

(No Model.)

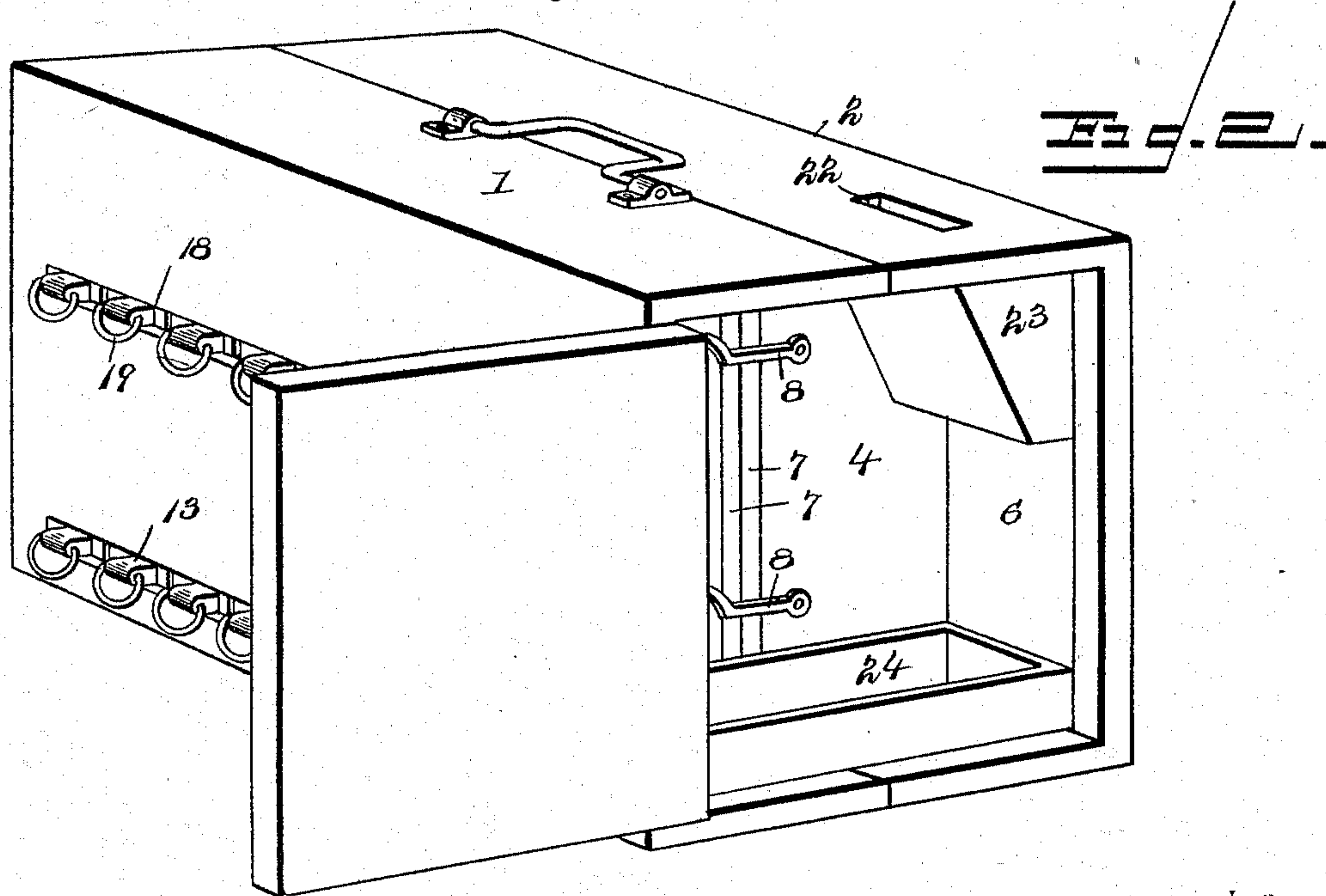
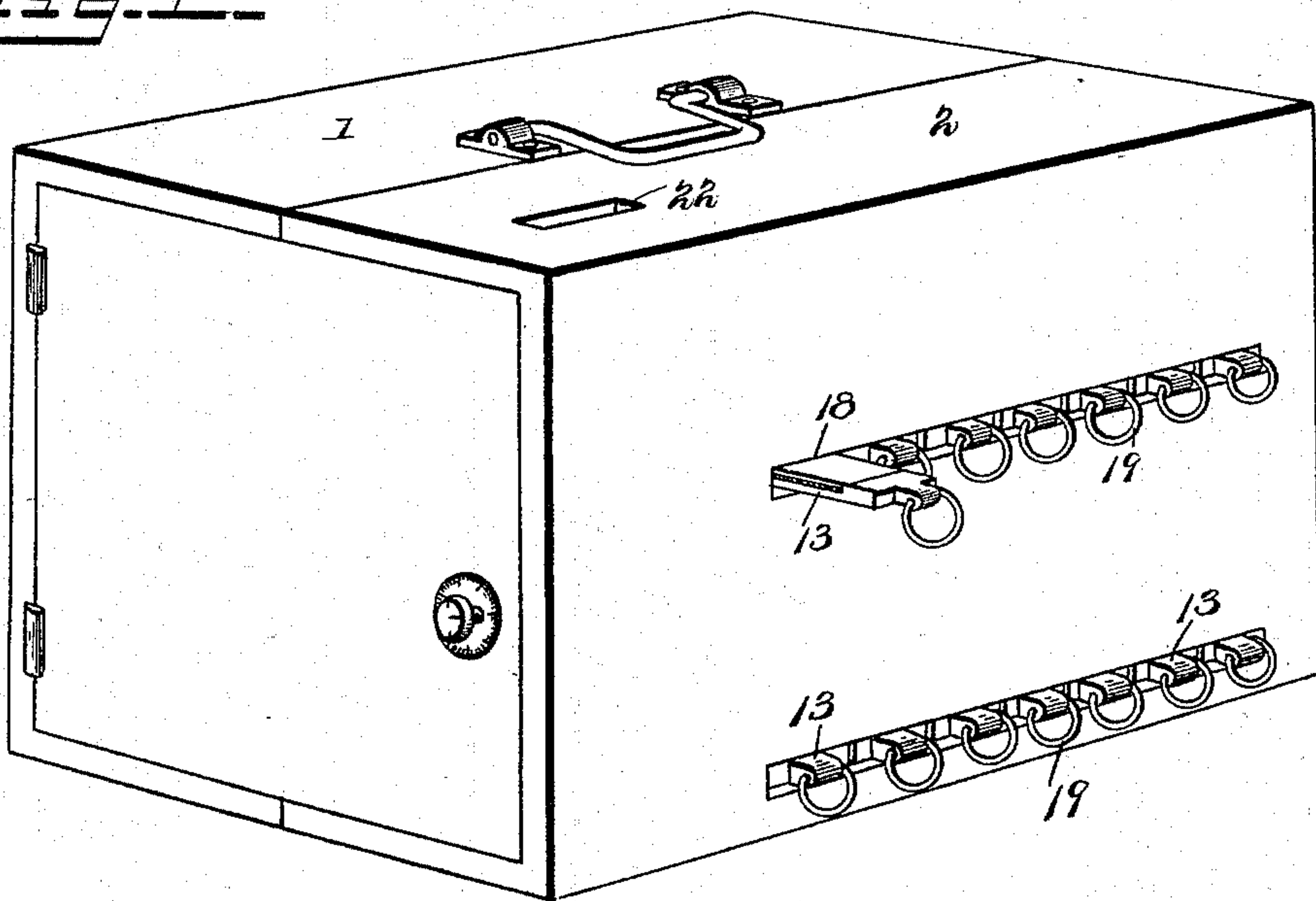
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

T. RATCLIFF.
TICKET CASE.

No. 527,508.

Patented Oct. 16, 1894.

Fig. 1.



Inventor

Thomas Ratcliff,

Witnesses

E. H. Stewart,

By his Attorneys.

[Signature]

[Signature]

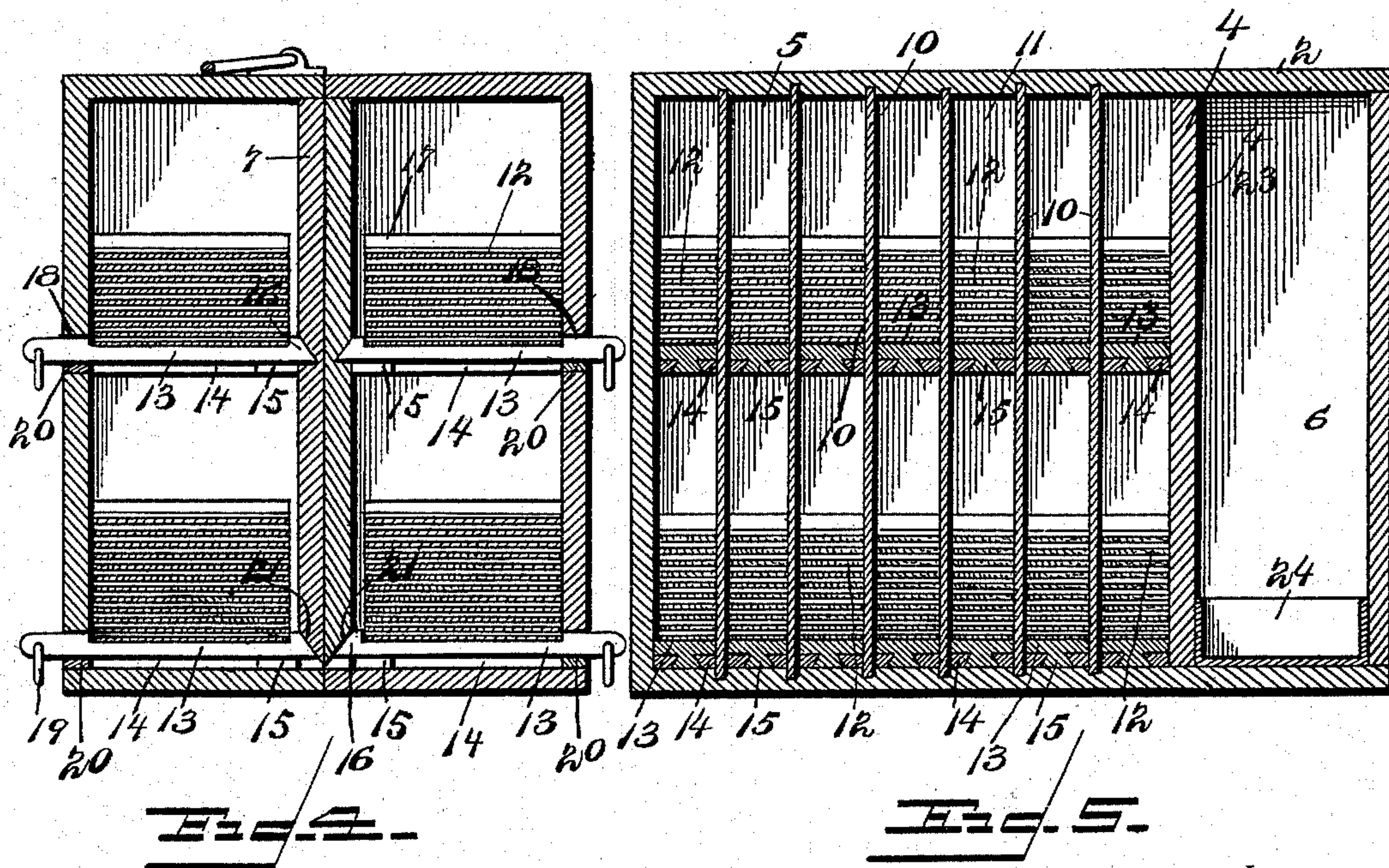
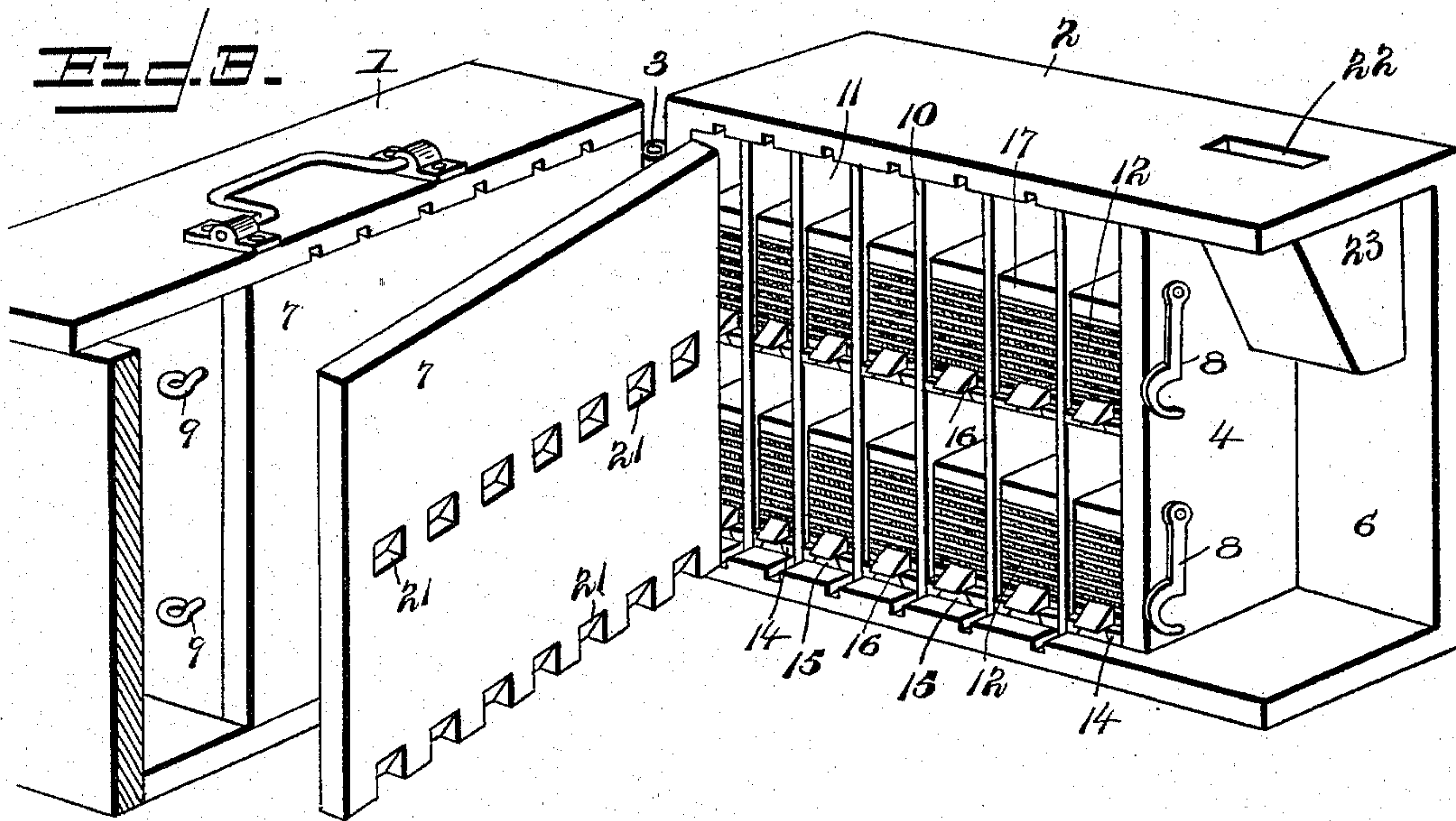
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS RATCLIFF, OF CASEY, ILLINOIS.

TICKET-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 527,508, dated October 16, 1894.

Application filed October 20, 1893. Serial No. 488,729. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS RATCLIFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Casey, in the county of Clark and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Ticket-Case, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a passage ticket case for use in connection with railways, steam-boat lines and other modes of public conveyance, and it has for its object to provide means whereby an obligatory tally of the number and character of the tickets used upon the conveyance is kept, to prevent the disposal and use of counterfeit tickets and the withholding, by conductors, &c., of those which have been sold. My improved system, which involves the use of a ticket case embodying my invention, contemplates providing all tickets in duplicate, the original, which is to be held and used by the passenger and is to be accepted by the conductor and returned by him to the office of the general passenger agent, being distinguished by color, or otherwise, from the duplicate, which is received by the passenger and deposited, by the latter, in a tally-box or compartment forming a part of the improved ticket case, said tally-box or compartment being accessible only to the proper official having charge of the ticket accounts.

In carrying out my system I employ a case for tickets, from which the latter can be withdrawn only in a prescribed way, an original and a duplicate being exposed simultaneously. The purchaser immediately deposits the duplicate in the tally-box, thus making it necessary for the conductor and the agent to account for the original of that duplicate. The tally-box is so constructed as to prevent the abstraction of the duplicate, and an original cannot be taken from the case without bringing its duplicate.

The construction whereby the above object is attained is fully described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the novel features thereof are particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a ticket-case embodying my invention, showing one of the ticket-slides extended, as seen when removing a ticket for sale. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the

door of the tally-box open. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the hinged sections of the case separated, and one of the inner doors of the ticket-compartments open to expose the ticket cells, slides, and adjacent construction. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view, taken vertically through the ticket-compartments. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view, taken vertically through one of the ticket-compartments.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The case is divided longitudinally and vertically to form the separable sections, 1 and 2, which are duplicates of each other in construction and are hinged together at one end, as shown at 3. These sections are provided, near their free ends with vertical partitions, 4, to separate the ticket-compartments, 5, from the smaller space, 6, which, when the sections are closed together, forms a tally-box or compartment, as shown clearly in Fig. 2. The inner sides of the ticket-compartments are closed by the hinged doors, 7, which, when the sections are closed together, are in contact and are held in position by the locking devices for the sections, which consist of hooks, 8, carried by the partition, 4, of one section and the eyes, 9, carried by the partition of the other section, whereby said locking devices are arranged in the tally-box and are inaccessible except therethrough. The interior of the ticket-compartments is divided, by vertical webs, 10, into cells 11, which correspond in width to the tickets, 12, (shown in Fig. 3,) and horizontally movable slides, 13, which are arranged in two or more horizontal series and are mounted upon the guides, 14, also corresponding in width with the cells. These slides are provided upon their under sides with dove-tailed projections, 15, which fit and slide in correspondingly shaped slots formed in the guides, 14, and are further provided, upon their upper sides, at their inner ends with detents, 16, which project vertically a distance equal to the thickness of an original ticket and its duplicate, the latter being arranged alternately in the cells, as indicated by the light and shaded edges, (the cards with shaded edges being the duplicates.) Weights 17 are placed upon the tops of the

tiers of tickets, to hold the lowermost tickets in contact with the slides and insure the proper downward feeding thereof as the said lowermost tickets are withdrawn. The front ends of the ticket-slides project through slots, 18, in the outer walls of the sections and are provided with suitable handles, 19, the outward movement of the slides being limited by the contact of the depending projections, 15, with the stops, 20, formed by the inner ends of the guide-slots. The surfaces of the doors, 7, are notched, as shown at 21, to receive the inner ends of the slides, when the latter are pushed in, to enable the detent, 16, to pass beyond the inner ends of the tickets, as shown in Fig. 4.

In the top of the tally-box is a ticket-slot, 22, through which the duplicate tickets may be inserted, and within the compartment, beneath said slot, is an inclined guard, 23, to prevent the tampering, by the agent or others, with the contents. A receptacle, 24, is arranged in the bottom of the tally-box, to receive the duplicates as they fall from the guard. The door of the tally-box is provided with a lock, which is preferably of the combination or permutation order, to prevent any but the duly authorized official from opening the case.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A ticket case provided with vertical cells and having an open rear side, a door closing said rear side, guides arranged in the cells, and slides mounted upon said guides, projecting at their front ends through slots in the front side of the case and provided at their rear ends with detents to engage the rear edges of the tickets in the cells, said door being provided with a series of notches or

recesses to receive the detents on the rear ends of the slides when the latter are pushed rearward, substantially as specified.

2. A ticket case provided with vertical ticket-cells, horizontal guides arranged in said cells and having dove-tailed guide slots, terminating at their outer ends in stops 20, and slides arranged upon said guides, projecting at their front ends through slots in the front of the casing, terminating at their rear ends in detents to engage the tickets and having depending dove-tailed projections 15 which fit in the correspondingly-shaped slots of the guides, the forward or outward movement of the slides being limited by the contact of said projections with the stops 20, substantially as specified.

3. A ticket case comprising separable sections 1 and 2 hinged together at one vertical edge and provided at corresponding distances from said hinged ends with vertical partitions 4, doors hinged to the sections to close their open inner sides and terminating at their free edges flush with the outer surfaces of the partitions 4, means carried by said partitions to lock the free ends of the sections together with the said doors in contact, whereby the doors are locked in their closed positions, a door for closing the outer side of the space between the partitions 4 and the adjacent or free ends of the sections, the interiors of the sections being divided into ticket-cells fitted with ticket-slides, and a slot 22 being formed in the top of one of the sections to communicate with the space between the partitions 4 and the contiguous ends of the sections, substantially as specified.

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

THOMAS RATCLIFF.

Witnesses:

MOSES RATCLIFF,
GEORGE RATCLIFF.