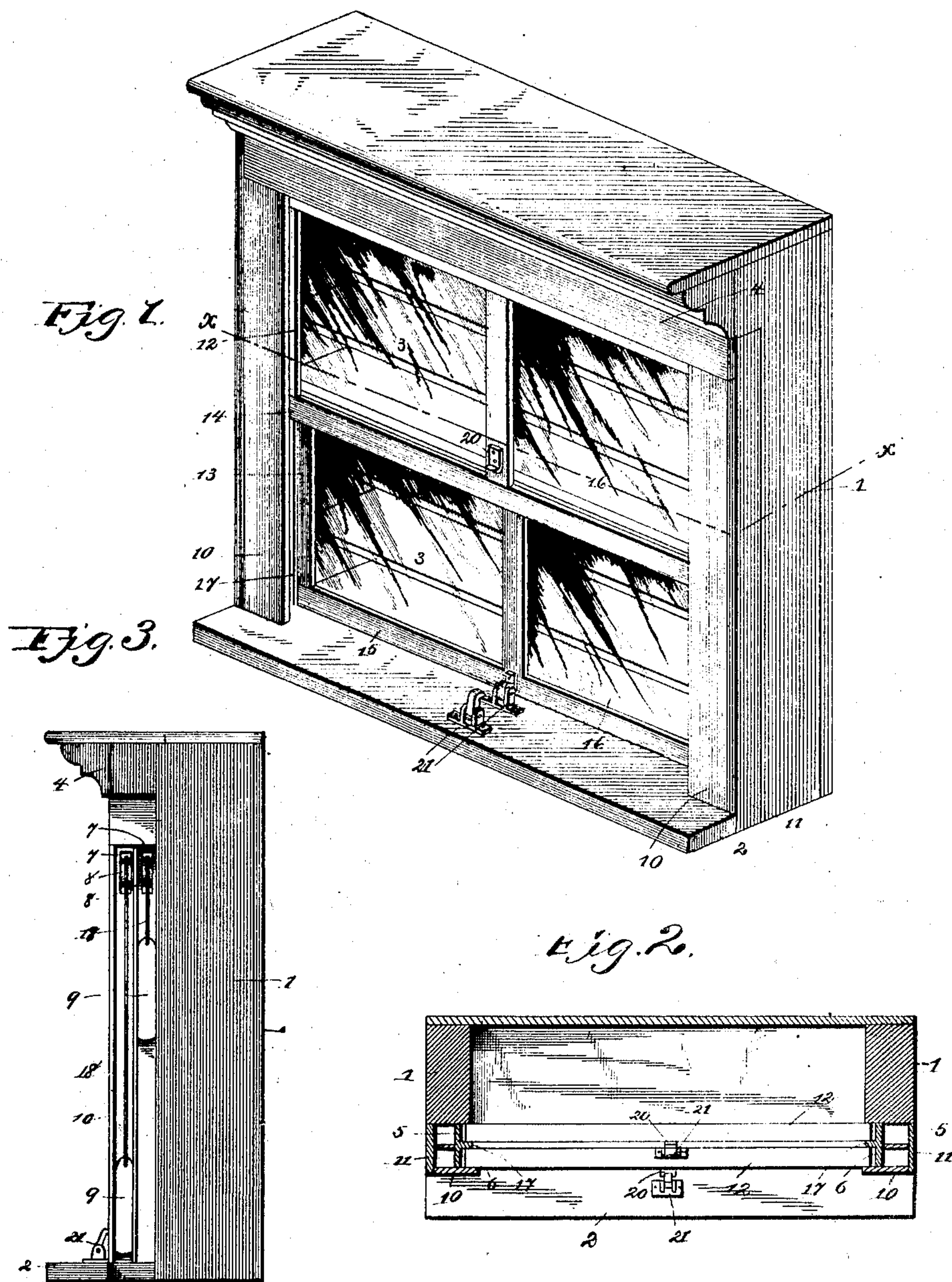


(No Model.)

W. W. McALPINE.
SHELF.

No. 424,333.

Patented Mar. 25, 1890.



Witnesses:

E. C. Mordeman
W. H. Hall

By *his* Attorneys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WATSON McALPINE, OF BOLIGEE, ALABAMA.

SHELF.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 424,333, dated March 25, 1890.

Application filed August 17, 1889. Serial No. 321,063. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WATSON McALPINE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boligee, in the county of Greene and State of Alabama, have invented a new and useful Shelf, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to shelves especially adapted for stores, and among the objects are to provide a series of shelves of the usual construction with means for preventing access thereto of dust, vermin, &c.

With these general objects in view the invention consists, mainly, in mounting upper and lower sashes in each section of shelving and weighting the same so that they have a tendency to rise; and, further, in suitable catches located at the base of the section for engaging catches on the sashes, whereby they are prevented from influence by the weights and remain in a closed position, to automatically rise when the catches are disengaged.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective of a section of shelving constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on the line $x x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a side elevation.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 represents the side walls of a section, 2 the base, and 3 the shelves mounted in the side walls in the usual manner.

4 represents the usual transverse molding or crown-piece, which, in this instance, in lieu of being set into recesses formed in the edges of the side walls 1 and being flush therewith, is simply secured thereto and projects therefrom. A jamb 5 is secured to each of the side walls directly under the molding 4 and at its inner face, thus forming a rear recess 6. Openings 7 are formed in the jambs 5 at their upper ends, and in said openings are mounted weight-pulleys 8, carrying weights 9 at their lower ends, said weights being located in the recesses 6. A bead 10 serves as the front wall of the recess 6, and covering-strips 11 are fitted within the recess at the outside of the side walls, and are removable for the purpose of giving access to the weights.

12 represents an upper sash and 13 the

lower sash, the latter being next to the shelves. The lower rail of the upper outer sash and the upper rail of the lower inner sash 14 and 15, respectively, are beveled in the usual manner to overlap and form tight connections with each other. Any number of lights 16 may be provided in each sash. The sashes are mounted in the jambs 5 and are divided by a divisional bead 17, and to the upper end of each of the sashes are connected their respective sash-operating cords 18 and 19—the former to the upper sash 14 and the latter to the lower sash 15—and to the terminals of the cords are connected the sash-weights.

Catches 20 are secured to the outer face of the lower rails of each of the sashes, and are in line with and are adapted to engage spring-latches 21, secured to the base 2, it being understood that the latch for engaging the catch of the lower rail of the lower sash is located intermediate the sashes and the other latch outside or in front of the path of the lower rail of the upper sash.

The weights are of such specific gravity as to have a constant tendency to raise both sashes.

The normal position of the sashes is as shown in Fig. 1—the upper sash raised by the influence of the weight and the lower sash retained in its lowered position against the influence of its weight by the catch of said sash engaging the spring-latch.

To gain access to the shelves protected by the upper sashes, said upper sash is drawn down until its catch 20 engages the companion catch 21 on the base 2; when it is held from an upward movement. By disengaging the catches the weights return the upper sash to position. To gain access to the lower sash, the catches 20 and latch 21 thereof, which normally remain interlocked, are disconnected, and the weights connected with said sash draw the same upwardly and expose the lower shelves.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination, with a section of shelving provided with opposite pairs of vertical sash-guides and pulleys at the upper ends of the same, of a pair of sashes mounted in the guides, opposite sash-ropes connected to the

upper ends of the sashes, passed over the pulleys, and connected at their opposite ends with weights adapted to overbalance the sashes, lugs projecting from the lower rails of the sashes, and catches for engaging the same secured to the base of the shelving, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM WATSON McALPINE.

Witnesses:

JNO. A. HAYLEY,

THOS. J. MILLER.