

J. McDOWELL.

Burglar Alarm.

No. 111,959.

Patented Feb. 21, 1871.

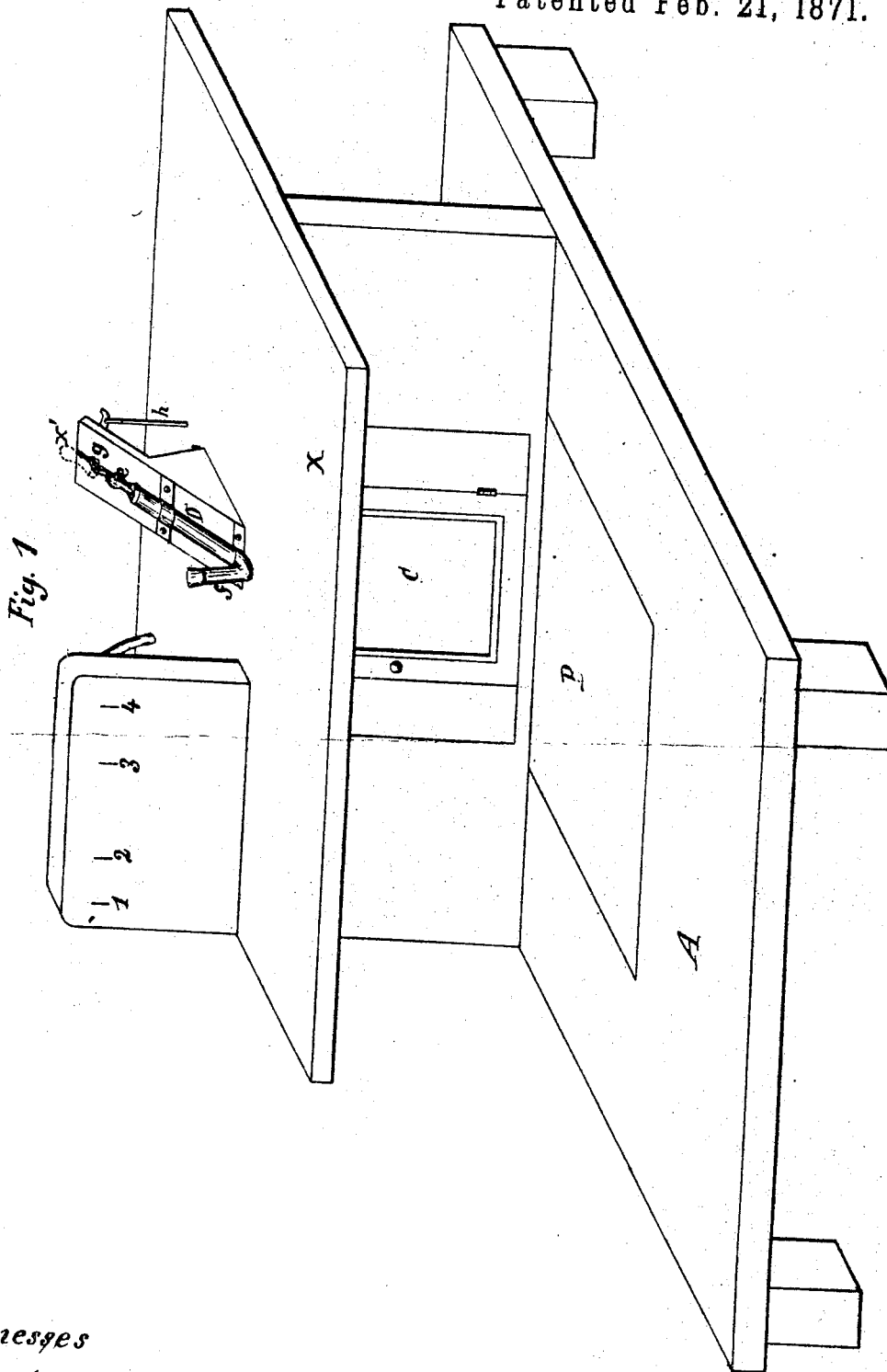


Fig. 1

Witnesses

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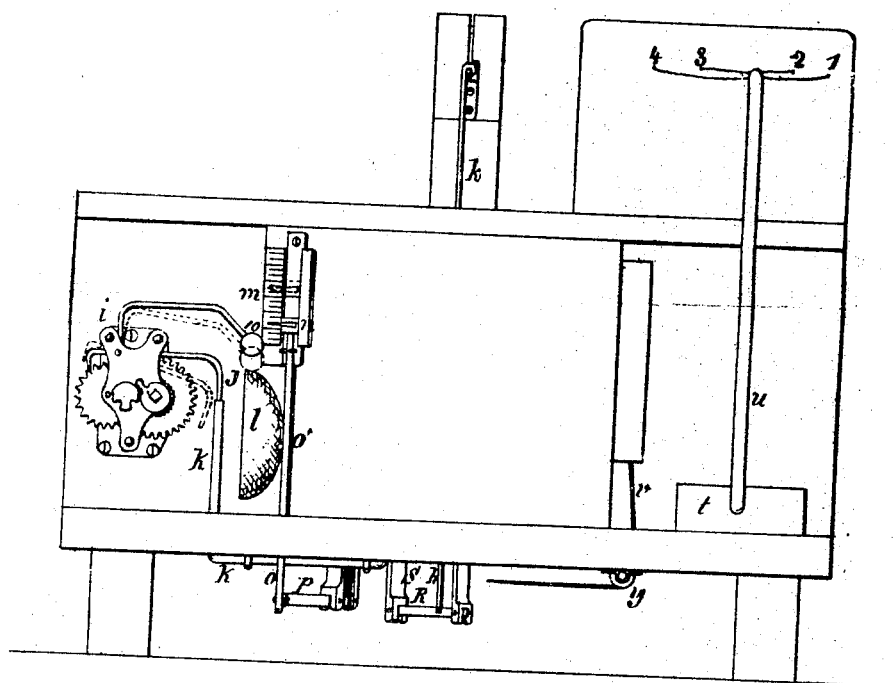
4 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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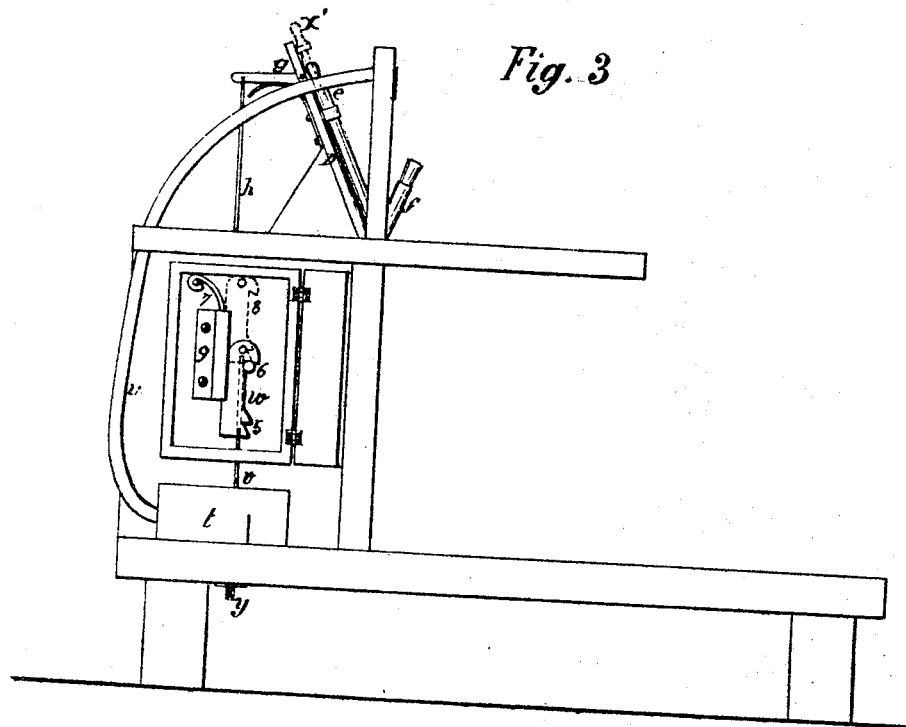
Fig. 2



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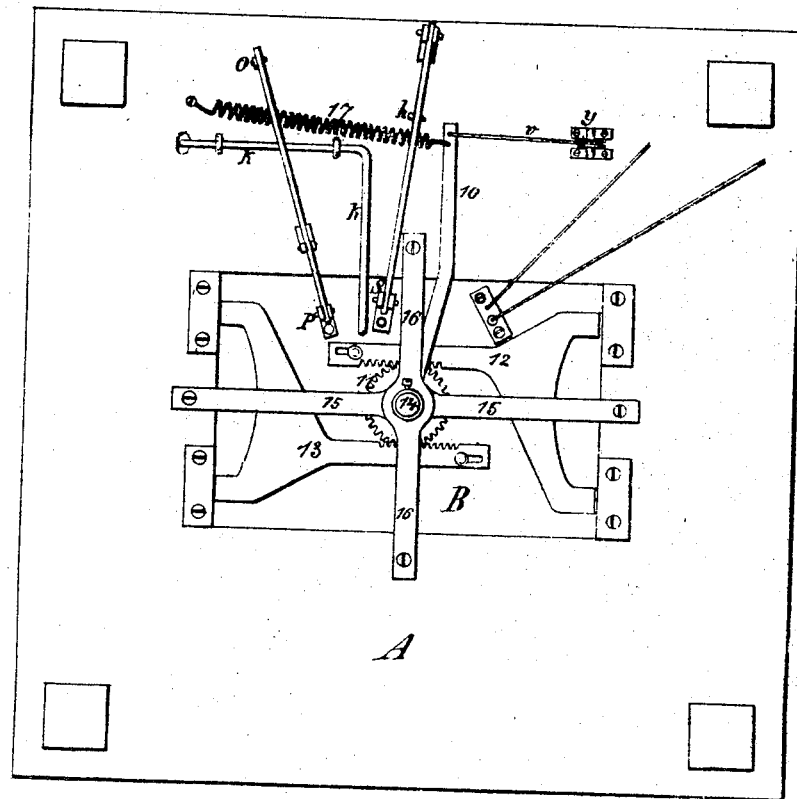
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Fig. 4



United States Patent Office.

JOHN McDOWELL, OF WASHINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 111,959, dated February 21, 1871.

IMPROVEMENT IN BURGLAR-ALARMS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN McDOWELL, of Washington, in the county of Washington and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in "Burglar-Alarm; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in the combination of devices, hereinafter described, for ascertaining the weight, throwing liquid upon, and telegraphing the presence of a burglar.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawing which forms part of my specification—

Figure 1 sheet A, represents in perspective a section of a room of a house provided with my improvement in burglar-alarm.

Figure 2, sheet B, represents a back view of the same.

Figure 3, sheet C, represents an end view of the same.

Figure 4, sheet D, represents an inverted view of the same.

In the accompanying drawing—

A represents the floor of the room or building.

B represents a yielding section of the floor, which is in front of the door of a safe.

Above the ceiling *x* of the room is arranged a syringe, the end of which is provided with a "rose-head," and fitted in the ceiling so as to sprinkle the marking liquid in the syringe over the burglar when he steps on the yielding section B of the floor.

The syringe D is constructed so that its piston *c* is operated by a spiral spring placed around it, and is made operative by a trigger, *g*, connected by a cord, *h*, with the operating mechanism under the yielding section B.

The syringe D is provided with a charging-chamber, *f*, which is so connected with the cylinder of the syringe that it can be recharged at pleasure with the fluid designed for marking the burglar.

i represents the alarm-gear for striking the hammer 10 against the bell *l*.

The trigger *J* of the alarm-gear *i* is set by being placed on the end of the rod *K*, which is moved sideways when the yielding section B is trod upon by the burglar, thereby moving the rod *K* from under the trigger *o*, allowing it to drop, and thereby starting the alarm-gear *i*, which will cause the alarm to be given, indicating the presence of a burglar, whose weight will be given on the scale *m* and indicator *n*, which is operated by the rod *o* attached to the lever

P, which is operated by the depression of the section B of the floor A.

The presence of the burglar is telegraphed to a room or all the rooms of the house, or it may be telegraphed to a neighboring house, or to a police station or stations, by means of a telegraphing apparatus connected by wires 1, 2, 3, and 4, which are incased in the tube V, said wires being connected with the negative pole of the battery *t*, and the positive pole attached to the battery *t* and section B of the floor A, the depression of which brings the negative pole in contact with it, and thereby telegraphs the presence of the burglar to all parts with which the telegraph wires 1, 2, 3, and 4 may be connected.

The yielding section B is made operative and inoperative through the medium of the locking-device *w*, which is provided with a notch, 5, which, when raised up, as indicated by the dotted line 8, catches on the pin 6, and is held on the pin by means of a spring, 7.

The locking device *w* moves in a guide, 9, and to the lower end of it is attached a cord, *v*, which passes down through the floor A and under the pulley *u*, and connects with a lever, 10, attached to the wheel 11, the teeth of which gears into teeth of forked levers 12 and 13, which are used for the purpose of holding the section B in a fixed and unyielding position.

The wheel 11 is secured on the shaft 14, the lower end of which has its bearing in the pieces 15 and 16.

The levers 12 and 13 are held by the wheel 11 so that section B will yield, by the spiral spring 17 drawing on lever 10, and the levers 12 and 13 are held so that they will hold the section B in a fixed or locked position, with relation to the floor A, by the cord *v* drawing on lever 10, the cord holding the lever in the desired position by placing the locking-device *w* in the position indicated by the dotted lines 8.

The skillful mechanic will readily understand that the alarm may be sounded, the burglar spotted, weighed, and his presence telegraphed, all at one time, or either one or more of these indications given of his presence by simply attaching or detaching the parts specified, with relation to the section B or a yielding floor.

Having thus described the nature, construction, and operation of my improvement,

What I claim as of my invention is—

The combination of devices for weighing, for throwing liquid, and for telegraphing, when all are operated through the medium of the same yielding section of the floor, substantially as herein described.

JOHN McDOWELL.

Witnesses:

A. C. JOHNSTON,
JAMES J. JOHNSTON.