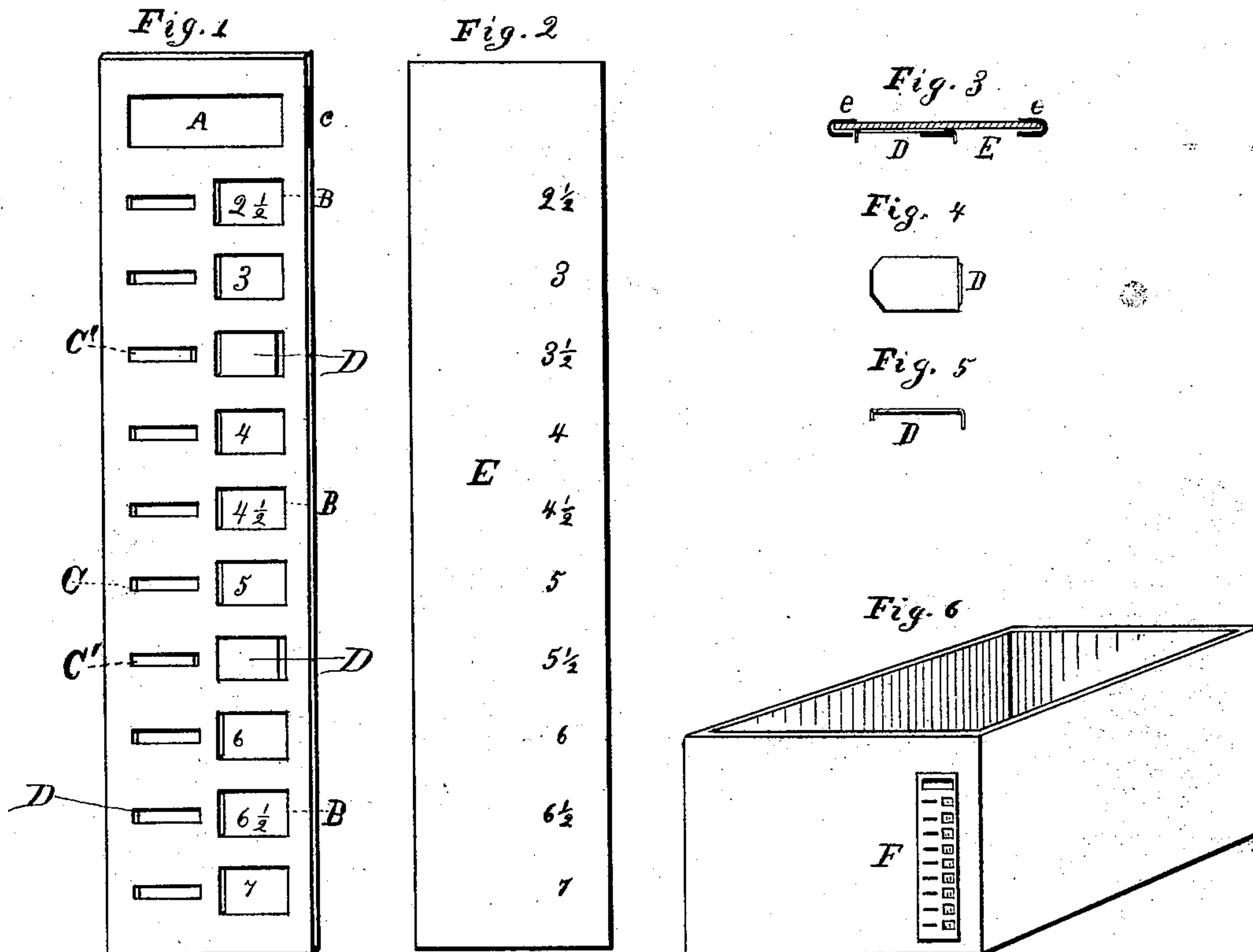


W. L. BROWNELL.  
Indicator.

No. 221,212.

Patented Nov. 4, 1879.



Attest:

Henry Isbell  
Philip F. Pouchon

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Per: Lucius C. West.  
Atty:

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM L. BROWNELL, OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INDICATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,212**, dated November 4, 1879; application filed May 19, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM L. BROWNELL, of Kalamazoo, county of Kalamazoo, State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Size and Number Indicators, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is the construction of a device by means of which the absence and presence of articles of merchandise which are sized or numbered can be indicated on the cases for holding the same. Especially on boot and shoe cartons and hat-boxes my invention may be found of great utility, as it saves the merchant the annoyance and labor of handling over his stock to ascertain what sizes or numbers he has on sale.

The construction of my device consists in a perforated plate of metal, or other suitable material, through which perforations characters or figures stamped or printed on a paper card or metal plate show, corresponding to the sizes or numbers of the articles the case contains on which the device is used.

Its construction further consists in sliding gates for canceling or covering said characters or figures at will.

Another feature of my device is an opening and receptacle for inserting blank cards, upon which may be written the style and price of goods, &c.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective of the device; Fig. 2, the card or plate containing the figures or characters; Fig. 3, a cross-sectional view of device; Fig. 4, surface view of gate; Fig. 5, side view of gate, and Fig. 6 the device secured to a case.

B B are the perforations of the face-plate, Fig. 1, through which show the characters on

card or plate E, which perforations may be of any number and form desirable. D D are the gates, two of which are seen closed in Fig. 1, hiding the figures 3½ and 5½. These gates may be made by blocking them out of thin metal or other material, and bending each end at right angles with the face of said gates, forming projections, as seen in Fig. 5, which serve to hold the gates in place, one of which projections, C, is made smaller than the other, and moves in slots C' C', cut through the face-plate in Fig. 1. The larger of these projections form handles to open and shut the gates by.

A is the opening through which the blank card will show when inserted in the receptacle c.

The card or plate E is secured to the back face of the perforated plate, Fig. 1, by bending the sides and ends of said perforated plate over on the back face of plate E, as shown at e e in Fig. 3; or the said plates may be secured to each other with rivets.

The operation of the device is as follows: If all the sizes or numbers are in the case, the gates D D are all left open. Whenever any size is all sold out, it is indicated by closing the gate, which will cover the character representing said size.

What I claim, and desire to secure, is—

The combination of the face-plate, Fig. 1, provided with sliding gates D D and perforations B B and C' C', with the solid plate E, containing characters printed or engraved upon it, arranged to show through perforations B B, as and for the purpose specified.

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