(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

I. J. BARNES.

BANK FIXTURE.

No. 561,753. Patented June 9, 1896.

Fig. 1.

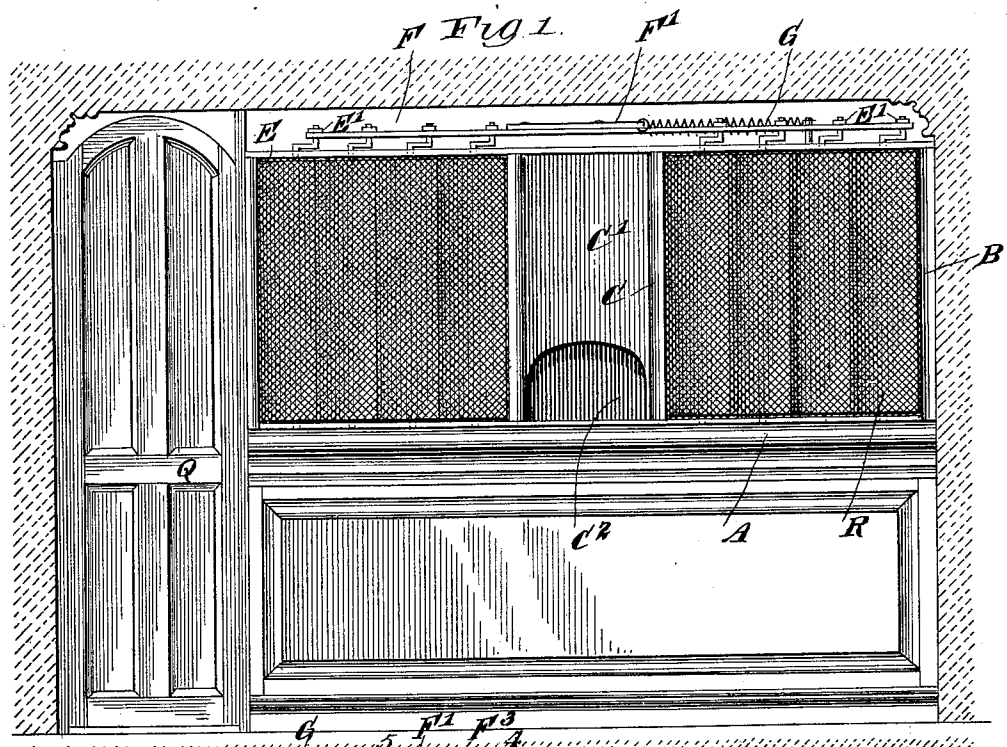

Fig. 2.

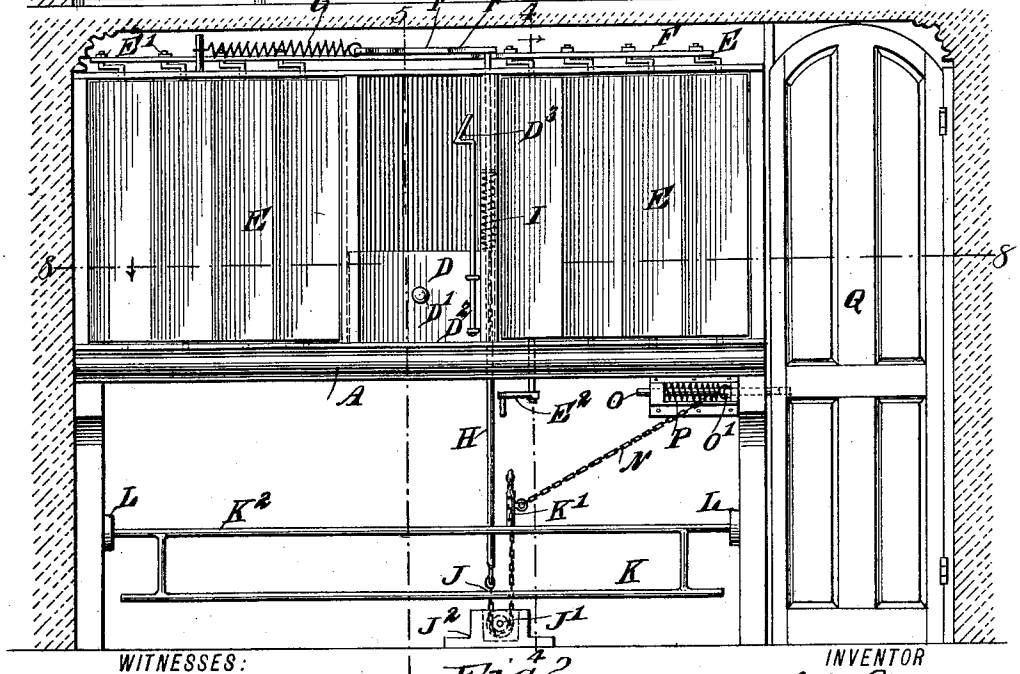

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Fig 3.

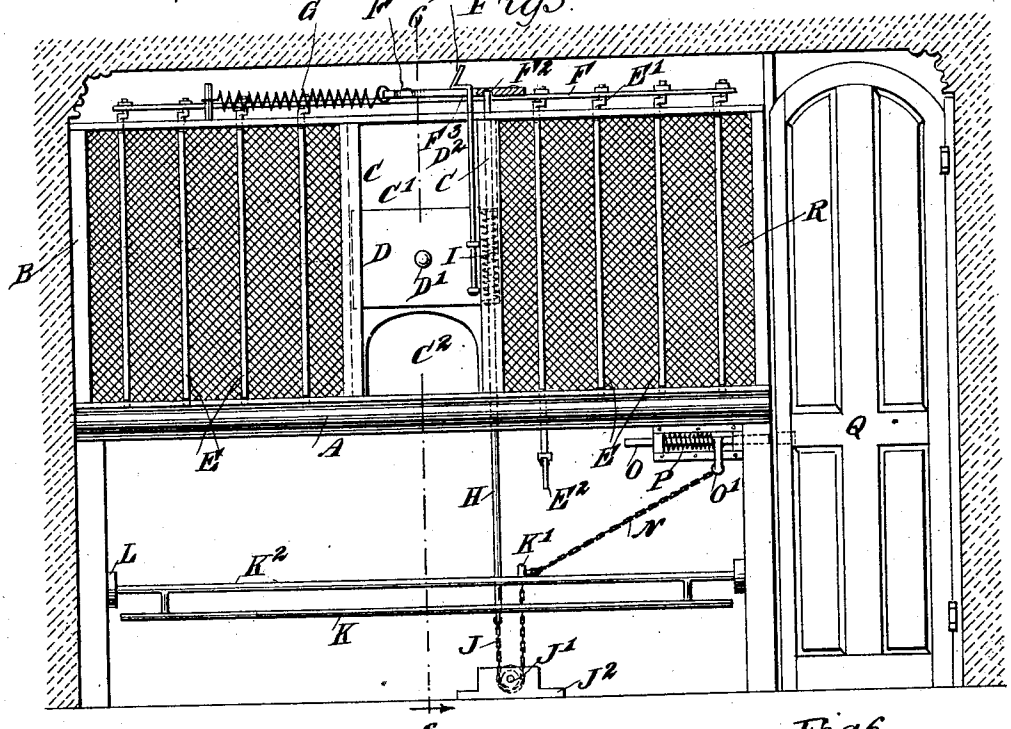


Fig 4.

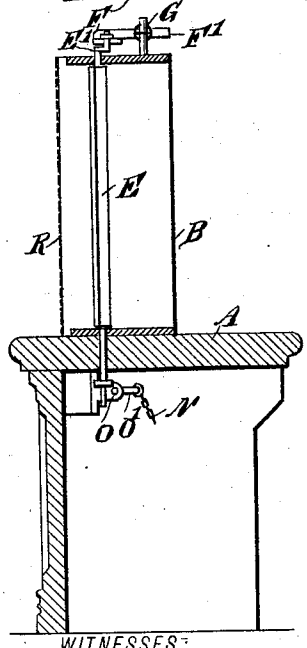


Fig 5.

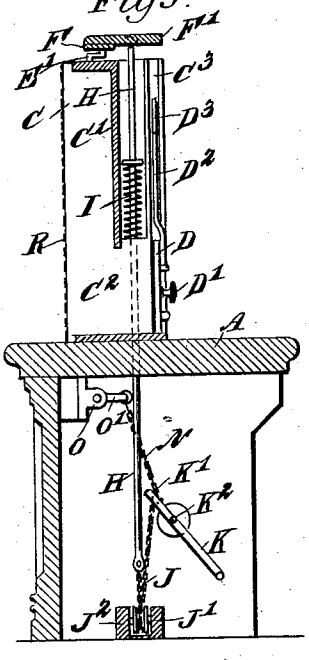
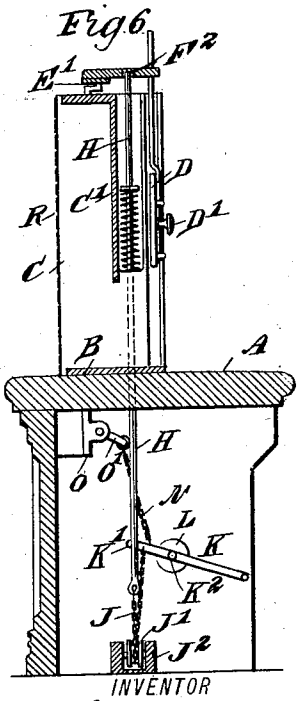


Fig 6.



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(No Model.) 3 Sheets—Sheet 3.

I. J. BARNES.

BANK FIXTURE.

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Fig 7.

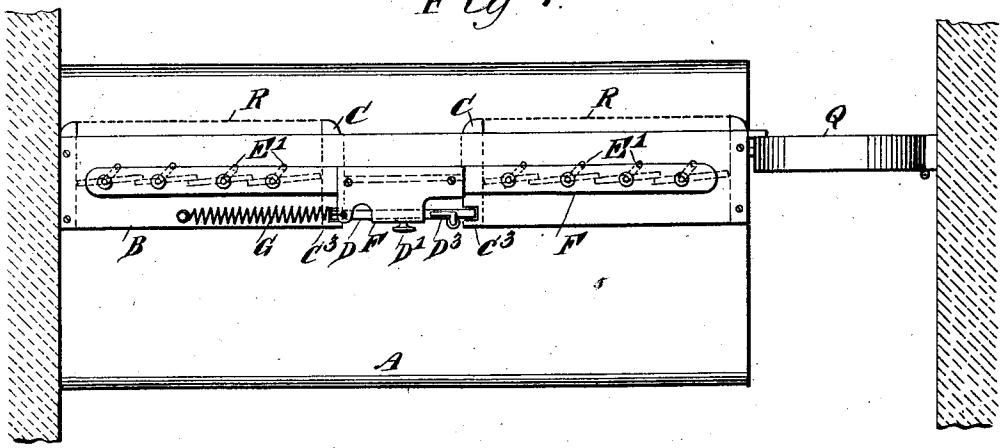


Fig 8.

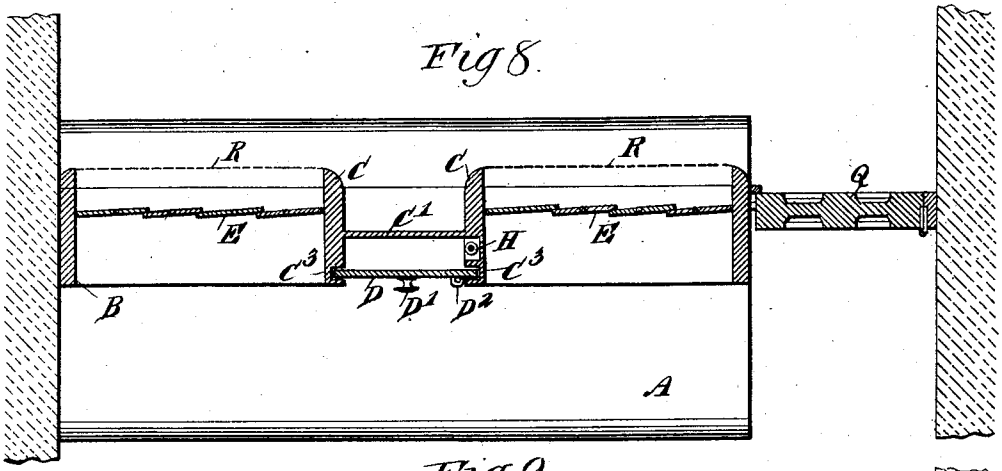
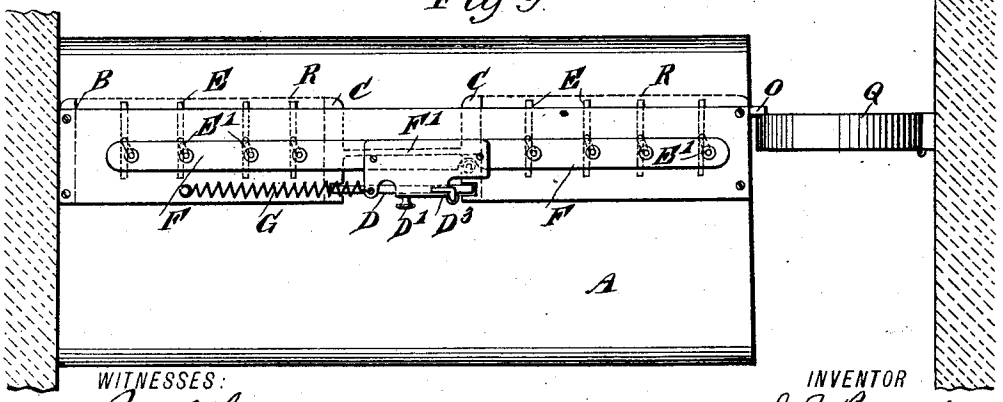


Fig 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISHMAEL JAY BARNES, OF DECATUR, IOWA.

BANK-FIXTURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 561,753, dated June 9, 1896.

Application filed October 12, 1895. Serial No. 565,470. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISHMAEL JAY BARNES, of Decatur, in the county of Decatur and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Bank-Fixture, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved bank-fixture which is simple and durable in construction and arranged to enable the cashier or other official to protect himself and the money in his charge against burglars and thieves during business hours.

The invention consists of certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be fully described hereinafter, and then pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the improvement, showing the slats and the cashier's window closed. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a like view of the same with the slats and the cashier's window open. Fig. 4 is a cross-section of the same on the line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a similar view of the same on the line 5 5 of Fig. 2. Fig. 6 is a like view of the same on the line 6 6 of Fig. 3. Fig. 7 is a plan view of the improvements with the slats in a closed position. Fig. 8 is a sectional plan view of the same on the line 8 8 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 9 is a plan view of the improvement with the slats in an open position.

On top of the cashier's desk A in a bank is arranged an open framework B, provided at or near its middle with two posts C, connected with each other at the front by a plate C′, preferably made of sheet metal, and leaving an opening above the desk between the posts to form the cashier's window or opening C^2, through which money is taken in and paid out. This opening C^2 is adapted to be closed by a door D, fitted to slide vertically in guideways C^3, formed on the inside of the posts C.

In the space between the end posts of the open frame B and the posts C are arranged slats E, journaled at their upper and lower ends in suitable bearings in the top and bottom bars of the open frame B. The slats E, when in a closed position, overlap one another, as is plainly illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 7, and 8, so as to completely close the open frame on both sides of the posts C. The upper pivot ends of the slats E extend above the top plate of the frame B and are provided with crank-arms E′, engaging a bar F, provided at or near its middle with a projection F′, connected with a spring G, secured on the top plate of the frame B. This spring G, by drawing on the bar F, causes a sudden closing of the slats E whenever the said bar F is unlocked by the bolt H, fitted to slide vertically in one of the posts and engaging an aperture or recess F^2 in the under side of the projection F′. (See Figs. 3 and 6.)

The bolt H is held in an uppermost position and in engagement with the recess F^2 by a spring I, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6, the lower end of the bolt H extending below the desk or table A to connect with a chain J, passing under a pulley J′, journaled in a block J^2, secured to the floor. The chain J then extends upward from the pulley J′ to connect with an arm K′ of a lever K, fulcrumed at K^2 in bearings L, attached to the sides of the desk A, as is plainly illustrated in the drawings. Now it will be seen that when the bolt H engages the recess F^2 it holds the slats in an open position, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, 6, and 9, and the operator, by pressing with his foot on the projection K, exerts a pull on the chain J, so that the bolt H is drawn downward against the tension of the spring I and out of engagement with the recess F^2. The moment this takes place the spring G exerts its pull on the bar F to move the latter to the left, and as the said bar engages the crank-arms E′ the latter are turned and the slats E are moved into a closed position. The slats and drop-door constitute a shield which the cashier can throw between himself and a burglar.

The door D is provided with a knob D′ and with an upwardly-extending arm D^2, formed in its top with a catch D^3, adapted to engage a shoulder F^3 on the projection F′ whenever the latter is in the position shown in Fig. 3—that is, when the slats E are open. By this arrangement the door D is supported in an uppermost position—that is, above the opening C^2—and when the bolt H is pulled down-

ward, as previously explained, the bar F slides to the left, and then the shoulder F^3 moves from under the catch D^3, and consequently removes the support for the door D, and the latter now drops by its own weight to close the opening C^2. Thus at the same time that the slats E are closed the opening C^2 is closed by the door D.

From the arm K′ of the lever K extends a chain N to an arm O′ of a door-bolt O, fitted to slide in a suitable casing underneath the table or desk A, at one side thereof, as is plainly shown in Fig. 3. The bolt O is pressed on by a spring P and is adapted to engage a keeper in the door Q, forming the entrance to the interior of the bank. Now when the several parts are in the position shown in Fig. 3 then the bolt O is withdrawn and held in this position by the chain N, connected with the arm K′; but when the operator presses the said lever K, as previously explained, then the chain N permits the bolt O to shoot outward to engage the keeper in the door Q, so as to lock the latter. Now it is readily understood that should a burglar or thief ask the cashier to throw up his hands the cashier would still be enabled to actuate the lever K with his foot, so as to cause a sudden closing of the slats E, as well as to lock the door Q, (assuming the door to be closed,) to prevent the burglar from harming the cashier and from taking the money or other valuables on the table A in the rear of the frame B.

A wire-netting R extends over the front of the frame B to prevent the burglar from reaching in between the slats before they are closed.

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

1. A bank-fixture, comprising a series of slats journaled in an open frame, a bar connected with the said slats to open and close the same, a spring pressing on the said bar, a locking device engaging the said bar and adapted to normally hold the same in position when the slats are open, and a drop-door provided with a catch adapted to engage a shoulder on the said bar, to support the door in an uppermost position and to permit the door to drop when the bar slides to close the slats, substantially as shown and described.

2. A bank-fixture, comprising a series of slats journaled in an open frame, a bar connected with the said slats to open and close the same, a spring pressing on said bar, a locking device engaging said bar and adapted to normally hold the same in position when the slats are open, a drop-door provided with a catch adapted to engage a shoulder on the said bar, to support said door in an uppermost position and to permit the door to drop when the bar slides to close the slats, and means, substantially as described, for actuating the said locking device, as set forth.

3. A bank-fixture, comprising a series of slats, journaled in an open frame, a bar connected with the said slats to open and close the same, a spring pressing on the said bar, a locking device engaging the said bar and adapted to normally hold the same in position when the slats are open, a drop-door provided with a catch adapted to engage a shoulder on the said bar, to support said door in an uppermost position and to permit the door to drop when the bar slides to close the slats, means, substantially as described, for actuating the said locking device, and a bolt controlled from the said means and adapted to lock the entrance-door, as set forth.

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Witnesses:
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A. S. MILLSAP.