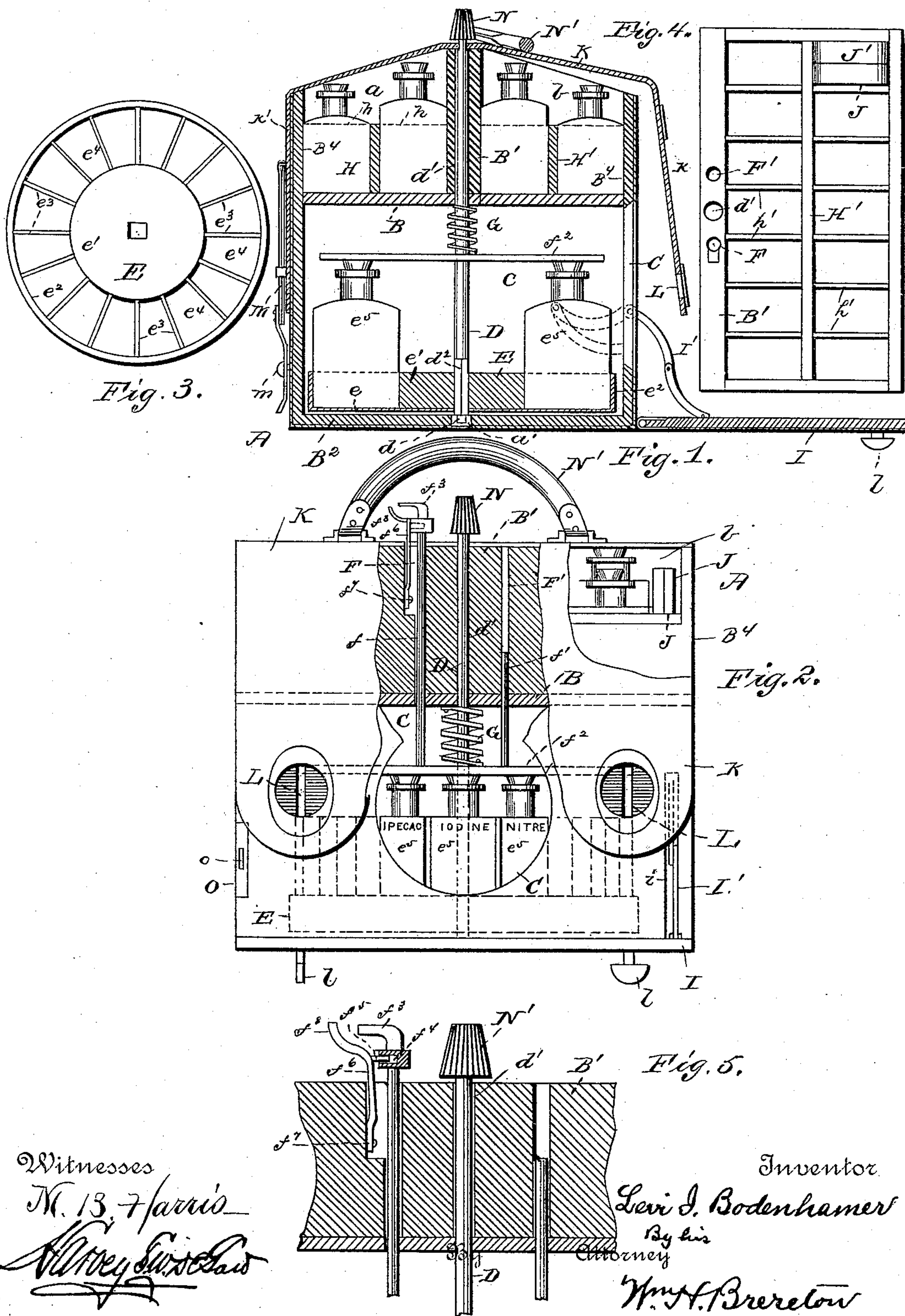


L. I. BODENHAMER.
MEDICINE CASE.

Patented Jan. 6, 1891.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI I. BODENHAMER, OF KERNERSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

MEDICINE-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 444,216, dated January 6, 1891.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI I. BODENHAMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kernersville, in the county of Forsyth and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Physicians' Portable Medicine-Cases; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to portable medicine-cabinets; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of parts, as hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the appended claims.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide a neat, simple, and inexpensive cabinet for the use of physicians in visiting the sick, whereby any number of bottles containing tinctures and other medicines may be carried; secondly, to divide the cabinet into sections, preferably three in number, as shown, for classifying different drugs; thirdly, to provide the cabinet with a revoluble stand manipulated from the top of the cabinet by means of a suitable shaft; fourthly, to provide the cabinet with a novel device for preventing the stoppers in the bottles on the revoluble stand from coming out by accident, and, fifthly, to provide the cabinet with a hinged drop-leaf for the convenience of the physician in compounding prescriptions.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical transverse section of a cabinet embodying my improvements, the hinged leaf shown in a lowered position; Fig. 2, a side view, partly in section, the hinged leaf being down; Fig. 3, a detail plan view of the revoluble stand; Fig. 4, a plan view of one of the upper compartments; Fig. 5, a detail vertical section of the central partition, showing rods D, *f*, and *f'*.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, the letter A indicates the cabinet, which is of a general rectangular form.

B designates a horizontal partition, secured

to the ends and sides in any desired manner, and has rising from it at its longitudinal center a vertical partition B', which, as shown, divides the interior of the cabinet into three compartments *a*, *b*, and *c*. In the center of the bottom B² is formed a recess, having secured therein a socket *a'* for the reception of the reduced end *d* of a shaft D, passing upward through an opening *d'*, formed in the partitions B and B', and, as will be noticed in Fig. 1, said shaft is provided at its lower end, in the compartment *c*, with the squared portion *d*², upon which is secured a stand E, consisting of the bottom *e*, having rising from it, upon its upper face, an annular boss *e'*, provided with a squared aperture, in which is secured in any desired manner the shaft D.

The stand E by preference is made circular, the bottom of which at its outer edge is provided with a vertical flange *e*² and in order that any number of bottles may be placed upon and carried by the stand I form the stand, as shown in Fig. 3, with a series of radiating partitions *e*³ between the boss *e'*, and the flange *e*², forming receptacles *e*⁴ for the bottles *e*⁵, which in cross-section are of the contour of the receptacles *e*⁴.

In order that the stoppers in the bottles may not by accident fall out, and also for holding the bottles themselves, I employ the following means: At each side of the shaft D, in the partitions B and B', are formed vertical openings F F', in which are designed to work rods *f f'*, their lower ends secured to a circular plate *f*², designed to rest upon the bottle-stoppers of the bottles in the revoluble stand. The rod *f* extends upward through the top of the cabinet, and carries at its upper end a depressor-knob *f*³, provided in its side, as shown in Fig. 5, with an opening *f*⁴, in which is adapted to fit a pin *f*⁵ on a flat spring *f*⁶, which is secured at its lower end in the opening F by means of a screw *f*⁷, said spring having at its upper end a suitable finger-hold *f*⁸, by means of which the pin *f*⁵ is disengaged from the depressor-knob. The rod *f'*, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, does not extend the entire length of the opening F', but is sufficiently long to prevent its disengagement from the opening F' when the retainer-plate is in a lowered position.

In order that the plate *f*² may be carried

upward when the pin f^5 is withdrawn from the opening f^4 in the depressor-knob and hold said plate in its adjusted position, I place a spiral spring G between the upper face of the retainer-plate and the bottom of the partition B, surrounding the shaft D, having its lower end secured to the retainer-plate and its upper end to the bottom of the partition B. It will thus be seen that when the rod f is depressed, carrying with it the plate f^2 until it rests upon the bottle-stoppers, the pin f^5 in the depressor-knob holds said plate against the tension of the spring G, and thus removes all danger of the bottle-stoppers or the bottles themselves coming out by accident.

To readily permit of bottles of different heights and capacities to be carried in the cabinet in the upper compartments, the top of the cabinet is given somewhat of a slant, as shown in Fig. 1, and in the compartments a b a vertical longitudinal partition II II' is placed, extending from end to end of said compartments, as shown in Fig. 4.

In order that a number of bottles may be placed in the compartments a b and to remove all danger of their breaking by striking against one another, a series of transverse partitions h and h' are interposed between the partitions II II' and the sides B' of the cabinet.

Upon one of the sides B' of the cabinet and hinged to the bottom B is a drop-leaf I, which when in its lowered position is held at right angles to the sides of the cabinet, as shown by a hinged brace I', having one of its ends pivoted to the drop-leaf and its opposite end pivoted in an opening i , formed in the side of the cabinet, and when said drop-leaf is in its raised position the hinged levers fold and assume the position shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, within the cabinet. The object of the drop-leaf is to form a ready table or shelf for the physician to compound his prescription upon.

At one end of the compartment b is formed a receptacle J, adapted to receive and hold a suitable druggist's scales, neatly packed in a box J'.

To readily permit of access to the compartment c , whereby the bottles carried by the revoluble stand E may be reached, a circular opening C is formed in the side of the compartment, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The letter K indicates the lid or cover of the cabinet, which by preference is made of leather or the like, and is secured at its central part on the upper edge of the partition B', and is provided at each side with the integral dependent flaps k and k' , the former of which is cut away at its central portion, as shown in Fig. 2, whereby said flap will not be in the way of the physician when the drop-leaf is down and hide to view the labels on the bottles on the revoluble stand as they are turned to view when compounding a prescription. The flap k is provided at its lower

edge at each side of the cut-away portion, with elongated eyes or slots L, adapted to receive like fasteners l on the outer face of the drop-leaf when said leaf is in a raised or closed position. The flap k' is provided with the elastic loops M, having at their lower ends suitable elongated eyes or slots, adapted to fit over shouldered pins m , secured to the sides of the cabinet.

To readily permit of the revoluble stand E being turned when desired, I place upon the shaft D at its upper end a suitable milled head N, and secure on the top and lid of the cabinet a handle N', whereby the cabinet may be easily carried. At one corner of the cabinet is placed a suitable slide-lock O, the keeper o adapted to enter a suitable opening in the drop-leaf when said leaf is in a closed position.

In constructing my portable cabinet I prefer to make it of light wood and cover the same with leather or the like, which may be embossed or ornamented, making the cabinet very attractive, and at the same time adding strength to it.

I do not desire to limit myself to the precise construction herein shown and described, as many minor changes may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

The operation of my improved portable cabinet, taken in connection with the above description and accompanying drawings, may be briefly described as follows: When it is desired to compound a prescription, the cabinet is opened and the drop leaf or shelf lowered, as shown in Fig. 1, and by releasing the pin f^4 from engagement with the depressor-knob allow the retainer-plate, through the medium of the spiral spring G, to be raised, when by turning the shaft D by the milled head N the stand E may be revolved and display to view the labels on the bottles carried thereby. After a prescription has been compounded the cabinet is closed and the retainer-plate forced down by the depressor-knob until the pin f^4 engages the opening f^3 in the depressor-knob, which prevents all liability of the stoppers or the bottles themselves on the revoluble stand from falling out by accident.

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

1. The herein-described cabinet, divided into a lower and two upper compartments, a revoluble stand in the lower compartment, and the hinged drop-leaf secured to the cabinet, limited in its downward movement by a hinged brace, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a cabinet divided into compartments, the upper two provided with receptacles, of the revoluble stand carried by a shaft in the lower compartment, said shaft having a point of bearing in a socket in the bottom of the cabinet and car-

rying at its upper end a milled head, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a cabinet divided into compartments, of a revoluble stand in the lower compartment carried by a shaft, and vertical rods supported and guided in the cabinet and carrying a retainer-plate adapted to be forced down upon the stoppers in the bottles on the revoluble stand, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with a cabinet divided into compartments, of a revoluble stand in the lower compartment carried by a shaft, vertical rods supported and guided in the cabinet and carrying a retainer-plate adapted to be forced down upon the stoppers in the bottles on the revoluble stand, and a spring-controlled pin adapted to enter an opening in the depressor-knob, substantially as described.

5. The combination, with a cabinet constructed as described, of a spring-controlled retainer-plate carried by rods within the cabinet, adapted to be held in its lowered position by a pin entering an opening in a de-

pressor-knob on one of the rods, substantially as described.

6. The combination, in a cabinet divided into a lower and two upper compartments, of a revoluble stand in the lower compartment, hinged drop-leaf secured to the cabinet, and flexible lids for said cabinet provided with dependent flaps having suitable fastenings at their lower edge, substantially as described.

7. The combination, in a cabinet divided into a lower and two upper compartments, the said lower compartment having an opening in the side, of a revoluble stand carrying bottles in said lower compartment, a hinged drop-leaf, and a flexible lid covering one of the upper compartments and the opening in the lower compartment, substantially as described.

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

LEVI I. BODENHAMER.

Witnesses:

HARVEY S. W. DE GAW,
WM. H. BRERETON.