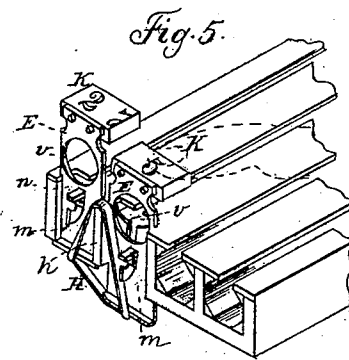
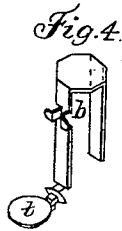
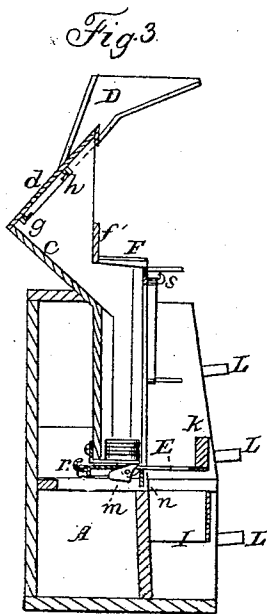
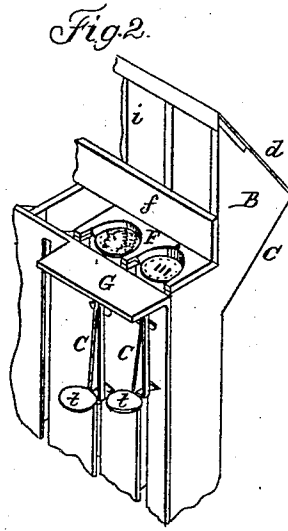
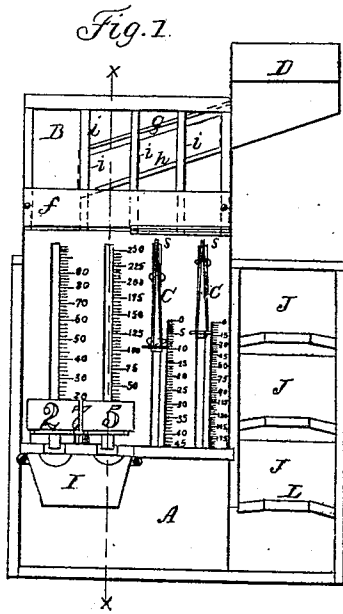


J. W. MEAKER.

Coin Counter.

No. 76,492.

Patented April 7, 1868.



Witnesses:  
P. S. Dodge  
Geo. M. Eddy

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# United States Patent Office.

JOHN W. MEAKER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 76,492, dated April 7, 1868.

## IMPROVEMENT IN APPARATUS FOR ASSORTING COIN.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. MEAKER, of Chicago, in the county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Coin-Assorters and Registers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, like letters indicating like parts wherever they occur.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

My invention consists in new, certain, and important improvements in my "device for assorting, holding, and registering coin to be used in business transactions in banks, and wherever money is received and paid out, and also in a device for holding currency, to be used in connection with the coin-apparatus," for which I have recently filed an application for a patent. In the drawings—

Figure 1 is a front elevation.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of a part detached.

Figure 3 is a vertical section on the line  $x x$  of fig. 1.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the follower detached.

Figure 5 is a view in perspective of the bottom of a portion of my device.

I construct my device, with the exceptions hereinafter mentioned, in a manner very similar to the one for which I have an application now pending, making it of any size desired, to accommodate the different kinds of coin in common use, and of any material suitable for the purpose.

In my present device, I make the assorter, B, for distributing the coin, and delivering them automatically, in nearly the same manner as described in my former application. It consists of a box, with its bottom and rear sides,  $c d$ , inclined to one another, as shown in figs. 2 and 3, and with its front only partially closed, with the strip  $f$ , as shown in figs. 1, 2, and 3. To this box is attached the hopper D, arranged so as to deliver the coin edgewise into an inclined way made by the guides  $g h$ , along the front side of the back,  $d$ , of the box, as shown in fig. 3. The guides  $g h$  are arranged so that, by having the bent portion of the upper one,  $h$ , narrow in width as it leaves the hopper, and continue growing narrower to its lower end, the space between the edges of the guides will be constantly growing broader. The space within the box is divided by partitions,  $i$ , so that there may be one for each of the tubes below, as shown in fig. 1. The distances between the guides  $g$  and  $h$  are so arranged that one of the different-sized coin will fall into each space between the partitions,  $i$ , on to the inclined bottom  $c$ , and thence slide into the tubes, respectively, for which they are designed. As the coin, in running down the inclined way, lean forward, they will fall out whenever their upper edge is released by the increasing width of the distance between the guides  $g$  and  $h$ . By having the front of the box open, as shown and described, access is at once had to the inclined way, and to the bottom,  $c$ , so as to remove or move along any of the coin that may get foul in any way. This is an improvement over my former device.

In the body or form A of my present device, I place a series of vertical tubes, with diameters of different sizes, and with their fronts graduated and marked off, as in my former application, and as shown in fig. 1. In figs. 1 and 3 there are two ways of delivering the coin from the tubes shown—one from the top and the other from the bottom of the tubes. The method of delivering from the top was fully set forth and claimed in my former application, and is clearly shown in figs. 1, 2, and 3.

In my present device, instead of having the follower  $b$  moved by a spiral spring placed beneath it in the tube, as in my former application, I fasten a small hook,  $s$ , under the table G, and connect the follower  $b$  to it by the external springs or rubber bands C, as clearly shown in figs. 2 and 3. In this way, by the use of external springs, the tubes can be entirely filled with coin, and the space taken up by the spiral springs wholly utilized, and at the same time the follower  $b$  presents the coin promptly for delivery, as shown in fig. 2.

It is obvious that, instead of elastic rubber bands, spiral or other springs may be used on the outside of the tubes.

In delivering the coin from the bottom of the tubes, I employ the mechanical devices clearly shown in figs. 3 and 4. Underneath each of the tubes, from the bottom of which the coin is to be delivered, I place a slide, E,

which, when in position, will project beyond the front face of the tubes, as shown in figs. 2 and 3. In the bottom of the part of the slide E, which projects beyond the front of the tubes, is a circular hole, *v*, large enough to allow the coin to drop through. On the front part of the slide, I fasten an end-piece, *k*, which I press against in shoving the slide. The end-pieces of two adjoining slides, under two adjoining tubes, coming close together, I mark with the value of the coin in each tube, on each corresponding slide, and also mark them both, so as to show the sum or amount of two coins, taken from the adjoining tubes, as shown in figs. 1 and 5. The adjoining tubes shown there are for two-cent and five-cent pieces, respectively, making together seven cents. In the slide, I place a pawl, *m*, arranged so as to swing upon a pivot, and so that, when in its natural position, its upper end will project, through a longitudinal slot in the bottom of the tube, a distance equal to the thickness of the coin in the tube. Between the tubes, and below the line of their lower ends, I extend the partition, or fasten on a piece, *p*, as shown in fig. 5, and on the rear ends of the slides E attach a hook, *r*, as shown in fig. 3, and then stretch an elastic, H, around these hooks *r*, and the front end of the piece *p*, as shown in fig. 5. By this arrangement the two adjoining slides may be shoved back at once, or only one, as may be desired. It is obvious that the assorter B may be arranged so as to stand directly over the vertical tubes, in which case the inclined bottom *c* will be dispensed with, and the coin, instead of falling on this bottom, will fall directly into the vertical tubes.

When there are coin in the tube, as shown in fig. 3, the pawl *m* will be pressed down, so that its upper end will be flush with the bottom of the tube; and, when the slide is thrust back, so that the end of the pawl is released, the end will rise just high enough to catch one of the coin, and deliver it as the elastic, H, springs the slide E forward. The form of the pawl is clearly shown in fig. 3, and the manner of attaching it in fig. 5. In front of the lower end of the pawl *m* is a stop, *n*, to prevent its turning too far when its upper end engages a coin. In front of the place of delivery, I place a guard, I, as shown in fig. 1; and the hand can be held immediately under it, to catch the coin as they fall.

The tubes are filled with coin by the use of the assorter, B. The graduations are numbered from bottom to top when the coin is delivered from the bottom. The tubes have a vertical slot in front, so as to show the exact height of the coin in them, the number of which is also shown by the figures in front.

After the coin are assorted and placed in the tubes, by pressing with the finger on one of the slides, one coin will be delivered; by pressing on two of them at the same time, two will be delivered, and, in this way, the coin can be as rapidly delivered as may be desired, either one at a time, or two of different values, as described.

It is obvious that by reversing the position of the pawl *m*, the slide E may be made to deliver the coin in the rear of the vertical tubes, and whether delivered in the front or rear, they may fall on an inclined way, so as to be received at its lower end.

In my former application there was an arrangement for holding fractional currency of different denominations immediately under the bottom of the tubes. In this, I partition off and arrange a series of receptacles, J, on one side of my device, as shown in fig. 1. The bottoms E of these receptacles slant a little downward from their outer edge, so that the currency will not fall or work out. The front edge of these bottoms projects a little in front of the face of my device, and may be rounded or made with corners, as shown in the fig. 1. The currency, when placed in these receptacles, is always convenient for use.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

1. The assorter, B, with an open front, and provided on its interior rear side with the guides *g* and *h*, forming an inclined way, constructed and arranged for use, substantially as shown and described.
2. Operating the follower *b*, by means of a spring, C, applied externally, substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.
3. The slide E, provided with the end-piece *k* and pawl *m*, constructed and arranged to operate substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.
4. Providing the slides E with springs, so that one or more of the slides may be operated automatically at the same time, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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