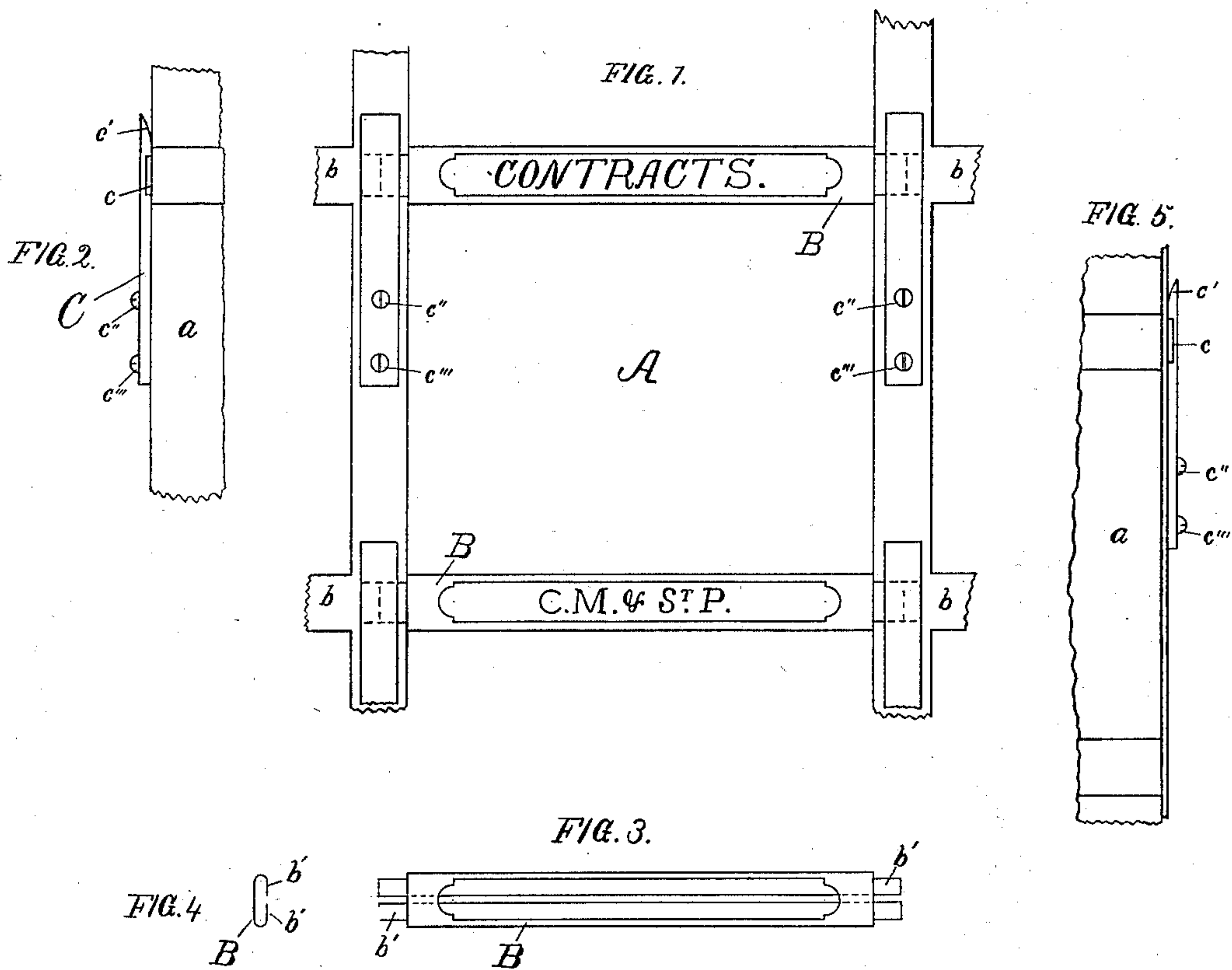


(No Model.)

E. A. CANNON.
LABEL HOLDER.

No. 374,395.

Patented Dec. 6, 1887.



WITNESSES:

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EDWARD A. CANNON, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CLARENCE B. HANNA, OF SAME PLACE.

LABEL-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 374,395, dated December 6, 1887.

Application filed April 4, 1887. Serial No. 233,685. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD A. CANNON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Minneapolis, county of Hennepin, State of Minnesota, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Label-Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to label-holders, and has for its object to provide a secure and efficient removable holder for labels which are designed to indicate the names of owners of letter-boxes, the contents of pigeon-holes and file-cases, and similar purposes.

My invention is in the nature of an improvement on the construction shown and described in my Patent No. 327,763, of date October 6, 1885; and it consists in the peculiar device hereinafter described and particularly claimed.

In the drawings, like letters referring to like parts throughout, Figure 1 is a front view of a letter-box or file-case, showing my label-holder in position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a portion of the letter-box, giving an edge view of the spring-clasp or hooked tongue for detachably securing the holder in position. Fig. 3 is a plan of the holder detached. Fig. 4 is an end view of the holder, and Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a slight modification wherein I show a metallic facing on the wood directly under the spring-clasp.

A is a post-office letter-box, desk pigeon-hole, or file-case. *a a* are the vertical and *b b* are the horizontal walls of the same.

B is the label-holder, which is composed of thin sheet metal, preferably nickel-plated, which is stamped out of a shape to fold into the desired design, such as to give a retaining fold or loop for holding the label, with its central front portion cut away for exposing the same. At its extremities the holder B is preferably provided with longitudinally-projecting lugs *b*, formed by the continuation of the back portions of the longitudinal folds. The label is slipped into the holder from either end, each of which is open, as shown in Fig. 4.

C is a metallic spring-clasp, which is cut away on its interior face at *c*, so as to form a suitable groove or seat for the ends of the holder or lugs *b*, and is provided with an outwardly-

curved cam-surface, *c'*, on the inner face of its upper extremity. It is also provided with suitable holes, *c''*, for set-screws *c'''* at its lower extremity. These spring-clasps are placed—one each on the vertical partitions *a*—in such positions that the seats *c* shall be in line with each other and with the face of the horizontal partitions *b*, and are rigidly connected to the vertical partitions at their lower extremities. The inner faces of the clasps will then lie flush against the outer faces of the vertical walls of the pigeon-hole or letter-box, and their upper extremities will spring outward sufficiently far to allow the label to be inserted into or removed from the seat *c* at will. It will be readily understood, of course, that if it be desired to use the label-holder on the front end of a drawer or the lid of a box or closed pigeon-hole the spring-clasps may be as readily applied thereto in the relative positions necessary to bring the holder where desired.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the clasp is shown as applied directly to the wood, and this is the way in which it will ordinarily be used; but if it is found that the clasp wears unduly into the wood a metallic facing may be placed on the wood, as shown in Fig. 5, directly under the clasp.

The operation of the device is clear from the description already given. The label having been placed in the holder, the holder is set with its lower edges against the cam-surface *c'* and is pressed downward. The spring-clasps will yield outward until the holder falls into the seat *c*, when the hook will clasp over the upper edge of the holder and securely retain it in position. When so desired, it may be readily removed by pulling the springs outward and raising the holder upward, or by at the same time pulling the holder outward and raising it upward.

The holder is shown with the lugs *b* and the clasp-hooks over the top of the same; but it will be readily understood that the seat *c* may be made larger, the lugs dispensed with, and the hook be made to clasp over the top of the whole holder.

I have found by experience that this simple form of detachably securing label-holders to letter-boxes, pigeon-holes, and similar receptacles is efficient, satisfactory, and very economical.

nomical. It fills a need much felt in post offices, railroad-offices, drug-stores, and in all large offices where a great number of file-cases are in constant use, the customary method of pasting on the labels being utterly unreliable and all other devices being complicated and costly in comparison with mine.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is as follows:

1. In combination with a letter-box, pigeon-hole frame, or similar receptacle, a removable label-holder and independent spring-clasps rigidly secured at one extremity to said receptacle and having their free ends engaging the opposite ends of said holder and clamping the same to the receptacle, whereby the label-holder is detachably secured to the receptacle.

2. In combination with a letter-box, pigeon-hole frame, or similar receptacle, the removable label-holder B and the independent

spring-clasps C, provided with the holder-seat *c* and hooks on the inner faces of their free ends, said clasps being rigidly secured to said receptacle at one end and engaging the extremities of the said holder with their other or free ends, substantially as described, whereby the holder may be securely and detachably connected to the receptacle.

3. In combination with a letter-box, pigeon-hole frame, or similar receptacle, the removable label-holder B, provided with the end lugs or tenons, *b*, and the spring bracket-clasps C, provided with the holder-seat *c* and the cam-surfaced hook *c'*, said clasps being adapted to grasp and detachably retain said holder, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

EDWARD A. CANNON.

In presence of—

EMMA F. ELMORE,
J. F. WILLIAMSON.