

No. 626,429.

Patented June 6, 1899.

A. J. KEARNS.  
FURNITURE.

(Application filed June 27, 1898.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

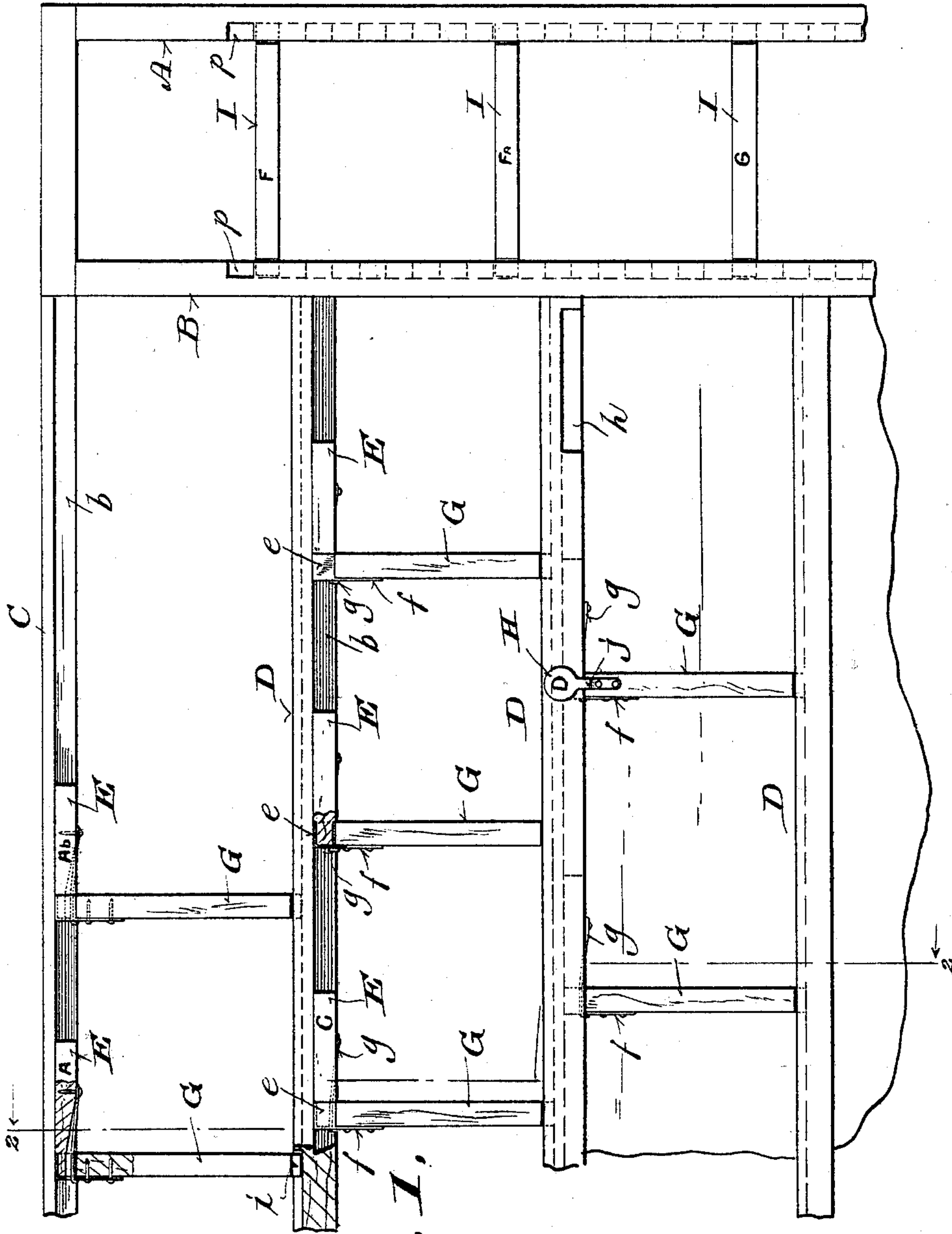


Fig. 1.

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Fig. 3.

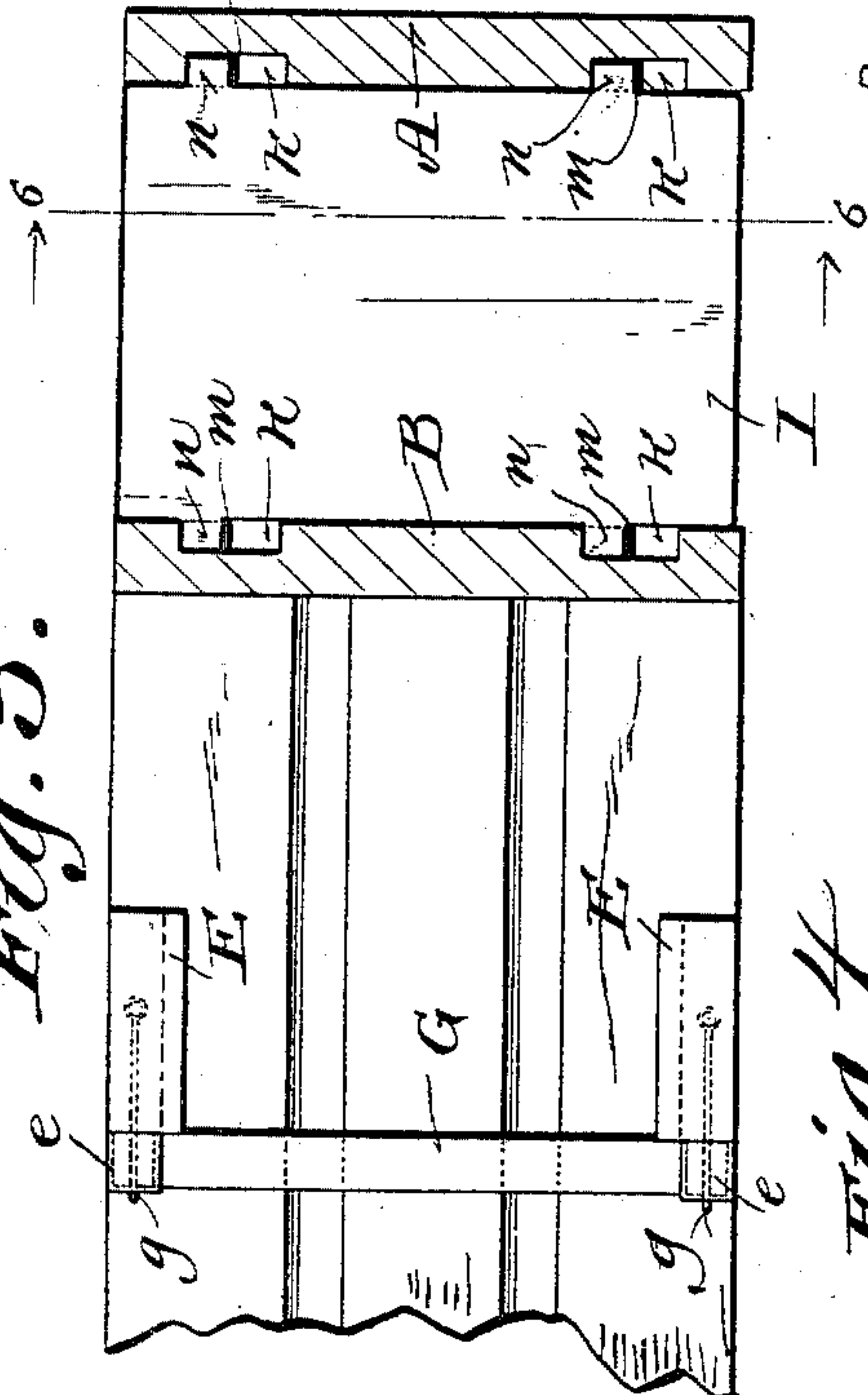


Fig. 4.

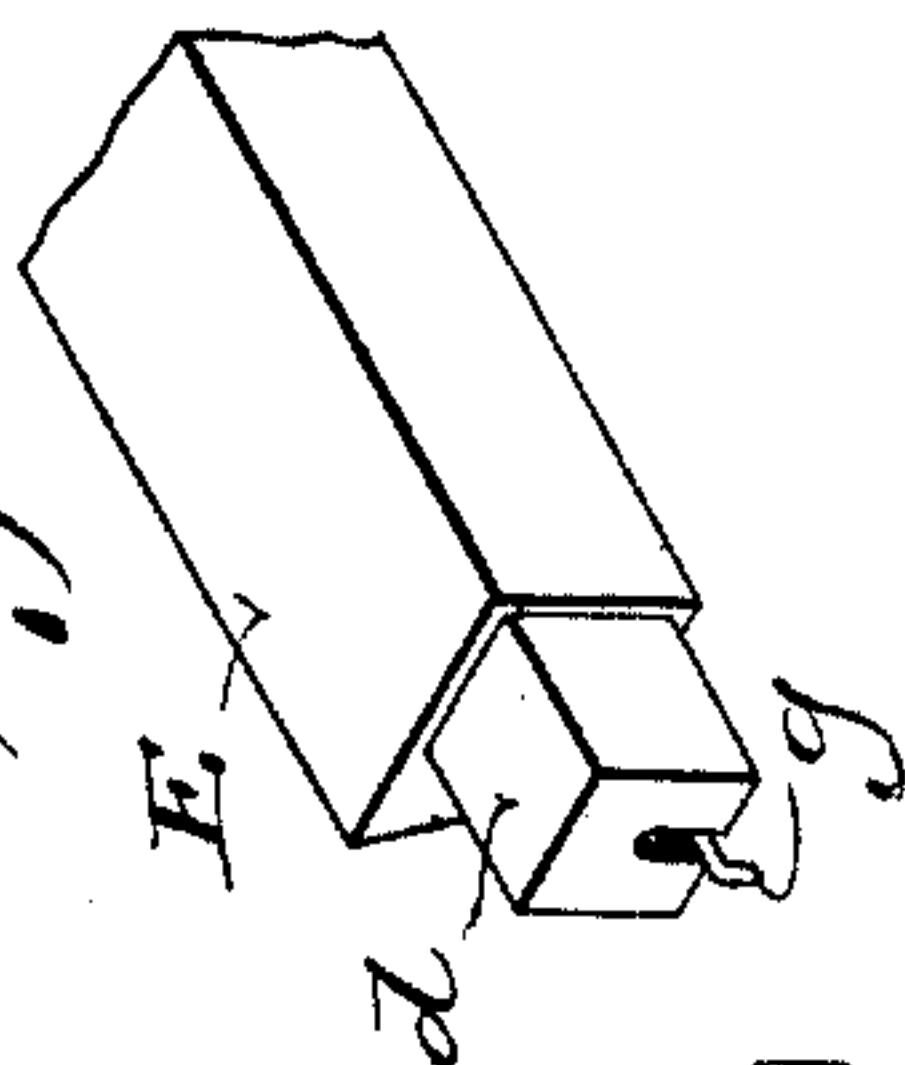


Fig. 2.

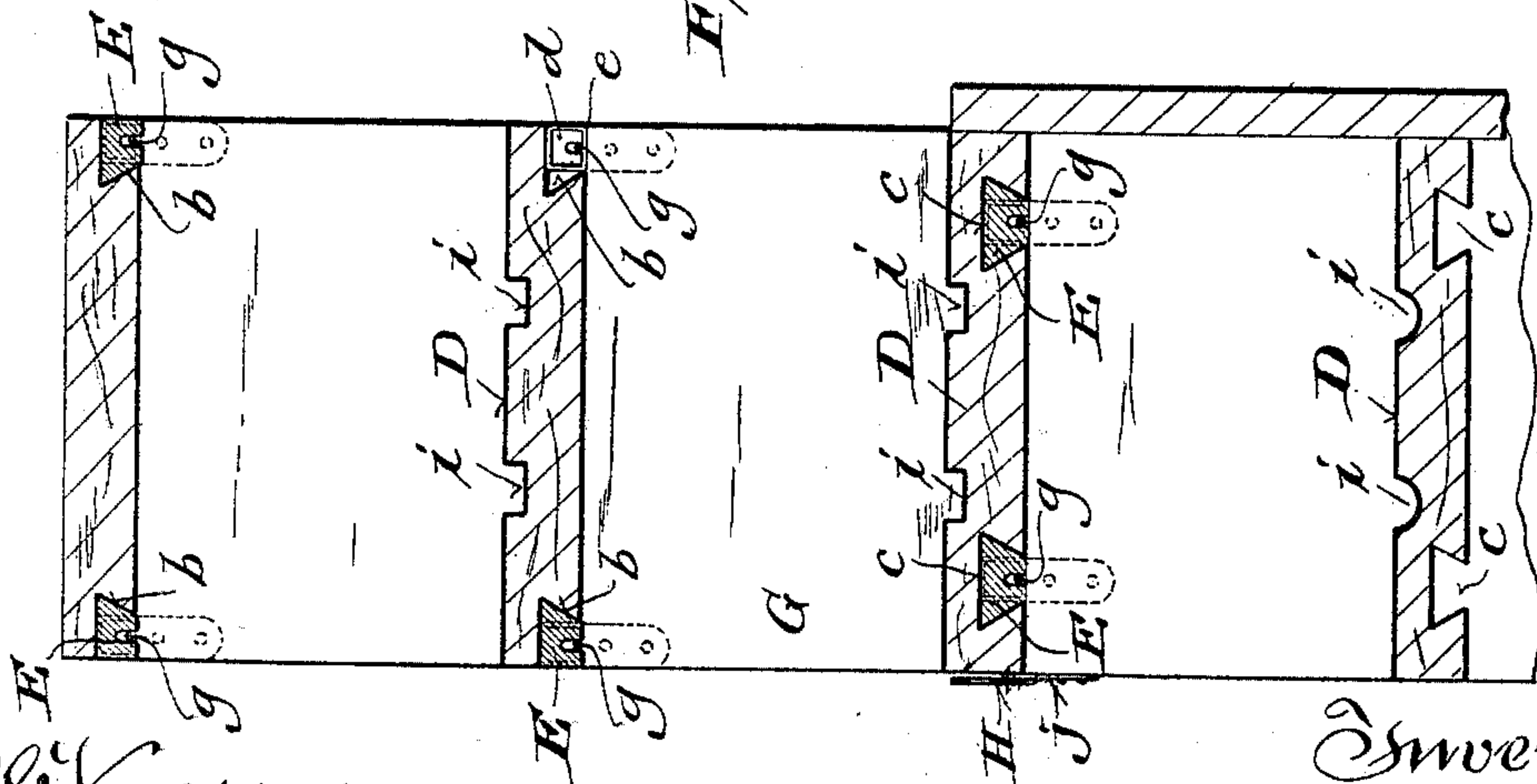


Fig. 5.

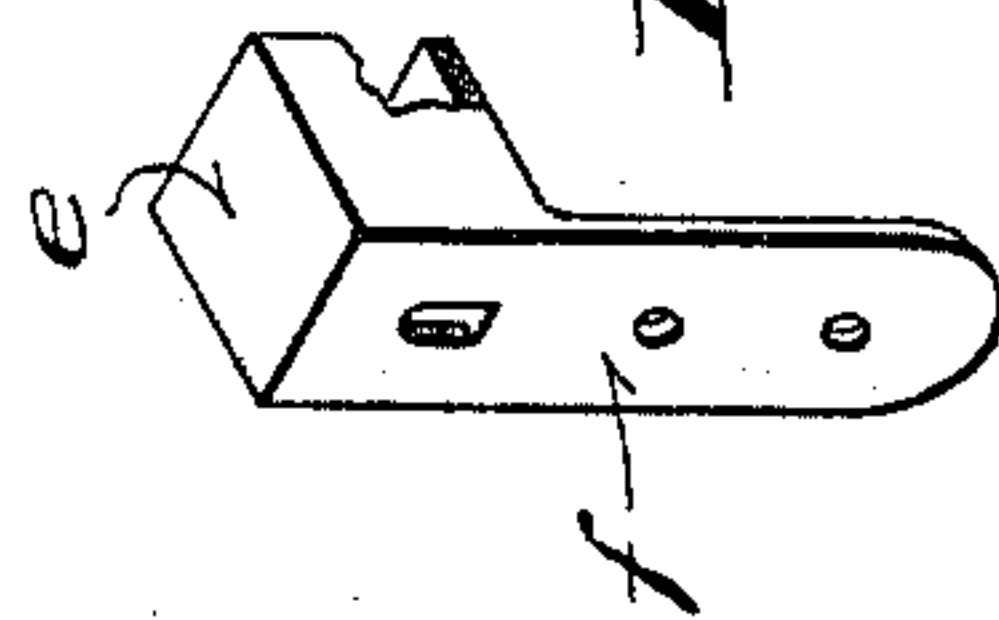
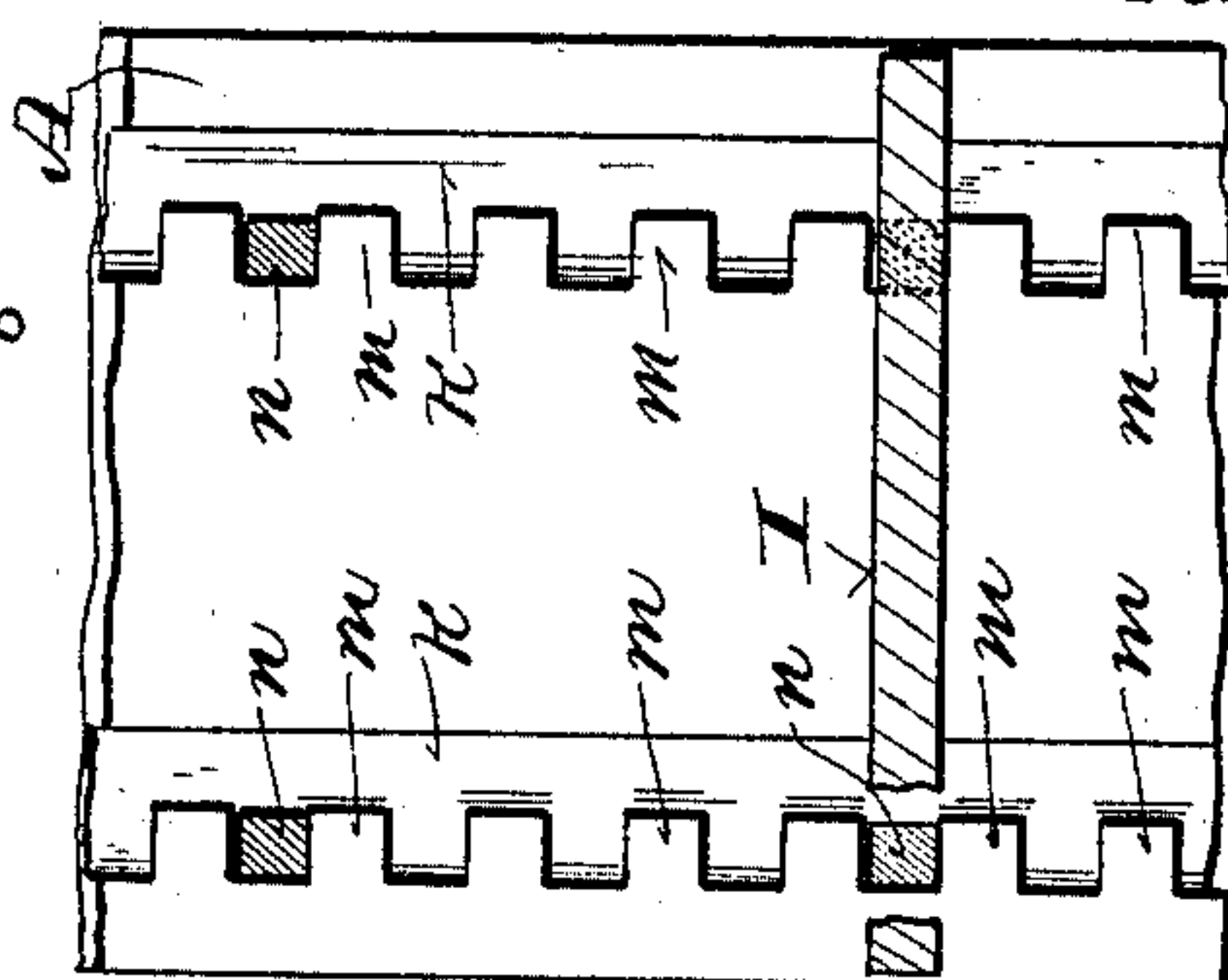


Fig. 6.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## FURNITURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,429, dated June 6, 1899.

Application filed June 27, 1898. Serial No. 684,557. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. KEARNS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Furniture; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention has for its object to provide simple economical furniture in the form of cases especially designed for mail purposes and provided with readily-adjustable removable shelf-partitions, as well as adjustable shelves.

Therefore the said invention consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combination of parts hereinafter particularly set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings and subsequently claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a front elevation of a portion of a case embodying the several features of my invention; Fig. 2, a transverse section of the same, indicated by the irregular line 2 2 in the preceding figure; Fig. 3, a plan view, partly in horizontal section, a portion of the case-top being removed; Fig. 4, a perspective view of a portion of one form of a slide for detachable connection with a shelf-partition; Fig. 5, a similar view of a slide-engaging bracket attachable to a shelf-partition, and Fig. 6 a detail sectional view indicated by line 6 6 in Fig. 3.

Referring by letter to the drawings, A represents an end wall, and B a vertical partition, of a case constructed according to my invention. The under side of the case-top C and each of the shelves D are provided with longitudinal guideways for slides E, and the upper sides of said shelves are provided with longitudinal grooves that are either angular or curvilinear in cross-section, as may be found most convenient or desirable, both forms being herein shown, and the lower shelf or case-bottom will be also provided with such grooves.

In some instances the above-mentioned guideways may be beveled recesses *b*, cut along the edges of the case-top or shelves to which they pertain, and in other instances these guideways may be dovetail grooves *c*, such as are best shown in Fig. 2, the slides E

being made to fit said guideways, in which they have free play.

Each of the slides herein shown consists of a block having a tenon *d* at one end for the engagement of the socket end *e* of a bracket, the shank *f* of this bracket being in the form of a plate provided with holes for tacks or screws, by which it is made fast to a shelf-partition G, and a spring-hook *g*, made fast in an under groove of the slide, projects beyond the tenon end of this slide to pass through an eye in said bracket and latch against the exposed surface of the same, this provision for detachable connection of a slide and shelf-partition being particularly well illustrated by the perspective views, Figs. 4 and 5.

The slides that fit the guideways *b* are held in working position, as a result of their detachable connection with shelf-partitions G, and drop away from said guideways when unlatched from said partitions. The slides that fit the guideways *c* may be put in place and removed through a transverse recess *h*, of suitable width, intercepting said guideways, and it is also practical to split each of the latter slides, so that one section of the same may be slipped past another section, whereby both may be readily put in or taken out of a dovetail guideway when detached from each other and a shelf-partition. It follows that the slides may have considerable variation in the matter of form without departure from my invention.

Each shelf-partition is provided with depending lugs *i*, that fit loose in longitudinal grooves in the upper sides of the shelves, and from the foregoing it will be apparent that said partition may be readily adjusted longitudinally of the case or readily removed therefrom and that other shelf-partitions may be added from time to time. By adjustment of the shelf-partitions the area of spaces between shelves may be varied at will and each space may be designated by an arbitrary character or characters on a visible slide or upon a tag H, having a shank *j*, secured to a partition.

That compartment of the case between the permanent partition B and one of the end walls A may be divided into spaces by a series



of horizontal shelves I, and to facilitate adjustment of these shelves to various heights said partition and end wall are provided with vertical front and rear grooves *k*, containing  
5 rests *m* at predetermined intervals apart, these rests being extended a limited distance into said grooves to form supports for lugs *n*, projecting from said shelves. By a longitudinal movement of each shelf I its lugs *n* may  
10 be brought into the interrupted portion of grooves *k* away from one set of rests *m* and raised or lowered to a desired level, when by a reverse movement of said shelf its lugs will come in place on another set of said rests.  
15 The front edges of the adjustable shelves I may be provided with arbitrarily-selected space designations, as herein shown, and in order to provide for ready insertion and removal of said shelves the end wall A and partition B of the case are provided with transverse grooves *p*, that extend from their front  
20 edges to intercept the grooves *k*, thus affording clearance for the shelf-lugs.

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

1. An article of furniture in the form of a case having horizontal shelf elements provided with longitudinal guideways, slides engaging the guideways and provided with end  
30 tenons, shelf-partitions provided with brackets having socket-heads engageable with end tenons of said slides, and spring-latches carried by the slides for engagement with the brackets. 35

2. An article of furniture in the form of a case having horizontal shelf elements provided with under side longitudinal guideways, and the upper sides of certain of these elements provided with longitudinal grooves,  
40 slides engaging the guideways, shelf-partitions in detachable connection with the slides, and lugs extending from the shelf-partitions into the aforesaid grooves.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I  
45 have hereunto set my hand, at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW J. KEARNS.

Witnesses:

N. E. OLIPHANT,  
B. C. ROLOFF.