2 Sheets—Sheet 1

J. W. MEAKER.

Apparatus for Holding and Delivering Coin.

No. 219,287. **Patented Sept. 2, 1879.**

Fig 1.

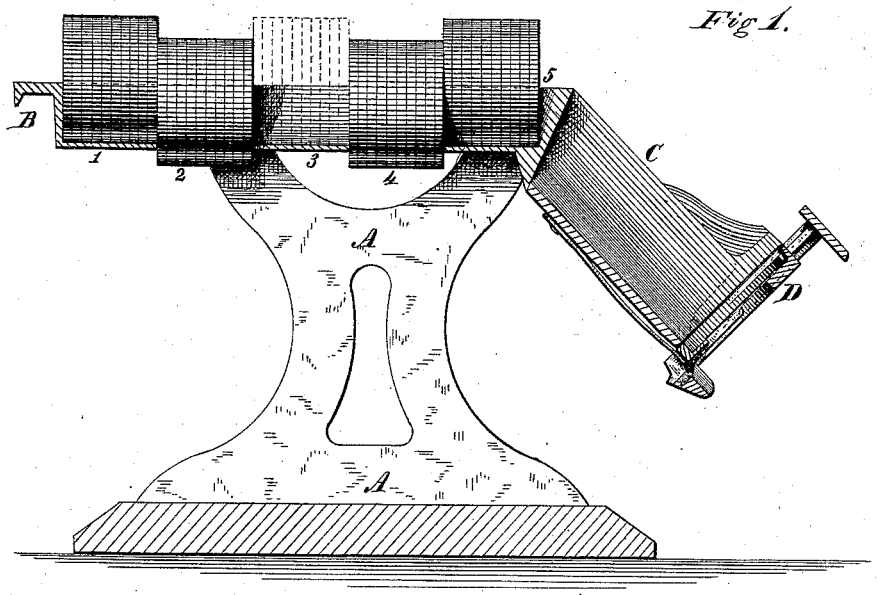


Fig 2.

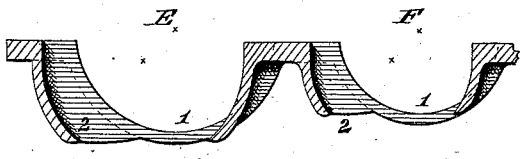
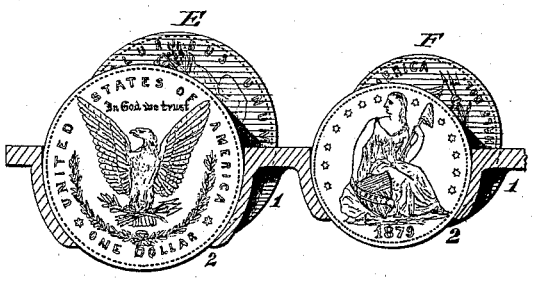


Fig 3.



Witnesses.

Harry King

J. H. Stansbury.

Inventor.

John W. Meaker,

By his Attorneys,

Stansbury & Munn

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

J. W. MEAKER.

Apparatus for Holding and Delivering Coin.

No. 219,287. **Patented Sept. 2, 1879.**

Fig 4.

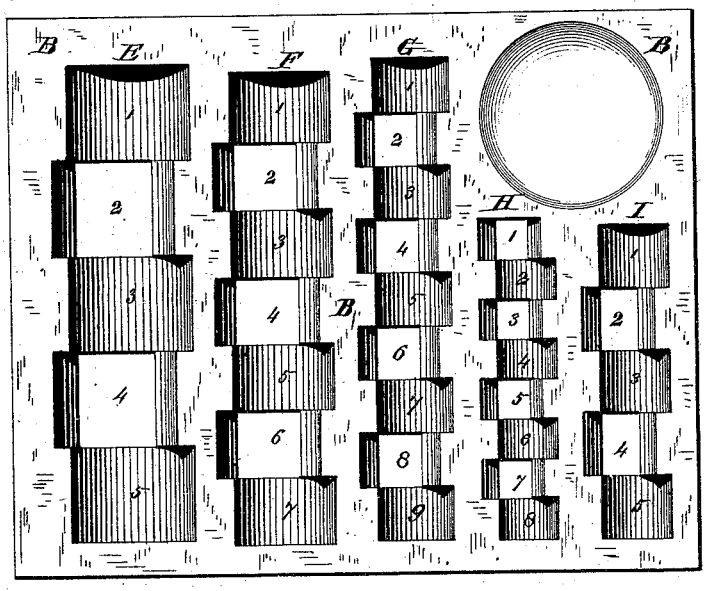


Fig 5.

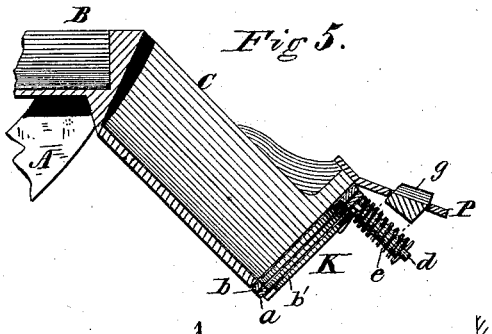


Fig 6.

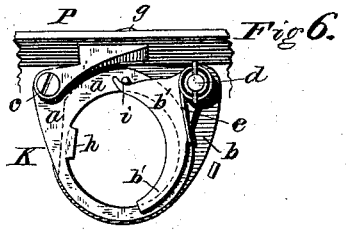


Fig 7.

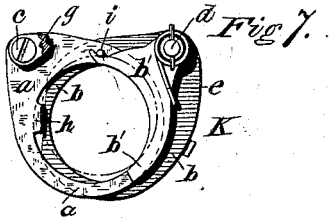


Fig 8

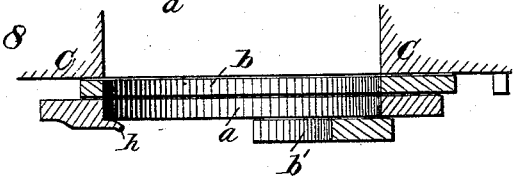
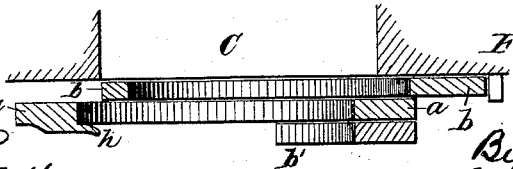


Fig 9.



Witnesses

Harry King.

I. H. Stansbury.

Inventor.

John W. Meaker.

By his Attorneys.

Stansbury & Munn

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. MEAKER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS HIS RIGHT TO HARVEY B. MERRELL, OF MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY, AND THOMAS FERGUSON, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR HOLDING AND DELIVERING COIN.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,287**, dated September 2, 1879; application filed July 29, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. MEAKER, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coin-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section of my improved machine. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of two contiguous troughs of the coin-tray. Fig. 3 is a similar section of the same part with the coins in place. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the tray. Fig. 5 is a vertical longitudinal section of the inclined trough. Fig. 6 is a front elevation of the improved gate closed. Fig. 7 is a similar view of the gate open. Fig. 8 is a section, on an enlarged scale, showing the position of the annular jaws when the gate is closed. Fig. 9 is a similar section of the same part, showing the jaws open.

The same part is marked by the same letter of reference wherever it occurs in the drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in the coin holding and delivering machines heretofore patented by me; and consists in a new construction of the tray, whereby the handling of the coin placed upon it is greatly facilitated, and in a new construction of the gate through which the coin passes from the inclined trough to the hand, whereby the last or bottom coin is allowed to drop freely, while the coin immediately above it is securely held in the trough, all as hereinafter more particularly set forth.

In the drawings, A marks the frame of the machine, on which the tray B is supported, and to which the inclined troughs C are attached. D, Fig. 1, indicates the old form of gate heretofore patented by me, and on which the present invention is an improvement.

My improvements in the tray B consist in dividing each of the coin-holding columns E F G H I into sections or compartments, 1 2 3 4 5, &c., capable of holding a given number of coins, each of which compartments is so placed that the horizontal axis of the coin contained in it will not coincide with that of the coin in the contiguous compartments of the same column, but be at some distance to one or the other side of those axes, as clearly shown in Fig. 4.

The contiguous compartments of each column not only differ in their axial lines, but in the depth to which they permit the coin to enter. This is clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3, where the solid bottom of compartment 1 is shown as on a higher level than the lowest point of the circular curve described by the continuation of the lines of the open bottom of compartment 2. The effect of this construction is shown in Figs. 1 and 3, where the coin held in each compartment is shown as on a different level from that in the adjoining compartments, and also to one side or the other, axially, of them. It results from this construction that the coin in each compartment can be conveniently removed or renewed without disturbing that on either side of it, while the facility of placing the coin in each column when loading the tray for use is in no respect impaired.

The inclined troughs C in this machine do not differ from those in my previously-patented machines; but the gate through which the coins pass from the trough to the hand is of an improved construction.

It consists of two annular jaws, *a b*, turning upon spindles *c d*, and forced inward to close the lower opening of the trough by the spiral spring *e*, coiled around spindle *d*. (See Figs. 5, 6, and 7.)

The inner and upper annular jaw has attached to and moving with it a curved arm, *b'*, whose inner face is at such a distance from the lower face of arm *b* as to permit the outer and lower annular jaw, *a*, to move freely between them. The jaw *a* has a dog, *h*, on one side, which co-operates with arm *b'* in supporting the lowermost coin in the trough, which

lies in the circular opening of jaw *a*. The coin next above the lowermost one lies in the circular opening of jaw *b*.

A thumb-lever, *g*, (see Fig. 6,) is fixed to jaw *a*, and projects up by its free end through a slot in plate P. By depressing this lever the jaws *a* and *b* are drawn apart, and the dog *h* and arm *b'* are removed from under the lowermost coin, which drops out of the machine. By the same movement the circular jaw *b* is moved to one side, and carries the coin lying in it to a position where it is supported by jaw *a*, and when the thumb-lever is released it drops into the lower ring back of the arm *b'* and the dog *h*, which unite in supporting it in the lowermost position ready to be discharged by the next depression of the thumb-lever *g*.

The jaws *a* and *b* are caused to operate together by the pin *i* in jaw *a*, against which bears the upper end of arm *b'*, as clearly shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

Having thus fully described my improvements, what I claim is—

1. The tray of a coin-machine, having the contiguous compartments of its coin-holding columns differing from each other in their horizontal and vertical planes, in the manner and for the purpose shown and described.

2. The gate of a coin-machine, consisting of the annular jaws *a b*, provided respectively with the dog *h* and arm *b'*, and operated by the thumb-lever *g* and spring *e*, all in the manner and for the purpose specified.

3. The combination, with the inclined trough of a coin-machine, of the annular jaw *a*, provided with the thumb-lever *g*, dog *h*, and pin *i*, and the annular jaw *b*, provided with the segmental arm *b'*, spindle *d*, and spring *e*, all constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. MEAKER.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. FERGUSON,

H. B. MUNN.