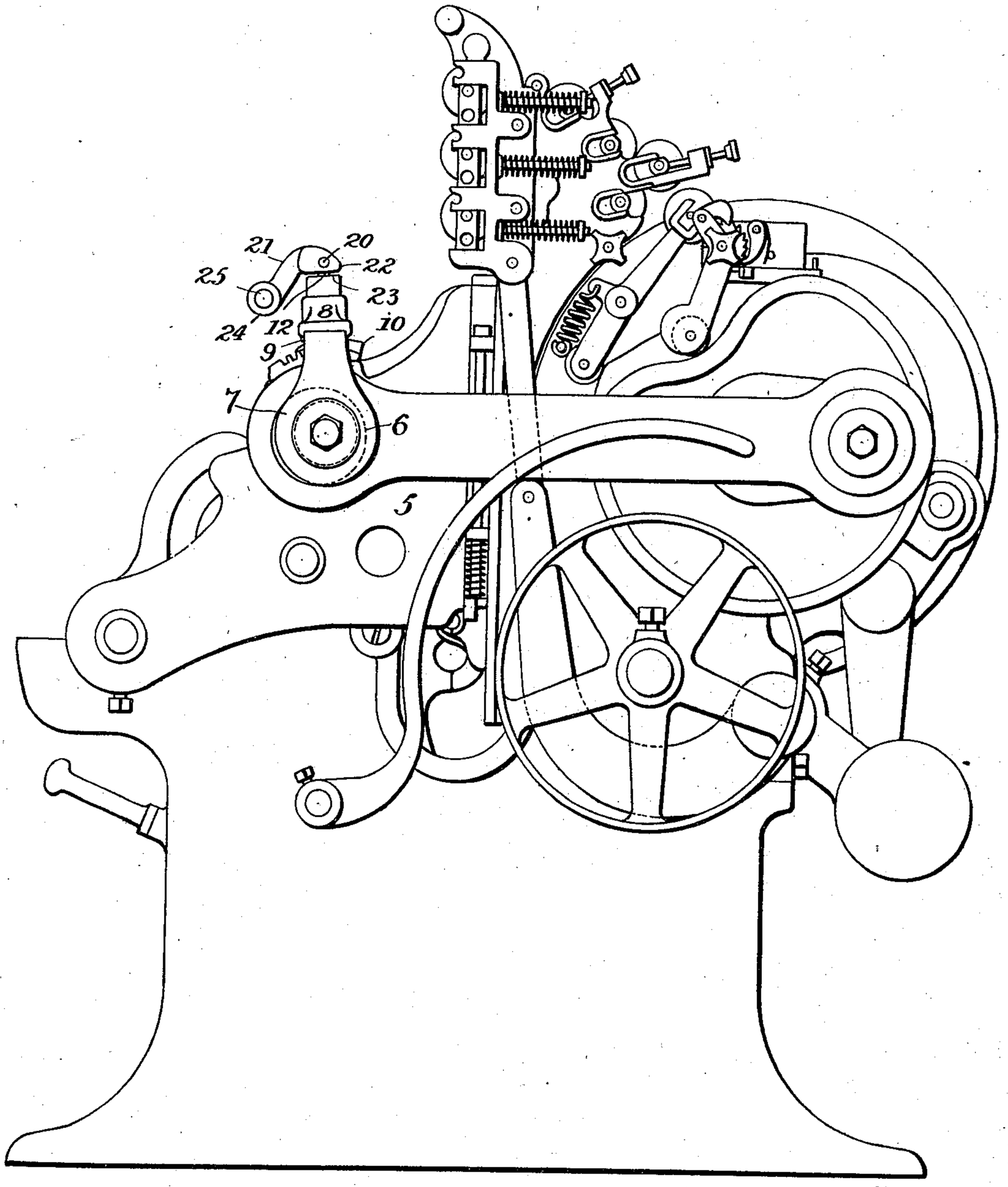
F. W. THOMAS.

APPARATUS FOR OPERATING THE IMPRESSION LATCHES OF PLATEN PRINTING OR EMBOSSING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 27, 1902.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

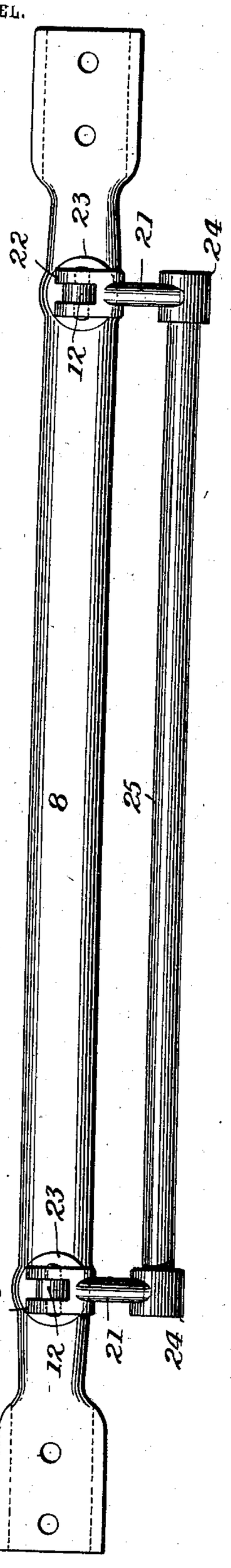

Fig. 2.

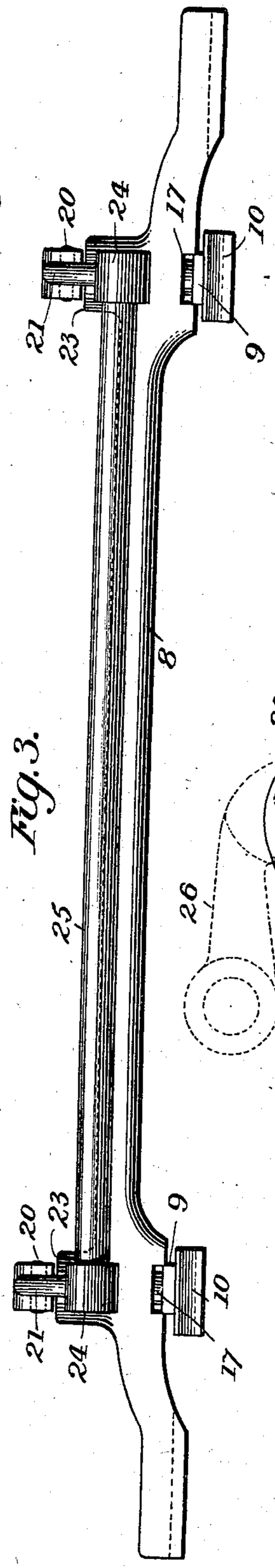

Fig. 3.

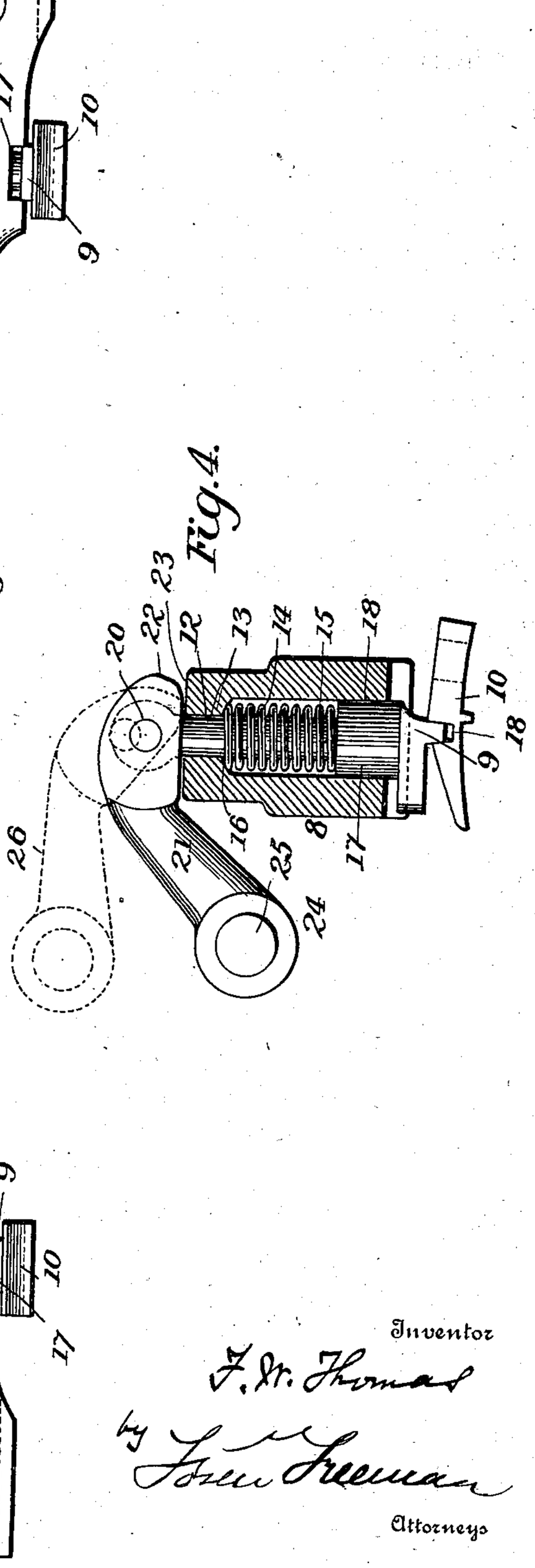

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK WILLARD THOMAS, OF TOLEDO, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO JOHN THOMSON PRESS COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

APPARATUS FOR OPERATING THE IMPRESSION-LATCHES OF PLATEN PRINTING OR EMBOSSING MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 725,508, dated April 14, 1903.

Application filed October 27, 1902. Serial No. 129,037. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK WILLARD THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Apparatus for Operating the Impression-Latches of Platen Printing or Embossing Presses, of which the following is a specification.

This invention refers in general to platen printing or embossing presses; and the particular object is to provide means for the positive and convenient operation of the latches that lock the adjuster-bar and its eccentric impression-sleeves to the platens of platen printing or embossing presses, such as those known to the art by the trade-names of the "Colt's Armory" and the "Universal."

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a press, denoting an embodiment of the invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged top plan detail view. Fig. 3 is a front elevation developed from Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is an end elevation and section developed from Fig. 3.

The several parts well known to those skilled in the art may first be briefly noted. 5 is the platen; 6, the platen-shaft; 7, the eccentric impression or "throw-off" sleeves; 8, the adjuster-bar; 9, the adjuster latch or latches, and 10 the adjuster slide or slides attached to the platen in a manner to be shifted back or forth to determine the position of the face of the platen with respect to the form due to the eccentricity of the sleeves.

The adjuster-latch shaft 12 operates in a vertical bearing 13 in the adjuster-bar 8, and in the recess 14 is a spring 15, whose thrust is exerted between the head 16 of the recess and a shoulder 17 of the latch-shaft—that is, by this means the latch 9 is snapped and held into engagement with the slot 18 of the adjuster-slide 10.

Heretofore where a single latch has been deemed sufficient a knob has been attached to the extremity of the latch-shaft 12 to be grasped by the pressman for "throwing off" or "tripping" the impression; but where two latches were employed their shafts have been connected by a hand-rod, so that both latches might be simultaneously withdrawn. Obviously as the spring or springs are required to be quite stiff if the connecting-rod is not grasped midway of the latches the direct uplift tends to cramp or jam and requires a considerable degree of exertion, and, especially in rapid rates of feeding, the disconnection is liable to be frequently missed, resulting in loss of time, misprints, and damage. The present invention obviates these objections by applying to the projecting end or ends of the latch-shaft 12, as by a pin 20, a lever 21, the forward end 22 of which acts as a cam upon the surface 23 of the adjuster-bar 8. The inner portion, as 24, may serve as a handle, or if two latches are used the levers are connected by a hand-rod, as 25. It will now be seen that by a proper proportionment of the leverage and formation of the cam 22, so that the leverage will be in favor of the operator, the latches 9 may be raised against the springs very easily and with the utmost speed and certainty by simply swinging the lever 21 or both levers by the hand-rod 25 in the arc of a curve, as to the position indicated by the dotted outline 26. By this arrangement the springs may be made of ample power whereby to secure the latches in the most effective manner, and when two latches are used the hand-rod may be grasped and operated effectively at any location between the latch-levers.

It is to be noted that the position of the lever may be reversed—that is, be swung over to the opposite side of the vertical center of the latch-shaft—also that by flattening the lever, as at the location 22, Fig. 4, the latch may be locked up until the lever is actuated.

Without limiting myself to the precise arrangement and construction denoted in the drawings, what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a platen printing or embossing press, the combination with an impression-adjusting sleeve, of an adjuster-bar attached to the adjusting-sleeve, an adjuster latch and spring mounted in the bar, and a lever connected to

the latch, the shorter end of said lever adapted to thrust against the adjuster-bar and its long end being adapted for manual operation, the arrangement and construction being such that raising the lever disconnects the latch and swings the adjuster-bar, substantially as described.

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

FRANK WILLARD THOMAS.

Witnesses:

JOHN R. CALDER,

W. H. ROOSE.