

No. 685,071.

Patented Oct. 22, 1901.

W. O. WAKEFIELD.
CARD CATALOGUE.

(Application filed Mar. 7, 1898.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

FIG. 1.

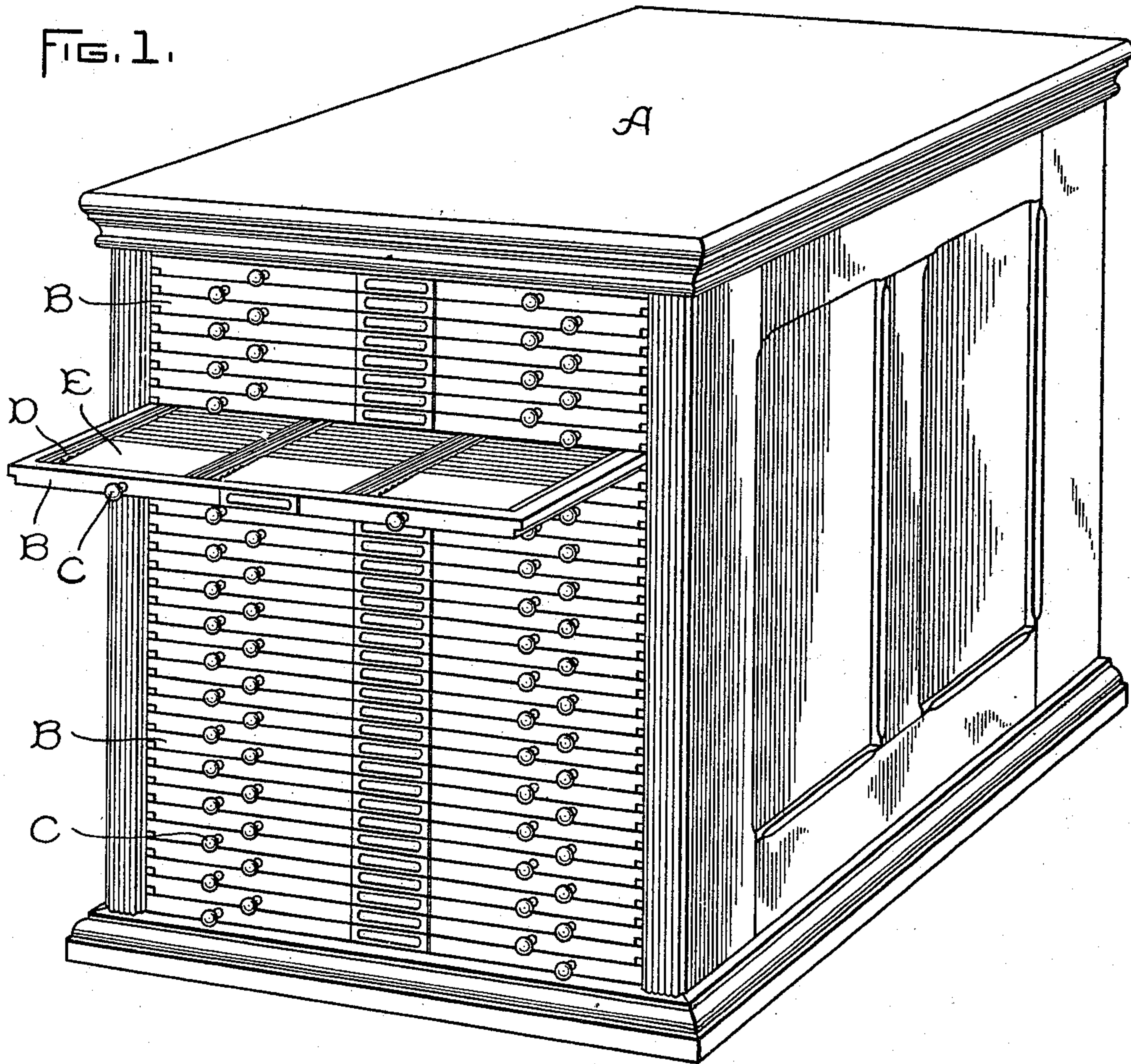
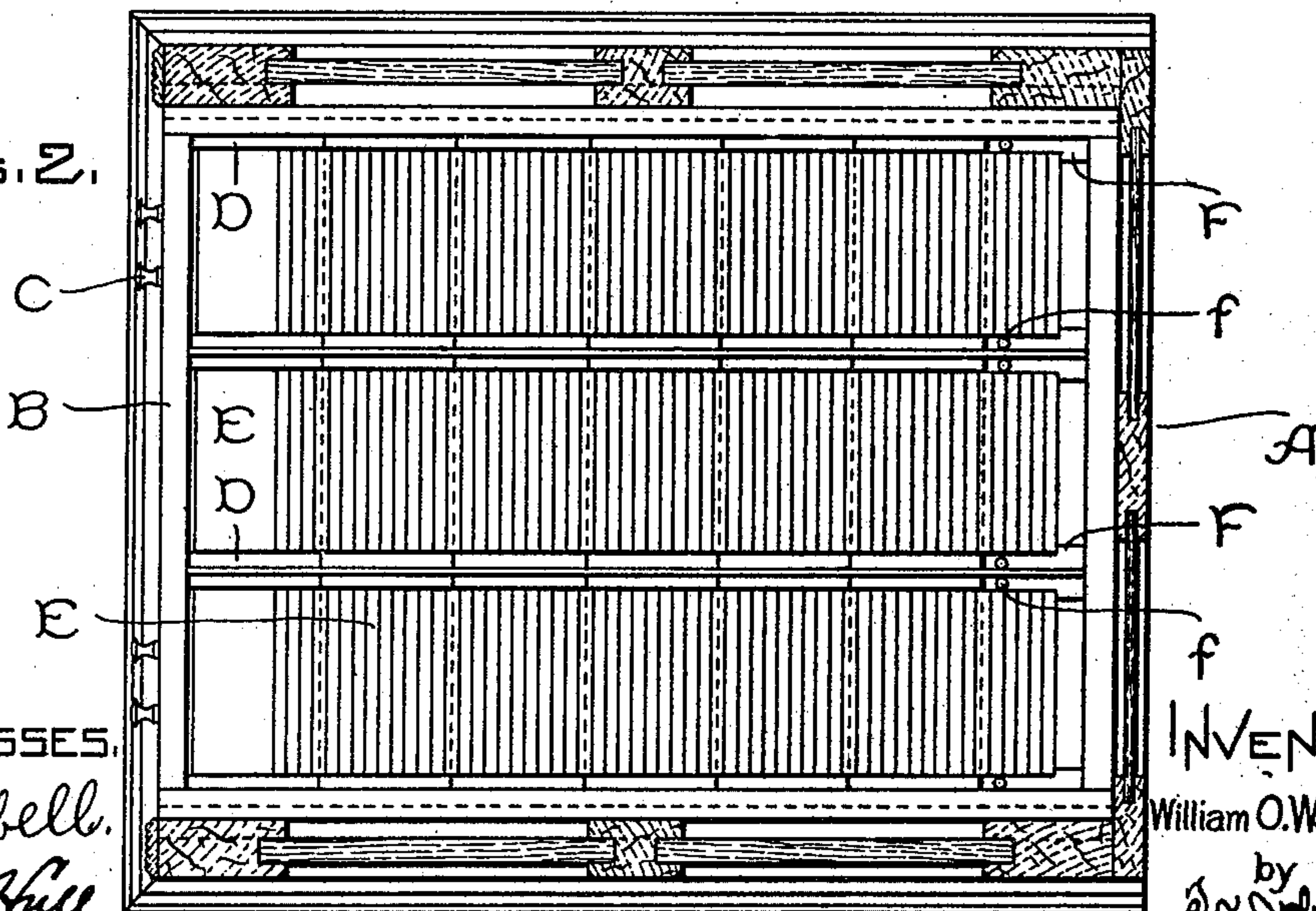


FIG. 2.



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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

FIG. 3.

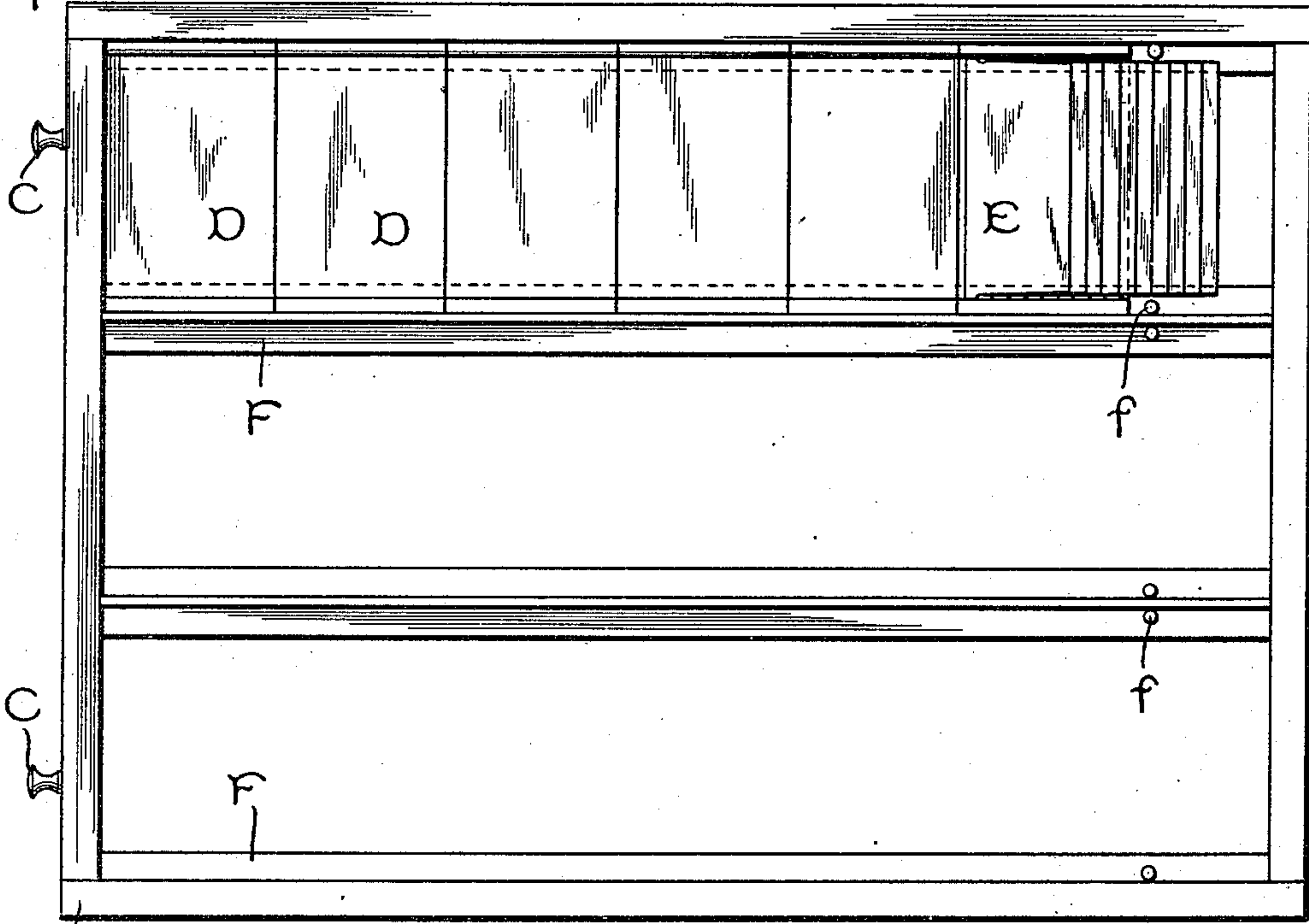


FIG. 4.

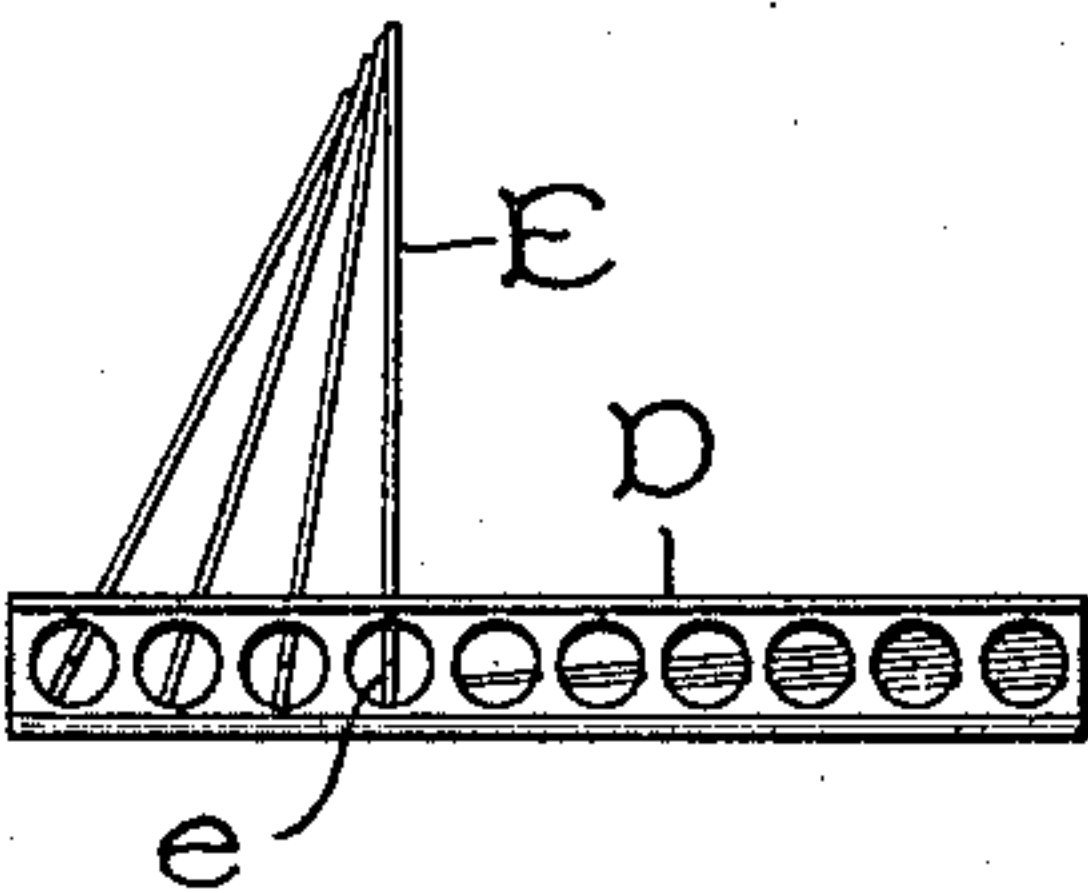


FIG. 10.

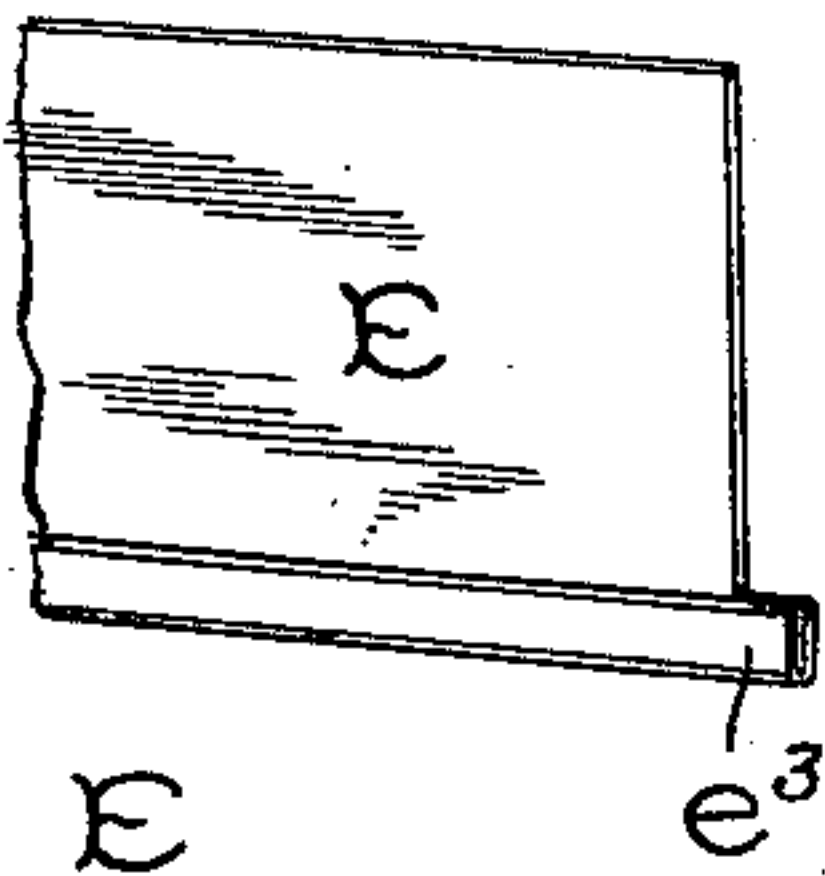


FIG. 5.

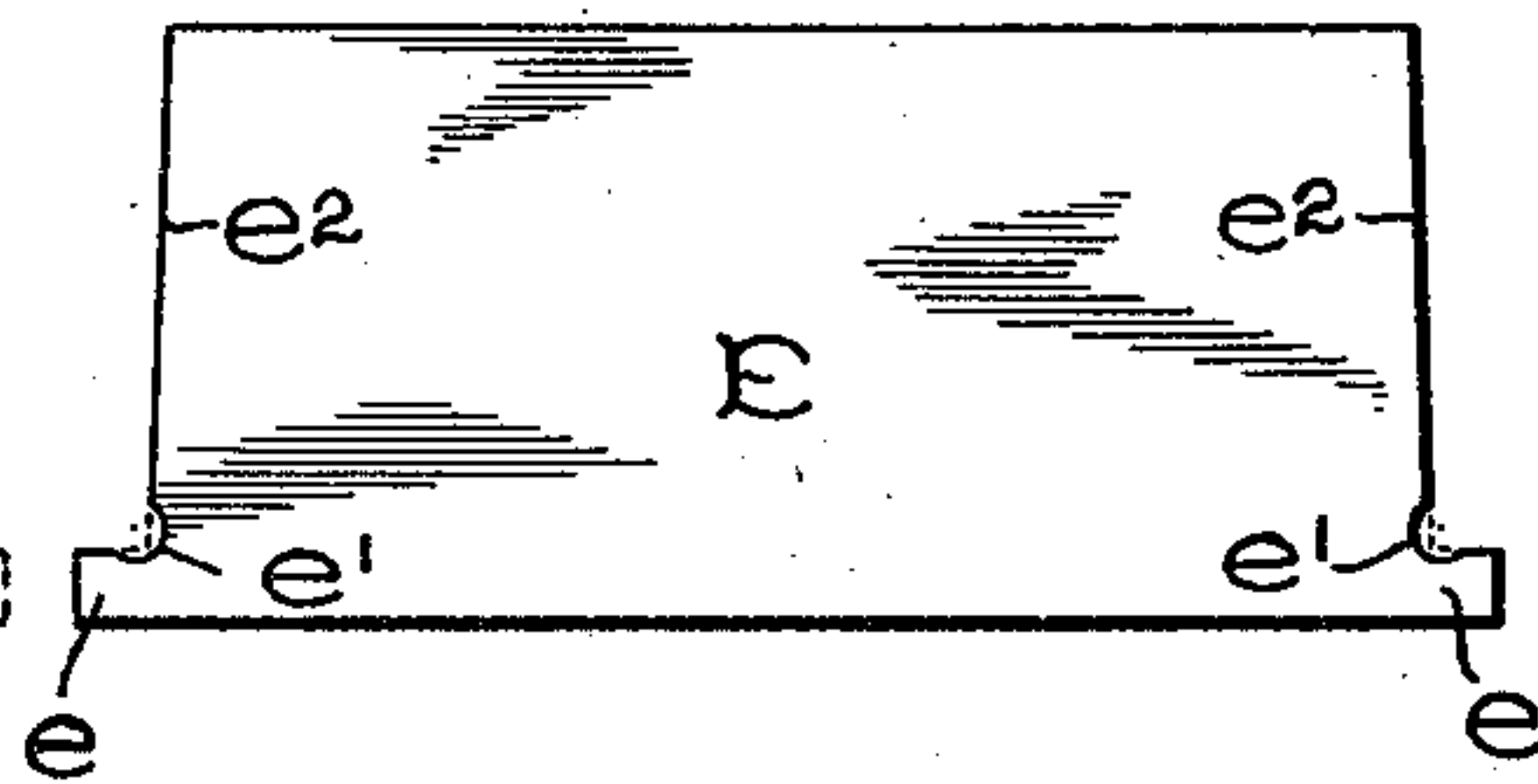


FIG. 8.

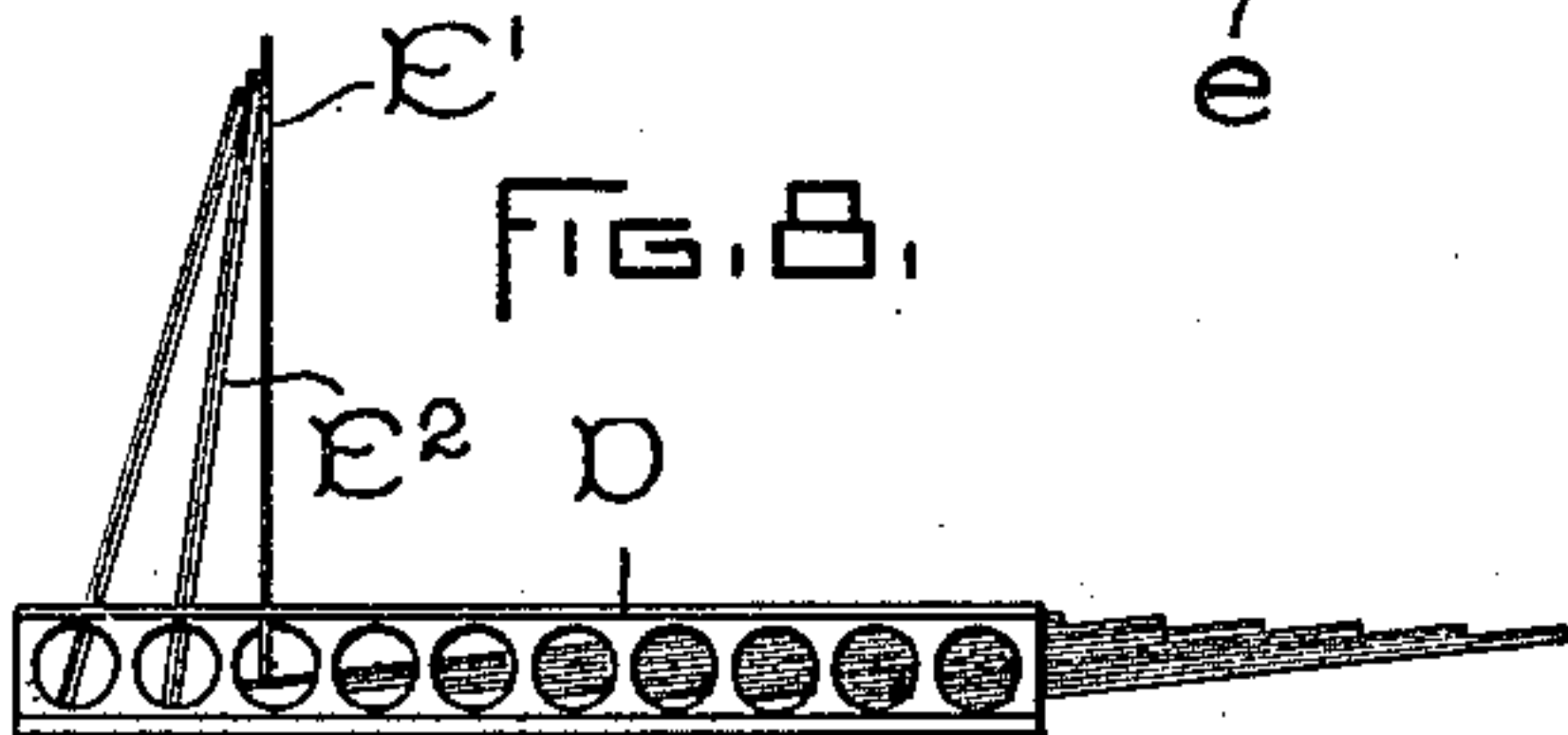


FIG. 6.

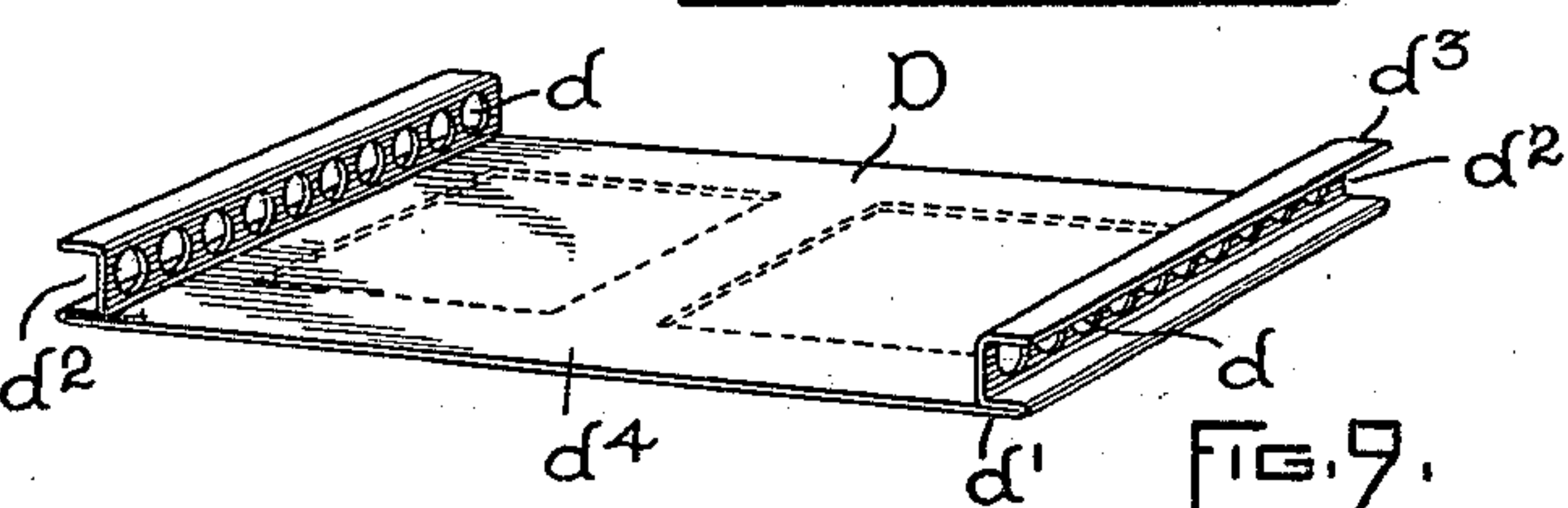
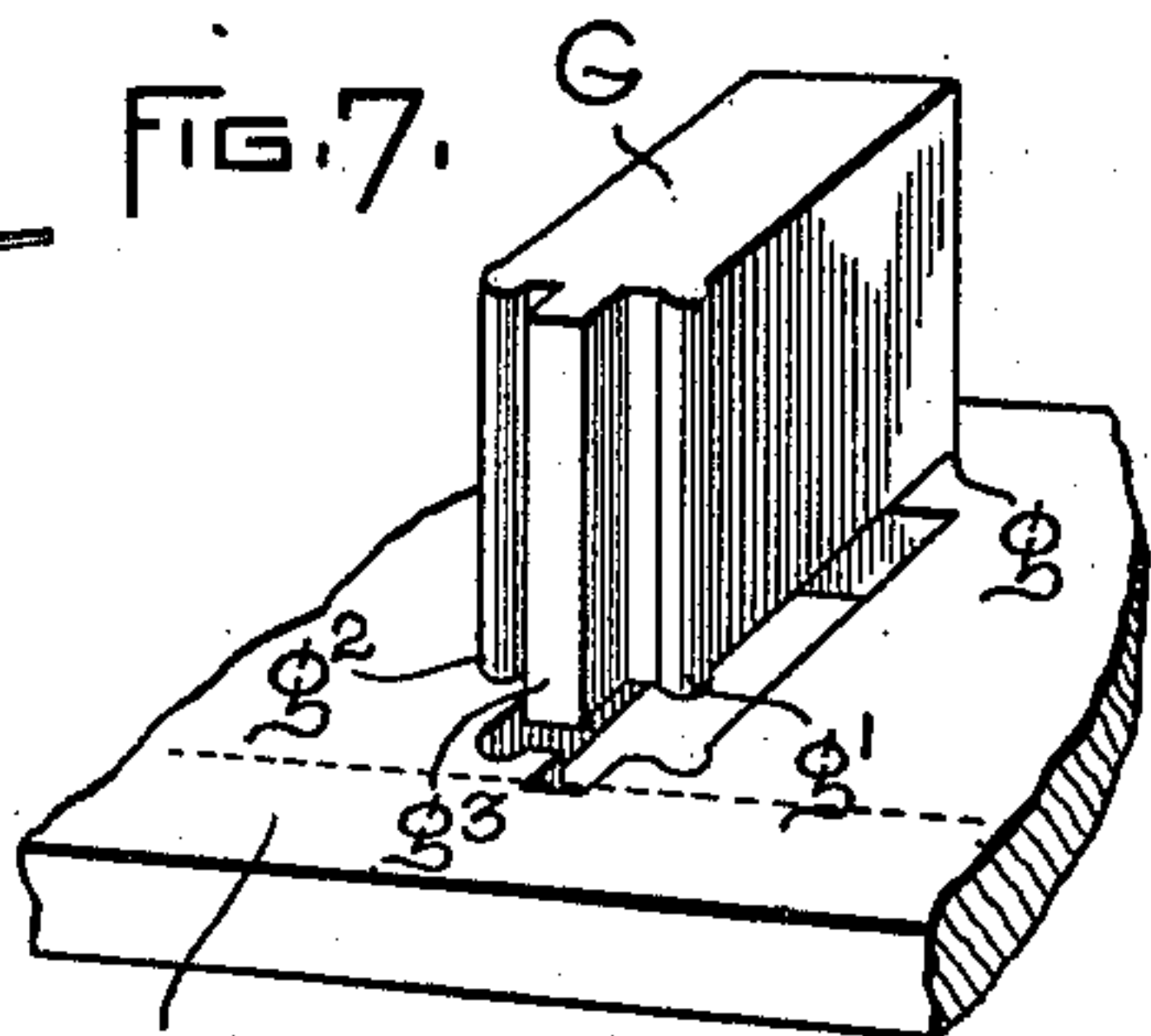


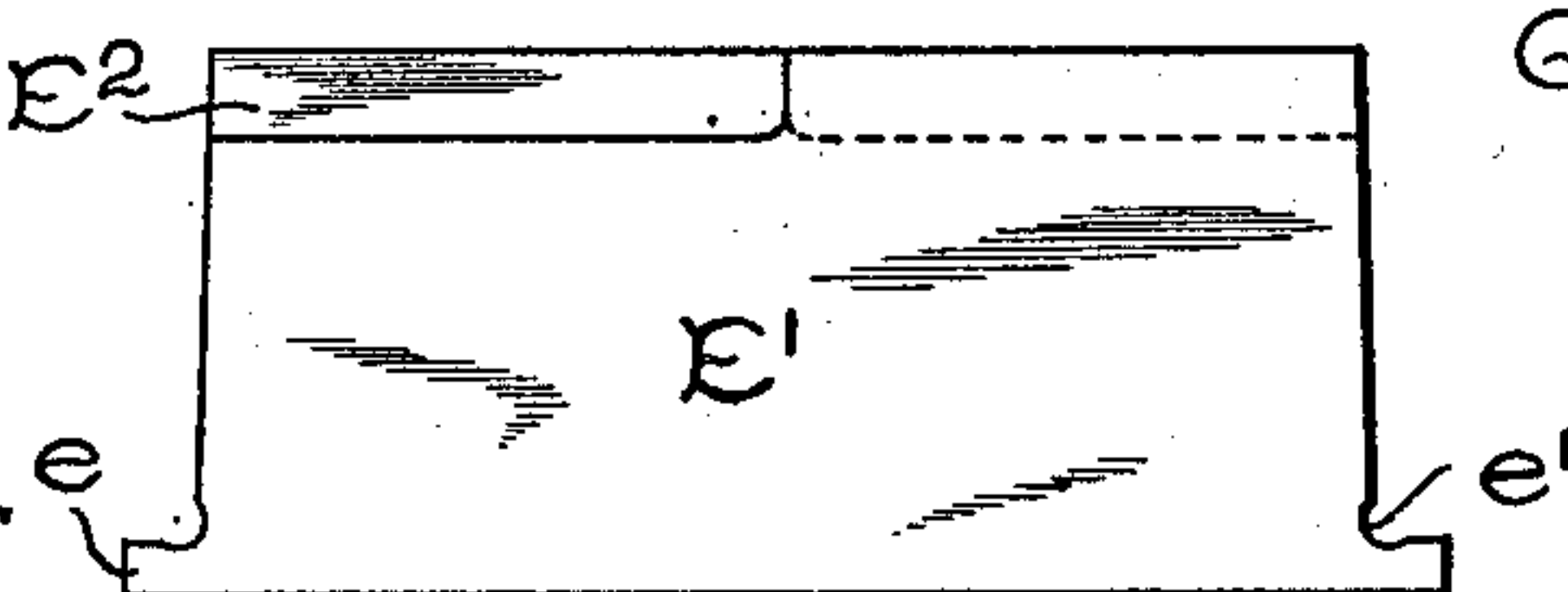
FIG. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM O. WAKEFIELD, OF SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK.

CARD-CATALOGUE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 685,071, dated October 22, 1901.

Application filed March 7, 1898. Serial No. 672,870. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM O. WAKEFIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Schenectady, in the county of Schenectady, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card-Catalogues, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to card-catalogues such as are in common use in libraries or in other places where a large number of subjects or titles are to be indexed or classified in any desired manner. It has for its object to furnish an improvement in such devices in which the titles will be more readily open to inspection, by which also the cards may be rearranged or redistributed with convenience and so that each card will be practically independent of all others—that is, it may be independently inspected or removed, a new one substituted, or changes and adjustments of the order made without affecting the cards other than those adjusted. For this purpose I have instead of standing the cards on edge, as is the common custom in catalogues of this class, so arranged them that they lie flat and each card overlaps the other, so that a small portion of the face of each card is exposed to view. Upon this portion the title (or indication of whatever kind is desired) may be placed. In addition I arrange the cards in separable racks, each of which is removable from the catalogue or whole collection of cards, and the cards themselves are arranged so that they may be separably detached from the racks. The racks are arranged, preferably, in cabinet-drawers, which may for this purpose be made very shallow. By opening any drawer its entire contents, so far as the title or numbers or other indicating means adopted are concerned, will be open to inspection, and it is unnecessary to handle the cards in any way. A common objection in devices of this class has been that by constant handling the edges and significant portions or titles of the card become so soiled that frequent renewals are necessary. In the device which I have originated this objection does not arise.

The invention therefore consists not only in the improved form of cabinet which I have devised, but in the use with the shallow drawer of the separable racks for the cards, the independently-adjustable cards, and the

placing of the cards in the catalogue flat instead of on edge. It also consists in the form of card which I have adopted, which is so arranged that it is held in place by lugs integral with the cards and without the use of the additional fastening devices which are common in devices of this class.

The invention will, however, be more readily understood from the drawings.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a section of a cabinet, showing one of the drawers in place, filled with cards. Fig. 3 is a plan view of one of the drawers. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of one of the trays used for the cards; Fig. 5, a front elevation of a card; Fig. 6, a perspective of the tray shown in Fig. 4; Fig. 7, a perspective of the dies used in forming the cards. Figs. 8 and 9 are modifications in which two cards may be placed in each perforation of the tray. Fig. 10 is a further modification.

In Fig. 1, A is the cabinet, and B B are the drawers. These are made very shallow and are provided with the usual knobs C. These latter are “staggered,” so that the drawers may be more readily opened.

In Fig. 2 the same reference-letters show the same parts, except that in this figure the trays D are more plainly apparent, each of them carrying cards E.

In Fig. 3 one of the drawers is shown. This consists of the ordinary frame and has rabbeted rails F, in which the trays D slide. Stops f are placed at the back of the drawer, so that in manipulating the trays the cards in the back one will not be injured. The trays D D are shown in one side of the drawer. They are composed of sheet metal bent to the form required and have perforations on the sides in which the cards E are pivoted. The bottom of the tray being wider than the distance between the perforations in the sides, the lugs of the cards to be hereinafter described are fully protected. In Figs. 4 and 6 one of these trays is shown with the cards in place. In the latter figure D is the base of the tray, consisting of a bottom portion d^1 and two sides d^2 , which form recesses in which the lugs of the cards are located. The sides are formed by bending the metal upon itself, as at d' , and then bending over the edge of the

sheet at d^3 , so as to form a cover or protection for the lugs on the cards. The part d^3 might be omitted. Perforations d are provided in which the lugs rest. These lugs and perforations form the securing means for the cards, which can lie flat, so that at least part of the face of each card is exposed. At the same time any card may be independently inspected or renewed, if so desired, without affecting the others. As shown in dotted lines, the bottom may be cut away to reduce weight, if desired; but ordinarily it will be better to leave the full amount of metal.

In Fig. 5 a card adapted to the catalogue is shown. This consists of a main portion E , having projecting lugs $e e$. The lugs are connected with the main body of the card by a curve e' . I have found that this construction diminishes the wear considerably and that the lugs are less easily torn when the cards are handled. The card could, however, as shown in dotted lines, be formed with the lug and side connected at an angle. The sides e^2 are beveled or differ slightly from a right angle with the base, so that the card will fall more readily into place. This I have found useful, though not imperative. It is not essential to the practice of my invention that the lugs shall be integral with the card, as other constructions by which the cards may, practically speaking, be pivoted at their lower edges will readily suggest themselves. When, therefore, I employ the term in the claims, I do not use it in a restricting sense, since such a construction as that shown in Fig. 10, for example, might be used and still be within my invention.

In Fig. 4 a number of the cards are shown in place in one of the trays. As ordinarily constructed these trays are adapted for ten cards; but of course this number might be varied. One of the lugs e on each side of each card enters a perforation in the tray D . The spacing of the perforations will determine the extent to which the face of each card will be exposed to view. Ordinarily the card will lie flat, as shown on the right in Fig. 4; but when it is to be entirely exposed to view the other cards may be turned up, as shown on the left.

In Fig. 7 the die with which the cards are formed is shown. It consists of a male die G , having cutting edges arranged to form the side contour of the card, the rounded cutters $g' g^2$ forming the curve e' . On the edge of the die is an entering lip g , which starts the cut. At g^3 is a separating-cutter. The corresponding female die is formed in the plate G' . The operation of these parts will be best understood from Fig. 5, where a portion of one card is shown on the left in dotted lines, the space between the two corresponding to the shape of the die G . It will be seen that the same die thus forms both ends of the cards, not only the ones shown in the preferred form of the invention, but also the ones used in the modified form shown in Figs. 8 and 9. In

these Figs. 8 and 9 I illustrate a form which may be usefully employed when it is desired to double the number of cards in each tray. In Fig. 9, E' is one of the cards having its upper left-hand corner slightly cut away, so as to expose the card behind it. E^2 is the card at the back. It will be seen that by reversing the relative position of single cards formed like the front card E' the arrangement of Fig. 9 will be produced. Fig. 8 shows a tray D with twenty cards instead of ten in place.

In Fig. 10 I show that the lugs e may be replaced by a strip of sheet metal e^3 , crimped over the lower edge of the card E . This is, however, more costly, bulky, and heavy than the ordinary form and is not preferred.

The drawers of the cabinet may be formed, as illustrated in Fig. 3, either with the rabbeted rails F , which may be of wood or metal, or with solid bottom and partitions, depending to some extent on the material of the cabinet. In very large catalogues or those frequently consulted it is desirable to use the rails, because dust falls through from one drawer to the other as the cards are shifted and gradually works its way out.

I have found that by my invention, which has been put into practical use, a great saving of time is effected for those using large catalogues. Where formerly it was necessary to turn each card separately in order to be certain that the desired one was consulted, in this a drawer may be pulled out from the cabinet and its entire contents will be exposed at once to view.

I do not claim for my improved catalogue great economy of space, as, while this is desirable, it should not be obtained at a sacrifice of convenience; but by my invention I have been able to save at least four-fifths of the time consumed in consulting catalogues such as those with which I have been heretofore familiar.

Where the arrangement shown in Figs. 8 and 9 is adopted, there is no loss in space over ordinary forms; but this device is not so good as the form shown in Fig. 4. Not only does it put the titles in two different lines, but it is more difficult to handle a single card. In all the forms the cards may be sprung sufficiently to permit the ready insertion of the lugs in the perforations of the trays and will then fly back flat, so that they may readily be removed or rearranged without injury. The tray may be removed and the cards turned over, so that the position of the tray will be reversed in the drawer. Two catalogues might be kept upon opposite sides of the cards, if desired; but ordinarily this will be found impracticable.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a card-catalogue, the combination of a drawer, with trays having perforated sides, and cards held in place by the perforations.
2. In a card-catalogue, the combination

with the drawer, of a number of trays having perforated sides and cards arranged in groups in the different trays, the cards provided with lugs disposed in the perforated sides of the trays.

5 3. In a card-catalogue, the combination of a drawer having ways, trays sliding in the ways, and perforations in the sides of the trays, with a number of cards arranged in the trays and held in place by the perforations.

10 4. In combination, a shallow drawer having a number of trays having perforated sides and arranged to slide in different divisions of the drawer, the trays having disposed therein a number of cards laid flat, each card displaced from a position immediately over any other so as to expose a portion of the faces of the cards, and provided with lugs extending into the perforations in the sides of the trays.

15 20 5. In combination, a tray having perforations in its sides, and a bottom wider than the distance between the perforations, with cards having projecting lugs in the perforations, more than one card being in each perforation, and each card being cut away at the

top, so as to expose part of the face of the under card.

6. As a new article of manufacture, a tray for a card-catalogue, having a flat bottom and inwardly-recessed perforated sides, the bottom of the tray being wider than the distance between the sides containing the perforations. 30

7. A card for a card-catalogue, having a body portion and projecting lugs near the bottom, the sides of the body portion converging toward its top. 35

8. A card for a card-catalogue, comprising a body portion, projecting lugs at or near the bottom of the card, the line between the lugs and the side of the card being a curve, and the sides of the card converging toward the top. 40

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 4th day of March, 1898.

WILLIAM O. WAKEFIELD.

Witnesses:

JAMES H. BOSTOCK,
W. GIBSON CAREY.