

No. 628,896.

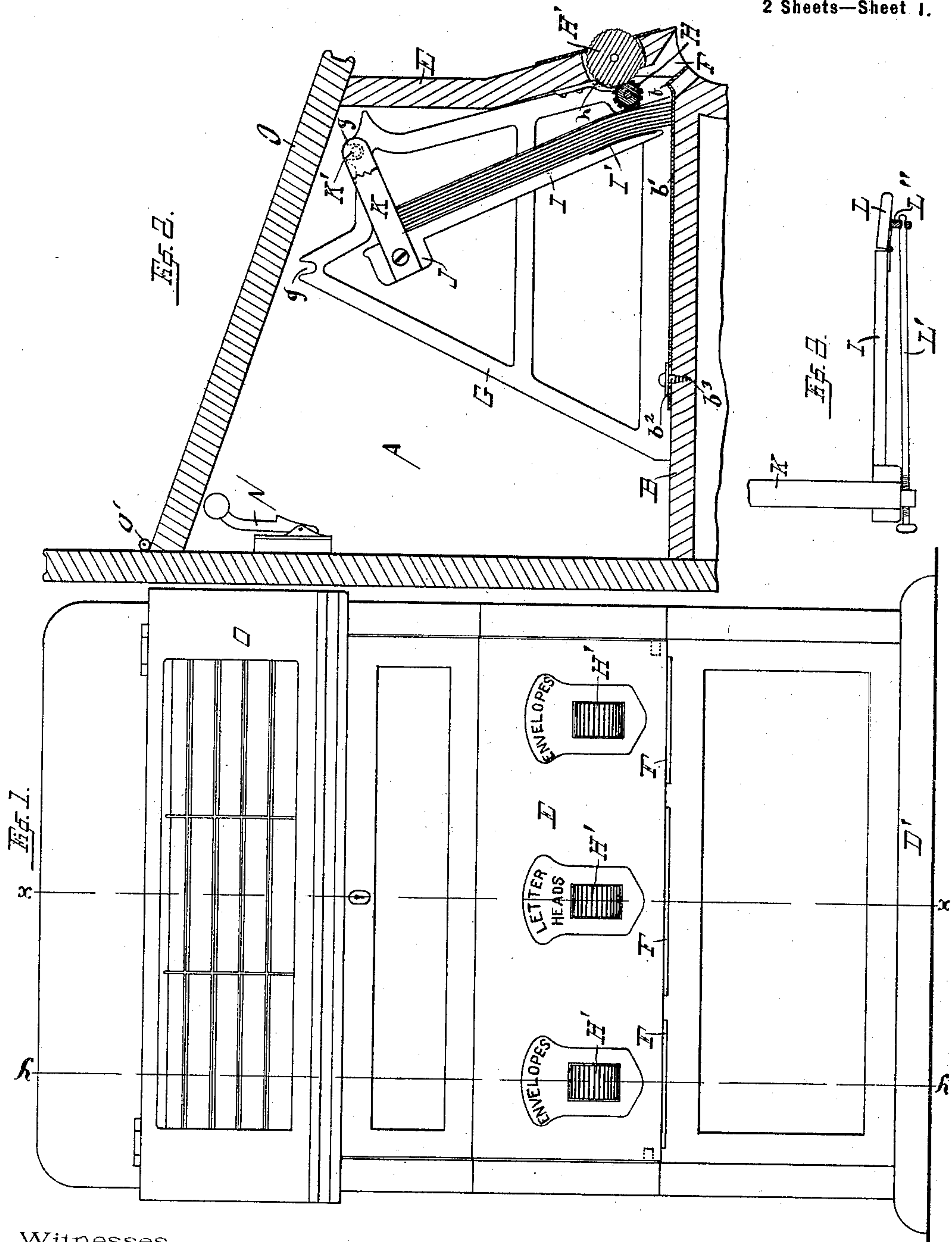
Patented July 11, 1899.

F. SCHILZ.  
BILL OR ENVELOP CABINET.

(Application filed Nov. 27, 1897.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



Witnesses.

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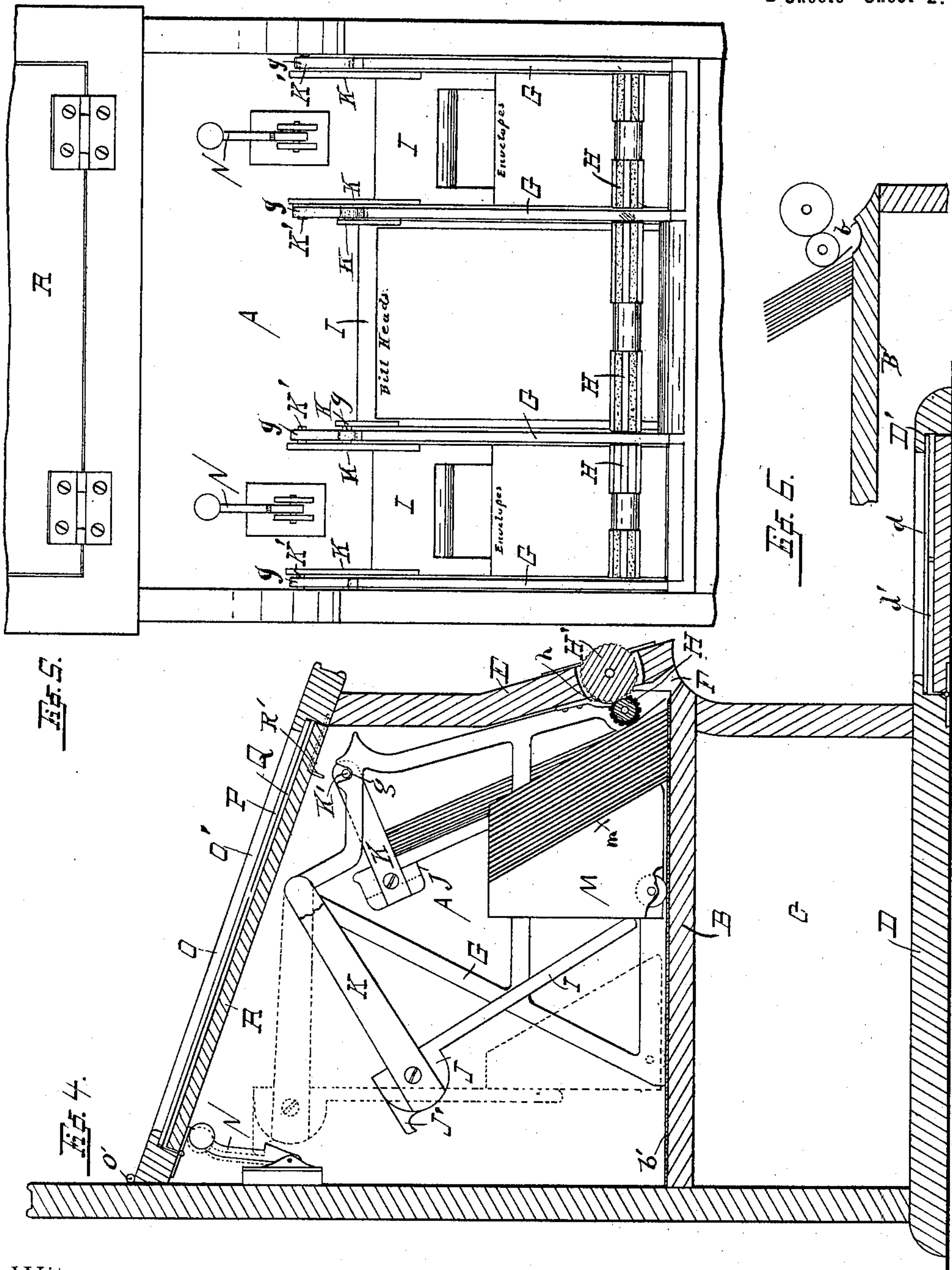
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK SCHILZ, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## BILL OR ENVELOP CABINET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 628,896, dated July 11, 1899.

Application filed November 27, 1897. Serial No. 659,997. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK SCHILZ, a citizen of the United States; residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bill or Envelop Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in bill and envelop cabinets.

The object of my invention is to provide a suitable cabinet and feed mechanism to be used in hotels and other public places for feeding envelops, letter-sheets, &c., and which may also be used for advertising purposes.

In the following description reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved cabinet. Fig. 2 is a detail sectional view drawn on line *x x* of Fig. 1, with the lower drawer and front portion of the base-plate broken away and the upper lid being shown as it appears when formed without the advertising-receptacle. Fig. 3 is a detail side view of a modified form of the presser-plate.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view drawn on line *y y* of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a front view with the cover raised and front wall and lower portion of the cabinet removed. Fig. 6 is a detail view showing a modified form of the concavity at the front edge of the floor B in cross-section.

Like parts are identified by the same reference-letters throughout the several views.

My cabinet is provided with a chamber A, the floor B of which is preferably raised, with a lower chamber C between it and the base-plate D, which latter chamber may be either open or closed.

The front wall E of the chamber A is preferably angular in form, with its lower edge projecting sufficiently beyond the lower portion of the cabinet to provide space for discharge-slots F.

Within the chamber A, I have provided a skeleton framework G, which divides the chamber into compartments, three such compartments being shown in the drawings, those at the sides being used for envelops, while the central compartment is used for letter-sheets.

In each compartment I have provided a discharge-roller H, located above and somewhat in the rear of the discharge-slot F. Each of

the rollers H is arranged to be actuated by a larger friction-roller H', located in an opening in the front wall of the cabinet, so that it may be reached from the exterior, and also arranged to bear upon the roller H and communicate its motion thereto.

*h* is a dog adapted to engage the surface of the roller H' to prevent the latter from being turned in the wrong direction.

In each compartment a presser-plate I, weighted at J near its upper end, is suspended from the frame G by means of arms K, the latter having studs K' engaging in notches *g g* in the frame G, so that the presser-plates I tend to swing forwardly toward the roller H upon the pivotally-supporting studs K'.

In cases where it is desired that the presser-plate I shall bear directly upon the paper, as it does in the central compartment, it is preferably curved or bent rearwardly at its lower end and surfaced with sandpaper or suitable material I', so that it will lift slightly upon the paper in pushing the same forwardly, as hereinafter explained.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a modification in which the lower end of the plate I is provided with a hinged section L, which can be adjusted at any desired angle to the balance of the plate by means of an adjusting-screw L', swiveled to a lug L'', projecting rearwardly from the adjustable section L. The pack of envelops, letter-sheets, or other paper is placed in the cabinet against the plates I, with the lower edges of the sheets in frictional contact with the floor B, and is pressed forwardly against the roller H by the plate I, as best shown in Fig. 2. When it is desired to discharge the sheets, the roller H' is actuated by a thumb or finger, and this motion is communicated to the roller H, which by its friction upon the front sheet of the pack draws the latter downwardly and discharges it through the slot F. The front sheet tends, under the pressure of the plate I and the resistance of the roller H along a line above its lower edge, to spring away from the pack, and thus facilitate its separation from the other sheets, which remain with their edges in frictional contact with the platform.

When the sheets to be fed are thin, I prefer to provide the floor B with a concave surface *b*, adjacent to the slot F, which surface



may be either raised, as shown in Fig. 2, or depressed, as shown in Fig. 6. The object of this concave surface is to insure the detention of the second sheet until the first sheet has been discharged. The first sheet will obviously spring farther away from the pack than the second sheet and under the friction of the roller H will escape over the concavity, while the edge of the second sheet will remain at right angles to some portion thereof and be detained thereby. The floor B is preferably covered by a smooth-surfaced adjustable metal plate  $b'$  and the rear portion slotted at  $b''$  for the reception of an adjusting-screw  $b'''$ . The plate is adjusted backwardly for thick paper and forwardly for thin paper.

Where the paper consists of short thick sheets—such as envelopes, circulars, &c.—I prefer to use a feed slide or carriage M, interposed between the sheets and the presser-plate of frame I. In such case the latter may be merely an open frame, the upper portion of which is shown in the side compartments in Fig. 5. When inserting the sheets in this compartment, they are placed against the inclined face  $m$  of the slide M and the latter is pushed backwardly until the hook  $J'$  of the weight J is engaged by the weighted catch N in the upper rear portion of the cabinet. The pack of paper can then be inserted and the sheets straightened upon the surface  $m$  of the slide M, and when in the proper position the catch N is released from the hook J to permit the presser-frame to push them forwardly against the feed-roller. In the central compartment, where the feed slide or carriage M is not used, the presser-plate is pivoted in the fore part of the frame G, and the weighted catch N is also omitted in the construction shown. The principal object of the catch is to hold the presser-plate while the paper is being adjusted against the slide M, and the latter being omitted in the central compartment the catch N may be omitted also, as the paper is then placed directly against the presser-plate and adjusts itself thereto more readily than it can be adjusted to the slides in the side compartments.

In order that my device may be utilized for advertising purposes, the base-plate D is extended and provided with a hinged section  $D'$ , having a glass surface  $d$  and a recess  $d'$ , one edge of which is exposed when the section  $D'$  is swung downwardly upon its hinge, thus permitting an advertising-card to be inserted in the recess  $d'$  underneath the glass surface  $d$ .

The lid O of my cabinet, which is hinged at O' and raised to permit the insertion of the paper, is provided with a glass P, covering a recess Q, access to which is had by means of a hinged door R on the under side of the cover to insert or remove the advertising-cards. The door R of the lid and section  $D'$  of the base may be secured in their normal position by any suitable fastening R' or lock.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A bill and envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to the slot, a feed-roller located in proximity to the slot, a frame resting upon said floor with upwardly-projecting sides adapted to form bearings for a swinging presser-plate, a presser-plate having arms pivotally supported in said frame and adapted to permit the plate to swing forward toward the feed-roller, substantially as described.

2. A bill and envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to said slot, a feed-roller located in proximity to the slot, a frame resting upon said floor with upwardly-projecting sides adapted to form bearings for a swinging presser-plate, a presser-plate having arms pivotally supported in said frame and adapted to permit the plate to swing forwardly toward the feed-roller, the lower end of said plate being bent rearwardly, substantially as described.

3. A bill and envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to said slot, a feed-roller located in proximity to the slot, a frame resting upon the floor with upwardly-projecting sides adapted to form bearings for a swinging presser-plate, a presser-plate having arms pivotally supported in said frame and adapted to permit the plate to swing forwardly toward the feed-roller, the lower end of said plate being bent rearwardly and surfaced with frictional material, substantially as described.

4. A bill or envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to said slot, a feed-roller located in proximity to said slot, a frame resting upon said floor with upwardly-projecting sides adapted to form bearings for a swinging presser-plate, a presser-plate having arms pivotally supported in said frame and adapted to permit the plate to swing forwardly toward the feed-roller, the lower end of said plate being hinged to the body portion and provided with means for adjusting the same at various angles, substantially as described.

5. A bill or envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to said slot, a feed-roller located in proximity to the slot, a frame resting upon said floor with upwardly-projecting sides adapted to form bearings for a swinging presser-plate, a presser-plate having arms pivotally supported in said frame and adapted to permit the plate to swing forwardly toward the feed-roller, a movable section secured to the lower end of said plate and an adjusting-screw secured in a bearing on the rear surface of the plate, and swiveled to a rearwardly-



projecting lug on the rear surface of the movable section, substantially as described.

5 6. A bill and envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to the slot, a feed-roller located in proximity to the slot, a frame resting upon said floor with upwardly-projecting sides adapted to form bearings for a swinging presser-plate, a presser-plate having arms pivotally supported in said frame and adapted to permit the plate to swing forwardly toward the feed-roller, and a carriage or slide interposed between the presser-plate and roller, 5 substantially as described.

7. The combination with a paper-supporting floor provided with a concave surface at one edge thereof, a feed-roller located above said edge and adjacent thereto, and a pressing device adapted to engage sheets of paper between it and the roller, with their lower ends supported on the floor in a position to be fed over said concave surface by the feed-roller, substantially as described.

5 8. A bill and envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to the slot, a frame located upon said floor with upwardly-projecting skeleton partitions adapted to divide the chamber into a plurality of compartments, a feed-roller located in each compartment in proximity to the discharge-slot, and a swinging presser-plate suspended from the frame in 5 each compartment, said plate being weighted in the rear portion thereof, and adapted to

support sheets of paper on edge upon the floor and to press them forwardly against the roller, substantially as described.

9. A bill and envelop cabinet having in combination with the inclosing walls provided 40 with a discharge-slot, a floor having one edge thereof in proximity to the slot, a frame located upon said floor with upwardly-projecting skeleton partitions adapted to divide the chamber into a plurality of compartments, a 45 feed-roller located in each compartment in proximity to the discharge-slot, a swinging presser-plate suspended from the frame in each compartment and a weighted catch 50 adapted to automatically engage with and hold said plate when it is swung to its extreme rearward position, substantially as described.

10. The combination of a cabinet provided with a discharge-slot in its lower end, an adjustable smooth-surfaced metal plate covering the lower end of said cabinet, and provided 55 with a raised concave surface adjacent to the discharge-slot, a friction-roller located above said slot and the concave surface, and a pressing device adapted to engage sheets of paper between it and the roller, with their edges in contact with said metal plate, and said concave surface interposed between the paper and the discharge-slot, substantially as de- 60 scribed.

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

FRANK SCHILZ.

Witnesses:

JAS. B. ERWIN,  
L. C. WHEELER.