

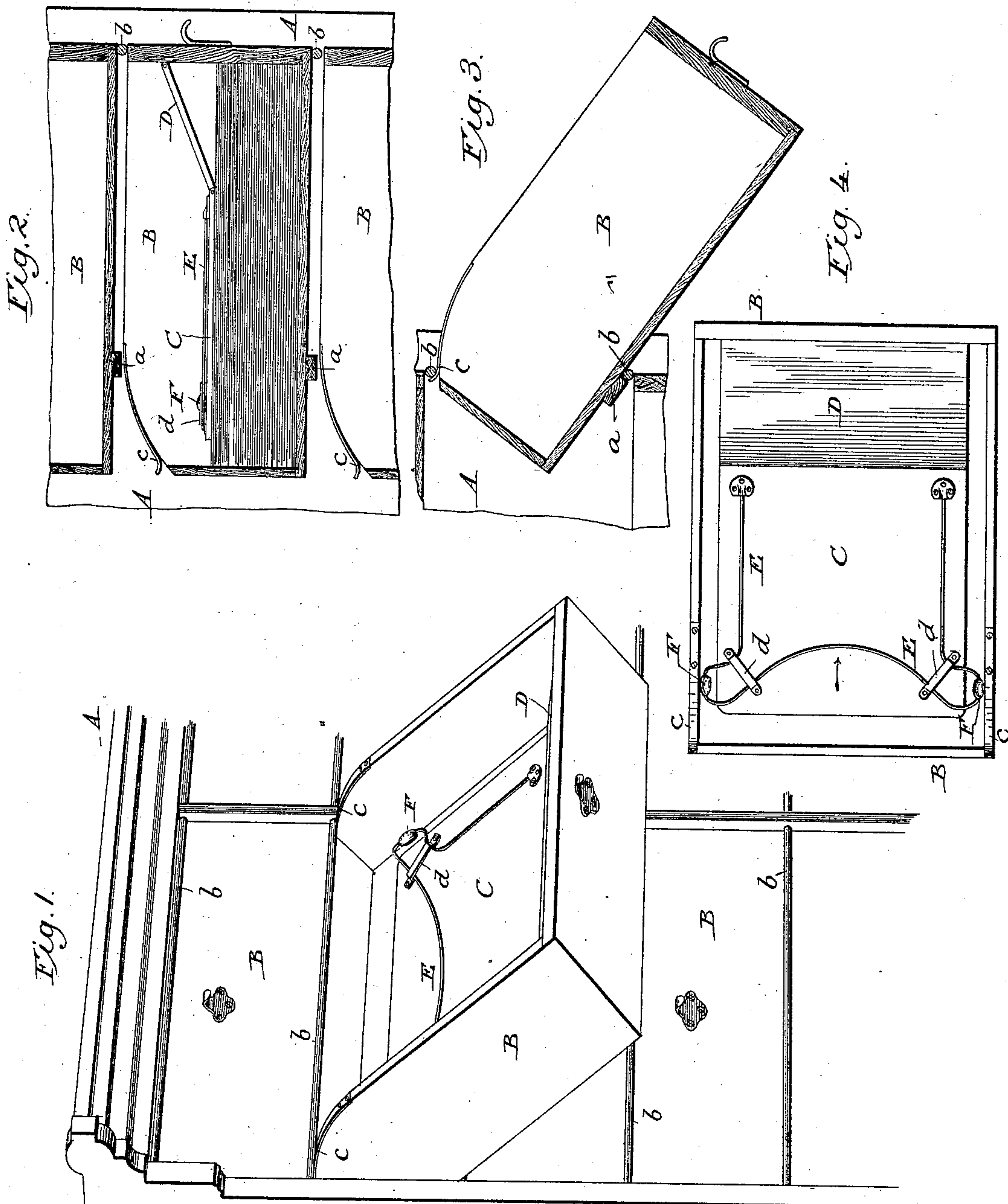
(No Model.)

J. C. LANG.

DOCUMENT CASE OR RECORD CABINET, &c.

No. 359,451.

Patented Mar. 15, 1887.



Attest  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## DOCUMENT-CASE OR RECORD-CABINET, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 359,451, dated March 15, 1887.

Application filed March 22, 1883. Serial No. 89,127. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN C. LANG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing Cases or Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of cases or cabinets in which drawers, trays, or like receptacles are arranged to slide horizontally into and out of the case or cabinet proper; and it is the aim of the invention to provide a simple construction by which said trays, when drawn forward from the cabinet, may be automatically arrested and supported in such position as to permit convenient examination of the contents.

To this end the invention consists, essentially, in providing the cabinet and the tray at the top and bottom with stops or shoulders arranged to engage directly with corresponding stops or shoulders in the cabinet, as hereinafter more fully explained.

I am aware that file-boxes have been arranged to tip forward about their lower forward corners as a fulcrum, and without the sliding motion; also that trays and drawers have been pivoted to the forward ends of horizontal slides mounted in a case or cabinet; but I believe myself to be the first to provide stops or supporting devices by which a horizontally-sliding tray may be engaged directly with the case or cabinet, both at the top and bottom, in such manner that when withdrawn from the cabinet it is supported by direct engagement therewith.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents in perspective a portion of the case or cabinet constructed on my plan, one of the trays being shown in its outer position. Fig. 2 represents a vertical longitudinal section through a portion of the cabinet with the trays in their closed position. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing one of the trays in its extended or projected position. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of one of the trays, showing the device for confining the papers therein.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the case or cabinet, which may be constructed in any appropriate manner, with horizontal cells

or openings to receive the trays or drawers B, which are adapted to slide into and out of the cabinet, after the manner of ordinary drawers.

In applying my improvement I provide each tray at its lower side, and at a suitable distance from the rear end, with a stop or shoulder, *a*, and also provide the cabinet at its front, below the tray, with a stop or shoulder, *b*, preferably in the form of a transverse rod, as shown. I further provide the tray B, at its rear end, with top shoulders or stops, *c*, which may consist, as shown, of metal straps attached thereto and bent upward at their rear ends. Above the tray, at the front of the cabinet, I provide a stationary stop or shoulder to encounter the shoulder *c*. The rod *b*, which serves as the under stop for one tray, may be used as the upper stop for the next tray below, as shown in the drawings.

The operation is as follows: The tray being drawn forward slides bodily from the cabinet until its under shoulder, *a*, encounters the stop or shoulder *b*, the effect of which is to arrest the outward movement and prevent the disconnection of the tray from the cabinet. If, now, the front of the tray is released, it will fall by gravity until its upper shoulder, *c*, encounters the upper stop or shoulder, *b*, whereupon the tray is arrested and supported in its projected position, as shown in Fig. 3.

It will be observed that under my system the tray is engaged directly with the cabinet above at its upper and its lower edges, and thus supported firmly in position without the employment of intermediate parts. I commonly curve the upper rear corners of the tray, as shown in the drawings; but it will be manifest to those familiar with the art that if the parts are properly proportioned this curvature will be unnecessary. If it be required to detach a tray from the cabinet, it is only necessary to raise its front end slightly from the position shown in Fig. 3, and then lift the rear end bodily until the stop or shoulder *a* is clear of the stop *b*, whereupon the tray may be withdrawn from the cabinet.

The essence of the invention resides in providing the tray with stop-shoulders, both at the top and bottom, adapted to interlock with corresponding stops or shoulders on the cab-



inet, and it will be manifest to the skilled mechanic that the form of the parts may be essentially modified without changing their mode of action or departing from the limits of my invention.

In order to confine papers or similar articles within the tray, I propose to employ the pressure-plate or follower C, hinged or jointed at one end to a leaf, D, which is in turn jointed to the front of the tray, this construction permitting the leaf D to be turned into and out of position at will. To secure it firmly in place, I provide the locking device, consisting simply of a wire, E, bent into approximately the form of the letter U, its two extremities being fastened to the leaf, and its two corners projected outward loosely beneath guides or straps d, so as to bear against the inner walls of the tray. On pressing the middle portion of this wire in the direction indicated by the arrow it is drawn inward from the walls of the tray, thus releasing the leaf or follower.

I recommend the application of rubber or similar cushions F to the locking-wire, for the purpose of giving firm engagement with the tray.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In combination with an inclosing case or cabinet, a sliding and tilting tray adapted to fall to an inclined position when partly withdrawn, and to interlock when thus tilted directly with the case, substantially as described,

and a stop, substantially as shown, to arrest the sliding movement of the tray when withdrawn to the proper position for tilting.

2. In combination with an inclosing case or cabinet, a sliding and tilting tray mounted therein and sustained directly thereby, said tray provided with a shoulder or stop to limit its outward sliding motion, and adapted, as described, to drop to an inclined position and interlock directly with the cabinet.

3. In combination with the sliding trays or drawers provided with stops at the top and bottom, the receiving-cabinet provided with the front rod lying between the trays and serving as an under stop for one and an upper stop for the next, as described.

4. In combination with the cabinet having stops at its front at different heights, the intermediate sliding tray having the under stop at a distance from the rear end, and the upper stops on the rear rounded corners, as shown.

5. In combination with the tray or drawer, the internal leaf or follower jointed thereto, and the fastening-wire of substantially U form applied thereto, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN C. LANG.

Witnesses:

L. C. YOUNG,

WM. M. SMITH.