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Patented Jan. 16, 1900.

C. M. STEBBINS.
ROTARY BOOKCASE.

(Application filed Apr. 27, 1898.)

(No Model.)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ROTARY BOOKCASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 641,614, dated January 16, 1900.

Application filed April 27, 1898. Serial No. 678,991. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. STEBBINS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Wolcott, in the county of Lamoille and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rotary Bookcases; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention is an improvement in rotary bookcases; and the object of my said invention is to provide a bookcase of this character that can be readily taken apart for convenience in transportation and in which the greater part or body of the device is made up of boxes or compartments for the books, which are utilized in shipping said books.

The invention contemplates a construction which retains the particular arrangement and many advantages of the rotary bookcase and overcomes the difficulty which is experienced in handling or transporting such bookcases and is yet simple and cheap in construction and durable in use.

With the above objects in view the invention consists, primarily, of a revolving support, boxes stacked thereon in vertical series to form book-compartments, and means for rigidly connecting the parts above the revolving support.

The invention further consists in the particular construction and arrangement of the parts, as hereinafter fully described, and more particularly set forth in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is an elevation of a rotary bookcase constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view. Fig. 3 is a detail view of one of the boxes or book compartments and including a removable cover which is employed when the box is used in shipping the books.

Referring more particularly to said drawings, A designates the supporting-base of the revolving bookcase or cabinet, at the center of which is rigidly secured a casting or forging B, presenting an upwardly-projecting pin *b*, and upon this base the body or cabinet proper is pivotally mounted, the pivot-

pin *b* entering a metal socket *c* in the center of a board C, which forms the bottom of the cabinet.

In making up the cabinet proper to form the compartments for the books two rectangular boxes D D are placed upon the bottom board C back to back, and upon said boxes, at right angles therewith, is placed a second set of boxes E, and upon the latter a third set F, and so on until the desired height of the cabinet is reached, the boxes of one set being preferably of different width vertically than those of the others to accommodate volumes or books of different sizes. The fronts of the boxes are left open to form open compartments for the books, and it will be noted that the arrangement of said compartments is similar to that of the ordinary revolving bookcases, the spaces between the boxes of each set providing compartments in addition to those formed by the boxes themselves. In order to make a rigid structure of the body or cabinet thus formed, a top board H is placed upon the upper boxes and is connected to the bottom board C by rods or long bolts I, which serve to firmly clamp the boxes between said boards. These rods or bolts are adapted to be readily disconnected in taking the cabinet apart, and to this end the top board H is provided with notches *h*, into which the upper ends of the rods or bolts are passed, permitting the heads to rest upon said top board, while the lower threaded ends are passed through eyes *k* at the ends of metal bars K, extending across the under side of the bottom board, nuts *i* being turned upon the ends of the bolts. Washers *i'* are placed under the heads of the bolts to increase the surface bearing upon the top board. The rods or bolts are located at the corners of the cabinet in order that they will not obstruct the book-compartments.

A cabinet made up as hereinbefore described not only forms a very simple and cheap construction, but also provides for separating the cabinet into a number of parts for convenience in packing for transportation, and in moving a cabinet that is supplied with books it is not necessary to disturb the books that are in the boxes. To facilitate the handling of the boxes, they are provided at their ends with handholds M, and in connection

with the boxes I provide covers therefor, consisting of thin boards N, fitting the openings of said boxes and held in place by a pivoted cross piece or strip n, the ends of which are
5 passed into recesses n' in the top and bottom of the boxes.

From the foregoing description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that I provide a revolving bookcase
10 or cabinet in which the body or greater portion is made up of a series of packing-boxes, which not only facilitates moving the bookcase or cabinet itself, but also provides for readily and conveniently handling the books
15 and protecting them in transportation. It is also apparent that as the general appearance of the cabinet is that of an ordinary one its real construction and object thereof will be lost sight of, the boxes permitting of orna-
20 mentation to increase the attractiveness of the cabinet.

A revolving bookcase or cabinet constructed as hereinbefore described provides one that will be appreciated more especially by
25 professional men the character of whose work requires them to move very frequently or periodically, and in addition to the many conveniences will save the wear and tear upon the books.

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

1. A knockdown rotary bookcase, comprising a rotatable supporting-base, boxes stacked
35 upon the supporting-base in vertical series, the boxes of each series being disposed at an angle with respect to the boxes of the adjoining series and separated to form additional book-compartments, as shown; together with
40 means for rigidly connecting the boxes to the rotatable supporting-base, substantially as set forth.

2. A knockdown rotary bookcase, compris-

ing a rotatable supporting-base, boxes stacked thereon in vertical series, the boxes of each
45 series being disposed at an angle with respect to those of the adjoining series and separated from each other to form additional book-compartments, as shown; a top board placed upon the stack of boxes, and rods con-
50 necting the top board and rotatable supporting-base to clamp the boxes between them, substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

3. A knockdown rotary bookcase, comprising a rotatable supporting-base, boxes stacked
55 thereon to form book-compartments at all sides of the case or cabinet and the boxes of each set or tier separated from each other to form additional book-compartments in con-
60 nection with the adjoining sets or tiers; together with means for rigidly connecting the boxes to the supporting-base, substantially as shown and for the purpose set forth.

4. A knockdown rotary bookcase or cabinet, comprising a base, a board or support
65 rotatably mounted thereon, a cross-bar attached to said board and provided with apertured lugs or eyes, open boxes stacked upon said support in vertical series, those of one
70 series being disposed at right angles to those of the adjoining series and the boxes of each series separated to form additional book-compartments, a top or covering board placed
75 upon the stack and provided at its edges with notches, and threaded rods or long bolts engaging the notches of the top board and the eyes at the ends of the cross-bar attached to the bottom board, the said bolts having nuts
80 screwed thereon, as shown and described.

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

CHARLES M. STEBBINS.

Witnesses:

J. E. BULLOCK,

AMOS A. WHITING.