

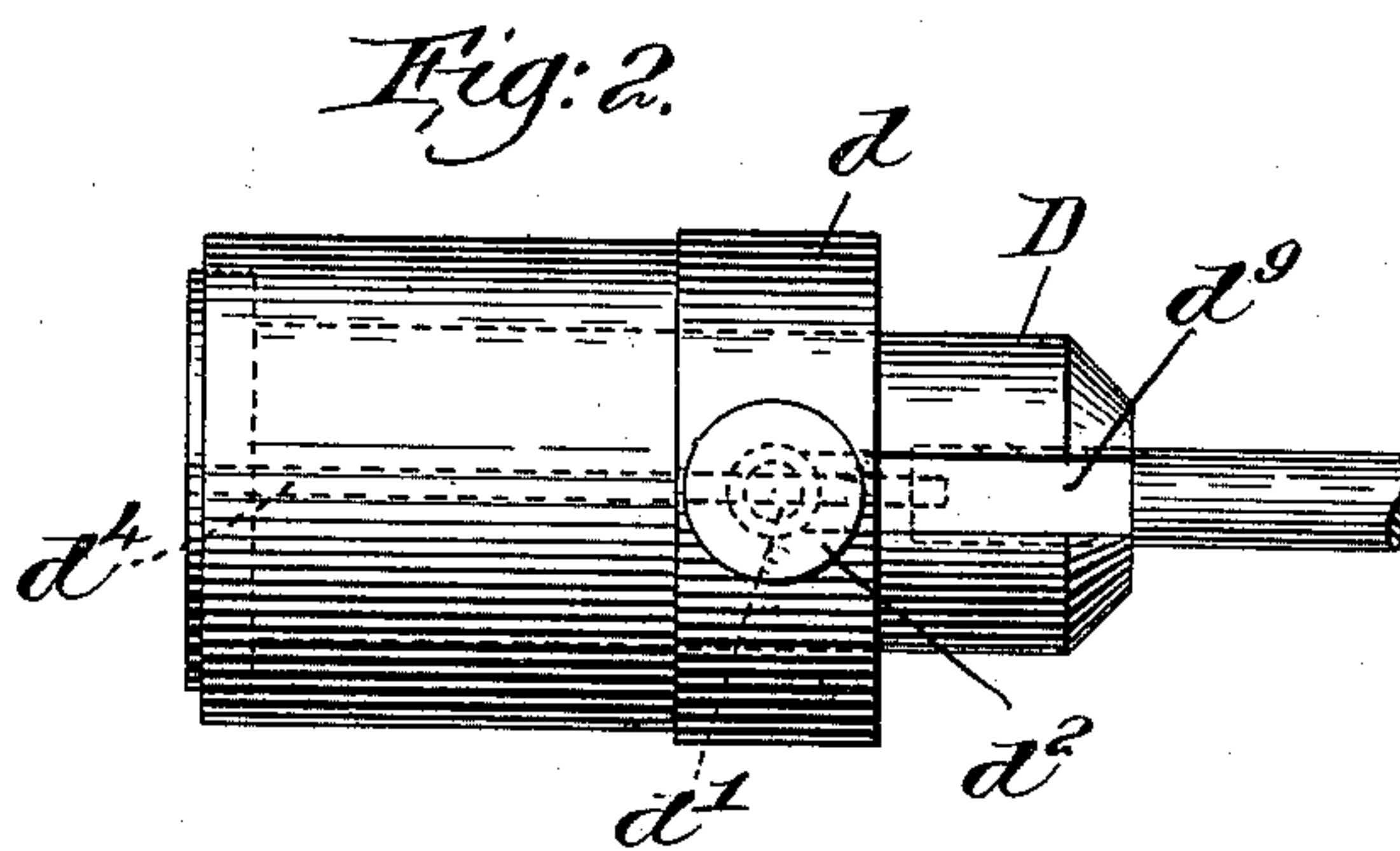
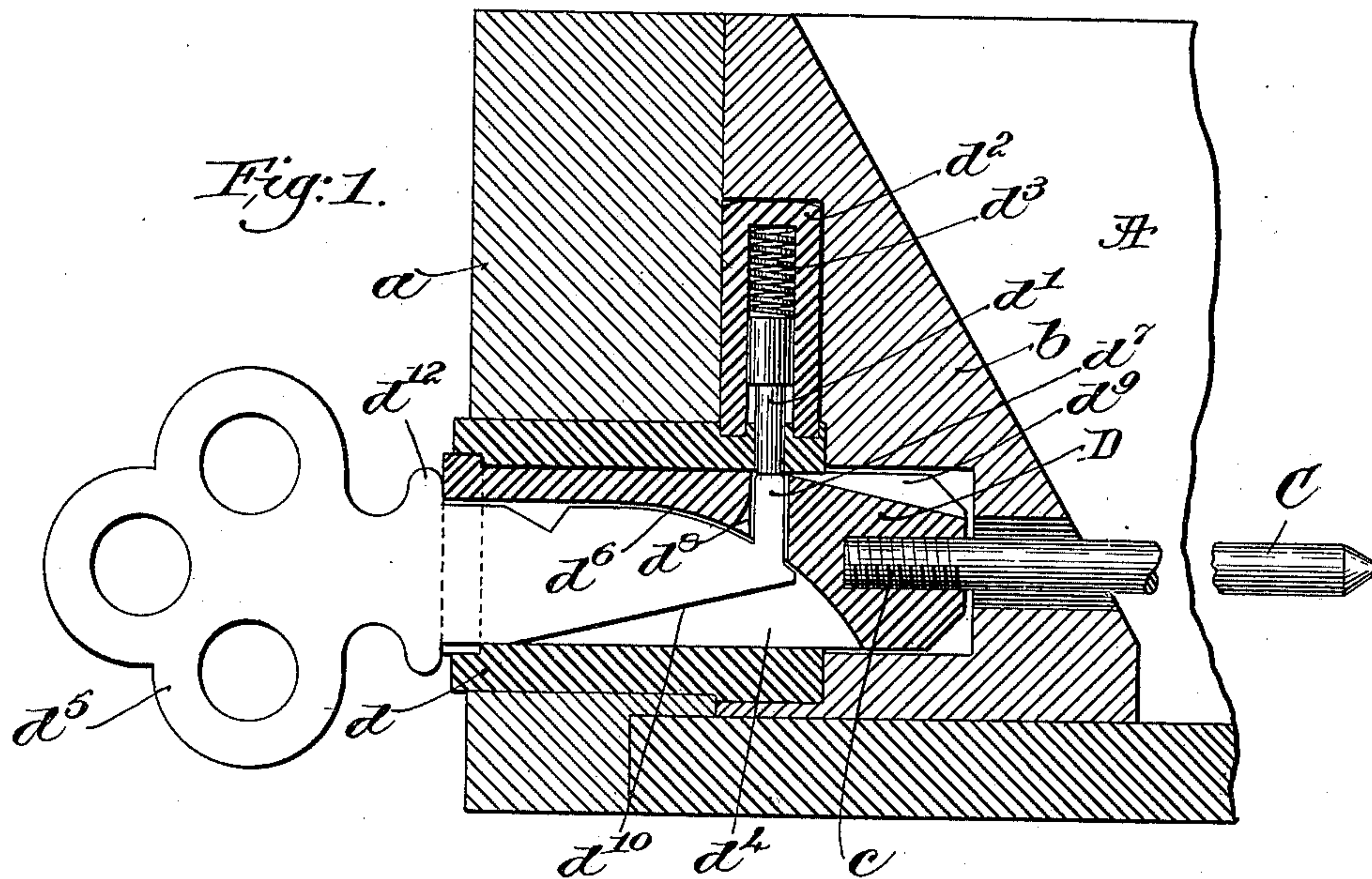
No. 628,886.

Patented July 11, 1899.

D. E. HUNTER.
LOCK ROD FOR CARDS.

(Application filed June 18, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LOCK-ROD FOR CARDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 628,886, dated July 11, 1899.

Application filed June 18, 1898. Serial No. 683,802. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID E. HUNTER, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Lock-Rods for Cards, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

10 This invention is an improved lock-rod or lock-rod attachment for retaining cards in a drawer or cabinet, such as is commonly found in card catalogues, indexes, and other card-records. Various devices of this general character have been devised; and it is my present
15 object to produce a simple lock connection operable by a key and which shall be accurate and sure in operation, while being inexpensive to manufacture, not liable to get out of
20 order, and smooth and neat in external appearance.

The details of my invention will be pointed out in the following description and the invention more particularly defined in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, illustrative of one embodiment of the invention.

30 In the drawings, Figure 1 is a central longitudinal vertical section of a preferred embodiment of my invention shown in operative position in a card-drawer, parts being broken away. Fig. 2 is a top plan view showing the device removed from the drawer.

35 The drawer A may be of any usual or preferred kind adapted to receive cards, being herein shown as provided adjacent its front wall *a* with a usual inclined block *b*, against which the cards may be tipped in use when held in place by the rod C, which enters the
40 usual perforations in the cards, as will be readily understood.

45 The rod C may be of any kind desired suitable for the purpose, inasmuch as my present invention does not relate to the rod as such, but relates to the means for retaining and manipulating it. As herein shown, the rod is threaded at *c* and permanently secured in a plug or socket-piece D, preferably cylindrical in cross-section. Said plug or socket
50 is adapted to be inserted in a housing *d*, which may be of any external shape preferred, and is mortised or otherwise retained in the box.

At its upper end the housing is perforated to receive a movable retaining device or dog *d'*, herein shown as a plunger, and retained
55 in a hollow projection or dome *d''*, brazed or otherwise secured to the housing, said plunger being normally held projected by a spring *d'''*, bearing against its inner end and retained in the dome.

60 The plug D has a longitudinal slit or key-aperture *d⁴* to receive a key *d⁵*, said slit being herein shown as having a curved upper wall *d⁶* to direct the key. The latter has at its forward end a hook-like prong *d⁷*, and the
65 socket or plug D has an opening *d⁸* to receive said prong or hook in alinement with the plunger *d'* when the parts are in position to be locked, it being understood that the plunger or device *d'* at such times drops into said
70 hole or opening *d⁸* and locks the rod in the box.

In order that the plug or socket may be automatically locked by the device *d'*, I provide the plug with an inclined groove *d⁹*, (shown in side elevation in Fig. 1 and in top plan,
75 Fig. 2,) up which the plunger may slide when the plug is forced into the housing, the plunger dropping into the hole *d⁸* when the plug has reached its innermost position.

80 The key, it will be observed, has an obliquely cut lower edge *d¹⁰*.

85 The operation of my device is extremely simple and at the same time certain and expeditious. The key is inserted in the slit *d⁴* and is directed by the curved wall *d⁶* downwardly until the hook or projection *d⁷* reaches the opening *d⁸*, it being understood that the oblique edge *d¹⁰* permits the key to assume the position required for this purpose. When the
90 upper lug *d¹²* of the key has reached the end of the socket or plug B, the projection *d⁷* will then be in proper position opposite the opening *d⁸*, and thereupon the operator simply forces the lower edge of the key forward, thereby swinging the projection *d⁷* upwardly
95 into the full-line position shown in Fig. 1 and forcing the plunger *d'* out of the opening *d⁸*, so that the parts are thereby unlocked, leaving the key in the position shown with its hook or projection *d⁷* in place within the opening *d⁸* rigid to act as a withdrawing-hook.
100 The operator then simply pulls on the key, and thereby withdraws the plug D and the attached lock-rod C. The key can then be re-

5 moved or not, as preferred. When it is desired to lock the cards again, all that is necessary is simply to replace the parts, shoving the plug D forward, so that the plunger d' is permitted to slide up the inclined way d^9 and snap down into the hole d^8 into locking position.

10 It will be understood that I am not restricted to the precise form and arrangement of parts shown and described, inasmuch as various changes in minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention. It will also be understood that any desired kind of a lock-rod may be used with my plug, the latter being intended merely to operate and lock the rod or rods, whether the latter are of the kind requiring to be drawn entirely out, as herein shown, or simply moved longitudinally or otherwise slightly in order to be released from the cards, and whether permanently or otherwise attached or connected to the plug.

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

1. The herein-described device for locking cards in position, comprising a rod held by a plug at its outer end, a housing receiving said plug and provided with a plunger or dog, said plug having a slot or key-aperture, and an opening from said key-aperture registering with and adapted to receive said dog, and a key having a hook or projection corresponding to said opening and adapted to dislodge said dog therefrom for unlocking the device, substantially as described.

2. The herein-described device for locking cards in position, comprising a rod held by a plug at its outer end, a housing receiving said plug and provided with a plunger or dog, said plug having a slot or key-aperture, and an opening from said key-aperture registering with and adapted to receive said dog, and a key having a hook or projection corresponding to said opening and adapted to dislodge said dog therefrom for unlocking the

device, said plug having an inclined groove extending upwardly from its inner end in alinement with said opening, substantially as described.

3. The herein-described device for locking cards in position, comprising a rod held by a plug at its outer end, a housing receiving said plug and provided with a plunger or dog, said plug having a slot or key-aperture arched or downwardly curved at its upper forward end, and an opening from said key-aperture registering with and adapted to receive said dog, and a key having a hook or projection corresponding to said opening and adapted to dislodge said dog therefrom for unlocking the device, substantially as described.

4. The herein-described device for locking cards in position, comprising a rod held by a plug at its outer end, a housing receiving said plug and provided with a plunger or dog, a spring normally forcing said dog inwardly, said plug having a slot or key-aperture, and an opening from said aperture registering with and adapted to receive said dog, and a key having a hook or projection corresponding to said opening and adapted to dislodge said dog therefrom for unlocking the device, substantially as described.

5. The herein-described device for locking cards in position, comprising means to engage and retain the cards, in combination with a locking and operating device therefor, said device comprising a plug, a movable dog arranged to engage and lock said plug, and a key in the form of a hook for unlocking said dog and simultaneously engaging said plug in position to operate the same for releasing the cards, substantially as described.

In testimony, whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DAVID E. HUNTER.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. MAXWELL,
WALTER S. DODD.