

No. 859,841.

PATENTED JULY 9, 1907.

F. P. REPASS.  
COMBINATION OFFICE ARTICLE.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 24, 1906.

Fig. 1.

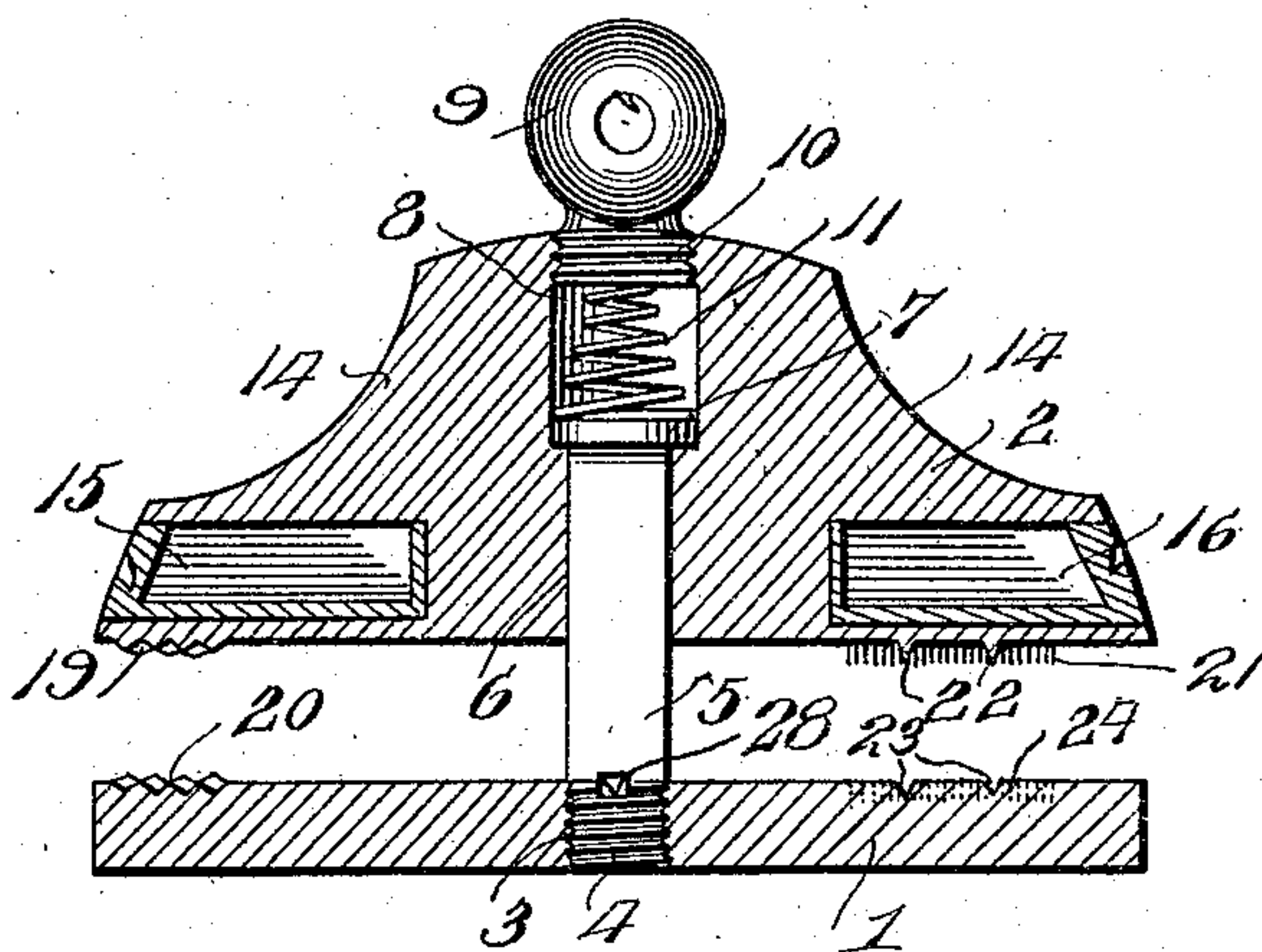


Fig. 3.

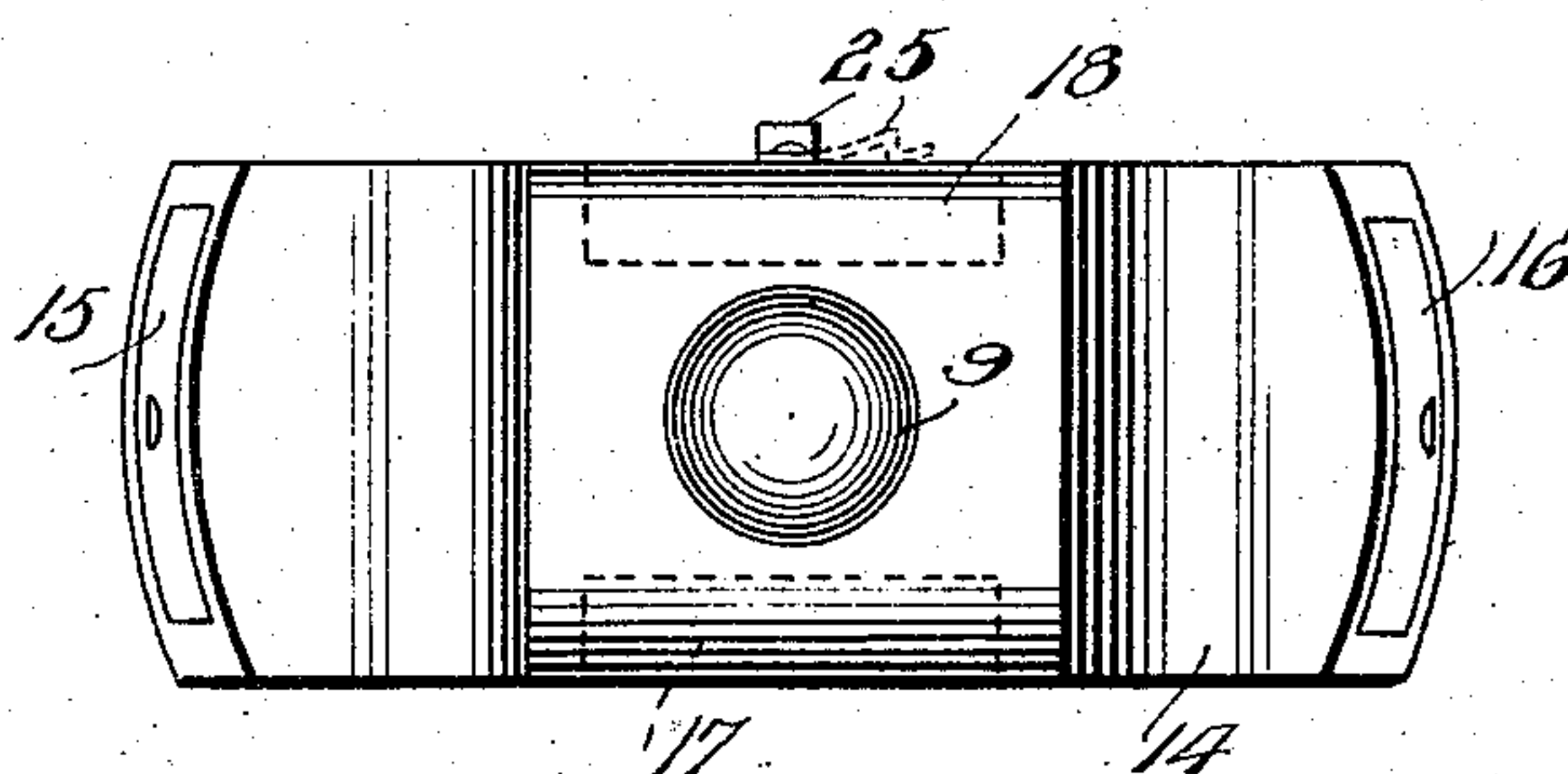


Fig. 2.

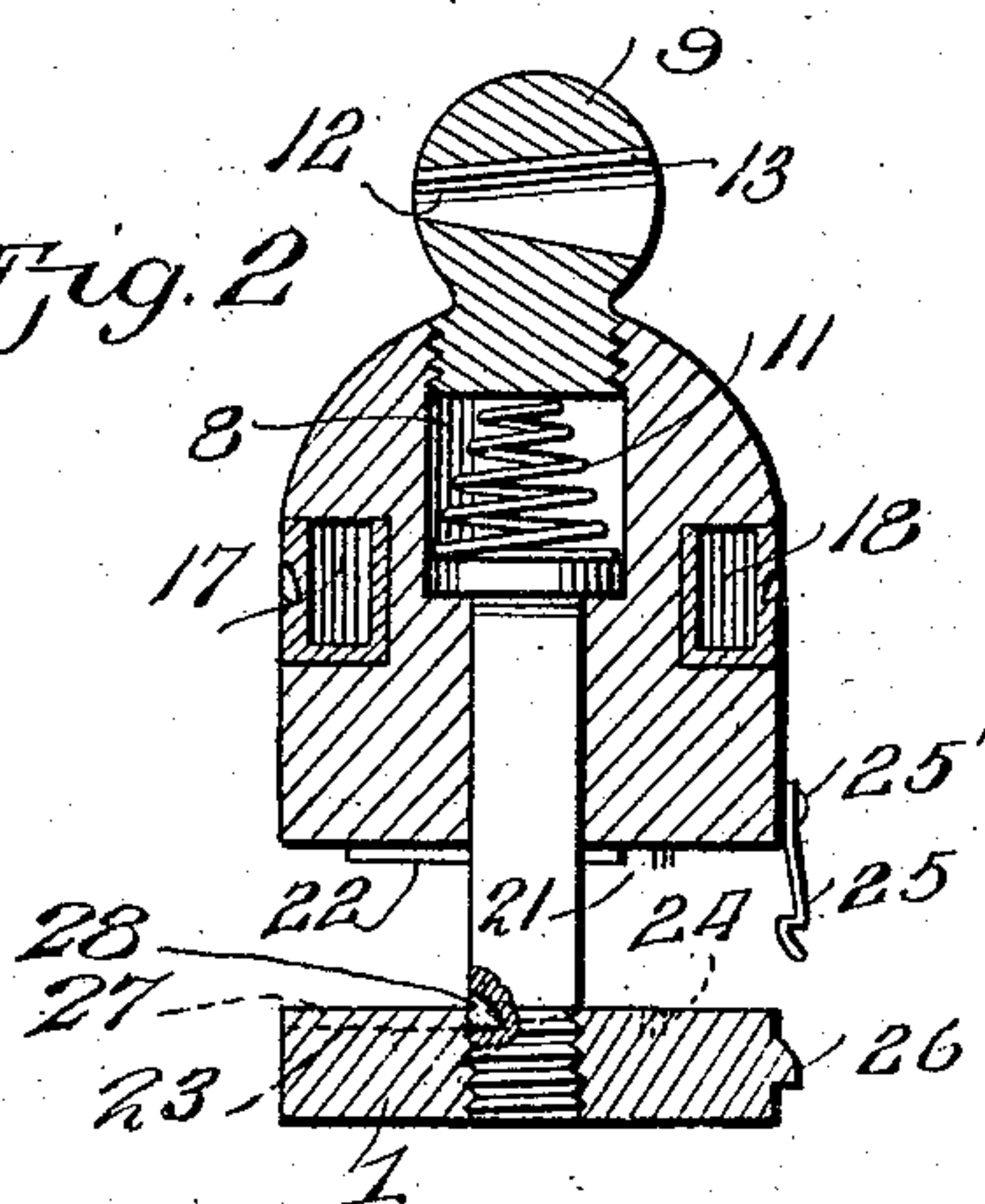
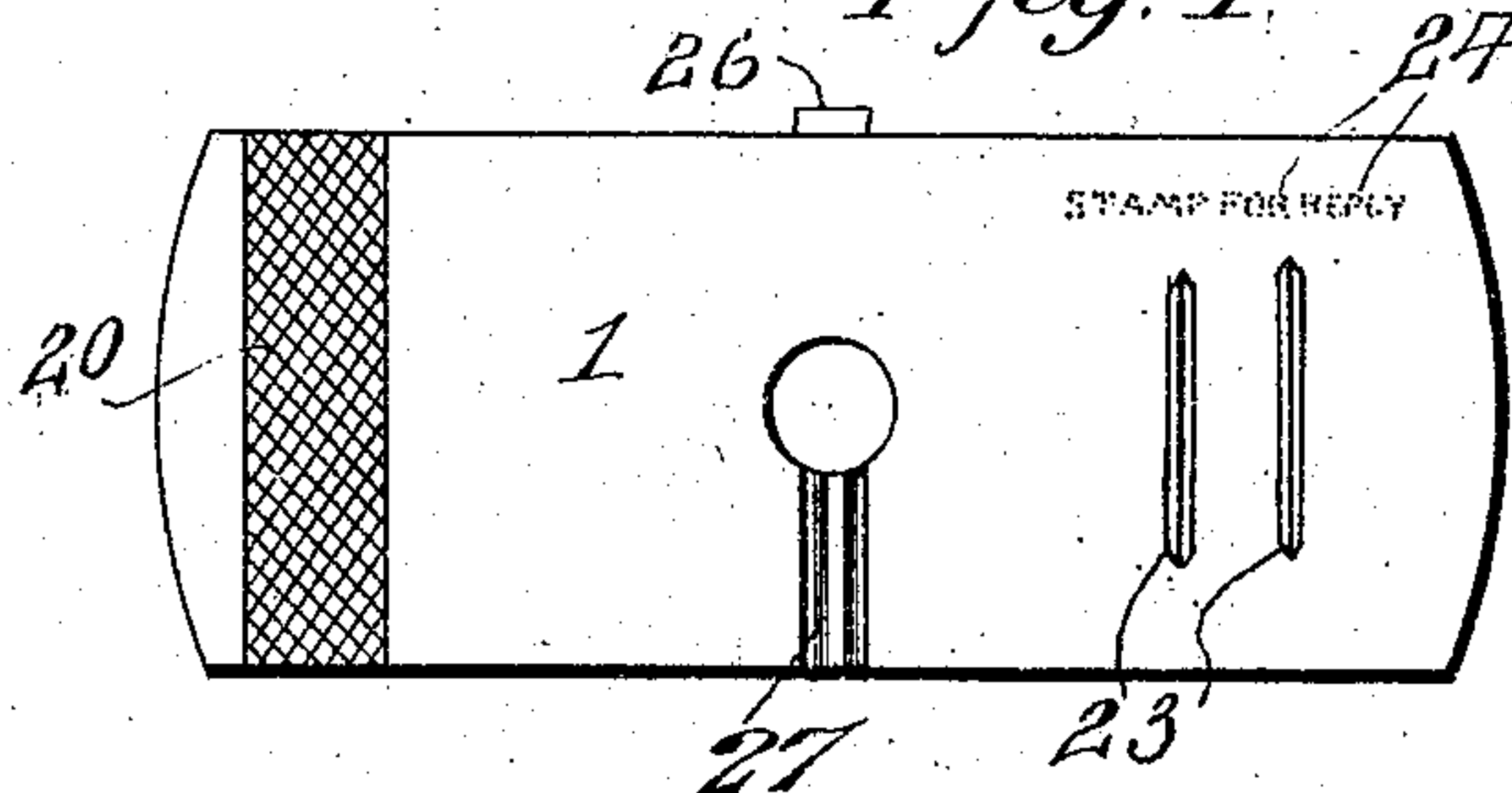


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMBINATION OFFICE ARTICLE.

No. 859,841.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 9, 1907.

Application filed October 24, 1906. Serial No. 340,400.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK P. REPASS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Marion, in the county of Smyth and State of Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in a Combination Office Article, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a combination article designed especially for office use, the object of the invention being to provide a device adapted to serve the combined function of a paper weight, pencil sharpener, receptacle for stamps, pens, paper clips, pins and the like, a check perforator, a means whereby a letter sheet may be perforated to form a holding strip for a stamp inclosed in a letter in payment of postage for reply and to print or perforate desired matter in said sheet to indicate the purpose of the stamp and also an extractor to enable pens to be conveniently removed from pen holders.

In the accompanying drawing—Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of a device of the character described embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross section thereof. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the article. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the base plate thereof.

The device embodies two main members 1 and 2, each in general of oblong rectangular form and constructed of wood, metal, hard rubber, or any other suitable material. The member 1 comprises a base plate having a central threaded socket 3 for the reception of the lower threaded end 4 of a supporting post or stem 5 on which the member 2, constituting a body block, is mounted to slide vertically toward and from the base plate. As shown, the stem 5 passes upwardly through an opening 6 in the member 2 and is provided at its upper end with a head 7 arranged within a socket 8 also formed in the member 2 above the opening 6. The stem 5 and opening 6 are of angular form to permit the member 2 to slide freely in a vertical plane while holding it from rotation, and the socket 8 is of sufficient length to permit the block or member 2 to have sufficient downward movement to bring its lower face into contact with the upper face of the base plate 1.

A knob or handle 9 is provided with a threaded shank 10 which screws into the upper threaded end of the socket 8 and forms a closure therefor, and between said stem and head 7 is arranged a coil spring 11 operating to exert upward pressure on the stem to hold the block 2 normally elevated. The knob is provided with a tapered passage 12 having a cutting blade 13 disposed therein, thus forming a convenient type of pencil sharpener.

The block 2 is cut away at its ends, as shown at 14, to form bearing surfaces whereby it may be gripped securely in the hand when it is desired to force the block down with a high degree of pressure, said cut-away portions also serving to give a desired ornamental

shape to the block. The ends and sides of the block are recessed to form chambers for the reception of sliding drawers 15, 16, 17 and 18, which may be used respectively for the storage of stamps, pens, paper clips and pins and other articles of like nature. The portions of the faces of the block between the drawers may be suitably constructed for the reception of advertising matter of any kind.

The block is provided on its underside at one end thereof with a transverse row or series of roughening projections or perforating pins 19 adapted to enter corresponding receiving recesses 20 in the base 1, forming the male and female dies of a convenient type of check perforator. It will be understood that the check to be perforated is rested upon the base 1 with the portion to be perforated arranged above the recesses 20 and below the pins 19, and that upon sliding the block 2 downward on the stem 5 the pins will pass through the paper and into the recesses 20 and thus perforate the check. Either roughening projections or perforating pins may be used, accordingly as it is desired to simply serrate or to perforate the portion of the check to be protected. On the underside of the block 2 at the opposite end from the pins 19 are other similar pins, cutting or printing devices 21, arranged adjacent to which are a pair of parallel cutting blades 22 adapted on the downward movement of the block to be received in recesses 23 formed in the base plate 1. These cutters 22 are provided to enable two parallel slits to be formed in a note head, letter head, or other letter sheet for the production of a stamp holding strip in such sheet. This strip, which will be formed in an obvious manner, may be used for holding a stamp in position on the sheet, the stamp being placed between the strip and the body of the sheet and held by the latter in position, thus obviating the necessity of gumming the stamp at one of its corners to the sheet after the custom of remitting a stamp in a letter for reply postage. The pins 21 are adapted to enter recesses in the base 1 when the block 2 is moved downward and may be properly arranged to perforate the letter sheet for the formation of the words "stamp for reply", or any similar arrangement of words indicating the purpose of the stamp, but in lieu of such pins cutters to cut or type to print the same subject matter in or upon the letter sheet may be employed.

When the device is arranged as shown in Fig. 1 with the block 2 held elevated above the base plate by the spring 11, the parts are disposed to permit of the ready and convenient use of the device to perforate a check or form the slits and perforations in a letter sheet for the purpose described. In order to adapt the device to be used in the most efficient manner as a paper weight, suitable fastenings are employed for holding the block 2 down upon and fast to the base plate 1. The means shown in the present instance for this purpose com-



prise a spring catch 25 carried by the block and adapted to engage a keeper lug 26 formed in the base plate. This catch is pivotally mounted upon the block, as indicated at 25', so that it may be turned up to prevent its engagement with the keeper when the block is actuated for perforating or cutting purposes.

The device may be used as an extractor to enable pens to be conveniently removed from pen holders. To this end, the upper surface of the base 1 is formed with a groove 27 of proper form to receive the body of a pen, and the stem 5 has a recess 28 to receive the nib or point of the pen. The pen may be clamped in the groove 27 by depressing the block 2, thus enabling it to be extracted from the pen-holder by pulling outward on the latter.

It will be seen from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, that the invention provides a useful and convenient combination article for office use adapted to serve the combined function of a paper weight, a pencil sharpener, a handy receptacle or holder for various small articles, a check perforator, a cutter and stamper for the purpose described, and an extractor to enable pens to be conveniently removed from pen-holders. Some of the features mentioned may, of course, be omitted and the arrangement of the features varied from that shown within the scope of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. A device of the character described comprising a base, a post extending upwardly from the base and provided at its upper end with a head, a block slidably mounted on the post and having a chamber receiving said head, said chamber being interiorly threaded at its upper end, a plug engaging and closing the threaded end of the chamber and provided with an upwardly extending knob, a spring arranged within the chamber between the knob and head and serving to hold the block normally elevated, and coacting sets of perforating members upon the base and block on opposite sides of the post.

2. A device of the character described comprising a base

having an upwardly extending guide post, and provided on opposite sides thereof with transversely arranged sets of perforating members, a block slidably mounted upon the post and provided with coöperating sets of perforating members, means for maintaining the block in an elevated position, and means for fastening the block to the base, said fastening means being normally arranged for operation and capable of being rendered inoperative.

3. A device of the character described comprising a base provided on opposite sides of its center with perforating members, a post extending upward centrally from the base, a block slidably mounted on the post and provided on opposite sides thereof with coöperating perforating members, the end portions of the upper surface of said block being correspondingly concaved, an adjustable operating device on the block, means coacting with said device and post for holding the block normally elevated, and means for fastening the block in depressed position to the base, said means being normally operative and adapted to be rendered inoperative.

4. A device of the character described comprising a base provided in its upper face on opposite sides of its center with sets of transverse recesses, one of said sets of recesses comprising a pair of parallel grooves and perforations arranged adjacent thereto, a post extending upward from the center of the base, a block slidably mounted on the post and provided on its underside at opposite sides of its center with sets of perforating devices comprising respectively a set of perforating pins and coacting sets of parallel transverse knives and adjacent pins adapted for coöperation with the respective sets of recesses or perforations in the base, means for normally holding the block elevated from the base, and means for connecting the block with the base.

5. A device of the character described comprising a base, a post extending upwardly therefrom, a block slidably mounted on the post, spring means for holding the block elevated, a keeper lug upon one side of the base, and a catch pivotally mounted to swing longitudinally upon one side of the block and having a depending hooked end to engage the lug, said catch being adapted to be swung laterally to an inoperative position.

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

FRANK P. REPASS.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. WRIGHT,  
S. W. KENT.