No. 692,994. Patented Feb. 11, 1902.

J. S. DUNCAN.

HOLDER FOR CARD INDEXES AND PRINTING PLATES.

(Application filed Apr. 15, 1901.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

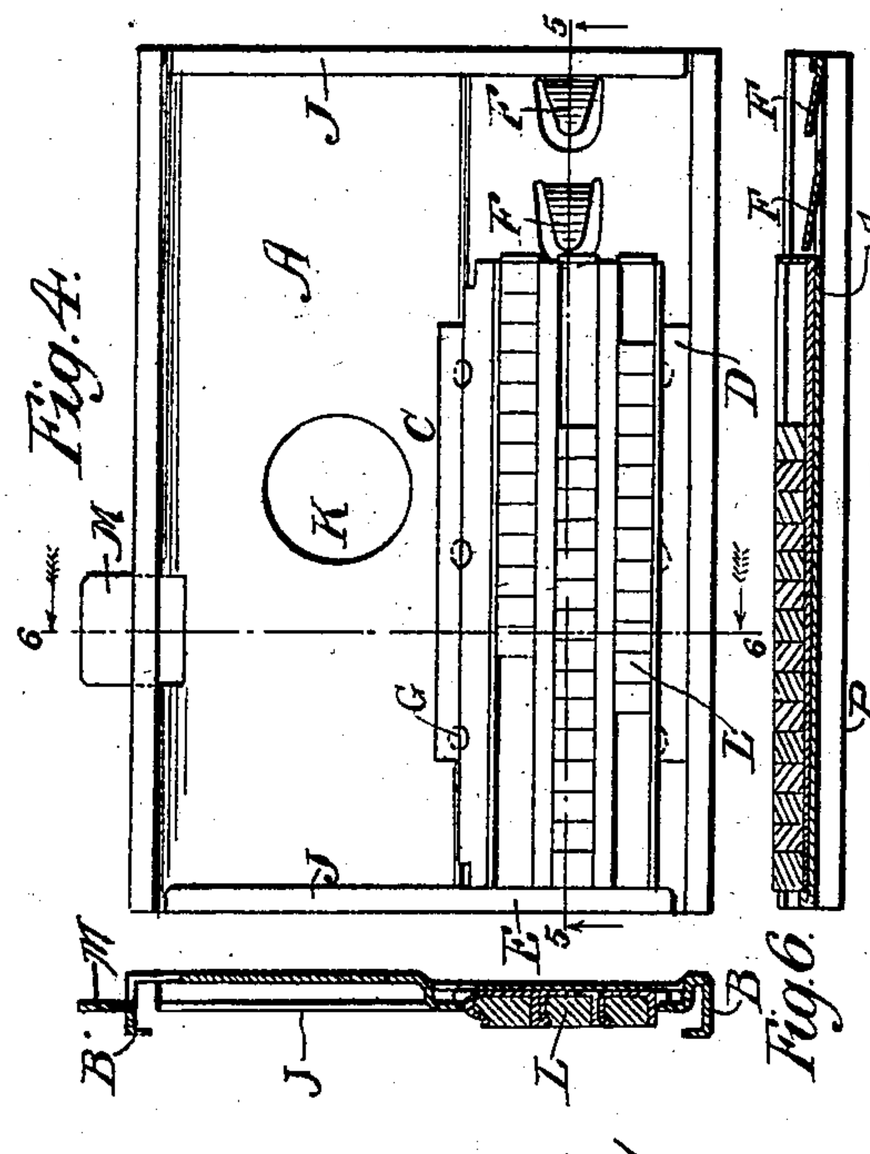

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

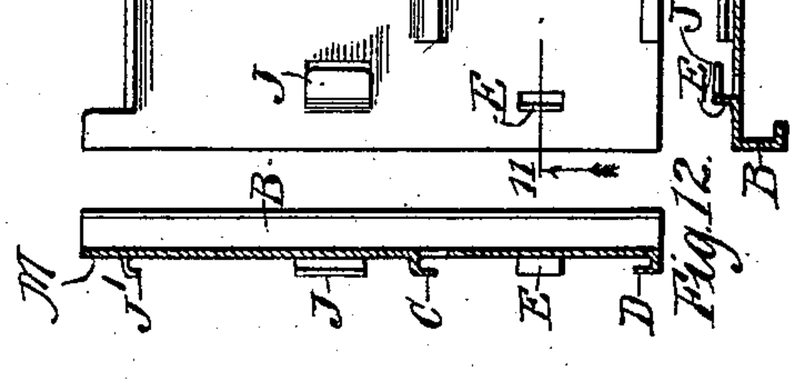

Fig. 10.

Fig. 11.

Fig. 12.

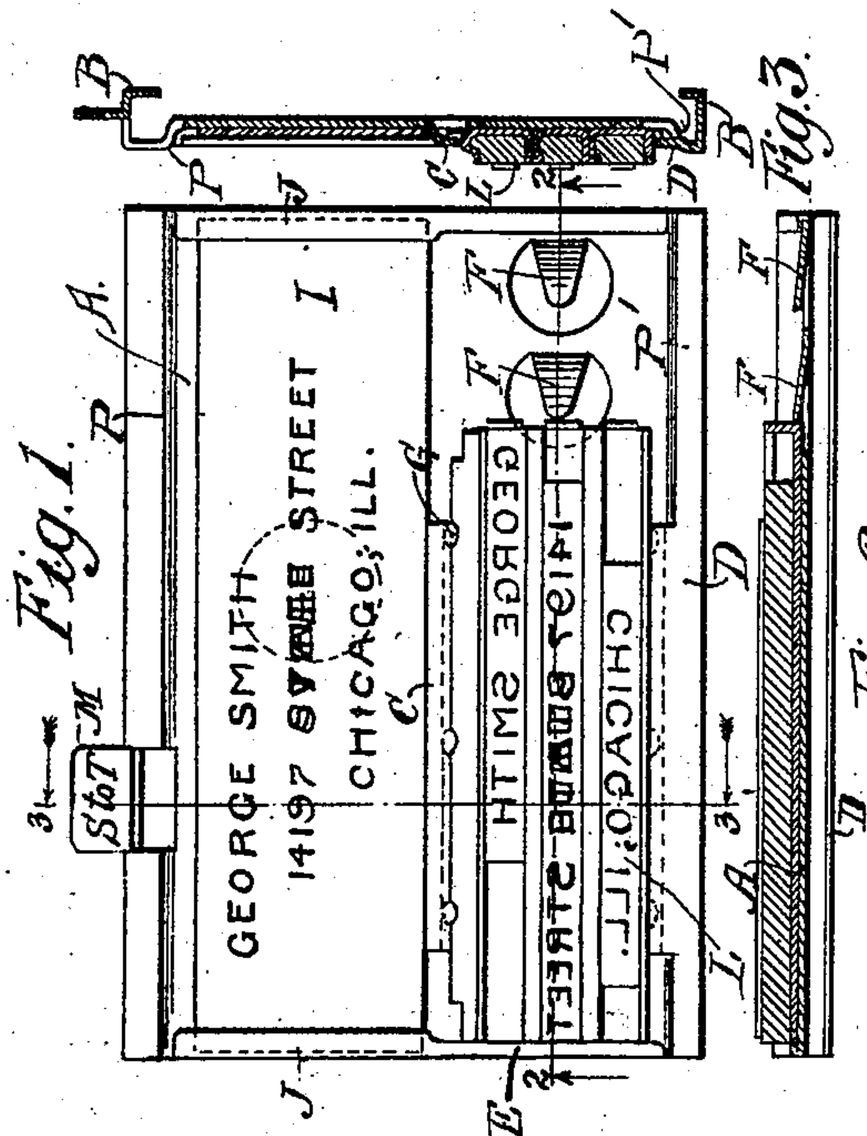

Fig. 1.

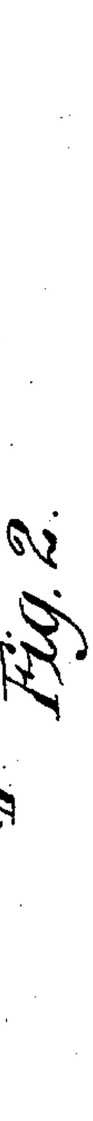

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

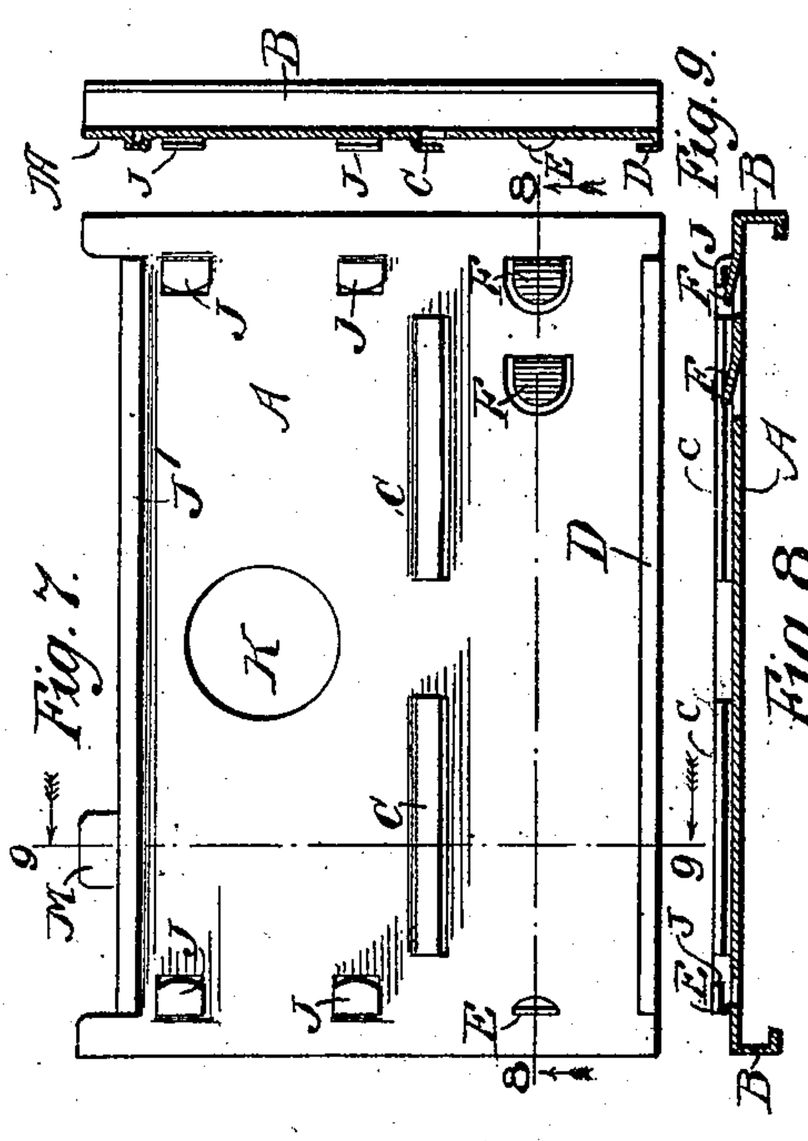

Fig. 7.

Fig. 8.

Fig. 9.

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HOLDER FOR CARD INDEXES AND PRINTING PLATES.

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

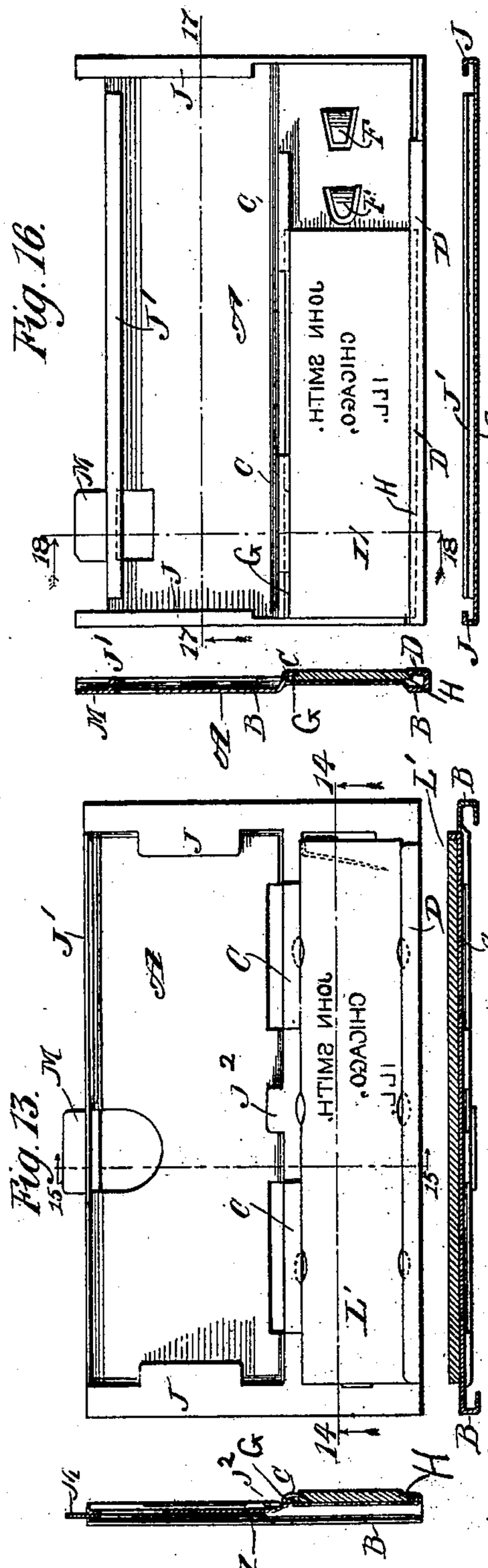

Fig. 16.

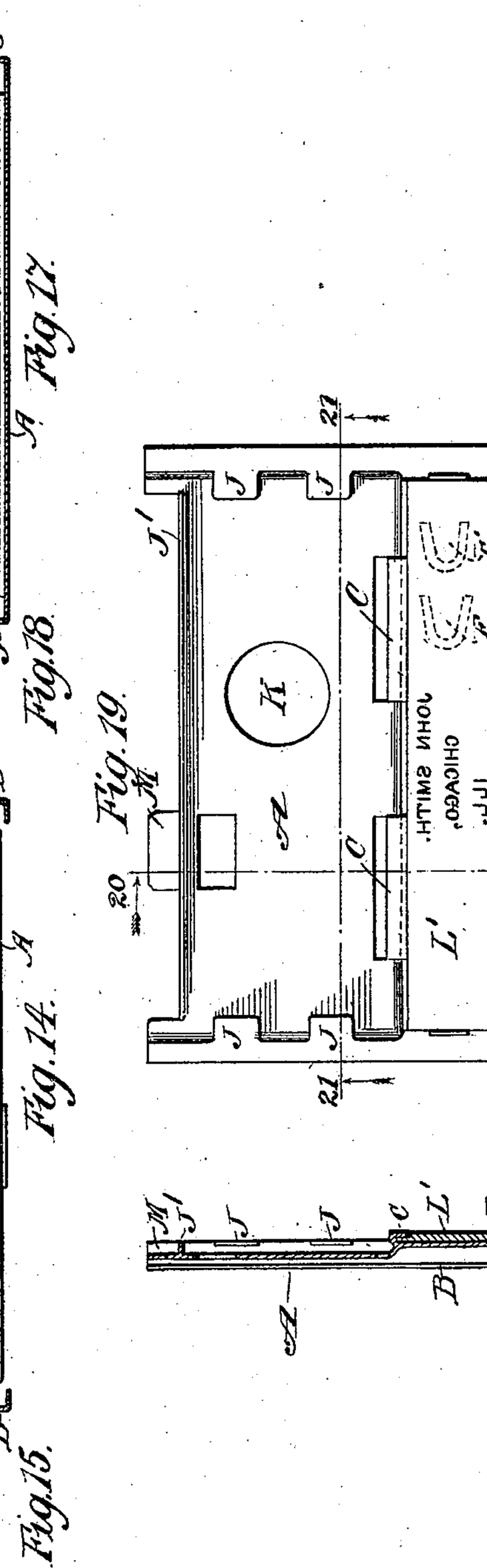

Fig. 17.

Fig. 18.

Fig. 19.

Fig. 13.

Fig. 14.

Fig. 21

Fig. 15.

Fig. 20.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOLDER FOR CARD-INDEXES AND PRINTING-PLATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 692,994, dated February 11, 1902.

Application filed April 15, 1901. Serial No. 55,987. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH S. DUNCAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Card-Indexes and Printing-Plates, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a novel holder for a card-index and printing-plate; and its primary object is to provide a novel device for holding a printing-plate of any kind and a card containing information relative to the printing-plate, constructed and adapted for use in a card-index system.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder for a printing-plate and a card containing information relative thereto, constructed to be arranged in piles one upon the other without injuring or in any way mutilating the printing-surface of the plate.

With these and other ends in view the invention consists in the novel construction hereinafter described, and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of one form of my improved holder, showing a printing-plate and information-card arranged therein. Figs. 2 and 3 are sectional views on the lines 2 2 and 3 3 of Fig. 1, respectively. Fig. 4 is a face view showing a slightly-modified construction. Figs. 5 and 6 are sectional views on the lines 5 5 and 6 6 of Fig. 4, respectively. Fig. 7 is a face view of a holder embodying my invention, the details of construction differing slightly from those shown in Figs. 1 and 4. Figs. 8 and 9 are sectional views on the lines 8 8 and 9 9 of Fig. 7, respectively. Fig. 10 shows a modified construction of the holder. Figs. 11 and 12 are sectional views on the lines 11 11 and 12 12 of Fig. 10, respectively. Fig. 13 shows a holder constructed to receive a metallic printing-plate. Figs. 14 and 15 are sectional views on the lines 14 14 and 15 15 of Fig. 13, respectively. Fig. 16 shows a holder similar to that illustrated in Fig. 13, but differing in details of construction. Figs. 17 and 18 are sectional views on the lines 17 17 and 18 18 of Fig. 16, respectively. Fig. 19 also shows a holder for a metallic printing-plate. Figs. 20 and 21 are sectional views on the lines 20 20 and 21 21 of Fig. 19, respectively.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all of the figures, my improved holder consists, essentially, of a frame in the lower part of which the printing-plate is removably secured and in the upper part of which a card or slip of paper is removably secured and bears an impression taken from the printing-plate and other information relating thereto, the particular matter appearing on the card being of any character desired. The holder is constructed to be used like a card of an index system, and it is constructed in a novel manner, so that it can be fed directly to a machine for taking an impression from the plate. This being the general character of the invention, the holder may be specifically constructed as shown in the several views of the drawings, referring to which—

A designates the frame of the holder and is preferably made of thin metal and provided with the spacing flanges or ribs B, which are formed by suitably bending over the edges thereof. These spacing flanges or ribs are provided in order that the holders may be piled one upon the other without engaging the type characters on the printing-plates, and it is obvious that the flanges may be formed on the top and bottom sides of the frame, as shown in Figs. 1 to 4 and the sectional views thereof, or on the ends of the frame, as shown in Figs. 7 to 10 and the sectional views thereof.

On one part of the frame, preferably the lower section thereof, I provide guides C D, in which the printing-plate is arranged to slide, and these guides may be variously constructed, as shown in the several figures of the drawings, it being only essential that they shall be arranged in substantial parallelism and of sufficient length to hold the printing-plate securely in position, and for this purpose I also provide a shoulder E at one end of the plate-section to form a stop for the printing-plate, and at the other end of the printing-section I provide one or more spring-tongues F, which may be stamped up from the metal frame, as shown, to engage the other end of the printing-plate. The printing-plate is

provided with side flanges G H, which are arranged to slide beneath the guides C D, so that the plate is securely held on the frame against the end stop E, and in the guides C D by means of the spring-tongue F, which engages the opposite end of the plate. The guides, the end stop, and the spring-tongue may all be stamped out of the metal frame in the manner clearly shown in Figs. 7 to 10. I preferably provide at least two of the spring-tongues, as shown in the drawings, in order that printing-plates of at least two different lengths may be used. The guide C may be cut out of the material forming the frame and bent up into the proper shape, and the guide D may be made by bending over the edge of the frame, as shown particularly in Figs. 7 and 13; but the guide D may be also cut out of the frame and bent up, as shown in Fig. 1, or these guides may be otherwise constructed. On the other part of the frame, preferably the upper section thereof, I provide devices for securing the card I in place, these devices consisting, essentially, of clips J, formed by turning over the edges of the frame, as shown in Figs. 1 to 4, or by stamping them up out of the frame, as shown in Figs. 7 to 10, in which latter figures I have also shown an additional clip J′ at the top of the frame, which may be employed, if desired. I have also shown an additional clip J^2 at the bottom of the card-section in Figs. 13 and 15, which may be employed for more securely holding the card in place. The card is slipped underneath these clips and will be held securely therein; but as the clips are only arranged to engage the edges of the card it can be readily removed from the frame, and I may provide an opening K in the frame back of the card, so that the card can be pressed out of the frame by inserting one's finger through the opening in the back of the frame.

I may employ printing-plates of any character in connection with my novel holder, and I have shown on Sheet 1 of the drawings several forms of holders constructed to receive printing-plates made up of rubber type, and on Sheet 2 of the drawings I have shown several forms of holders constructed to receive printing-plates in the form of thin metal plates having the type characters pressed up in relief thereon. It will be understood, of course, that the printing-plate L, which consists of a holder having lines of rubber type arranged therein, is necessarily thicker than the printing-plate L′, shown on Sheet 2 of the drawings and consisting of a metal plate having the type characters pressed up in relief thereon, and for this reason it is necessary to make the spacing flanges or ribs B on the former holders wider than on the latter holders to prevent the holders from engaging the type characters when the holders are arranged in a pile. In other respects the holders for the two different specific forms of printing-plates may be constructed exactly alike and the differences mentioned relate only to the proportions of the parts.

In order that my improved holder may be used in a regular card-index system, I provide a tongue M at the top of the frame, which may be stamped out of the frame itself and bent up into proper position or constructed in any other suitable manner. This tongue is arranged to receive the index characters by which the holders are separated into groups in a manner similar to the ordinary index system, and any means may be employed for applying said index characters to the tongues. These tongues are provided on all or only certain holders, as desired, and they are preferably arranged in different positions on the different holders like the card-index system, so that when a number of holders are stored in a drawer or other receptacle the various index characters of the entire quantity will be exposed to view and may be readily read.

My improved holder provides a convenient means for combining a printing-plate with the card containing important information relating to the plate, the plate and card being removably secured in the holder and arranged so that the entire device may be run through the machine for taking an impression from the plate. These printing-plates generally bear names and addresses to which circulars, bills, and other printed matter are sent at more or less frequent intervals, and by combining directly with each printing-plate a card containing information relating directly thereto a definite record can be preserved as to each particular address. In this way entries may be made from time to time noting the dates on which the address has been used and any other information which may be desired, and the card is so arranged in the holder that it is protected and will not become inked during the impression operation. When the rubber-type printing-plates are employed, the printing-faces thereof will of course lie in a plane a sufficient distance above the card so that the inking-roller will not engage with the card; but when the thin metal plates are employed, as shown on Sheet 2 of the drawings, I prefer to depress the card-section of the frame, so that the card will lie in a recess, and thereby be below the impression-surface of the plate. The card-section of the holders for the type-plates L may also be depressed, if desired, to form a recess for more securely holding the card, as shown in Fig. 6, or the same result may be obtained by depressing both plate and card sections of the frame between the shoulders P P′ at the side edges thereof, as shown in Fig. 3.

As before stated, the spacing flanges or ribs may be arranged on the side edges or on the end edges of the frame, and they may also be located on the back of the frame, as shown in Figs. 1 and 13 and their sectional views, or on the face of the frame, as shown in Figs. 4 and 16 and their sectional views. I prefer

to stamp the various flanges, clips, and guides out of the single piece of metal forming the frame of the holder; but it is apparent that these parts may be otherwise constructed, if desired.

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

1. A holder of the character described comprising a frame provided with a printing-plate section and a card-section, and devices on the holder for removably securing said plate and card thereto, substantially as described.

2. A holder of the character described comprising a frame formed of a single sheet of metal and provided with a printing-plate section and a card-section and devices integral with the frame for removably securing said plate and card thereto, substantially as described.

3. A holder of the character described comprising a frame having a printing-plate section and a section depressed below the printing-plate section to receive a card.

4. A holder of the character described comprising a frame having a printing-plate section, a section depressed below the printing-plate section to receive a card, and clips at the edges of said card-section to engage the edges of the card and hold it in place in the frame below the face of the printing-plate.

5. A holder of the character described comprising a frame having a printing-plate section and devices for securing a printing-plate thereon, and a depressed card-section and devices for securing a card thereon, substantially as described.

6. A holder of the character described comprising a printing-plate section and a card-section and devices for securing a plate and a card on said sections, and spacing flanges or ribs on opposite edges of said frame, substantially as described.

7. A holder of the character described comprising a frame having a printing-plate section, guides at the edges of said section to receive the edges of the printing-plate, a stop at one end of said section and a spring-tongue at the other end thereof to engage the ends of the printing-plate and hold it against endwise movement, substantially as described.

8. A holder of the character described comprising a frame having a printing-plate section, guides adjacent to said section to receive the edges of said printing-plate, a stop at one end of said section and a spring-tongue at the other end thereof, a card-section and clips adjacent to said card-section for retaining the card in place thereon, substantially as described.

9. A holder of the character described comprising a printing-plate section and devices for securing a printing-plate thereon, a card-section and devices for securing a card thereon, and an index-tongue at the top of the frame, substantially as described.

10. The combination of a rectangular frame, a printing-plate removably secured on the frame, and spacing flanges or ribs on the frame formed by bending opposite edges of the frame to provide a clearance above each plate when a number of frames are piled, substantially as described.

11. A holder of the character described, comprising a frame having a printing-plate section and a card-section, in combination with a printing-plate and a card removably secured on said sections, and spacing flanges or ribs formed by bending opposite edges of the frame so that the holders can be arranged in a pile with a clearance above the face of each printing-plate and card, substantially as described.

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