

No. 753,865.

PATENTED MAR. 8, 1904.

M. S. FIELD.
POST OFFICE FURNITURE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 21, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

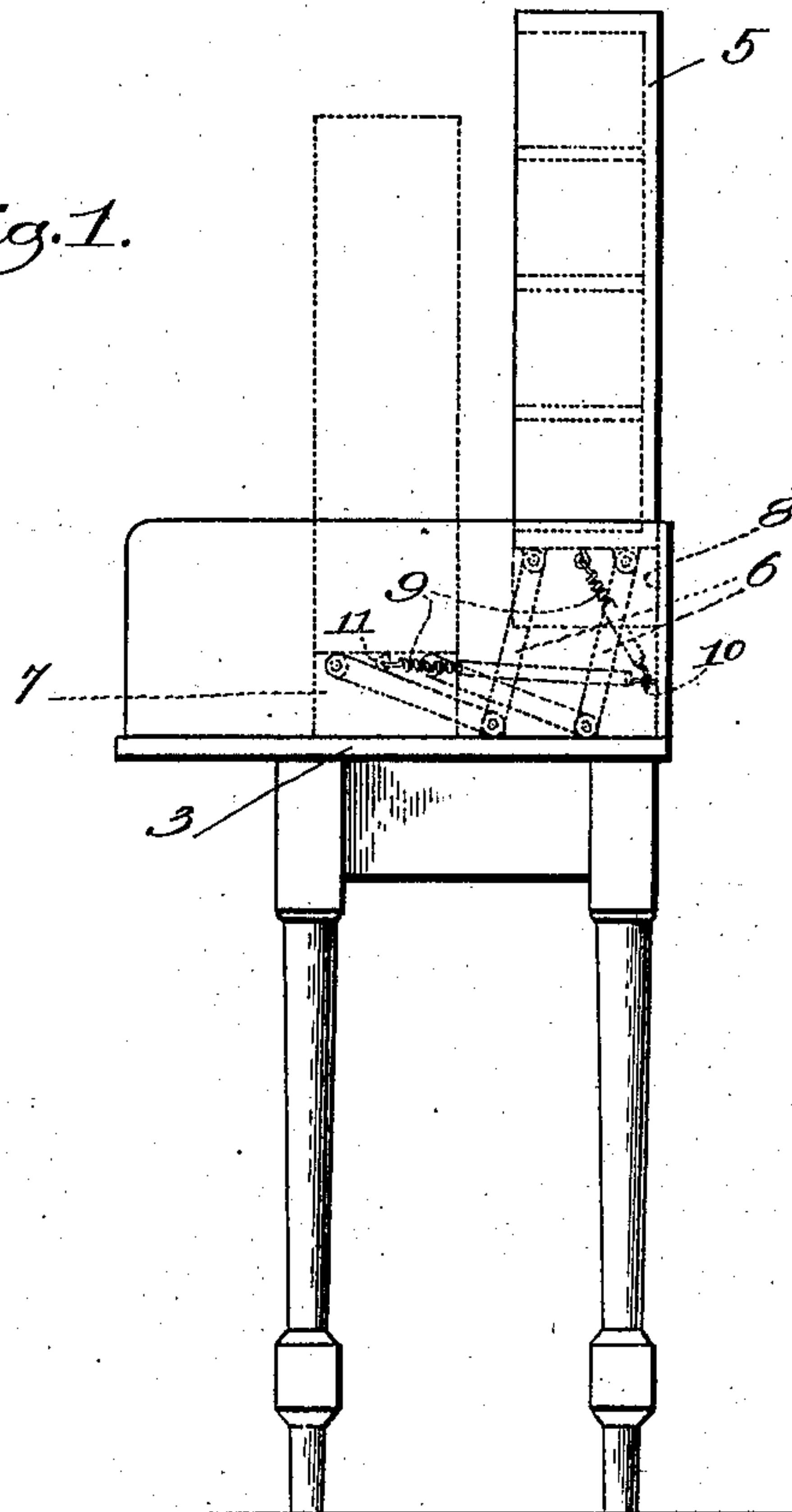


Fig. 2.

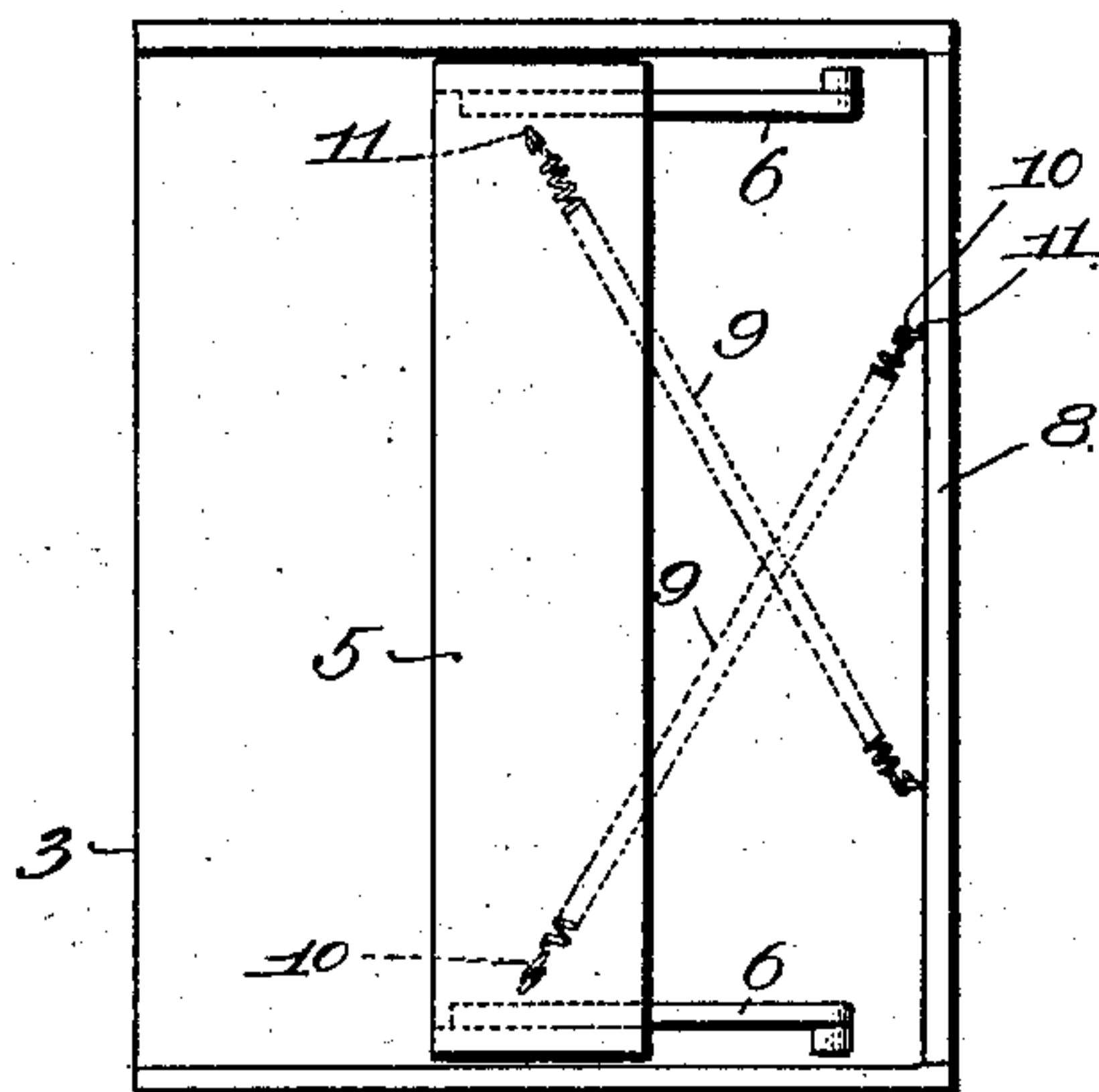
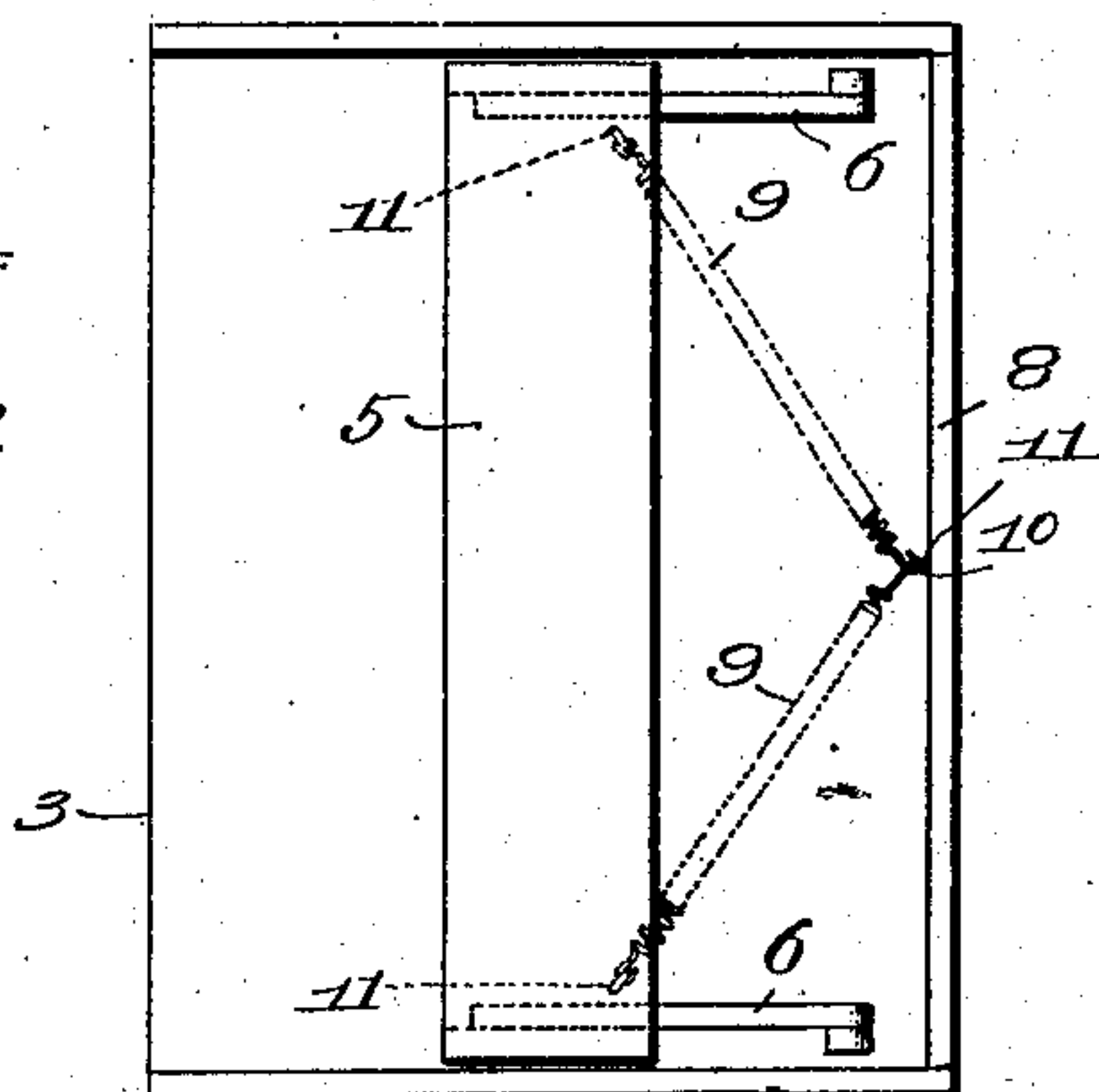


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARCELLUS S. FIELD, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

POST-OFFICE FURNITURE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 753,865, dated March 8, 1904.

Application filed August 21, 1903. Serial No. 170,301. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARCELLUS S. FIELD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Post-Office Furniture, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like numerals on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to an article of furniture which is common in post-offices and which is usually termed an "assorting-case" and is an improvement upon the device illustrated in my Patent No. 732,345, dated June 30, 1903. In said patent is disclosed an assorting-case comprising a table and a case of pigeonholes or compartments supported above the table on swinging supports, so that said case of pigeonholes can be swung toward and from the front of the table and also toward and from the table-top. The construction is such that in all positions of the case it is supported sufficiently high above the top of the table, so that the latter is available for the reception of mail-matter.

In my present embodiment I apply to the device above described suitable steadying-springs which have for their purpose to steady the swinging movement of the case of pigeonholes and prevent any tipping or lateral movement thereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a desk such as shown in my former patent and having my improved springs applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the assorting-table with the case of pigeonholes in its forward position and showing one form of steadying-springs. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing a slightly-different form of spring.

The device as a whole comprises the table 3, of any suitable or usual construction, and the case of pigeonholes or compartments 5, which are mounted upon swinging supports, as in my former patent.

In this embodiment of my invention the swinging supports comprise a plurality of struts 6, which are pivoted at one end to any suitable fixed support—as, for instance, to the table—and at the other end to the case 5,

so that the case can be swung from the full-line position, Fig. 1, to the dotted-line position to carry it from the back toward the front of the table and also toward the top of the table.

Any suitable stop devices may be employed for limiting the movement of the case in either direction.

In this embodiment of my invention the stops for limiting the forward and downward movement of the case 5 comprise suitable feet 6 or 7, depending from said case and which are adapted to rest upon the table-top, as shown in Fig. 1. These feet are of such a length that they support the case sufficiently far above the table-top, so that the latter is available for the storage of mail-matter even when the case is in its lowered position.

The back board 8 of the table serves as the stop to limit the backward movement of the case.

The parts thus far described are substantially the same as those illustrated in my aforesaid patent.

To steady the movement of the case 5 and prevent its tipping or binding during its swinging movement, I employ herein suitable steadying-springs, which are connected at one end to the case and at the other end to the table, preferably to the back board 8 thereof. In Fig. 2 these steadying-springs are in the nature of coiled springs 9, which are fastened on the bottom of the case 5 at each side thereof and to the back board 8 of said table, said springs being crossed, as shown. In Fig. 3 the springs are secured to the same point on the back board 8.

I prefer to detachably connect the springs to the case and the back board, and in this form of my invention this is accomplished by providing the ends of each spring with suitable hooks 10, which are hooked in the eyes 11 in the back board and case 5, respectively. Any other suitable way, however, of making the springs detachable may be employed without departing from the invention.

While I have herein shown coiled springs, I do not wish to be limited to this form of spring, as any suitable spring which results in

steadying the case during its swinging movement may be employed without departing from the invention.

I prefer to so place the springs that they are disposed to oppose the movement of the case toward the front of the table, this being herein accomplished by making the point of attachment of the spring to the table lower than the point of attachment of said springs to the case 5.

It will be obvious that the details of construction may be varied greatly without departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

1. In a device of the class described, a table, an assorting-case above the table, swinging supports for said assorting-case, and steady- ing - springs to steady said case during its swinging movement.

2. In a device of the class described, a table, an assorting-case, swinging supports for said case, and steadying-springs connecting said case and table and operating to steady the former during its swinging movement.

3. In a device of the class described, a table, an assorting-case mounted to swing toward and from the front of the table, and steady- ing-springs connecting said case and table and

operating to steady the former in its swinging movement.

4. In a device of the class described, a table, an assorting-case, means to support said case for movement toward and from the table and also toward and from the front of the table, and steadying-springs disposed to oppose the movement of the case toward the front of the table.

5. In a device of the class described, a table, an assorting-case mounted for movement toward and from said table and also toward and from the front of the table, steadying-springs connecting said case and the back of the table, the point of attachment between the springs and back of the table being lower than that between the springs and the case.

6. In a device of the class described, a table, an assorting-case mounted for swinging movement toward and from the table, and detach- able steadying-springs connecting the table and case and operating to steady the latter in its swinging movement.

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

MARCELLUS S. FIELD.

Witnesses:

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JOHN C. EDWARDS.