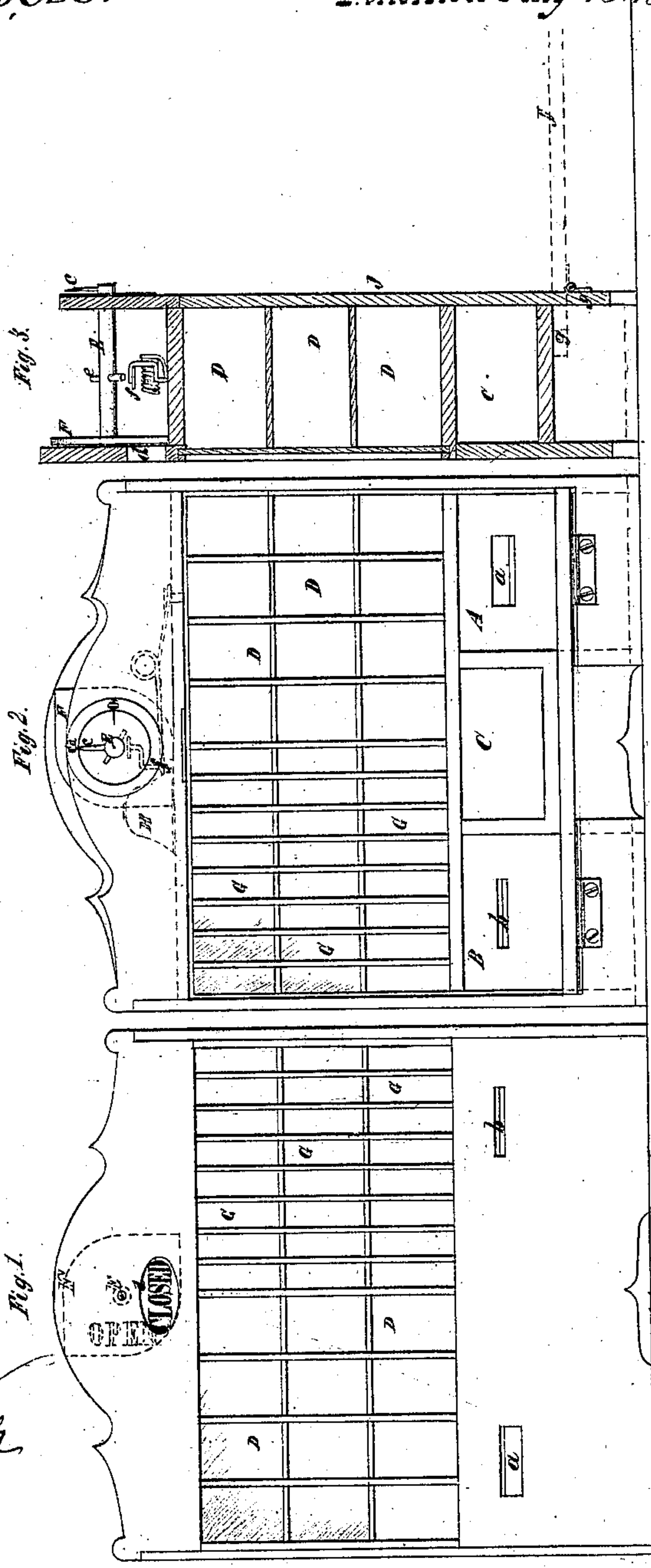


W.M. & A. Clark,

Book Case.

No. 106,325.

Patented Aug. 16, 1870.



Witnesses.  
Fred. Hornum  
Eliot Tuck

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per  
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# United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM M. CLARK AND ALEXANDER CLARK, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 106,325, dated August 16, 1870.

## IMPROVED POST-OFFICE CABINET FOR SUNDAY-SCHOOL AND OTHER ROOMS.

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

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that we, WILLIAM M. CLARK and ALEXANDER CLARK, both of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a Post-office Cabinet for Sunday-school and other Rooms, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

The object of our invention is to provide a convenient and portable receptacle for letters, cards, books, and other articles to be distributed throughout a school or any other assembly in which it may be desirable to effect the distribution of such matter. To this end,

It consists in a case suitably constructed, and having compartments suitably arranged therein for the reception and arrangement of the books, letters, and other articles to be placed therein, and their distribution.

In the accompanying drawing which illustrates our invention—

Figure 1 is a front view of the cabinet;

Figure 2 is a back view, showing the door open; and

Figure 3 is a central vertical section of the same, representing the door closed in bold outline and open in dotted outline.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The cabinet consists of an upright case, in the lower part of which there are three compartments, A, B, and C, arranged side by side.

One of the outer compartments, A, is for the reception of books and the larger articles, and is provided with a mouth or slot, *a*, in the front of the case, through which the articles are inserted into the said compartment.

The compartment B, on the opposite side, is provided with a smaller slot, *b*, in the front of the case, for the reception of letters.

The central compartment, C, has no opening in front.

Over these compartments A B C are arranged two series of pigeon-holes; those, D D, over the compartment A for books and other articles, being of a size for the reception of these articles, and those, G G, which are arranged over the compartment B being smaller, for the reception of letters and cards. These pigeon-holes are lettered or numbered, one of each series for each class in the school, or portion or member of the assembly. That part of the front of the case opposite the two series of pigeon-holes is glazed, that the contents of the holes may be seen.

Above the pigeon holes the back and front of the case are extended upward, to form bearings for an axle, E, on which, near the front of the case, is secured a dial-piece, F. This dial-piece is of such shape as to allow it to make a quarter of a revolution, but so as to be prevented from turning further by corners in contact with the top of the case.

On portions of the front of this dial-piece F are inscribed the words "closed" and "open," at right angles to each other, either of which may be made visible through a hole, *d*, in the extended upper part of the front of the case, by turning the axle E to the extent of its revolution permitted in either direction.

At the end of the axle E is an indicating-finger, *c*, by which the axle may be turned, and which, pointing on a dial arranged on the back of the case, shows which of the words on the dial-piece is revealed to view.

Running transversely through the center of or around the axle E is a pin or cam, *e*, which, by the act of turning the axle, is made to act upon a spring hammer, *f*, to ring a bell, H, which is arranged upon the top of the case.

To the lower part of the case there is hinged, at its lower edge, a door, J, which, when closed, covers the three compartments, A B C, and the whole of the two series of pigeon-holes, and, when open, leaves said compartments and pigeon-holes all open.

The said door is provided at the bottom with a tongue, *g*, which, when the door is open, enters between the compartments A B, under the compartment C, and serves as a stop in contact with the bottom of the latter, to prevent the door from falling far below a horizontal position, thus enabling the said door, when open, to form a table or desk, as shown in dotted outline in fig. 3.

The books and letters are put into the compartments A B, through their respective openings in the front of the case, and are by the postmaster or person in charge assorted and placed in the pigeon-holes belonging to the different classes or portions or members of the assembly, the dial-piece during this time showing the word "close;" and when the person in charge wishes to notify the scholars or assembly to come forward to receive their books, letters, &c., he turns the indicator at the back of the desk to the work "open" on the dial, by which the axle is turned, and the transverse pin or cam operates the hammer, making it strike the bell, and at the same time turns the word "open" on the dial-piece into view through the hole *d* in the front of the case, and the scholars or assembly are apprised that the cabinet is open.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A cabinet, consisting of compartments A B and glazed pigeon-holes D G, and provided with a door, J, indicator F, and signal-bell, substantially as shown and described.

WM. M. CLARK.  
ALEX. CLARK.

Witnesses:

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