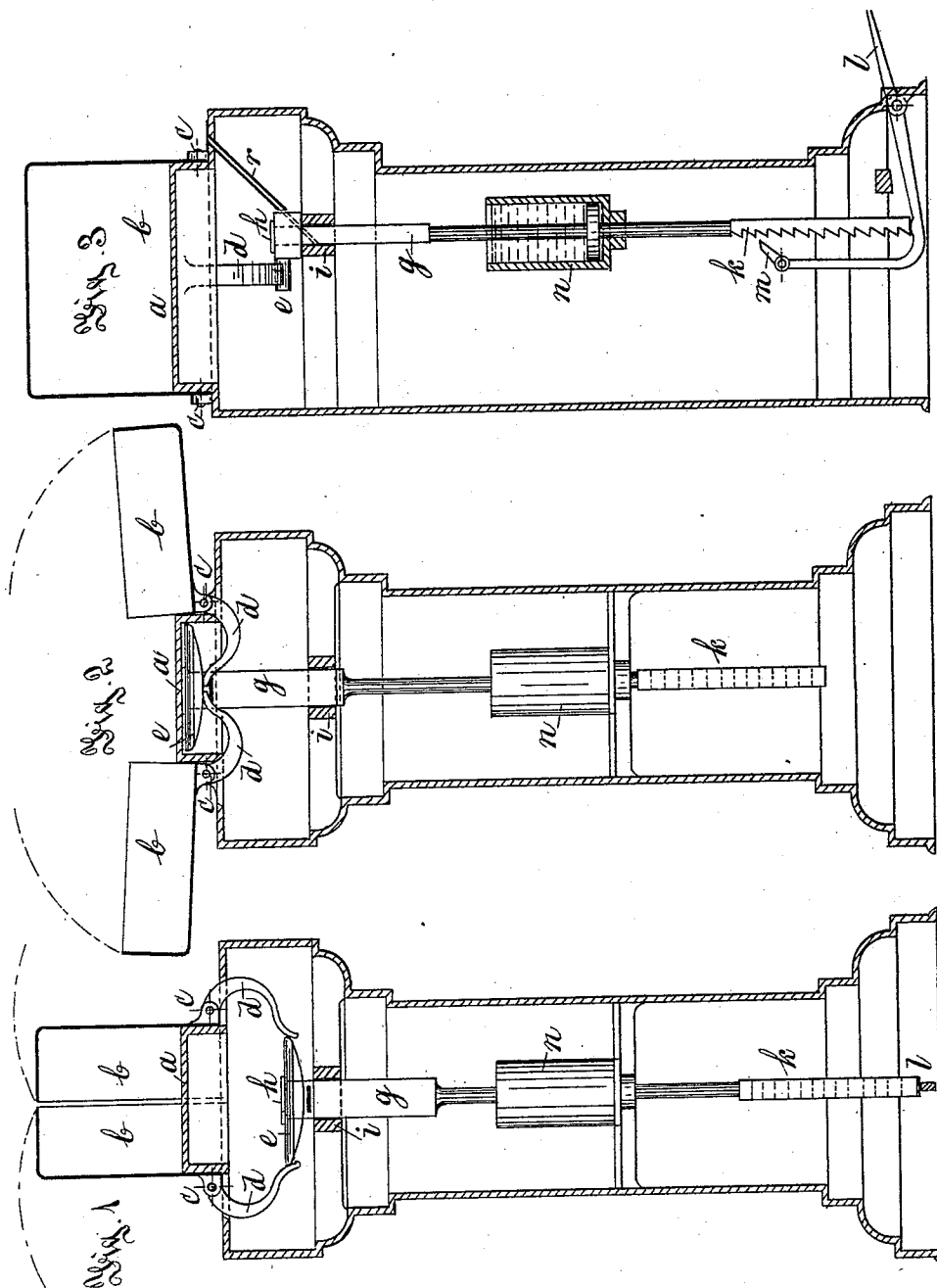


2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

No. 470,758.

Patented Mar. 15, 1892.



Witnesses:
 21 Harvey Muzzy
 John C. C. C.

Inventor:
 Frederick W. Jacob.
 By Wm H. Balcock Atty.

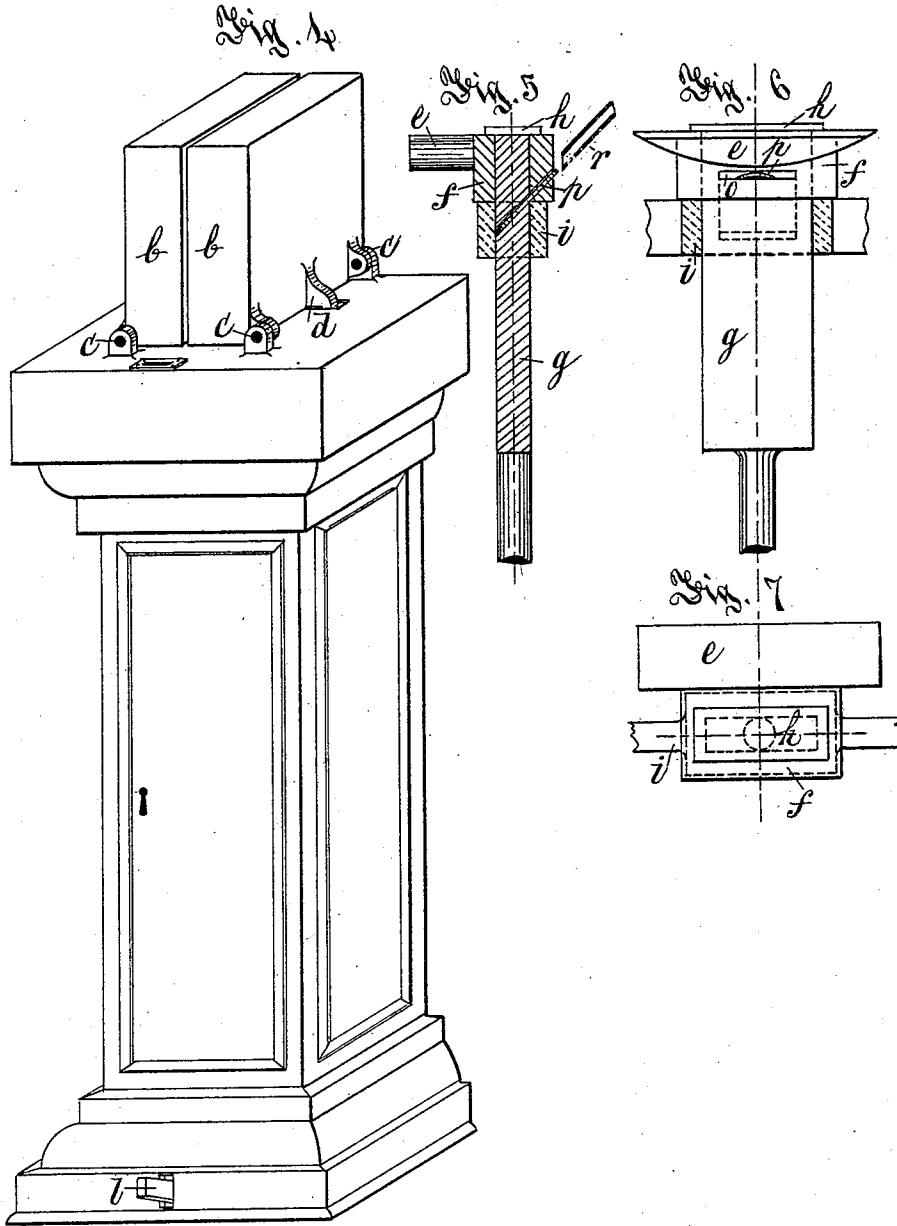
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

F. W. JACOB.
COIN FREED APPARATUS.

No. 470,758.

Patented Mar. 15, 1892.



Witnesses:
W. Harvey Muzzy.
John L. Fuller

Inventor:
Frederick W. Jacob
By W. H. Babcock
Att'y

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK WILLIAM JACOB, OF HAMPTON WICK, ENGLAND.

COIN-FREED APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 470,758, dated March 15, 1892.

Application filed April 27, 1891. Serial No. 390,711. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK WILLIAM JACOB, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Hampton Wick, in the county of Middlesex, England, have invented a new and useful Improved Coin-Freed Apparatus for Giving Access to a Book, such as a directory or other book of reference, of which the following is a specification.

10 This invention relates to improved apparatus, by means of which access can be had to a book—such, for instance, as a directory or other book of reference—after a predetermined coin has been first inserted into an opening provided for it.

15 In the accompanying drawings, which are in illustration of my invention, Figures 1 and 3 are vertical sections showing the apparatus closed; and Fig. 2 is a similar section showing it open, so that access can be had to the book contained in it. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the apparatus. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are detail views, on a larger scale, of the device by which the coin is made to operate.

25 The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in the several figures.

a is a table or platform upon which the directory or other book is placed in a convenient position for reference.

30 *b b* are two side covers or cases inclosing the book when the latter is shut and hinged at the points *c c* to the platform of the machine in such manner that when they are vertical, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4, the book is closed, while when turned down to a horizontal or nearly horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 2, it can be opened and referred to and read.

35 The side cases *b b* are provided with curved arms *d d*, projecting downward through openings in the top of the apparatus, and a transverse bar or frame *e* is arranged horizontally between them and is capable of moving up and down, so that when it is brought down its extremities force apart the curved bars *d d*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and inclose the book in the cases *b b*, while when raised sufficiently, as shown in Fig. 2, it allows the bars *d d* to approach each other and the cases *b b* to open, so that the book can be referred, to as already described.

At the center of the movable frame *e* is fixed a lateral vertical socket *f*, as shown more clearly in Figs. 5, 6, and 7, through which passes freely a corresponding vertical bar *g*, 55 provided at its upper end with a collar or head *h*, so that when it is drawn down it brings with it the movable bar or frame *e*, and so closes the cases *b b* and the book contained in them. The bar *g* passes through a suitable guide *i*, and is made of sufficient weight to descend and close the book when in its normal position, as shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4, and below its lower end *k* is arranged a lever or treadle *l*, Fig. 3, pivoted to the frame of 65 the apparatus, and in such position that when its outer end is depressed by the foot of the person using the apparatus its inner end raises the bar *k* and the frame *e* for a short distance, freeing the latter from the bars *d d*, 70 so that the cases *b b* can be opened by the hands into the position shown in Fig. 2, the ends of the bars *d d* raising the frame *e* and the bar *g k* into the position shown. The lower end *k* of the bar is provided with 75 ratchet-teeth, into which, when the lever *l* is depressed, a pawl *m* at the upper end of a prolongation of the lever engages, so that the bar *g* is prevented from descending as long as the lever *l* is kept depressed. When, however, 80 the lever *l* is released, the pawl *m* is disengaged and the bar *g* and frame *e* descend, closing the cases *b b* and the book.

A spring stop or buffer or an air cylinder or vessel containing a piston or plunger attached to the rod *g* is arranged, as indicated at *n*, to prevent too great shock from the descent of the bar *g* when the pressure is removed from the lever *l*. The upper part of the bar *g* and the socket *f* have an inclined 85 slot *o* formed through them to receive a coin *p*, which passes into them, when the machine is at rest, through a chute *r*, having an opening at its upper end accessible to the person using the apparatus. If no coin be introduced into the slot when the lever *l* is depressed, the bar *g* rises without lifting the socket *f* and frame *e*, and the cases *b b* consequently remain closed. If, however, a coin *p* be introduced, as shown in Fig. 5, it serves to 90 connect the socket *f* to the bar *g*, and the former is raised until it frees the points of the

arms *d d*, and the cases *b b* can be then opened by hand, as already described, the coin at the same time falling out of the slot and above the guide *i* into a drawer or receptacle provided for it, the cases *b b* remaining open until the pressure is withdrawn from the lever *l*, when the bar descends, its head *h* drawing down the socket *f* and bar or frame *e* and closing the cases *b b* and the book, and thus preventing further access to the latter until another coin has been inserted and the lever *l* again depressed.

Instead of cases *b b*, plates of metal or other suitable material may be attached to the sides of the book itself and hinged at *c*; or instead of two cases *b b* a single one only may be used, arranged to turn completely over and inclose the book. In all cases the book is attached to the platform *e* in such a manner that it cannot be surreptitiously removed.

The outside of the apparatus may be made of any ornamental shape desired.

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

1. In an apparatus for giving access to a book, the combination, with the cases containing such book, of levers attached to said cases, and a treadle-operated bar freeing said levers

from a locked position when a predetermined coin is inserted in the machine, substantially as set forth.

2. In a coin-freed apparatus, the combination, with the cases inclosing the object to be inspected, of levers attached to said cases, a treadle-operated bar operating to unlock said levers, and an air-buffer on said bar, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination of the platform *a*, cases *b b*, hinges *c c*, arms *d d*, frame or bar *e*, bar *g*, and treadle or lever *l*, substantially as and for the purposes described and illustrated.

4. The combination, with the cases *b b*, arms *d d*, and frame or bar *e*, of the socket *f*, slotted bar *g*, head *h*, guide *i*, and coin-chute *r*, substantially as and for the purpose described and illustrated.

5. In combination with the cases *b b*, arms *d d*, frame or plate *e*, and movable bar *g*, the ratchet-teeth *k*, lever *l*, and pawl *m*, substantially as described and illustrated.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

FREDERICK WILLIAM JACOB.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR E. EDWARDS,
HAROLD KENNEDY.