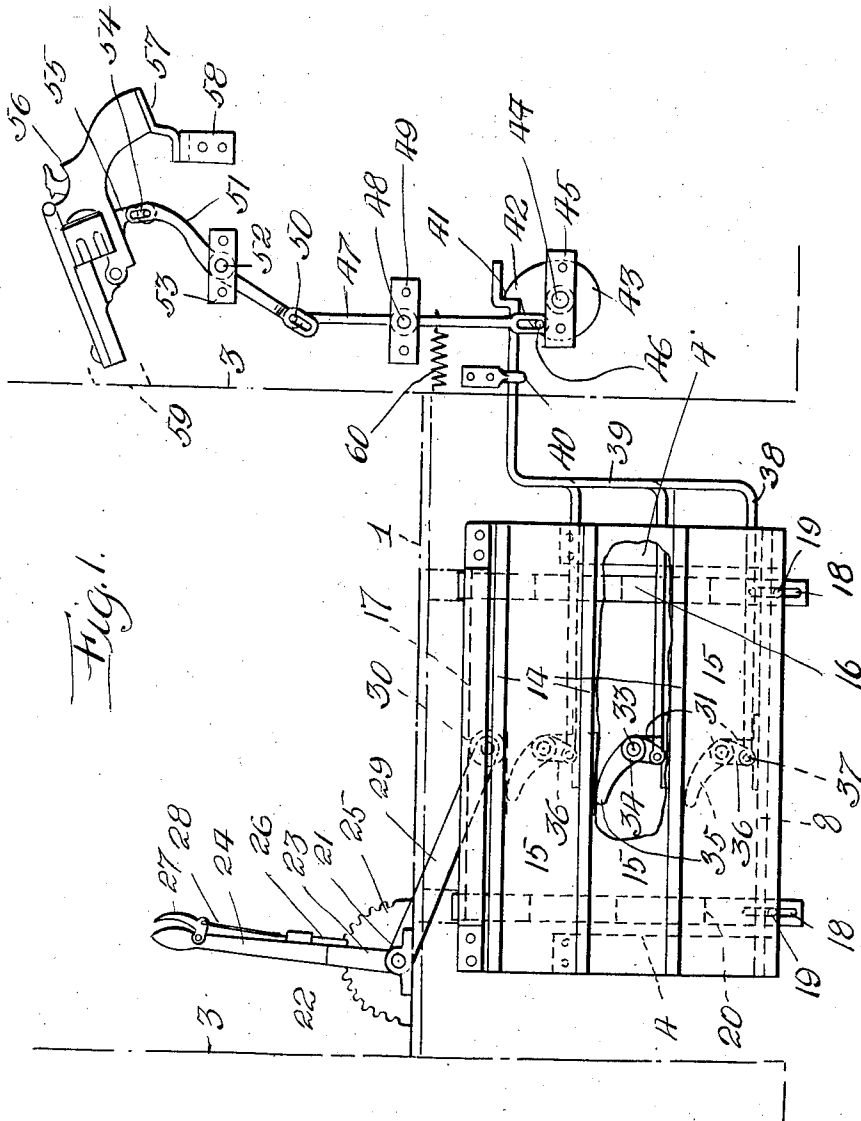


J. MATANY.
BURGLAR APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 9, 1912.

1,057,252.

Patented Mar. 25, 1913.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

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Ralph C. Evert.

INVENTOR

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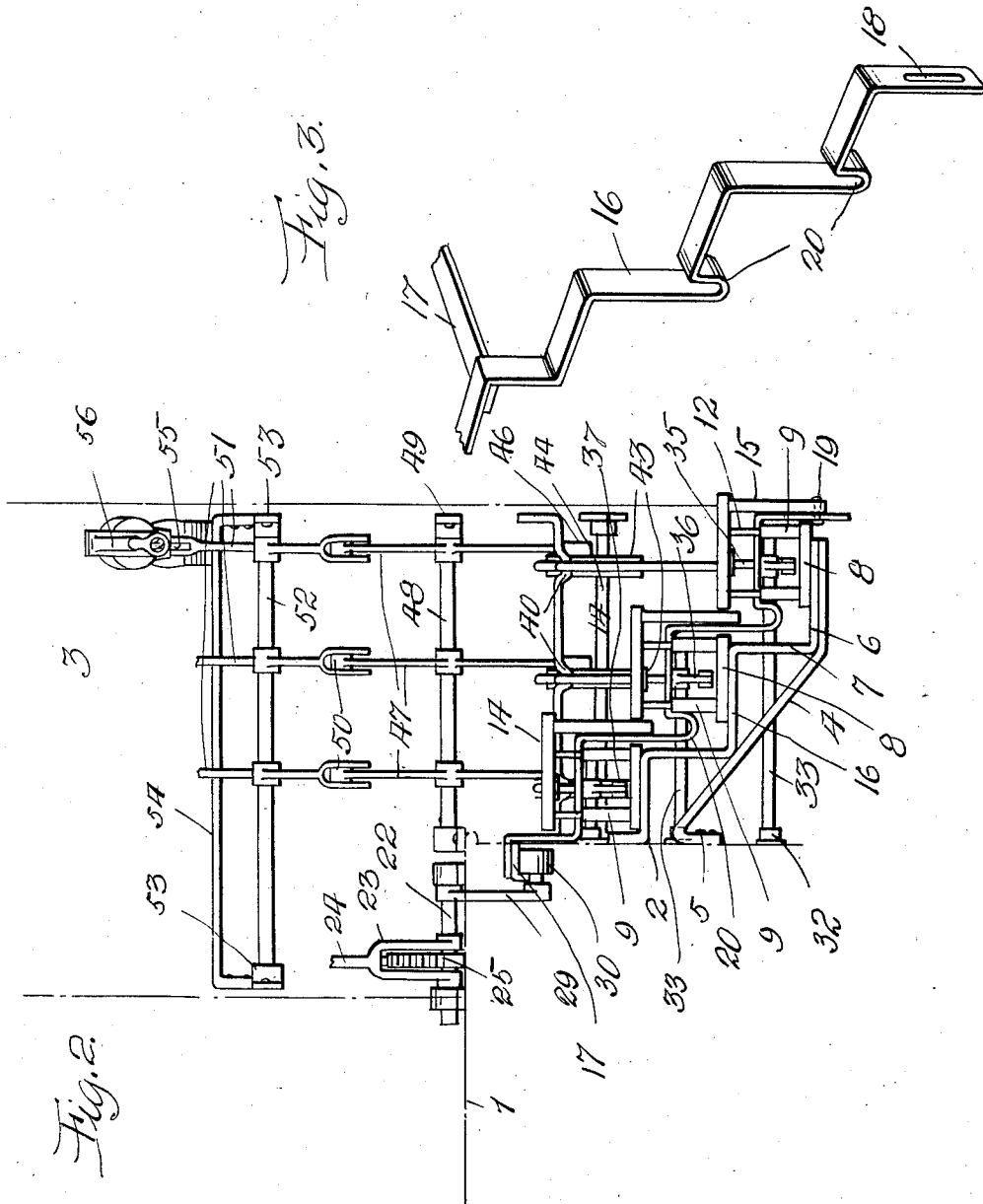


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

WITNESSES

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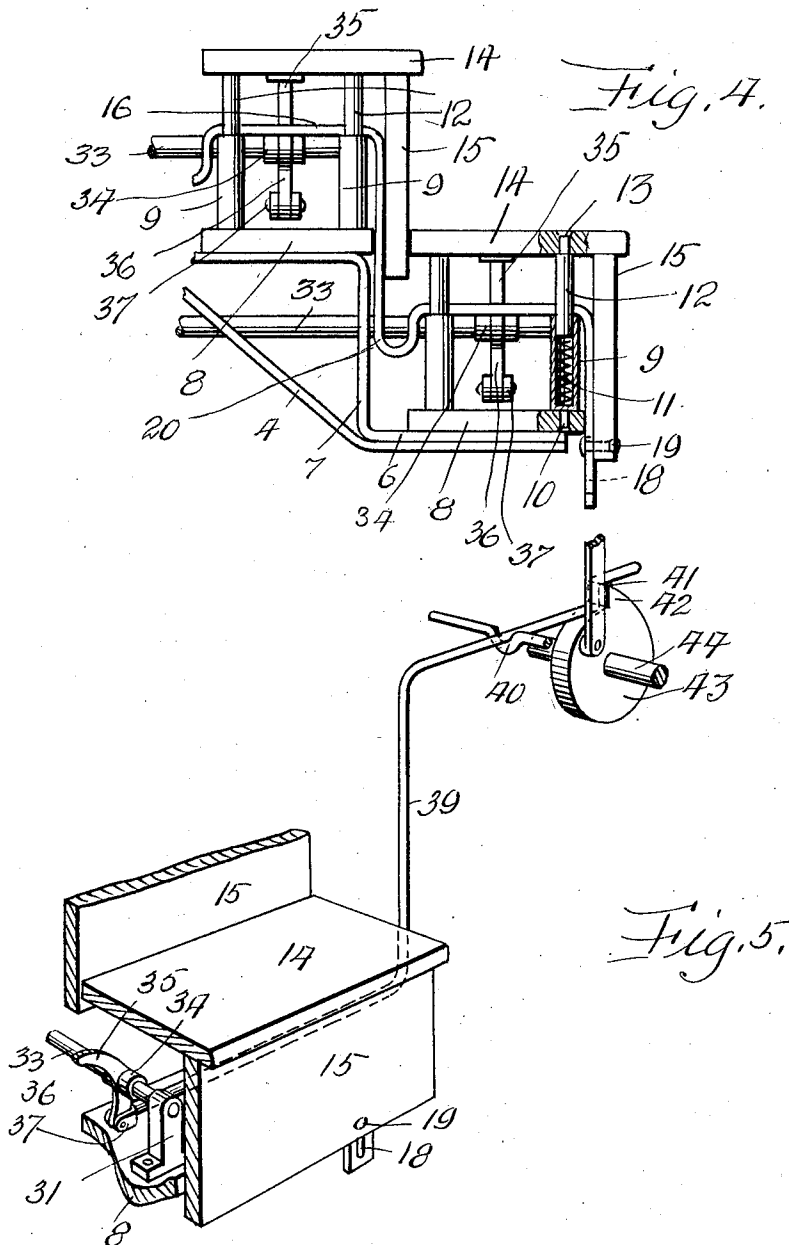
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH MATANY, OF EAST TOLEDO, OHIO.

BURGLAR APPARATUS.

1,057,252.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 25, 1913.

Application filed July 9, 1912. Serial No. 708,436.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH MATANY, a subject of the King of Hungary, residing at East Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Burglar Apparatus, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to a burglar apparatus for cars, especially mail and express cars that are often robbed by burglars "holding up" a train and looting the mail and express cars.

The primary object of my invention is to furnish a car with novel steps which when tread upon will discharge firearms to either scare, injure or kill the burglars mounting the steps.

Another object of this invention is to provide a burglar apparatus that can be set in an active or inactive position, whereby the steps can be safely utilized for entering the car when the car is located at a station.

A further object of this invention is to provide an apparatus of the above type that can be used in residences and embodied in a stair way located adjacent to a wall.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be hereinafter specifically described and then claimed.

Reference will now be had to the drawings, wherein like numerals denote corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the apparatus, Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the movable step frames, Fig. 4 is an enlarged side elevation of a portion of the steps, partly broken away and partly in section, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a portion of one of the steps.

The reference numeral 1 denotes a platform sill or other support having vertical walls 2 and 3, the wall 2 being at right angles to and connecting the walls 3.

4 denotes stationary step frames secured to the wall 2, as at 5, said frames having treads 6 and risers 7.

8 denotes platforms connecting the treads 6 of the stationary frames 4 and mounted upon said platforms, adjacent to the ends thereof, are tubular sockets 9 having the

lower ends thereof riveted or otherwise connected to the platforms, as at 10. Arranged in the sockets 9 are coiled compression springs 11 and plungers 12, said plungers resting upon the upper convolutions of the springs 11 and in their movement guided by the sockets 9. The upper ends of the plungers 12 are riveted or otherwise connected, as at 13 to treads 14 having risers 15, said risers extending between the rear edges of the treads 14 and the forward edges of the platforms 8.

16 denotes movable step frames having the upper ends thereof connected by a transverse bar 17 and the lower ends thereof slotted, as at 18 and loosely connected by pins or rivets 19 to the risers 15 of the lowermost step. The movable step frames have looped portions 20 providing clearance for the lower edges of the risers of the other steps.

21 denotes bearings arranged upon the platform or sill 1 and journaled in these bearings is a rock shaft 22. Mounted upon this shaft is the lower forked end 23 of an operating lever 24. Mounted upon the platform or sill in the forked end 23 of the lever 24 is a sector rack 25 and engaging said rack is a pawl 26 carried by the lever 24. The pawl 26 is moved out of engagement with the rack 25 by a pivoted hand piece 27 and a connecting rod 28. These parts are common to ordinary operating levers for locking said levers in an adjusted position. Mounted upon the rock shaft 22 and extending below the platform or sill 21 is a crank 29 having the end thereof provided with a roller 30. This roller engages the bar 17, and by shifting the operating lever 24, the movable frames 16 can be elevated to engage the under sides of the treads 14 and move said treads to a safety position.

Mounted upon the platforms 8, intermediate the ends thereof, are bearings 31 and secured to the wall 2 are bearings 32. Journaled in the bearings 31 and 32 are rock shafts 33 and mounted upon said shafts, beneath each of the treads 14, is a crank sleeve 34 having cranks 35 and 36, the former engaging the underneath sides of the treads 14. Pivotally connected to the cranks 36 are the bifurcated ends 37 of reach rods 38. These rods extend outwardly toward one of the walls 3, upwardly, as at 39, and then outwardly again over a guide rod 40 secured to suitable supports within the wall 3. The

ends of the reach rods 38 are bent to provide shoulders 41 and these shoulders engage teeth 42 carried by wheels 43 revolvably mounted upon the shaft 44, mounted in bearings 45 arranged within the wall 3.

Eccentrically connected to the wheels 43, as at 46 are the lower ends of levers 47 loosely mounted upon a shaft 48, mounted in bearings 49, arranged within the wall 3. The upper ends of the levers are loosely connected to the lower slotted ends 50 of levers 51, loosely mounted upon a shaft 52 having the ends thereof arranged within the wall 3. The upper ends of the levers 51 are loosely connected, as at 54 to the triggers 55 of firearms 56. These firearms are connected to brackets 57, carried by a support 58, arranged within the wall 3. The firearms 56 are inclined and the muzzle of each firearm is adjacent to an opening 59 in the wall 3, and this opening can be covered by cloth, paper or other material, whereby the firearms will not be exposed to the forces of nature that may enter the openings 59.

Operation: When a car equipped with the burglar apparatus enters the station, the attendant of the car immediately shifts the levers 24, whereby the crank 29 and the roller 30 thereof will elevate the frame 16. When the treads of these frames engage the under sides of the treads 14, the treads 14 are elevated out of engagement with the cranks 35, whereby the rods 38, levers 47 and 51 cannot be actuated to discharge the firearms. When the train departs from the station or railroad yard in engagement with the same, the attendant of the car readjusts the lever 24 to lower the frame 16, thereby placing the treads 14 in engagement with the cranks 35. When either of the steps are tread upon, the firearm will be discharged through the medium of the rods 38, the wheels 43, and levers 47 and 51. To restore the steps, rods 18, wheels 43 and levers 47 and 51 to their normal position after having been actuated, the lower ends of the rods 47 are connected by coiled retractile springs 60 to the wall 3. By using repeating or magazine firearms, the firearms will be in position to be discharged should another attempt be made to ascend the steps after the first attempt.

From the foregoing it will be observed that the apparatus can be embodied in a structure having a vertical wall adjacent to

the stairs, and that the steps of the apparatus can form part of a series of steps. Provision having been made for holding the steps of the apparatus against operation, the steps can be safely tread upon when not in a danger zone.

The apparatus in its entirety can be made of light and durable metal and the treads and risers 14 and 15 constructed to represent ordinary steps. With the mechanism and the firearms concealed, it is almost impossible for a burglar to detect the presence of the apparatus.

What I claim is:—

1. In a burglar apparatus, movable spring supported steps, concealed firearms, means actuated by a movement of said steps and adapted to discharge said firearms, and means including movable step frames, a rock shaft, and an operating lever adapted to move said steps into a safety position.

2. A burglar apparatus, comprising movable steps, concealed firearms, means including rock shafts, cranks, rods and levers adapted to discharge said firearms when said steps are trod upon, and means adapted to move said steps to a safety position whereby said firearms will not be discharged when said steps are trod upon.

3. A burglar apparatus, comprising movable steps, concealed firearms, means including rock shafts, cranks, rods and levers adapted to discharge said firearms when said steps are trod upon, and means including movable step frames, a rock shaft, and an operating lever adapted to move and hold said steps in a safety position whereby said firearms will not be discharged when said steps are trod upon.

4. In a burglar apparatus, stationary step frames, steps movably supported by said frames, concealed firearms, means including rods and levers adapted to discharge said firearms when said steps are trod upon, and means including movable step frames, a rock shaft and an operating lever adapted to hold said steps in a safety position whereby said firearms will not be discharged when said steps are trod upon.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH MATANY.

Witnesses:

JOHN PETRO,
JOHN MATANY.