

No. 790,227.

PATENTED MAY 16, 1905.

A. M. REID.
SERIAL NUMBER CARD.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 30, 1905.

Fig. 1.

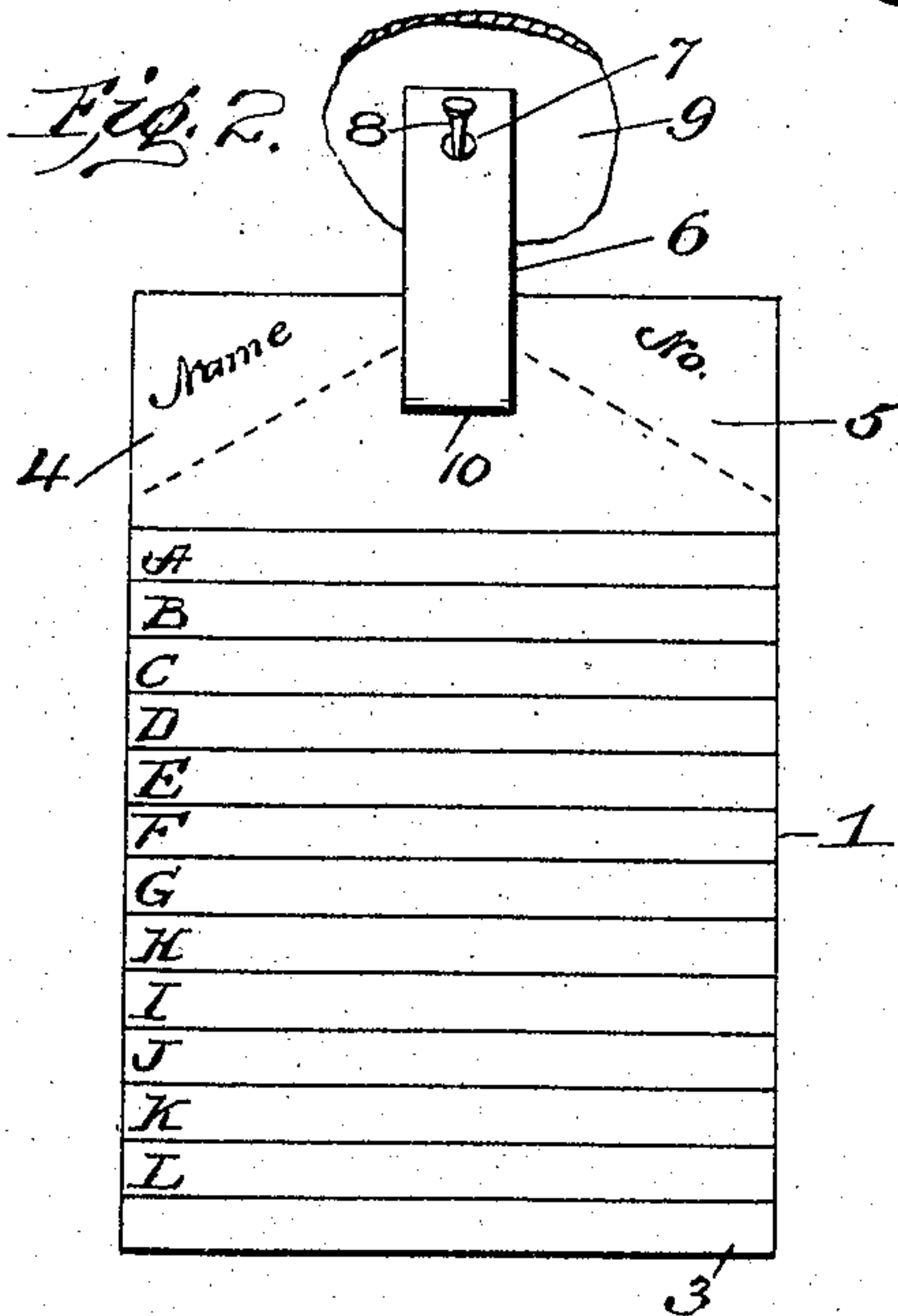
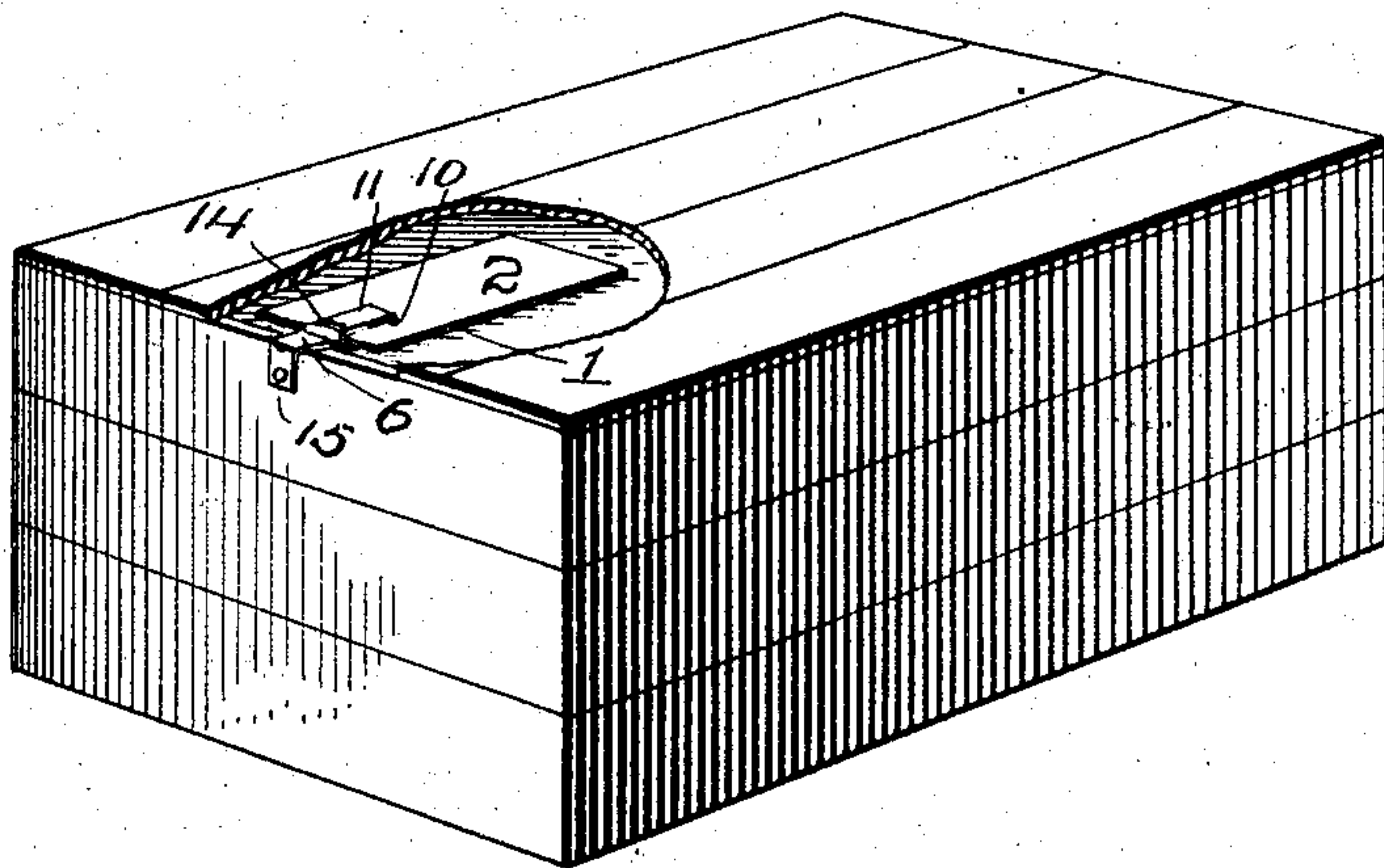


Fig. 3.

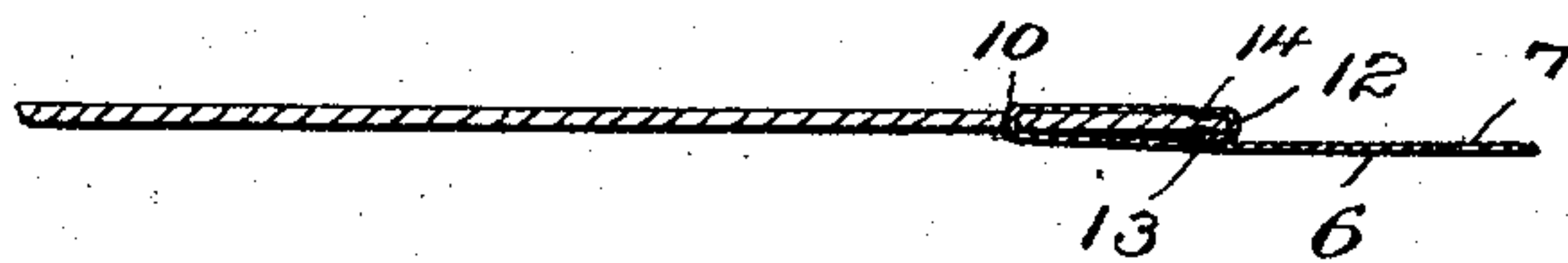


Fig. 4.

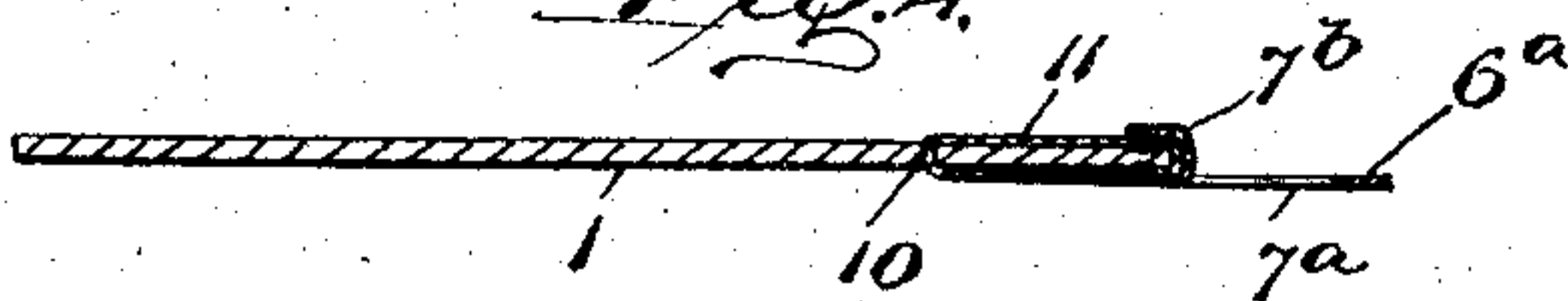
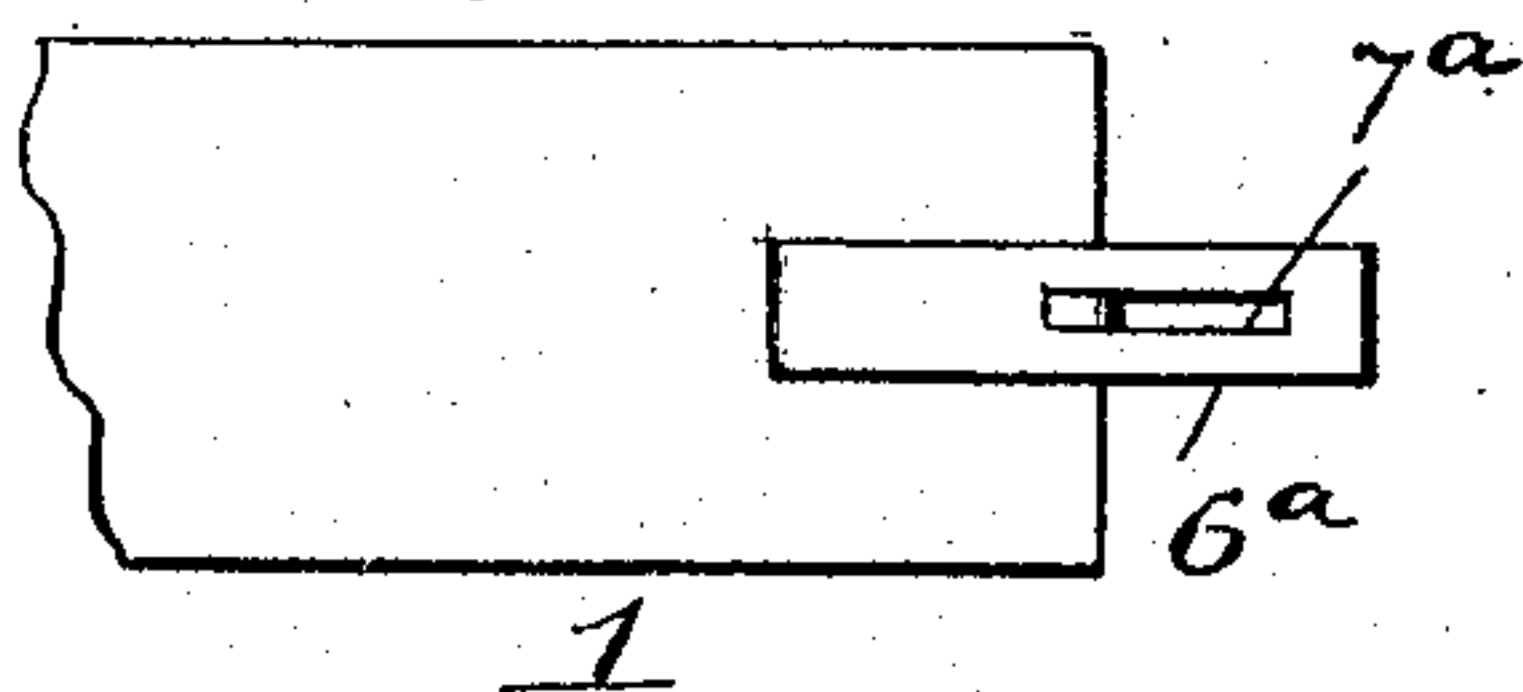


Fig. 5.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SERIAL-NUMBER CARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 790,227, dated May 16, 1905.

Application filed January 30, 1905. Serial No. 243,391.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARCHER M. REID, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Serial-Number Cards; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in serial-number cards.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a sheet of material upon which may be written certain data, which may be positioned within a shipping-receptacle and withdrawn therefrom and positioned upon a support. When said sheet is positioned upon the support, the same affords a writing-surface for recording certain information.

Another object of the invention is the improvement of the construction of a card or tag which is provided with means for positively securing the same to the side of a shipping-receptacle, while the body portion of the card is positioned within said receptacle, and the same securing means also being capable of supporting the card or tag in proper position upon a support for permitting of one side of the card to be written upon.

A further object of the invention is to improve the construction of a serial-number card, as well as providing novel means for securing the card within the receptacle and retaining the same upon a support when removed from said receptacle.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain other novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shipping-receptacle, showing a portion of the top broken away and the serial-number card in its position when the receptacle or case is ready for shipment. Fig. 2 is a view in front elevation of the card shown

in Fig. 1, except that in Fig. 1 the reverse side to that shown in Fig. 2 is disclosed and the fastening means is bent for securing the same to the receptacle. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal central section of the card and the fastening and supporting tongue therefor. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, except I have shown another embodiment of the fastening and supporting tongue. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary plan view of the card, to which is secured the tongue illustrated in Fig. 4.

For the purpose of specifying more specifically the object of this invention it may be stated that nearly all patent medicines are being placed on the market on what is known as the "serial-number contract plan." This plan requires that each case of one dozen bottles shall be numbered and shall contain a card on which must appear the number of the case and also twelve lines numbered "A," "B," "C," "D," &c., respectively, as seen in Fig. 2 of the drawings, to correspond with each bottle in the case. When the whole original case is sold by a wholesaler to a retailer, the card must be taken out of the shipping receptacle or case and the name of the retailer written on said card and the card forwarded to the manufacturer. In the event that less than the whole case is sold by the wholesaler the bottles must be put on the shelf and the card kept intact. As each bottle is sold the name of the person to whom it is sold must be written on the card on the line designating the bottle—as, for instance, line "A," Fig. 2, should contain the name of the purchaser and his address of the bottle marked "A," and in the like manner the remaining designated lines of a card should contain the names and addresses of the party or parties purchasing the remaining bottles of the case. Heretofore it has been necessary when the wholesaler receives the receptacle or crate to open the same in order to get the card, as it is preferably positioned between the bottles and the lid or cover, whether he sold the entire contents of the receptacle or crate to one party or to several. When employing a card constructed in accordance with the present invention, the jobber need not remove the lid or cover of the receptacle or case if

said contents are sold to one party, as the card can be easily removed from within the case by means of the peculiarly-constructed tongue and the name of the purchaser written upon said card, and the same can be sent to the manufacturer. Heretofore it was necessary to mutilate the receptacle when it was desired to remove the card from within the same whether the contents of the receptacle was sold to one party or to several, because it was necessary to furnish the manufacturer under this system or plan with the purchaser or purchasers' names placed upon the card which is inclosed in the receptacle containing the bottles.

For more specifically describing the structure of my improved card reference may be had to the accompanying drawings by numerals, in which—

1 designates a card, preferably formed of pasteboard, although other materials may be employed without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention. The back 2 of the card 1 is as a rule not provided with any printed matter, but the face 3 of the card is provided, preferably, with twelve lines, each line being designated by means of the letters of the alphabet, although it will be obvious that the lines could be designated by other means than those employed. The case when filled and ready for shipment contains bottles, each bearing a character corresponding to the character on one of the lines of the card, so that if said bottles are sold separately the name and address of the purchaser may be noted upon the line corresponding to the particular bottle sold. The name of the jobber or retailer is written upon the card at 4, while the number of the receptacle or case is written or printed upon the card at 5. When the card is positioned within a receptacle, it is preferably placed with its face or printed surface 3 downward, or, in other words, the printed or written surface is placed next to the contents of the receptacle, as depicted in Fig. 1.

The serial-number card 1 is provided with a securing and supporting tongue 6, constructed preferably of pliable metal. An aperture 7 is formed in tongue 6 near the outer end thereof. The aperture permits of the index-card to be suspended upon a tack, nail, or the like, or when the card is positioned within a shipping-receptacle suitable securing means may be passed through the apertured portion of the tongue and into the receptacle for securing the card in a fixed position in the receptacle. When the card is positioned as shown in Fig. 1, it will be obvious that the end of the tongue which is secured to the side of the receptacle is bent at approximately right angles to the body portion. If the contents of the receptacle are sold singularly and not as a whole, it will be necessary to write down the names of the different purchasers

upon the card, as heretofore stated. In this event it is desirable to hang the card upon a suitable support, as member 8, which is driven into a wall or any suitable surface 9, the member 8 being positioned within the aperture 7 of the tongue, the tongue being bent flat after the card is removed from the receptacle. The tongue 6 is formed of a single strip, which is passed through the card at 10 and having a portion 11 bent back upon the card and its end 12 being bent over and having its edge 13 pinched into the body of the card to a certain degree. Opposite the pinched portion 13 is a crimped or transversely-creased portion 14, which forms binding means compressing the edge of the card therebetween upon which the bent end of the tongue is positioned. It will be seen that the extreme outer edge of the card is secured within the hooked end of the tongue, said tongue forming substantially a socket for the upper end of the card. From the bent portion 10 to the outer free end of the tongue the same is substantially flat when ready to be positioned upon its support or before it is inserted through the crack between the lid and receptacle into said receptacle before securing said tongue to the side of the same. The tongue is free from the bent portion 10 to its outer edge, although it is retained in approximately parallel position to the portion 11 when bent as shown in Fig. 3.

The modification shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is similar in every detail, except the aperturing of the tongue is slightly different for two purposes: Instead of punching or removing the metal forming the aperture 7 entirely from the tongue I may cut the metal, so as to produce not only the aperture 7^a upon the tongue 6^a, but also a strip 7^b, which can be bent back upon the hooked crimped end 12 of the tongue so that the tongue can be held up against the card in parallel position, with the portion 11 preventing any lateral movement of the tongue other than that caused by bending the body portion of the tongue, as is done when the apertured end is secured against the receptacle in the same manner as illustrated in Fig. 1. The extension 7^b, producing the apertured portion 7^a, which is formed for either securing the tongue to the side of the receptacle or supporting the card upon a nail, tack, or the like, produces fastening means for securing the portion of the tongue between the bent portion 10 and the outer apertured end to the card 1 intermediate the length of said portion of the tongue.

When the card is positioned within the receptacle, as shown in Fig. 1, the fastening member 15, preferably a tack, can be easily extracted, the bent end straightened, and the card removed from within the receptacle.

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

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of a card having a printed surface, a tongue extending from one end of said card, said tongue comprising a single strip bent intermediate its ends and having a portion lying flat upon the card terminating in a crimped hooked end, said end inclosing a portion of the upper end of the card, and the opposite end portion of the tongue having an aperture.

2. A serial-number card, comprising a ruled and printed surface, a tongue secured to said card and extending outwardly from the card, said tongue comprising a single strip of metal provided with an outer, apertured end portion and an inner, hooked end, and said strip crimped transversely near its hooked end.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination of a sheet having a ruled and printed form upon one side thereof, a pliable, apertured tongue secured to said sheet, said tongue provided with an extended portion projecting therefrom upon the side of said sheet having the ruled and printed form, said tongue bent intermediate its ends and provided with an end bent upon one edge of said sheet, the bent end of said tongue being curved inwardly, and a depressed portion formed upon the tongue opposite the inwardly-bent end.

4. The combination with a shipping-recep-

tacle provided with a cover, of an index-card inserted in the receptacle beneath the cover and capable of being withdrawn without removing said cover, said index-card provided with a flexible tongue, which projects outside of the cover and alongside of the receptacle.

5. The combination with a shipping-receptacle provided with a cover, of an index-card inserted in the receptacle beneath the cover and capable of being withdrawn without removing said cover, said index-card provided with a flexible, apertured tongue, which projects outside of the cover and alongside the end of the receptacle.

6. The combination with a shipping-receptacle provided with a cover, of an index-card inserted in the receptacle beneath the cover and capable of being withdrawn without removing said cover, said index-card provided with a flexible, apertured tongue which projects outside of the cover alongside of the receptacle, and fastening means passed through the aperture of the tongue and into the receptacle for retaining said tongue in a fixed position.

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

ARCHER M. REID.

Witnesses:

DE WITT T. DE LAMATER,
R. T. MARKLEY.