

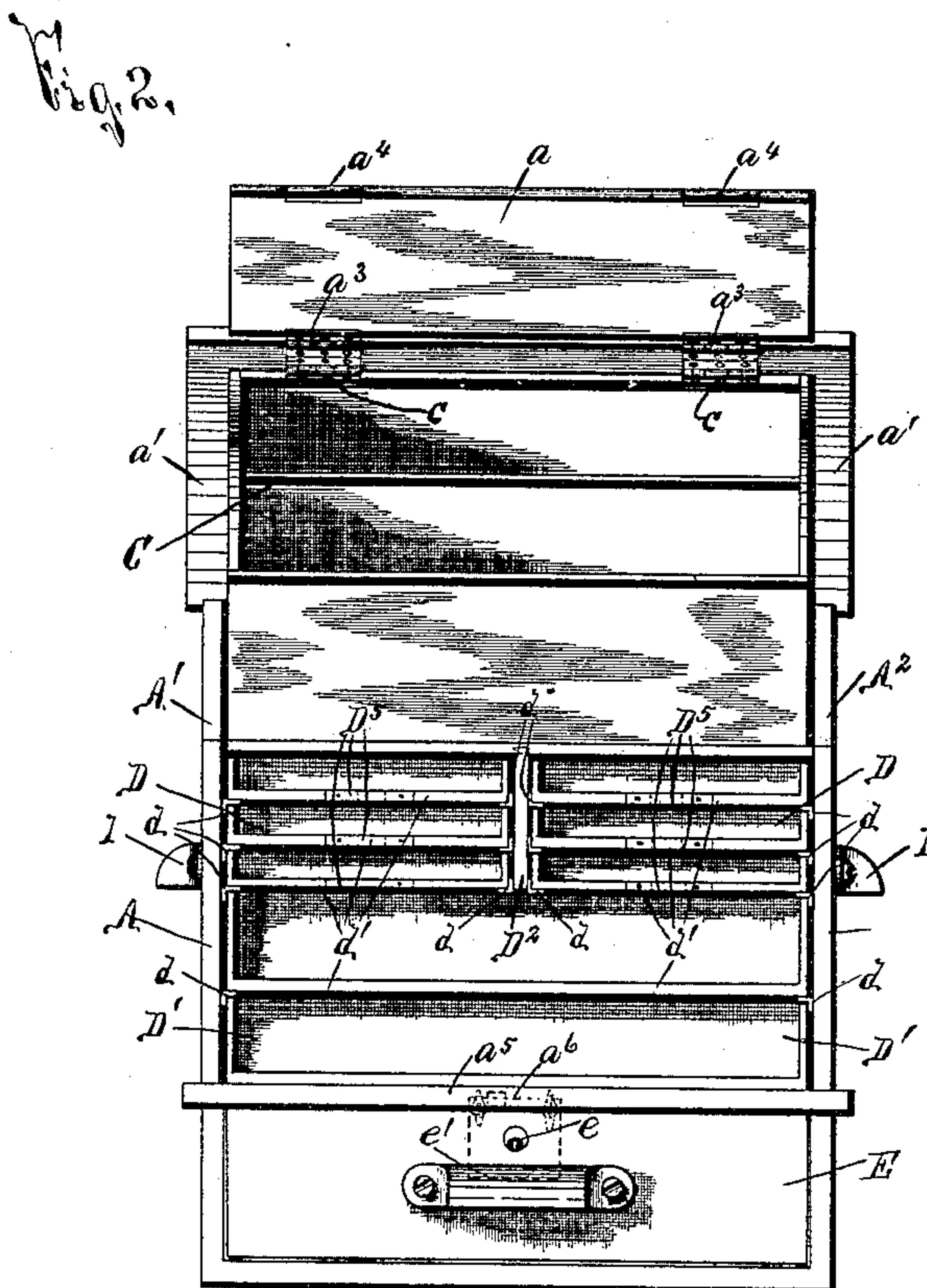
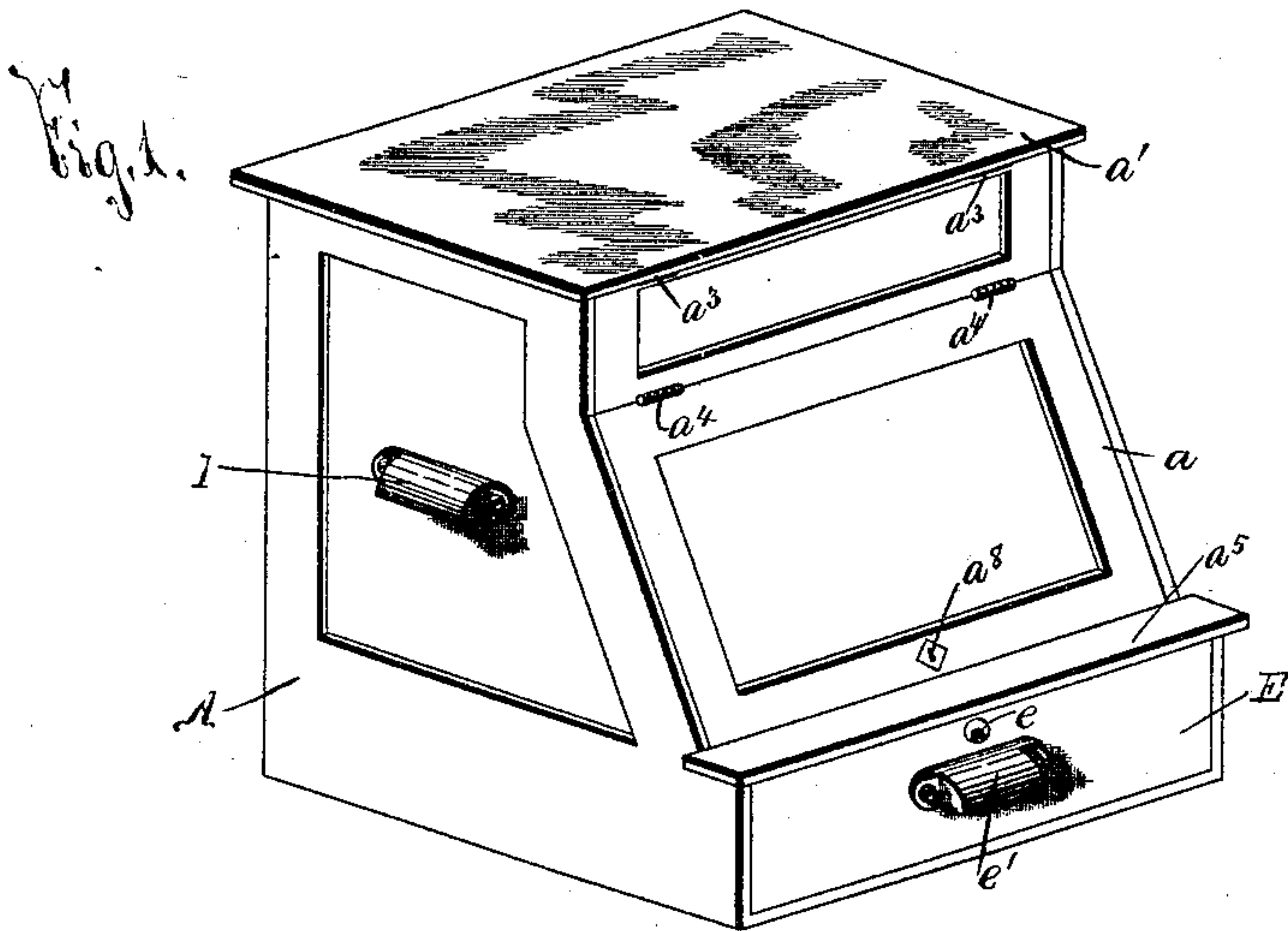
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

P. J. RAMION.
POST OFFICE CABINET.

No. 451,436.

Patented Apr. 28, 1891.



Witnesses.
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H. B. Chase,

Inventor
Peter J. Ramion
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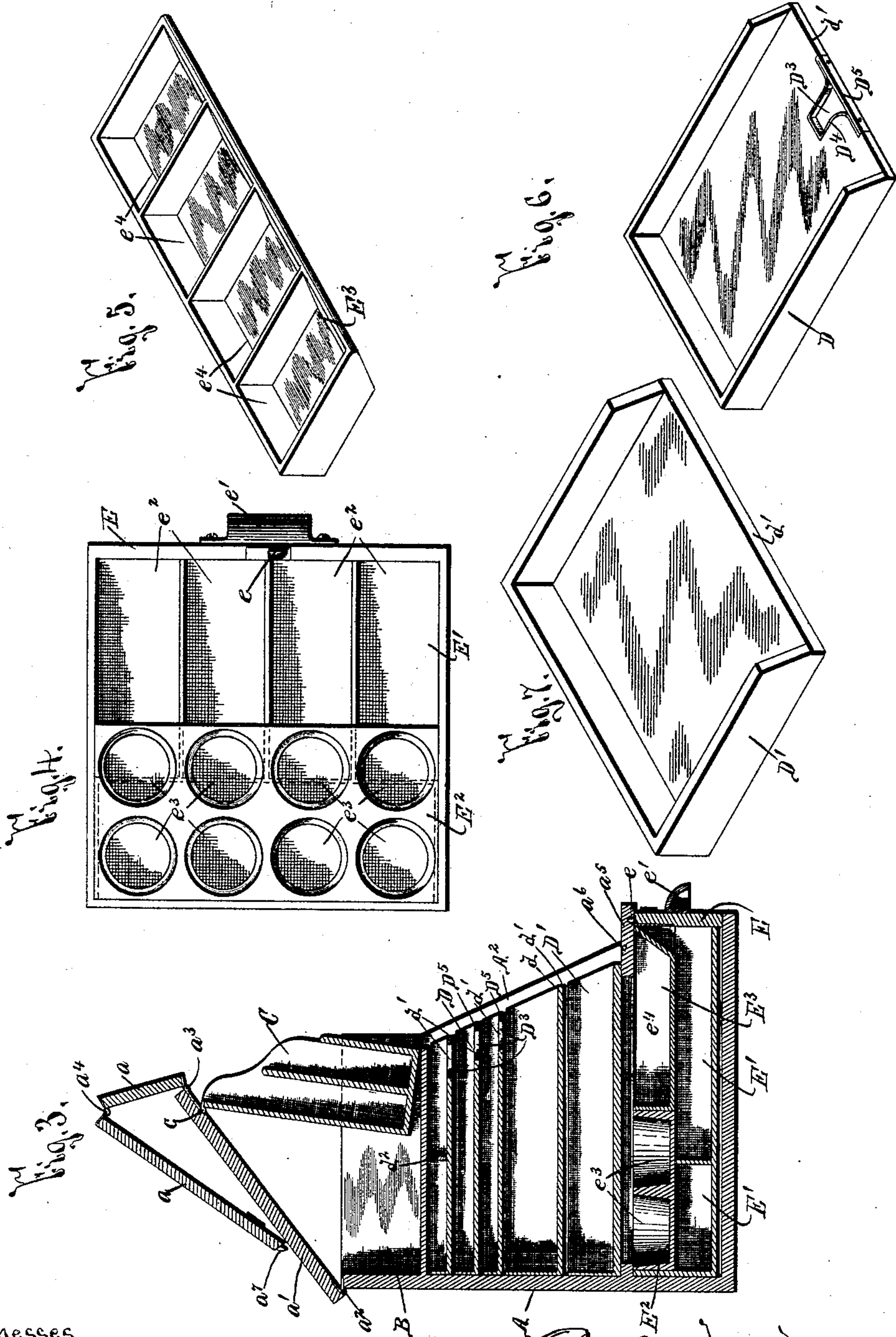
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER J. RAMION, OF SYRACUSE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO FREDERICK W. FENNER, OF LITTLE UTICA, NEW YORK.

POST-OFFICE CABINET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 451,436, dated April 28, 1891.

Application filed December 13, 1890. Serial No. 374,622. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER J. RAMION, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Post-Office Cabinets, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improved post-office case, and has for its object the production of a simple and effective device compact and pleasing in form and strong, durable, and highly efficient in use; and to this end the invention consists, essentially, of an outer frame having a hinged cover, a pocket hinged to the cover, whereby the pocket is swung into operative position when the cover is open, and a series of compartments beneath said pocket.

The invention also consists in a case having a tapering front face, a series of compartments formed without a front wall and having the forward extremities of their base projecting in proximity to the front face, whereby their edges recede one from the other, a movable drawer at the base of the outer receptacle, and a series of pockets removably secured in said drawer.

The invention furthermore consists in the detail construction and arrangement of the parts, all as hereinafter more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In describing this invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, in which like letters indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 represents an isometric perspective of my invention. Fig. 2 is a front view of the case in its open position. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the parts as shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the detached drawer at the base of the receptacle. Fig. 5 is an isometric view of a series of pockets detachably supported in the drawer. Fig. 6 is an isometric perspective of the preferable form of compartment, and Fig. 7 is an isometric perspective of a modified form of the compartments.

A great want has heretofore existed for a post-office case which is economical in con-

struction, convenient and practical in use, and possesses a great amount of working-surface. It is well known that at certain portions of the day the postal-stamp clerk has comparatively little to do and can then readily occupy himself in assorting the various denominations of the stamp-sheets and separating a number of them into single stamps in readiness for instant use. It is equally well known that at other portions of the day he is unusually pressed for time, being frequently required to wait upon a number of customers at almost the same time, and consequently if the stamp-sheets are arranged according to denomination and if he is well provided with a number of single stamps the buyers can be readily furnished with the required amount and denomination of stamps in a comparatively short time. My invention is designed to present these very essential qualifications and to greatly systemize the work of the postal-stamp clerk.

A represents the outer case, which may be of any desirable form, size, and construction. As illustrated, it is provided with handles l , and the front side a is inclined from its base upwardly for a portion of its length for forming the upper extremity of the base of less area and depth than its lower. The top a' of the case is preferably hinged at a^2 at its rear extremity, and is hinged at a^3 to the front side a , which, as preferably constructed, is composed of two parts hinged together at a^4 , in order that, as best seen in Figs. 2 and 3, the front side a may fold backwardly over the top a' when the case is open for use.

a^5 represents a forwardly-projecting shoulder at the lower extremity of the closed front side a , which is adapted to carry one member a^6 (shown by dotted lines at Fig. 3) of a suitable lock, the opposite member of which a^7 is carried by the lower end of the side a . This lock may be of any desirable form, size, and construction; but it is unnecessary to herein further illustrate or describe the same, it being understood that when the front side a assumes its normal position the opposite portions of the lock engage and securely lock the case from intrusion until the proper key is applied at the key-hole a^8 , Fig. 1.

B represents a compartment at the top of

the case A, and C a pocket normally within said compartment. As best seen in Fig. 3, this pocket C is of greater height than depth, and is inclined on its top face, being preferably hinged at *c* to the cover *a'*, in order that when said cover is opened the pocket may be swung from the compartment B into a substantially upright position, thus forming a support for the cover and presenting a greater amount of working-surface than would be present were said compartment in its position assumed when the cover is down.

Beneath the compartment B is a series of compartments D and D', which are preferably removable from the case at will and are supported upon suitable guides *d*, projecting from the side walls A and A' of the case. These removable compartments D and D' are preferably formed without a front side, and their front edges are preferably inclined in conformity to the inclined portion of the front side *a* of the outer shell, in order that the front edges *d'* of said compartments may recede one from the other to permit the clerk to more readily engage the desired stamp-sheet without removal of the compartment and to see a portion of the sheet before it is engaged.

Some of the compartments D are preferably of less width than the lower compartments D', as best seen in Fig. 2, being separated by a partition D², provided with the compartment-supporting guides *d*.

One, or more, of the compartments D is for the quarter stamp-sheets and is provided with a rear shoulder *d*² at a suitable distance from its front edge to suit the width of the sheet. On the other hand, the lower compartments D' and the pocket C are intended for whole stamp-sheets, with each compartment preferably reserved for a particular denomination of stamp. By this arrangement the operator can, after constant use and indeed almost from habit, pick out the required denomination of stamp, and either whole, half, or quarter sheet, as required.

The preferable form of compartment (shown at Fig. 6) is formed without a front wall, and is provided at its front edge with a cut-out D³, having usually a metallic facing D⁴ and a cross-bar D⁵, which projects across the front of said cut-out and permits ready engagement with the finger.

At Fig. 7 I have shown a compartment which is unprovided with the cut-out D³, and is hardly as desirable or convenient as the construction seen at Fig. 6.

At the base of the case A is a removable drawer E for containing the change and the single stamps. This drawer is also locked to the shoulder *a*⁵ by any desirable construction of lock *e*, (not necessary to herein illustrate or describe,) and is provided with a handle *e'* to permit its ready withdrawal when the members of the lock are disengaged. At the base of the drawer E are one or more compartments E', the front one of which is formed

into a series of divisions *e* for presenting additional stamp room, should it be desirable, for smaller portions of the stamp-sheets than it is desirable to place in any of the compartments D.

E² represents a frame having a series of compartments *e*³ for receiving the change given to the clerk, and E³ represents a frame having a series of compartments *e*⁴ for single stamps. This frame E³ is preferably detached from the case in order to permit entrance to the divisions of the compartments E' and further increase the working-surface of the case.

The parts of my invention are simple in construction, and its use, practicability, and adaptability for the purpose intended are apparent.

Its operation will be readily understood from the foregoing description and upon reference to the drawings, and it is evident that at a slight cost I produce a highly-efficient case which greatly systematizes the stamp-clerk's duties and materially increases his capability and the convenience of the public. It is apparent, however, that the detail construction and arrangement of my case may be somewhat changed from that shown and described without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

1. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell, a hinged top, a side hinged to the hinged top, and a series of removable compartments within the case, said compartments being formed without a front wall, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell, a hinged top, a side hinged to the hinged top, a series of removable compartments within the case, said compartments being formed without a front wall, and a lock for securing the said hinged side in position, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell, a hinged top, a side hinged to the hinged top, and a pocket hinged to the top, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising a hinged top, a side hinged to the top, said side having its lower end hinged to its upper end, whereby the side folds above the top, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell, a hinged top, a side hinged to the top, said side having its lower end hinged to its upper end, whereby the side folds above the top, and a lock for securing said hinged side in position, substantially as and for the purpose described.

6. The herein-described postal-case, the

same comprising an outer shell, a hinged top, a side hinged to the top, said side having its lower end hinged to its upper end, whereby the side folds above the top, and a pocket hinged to said top, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

7. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell, a hinged top, a side hinged to the top, and a series of removable compartments of various widths, said compartments being formed without a front wall, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

8. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell of less depth at its top than its base, a front side hinged at its upper extremity, whereby it folds outwardly, and a series of removable compartments of varying depth, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

9. The herein-described postal-case, the same comprising an outer shell of less depth at its top than its base, a front side hinged at its upper extremity, whereby it folds outwardly, and a series of compartments having their front edges inclined, whereby the front edges of their base recede one from the other, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

10. The combination of an outer shell, a hinged top, a compartment at the top of the outer shell, a pocket supported in said compartment, and a hinge between said pocket and hinged top, whereby the former swings from said compartment, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

11. The combination of an outer shell having a hinged top, a compartment at the top of the outer shell, a pocket supported in said compartment, a hinge between said pocket and hinged top, whereby the former swings from said compartment, and a drawer movably mounted at the base of said shell, substantially as and for the purpose described.

12. The combination of an outer shell having a hinged cover, a compartment at the top of the outer shell, a pocket supported in said compartment, a hinge between said pocket and hinged top, whereby the former swings from said compartment, a drawer movably mounted at the base of said shell, and compartments varying in depth between said pocket and drawer, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

13. In a postal-case, the combination of an outer shell having a series of guides and formed with an inclined front face, and a series of compartments movable in said guides, said compartments being formed without a front wall, substantially as and for the purpose described.

14. The combination of an outer shell having a series of guides, a series of compartments movable in said guides, said compartments being formed without a front wall, a cut-out in the front edge of one or more of said compartments, and a projecting bar at the front of said cut-out, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

15. The combination, in a postal-case, of an outer shell having a series of guides and formed with an inclined front face, a series of compartments movable in said guides, said compartments being formed without a front wall, a cut-out in the edge of the wall of one of said compartments, and a bar D^4 , substantially as herein shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, this 12th day of July, 1890.

PETER J. RAMION.

Witnesses:

CLARK H. NORTON,
L. M. BAXTER.