

No. 774,291.

PATENTED NOV. 8, 1904.

F. M. THORPE.
CARTON CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 6, 1904.

NO MODEL.

FIG. 2.

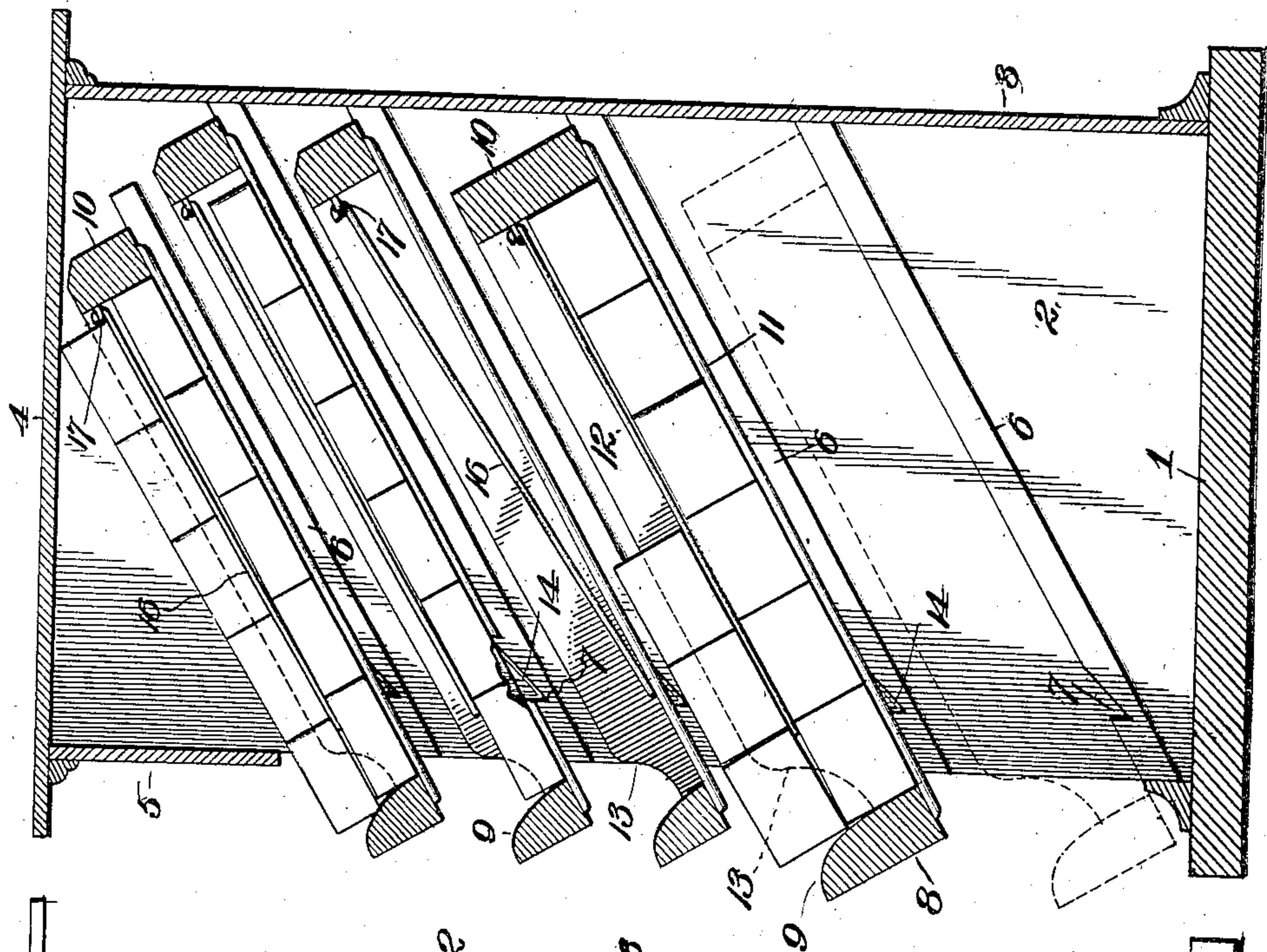
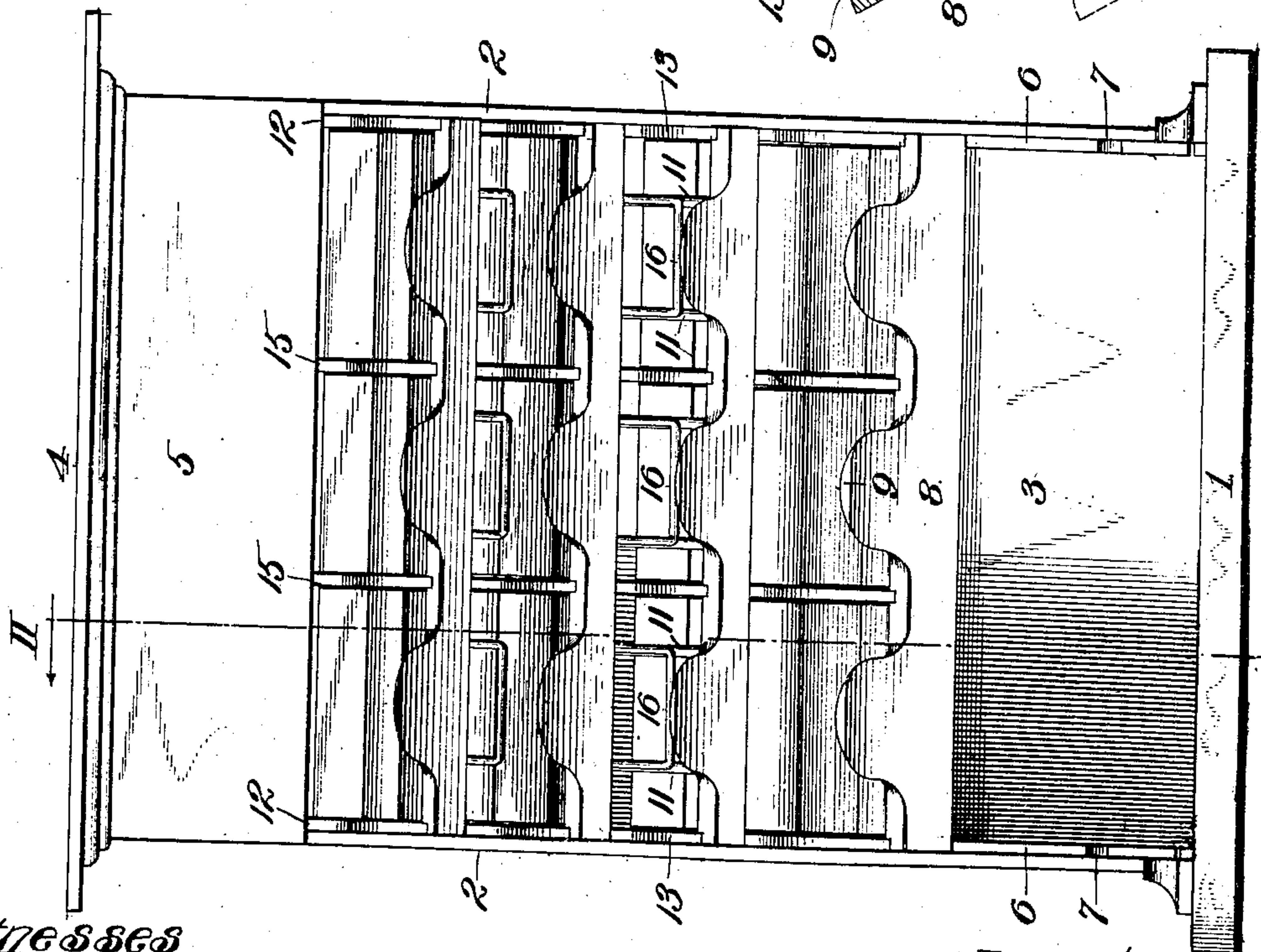


FIG. 1.



Witnesses
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FRANK M. THORPE, OF LAMAR, MISSOURI.

CARTON-CABINET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 774,291, dated November 8, 1904.

Application filed February 6, 1904. Serial No. 192,463. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK M. THORPE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lamar, in the county of Barton and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carton-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cabinets for conveniently holding and displaying cartons of spices or other merchandise; and my object is to produce a device of this character which will contain a large number of cartons and automatically display them at points from which they can be readily removed.

A further object is to produce a cabinet of this character provided with inclined trays which can be readily removed to be charged with cartons and which are readily replaced.

Other objects of the invention hereinafter appear and are pointed out in the appended claims, and in order that the invention may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front view of a carton-cabinet embodying my invention, the bottom tray being omitted to disclose its supporting-cleats. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the dotted line II of Fig. 1, the tray omitted from Fig. 1 being shown in dotted lines in this figure.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the cabinet, which may be of ornamental design, comprises a base 1, side walls 2, back wall 3, top 4, and front wall 5, the latter by preference depending but a short distance from the top.

6 designates a series of cleats secured to the inner sides of the side walls and pitched downwardly at about the angle shown clearly in Fig. 2, said cleats by preference having substantially V-shaped notches 7 in their upper edges and near their front ends. The cleats are disposed a distance apart to accommodate trays of varying depth. The trays are preferably of skeleton construction and comprise front walls 8, rounded at their upper and inner edges, as at 9, for convenience in removing the cartons, back walls 10, skeleton bottoms in the form of a plurality of rods 11, connecting the bottoms of the front and back walls, and side walls 12, the latter be-

ing recessed at their front ends, as at 13, so as to make the cartons more easily removed. Lugs or catches 14 depend from the side walls 12 and by engagement with the notches 7 of the cleats hold the trays reliably in the cabinet, the trays being lifted slightly at their front ends to disengage said lugs or catches from said notches to permit the trays to be slid forward from the cabinet. The trays are provided, by preference, with longitudinal partitions 15, which correspond to the sides 12, said partitions being spaced with reference to each other and the sides of the trays to correspond approximately with the width of the cartons, so that the side edges of one series of cartons shall not come in contact with the contiguous edges of the adjacent series of the same tray.

To increase the capacity of the cabinet without increasing the number of the trays, the latter are provided with runways 16, formed, preferably, by bending wire to U-form and pivoting or hinging the ends of said wire to the back walls of the trays, as at 17, said pivotal or hinge point being a distance above the bottom of the trays slightly exceeding the thickness of a carton.

To charge or load a tray, it is withdrawn from the cabinet and the hinged runway 16 swung upwardly out of the way to permit a series of cartons to be placed upon the skeleton bottom, which being made of rods, as stated, forms a smooth runway for the cartons for a purpose which presently appears. The hinged runways are then dropped down upon said series of cartons and a second series is placed upon the hinged runways. The tray is then slid into the cabinet. In the drawings the topmost tray is shown in Fig. 2 as completely charged. The tray next below discloses the appearance of the tray when its topmost series of cartons has been removed. The third tray is shown as empty and the fourth tray as partially empty and as containing cartons of greater thickness than the trays above.

When a carton is purchased, the salesman lifts it off the front end of the tray without moving the latter, and as he does so the remaining cartons of the same series slide down the runway until the foremost one is arrested

in the position occupied by the one which was removed, this action being repeated until all of the cartons of the upper series of that particular tray-compartment have been removed.

5 To remove the lower series, he lifts out the foremost one and the remainder slide downward until arrested by the front wall, this action being repeated until all of the cartons of the compartment have been removed, when
10 the tray is withdrawn and refilled. It will thus be seen that if the tray contains but a single carton it will be known to the salesman, and he will also know when he has exhausted the supply of any particular tray-compartment.
15 ment.

From the above description it will be apparent that I have produced a carton-cabinet which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of invention and which is obviously susceptible of
20 modification in various particulars without departing from the essential spirit and scope or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, it being obvious, furthermore, that
25 by equipping the cabinet with a suitable door (not shown) the cabinet can be made substantially air-proof, so as to avoid deterioration of the contents of the cabinet.

Having thus described the invention, what
30 I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A cabinet having its front side open, trays within the cabinet and pitched downwardly and forwardly at a suitable angle, and a run-

way in the tray which is substantially parallel 35 with the bottom of the latter and has its front end occupying a plane below the upper edge of the front wall of the tray.

2. A cabinet having its front side open, trays within the cabinet and pitched downwardly 40 and forwardly at a suitable angle, and a runway in the tray which is substantially parallel with the bottom of the latter and has its front end occupying a plane below the upper edge of the front wall of the tray; the rear end of 45 said runway being hinged to the rear wall of the tray.

3. A cabinet having its front side open, cleats therein which slope downwardly and forwardly to said opening and are provided 50 with notches in their upper sides, and a tray resting upon said cleats and provided with depending lugs or catches engaging said notches.

4. A cabinet having its front side open, cleats therein which slope downwardly and 55 forwardly to said opening and are provided with notches in their upper sides, a tray resting upon said cleats and provided with depending lugs or catches engaging said notches, and a runway carried by said tray and adapted to 60 extend substantially parallel with and between its bottom and upper edge.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

FRANK M. THORPE.

Witnesses:

M. L. MARTIN,
J. P. MOORE.