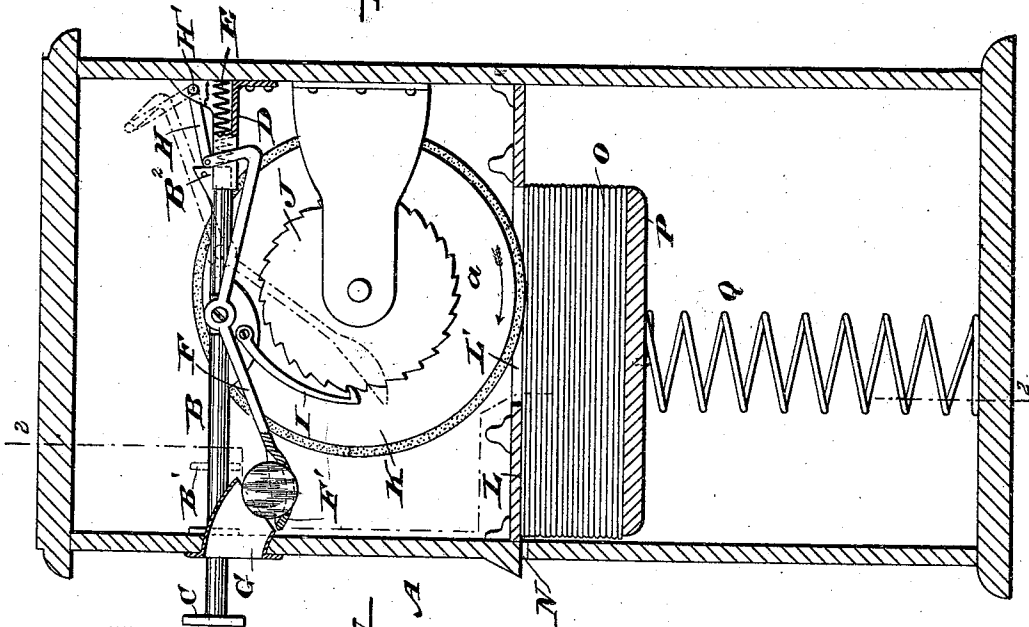
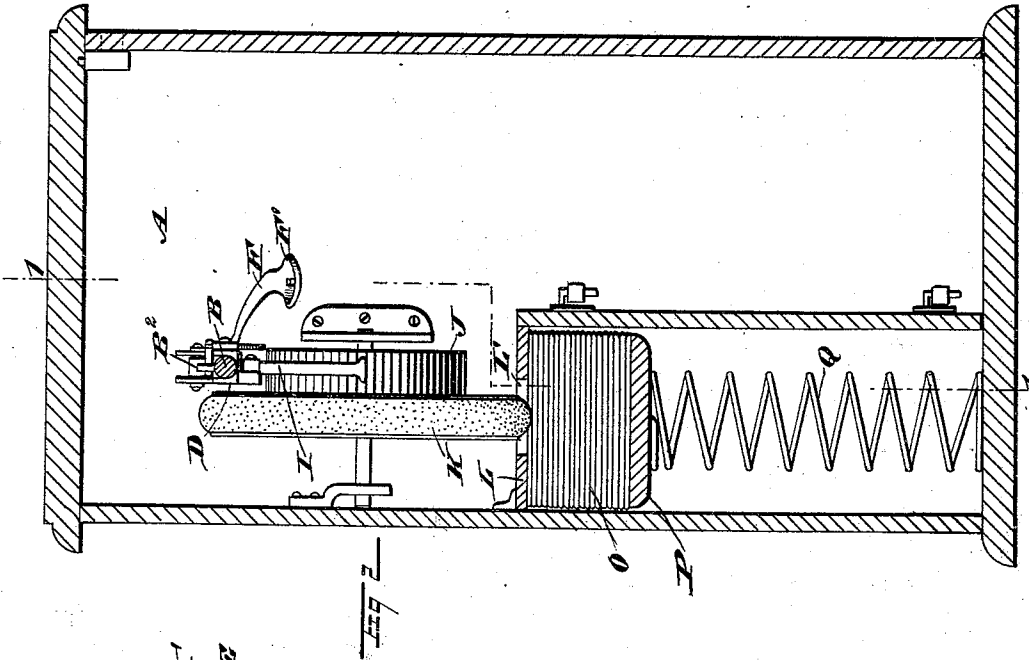


(No Model.)

G. A. WELLER.
VENDING MACHINE.

No. 479,688.

Patented July 26, 1892.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAVUS A. WELLER, OF LA SALLE, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
CHARLES L. DIESTERWEG, OF SAME PLACE.

VENDING-MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 479,688, dated July 26, 1892.

Application filed May 24, 1892. Serial No. 434,162. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAVUS A. WELLER, of La Salle, in the county of La Salle and State of Illinois, have invented a new and improved Vending-Machine, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to coin-operated vending-machines; and its object is to provide a new and improved machine which is simple and durable in construction, very accurate and automatic in operation, and more especially designed for selling envelopes, postage-stamps, and the like.

The invention consists of a spring-pressed bar carrying the coin-holding lever and a locking-arm pivotally connected with the said lever and adapted to lock the said bar in place.

The invention also consists of certain parts and details and combinations of the same, as will be hereinafter described, 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 letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a transverse section of the improvement on the line 1 1 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 2 is a sectional front view of the same on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1.

The improved vending-machine is provided with a suitably-constructed casing A, in which is fitted to slide transversely a bar B, extending beyond the front of the casing A and carrying at its outer end a button C for conveniently pushing the bar. The inner end of the latter is fitted to slide in a bracket D, attached to the back of the casing A, and on this bracket is arranged a spring E, pressing against the end of the bar B, so as to hold the latter normally in an outermost position, the outward movement of the bar being limited by a stop-pin B', adapted to rest against the inner surface of the front of the casing A.

On one side of the bar B within the casing A is fulcrumed a lever F, formed at its front end with a spoon F', adapted to receive the coin introduced through a chute G, held in the front of the casing A and leading to the said spoon F'. The rear end of the lever F is pivotally connected with an arm H, fulcrumed

at H' on the bracket D, the said arm being adapted to abut against a lug B², formed on top of the rear end of the bar B.

When the arm H is in a normal position, as shown in Fig. 1, then the said arm is inclined downwardly to bring its pivot H' slightly above the pivot connecting the lever F with the arm H. When the latter is in this position, it securely locks the bar B, so as to prevent the latter from being pushed inward until a coin is introduced, as hereinafter more fully described.

On the bar B is fulcrumed a pawl I, adapted to engage a ratchet-wheel J, secured on one side of a wheel K, journaled in suitable bearings arranged within the casing A. The rim of the wheel K is preferably faced with rubber or other flexible material, the bottom of the wheel extending through a slot L', formed in a plate L, held within the casing A. The under side of this plate L is flush with a slot N, formed in the front of the casing and through which the envelopes are passed one at a time from within the casing A when the machine is operated, as hereinafter more fully described.

The envelopes O or other articles to be sold are placed one on top of the other and are supported on a plate P, pressed on the under side by a spring Q, resting on the bottom or base of the casing A. The envelopes or other articles to be sold are thus held between the two plates L and P in such a manner that the top envelope is always engaged by the rim of the wheel K, so that when the latter is rotated in the direction of the arrow a' (see Fig. 1) the top envelope or article is pushed forward and out through the slot N in the front of the casing A to be taken hold of by the operator and pulled entirely out of the casing.

The operation is as follows: When the several parts are in a normal position, as shown in Fig. 1, then the spoon F' of the lever F is in close proximity to the inner end of the chute G, so that when a coin is introduced in the latter it passes onto the spoon F', thereby overbalancing the rear end of the lever F, so that the front end of the latter swings downward and the rear end upward, carrying along the arm H until the parts mentioned are in

the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1—that is, the locking-arm H is moved away from the lug B² of the bar B, so as to free the latter. The operator now pushes on the button C to move the bar B inward, whereby the jerk given to the bar B causes the displacement of the coin on the downwardly-extending spoon F' of the lever F, so that the coin falls off the spoon and the lever F is free to swing back.

At the inward movement of the bar B the pawl I causes the ratchet-wheel J and the wheel K to rotate in the direction of the arrow α' , whereby the uppermost envelope or other article is pushed forward to extend partly through the slot N, the outer end of the envelope or article being then taken hold of by the operator for final removal from the casing A. As soon as the operator releases the pressure on the bar B the spring E forces the latter back to its normal position. At the same time the arm H swings down to its normal position behind the lug B², thus locking the lever B in place. The latter cannot then be pushed inward until a new coin is introduced through the slot G to disengage the arm H from the lug B², as above described.

It will be seen that but a few parts comprise the entire apparatus, which is thus not liable to get easily out of order. It will further be seen that on the return movement of the bar B the free end of the pawl I glides over the teeth of the ratchet-wheel J, so that the latter remains at a standstill during the return movement of the said bar.

The entire apparatus is very simple and durable in construction and positive in its movements.

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

1. A vending-machine comprising a spring-pressed bar, a coin-holding lever fulcrumed on the said bar, and a locking-arm pivotally connected with the said lever and adapted to engage the said bar to lock the latter in place, substantially as shown and described.

2. A vending-machine comprising a spring-pressed bar, a coin-holding lever fulcrumed on the said bar, a locking-arm pivotally connected with the said lever and adapted to en-

gage the said bar to lock the latter in place, and a coin-chute opening on the spoon end of the said lever, so that when the coin passes on the latter the arm H disengages the said bar to unlock the latter, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a vending-machine, the combination, with a wheel mounted to revolve and adapted to engage the article to be sold, of a spring-pressed bar mounted to slide and carrying a pawl engaging a ratchet-wheel on the said wheel, a coin-holding lever fulcrumed on the said bar and formed at its front end with a spoon adapted to receive the coin, and a locking-arm pivotally connected with the rear end of the said lever and adapted to engage the said bar to lock the latter in place, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a vending-machine, the combination, with a wheel mounted to revolve and adapted to engage the article to be sold, of a spring-pressed bar mounted to slide and carrying a pawl engaging a ratchet-wheel on the said wheel, a coin-holding lever fulcrumed on the said bar and formed at its front end with a spoon adapted to receive the coin, a locking-arm pivotally connected with the rear end of the said lever and adapted to engage the said bar to lock the latter in place, and a spring-pressed plate carrying the articles to be sold and forcing the uppermost article in contact with the periphery of the said wheel, substantially as described.

5. In a vending-machine, the combination of a spring-pressed bar provided with a lug and fitted to slide transversely, a pivoted arm adapted to engage the said lug to lock the bar in place, a coin-holding lever fulcrumed on the said bar and pivotally connected at its rear end with the said arm, a fork arranged at the front end of the said lever to receive the coin, a pawl fulcrumed on the said bar, a ratchet-wheel engaged by the said pawl, and a wheel carrying the said ratchet-wheel and adapted to engage with its rim the article to be sold, substantially as shown and described.

GUSTAVUS A. WELLER.

Witnesses:

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P. H. KOHL.