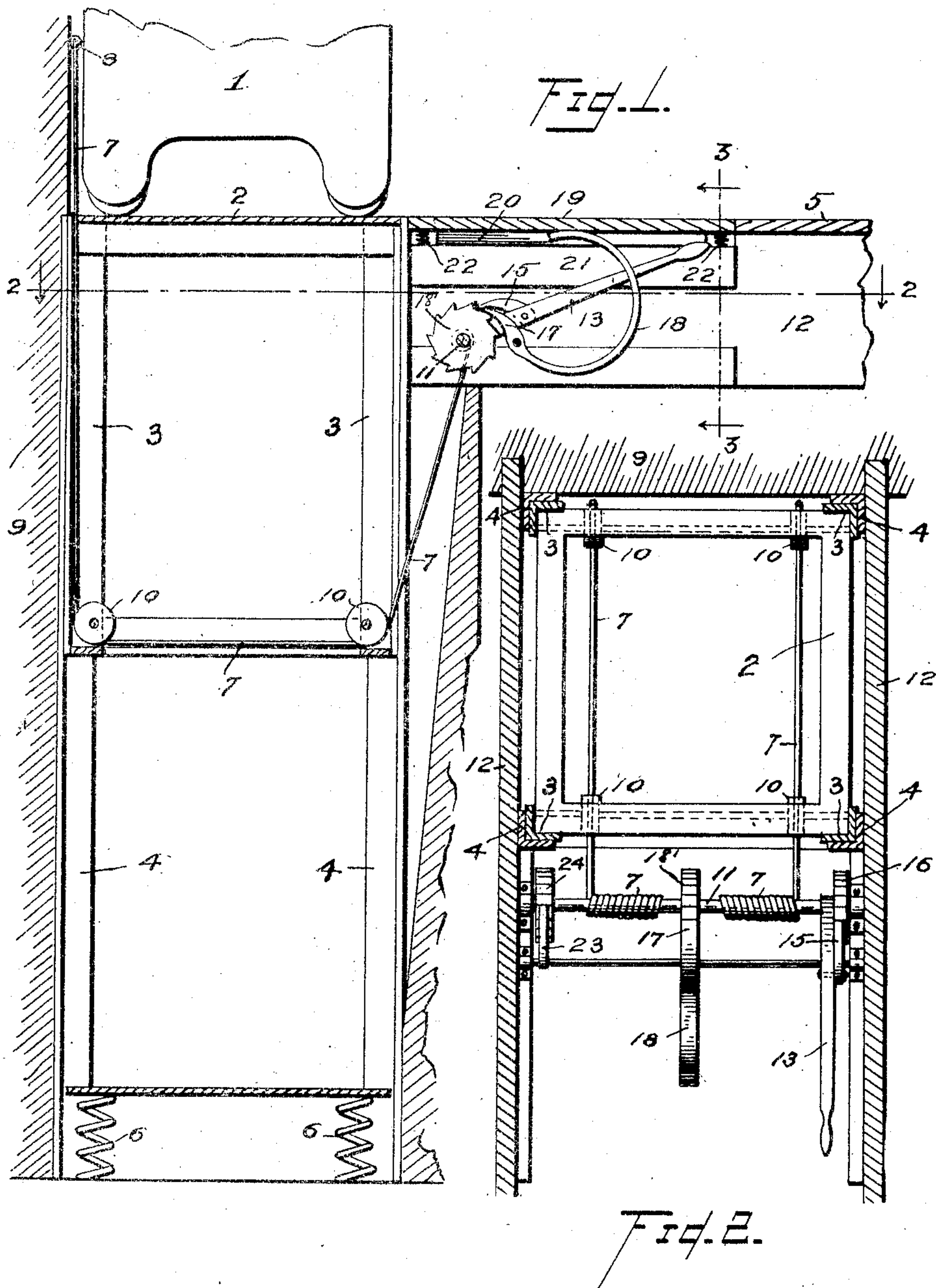


A. RIDGLEY.
SUPPORTING AND RELEASING MECHANISM FOR SAFES.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 25, 1909.

945,248.

Patented Jan. 4, 1910.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



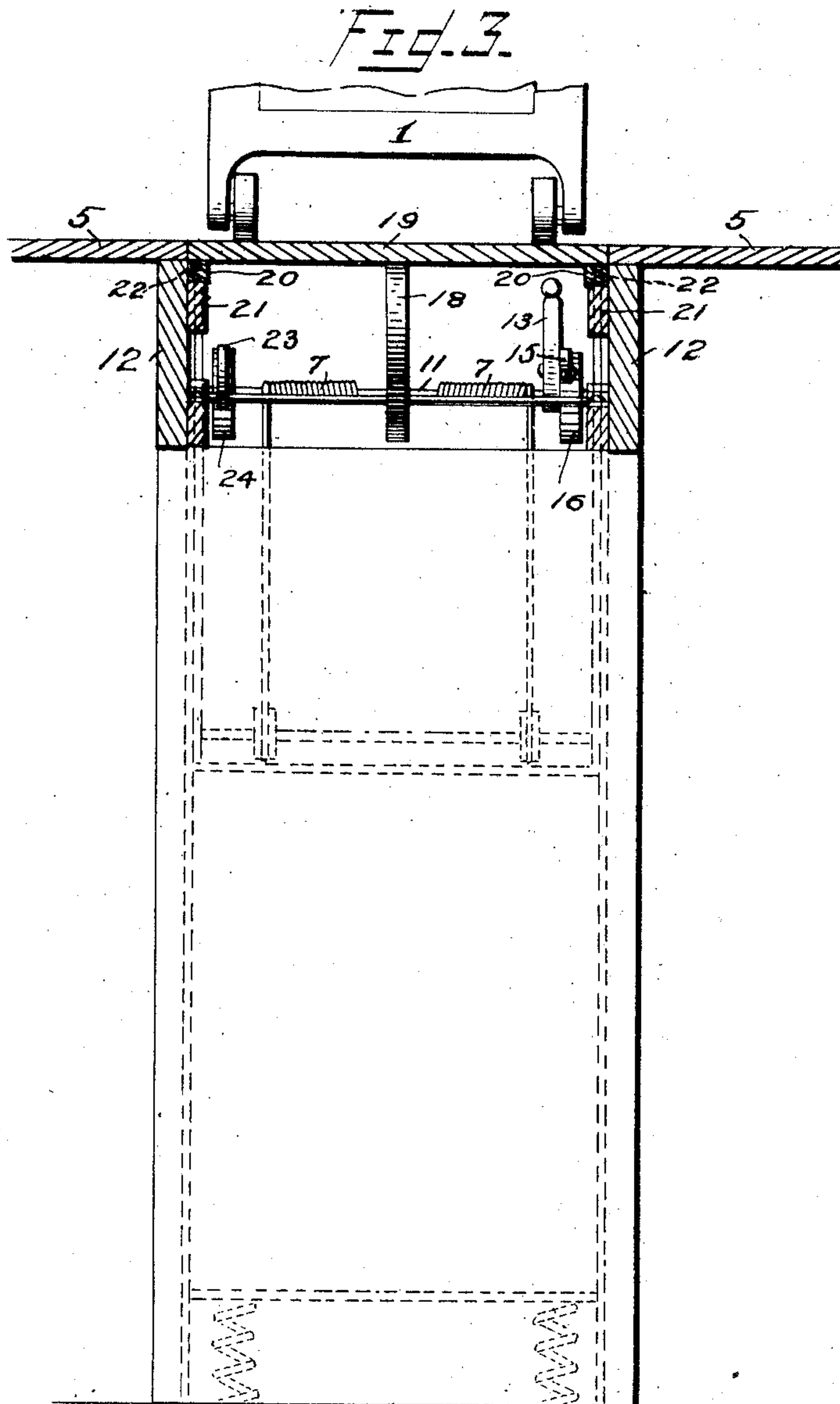
Witnesses
E. C. Duffy
C. H. Griesbauer

Inventor
A. Ridgley
by *A. B. Wilson & Co*
Attorneys

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E. C. Duffy
C. N. Griesbauer.

Inventor
A. Ridgley
by *H. B. Wilson*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER RIDGLEY, OF GOBLEVILLE, MICHIGAN.

SUPPORTING AND RELEASING MECHANISM FOR SAFES.

945,248.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 4, 1910.

Application filed August 25, 1909. Serial No. 514,573.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER RIDGLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gobleville, in the county of Van Buren and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Supporting and Releasing Mechanism for Safes; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a supporting and releasing mechanism for safes and has for its object to provide means by which the safe may be supported in proper position but which may be so set after banking hours, that should a burglar approach the safe, the mechanism will operate to release the same, when it will drop to the bottom of the guide-way out of the reach of the burglar.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangements of parts as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation partly in section showing the application of the supporting and releasing mechanism; Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section taken on line 3—3 thereof.

Referring to the drawings for a more particular description of the invention, 1 indicates the safe which is mounted upon the skeleton frame carriage 2 comprising vertical pieces 3, of angle iron which slide in a vertical guide-way formed of vertical pieces 4, of angle iron which receive the vertical pieces 3, of the carriage. The guide-way as shown, extends beneath the floor 5, and is provided at its bottom with a number of cushioning springs 6, to absorb the shock when the safe is released.

The supporting and releasing mechanism comprises a pair of cables 7, which are attached by suitable devices, as 8, to the wall 9, and pass under rollers 10, at the bottom of the carriage and wind upon the shaft 11, which is suitably mounted beneath the floor joists 12. The winding shaft 11, is turned to wind the cables thereon by means of the lever 13, which is pivoted on the shaft and

carries the pawl 15, which engages a ratchet 16, rigidly fixed to the shaft.

The setting mechanism comprises the pawl 17, which is formed by the inner end of the longitudinally curved resilient member 18, the upper end of which bears against the platform 19, which fits in a suitable opening in the floor 5. The pawl 17, normally engages a ratchet 18' fixed to the shaft 11. The platform rests upon a pair of removable supporting blocks 20, which fit on the pieces 21 of the floor joists 12, while coil springs 22, are arranged upon the top edges of the pieces 21, at opposite ends of the blocks 20. During banking hours, the blocks 20, are arranged in position so that should any one step upon the platform, no effect will be had upon the setting member 18. After banking hours, however, the pawls 15 and 23, are swung back out of engagement with their respective ratchet wheels 16 and 24, respectively, while the blocks 20 are removed. Under these conditions, should a burglar approach the safe, the platform 19, will be depressed and in doing so, will disengage the inner end of the setting member 18 with its ratchet wheel, when the winding shaft will be released and the carriage and safe will drop to the bottom of the guide-ways out of the reach of the burglar.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A supporting and releasing mechanism for safes comprising a vertical guide-way, a carriage for the safe slidably mounted therein, means for supporting the carriage in elevated position, a platform, and means operated by stepping upon the platform to release the carriage.

2. A supporting and releasing mechanism for safes comprising a vertical guide-way, a carriage slidably mounted therein, cushioning springs at the bottom of the guide-way, a platform, and means adapted to be set to hold the carriage in elevated

position but adapted to release the carriage when a pressure is brought to bear upon the platform. . .

3. A supporting and releasing mechanism for safes comprising a vertical guideway, a carriage slidably mounted therein, means for supporting the carriage in elevated position, said means comprising a winding shaft and a number of flexible
5 elements passing under the safe and winding upon said shaft, a platform, and a
10 setting member to hold the shaft against

turning but adapted to be released from engagement therewith when a pressure is brought to bear upon the platform. .15

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALEXANDER ^{his} × RIDGLEY.
mark

Witnesses:

E. W. MYERS,
LUCY E. MYERS.