

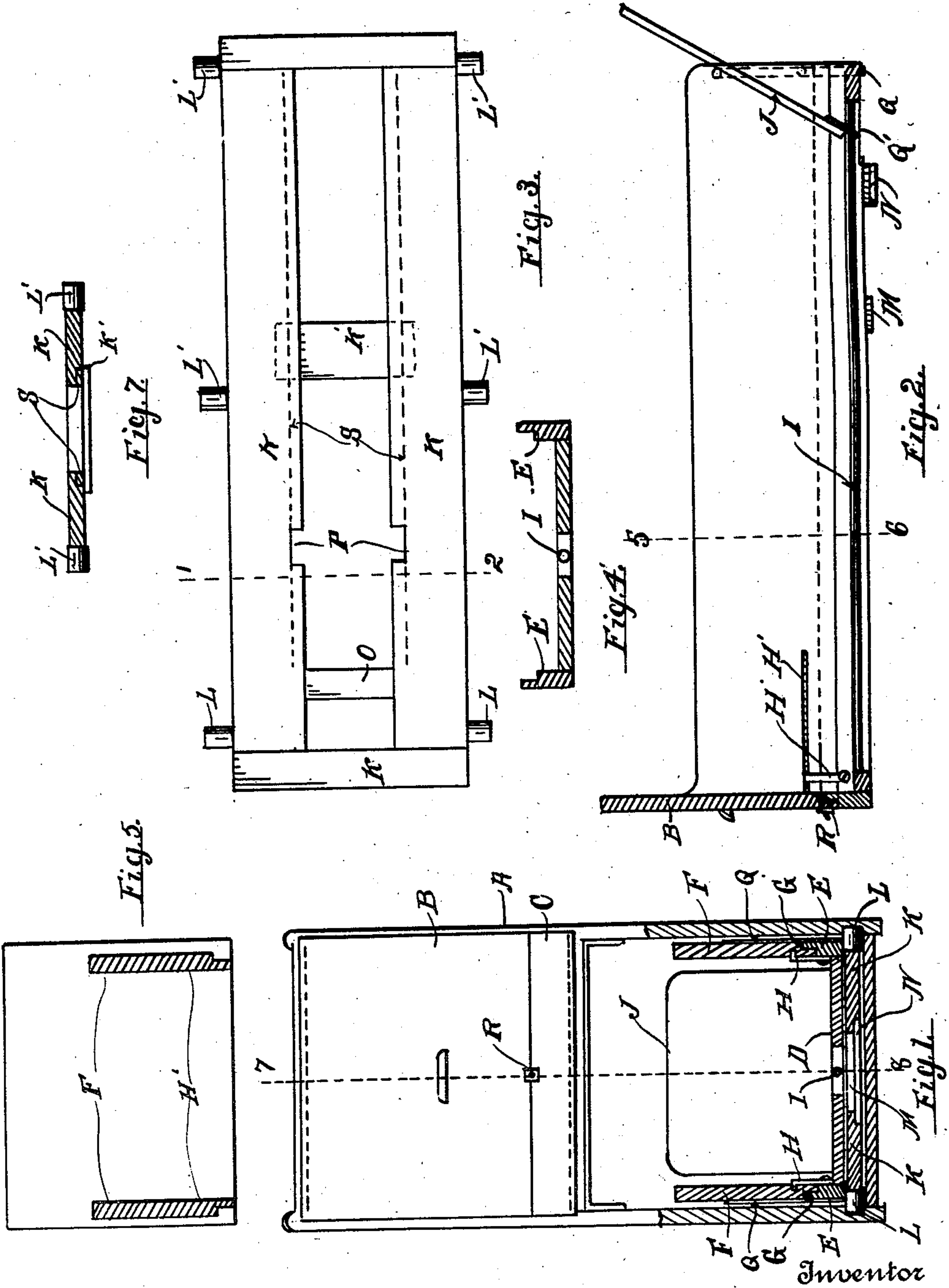
No. 810,823.

PATENTED JAN. 23, 1906.

F. W. TOBEY.
FILING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 12, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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Mary S. Cooke.

Fred W. Tobey
By Edward Taggart
Attorney

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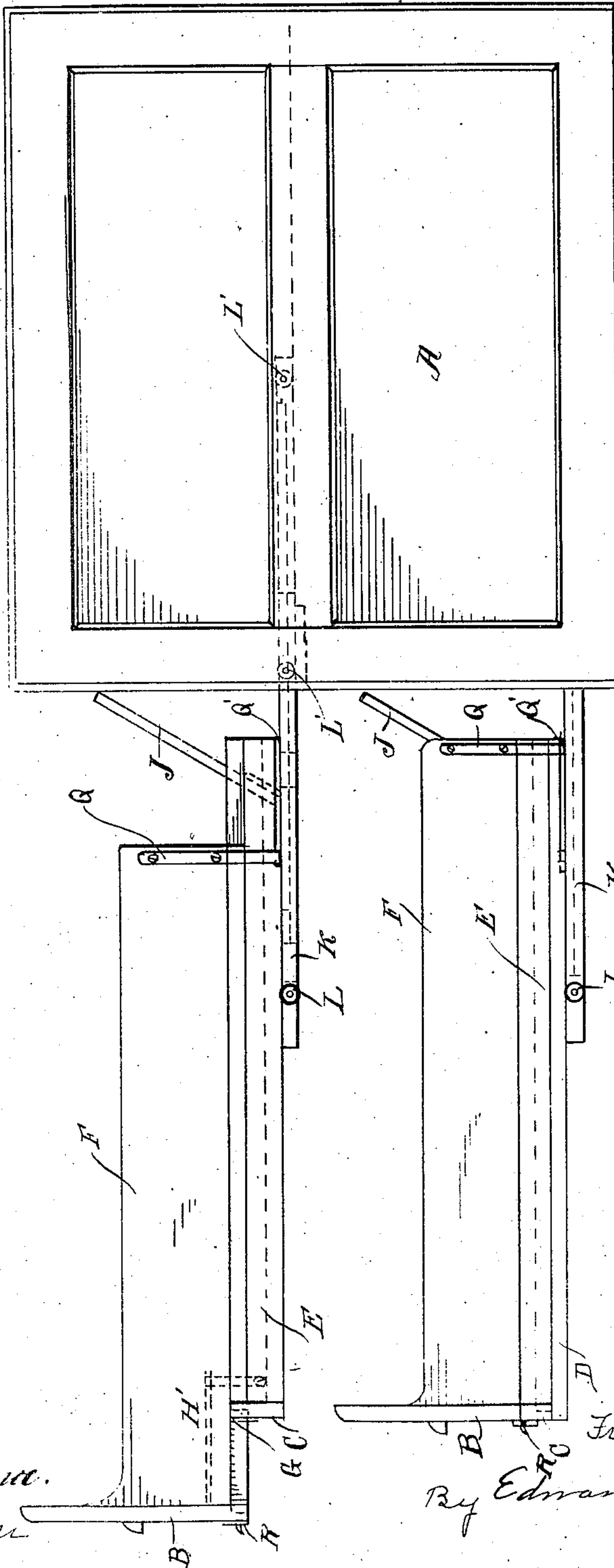


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED W. TOBEY, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

FILING-CABINET.

No. 810,823.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 23, 1906.

Application filed May 12, 1905. Serial No. 260,124.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED W. TOBEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Filing-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in filing-cabinets; and the object is to simplify and make more efficient the construction of those cabinets especially designed for what is called "vertical" filing.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of two sections of the cabinet, the upper section having the front in position and the lower section being partly in elevation and being partly a cross-section on the line 5 6 of Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section of one of the drawers on the dotted line 7 8 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the extension-slide upon which the drawer rests. Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section of the lower part of the drawer. Fig. 5 is an interior plan of the upper portion of the front, showing in cross-section the upper portions of the sides of the drawer. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a two-section cabinet having the extension-slides and the drawers open. Fig. 7 is a cross-section of the extension-slide on line 1 2 of Fig. 3, showing in projection other parts of the slide.

A, in Figs. 1 and 6, represents the side or main frame of the cabinet. B C represent the front of the drawer, the same being in two sections divided by a seam, B being the upper and C the lower portion. D is the bottom of the drawer. Each side of the drawer is formed in two parts, E E being the lower parts, rigidly attached to the bottom and forming with it the lower portion of a box, and F F being the upper portions attached to the upper part B of the front and with that forming the upper portion of a box sliding upon the lower portion. G G are suitable ways or guides for the sliding contact between the upper and lower portions of the sides. The lower part of this drawer or box is provided with a back in the usual way, while the upper part of the box is open at the rear and is without any attached back.

H H are angle-pieces rigidly attached to the lower part of the drawer and slidably engaging with the upper part of the drawer.

This upper part is provided with the way H', as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 6, and the upper bent portion of the angle-piece H slides in this way H', thus preventing the upper portion of the drawer from moving away from or separating from the lower portion, while allowing free longitudinal motion of these portions with reference to each other.

I is a rod upon which the cards or files slide and which holds them in position. This may be of any customary form, and I do not show it in detail.

J is a follower which takes the place of the missing rear end of the upper part of the drawer and stands at an angle, as shown. It may be moved forward or back in the drawer and shifted into different positions or locked in position, all in any customary manner, and I have not shown the details of its adjustability.

The drawer itself is carried by and slides upon an extension-slide instead of upon the bottom of its containing section or crate. This extension-slide is illustrated in its extended position in Fig. 6 and is shown in detail in Figs. 3 and 7. It is composed of a frame of any suitable shape, but which I have shown as rectangular and composed of side and end pieces K K. It is provided with transverse rollers L L', which are suitably journaled in the slide, so that they revolve in it. It is also provided upon its lower surfaces with suitable stops, which I have shown in the form of cross-bars K' and O. The inner edges of the side pieces K K are suitably rabbeted, as shown by the dotted lines S in Fig. 3 and as shown in cross-section in Fig. 7. The under surface of the drawer is provided with a guide or block which slides in the way formed by the two sides K K of the extension-slide, and thus the forward motion of the drawer upon the extension-slide is guided by this block M and is always parallel to the sides of the slide, so that the drawer cannot become twisted upon the slide. The bottom of the drawer is also provided with a T-shaped guide N, which in the form shown is separate from the guide M. The wings of this T-shaped guide project into and slide in rabbets or grooves S in the side pieces of the extension-slide, thereby preventing the drawer from being lifted off from the slide. As the drawer is drawn for-

ward or to the left in Fig. 3 upon the extension-slide the guide M will strike the cross-bar or stop O, and the forward motion of the drawer will be thereby checked. If it is desired to remove the drawer, it may be lifted over the stop and pulled a short distance farther forward, when the wings of the T-guide N will register with the vertical slots P in the slide, and it will thereby be permitted to lift the drawer vertically away from the slide. The main frame of the cabinet is provided with any suitable stop, which when the slide is drawn out to the position shown in the upper section in Fig. 6 will engage with the cross-bar or stop K' upon the slide and prevent the further forward motion of the latter. The rollers L L' have their ends carried by and moving in suitable grooves in the sides of the cabinet-frame, such grooves being indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 6 and clearly shown in cross-section in Fig. 1. The drawer through contact made by the bottoms of its sides rests upon and is wholly carried by these rollers and is not carried directly by the main frame of the extension-slide. It will be apparent that as the drawer is pulled forward its weight resting upon these rollers will cause them to revolve and that they will travel forward in their supporting-grooves, the rollers revolving in and carrying with them the extension-slide, and that because of the differing motion of the periphery and of the center of these rollers the drawer will move forward at a much faster speed than will the extension-slide, and if the parts are properly proportioned both the drawer and the extension-slide will reach their respective fixed limits of forward motion at about the same time, as illustrated in the upper section of Fig. 6. Additionally, to prevent any tilting of the upper portion of the drawer upon the lower portion I provide a band Q, which is attached rigidly near its rear to the outside of each upper drawer portion and which passes loosely around the lower drawer portion, being carried under the same in the slot or recess Q'. This construction does not interfere with the longitudinal motion of the upper and lower drawer portions with reference to each other, but prevents lifting one away from the other. This band Q is also rigid enough to hold the upper portions of the sides in vertical alinement with the lower portions, and thereby in proper relation to each other and to the complete box, thus supplying this function of the missing end of the box.

R is a spring-latch operating when closed to connect the upper and lower portions of the front, and thereby make one drawer out of both parts. When this spring-latch is released by lifting or by opening in any way, the upper portion is permitted to move forward slidably upon the lower portion.

In using this device after the parts are assembled and the upper and lower portions of the drawer being as shown in the lower section of Fig. 6, forming one ordinary drawer, the files to be contained are inserted and the follower J is brought forward, so as properly to bind them. When it is desired to consult these files, the drawer is pulled out from the cabinet, and its relation to the cabinet and the extension-slide permits the drawer to be drawn entirely outside of the cabinet, thus giving free access to the extreme rear of the drawer and avoiding the necessity for having the rear portion of the drawer held by and supported in the cabinet, where it is not accessible. It will be noticed that the contained files are by their lower edges held and firmly bound in the box constituted by the lower portion of the drawer. Their upper portions are also held closely together and too closely to permit of inspection and selection. Desiring to inspect these files and select one for withdrawal or perhaps to examine to some extent without withdrawal I release the catch R and pull forward the upper portion of the drawer until it takes the position shown in the upper section in Fig. 6. This leaves the lower edges of the files still firmly bound, with all the upper portions unbound, and permits all the selection and inspection necessary without further disturbing the file. When the upper portion of the drawer is restored to its former position, the entire drawer is once more a single structure.

The construction described not only permits the entire drawer to be withdrawn from the cabinet, but gives additional space for the follower, which usually occupies the tilted position shown and is difficult of access without removing the drawer entirely from the cabinet. It is evident also that since the upper portion of the drawer is provided with no back the tilting follower may be moved to the extreme rear at the bottom, and thereby leave the entire bottom space open for the insertion of files, while the follower in its tilting or swinging motion will extend back of the rear of the drawer. When the drawer is thus filled with files and is shoved back into position, the follower striking against the rear of the cabinet will have its upper portion swung forward and it will become upright and in cooperation with the top of the front of the drawer will hold the upper portion of the files together as firmly as the bottom is held. When the drawer thus completely filled is withdrawn and pressure upon the upper portion of the file is relieved by the tilting back of the follower and by the forward motion of the upward part of the front, the action of the device may be compared to that of a book, the files representing the leaves and the follower and the front representing the covers, and when thus partially opened the files

or leaves may be readily examined, while at the same time the edges are bound together, as in a book. The converse is true in closing the drawer, whereby the files are closed like the leaves of a book. This motion by the upward part of the front, which I compare to the motion of the cover of a book, may be a distinct motion of separation, as I have shown, or might be a swinging or any other equivalent motion.

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

1. In a filing-cabinet, a sliding drawer composed of an upper section and a lower section, and means for holding the same in slidable contact with each other whereby the upper section of the drawer may be drawn forward sliding upon the lower section.

2. In a filing-cabinet, the combination, with the main frame, of a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section in slidable engagement with each other, and a follower forming the back of the upper portion of the drawer and adjustable to and from the front.

3. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with the main frame, of a sliding drawer composed of sides, a sectional front, a tilting back and a bottom, means for adjusting the back to and from the front, and means for permitting the upper portion of the back and one of the sections of the front to move away from each other while the lower portion and the other section of the front retain their relative positions, whereby the contained files may be freely examined while held bound by their lower edges.

4. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with the main frame, of a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section in slidable engagement with each other, a follower forming the back of the upper section of the drawer and adjustable to and from the front, and means for preventing the upper section from moving forwardly upon the lower section.

5. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with the main frame, of a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section in slidable engagement with each other, a follower forming the back of the upper section of the drawer and adjustable to and from the front, means for preventing the upper section from moving forwardly upon the lower section, and means carried by one section and engaging in the other of the sections to prevent the tilting of the sections upon one another.

6. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with the main frame, of an extension-slide arranged therein, a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section mounted upon said frame, rollers carried by the extension-slide, adapted to support the slide and actuated by the sliding drawer, and means for holding the sections of the drawer in slidable

contact with each other, whereby the upper section of the drawer may be drawn forward in a sliding manner upon the lower section.

7. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with the main frame, of a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section in slidable engagement with each other, a follower forming the back of the upper portion of the drawer and adjustable to and from the front, and means for detachably connecting the said sections together, said means when in operative position preventing the sliding of one section upon the other and when in inoperative position permitting one of the sections moving forwardly upon the other of the sections.

8. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with a main frame, of an extension-slide arranged therein, a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section, supporting-rollers carried by the extension-slide and adapted to be actuated by the sliding drawer, means for holding the sections of the drawer in slidable contact with each other so that the upper section can be slid forward upon the lower section, and means for locking the two sections together to form a unit and to prevent one section moving in advance of the other section.

9. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with a main frame, of an extension-slide arranged therein, a slide-drawer composed of an upper and a lower section, supporting-rollers carried by the extension-slide and adapted to be actuated by the slide-drawer, means for holding the sections of the drawer in slidable contact with each other so that the upper section can be slid forward upon the lower section, means for locking the two sections together to form a unit and to prevent one section moving in advance of the other section, and means carried by one section and engaging in the other of the sections to prevent the tilting of the sections upon one another when withdrawing them from the cabinet.

10. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with a main frame, of an extension member arranged therein, a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section, means carried by one of the sections and engaging in the other of the sections for holding the sections in slidable contact and for limiting the sliding movement of the upper section upon the lower section, and means for locking the two sections together to form a unit and to prevent one section moving in advance of the other section.

11. In a filing-cabinet, the combination with a main frame, of an extension member arranged therein, a sliding drawer composed of an upper and a lower section, means carried by one of the sections and engaging in the other of the sections for holding the sections in slidable contact and for limiting the sliding movement of the upper section upon the

lower section, means for locking the two sections together to form a unit and to prevent one section moving in advance of the other section, and means carried by one section and
5 engaging in the other section to prevent the tilting of the sections from one another when withdrawing the sections from the cabinet.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRED W. TOBEY.

Witnesses:

A. C. DENISON,
MARY S. TOOKER.