

No. 829,657.

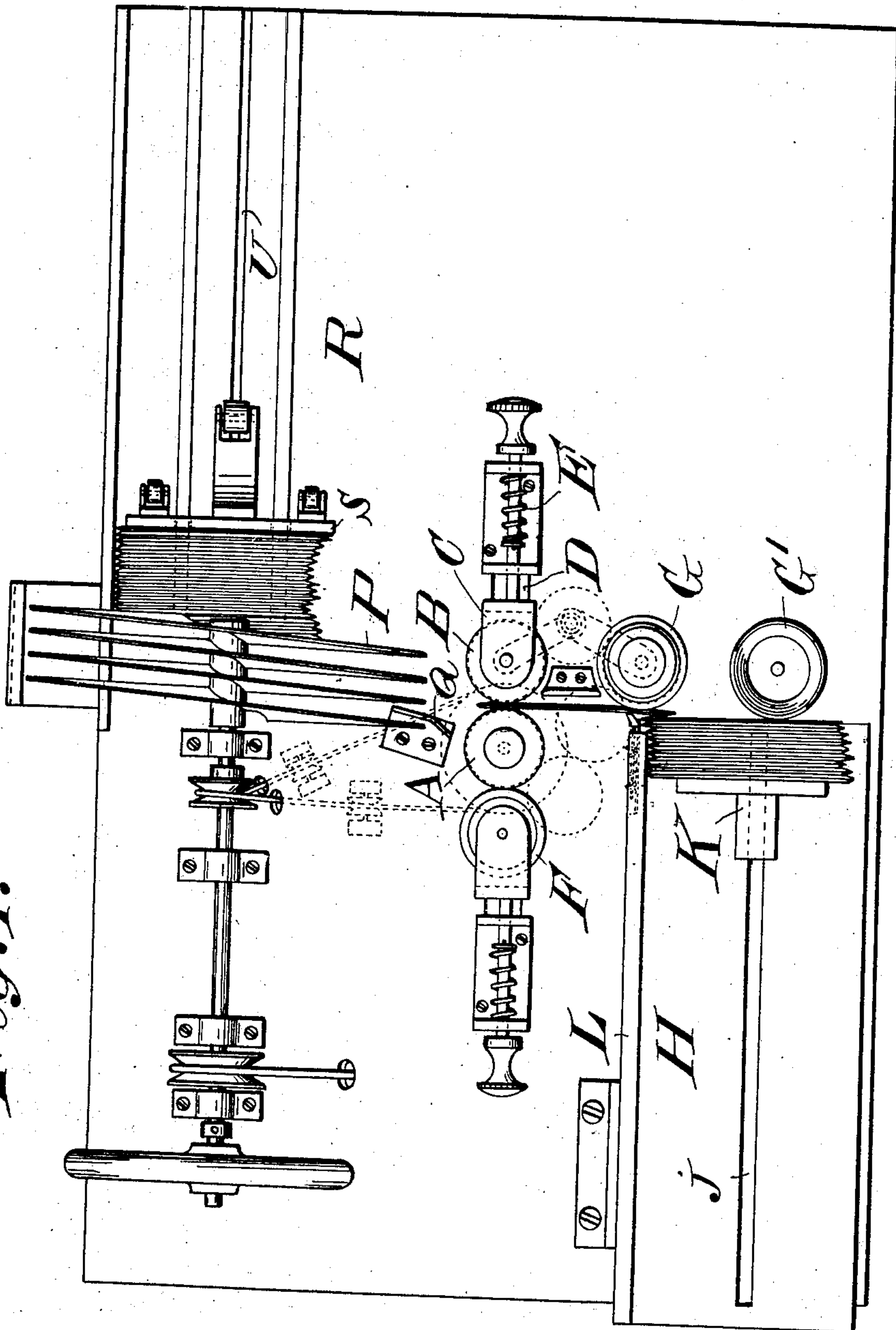
PATENTED AUG. 28, 1906.

N. A. KRAG & G. A. HANSEN.
POSTMARKING OR CANCELING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 22, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses
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att'ys.

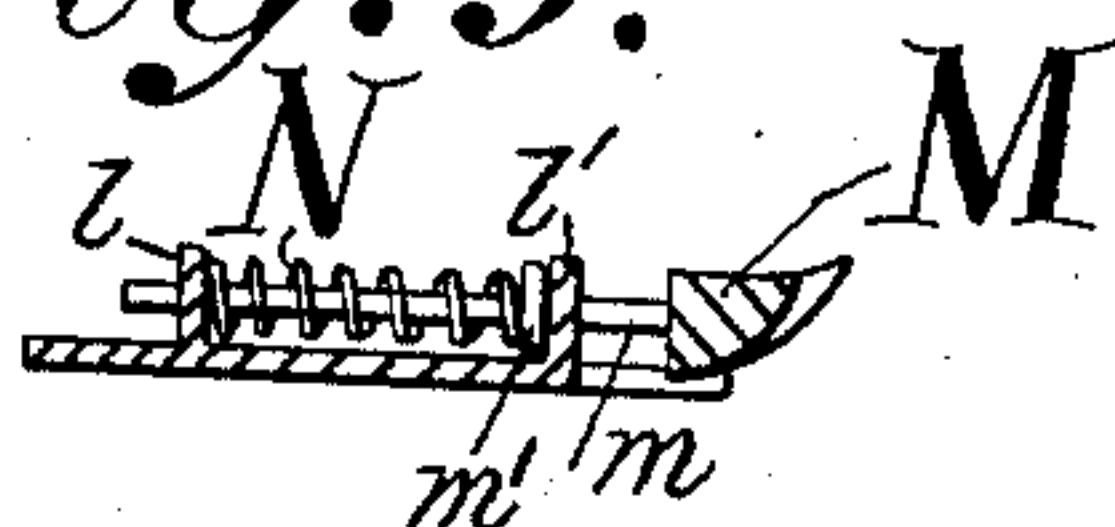
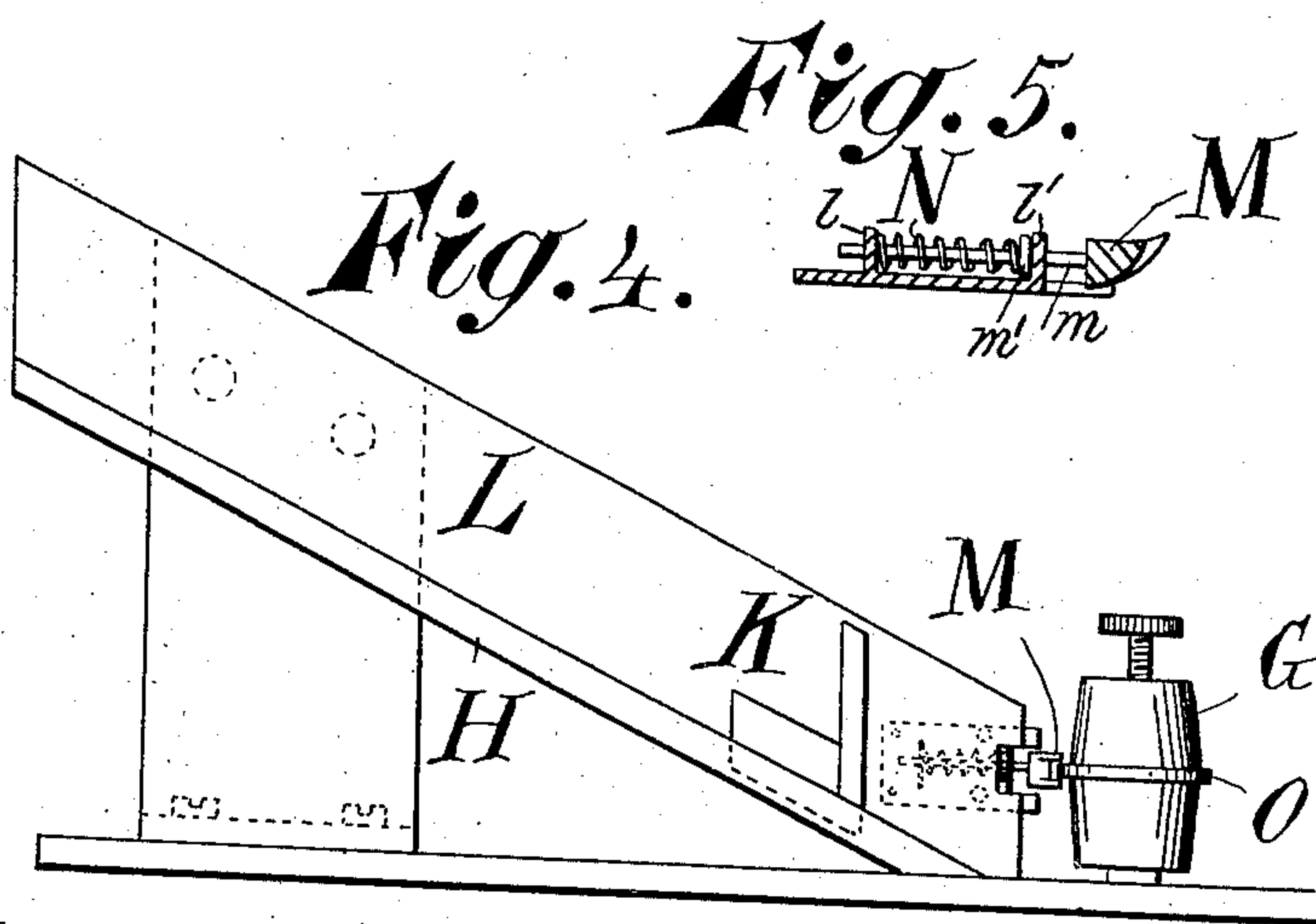
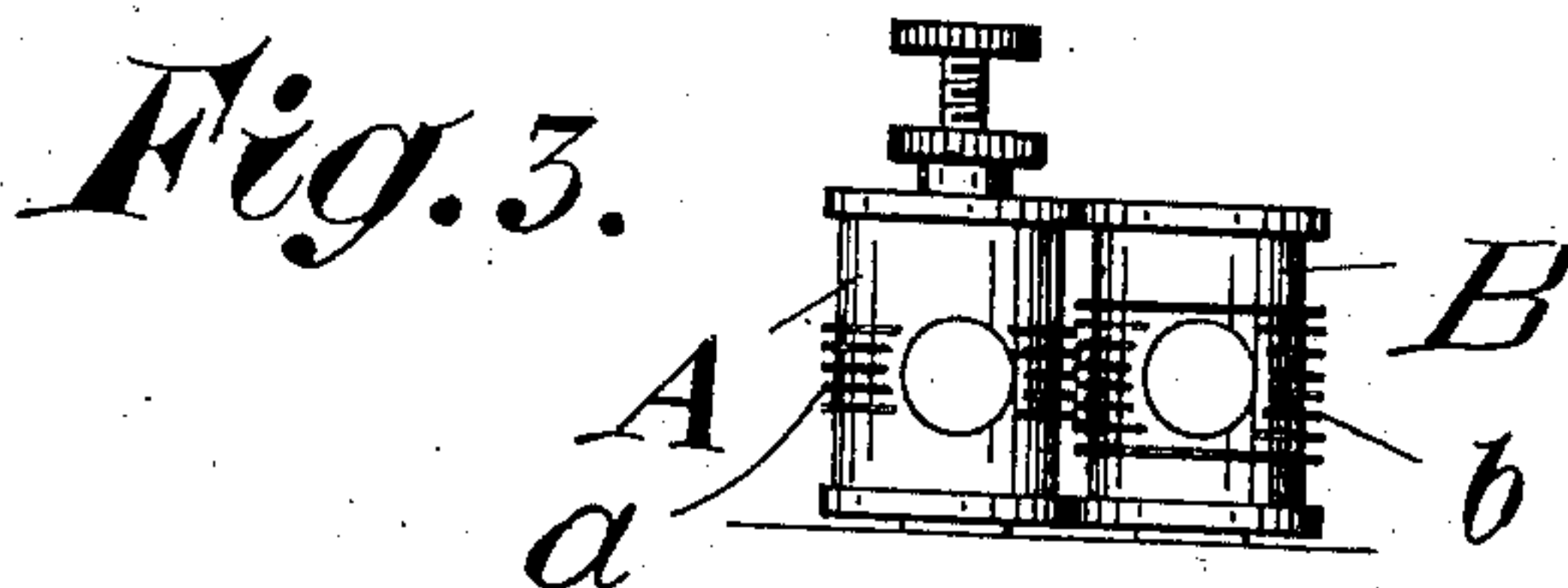
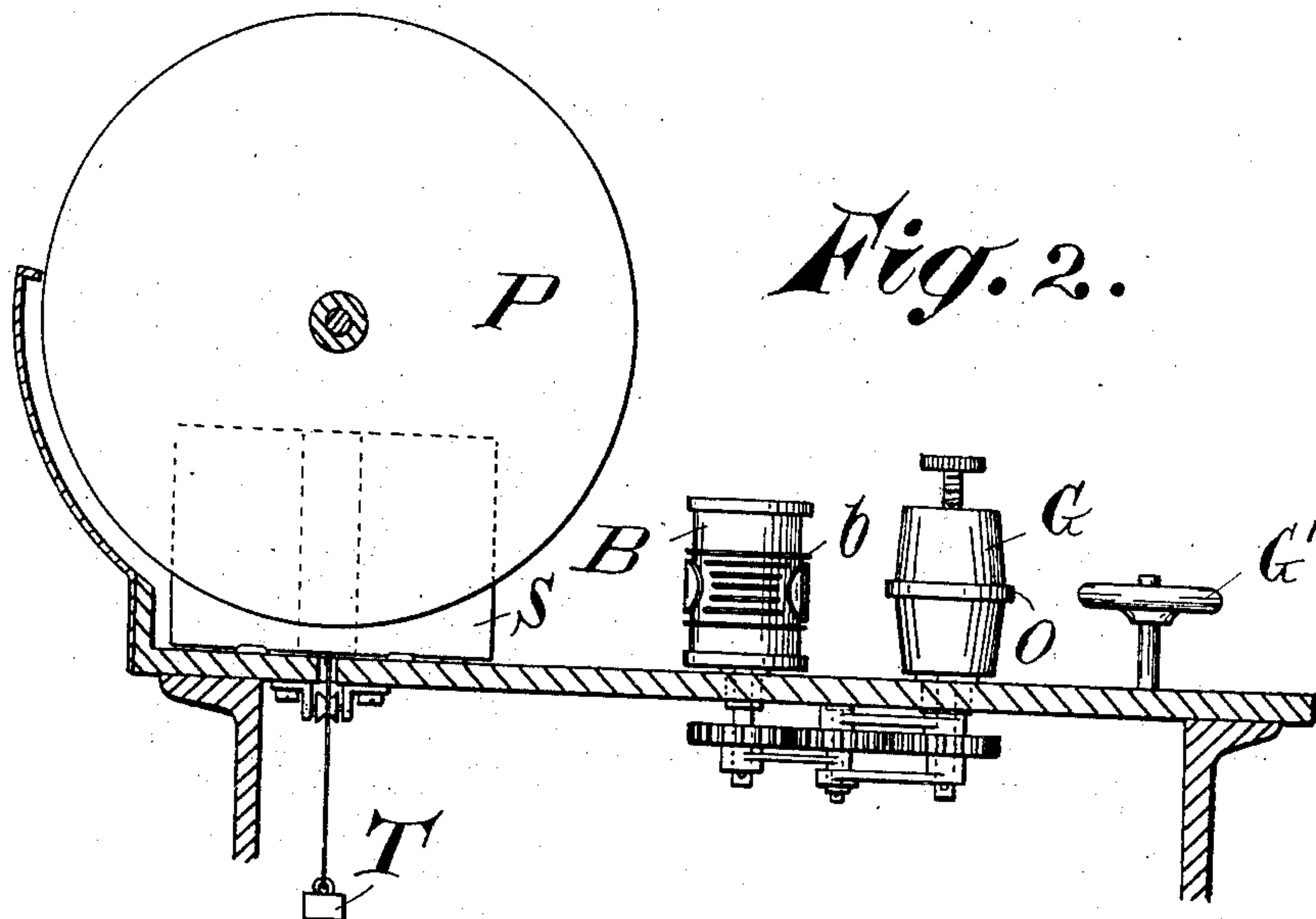
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NILS AALL KRAG AND GUSTAV ADOLF HANSEN, OF CHRISTIANIA,
NORWAY.

POSTMARKING OR CANCELING MACHINE.

No. 829,657.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 28, 1906.

Application filed June 22, 1904. Serial No. 213,732.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, NILS AALL KRAG and GUSTAV ADOLF HANSEN, subjects of the King of Sweden and Norway, residing in the city of Christiania, Norway, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Post-marking or Canceling Machines, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

Our invention relates to postmarking or canceling machines of the kind in which the letters are run past a stamp-canceling and date-stamping roller, whereby the stamps are canceled and the date stamped on the letters.

The object of our invention is to provide for a machine combining a very high efficiency with a simple construction and an easy handling.

The principal working parts of the machine are three cooperating rollers. Of these rollers two are located at some distance from each other and rotated with about the same speed, one of these two rollers being provided with a canceling and stamping device serving for stamping the letters and the other roller, which is located at a distance from the stamping-roll about corresponding to the length of a letter, serving to feed the letters one by one to the aforesaid stamping-roller. With the stamping-roll cooperates a third roll serving for pressing the letters against the stamping-roll. The letter-feed roll is in the preferred form of carrying out the invention combined with a device for pressing the letters against the same; but such devices may be omitted and the letters pressed against the same by hand. We also provide for a suitable piling device for the marked letters, said device being also of great importance for the perfect working of the machine.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a machine constructed in accordance with our invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the same, taken about in the plane in which the letters pass through the machine; and Figs. 3, 4, and 5 show details of the machine.

A designates the vertically-arranged stamping-roller, which may be rotated in any suitable way—for instance, by aid of an electro-motor or some other suitable motor through

an intermediate gearing, (indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1.)

B designates a roller in contact with the stamping-roller, as shown in side view in Fig. 3, and the bearing-fork C of which is guided in a guide-slot D and is pressed toward the stamping-roller by a spring E. The rollers A and B are preferably so formed as only to be in contact with each other along narrow strips at both ends. The stamping-face on A is formed as a row of parallel narrow ribs *a*, and on the roller B has similar ribs *b* disposed between the ribs *a*. This arrangement is made chiefly to prevent that ink on the roller A shall be carried over on the roller B when no letter is held between the rollers. The stamping-roller is also in contact with an inking-roller F, which may also be kept pressed against the same by aid of a spring.

G designates the vertically-arranged letter-feed roller, which is driven at substantially the same speed as the stamping-roller and suitably from the same source of power as this one, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1. In front of the roller G there is placed a roller G', which, as shown in Fig. 2, has the form of a disk or wheel and is loosely mounted on a vertical stud.

H is an incline on which the letters to be postmarked are placed. The letters on this incline are kept pressed against the rollers G and G' by a weight K, sliding on the incline along a slot J, into which a guide-rib of the weight K is inserted. The incline H is on the side nearest to the letter-feed roller G, provided with a rib L. As indicated in Fig. 4, the lower edge of the said rib L carries a grooved finger M. (Shown in detail in enlarged scale in Fig. 5.) This finger is provided with a shank *m*, which slides in bearings *l l'* on the side of the rib L, said finger being resiliently held, so that the flanges of its groove will take over and under a horizontal rubber-coated rib O on the roller G, but will not come in contact therewith, as plainly shown in Fig. 4. This relation of the finger and roller G is maintained when no letter is passing between them by means of a spring N, which surrounds the shank, one end of the spring abutting against the bearing *l* and the other end against a collar *m'* on the shank. Said collar abutting against the bearing *l'* prevents the finger from further forward movement and coming into direct contact

with the roller. By the coöperation of the rib on the feed-roller and the flanges on the finger the letters are seized one by one and run rapidly between the rolls A and B.

5 The device for piling up the postmarked letters comprises a feed-screw, rotated at a suitable speed, between the screw-blades P of which the letters are delivered from the stamping-roller pair. Between the said
10 screw and the said roller pair is arranged a vertical guide-plate Q, for the purpose of insuring the proper feed of the letters into the screw device. Through the rotation of the screw the letters are pressed against a mov-
15 able vertical plate S, guided in a slot U in a table R. This wall S is pressed against the screw by the action of a weight T, Fig. 2, running in a chain over a guide-roll.

The machine works in the following way:
20 The letters are placed between the weight K and the rollers G G' and are then rapidly and safely passed one by one between the post-marking-rollers A and B, from which they pass into the piling device and are piled up in
25 a pile against the plate S, wherefrom they may at intervals be removed.

We claim—

1. A stamp-canceling and postmarking machine comprising a feedway adapted to
30 feed letters in a substantially vertical position in a direction transverse of their plane, an idle roller mounted at the end of the feedway in the path of travel of the letters therein, a positively-driven feed-roller mounted in
35 the path of the forward edges of the letters in the feedway, and a longitudinally-movable finger normally held in close proximity to but out of contact with the feed-roller.

2. In a stamp-canceling and postmarking
40 machine, the combination with a feedway having a straight wall along which the letters are fed in a substantially upright position in a direction transverse of the plane, of an idle roller mounted at the end of and in the path
45 of travel of the letters in the feedway, a positively-driven feed-roller mounted at the end

of the forward wall of the feedway adapted to engage the edge of the forward letter and draw the same from the idle roller at right angles to the path of travel in the feedway
50 and a resiliently-mounted finger adapted to hold said letter in contact with the feed-roller and capable of a motion to and fro the roller to suit the different thickness of the letters.

3. In combination with a downwardly-in-
55 clined feed-trough, two coöperating engaging members mounted at the lower end of the same, one of said members provided with a flange adapted to engage a letter delivered thereto and the other member provided with
60 a groove adapted to take over said flange.

4. In combination with a downwardly-in-
65 clined feed-trough, a gravity-operated weight slidable therein, two coöperating engaging members mounted at the lower end of the trough, one of said members provided with a flange adapted to engage a letter delivered thereto and the other member provided with
70 a groove adapted to take over said flange.

5. In a stamp-canceling and postmarking
75 machine, the combination with a feedway, of an idle roller, a positively-driven feed-roller having a flange centrally formed thereon, and a spring-actuated finger mounted on the forward wall of the feedway and provided
80 with a recess adapted to take over said flange, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

6. In a stamp-canceling and postmarking machine, the combination of a gravity-oper-
85 ated feeding element, an idle roller, a positively-driven roller having a flange formed thereon, and a coöperating element having a recessed end portion adapted to take over said flange, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands in presence of two witnesses.

NILS AALL KRAG.

GUSTAV ADOLF HANSEN.

Witnesses:

HENRY BORDEWICH,

MICHAEL ALGER.