

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

S. A. BROMBERG.
ADVERTISING CARD HOLDER.

No. 435,352.

Patented Aug. 26, 1890.

Fig. 1.

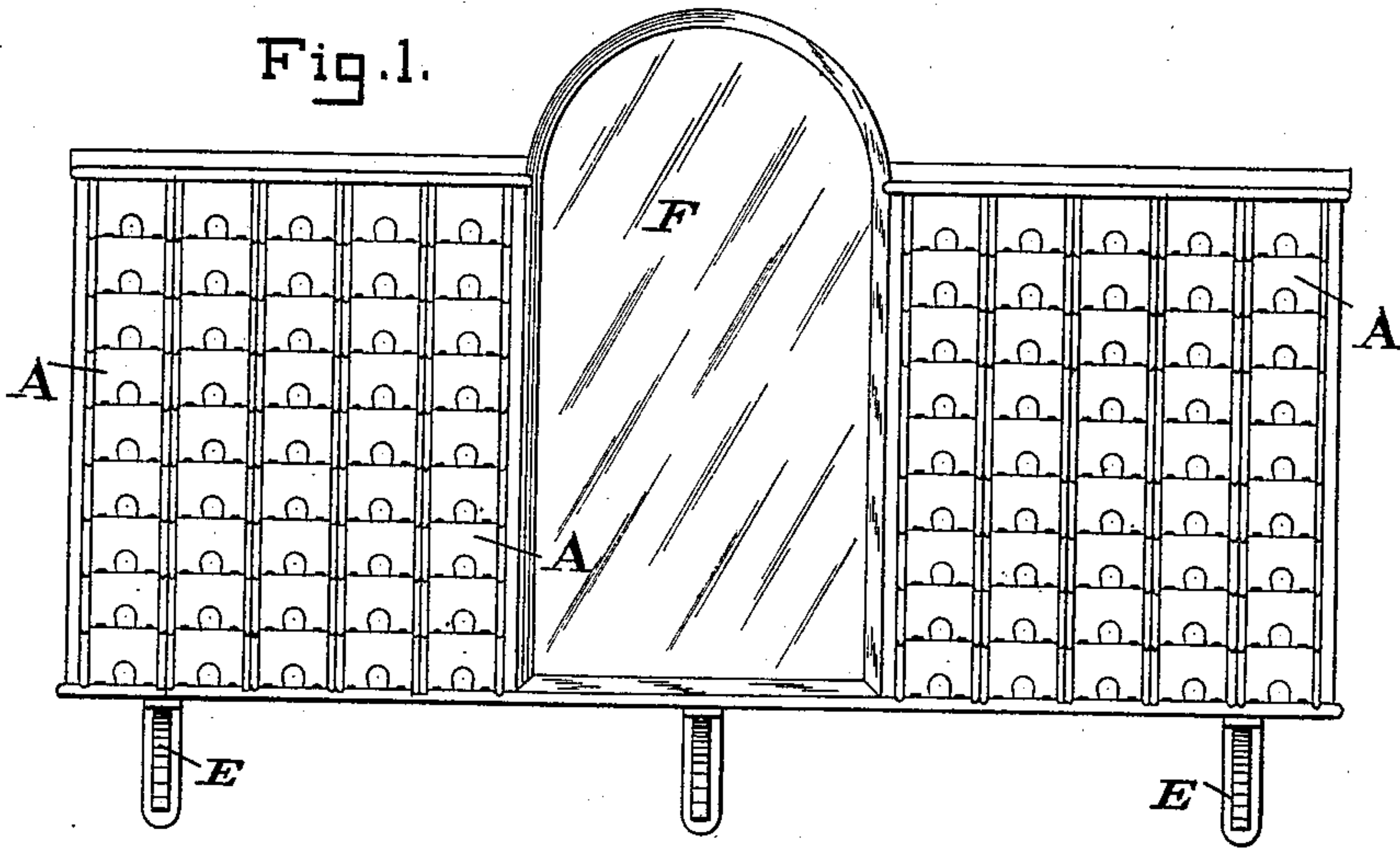


Fig. 2.

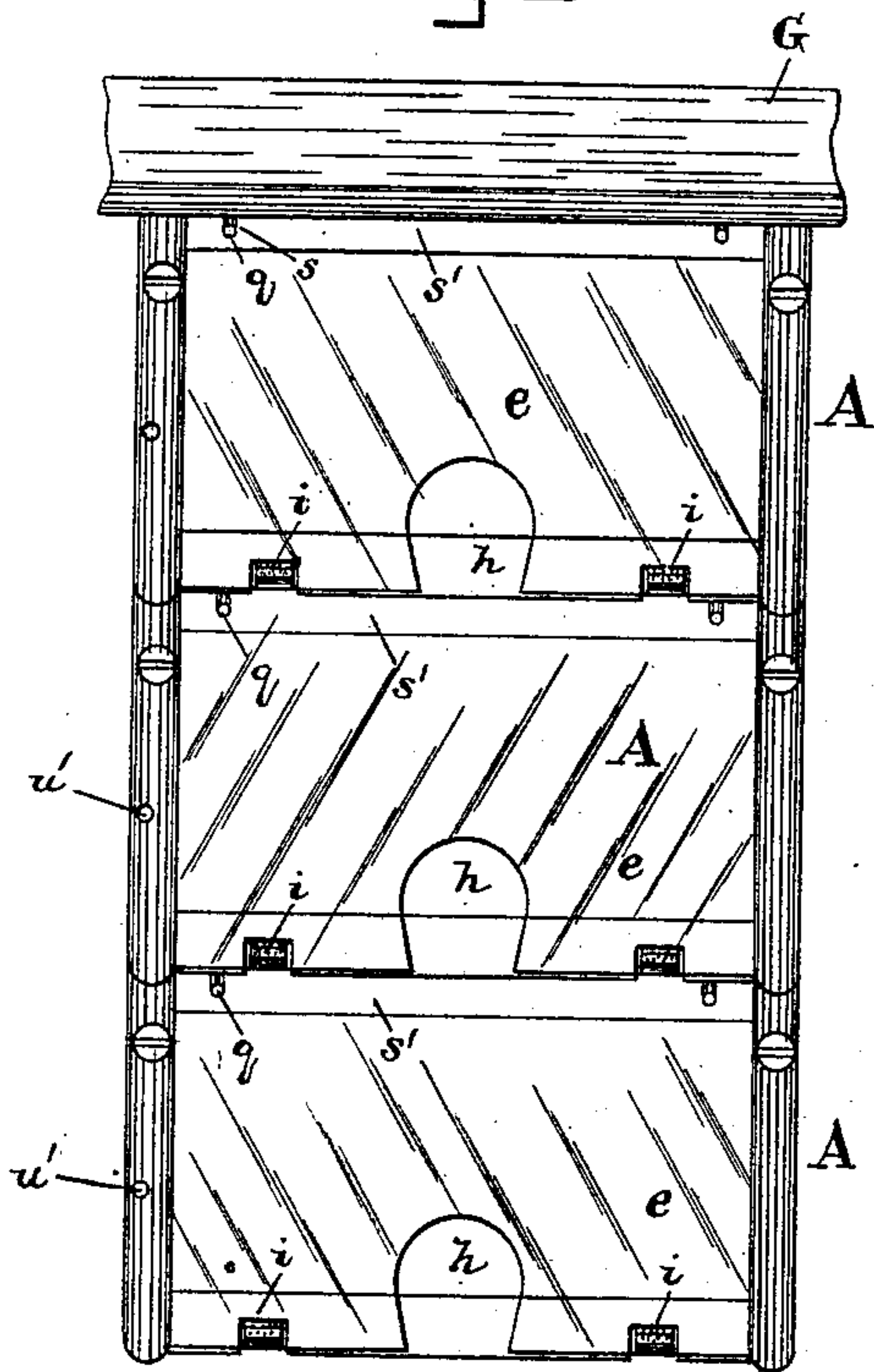
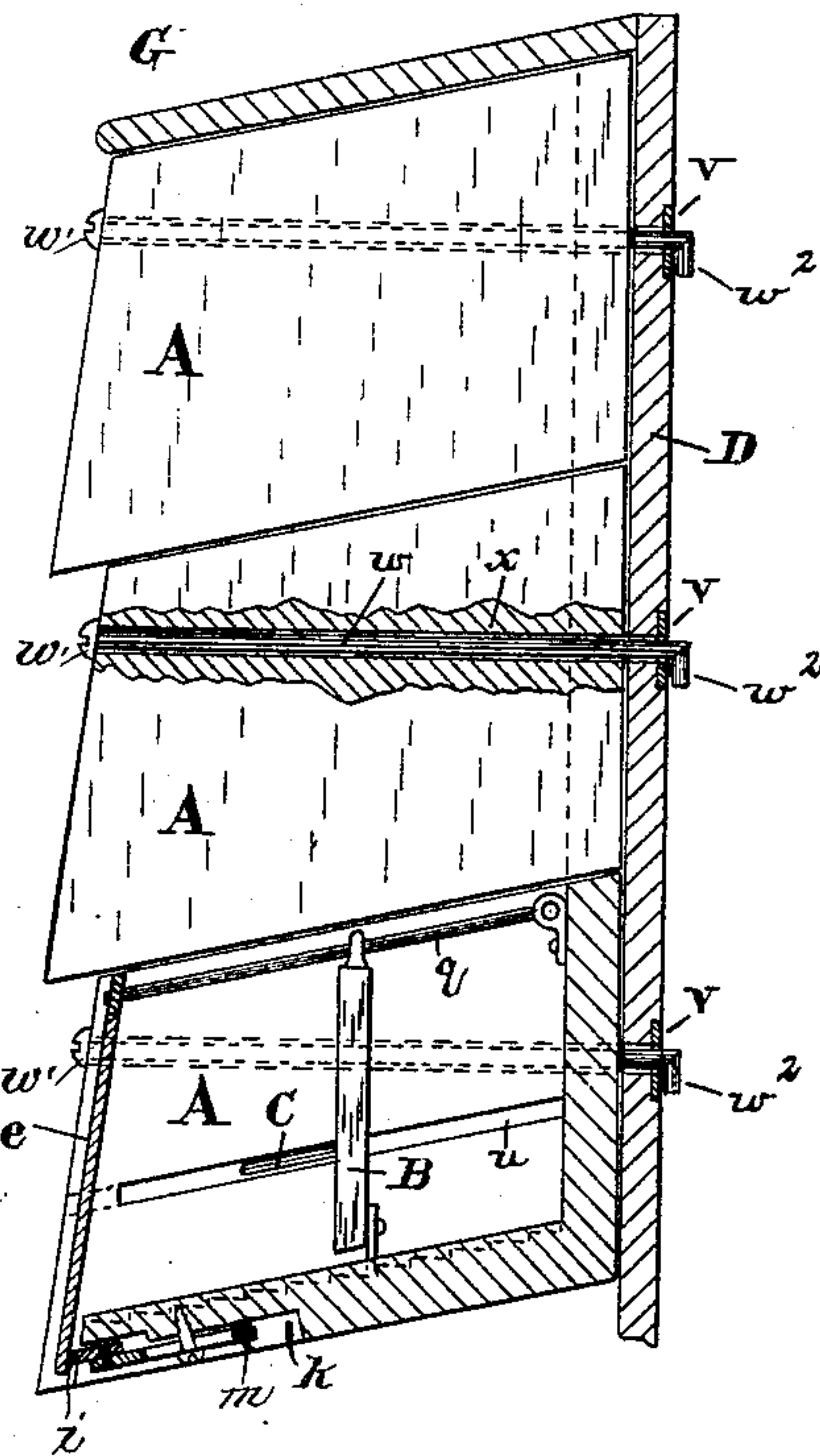


Fig. 3.



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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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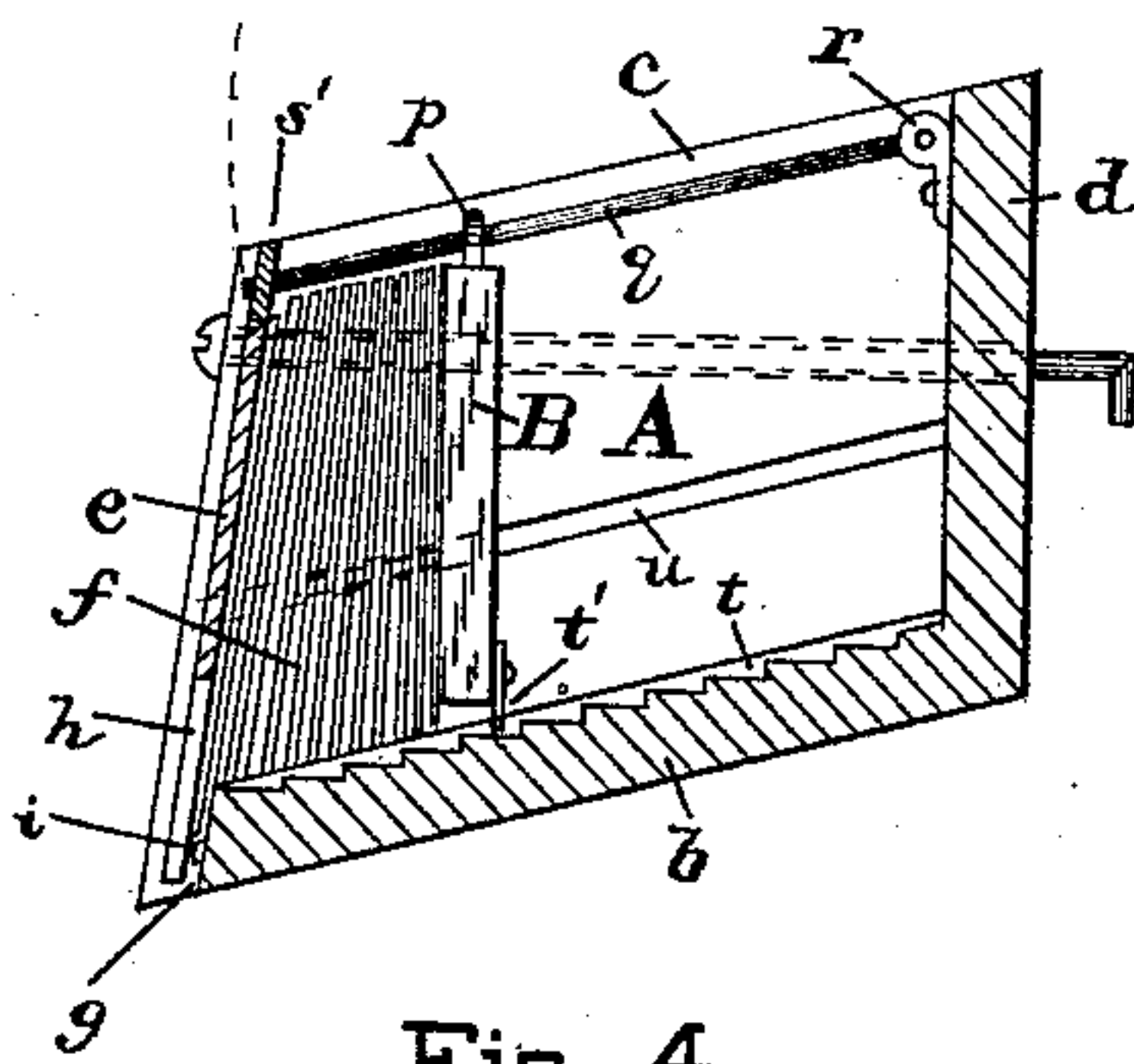


Fig. 4.

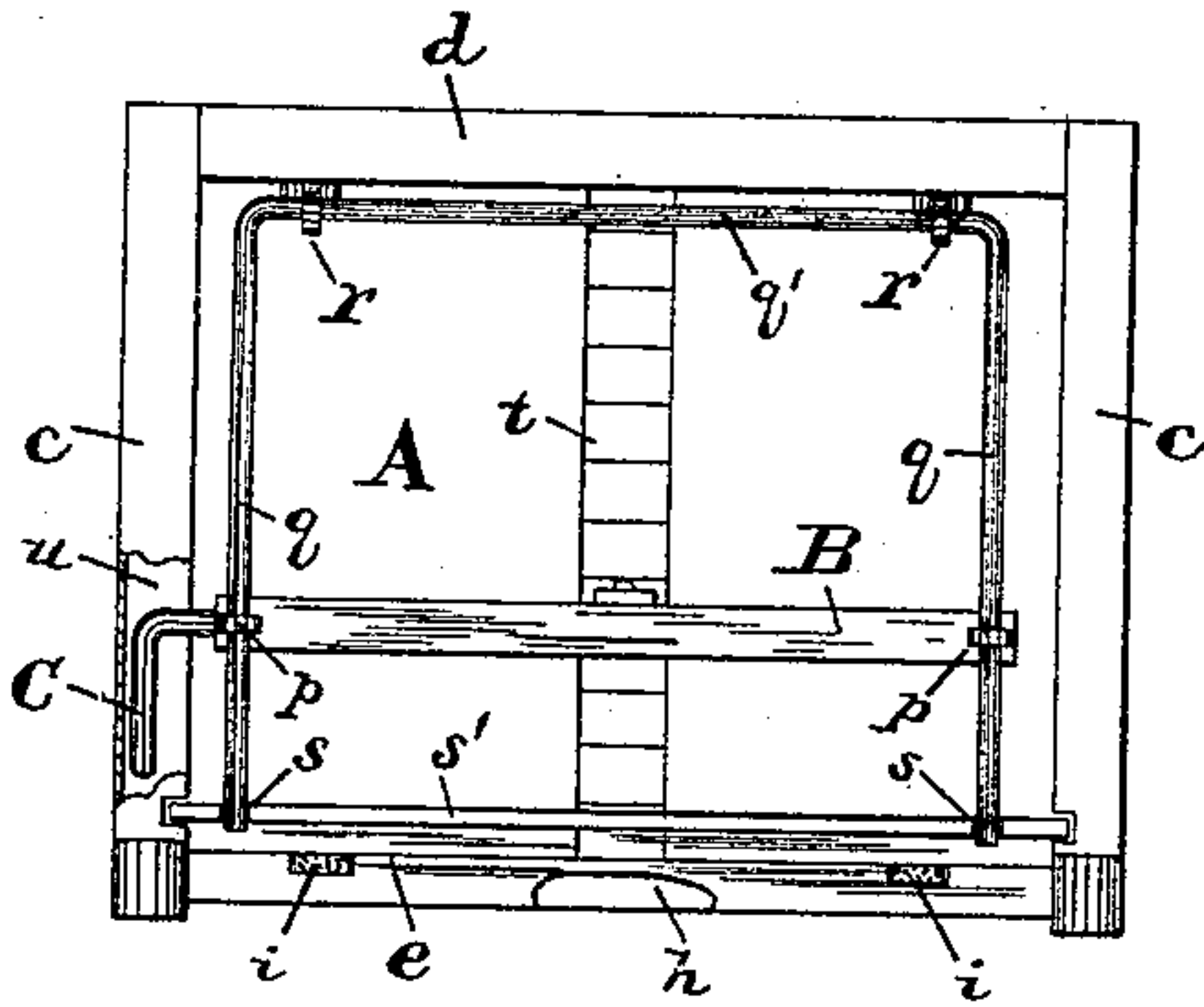


Fig. 5.

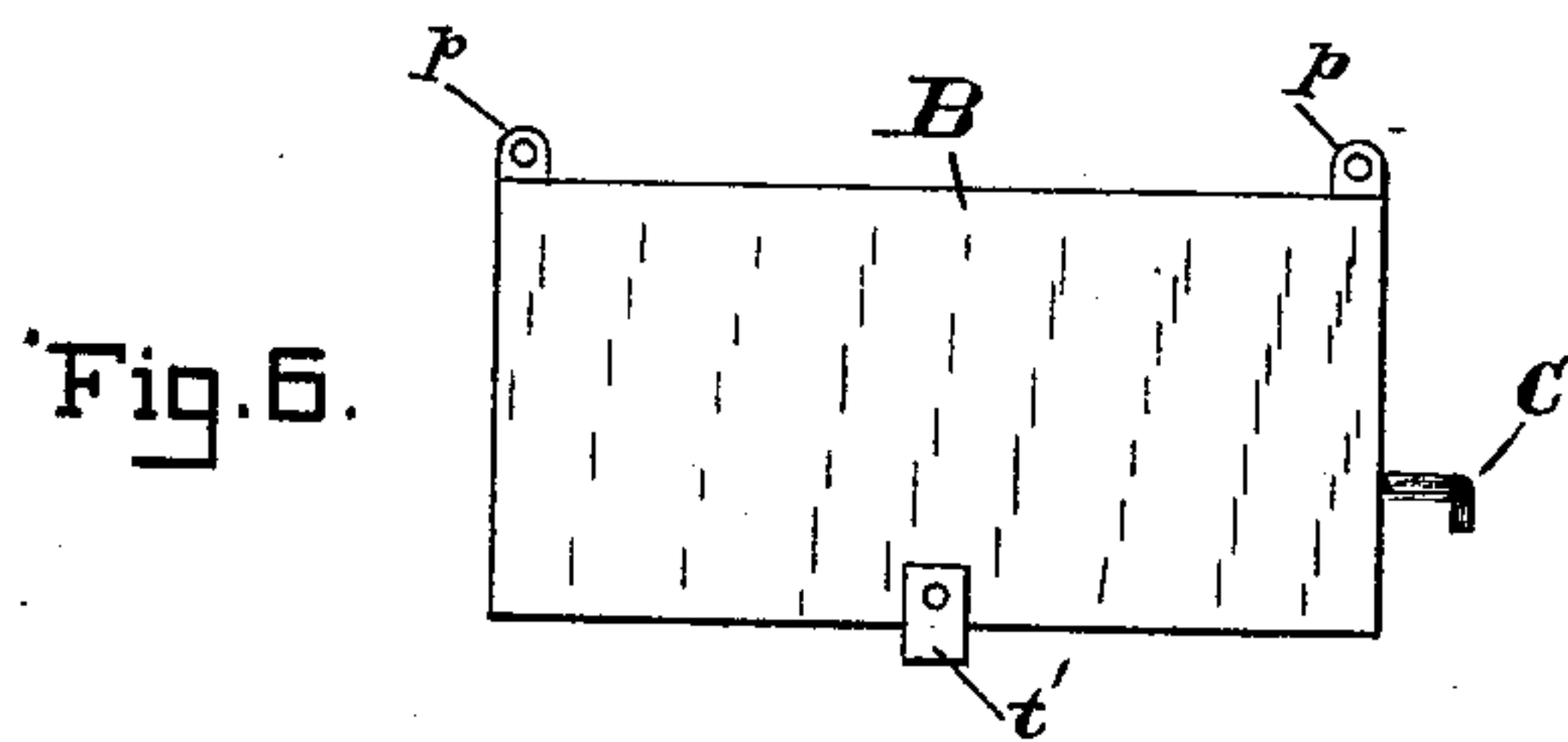


Fig. 6.

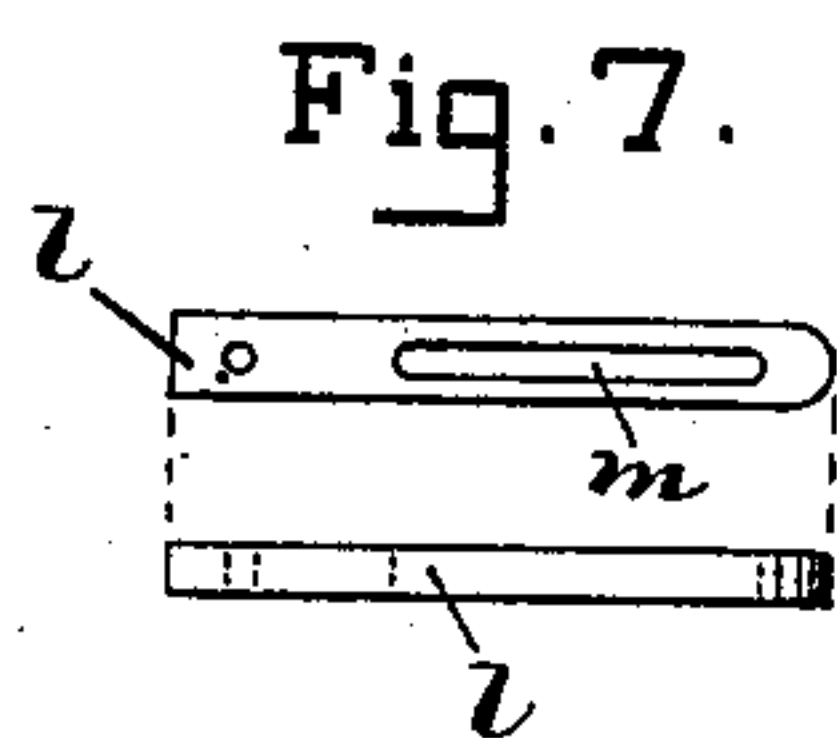


Fig. 7.

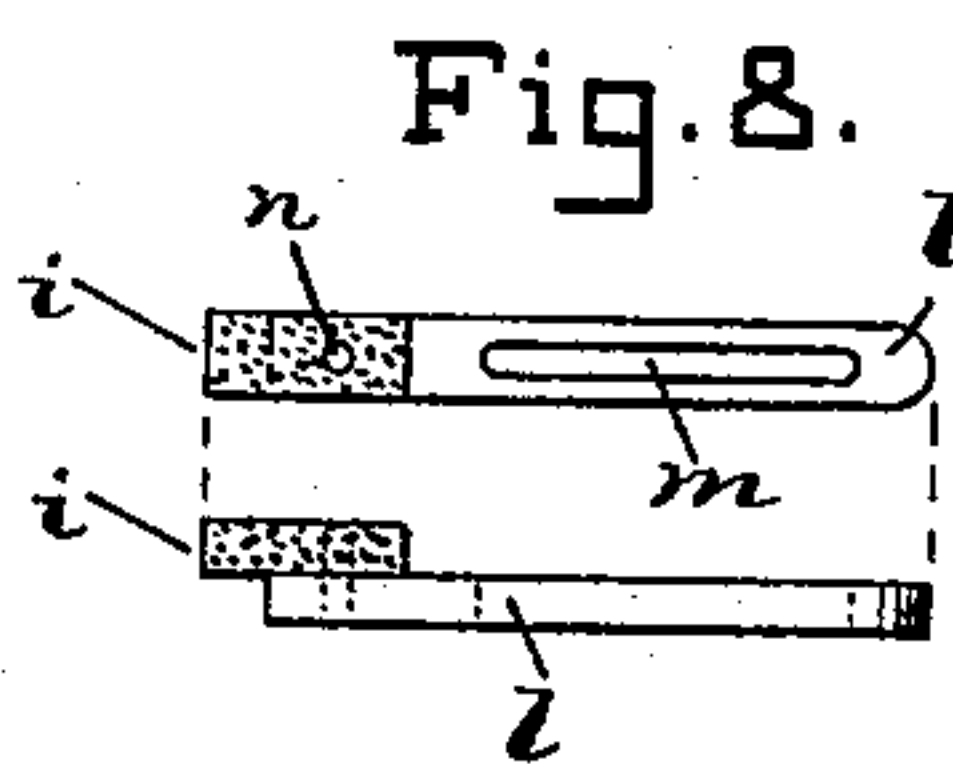


Fig. 8.

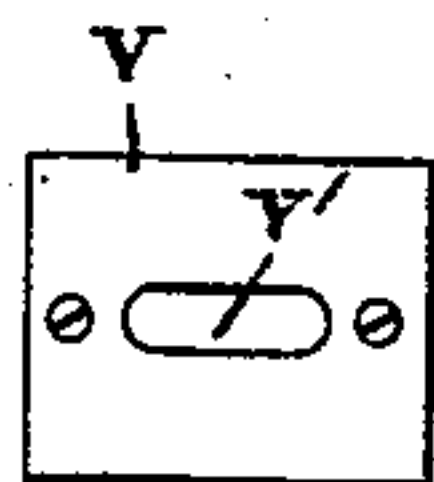


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL A. BROMBERG, OF LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ISAAC H. SCATES AND JOHN R. WOODS, BOTH OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

ADVERTISING-CARD HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 435,352, dated August 26, 1890.

Application filed March 26, 1890. Serial No. 345,333. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL A. BROMBERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lexington, in the county of Fayette and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Advertising-Business-Card Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a holder for business-cards, and comprises means for holding a number of the small cards, such as are usually carried by business men in the pocket, and displaying one of the number and providing for the easy and convenient removal of one card at a time.

The object of the invention is to provide means for displaying and facilitating the distribution of business-cards, so that by use of the devices comprising the invention a business man may have a number of his business-cards placed in some conspicuous public place—such as the reading-room of a hotel or the passenger-room of a railway-station—where the cards will be kept safely and displayed to view, and where any one interested may detach a card.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a frame supporting a number of the business-card holders. Fig. 2 is a front view of three of the improved card-holders in the normal position as when attached to the frame. Fig. 3 is a side and part sectional view of the three holders, showing details. Fig. 4 is a section of one holder. Fig. 5 is a top view of one holder. Fig. 6 is a back view of the card-follower of the holder. Figs. 7 and 8 are views of the device for checking the cards or preventing the removal of more than one at a time. Fig. 9 is a view of one of the catch-plates on the back of the frame.

The invention may be divided into two parts, to wit: first, the card-holder proper—as, for example, substantially like that shown in Figs. 4 and 5—and, second, the supporting-frame with card-holders on it, like that shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

The card-holder comprises a receptacle of

the proper size to contain, say, about a hundred cards, and has an open front or a glass front.

The letter A designates a receptacle having an inclined bottom *b*, two vertical sides *c*, and a back *d*. The top edges of the sides incline and are parallel with the bottom.

At the front the holder has a glass plate *e*.

The cards *f* are to be placed in the receptacle at the top and should stand up edgewise with the bottom edges resting on the inclined bottom *b*, and the front face bearing against the glass front *e*.

Between the glass front and the front edge of the inclined bottom is an open slot *g*, (see Figs. 3 and 4,) down through which one of the cards *f* may be drawn.

The glass plate at its lower edge is provided with a finger-notch *h*, so as to enable a person to place his thumb or finger in direct contact with the front card and thereby draw said card down through the slot *g*.

A check device is employed in connection with the open narrow slot *g*, to prevent more than one card at a time from being drawn out.

This device consists of a yielding presser-block *i*, attached to the bottom *b*, and projecting across the open slot *g* toward the glass plate *e*, as shown in Fig. 3. It will be seen that when a person places his thumb at the glass notch *h* against the front card and draws said card downward the back of the card will be in contact with the yielding presser-blocks *i*, which will hinder any other card than the front one from slipping down through the slot. The yielding block *i* may be rubber, leather, or other suitable material, and occupy a groove *k* in the bottom *b*. The blocks *i* in the present instance are each attached by a pin *n* to a metal bar *l*, which has a slot *m*. A screw *o* passes through the slot and into the bottom *b* and holds the bar in position.

A follower *B* is suspended at its top and hangs within the card-receptacle at the back of the cards *f*. The follower has at its top two eyes *p*, which fit loosely on the inclined wires *q*, and thus the follower may slide down the wires. In the present instance the wires *q* are connected by a cross-wire *q'*, which turns

loosely in two bearings r at the back d . The free ends of the two wires rest in notches s on a cross-bar s' at the front of the receptacle and over the glass plate. The follower B may be removed by lifting the free ends of the two wires q .

To prevent the lower part of the suspended follower from swinging backward, a racked groove t is made across the center of the bottom b , (see Figs. 4 and 5,) and a finger-pawl t' is attached to the follower and projects into the said racked groove. This device will allow the follower to slide forward, but will prevent it from being pushed back by any one when removing a card. The teeth of the racked groove are below the top surface of the bottom, and therefore do not hinder the cards from sliding forward.

An indicator C is provided to show when the cards in the receptacle are becoming nearly exhausted. This indicator consists of a wire C (see Figs. 4, 5, and 6) attached to the follower B at one end and projecting into an inclined groove u on one of the vertical sides c . The indicator-wire points forward toward the front, and a hole u' at the front of the receptacle has position coincident with the inclined groove u . Thus when upon the withdrawal of cards f the follower B has moved near enough to the front the end of the wire indicator C will be seen protruding from the front hole u' , and it will then be known that the card-receptacle should be replenished. This indicator serves to give notice of the fact that more cards should be supplied, and avoids the objection of letting the receptacles become empty.

If one of the holders or receptacles should be used alone, a suitable cover should be provided; but where a large number of the holders are mounted on a supporting-frame, as in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, they may be so placed one above another that the bottom of one receptacle will cover the top of another, and thus a separate or special cover for each one will be avoided.

The supporting-frame may be of any desired construction. It must have a back D and legs or feet E. It may have a mirror F, and may be ornamented, as desired. It also has a top board G to serve as a cover for the upper row of card-receptacles.

I provide means for the ready attachment and detachment of the receptacles A to the frame-back D. Said back has a number of catch-plates v , each provided with an oblong slot or hole v' , similar to an ordinary key-hole, and the sides of the card-receptacle have fastening-bolts w , which extend from front to back. In the present instance two fastening-bolts are used, and each occupies a groove or a bore x in the side wall. The front end of the bolt has a head w' with a cross cut or slot like a screw-head, and the rear end has a hook w^2 , which passes through the slot v' and engages with the catch-plate v , as seen in Fig. 3. A part turn of the fast-

ening-bolt will put the hook w^2 in position to engage with or disengage from the catch-plate. When the two fastening-bolts w of a receptacle are properly turned, the said receptacle may be detached from the frame. By this arrangement and combination any number of card-receptacles A may be mounted on a frame, as shown in Fig. 1.

Various parts of the construction of these receptacles may be altered or modified without affecting the scope of my invention or departing from the claims hereinafter stated.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle A, having an inclined bottom, a glass-plate front, a withdrawal-slot between the said glass-plate and the lowermost edge of the bottom, and a yielding presser device at the bottom projecting across the withdrawal-slot toward the glass plate.

2. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle having a glass-plate front with a finger-notch h at its lower edge, a bottom which inclines toward the said glass front, and a withdrawal-slot between the said glass plate and the lowermost edge of the bottom.

3. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle having a bottom which inclines toward the front, an inclined wire at the top, and a follower B, suspended loosely on and so as to slide down the inclined wire.

4. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle having a bottom which inclines toward the front and which is provided with a racked groove t across its top surface, an inclined wire at the top, and a follower B, suspended loosely on and so as to slide down the inclined wire and provided with a finger-pawl to engage with the racked groove.

5. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle having a bottom which inclines toward the front, two inclined wires at the top connected by a cross-wire which is loose in bearings, so as to allow the free ends of the wires to be lifted, and a follower B, suspended loosely on and so as to slide down the inclined wire.

6. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle A, having an inclined bottom, a glass-plate front, a withdrawal-slot between the said glass plate and lowermost edge of the bottom, a follower automatically movable toward the glass plate, and an indicator device attached to the follower and visible at the front.

7. A business-card holder comprising a receptacle A, having an inclined bottom, a glass-plate front, a withdrawal-slot between the said glass plate and lowermost edge of the bottom, a follower automatically movable toward the glass plate, a groove on one of the vertical sides of the receptacle, and an indicator device attached to the said follower and which projects into the groove and points toward the front.

8. The combination of a business-card receptacle and revoluble fastening-bolts at-

tached to the receptacle and extending in a direction from front to back and provided at their rear ends with a hook.

5 9. The combination of a supporting-frame and business-card receptacles attached to the frame by means that will permit of ready detachment, said receptacles having inclined bottoms and open tops and a vertical back in contact with the frame and placed one above
10 another, as shown.

10 10. The combination of a supporting-frame having catch-plates provided with an oblong

slot, and card-receptacles provided with revoluble fastening-bolts attached to the receptacle and extending in a direction from front 15 to back and provided at their rear ends with a hook to engage in said oblong slots:

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

SAMUEL A. BROMBERG.

Witnesses:

A. G. MCILWAINE, Jr.,

J. W. LACY.