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PATENTED DEC. 4, 1906.

J. A. WEBSTER.
COIN OPERATED VENDING MACHINE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 1, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 4.

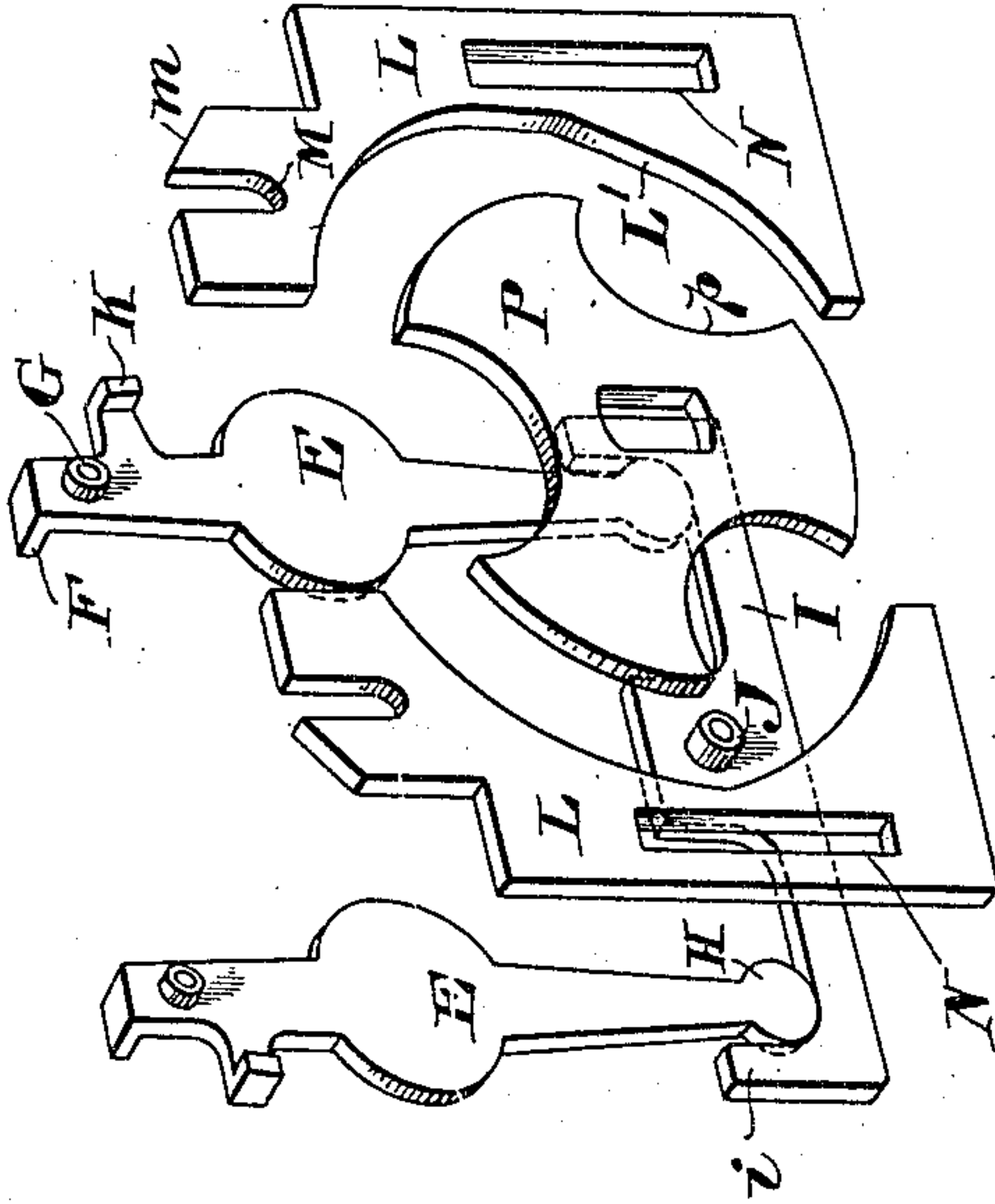
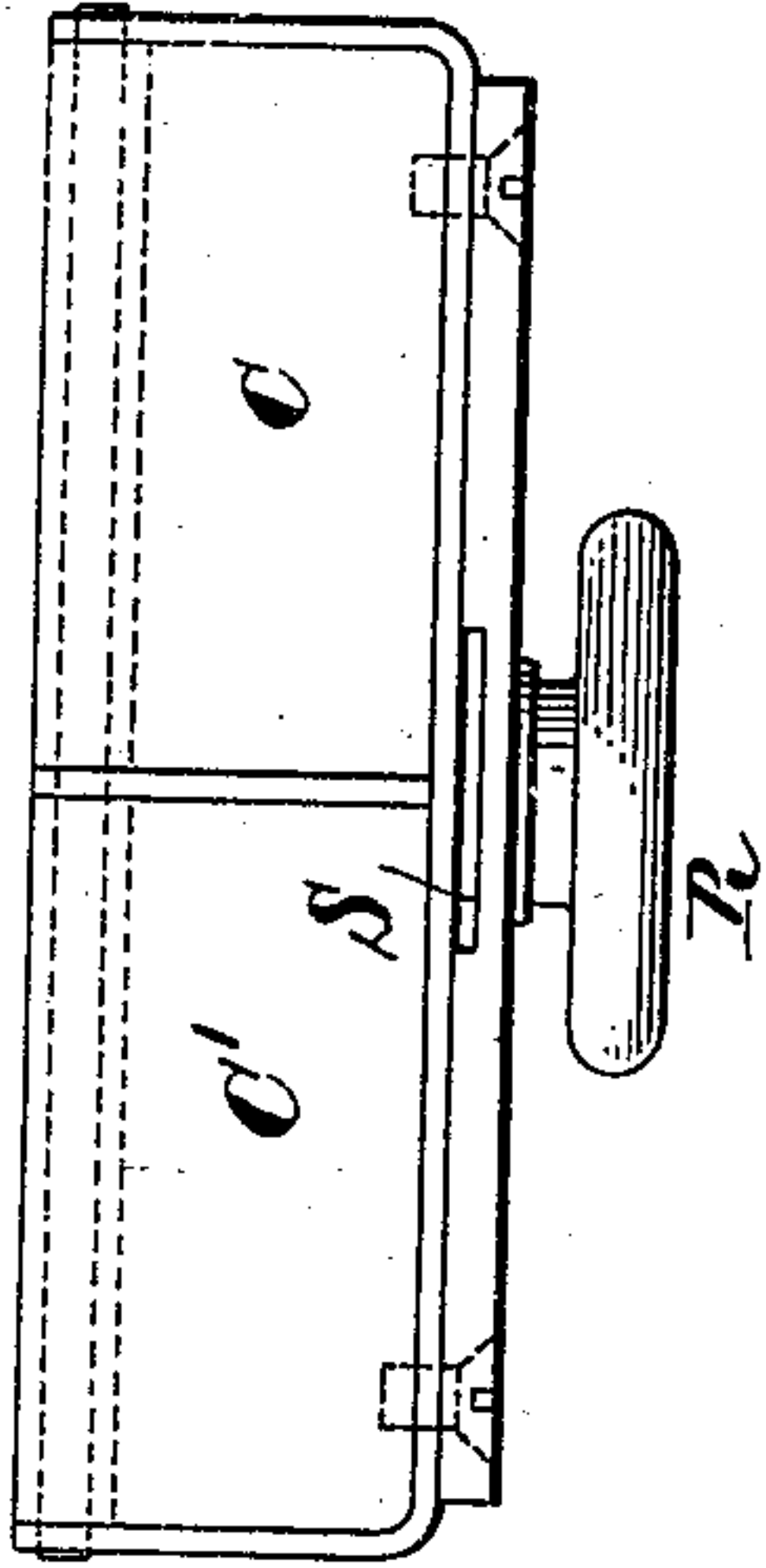


FIG. 5.

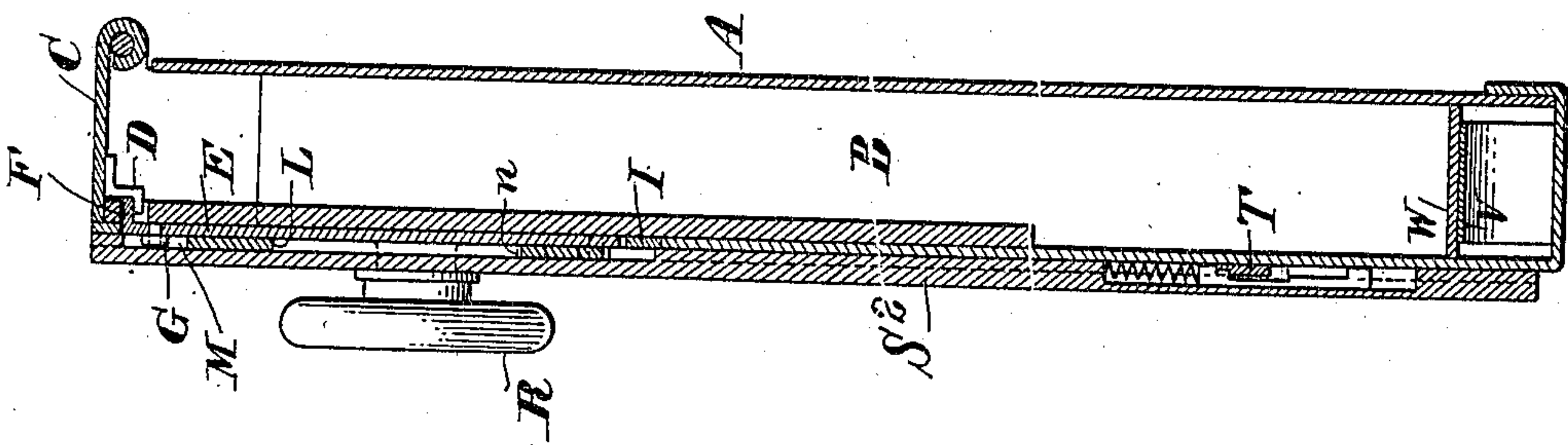


FIG. 3.

Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. WEBSTER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO JAMES W. PATTERSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

COIN-OPERATED VENDING-MACHINE.

No. 837,362.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 4, 1906.

Application filed May 1, 1905. Serial No. 258,215.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. WEBSTER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Coin-Operated Vending-Machines, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to coin-operated vending-machines; and it consists of certain improvements which are fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, which form a part thereof.

The object of my invention is to provide a vending-machine with two compartments or receptacles to contain the vendable articles and a hand-operated coin-controlled locking device which shall be capable of releasing the article from one or both of the compartments, as required. In this manner a single locking device may, by successive deposits of coin and specific manipulation, be capable of unlocking both of the compartments; but such unlocking will take place successively and correspondingly to the manipulation of the locking device after the deposition of each of the coins.

My invention consists of a case having two compartments and independent lids therefor, combined with means for locking each of the lids, and a hand-operated coin-controlled locking mechanism adapted to be turned in one direction to unlock one of the lids and in the other direction to unlock the other of the lids.

My invention also comprehends details of construction which, together with the features above specified, will be better understood by reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front sectional elevation of a vending-machine embodying my invention with a portion of the locking mechanism removed. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the portion of the locking device removed looking at it from the rear. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the vending-machine on line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the machine, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the locking mechanism removed from the case.

A is the case and is formed with the two compartments B B', provided at the top with lids C C' for independently closing and sealing each of the compartments. The lower portions of these compartments may be pro-

vided with spring-supported floors W, pressed upward by springs V. for the purpose of slightly raising the packages or articles when the lids are released.

The lids are locked in a closed position by the bolt-flanges F of the locking-levers E, which are hinged at their middle portions within recesses in the frame Q. The portions F of these locking-levers swing over the hasps D of the lids C C'. The lower ends H of the locking-levers E extend into recesses in the transversely-movable plate I, the sides of which operate upon and move the levers E to unlock the lids. The plate I is provided with a projecting roller or pin J, against which the coin is forced by the rotating coin-disk P. If this coin-disk is rotated to the right, the right-hand lid is released, and if rotated to the left the left-hand lid is liberated; but both lids are never released at the same time.

The levers E E are locked when thrown into locking position by locking-plates L L, which are provided with slots M at the top, into which the pins or rollers G on the levers extend. These plates L L have vertical slots N, into which lugs n n on the front plate S' extend to act as guides to insure the vertical reciprocation of the plates. Coiled springs O O, resting upon these lugs n n and pressing upward upon the plates, are arranged in the slots and normally tend to raise the plates L L into locking position. These plates have their opposing edges L' cam-shaped, so that the coin held in the notches p of the cam-disk P in being carried downward is caused to press upon said edges L' and force down the plate to release the lever E. The coin is then immediately caused to press upon the pin or roller J of the plate I, which latter upon shifting oscillates the locking-lever E to release the lid. The plate L so moved is then upon the passage of the coin into the coin-slot S' caused to spring upward by the action of the spring O, and thereby keep the locking-lever from accidentally shifting backward into position to prevent the relocking of the lid at the proper time; but more especially to prevent the lid being accidentally locked when the compartment is empty. This operation of the parts is the same for each lid; but, as before pointed out, the disk P is rotated to the right to open the right-hand lid and to the left to open the

left-hand lid. By inserting one coin in the slot S and turning the disk P in one direction one lid is unlocked, and thereby, inserting a second coin in the slot and turning the disk in the opposite direction, the other lid is unlocked.

When the coins pass down into the slot S', they are held from passing out at the bottom by a suitable retainer T, which may consist of a sliding piece adapted to be shifted by inserting a key for the purpose of permitting the coins to drop and be discharged. No claim is made to the retainer in this application, and hence it will not be necessary to describe it in detail.

The coin-disk P is rotated by a knob R upon the outside and front of the case, but may be operated in any other suitable manner.

After the lids are released and it is required to relock the lids the following manipulation is performed. A key is inserted in the slots k in the frame S² and pressing upon the lugs K of locking-levers E force them back to their locking positions. However, in moving to such positions the rollers G are caused to act upon the inclined edges m of the plates L and depress them until the said rollers are received in the slots M and by them locked in position again. These plates L therefore act as spring-bolts for the locking-levers E.

While I have shown my invention in the form which I deem most suitable for use in the commercial application thereof, I do not limit myself to the details of construction, as these may be varied or modified without departing from the essential characteristics of the invention.

It is also to be understood that while I have shown my invention in the form of a box or case with lids the means for supporting and retaining two packages or articles may be made in any suitable form and to which my improved locking device would be employed.

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

1. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments, independent lids for said compartments, independent locking-levers to lock said lids, a coin-operated device for moving one of the said locking-levers or both of them in succession to independently unlock the lids, and a single hand-operated part for controlling and moving a coin against the coin-operated part to shift it in one direction to operate one locking-lever or to shift in the other direction to operate the other locking-lever, whereby both lids may be unlocked in succession by a single hand-operated part through the coins.

2. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments, inde-

pendent lids for said compartments, independent locking-levers to lock said lids, and a hand-operated coin-controlling device consisting of a rotary coin-disk and a sliding plate adapted to be shifted by the pressure of the coin when moved by the coin-disk for moving one of said locking-levers by the deposition of one coin or both of them in succession by the successive deposition of two coins to independently unlock said lids.

3. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments, independent lids for said compartments, independent locking-levers to lock said lids, locking-plates for locking the locking-levers in their locking positions, and a hand-operated coin-controlling device for moving one of said locking-plates to unlock the corresponding lever upon the deposition of one coin or both of them in succession for unlocking said levers and moving them in succession upon the deposition of two coins in succession whereby one or both of said lids may be unlocked.

4. In a vending-machine the combination of a case having two compartments, independent lids for each compartment, a separate lock for locking each of the lids, and a coin-controlling locking device having two locks and a rotary hand-operated part to unlock one of the locks when the hand-operated part is rotated in one direction and to unlock the other lock when it is rotated in the opposite direction.

5. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments, independent lids for each compartment, a separate lock for locking each of the lids, and a rotary hand-operated coin-controlling device to unlock one of the locks when rotated in one direction and to unlock the other lock when rotated in the opposite direction, said device consisting of a sliding plate adapted to be moved by the coin and having a connection with each of the locks, and a coin-disk for moving the coin against the sliding plate.

6. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments, separate lids for each of said compartments, independent movable locking parts for locking said lids in closed position, and a hand-operated coin-controlling device having capacity for movement in opposite directions and connecting means operated by the coins for moving one of the locking parts to release its lid when the hand-operated device is moved in one direction and for moving the other of the locking parts to release its lid when the hand-operated device is moved in the opposite direction.

7. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments, separate lids for each of said compartments, independent movable locking parts for locking

said lids in closed position, a hand-operated coin-controlling device having capacity for movement in opposite directions connecting means operated by the coins for moving one of the locking parts to release its lid when the coin-operated device is moved in one direction and for moving the other of the locking parts to release its lid when the coin-operated device is moved in the opposite direction, and independent locks for said locking parts for holding them in locking position also adapted to be operated at different times by the hand-operated coin-controlling device whereby said locking parts are unlocked before they are moved.

8. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments and separate lids therefor, the pivoted locking-levers E E for respectively locking the said lids, the sliding plate I having a projecting part J and adapted to move one of the levers when moved in one direction and the other lever when moved in the opposite direction, and a rotary coin-disk P having notches *p* for conveying the coin against the projecting part J of the plate I to shift it.

9. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments and separate lids therefor, the pivoted locking-levers

E E for respectively locking the said lids, provided with pins G, the sliding plate I having a projecting part J and adapted to move one of the levers when moved in one direction and the other lever when moved in the opposite direction, locking-plates L having cam edges L' and slots M to receive the pins G of the levers E, springs to press said plates L into locking position, and a rotary coin-disk P having notches *p* for conveying the coin against the cam edges L' of the locking-plates to depress them and against the projecting part of the plate I to shift it.

10. In a vending-machine, the combination of a case having two compartments and independent lids therefor and having key-slots at each side of the case in line with the movable locking parts for insertion of a key to move said parts into locking position, independent movable locking parts for locking said lids, and a hand-operated coin-controlled device for moving said locking parts to unlock said lids separately or successively.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

JOHN A. WEBSTER.

Witnesses:

JAMES COGAN,
IRA PATTERSON.