

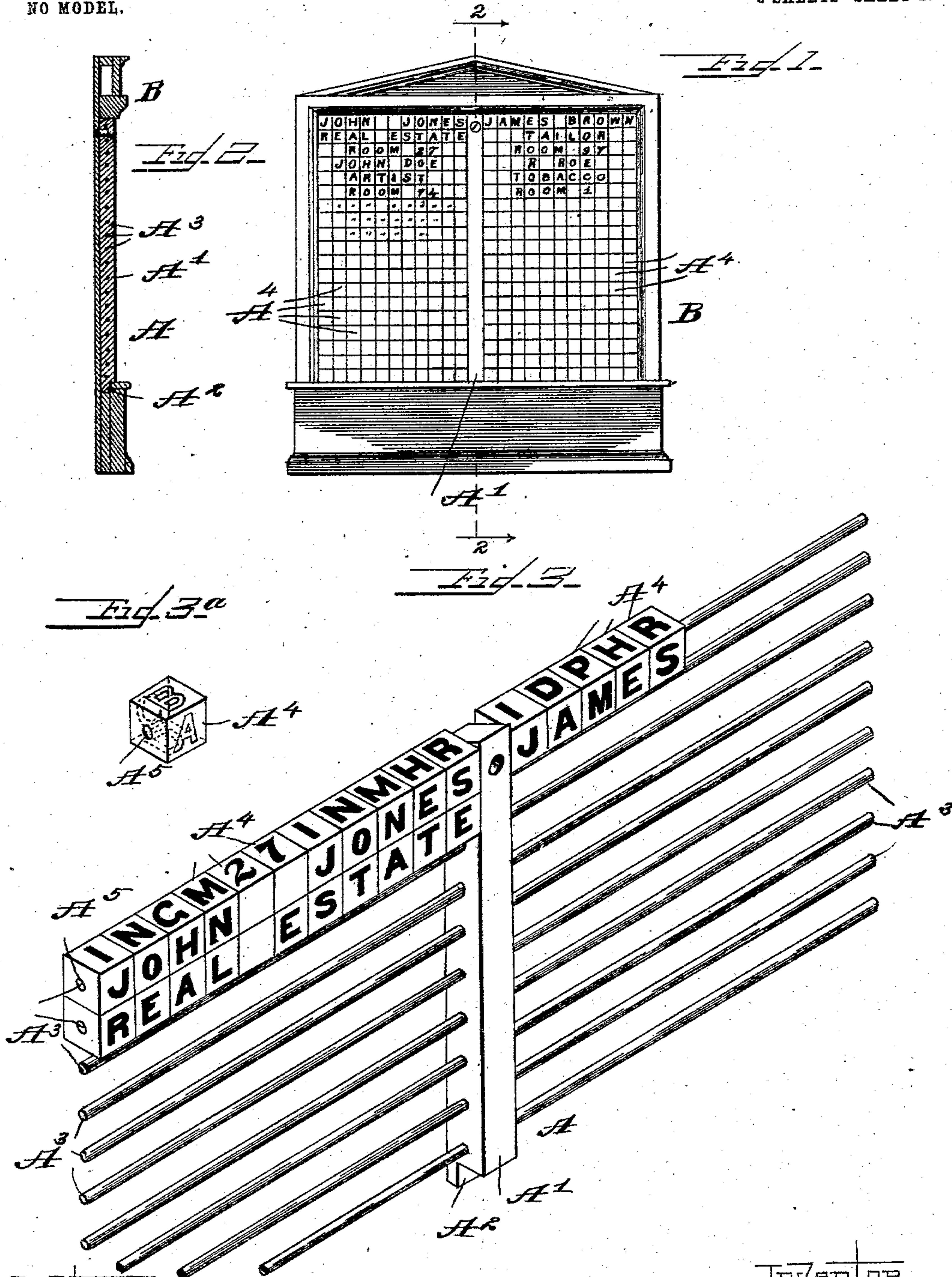
No. 730,603.

PATENTED JUNE 9, 1903.

J. N. BRADY.
CHANGEABLE SIGN.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 1, 1902.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses -

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M. A. Specht.

Inventor -

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By Luther L. Miller
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4

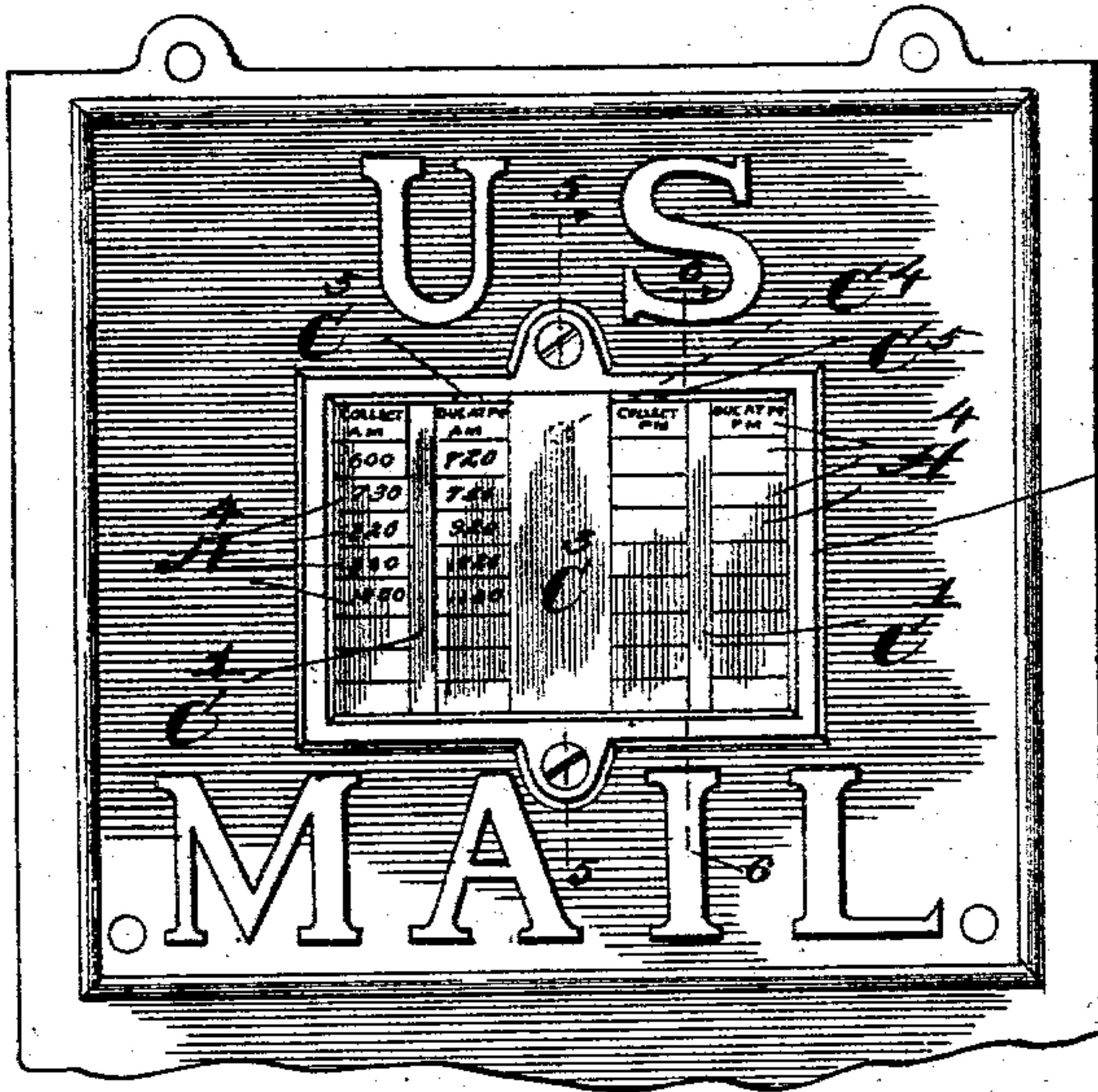


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

Fig. 4a

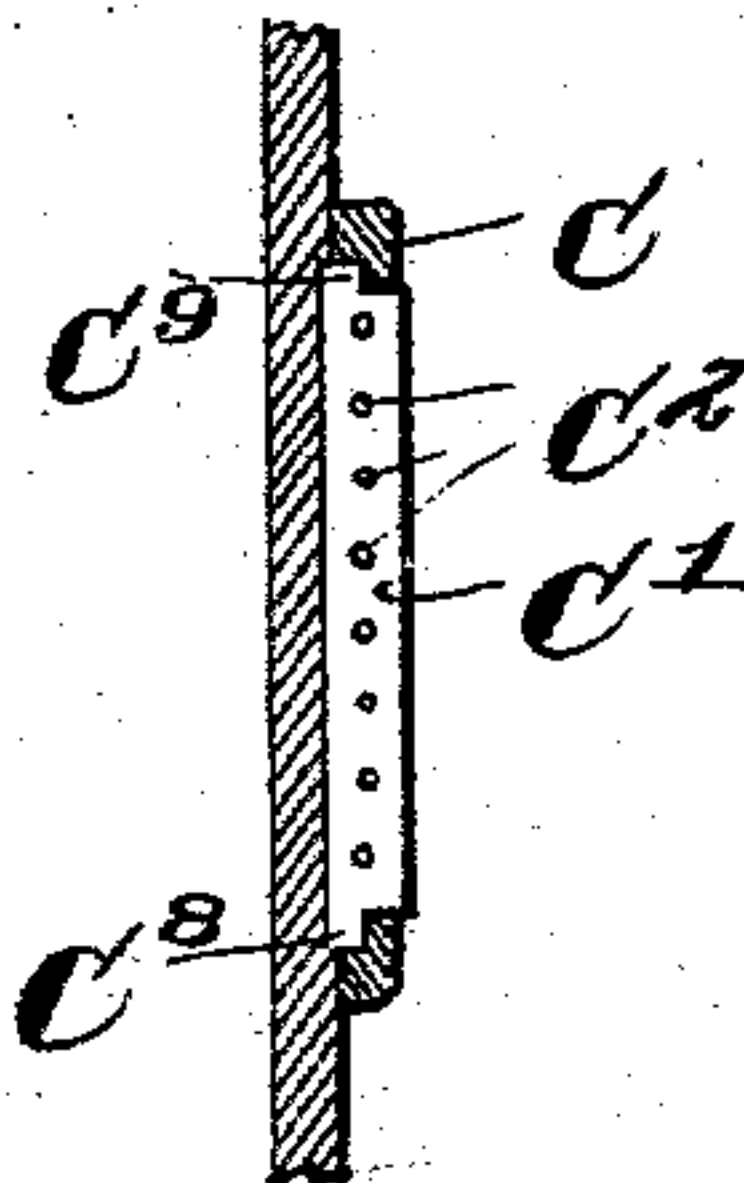
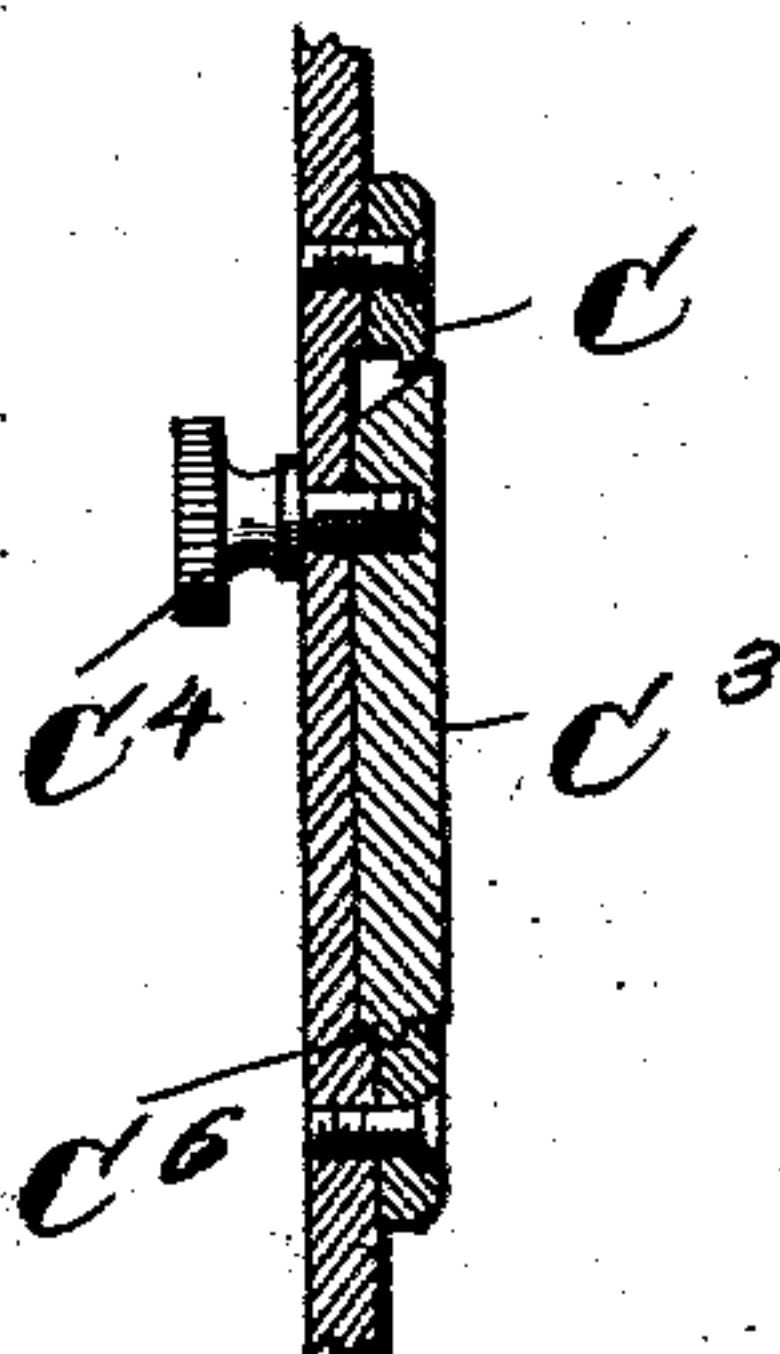
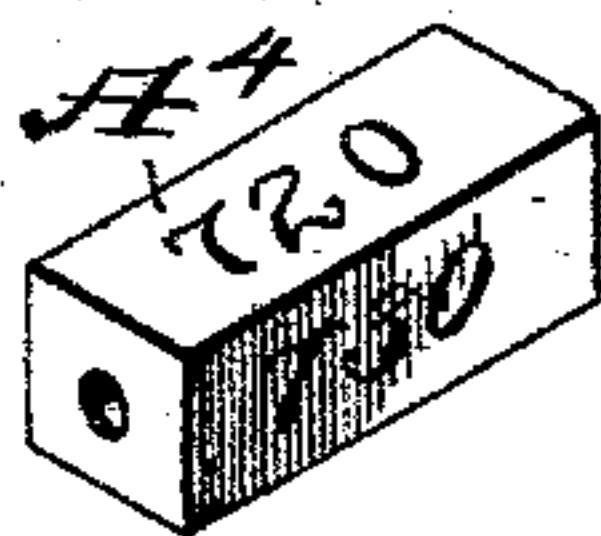


Fig. 4b

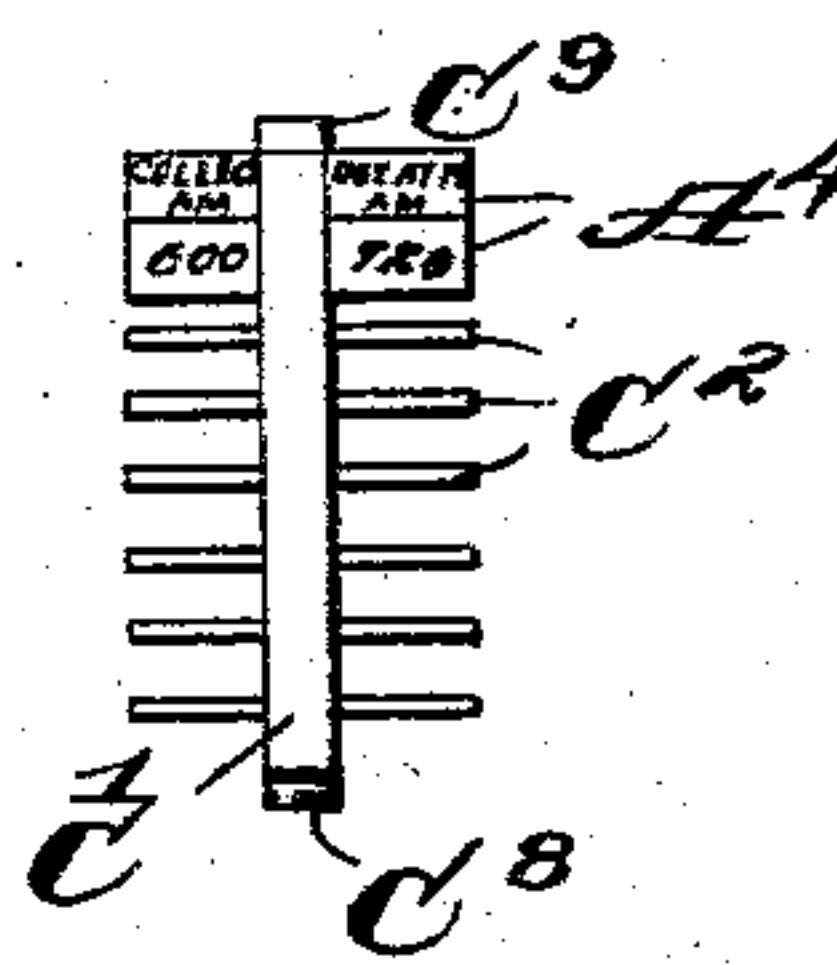
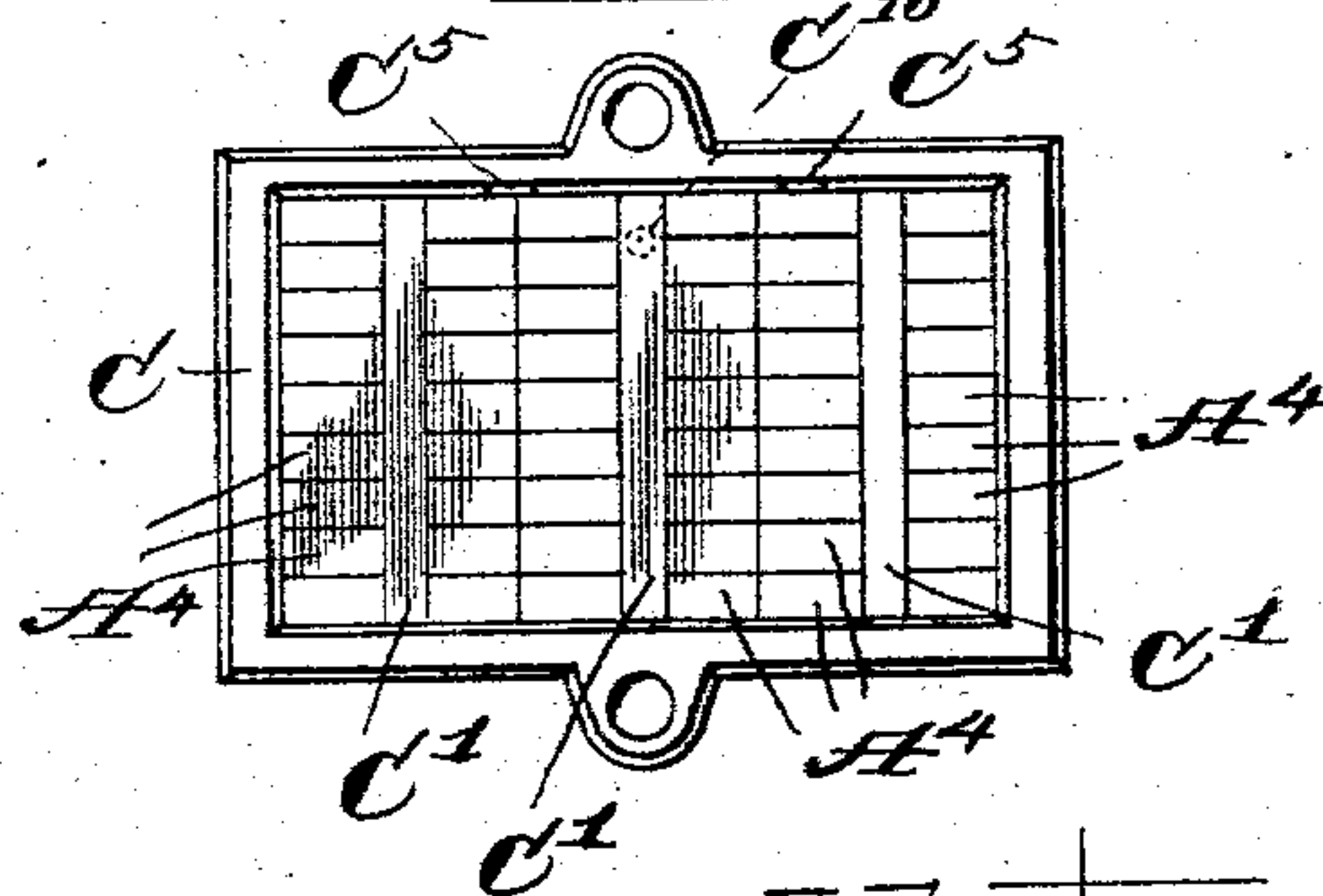
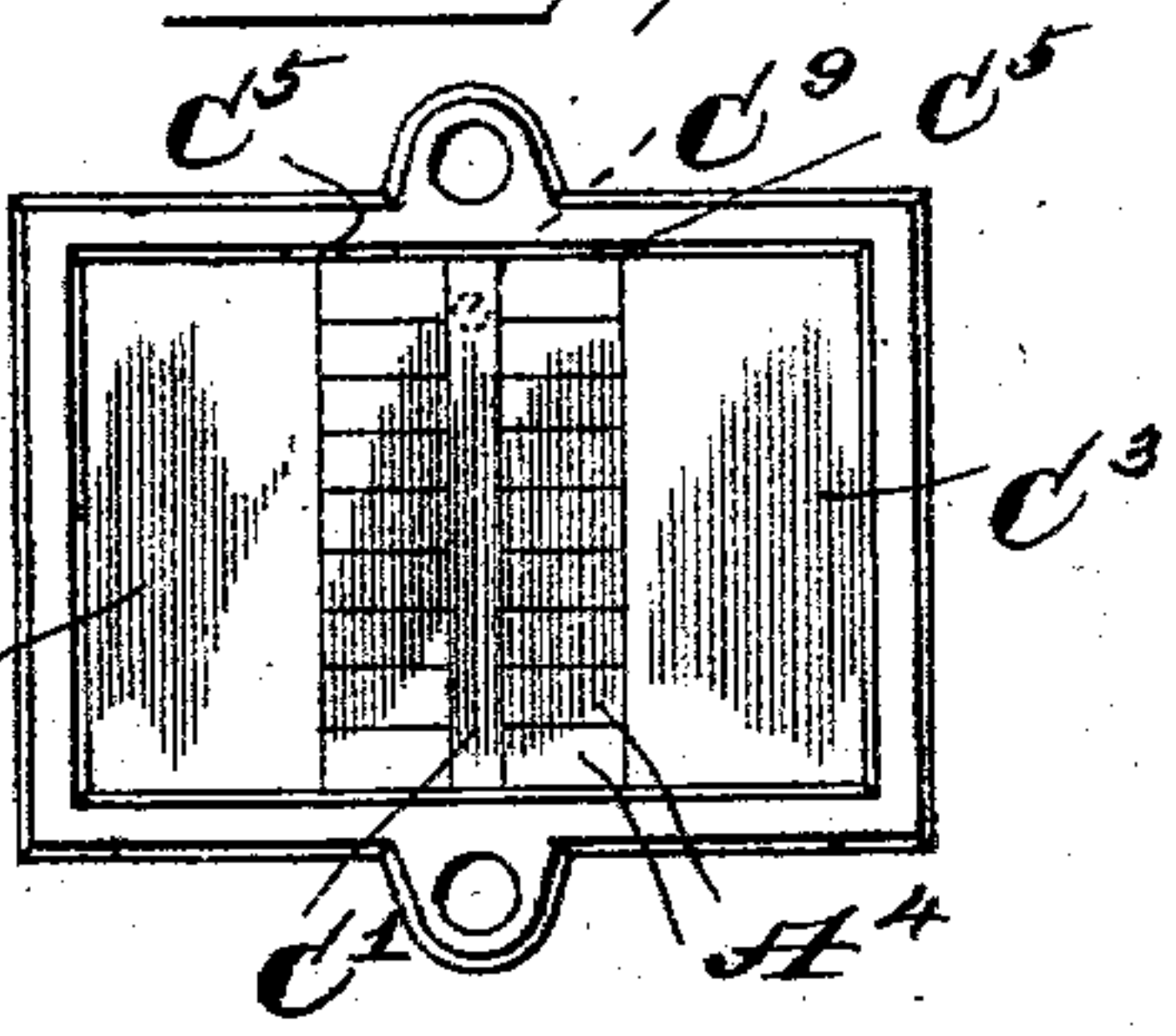
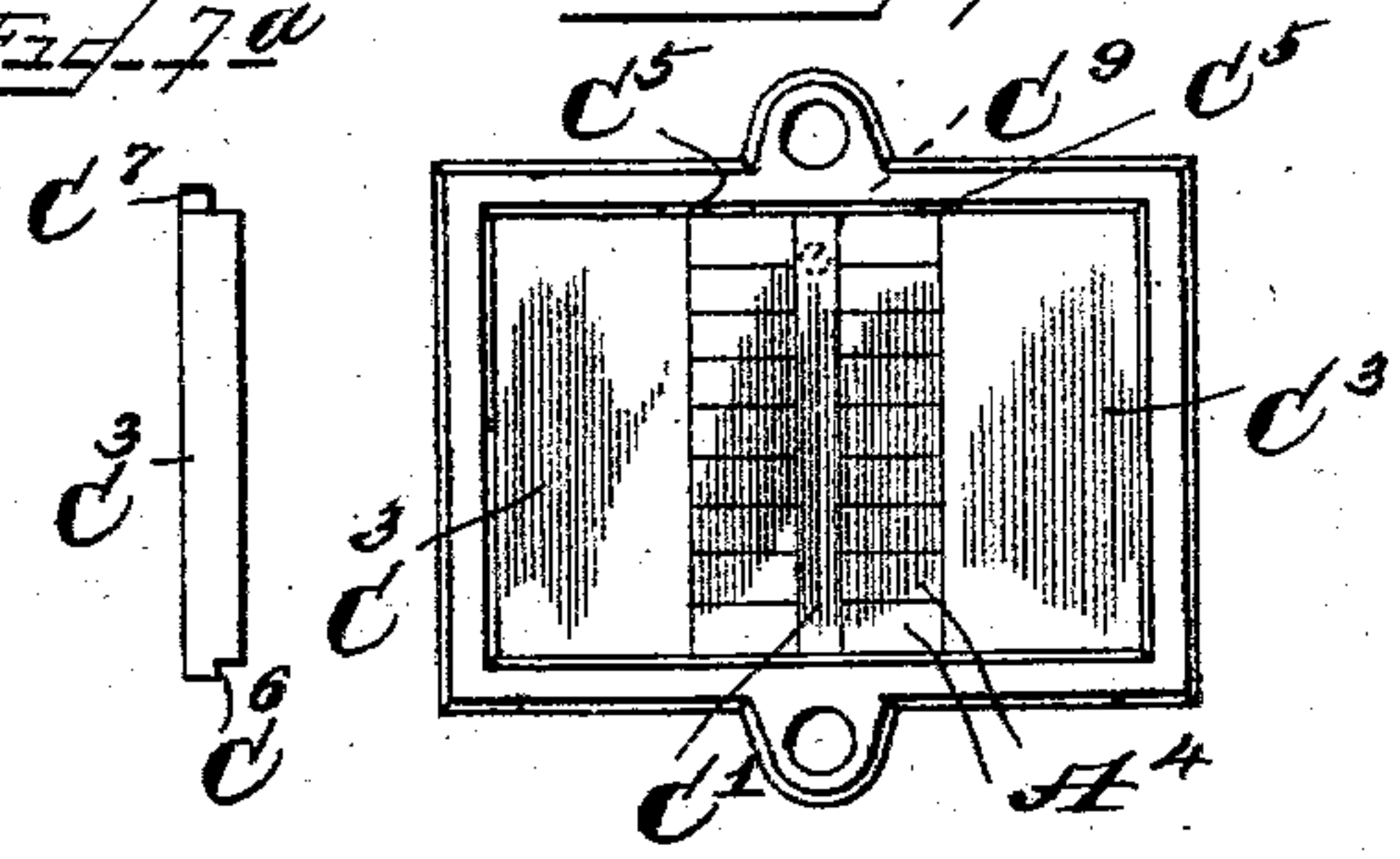


Fig. 7a

Fig. 7

Fig. 8



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES N. BRADY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CHANGEABLE SIGN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 730,603, dated June 9, 1903.

Application filed August 1, 1902. Serial No. 117,983. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES N. BRADY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Changeable Signs, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is the production of a sign the reading matter of which may be changed at will. Such a sign may be used not only by merchants to advertise their goods, but also as a wall-directory for office-buildings, as a railway time-table, to indicate the hours of collection of mail from mail-boxes, and for many other purposes.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a sign embodying the features of my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on dotted line 2 2, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the rack for supporting the letter-blocks that compose the sign. Fig. 3^a is a perspective view of one of the letter-blocks. Fig. 4 is a front elevation of one of my changeable signs in its application to a mail-box. Fig. 4^a is a perspective view of one of the changeable blocks composing this sign. Fig. 4^b is a front elevation of one of the racks for supporting letter-blocks, shown detached from Fig. 4. Fig. 5 is a transverse section on dotted line 5 5 of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a transverse section on dotted line 6 6 of Fig. 4. Fig. 7 is a front elevation showing the arrangement of the parts where it is necessary to indicate only a few collections from the mail-box. Fig. 7^a is a side elevation of one of the filler-blocks used in the frame as illustrated in Fig. 7. Fig. 8 is a view similar to Fig. 7, showing the arrangement where it is necessary to indicate many collections daily.

In the embodiment of the invention herein described I provide a supporting-rack A, comprising the vertical bar A', having a projecting ear A² at its lower end. Rods A³ extend transversely through suitable openings in said bars, and upon these rods are strung letter-blocks A⁴, having the central perforation A⁵ to receive the rods and bearing upon one or more of their faces letters, figures, characters, or words. These letter-blocks may be made of wood, metal, or other suitable material; but to withstand the weather when the sign is used out of doors I have found

porcelain with the letters fused upon its surface to be desirable.

B represents the face and framework of my improved sign. It may be made in any ornamental form.

In the application of my invention to a letter-box the usual frame C now commonly employed upon such boxes is retained. A supporting-rack C', having transverse rods C² of a suitable length to provide for the letter-blocks A⁴, is provided, and this is held in position beneath the frame C. Where the number of collections from the box to which the sign is attached does not necessitate the use of a sufficient number of racks C' to fill the frame C, one or more filler-bars C³ are inserted to occupy the remaining space or spaces, each of said filler-bars being held in position by a thumb-screw C⁴, passing through an opening in the side of the box from the inside thereof outward into a screw-threaded opening in said filler-bar. Where three racks are necessary, a frame C slightly wider than the usual frame is provided sufficient in width to accommodate three supporting-racks.

The letter-blocks A⁴ bear certain hours of collection on each face thereof—as, for instance, "7.00," "7.10," "7.20," "7.30." Different blocks bear different hours, a sufficient variety of blocks being provided to fill all signs properly. One side of the rack may be used to indicate the times of collection of the mail from the box and the other side to indicate the times when said collections are due at the post-office. In this event the block at the head of the collection-column will bear the words "Collect a. m." or "Collect p. m.," and the block at the head of the other column will bear the words "Due at P. O.—a. m." or "Due at P. O.—p. m." Porcelain letter-blocks are desirable for mail-boxes, they commonly being placed out of doors.

In order to provide for the removal of the supporting-racks C' from the frame C, I notch the frame at the upper inner side of said frame at C⁵.

At their lower ends the filler-bars C³ have a projecting ear C⁶. The filler-bars are also sometimes provided at their upper ends with a projecting ear C⁷, as shown in Fig. 7^a; but when a thumb-screw C⁴ is provided for securing the filler-bar in position such projecting

ear is dispensed with and the upper edge of the bar beveled off.

Each of the vertical bars C' is provided at its lower end with a projecting ear C⁸ and in some cases with a similar ear C⁹ at its upper end. When three supporting-racks are employed, Fig. 8, the upper end of the vertical bar C' of the central rack is beveled off and said rack held in position by means of a thumb-screw C¹⁰ in order to provide for the removal of all three racks without first removing the frame C from the mail-box.

In changing the sign in its application to mail-boxes the filler-bar C³ or the central rack, when three racks are employed, is removed by unscrewing the thumb-screw C⁴ or C¹⁰ and the supporting-racks slid sidewise within the frame to a position where the blocks A⁴ may be removed from the bars of the rack or said racks slid into coincidence with the notches C⁵ in said frame and the racks removed bodily therefrom.

It is apparent that various changes might be resorted to in the general form and arrangement of the several parts herein described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, wherefore I wish to have it understood that I do not desire to limit myself to the precise details set forth.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a changeable sign, in combination, a supporting-rack comprising a central bar with supporting - rods extending from opposite sides thereof; perforated letter-blocks, each having an opening therethrough to receive one of said rods; and a frame for holding the supporting-rack in position.

2. In a changeable sign, in combination, a supporting-rack comprising a central bar with

supporting - rods extending from opposite sides thereof; perforated letter-blocks, each having an opening therethrough, adapted to receive one of said rods; a frame for holding said supporting-rack in position; and a filling-block adapted to occupy the portion of the frame not occupied by a supporting-rack.

3. In a changeable sign, in combination, a frame having an inwardly-extending flange; a supporting-rack comprising a vertical bar and transverse rods, said vertical bar having an ear adapted to lie under the flange of said frame; and perforated letter-blocks adapted to be strung upon said transverse rods.

4. In a changeable sign, in combination, a frame having an inwardly-extending flange; a supporting-rack comprising a vertical bar and transverse rods, said vertical bar having an ear at each of its ends adapted to lie under the flange of said frame; perforated letter-blocks adapted to be strung upon said transverse rods; and a filler-bar.

5. In a changeable sign, in combination, a frame having an inwardly-extending flange; a supporting-rack comprising a vertical bar and transverse rods, said vertical bar having an ear at each of its ends adapted to lie under the flange of said frame; perforated letter-blocks adapted to be strung upon said transverse rods; a filler-bar having at one of its ends an ear adapted to lie under said flange; and a screw for securing the other end of said filler-bar in position.

JAMES N. BRADY.

Witnesses:

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