

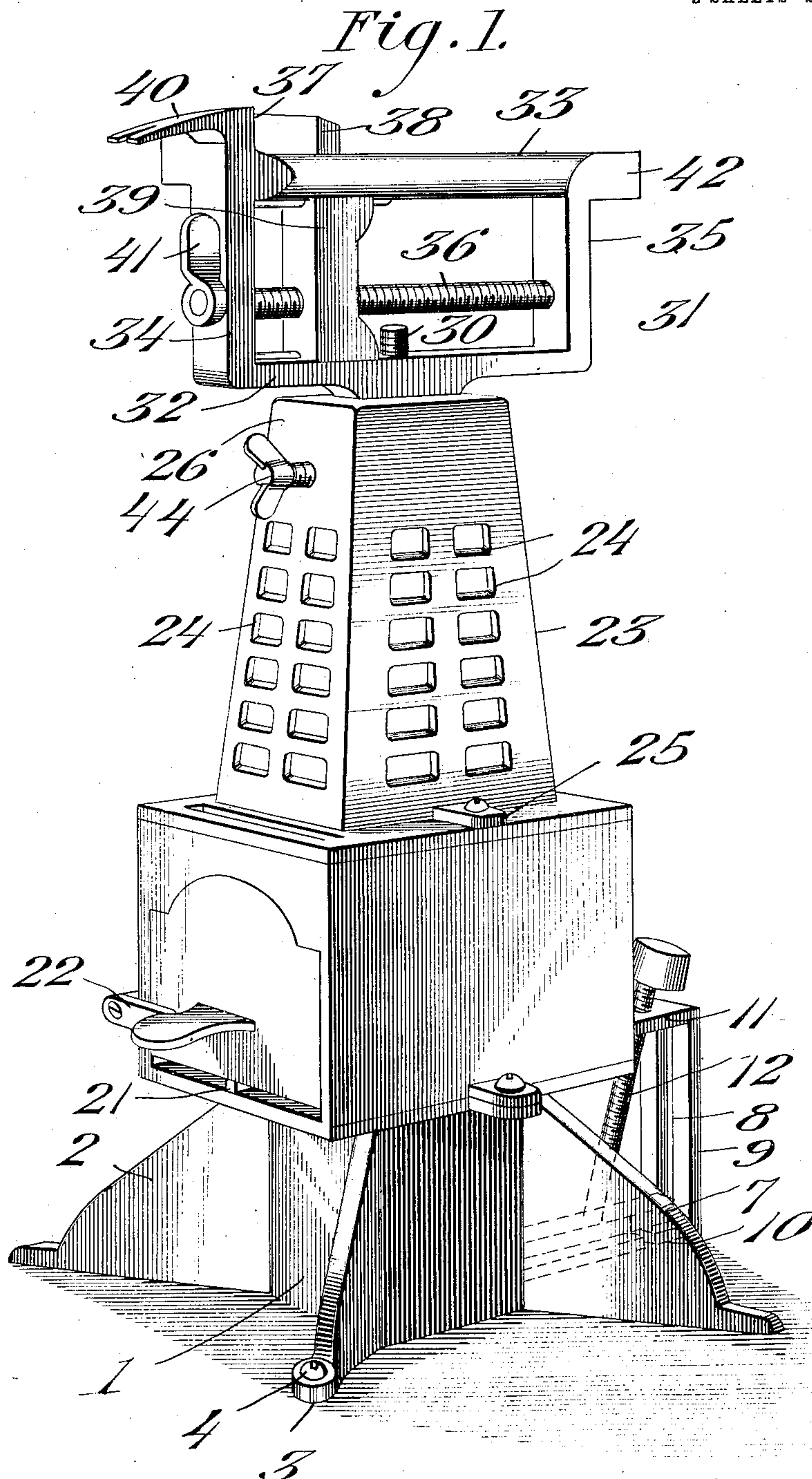
No. 827,648.

PATENTED JULY 31, 1906.

J. B. P. MILLER.  
NUTCRACKER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 23, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Inventor

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Witnesses

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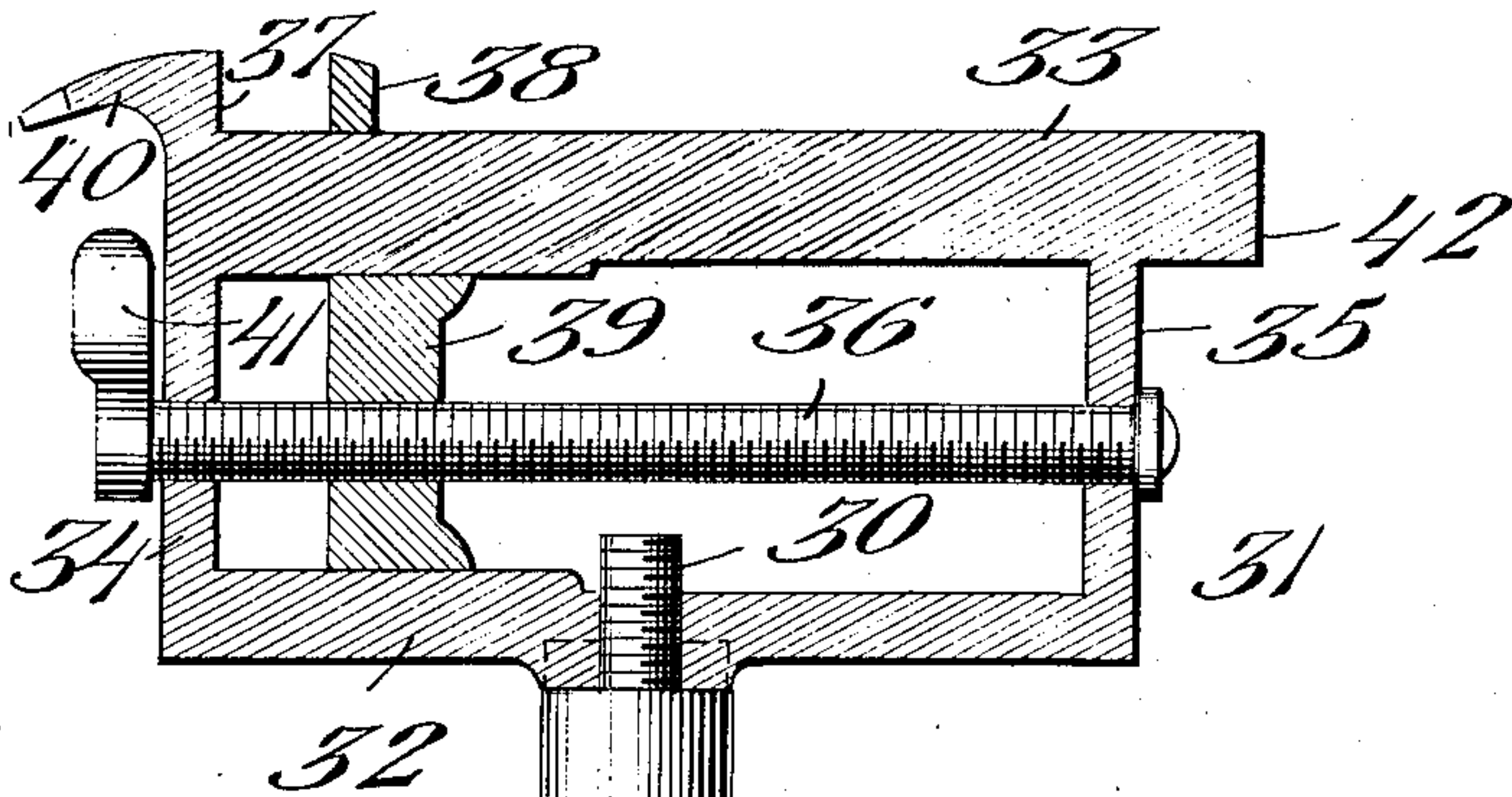


Fig. 2.

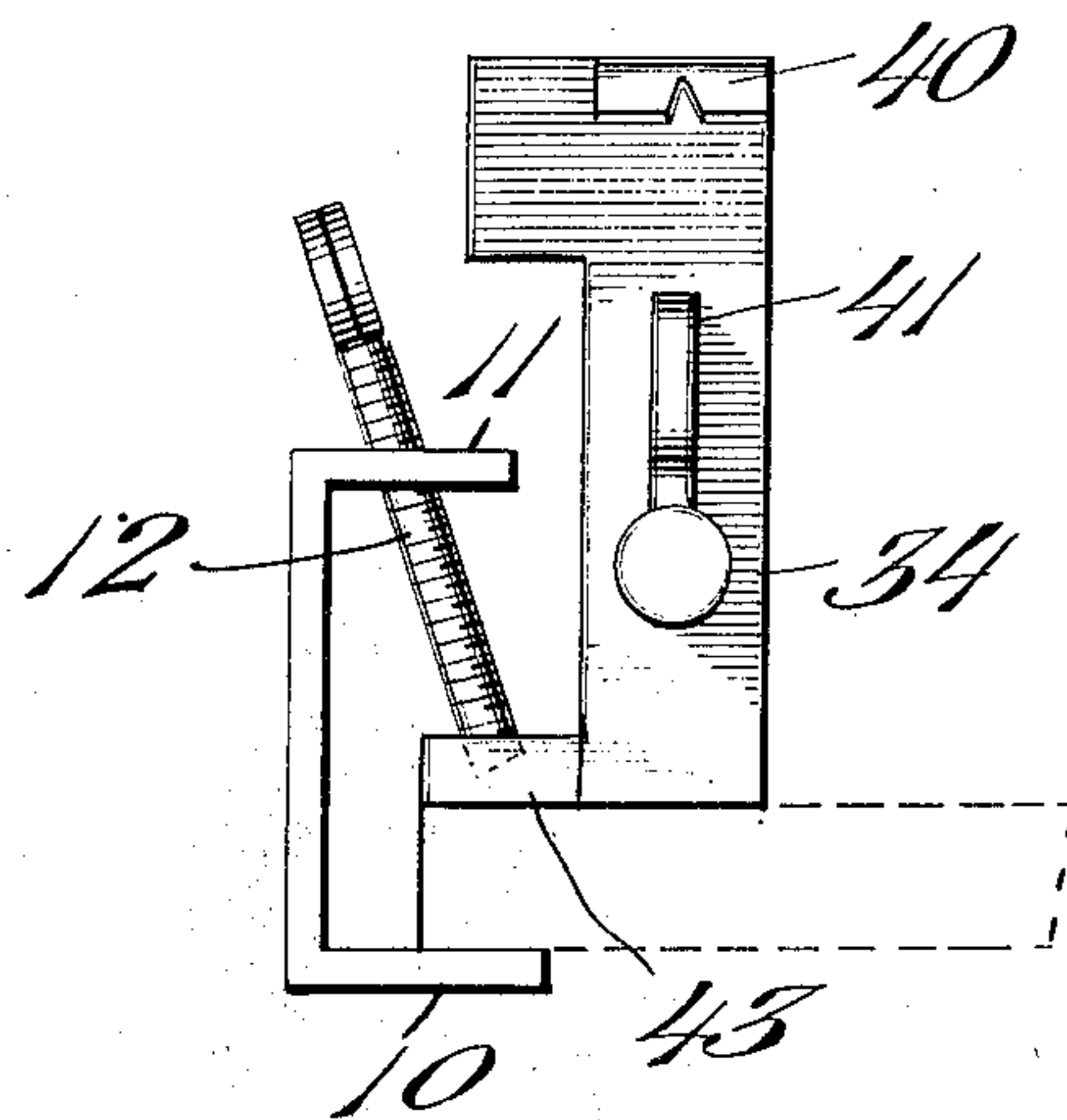


Fig. 3.

Fig. 5.

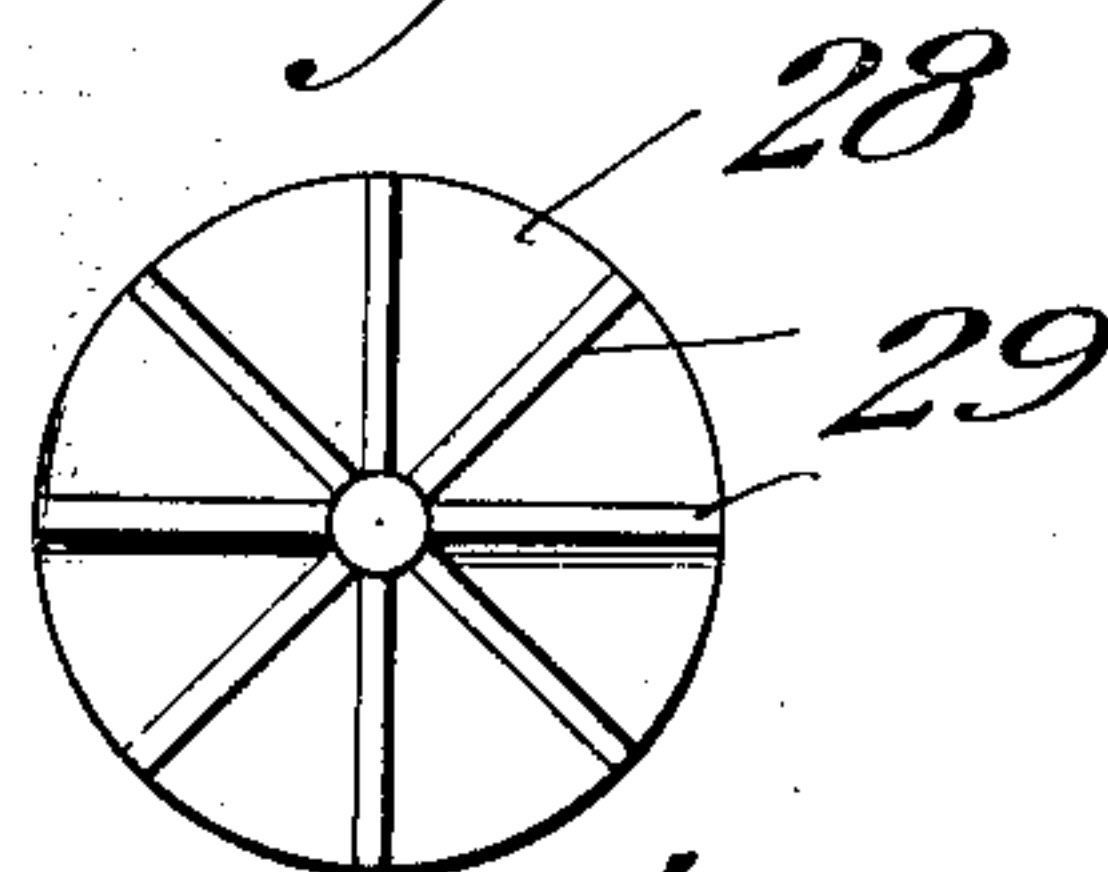
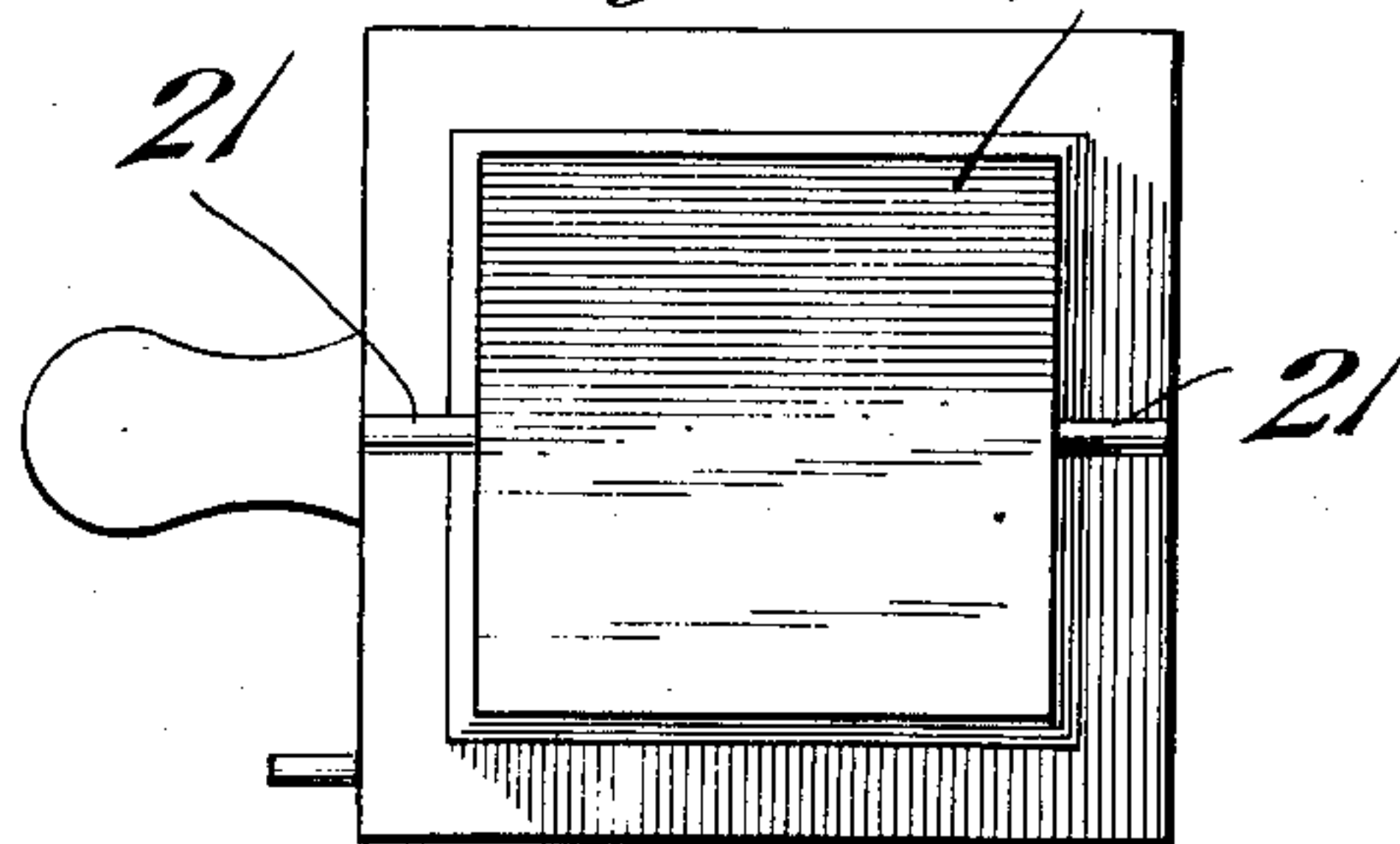


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. P. MILLER, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

## NUT-CRACKER.

No. 827,648.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 31, 1906.

Application filed January 23, 1906. Serial No. 297,461.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN B. P. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented new and useful Improvements in Nut-Crackers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to nut-crackers, the object of the invention being to provide a combination implement especially designed for cracking and shelling nuts with hard shells and preventing the loss and escape of any part of the nut during the cracking or shelling operation.

A further object of the invention is to so combine the parts of the device that they may be disassociated and separately used as occasion may require.

With the above and other objects in view, the nature of which will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a nut-cracker embodying the present invention and shown applied to a table. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through the same. Fig. 3 is a detail elevation showing the manner of securing the handle member of the device to a table. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the combined drawer and anvil. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view of the ribbed impact-surface of the flange-head.

The combination nut-cracker contemplated in this invention comprises a solid metal base 1, having laterally-extending braces 2 radiating therefrom and provided with feet 3, adapted to receive screws or other fasteners 4 for securing the same to a table or other horizontal support. The base is further provided with a laterally-extending clamp-lug 5, the outer extremity of which is undercut, as shown at 6, to form a projecting extension or tongue 7, which enters a slot 8, extending longitudinally of a clamp 9, so as to properly position said clamp relatively to the lug, the clamp being provided with a foot 10, adapted to extend under a table-top, and a lug or projection 11 at the upper end, having a threaded opening for the reception of a clamp-screw 12, the inner end of which bears against the clamp-lug 5 to hold the same against the table, as shown in Fig. 1.

The base is flanged or extended at the top,

as shown at 13, and provided with an integrally-formed box compartment or housing 14, in which is arranged a sliding and removable drawer consisting of the solid bottom 15, front 16, and upwardly-extending flange 17, said drawer being also provided with a drawer-pull 18, enabling the drawer to be moved through the front of the box 14 in a manner readily understood. The upper surface of the bottom 15 is recessed or concaved, as shown at 19, thus forming a concave anvil against which the nuts are cracked in a manner that will hereinafter appear.

By reference to Fig. 4 it will be seen that the drawer is provided with a downward extension or offset 20 to give a broad firm bearing directly over and upon the solid base 1 and to provide for the formation of the recess in the bottom. 21 designates ribs which extend toward the front and rear of the bottom of the drawer and form continuations of the offset thickened portion 20 of the drawer-bottom. 22 designates a catch or button for holding the drawer closed.

Mounted upon the top of the box 14 is an upwardly-tapering or pyramidal-shaped plunger-housing and guide 23, having open-work ornamental sides, as shown at 24, said housing being provided with lugs 25, by means of which it may be secured firmly to the box 14. The upper end of the plunger-housing is made of considerable depth or thickness, as shown at 26, to provide a bearing for the plunger 27. This plunger is preferably solid, so as to impart the necessary weight thereto, and is provided at its lower end with an enlarged hemispherical head 28, the lower working or impact surface of which is ribbed, as shown at 29, so as to distribute the breaking or cracking strain over different portions of the nut-shell. These ribs 29 are preferably arranged to radiate from a common center, as shown in Fig. 5.

The upper end of the plunger 27 is reduced and threaded, as shown at 30, so as to detachably receive a combination-handle 31. This handle embodies an attaching-bar 32, provided with a threaded opening to receive the threaded extremity 30 of the plunger, and a hand-grip 33, which is parallel to the base portion 32, the parts 32 and 33 being connected by the end cross-bars 34 and 35, in which is journaled a jaw-operating screw 36.

At one end the detachable handle-frame just referred to is provided with a fixed vise-jaw 37, and opposite said jaw is arranged a



sliding vise-jaw 38, the body portion 39 of which moves between the parts 32 and 33 of the combination-handle and is provided with a threaded opening engaged by the adjusting-screw 36, thus enabling the moving jaw to be advanced and retracted for the purpose of cracking a nut-shell. It is also desirable to extend the fixed jaw 37 outward in the form of a claw 40. 41 designates a suitable operating-handle fast on the end of the screw 36, for turning the latter and advancing and retracting the movable jaw 38. At the opposite end the combination-handle is provided with a projecting poll or hammer-head 42, adapted to be used by hand when the combination-handle is detached from the plunger after the manner of an ordinary hammer.

The combination-handle is provided with a laterally-projecting clamp-lug 43 (best illustrated in Fig. 3) and adapted to be engaged by the clamp hereinbefore described for fastening the said combination-handle to a table or other support, so that it may be operated independently of the plunger mechanism. It is ordinarily preferred, however, to combine and mount all of the parts in the manner illustrated in Fig. 1, in which the base is firmly secured to a table or other suitable support and all the remaining parts of the machine firmly secured to such base.

When the plunger is in its lowermost position, it may be locked or held in such position by means of a binding-screw 44, passing through the bearing 26 of the plunger-housing and bearing against the plunger. In this position the drawer 15 is held locked against removal, adapting the device to be used as a toy bank.

I claim—

1. A nut-cracker embodying a solid base, a box-compartment arising from the base, a drawer removable from said box-compartment and having a bottom which forms an anvil, and a vertically-movable plunger operating through the top of the box-compartment and provided with an impact-head, substantially as described.

2. A nut-cracker embodying a solid base, a box-compartment extending upward from the base, a drawer removable from said box-compartment and having a bottom recessed in its upper surface to form an anvil, a plunger-housing and guide extending upward from the box-compartment, and a plunger working vertically through said housing and guide and provided at the lower end with a head having a ribbed impact-surface, substantially as described.

3. A nut-cracker embodying a solid base, a box-compartment extending upward therefrom, a combination drawer and anvil having a recessed working surface mounted in said box-compartment and removable therefrom, a plunger-housing and guide extending upward from said box-compartment, and a vertically-movable plunger provided at its lower end with a crushing-head having a ribbed impact-surface, the ribs of which extend radially or substantially so, substantially as described.

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

JOHN B. P. MILLER.

Witnesses:

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