

No. 731,964.

PATENTED JUNE 23, 1903.

J. H. SMITH.  
DISPLAY TRAY.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 15, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

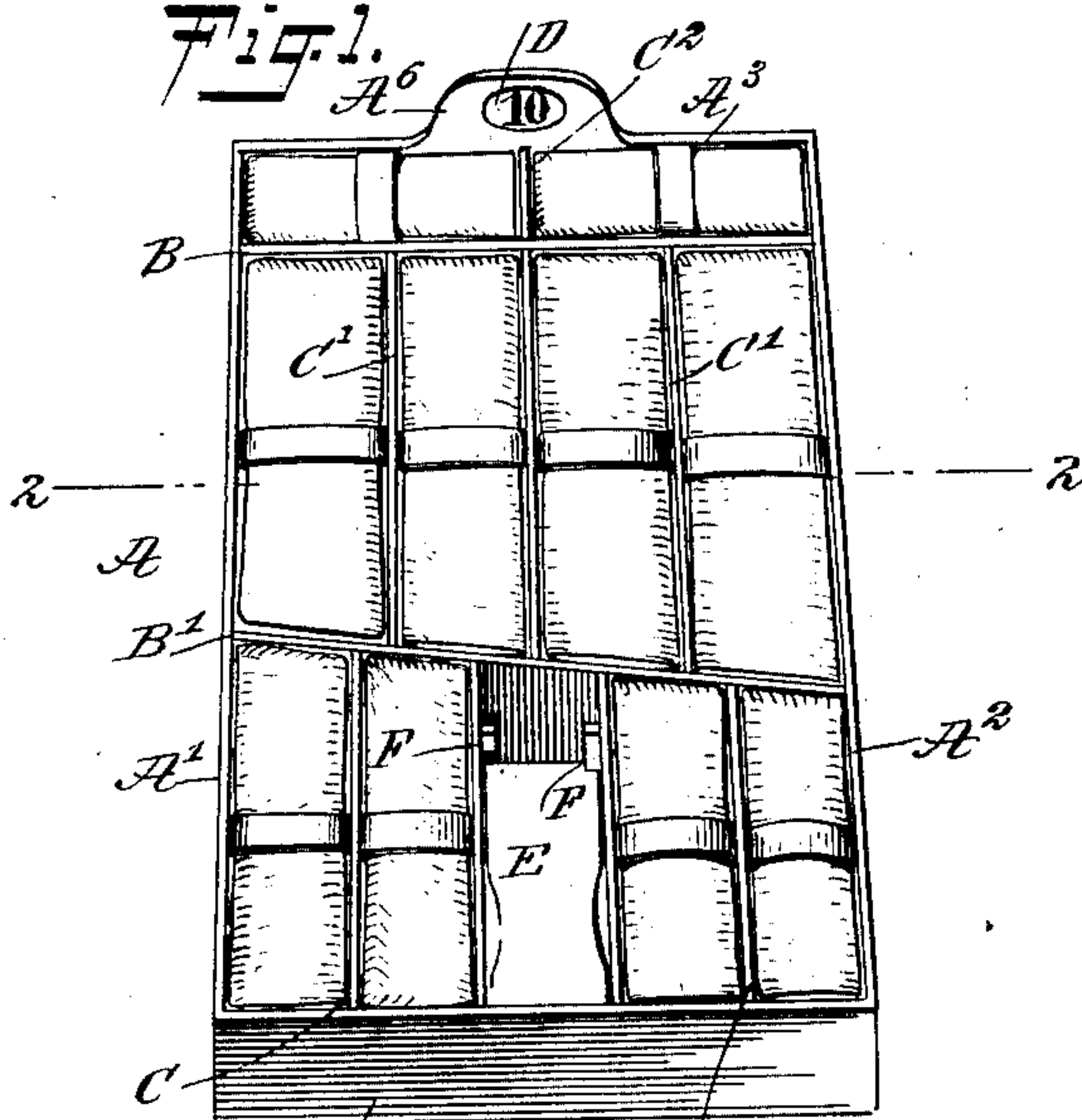


Fig. 2.

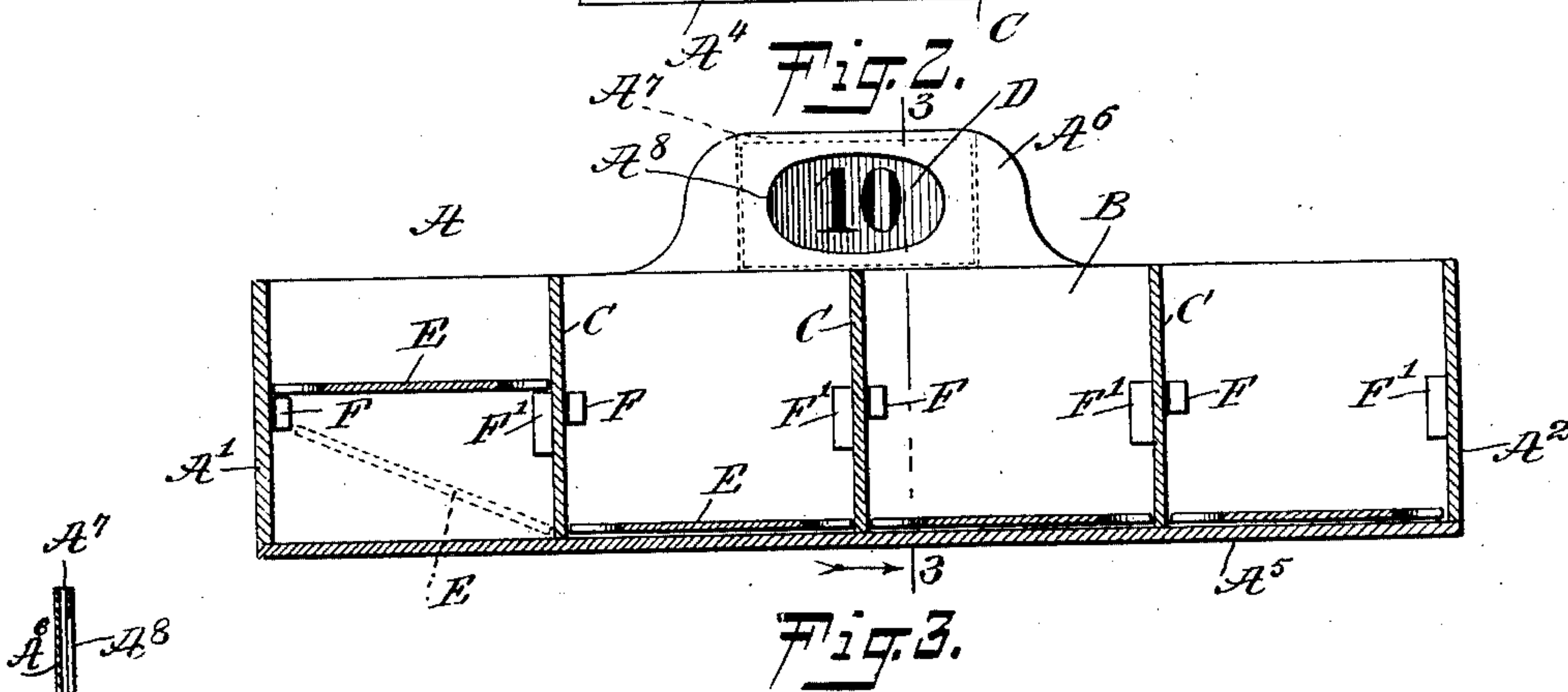


Fig. 3.

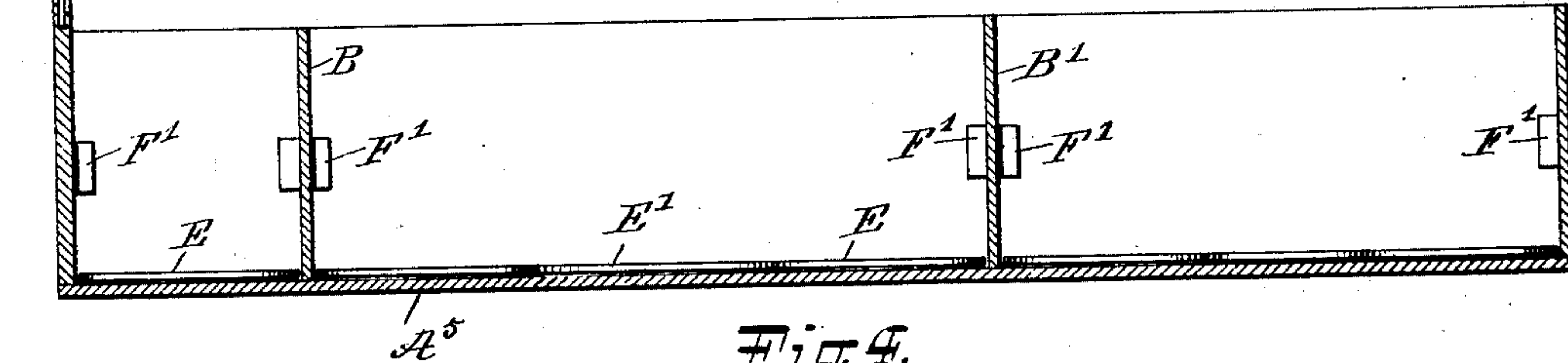
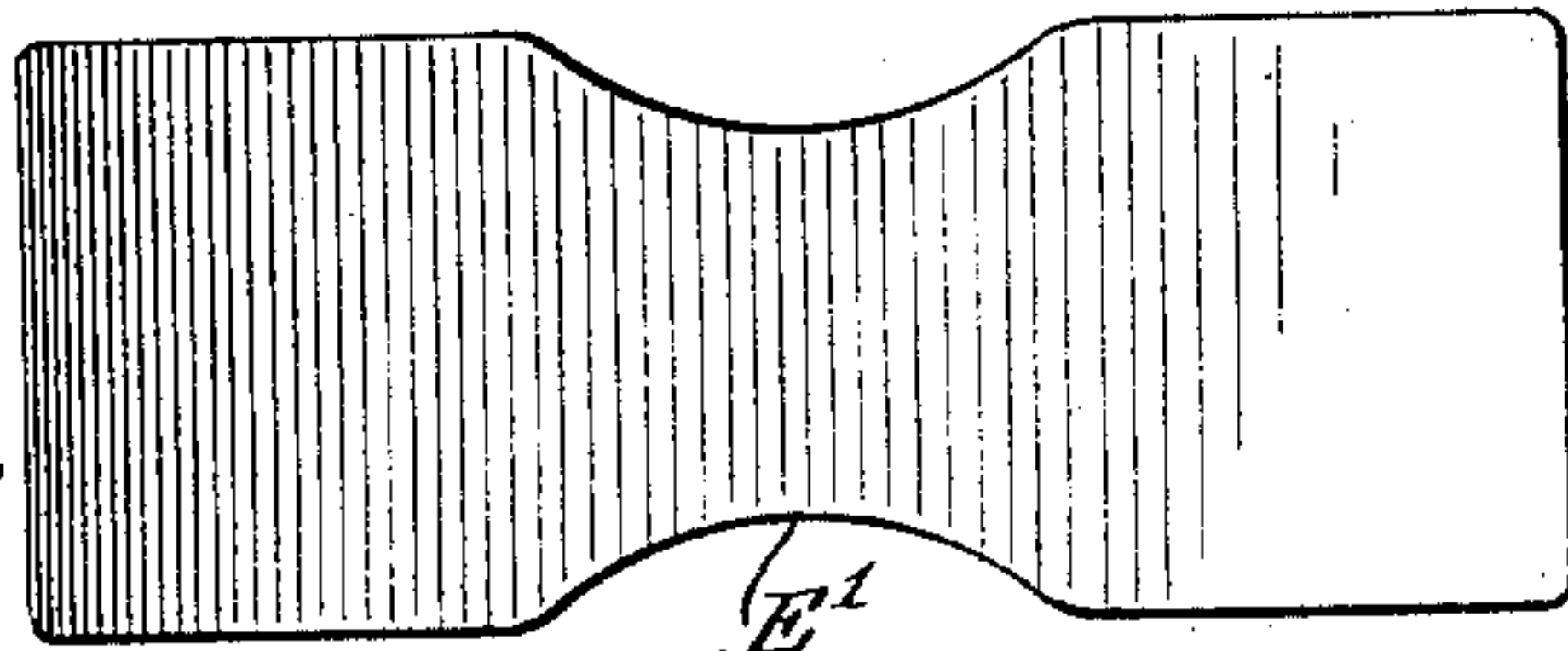


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

William P. Goebel  
Geo. H. Foster

INVENTOR  
James Henry Smith  
BY *Munn*  
ATTORNEYS.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES HENRY SMITH, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## DISPLAY-TRAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 731,964, dated June 23, 1903.

Application filed May 15, 1902. Serial No. 107,389. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES HENRY SMITH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Display-Tray, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to store furniture; and its object is to provide a new and improved display-tray, more especially designed for containing and neatly displaying hosiery and like articles and arranged to hold different sizes of an article of a certain price.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional side elevation of the same on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged face view of one of the false bottoms.

The body A of the tray is preferably made rectangular in shape and consists of the sides A' A<sup>2</sup>, the head end A<sup>3</sup>, the foot end A<sup>4</sup>, and the bottom A<sup>5</sup>, and the said box-body is provided with sidewise-extending partitions BB', of which the partition B extends between the sides A' and A<sup>2</sup> a distance from and parallel to the head end A<sup>3</sup>, while the other partition, B', extends from the side A' to the side A<sup>2</sup> in an oblique direction between the end A<sup>4</sup> and the partition B and somewhat nearer to the end A<sup>4</sup>, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1. Transverse parallel partitions C are arranged between the end A<sup>4</sup> and the oblique partition B', and similar transverse partitions C' extend between the oblique partition B' and the head partition B, and a partition C<sup>2</sup> extends between the head partition B and the head end A<sup>3</sup>. The partitions C are one, two, or more in number than the partitions C', so that the entire box-body is divided into gradually-increasing compartments for accommodating the different sizes of a single article

in quantities, say, of a half-dozen or dozen of each size. The smaller sizes are accommodated in the compartments adjacent to the head end A<sup>3</sup>, and the following sizes are displayed in the compartments between the end A<sup>4</sup> and partition B', beginning at the right-hand side, and the larger sizes are displayed in the compartments between the partitions B' and B, beginning at the left-hand side of the box-body, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 1.

The articles in the tray are of the same price and the price thereof is indicated on a display-card D, set in a slot A<sup>7</sup>, formed in a head A<sup>6</sup>, integral with the head end A<sup>3</sup> and resting on the top thereof, as plainly shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. In the front face of the head A<sup>6</sup> is formed an opening A<sup>8</sup>, leading to the slot A<sup>7</sup>, so as to display the numeral on the price-card D, the numeral indicating the price of the articles in the tray.

When each compartment is filled with, say, half-dozen or a dozen pairs of hose, for instance, then the uppermost pair is flush with the top of the box-body; but when, say, two or three pairs have been sold of a certain size then the tray does not present a neat appearance, as the uppermost pair of the article in compartments of which some have been sold are lower than those in the other compartments, and in order to keep the uppermost pairs as near as possible to the top of the box after some of the pairs have been sold I provide false bottoms E, one for each compartment, corresponding in size to the compartment, to normally rest on the bottom thereof—that is, as long as the compartment is filled with a half-dozen of the articles. Now when some of the articles have been sold from a compartment the false bottom E therein is lifted from the bottom A<sup>5</sup> and placed on lugs F F', set in the corners of the compartment between the bottom A<sup>5</sup> and the top thereof. When this has been done, the articles are placed on the false bottom E, held in a resting position midway between the bottom A<sup>5</sup> and the top of the compartment, so that the few remaining articles are neatly displayed in the tray—that is, with the uppermost article close to or flush with the top of the compartment. In order to allow of placing the false bottoms in the bot-



tom of the compartments, it is necessary that one set of lugs (preferably the lugs F) be shortened, as indicated in Fig. 2, to allow of swinging the false bottom E downward, one side edge thereof resting in a bottom corner of the compartment. (See dotted lines in the left-hand compartment in Fig. 2.) Each of the false bottoms E is provided at its side with cut-out portions E' to form a handle for conveniently manipulating the false bottom to place the same on the bottom A<sup>5</sup> or on the lugs F F', as above described.

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

1. A display-tray having compartments of a gradually-increasing size to accommodate the different sizes of an article, lugs in each of the said compartments, between the bottom and the top thereof, and a false bottom for each compartment, adapted to be removably supported on the said lugs, the sides of the false bottom being cut out, to form a handle portion, as set forth.

2. A display-tray divided by partitions into a series of compartments of a gradually-increasing size and having a fixed bottom for said compartments, and, above the same, pro-

jections for supporting the false bottoms, and false bottoms for each of said compartments, said false bottoms being arranged to be supported on the projections above the fixed bottoms, or on the said fixed bottoms, whereby the several compartments, whether full, or only partially supplied with the merchandise to be exhibited, may be caused to present a uniform appearance by the manipulation of the false bottoms, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. A display-tray having a series of compartments of a gradually-increasing size, projections in each of the said compartments, between the bottom and top thereof, and a false bottom for each compartment adapted to be removably supported on the said projections and having their edges notched or cut out to form a handle portion, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES HENRY SMITH.

Witnesses:

J. L. F. PHILGUS,  
ARTHUR BITTONA.