(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

B. LEWKOWITZ.

TRAY FOR FINGER RINGS.

No. 267,090. Patented Nov. 7, 1882.

Fig. 1

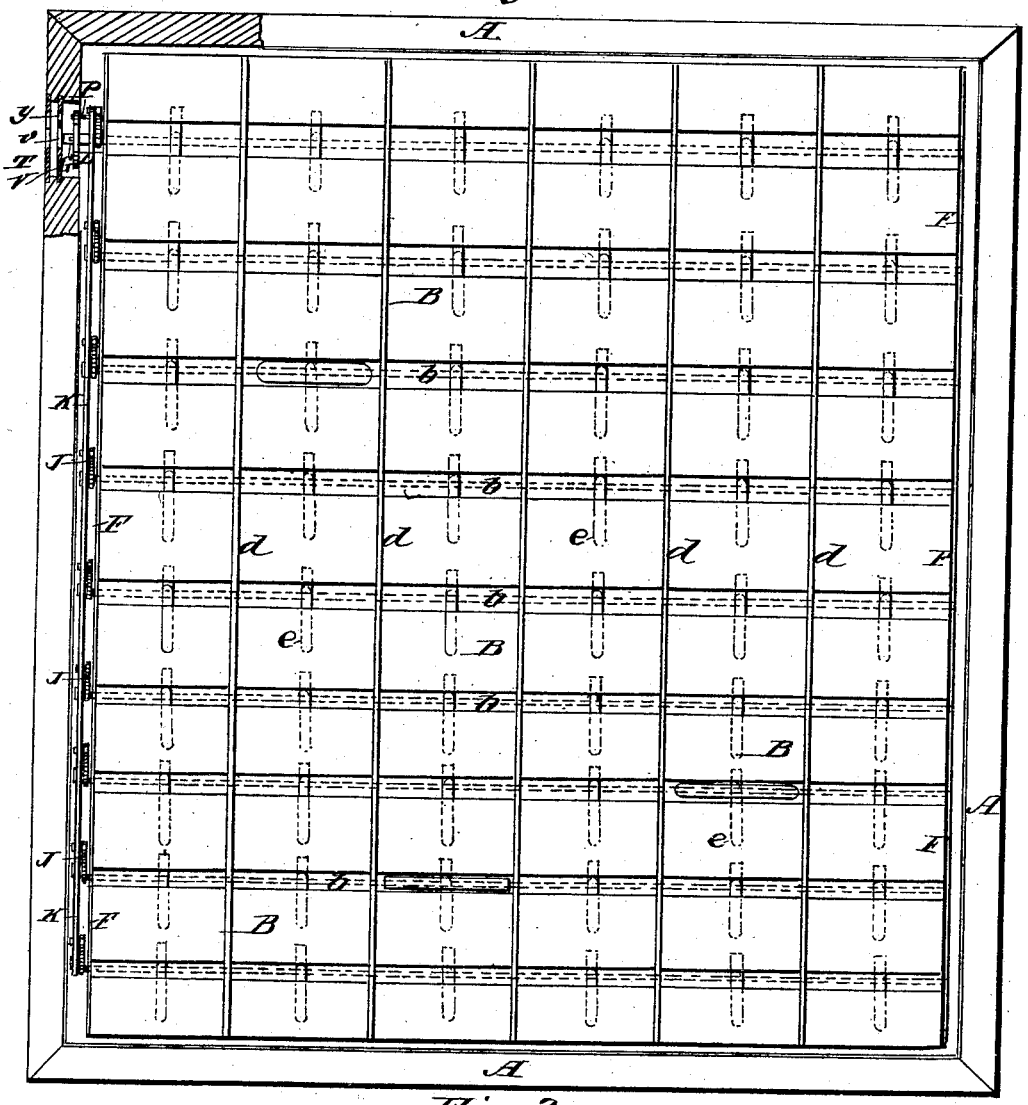

Fig. 3.

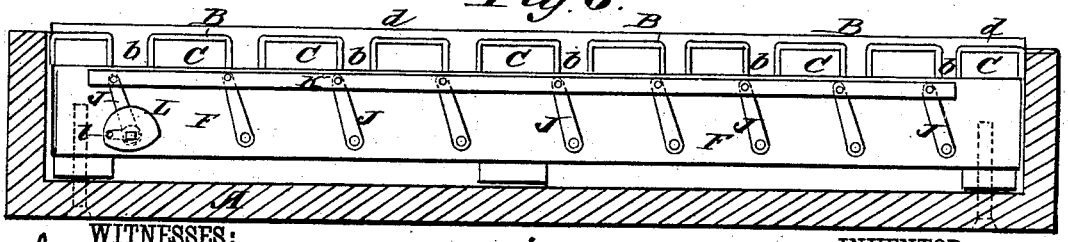

Fig. 5.

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INVENTOR:

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(Model.)

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B. LEWKOWITZ.

TRAY FOR FINGER RINGS.

No. 267,090. Patented Nov. 7, 1882.

Fig. 2.

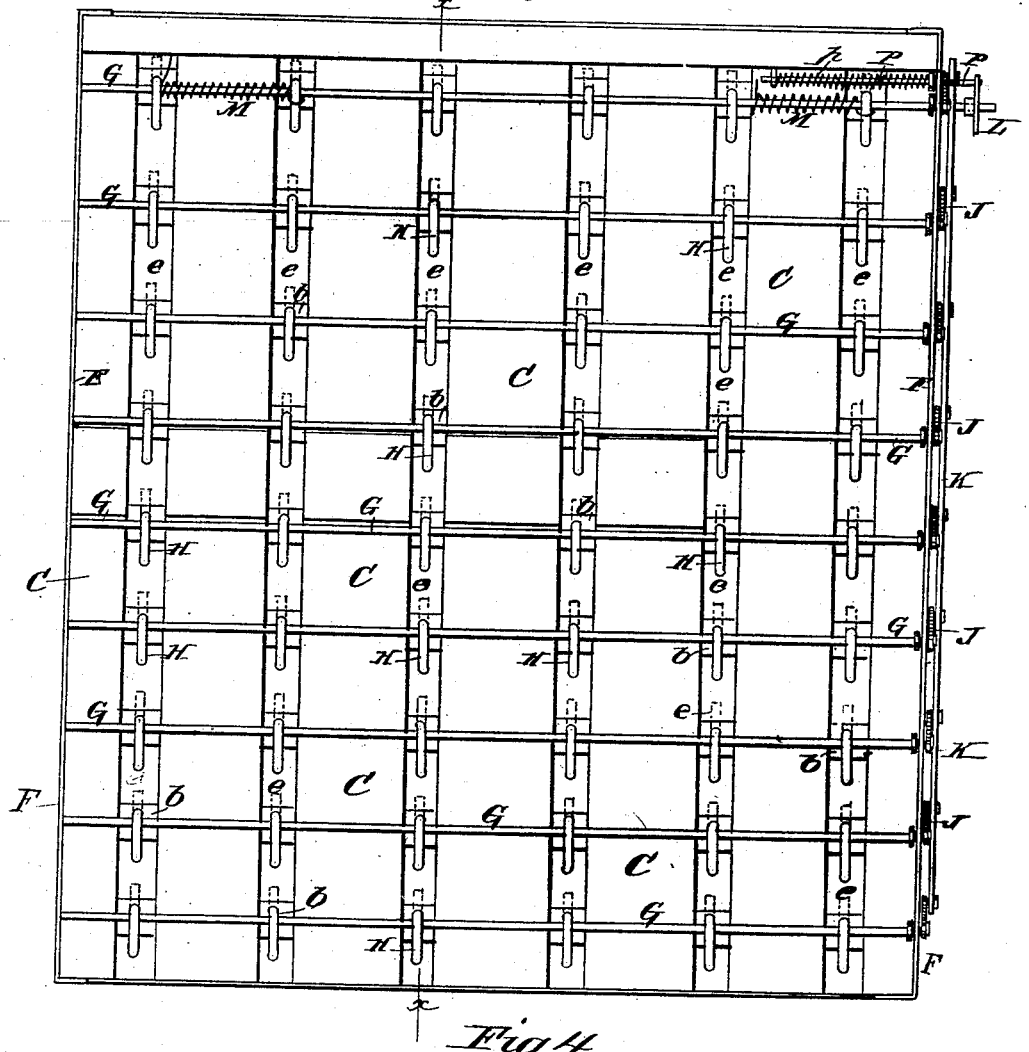

Fig. 4

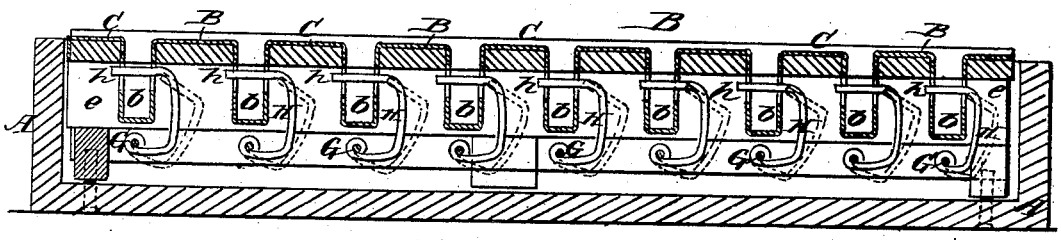

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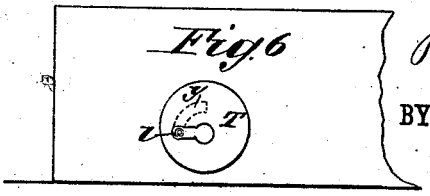
Fig. 6



INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN LEWKOWITZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TRAY FOR FINGER-RINGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 267,090, dated November 7, 1882.

Application filed June 23, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN LEWKOWITZ, a subject of the King of Prussia, and a resident of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trays for Holding Finger-Rings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to trays used by dealers in jewelry for displaying finger-rings for exhibition and examination. Such trays are provided with a series of cushions, separated by grooves, in which the rings are held and from which they may be readily removed; and it sometimes happens that a ring is surreptitiously removed from one part of the tray by a dishonest person while openly removing or examining another ring in another part of the tray. To prevent such surreptitious removal is the object of my invention; and to this end the invention consists in the combination of a series of axially-operating shafts, provided with bolts arranged to work transversely in the grooves between the cushions, so as to confine the rings therein; also, in the combination, with said shafts, of devices for locking the bolts in position to confine the rings, and for withdrawing them in order to remove a ring; and, further, in the combination, with said shafts, of devices for operating them simultaneously, as hereinafter more particularly described.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the mode of carrying out my invention.

Figure 1 is a top view, partly in section, of an apparatus embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of a series of cushions separate from the tray, in which they rest when in use. Fig. 3 is a side view of the apparatus with the tray in vertical section. Fig. 4 is a vertical section taken in the line *x x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a view of the key used for withdrawing the bolts, and Fig. 6 is a detail view of a device employed in connection with said key.

The tray A is of the usual or any suitable construction.

The cushions B are formed on a block, C, with grooves *b* between them for the reception of rings, and are covered with velvet, in the usual manner. They may also be divided into sections, of suitable dimensions to contain a ring in each section, by means of transverse partitions *d*. On the under side of the block C are grooves *e*, running at right angles to the grooves *b* between the cushions, and located about midway between the partitions *d* and parallel therewith. The grooves *e* are of such a depth as to intercept the grooves *b* at the center of each section and form horizontal openings for the play of the bolts, hereinafter described.

To the ends of the block C, where the cushions terminate, are attached metal bars F, the lower edges of which extend below the surface of the bottom of the block. In these bars are journaled the ends of a number of shafts, G, corresponding with the number of grooves *b* and located immediately under and parallel with them, and carrying the bolts H. Each bolt H is composed of a piece of wire, bent so as to form nearly a half-circle, with one end extended in a straight line, *h*, and the other end formed into an eye, which is passed around and rigidly attached to its carrying-shaft G. All the bolts are attached in the same position, so that the straight portions *h* will play in the openings formed by the intersection of the grooves *e* and *b*, as above referred to.

One end of each shaft G extends beyond the outer surface of the bar F, and has rigidly attached to it the lower end of an arm, J. These arms are all parallel with each other, and their upper ends are pivoted to a rod or bar, K, so that when said bar is reciprocated longitudinally it causes all the shafts G to rock and all the bolts H to oscillate simultaneously. In order to facilitate said simultaneous movement of the parts, one of the shafts G extends farther out than the others, and has attached to it a plate, L. When this plate is turned in one direction or the other the motion thus given to its shaft is communicated by the bar K and arms J to all the other shafts. When the bolts H are in the positions shown in full lines in Fig. 4 the straight portions *h* pass through the rings which are in the grooves *b*, and thus prevent them from being removed. When the bolts are moved to the positions shown in dotted lines in said figure they are withdrawn from the grooves *b*, so as to allow the rings to be removed.

The operating-shaft G is provided with a spring or springs, M, the action of which causes

the bolts to resume their position in the grooves after having been turned back and then released; and in order to lock them in such position, a sliding pin, P, working in bearings under the block C, and actuated by a spring, *p*, engages with a hole, *l*, in the plate L, and prevents it from being turned, except as will now be described.

For operating the parts above described a key, R, (shown in Fig. 5,) may be employed. The barrel of the key is squared, and engages with the squared end of the operating-shaft G, which projects beyond the plate L. The key is provided with a pin, *s*, parallel with the barrel and projecting slightly beyond the end thereof. When the key is applied to the shaft the pin *s* forces back the sliding pin P and enters the hole *l* in its stead, so that the plate and shaft may be turned in order to move the other parts, as described. When the key is withdrawn the sliding pin P again engages with the hole *l*, as before. The apparatus is placed in the tray A so that the plate L and its shaft G are opposite a key-hole plate, T, on the outside of the tray. Between this key-hole plate and the plate L, in a recess in the side of the tray, is a fixed plate, V, provided with a central hole, *v*, and an arc-shaped slot, *y*. The central hole, *v*, permits the passage of the barrel of the key, and the slot *y* permits the passage of the pin *s*, and also limits the motion of the key to about a quarter of a circle, so that it cannot be turned too far in either direction.

If desired, instead of having the bolt-carrying shafts G connected so as to operate simultaneously, as above described, each shaft may be arranged to operate independently of the others.

Among the advantages of my invention are the following: It not only prevents rings from being stolen, but also prevents the extraction of a genuine ring and the substitution therefor of a spurious or inferior one. It prevents the rings from being soiled by too much handling, which otherwise would happen in cases where an actual purchaser is accompanied by friends who examine and inspect the various rings in the tray. It prevents the rings from dropping out of place in case of the upsetting of the tray, and thus prevents them from being lost or injured.

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

1. In a tray for holding finger-rings, the combination of a series of shafts carrying bolts adapted to be operated by them, a series of arms attached to said shafts, and a connecting rod or bar having said arms pivoted thereto, whereby all of said bolts may be operated simultaneously, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination, with the shafts, G, carrying bolts adapted to be operated by them, the arms J, connecting rod or bar K, and plate L, of the springs M, for retracting all of said shafts simultaneously, as herein shown and described.

3. The combination, with the plate L, provided with the hole *l* and carried by the shaft G, of the sliding pin P, substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

4. The combination, with the plate L, having the hole *l*, and the pin P, engaging with said plate, of the key R, provided with the pin *s*, substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

5. The combination, with the key R, having the pin *s*, of the plate V, having the central hole, *v*, and arc-shaped slot *y*, substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

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Witnesses:
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