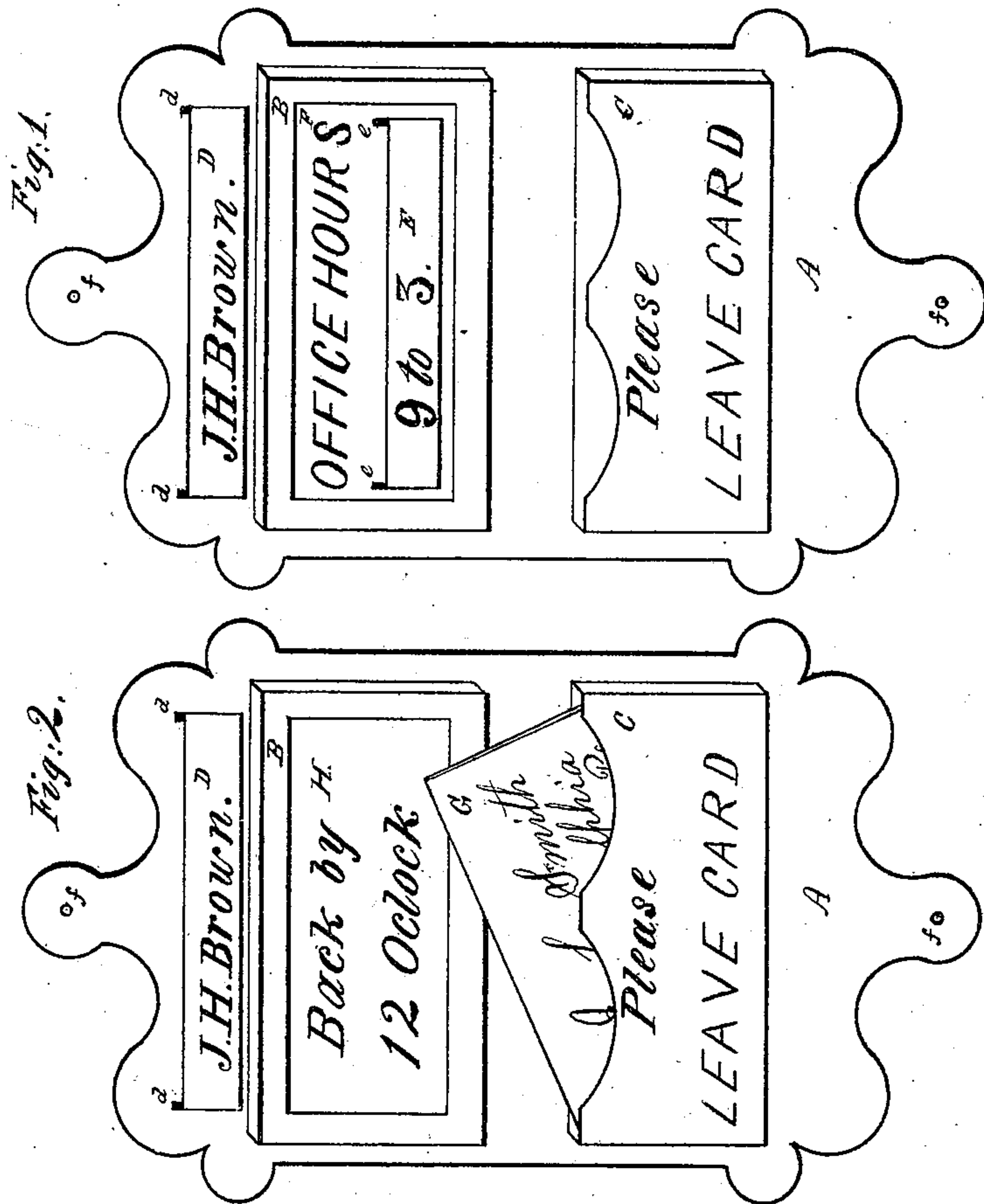


E. R. McKEAN.

Card-Racks.

No. 133,378.

Patented Nov. 26, 1872.



Witnesses

Inventor

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN R. McKEAN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CARD-RACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 133,378, dated November 26, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN R. McKEAN, of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain Improvements in a Card-Rack, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in a "combination card-rack" for offices, &c.

Figure 1 represents the same as it appears while the party is in his office or after office-hours; Fig. 2, as it would be in use in case he has to be absent on business during office-hours.

It consists of a flat piece of tin, wood, pasteboard, or other suitable material, cut in a proper size and shape, made to tack or hang on the office door or desk, and having two pockets or racks, C B, also made of tin, wood, pasteboard, or other suitable material, and fastened in place on the back A, or in any other way to be secure. In the back A, at *d d*, Figs. 1 and 2, I cut slots of the proper length, through which can be passed and fastened, on the under side of A, a strip of paper or card with the name, &c., as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, at D, which can be removed at pleasure and another name substituted. The upper pocket or rack B is made open in front, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, so that the face of A can be seen, on which I paint or mark "Office-hours," as shown by F on Fig. 1, and below this I have two slots, *e e*, in which I can insert a piece of paper or card same as slots above for name, upon which can be noted the office-hours, &c., which also can be removed and changed at pleasure. The lower rack or pocket is opened at the top, which is the case with both pockets, and has painted or marked upon its front "Please leave

card," or any other request, as may be desired, and shown in Figs. 1 and 2, at C.

If the person wishes to leave his office during office-hours he writes upon a card at what time he will return or how long he will remain, and drops it in the upper rack or pocket B, as shown by H on Fig. 2. If, while the party is absent from his office, any person calls, they can drop a card or note in the lower rack or pocket C, as shown by G, Fig. 2.

By this device I combine many useful and needed features for offices, &c., as it makes a neat sign, gives the office-hours, enables a party calling to leave message where it will receive attention—in fact, courts him to do so—while it enables the person to leave his office and at the same time stand some chance of knowing if any one has called during his absence, their business, &c., if urgent—thus saving much care and annoyance.

I would also say that I have holes made in A at *f f* for the purpose of hanging or tacking the same to the door or desk, and the rack japanned or painted so as to present a neat appearance.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

A new article of manufacture, consisting of a card-rack, combining the back A, the pockets or racks B C, and the slots *d d* and *e e*, made substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

EDWIN R. McKEAN.

Witnesses:

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