No. 712,962. Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

M. F. PRICE.

COLLAR BUTTON VENDING APPARATUS.

(Application filed Dec. 13, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

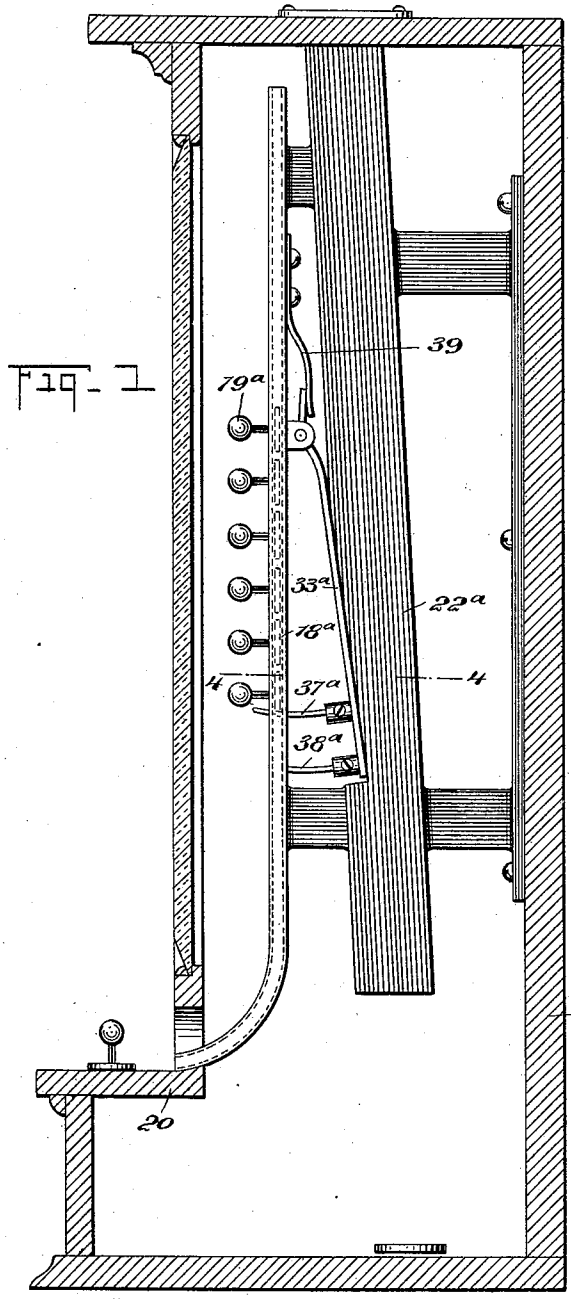


Fig. 2

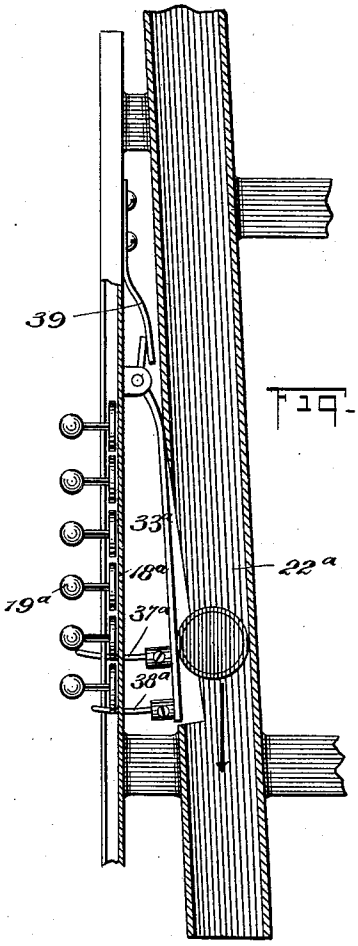


Fig. 3

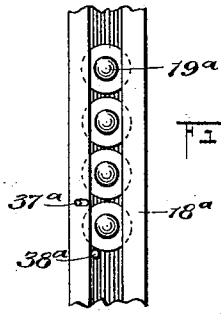
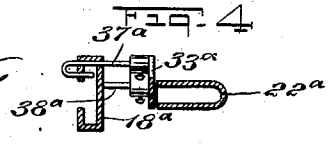


Fig. 4



WITNESSES:

INVENTOR

Milbert F. Price

BY

ATTORNEYS

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILBERT FRANKLIN PRICE, OF IOWA CITY, IOWA.

COLLAR-BUTTON-VENDING APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,962, dated November 4, 1902.

Original application filed May 16, 1900, Serial No. 16,867. Divided and this application filed December 13, 1900. Serial No. 39,626. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILBERT FRANKLIN PRICE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Iowa City, in the county of Johnson and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Collar-Button-Vending Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a machine designed especially for vending collar-buttons, and the machine is of such character that it is readily adaptable to coin-controlled operating devices, thus enabling me to provide a coin-controlled collar-button-vending apparatus.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

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 views.

Figure 1 is a sectional view of the vending-machine, showing it combined with one form of mechanism for operating it by the insertion of a coin. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary sectional view illustrating a certain step in the operation of the apparatus. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary front view of the collar-button chute, and Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 1.

As here shown, the mechanism is mounted in a casing 14^a, which may be of any form desired. Within the casing is mounted a chute 18^a, which is in the form of a flattened tube provided with a longitudinally-disposed slot in its flat front face. This chute is adapted to carry the collar-buttons 19^a, the structure of the chute being such that the bases of the collar-buttons may be snugly, yet slidably, fitted therein, while the shanks of the buttons are permitted to project through the slot in the chute, so as to expose the heads of said buttons, the chute thus becoming a means for displaying the collar-buttons for inspection, as well as a guide to the point of delivery of the collar-buttons. This structure of the chute also enables me to superimpose the collar-buttons within the chute in such a manner as to provide for their delivery without danger of failure. According to the construction shown in the drawings the chute 18^a delivers the buttons upon a ledge or platform 20, and the lower end of the chute may be curved and projected forwardly for this purpose.

The merchandise-chute is combined with devices for holding the collar-buttons in the chute and for individually releasing the buttons, so that the buttons may be separately delivered upon the platform or table 20. The button-delivering mechanism shown in the drawings comprises two pins 37^a and 38^a, which are carried on an arm 33^a, pivoted to the chute 18^a and pressed on at its upper end by a light spring 39, arranged as shown. The pin 37^a constitutes a stop-pin and serves to hold the column of buttons (indicated at 19^a in the drawings) in the button-chute. This pin passes through the side edge or around the side of the button-chute and is turned back to project into the same, as shown best in Fig. 4. The pin 38^a constitutes a release-pin, which is straight and is projected through the back wall of the chute. These pins are arranged to act alternately—that is to say, when the pin 37^a is passed into the chute across the path of the collar-buttons the pin 38^a will be withdrawn, and vice versa. The arm 33^a swings back and forth in its action, and thus alternately projects and retracts the pins. When the pin 37^a moves out of the path of the collar-buttons, the pin 38^a will be moved into said path, and the column of buttons will then drop until they rest on the pin 38^a. When this pin is withdrawn, the pin 37^a moves back, thereby engaging the stack of buttons at a point above the lowermost button. This holds the upper buttons, but releases the lowermost button, which passes down the lower end of the button-chute and out to the purchaser. Various mechanisms may be employed for operating the arm 33^a. One form of this mechanism is shown in the accompanying drawings. Another form is shown in my copending application, filed May 16, 1900, Serial No. 16,867, of which copending application the present application is a division. According to the device illustrated in the present application the arm 33^a is operated by direct engagement with the coin, which is projected through the coin-chute 22^a, said chute having an opening

in its side edge, into which opening the arm 33^a is moved by the pressure of the spring 39. When the coin is inserted in the chute 22^a, it engages the arm 33^a and moves it outward, and then as the coin passes out of the chute 22^a the arm is returned by the action of the spring 39. This is sufficient to deliver one collar-button.

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

In a collar-button-vending apparatus, the combination with a collar-button chute in the form of a flattened tube, one flat wall of which is formed with a longitudinally-disposed slot, the tube being capable of receiving the bases of the collar-buttons and the slot permitting the shanks of the buttons to project therethrough, of an arm pivoted at its upper end to the rear of the chute, a spring engaging the pivoted end of the arm and normally holding the free end of the arm away from the chute, pins secured to the free end of the arm and projecting forwardly therefrom one above the other, one of the pins being straight and passing through the back wall of the chute, and the other passing through the side edge of the chute and then bent upon itself and passing into the said chute, and means for swinging the arm toward the chute, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MILBERT FRANKLIN PRICE.

Witnesses:
HATTIE M. SHOALS,
FRED H. SHOALS.