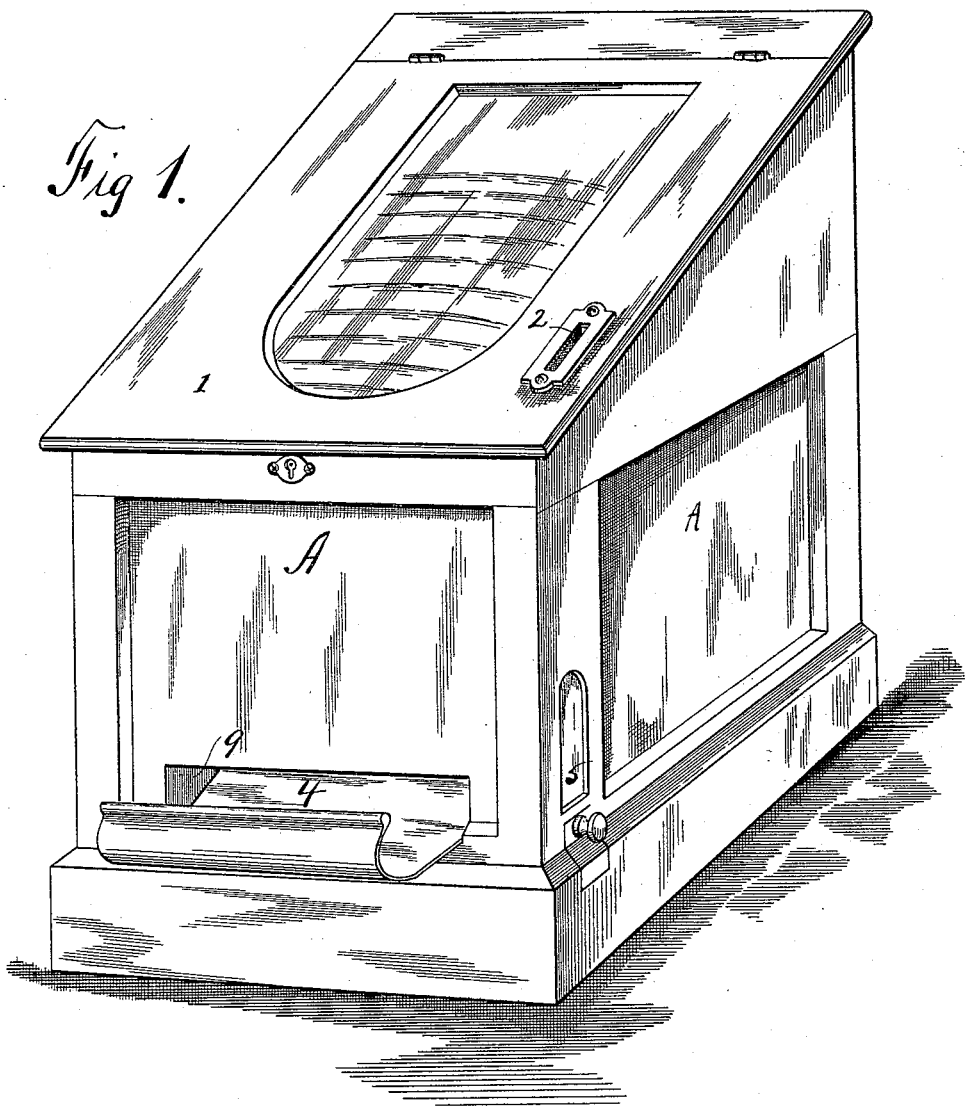
(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. BENNETT.

COIN CONTROLLED VENDING MACHINE.

No. 492,756. Patented Feb. 28, 1893.

Fig 1.



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(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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COIN CONTROLLED VENDING MACHINE.

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Fig. 2.

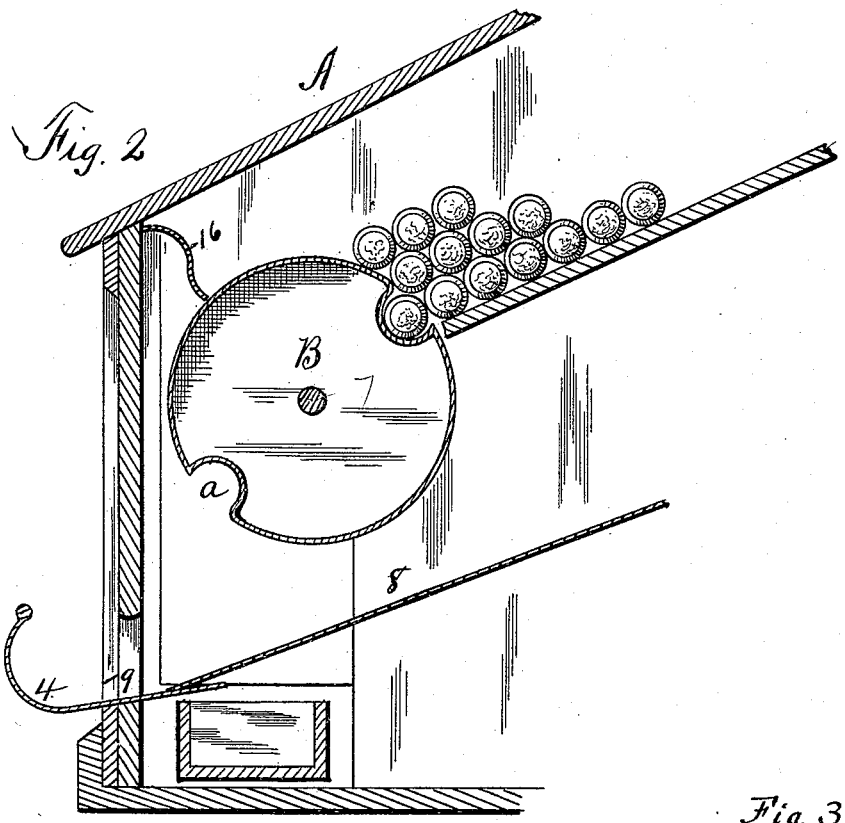

Fig. 3.

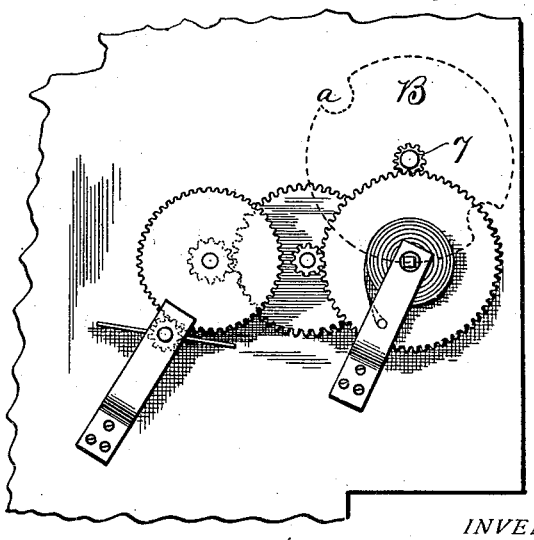

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Fig. 4

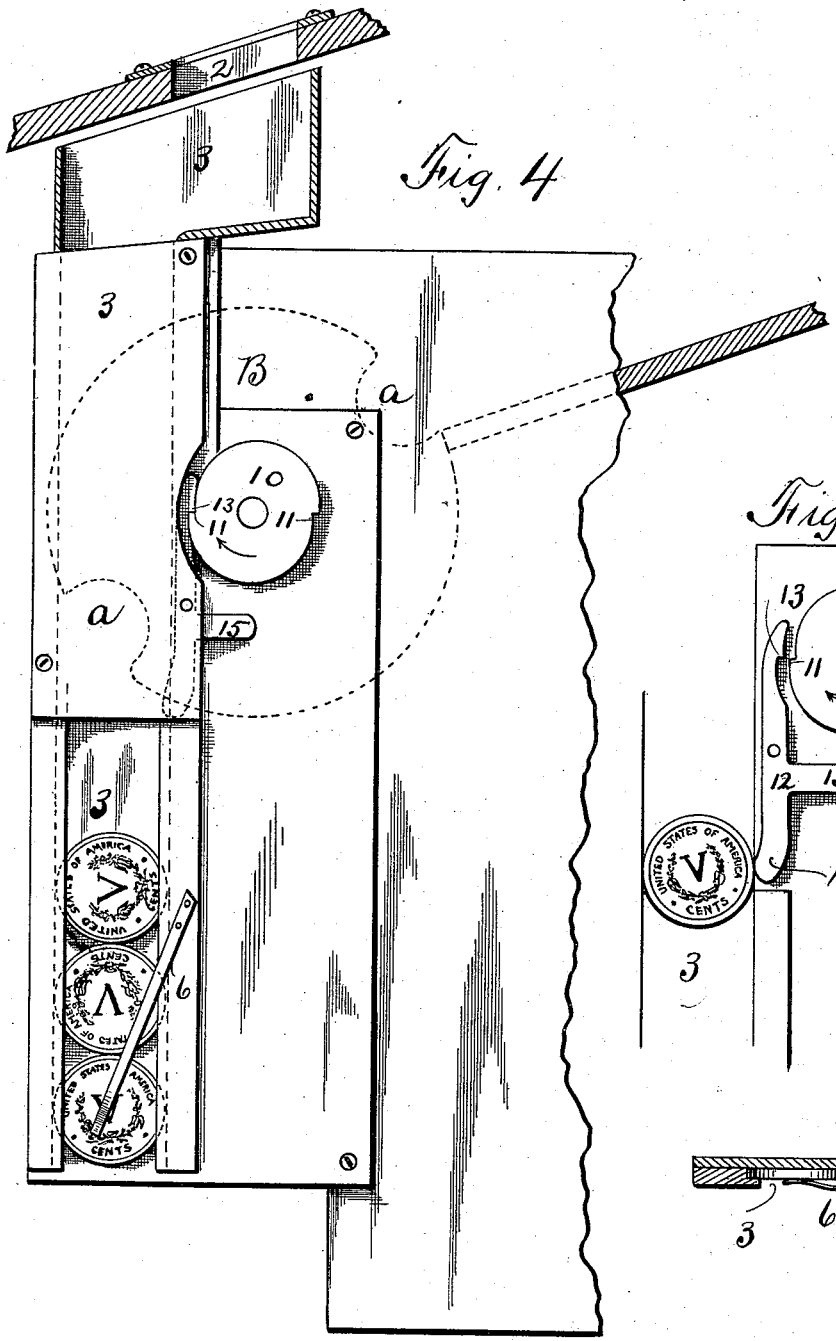


Fig. 5

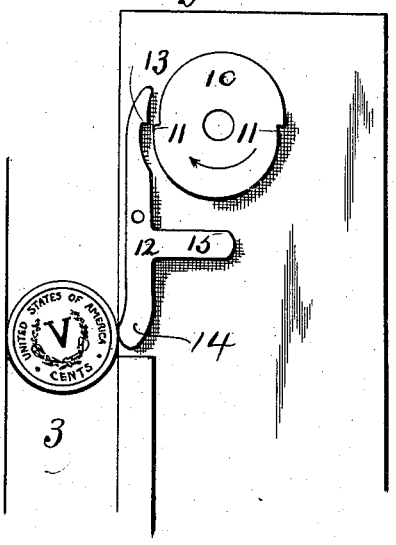
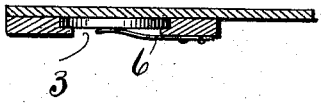


Fig 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIS BENNETT, OF PARISH, ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES H. SPRAGUE AND JAMES L. NEWTON, OF WATERTOWN, NEW YORK.

COIN-CONTROLLED VENDING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 492,756, dated February 28, 1893.

Application filed June 13, 1892. Serial No. 436,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIS BENNETT, of Parish, in the county of Oswego, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Coin-Controlled Vending-Machines, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates, generally, to that class of machines known as coin controlled vending machines, for different articles of merchandise, which operates or is released or unlocked for operation by the deposit of a coin of a particular size and weight in the slot. And this invention relates particularly to that class which is adapted to rotate a cylinder provided with suitable recesses therein, for receiving the goods, for the purpose of delivering cigars or other articles of merchandise.

My object is to produce such a device in which a coin is used to release a spring mechanism for the purpose of unlocking a cylinder, thereby allowing the cylinder to be rotated by a motor or other mechanism, for the purpose of delivering the article of merchandise, and adapted to be stopped when such rotation is complete.

My invention consists in the several novel features of construction and operation hereinafter described and which are specifically set forth in the claims hereto annexed. It is constructed as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1, is an isometrical elevation of the exterior of my vending machine, complete. Fig. 2, is a vertical section through the front end of the machine, showing the delivering cylinder and cigars in position ready for operation. Fig. 3, is a view of a spring motor which is secured to one end of the machine and connected to the cylinder adapted to rotate said cylinder when unlocked. Fig. 4, is a view of the end of the machine showing the coin chute enlarged and the releasing mechanism in dotted lines. Fig. 5, is an enlarged detail of the releasing mechanism, showing a coin just as it strikes the point of the lever to release the cylinder. Fig. 6, is a cross section of the coin chute showing the coin therein, and means for momentarily retaining the coin.

Similar letters and figures of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A—, is the case of a vending machine, constructed in any form desired, preferably, however, rectangular, and having a cover —1— which may be of any fanciful design and provided with a coin slotway —2— opening into the upper end of the chute —3— within the case.

4—, is an apron at the front lower edge of the case, adapted to receive the article of merchandise after it has been thrown out.

5—, is an opening within the case opposite the coin chute and is protected from the outside by wire gauze or transparent glass, so that the coin may be readily observed from the outside.

The lower end of the coin chute is provided with a strap spring —6— extending downwardly and having its lower end bent inwardly for the purpose of engaging with one of the faces of the coins and exerts sufficient tension to retain it until a sufficient number of coins have been collected above it to force it down through into the receptacle in the base of the case. The object of this is for the purpose of momentarily retaining each coin exposed to view, from without, so that the nature of the coin may be readily observed, thereby preventing spurious coins from being inserted.

B—, is a cylinder mounted and adapted to rotate and is provided with longitudinal recesses —*a*— in its periphery of sufficient size to adapt it to receive a unit of the article of merchandise to which it is applied. To the end of the cylinder, opposite the coin chute is connected to a spring motor mechanism of any convenient size, form or design one being shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, its object being to at all times produce a tension for the purpose of rotating said cylinder by engaging with the pinion —7— thereon, so that when the cylinder is released by the mechanism, hereinafter described, it will rotate, throwing out one of the cigars onto the incline —8—, whence it will roll down through the slotway —9— at the front of the cabinet or case on to the apron —4—, where it is delivered. Upon the end of the axis of the cylinder, adjacent to the chute, I rigidly secure a plate or wheel —10—, having lugs or shoul-

ders —11— in its periphery, in number to correspond with the longitudinal recesses in the cylinder.

At the inner edge of the coin chute and between it and the wheel —10— I pivot a lever —12,— providing its upper end with a notch, arm or lug —13— adapted to engage with the recesses, arms or lugs —11— upon the wheel —10—. The lower end of said lever extends downwardly or into the pathway of the coin chute, as at —14—.

15—, is an arm extending from the opposite side of the lever —12— for the purpose of giving it weight to normally keep the end —14— within the coin pathway, and for the further purpose of keeping the upper end of the lever in engagement with the wheel —10—, thereby locking the cylinder.

My invention is operated as follows: A coin is first inserted into the slotway —2— through which it passes down into the coin chute —3—, then drops down until it strikes the arm —14—, forcing it back throwing the arm —13— out of engagement with the recess or shoulder —11—, and causing the spring motor upon the opposite end of the cylinder to rotate it. As soon as the cylinder is unlocked, the coin drops down until it comes into engagement with the strap spring —6— where it is held until a sufficient weight of other coins have accumulated, before it forces it down into the coin receptacle. As soon as the coin passes below the arm —14—, the lower end of the lever —12— is again sprung into the pathway of the coin chute and the upper end —13— again comes into engagement with the shoulders or recesses —11— and locks the cylinder, until it is again unlocked by the insertion of another coin.

In Fig. 2, —16— is a plate having one edge secured to the casing and the other edge contiguous to the periphery of the cylinder —B—, and of substantially the same length, and this plate prevents the articles from rolling or passing over said periphery to the front of the casing, and either lodging between said front and said wheel or dropping down through between them onto the discharge-incline —8—, as might happen when the rear of the machine is raised.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A coin vending machine comprising a casing, a delivery cylinder mounted thereon and provided with pockets, and means to rotate it, and a ratchet wheel upon one end thereof, in combination with a counterbalanced pawl normally in engagement with said ratchet, and having an arm normally projecting into the coin chute, and with which the coin engages in its transit through the chute to depress said arm and release said pawl from said ratchet, a coin chute, an opening through the side thereof and through the casing, through which the coin can be inspected, and means to detain the coin for inspection.

2. A coin vending machine comprising a casing, a delivery cylinder mounted therein and provided with pockets, and means to rotate it and a ratchet wheel upon one end thereof, in combination with a counterbalance pawl normally in engagement with said ratchet, and having an arm projecting into the coin chute, and with which the coin engages in its transit through the chute to depress said arm and release said pawl from said ratchet, a coin chute, an opening through the side thereof and through the casing, through which the coin can be inspected, and means to detain the coin for inspection, and a plate above said cylinder having an edge contiguous thereto, substantially as described, for the purposes set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 2d day of May, 1892.

WILLIS BENNETT.

In presence of—
IRVING G. HUBBS,
GEORGE WINES.