

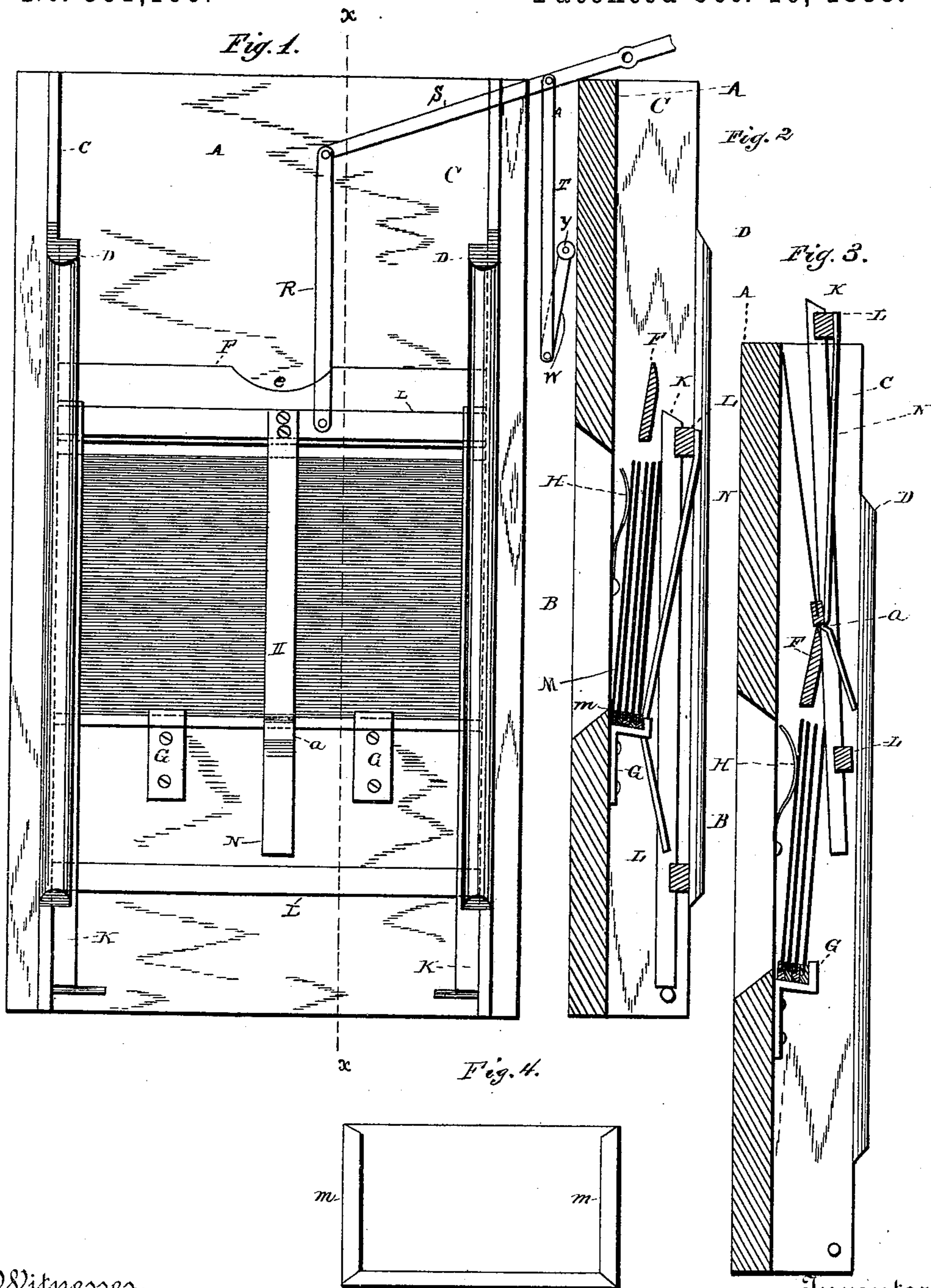
(No Model.)

G. D. KEACH.

DEVICE FOR AUTOMATICALLY EXHIBITING BUSINESS CARDS, &c.

No. 391,160.

Patented Oct. 16, 1888.



Witnesses,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR AUTOMATICALLY EXHIBITING BUSINESS-CARDS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 391,160, dated October 16, 1888.

Application filed March 15, 1888. Serial No. 267,265. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE D. KEACH a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Automatically Exhibiting Business-Cards, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to devices for exhibiting business-cards, photographs, samples, &c., for advertising purposes or for pastime; and it has for its object to provide a simple inexpensive device which may be placed in the upper part of a desk such as are found in hotel reading-rooms and other places of public resort, or in a frame and placed in show-windows, to automatically at intervals remove the back card or photograph from a pack or number of cards or photographs which have been placed in the device and drop it in front of the pack, so that it may be seen through an opening formed in the frame; and it consists of the parts and combinations of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a rear elevation of my device; Fig. 2, a vertical section on the line X X, Fig. 1, showing the movable slide in position to raise a card; Fig. 3, a like view showing the slide raised and a card in position to drop to the front; Fig. 4, a side view of a card.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents a panel for a desk or other article of that nature, having an opening, B, therein, which may or may not be covered by a pane of glass, as desired. To the rear side of the panel an upright, C, is secured on each side of the opening, having an overlapping strip to form a retaining-guide, D, for the side bars, K, of the sliding frame. At a point slightly above the upper end of the opening in the panel, and at a suitable distance from the rear side of the panel, a cross-bar, F, having a beveled upper edge, *d*, is secured in an inclined position longitudinally to the uprights

C, and is cut away on its upper edge at about its center to form a recess, as at *e*. At the lower end of the opening two angle-irons are secured to form rests G, on which the cards, M, to be exhibited are supported. On each side of the opening on the rear side of the panel A one end of a curved flat or wire spring, H, is secured, so as to press the cards back against the sliding frame. This frame consists of the side bars, K, connected at their upper and lower ends by cross-bars L, to the upper cross-bar of which a flat bar, N, of some suitable spring metal, is secured at one end and extends downwardly and inwardly, and is bent to form a hook or catch, *a*; or the hook may be welded, riveted, or otherwise secured thereto, as found most convenient. The object of the hook is to project slightly under the rear-most card, so that when the frame is moved upwardly said card will be carried with it until the bottom of the card is lifted above the beveled upper edge of bar F, when, upon the downward movement of the sliding frame, it will drop down in front of the pack, the springs H being of such light material as to be easily forced toward the front and permit the passage of the card. The cards are each bound at their lower edge and partly along their sides with tin, *m*, which gives them sufficient weight to overcome the strength of the springs H.

When the sliding frame is raised by the means hereinafter described, the hook on spring N will come in contact with the side of bar F and force the spring backward until the hook reaches the cut-out or recess *e* in said bar, when it moves forward, carrying the card with it, and on the downward movement of the frame the hook is again pushed back, thus removing the support from the card and permitting it to drop down.

The sliding frame may be actuated in any desired manner and by any motor, and I show one means of moving the same in Fig. 1, in which R represents a short rod or link, connected at one end to the upper bar, L, of the sliding frame and at its other end to one end of a lever, S, the other end of which is suitably fulcrumed to any part of the frame-work of the device. At a suitable point in lever S one end of a rod, T, is pivoted, its other end

being connected to a crank, W, on the end of a shaft, Y, which is actuated by any suitable spring or water motor.

It will be understood that any number of these devices may be arranged in one desk or frame and all operated by suitable connections from the motor.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, in a device for automatically exhibiting business-cards and the like, of a panel having an opening therein, uprights having the retaining-guides secured on each side of said opening, the angle-irons secured beneath said opening, a longitudinally-inclined bar having a beveled upper edge provided with a recess extending across said panel, a sliding frame having a spring secured thereto, a hook on said spring, and means for giving said frame a vibratory or reciprocating movement, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a device for automatically exhibiting business-cards and the

like, of a sliding frame, guides for said frame, a spring having a hook near its free end secured to said frame, an inclined cross-bar having a beveled upper edge and a recess formed in said edge, the cards having metal-bound edges, supports for said cards, springs to hold said cards against the sliding frame, and means for reciprocating said frame, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the sliding frame of a device for automatically exhibiting cards and the like, of the link R, connected at one end to said frame, the lever S, fulcrumed at one end and connected to link R at the other, the rod T, pivotally connected to said lever S, the crank W, connected to rod T, and means for revolving said crank, substantially as described.

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

GEO. D. KEACH.

Witnesses:

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R. T. YATES.