No. 681,155. Patented Aug. 20, 1901.

F. W. TOBEY.

LOCKING DEVICE.

(Application filed May 13, 1901.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

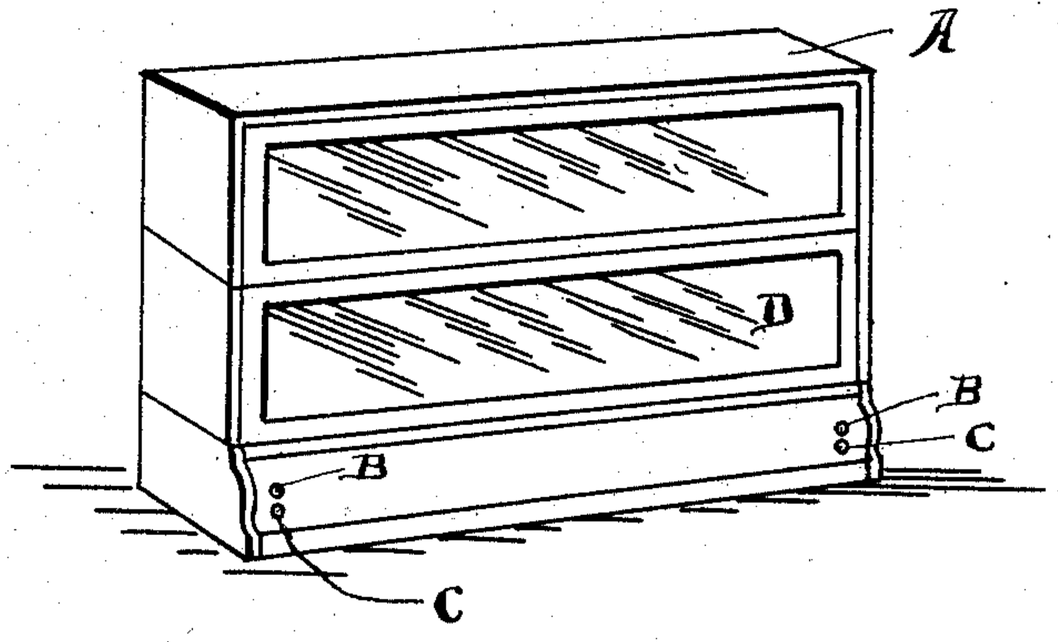
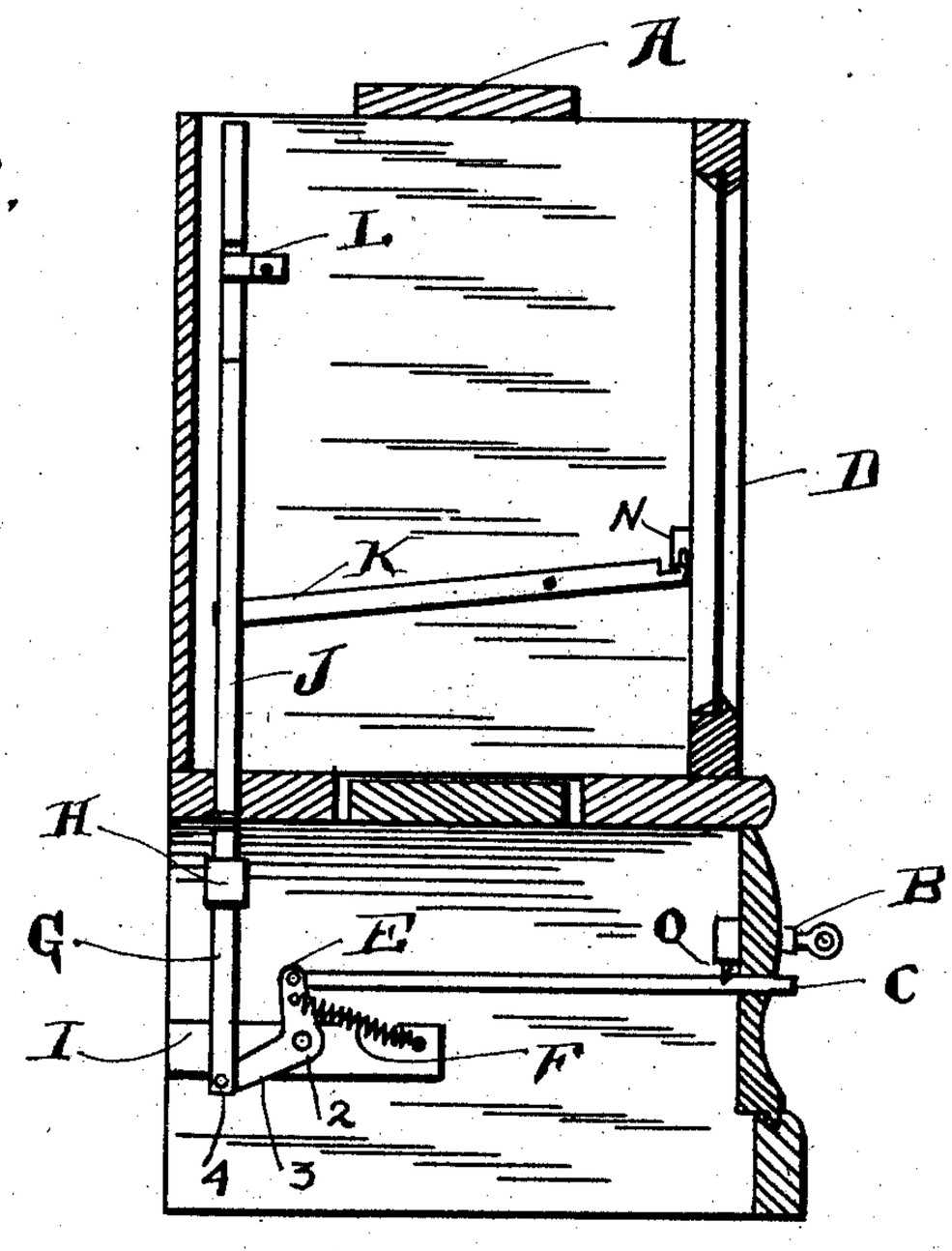


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES.
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Fig. 3.

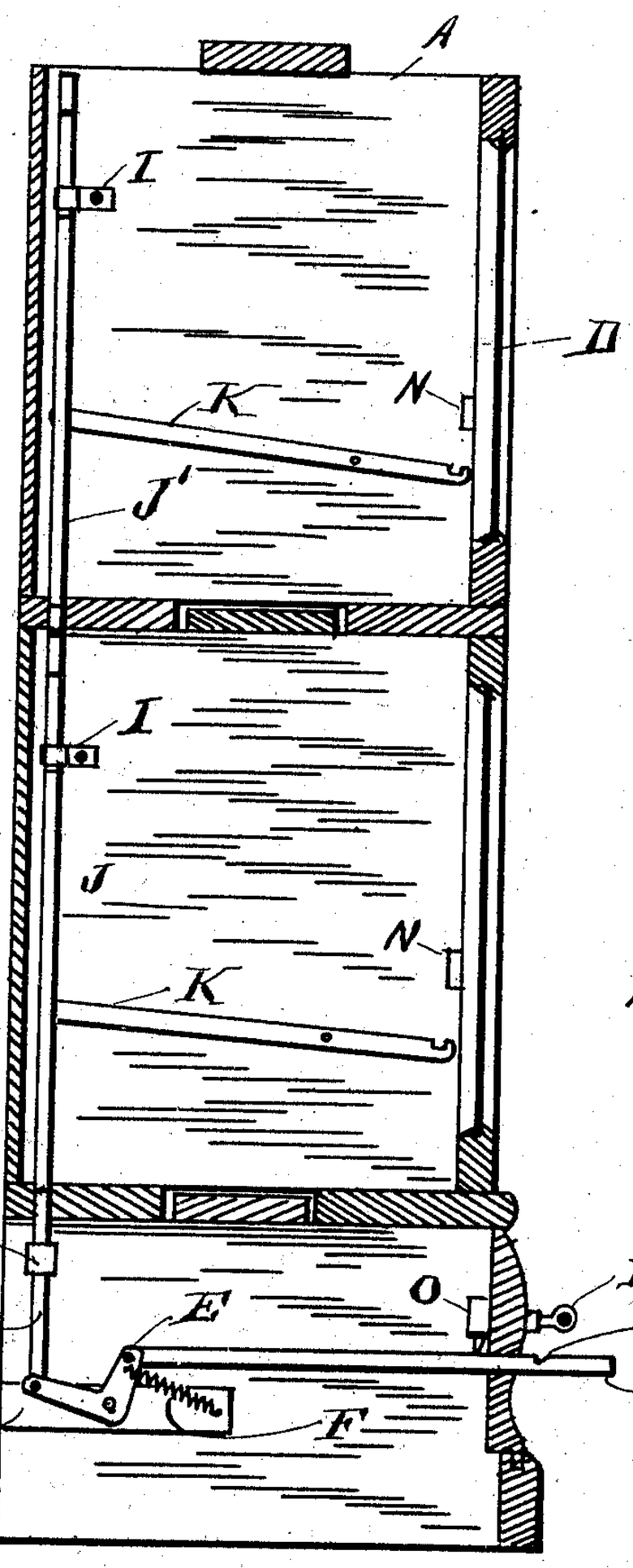

Fig. 5

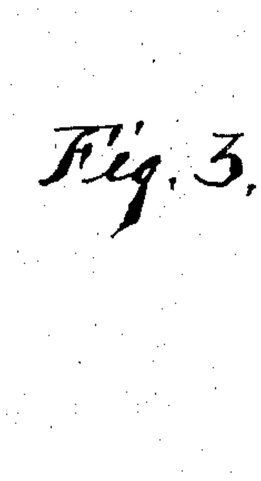

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED W. TOBEY, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE GLOBE-WERNICKE COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

LOCKING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 681,155, dated August 20, 1901.

Application filed May 13, 1901. Serial No. 60,086. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED W. TOBEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Locking Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in separable or sectional bookcases, each section of which is provided with a hinged door, said door adapted to be turned in a substantially horizontal position and then pushed back into the space containing the books.

The invention consists generally in locking the doors of the bookcase by means of mechanism which permits all the doors to be locked simultaneously and also allows one or more of the sections to be unlocked, if desired.

The invention consists, further, in the construction and combinations, all as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

The object of my invention is to furnish a cheap and efficient means for locking the doors of bookcases or analogous pieces of furniture constructed in sections, said sections adapted to be placed one above the other in order to form a unitary case. This object I accomplish by means of the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of two of the sections of the case resting upon the base. Fig. 2 shows a transverse vertical sectional view through the base and one of the sections with the lock in position to engage with the doors, thereby locking the doors in the case. Fig. 3 shows also a transverse sectional view through two cases and a base with the position of the locking device when the doors are unlocked. Fig. 4 shows a perspective view of the catch on the door which is adapted to engage with the locking device. Fig. 5 shows one of the sections having a grooved or cut-away portion adapting it to engage with the locking-lever K.

Similar letters and numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents a section of the bookcase.

B represents the key engaging with the lock O.

C represents a lock provided with a notch adapted to receive the bolt of the lock O and to retain the same in position to lock the doors.

D represents the hinged door.

3 represents a bell-crank lever turning on the pivot 2, secured at one end by a pivot to the rod J at the point 4 and at the other end at the point E to the rod C.

F shows a coiled spring connecting with the upper end of the bell-crank lever and secured, preferably, to a plate I.

G represents a rod pivoted to the bell-crank at 4 and registering with the lower end of the rod J. The rod J is secured in position by means of the clips L and has a longitudinal vertical movement, as hereinafter described.

H is a clip retaining the rod G in position.

K is a lever pivoted at 5 and having its longer end resting in a groove in the rod J, which groove in the rod J is shown in Fig. 5 by 6. The front end of the lever K is provided with a projection adapted to engage with the catch or clip N, said clip N being secured to the door.

J′ is a continuation of the rod J, separated therefrom, but adapted to engage therewith when the rod J is raised, as hereinafter described. The object of the separation is to allow the sections to be taken apart without interfering with the locking device.

M is a notch in the rod C, which receives the end of the bolt of the lock as when the rod C is shoved into the case for the purpose of locking the doors of the several sections, as described.

The operation of my invention is as follows: When the rod C is pushed into the case, as shown in Fig. 2, the rod G is lowered, and also the rods J and J′, and with such rods the rear ends of the levers K, the levers K being preferably so constructed as to drop down by their own gravity, raising the front ends of the same into engagement with the clips N on the doors. In order to unlock the doors, the key B is turned, withdrawing the locking-

bolt from the notch M, when the spring F, acting upon the bell-crank 3, throws out the rod C to the position shown in Fig. 3, thereby raising the rods G, J, and J′, and with them the rear ends of the levers K K, disengaging the front ends of the latter from the clips or catches N N, when all the doors in a series of sections will be unlocked. If it should be desirable to lock a portion of the doors in a series of sections and to leave a portion unlocked, the rear or longer end of any one of the levers K may be raised and held in the raised position, so as to prevent the same from dropping down sufficiently to raise the front end of the lever K, so as to make engagement with the clip or catch N.

I have described my preferred form of construction; but it will be evident that the levers K may be attached to the rods in any suitable manner and that other modifications in form may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim to have invented, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a case for books or other articles comprising a series of independent crates or sections, each crate or section provided with an independent door, such sections being placed one above the other, and each section being provided with an independent locking device arranged to be operated by the locking mechanism, a horizontal rod placed in the base below such sections operatively connected with the locking mechanism and having a longitudinal movement, a spring adapted to throw the said rod outwardly for unlocking the cases, and a suitable lock adapted to retain the said rod in the case when the doors are closed and engaged with the locking mechanism, substantially as described.

2. In combination with a series of cases, a series of rods J and J′, one for each section, a lever K for each section its front end provided with means for engaging with a clip or catch and its rear end adapted to engage with the longitudinal rods in its section, a vertically-moving rod G, a bell-crank pivoted to the said rod G at one end, a horizontal rod C, connected to the other end of said bell-crank for actuating said rods, a spring F adapted to throw the rod C outwardly when said rod C is released from the bolt of the lock, a lock provided with a bolt adapted to engage with the horizontally-moving rod C when said rod C is pushed into the case, substantially as described.

3. In a sectional bookcase provided with a series of independent sections, a locking device for each independent section, a suitable connection with the locking device of each section, a connecting mechanism between the locking device of each section, a horizontal, longitudinally-movable operating-rod for each locking device, a lock coöperating with said rod and adapted to simultaneously lock all the locking devices in a series of sections, and a spring adapted to disengage the lock of each individual section simultaneously, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRED W. TOBEY.

Witnesses:
JAMES S. HUNTER,
WM. A. ALLEN.