

J. H. RAND.
ADJUSTABLE INDEX OR REGISTER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 19, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

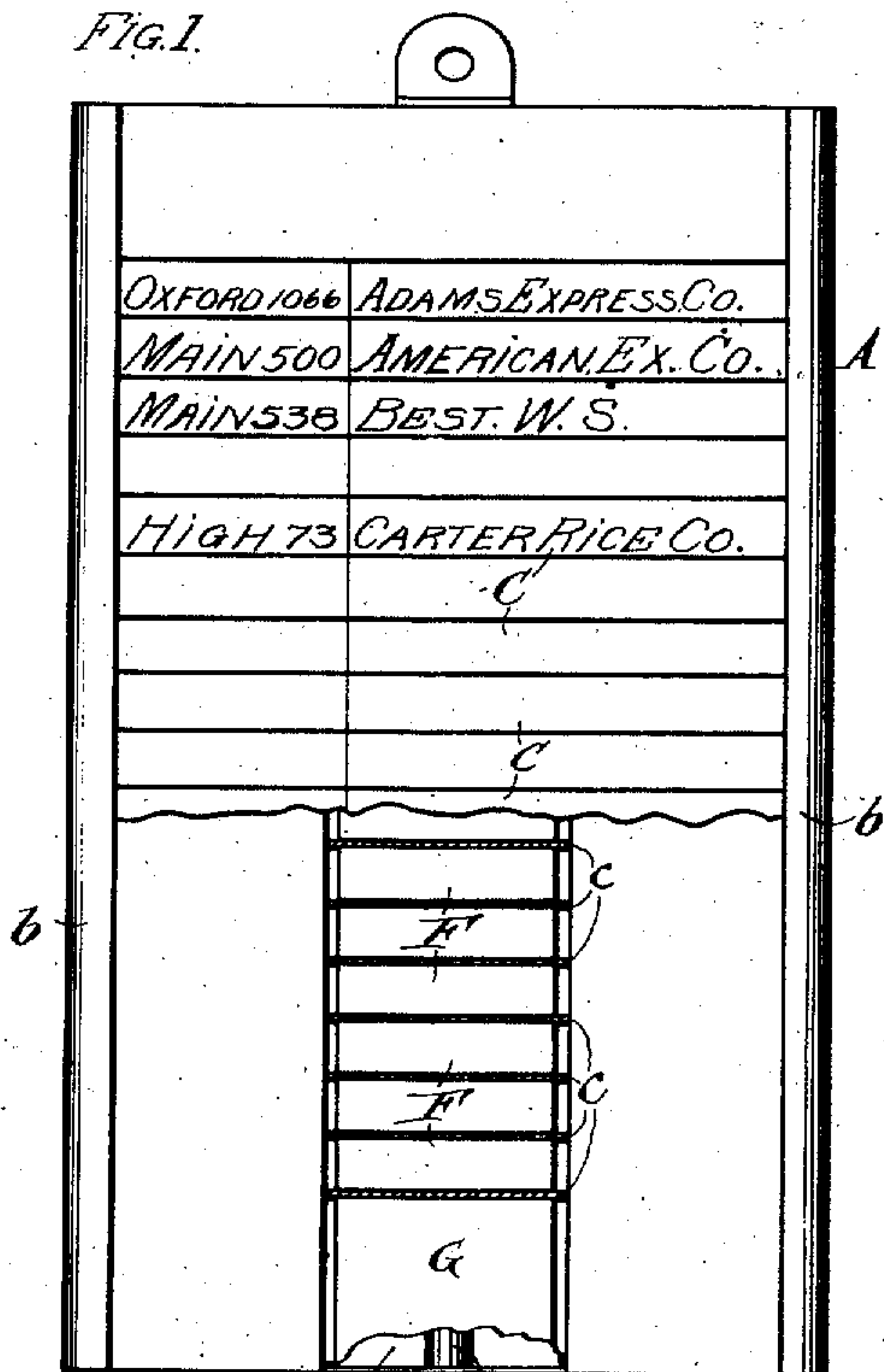


FIG. 2.

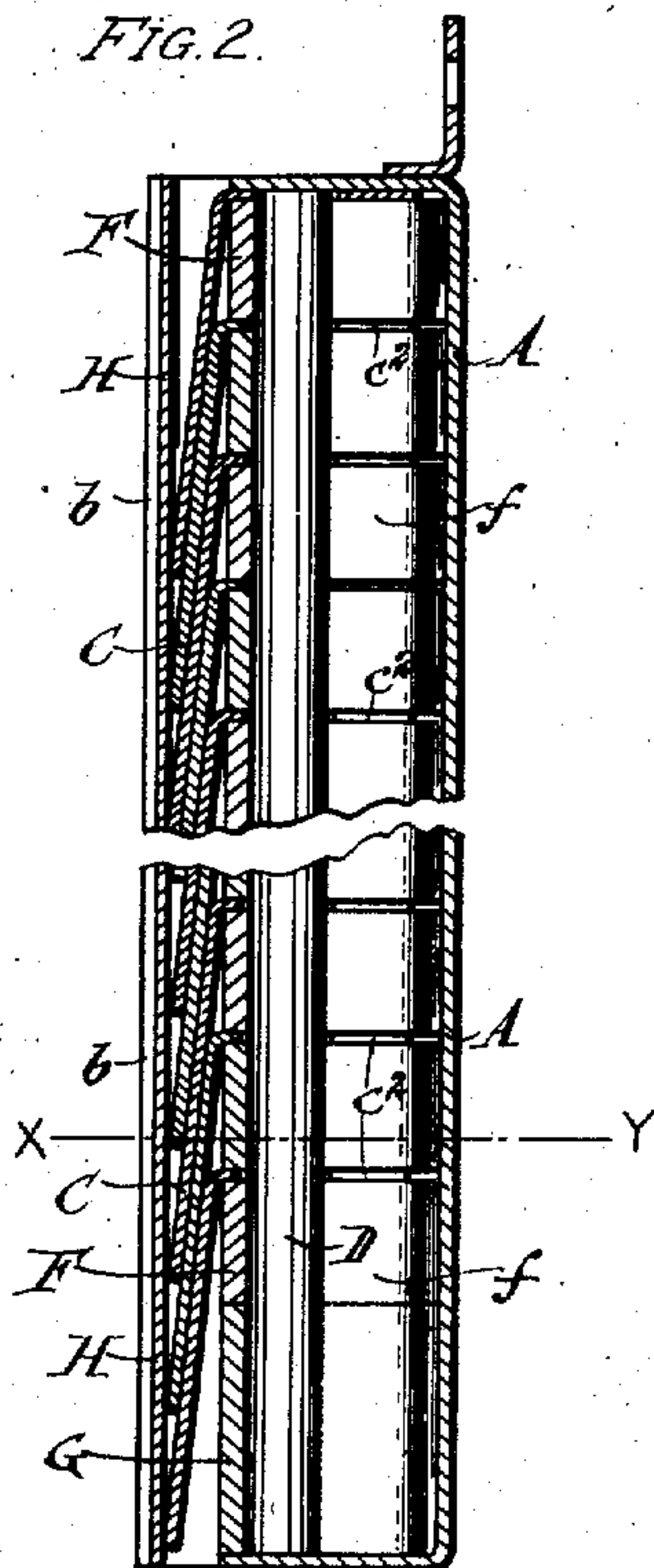


FIG. 3.

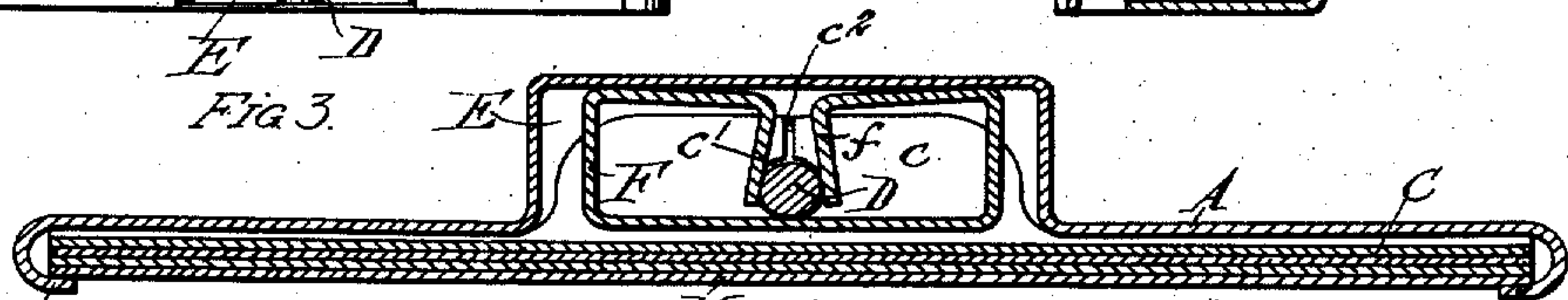


FIG. 4.

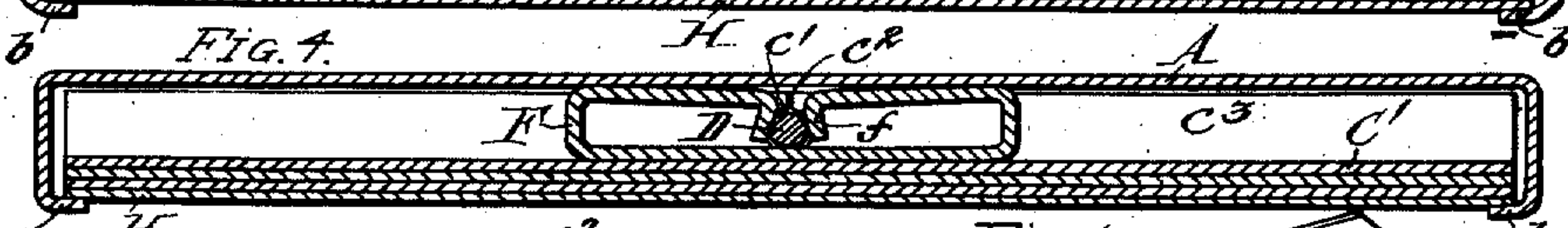


FIG. 5.

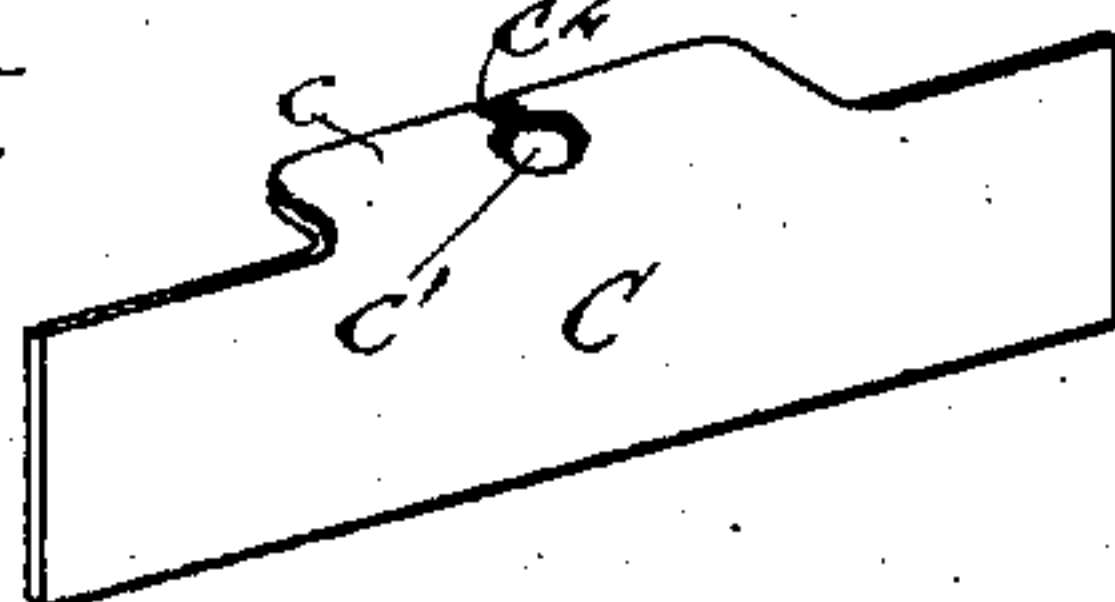
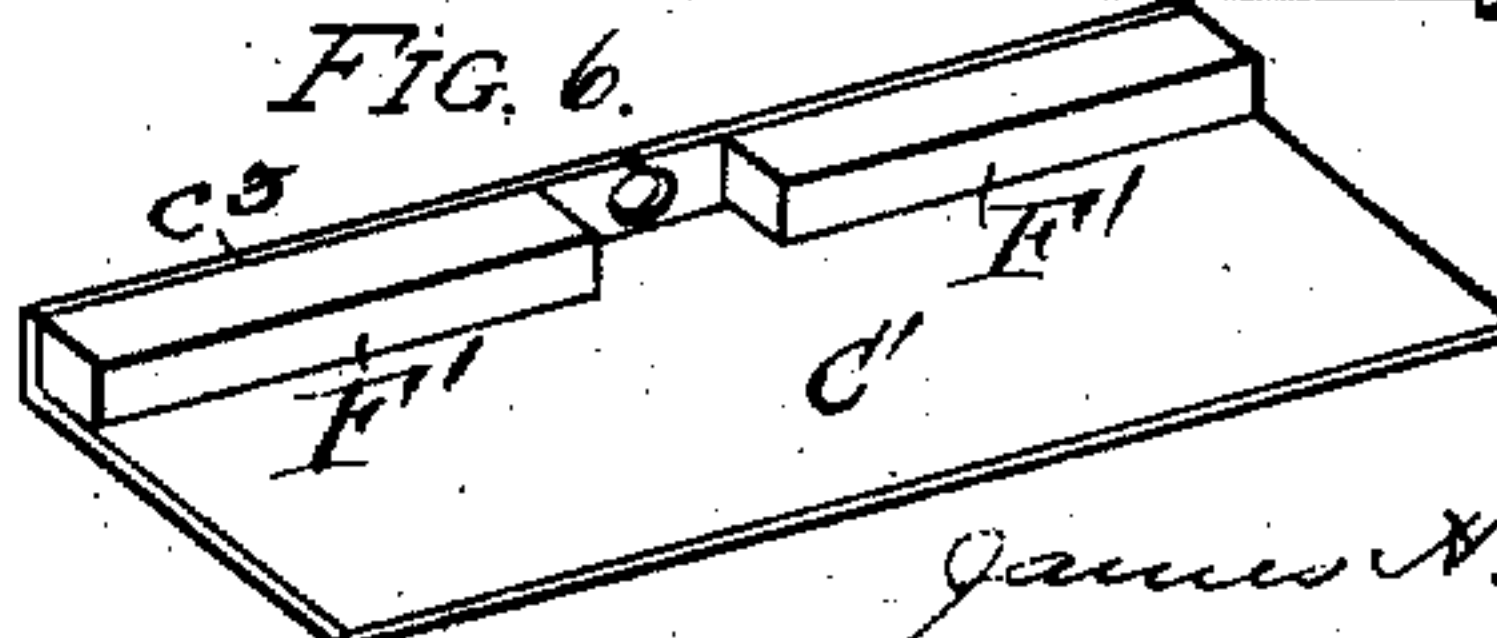


FIG. 6.



WITNESSES:

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BY *Leger D. Papp*

ATTORNEYS

No. 829,670.

PATENTED AUG. 28, 1906.

J. H. RAND.
ADJUSTABLE INDEX OR REGISTER.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 19, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 7.

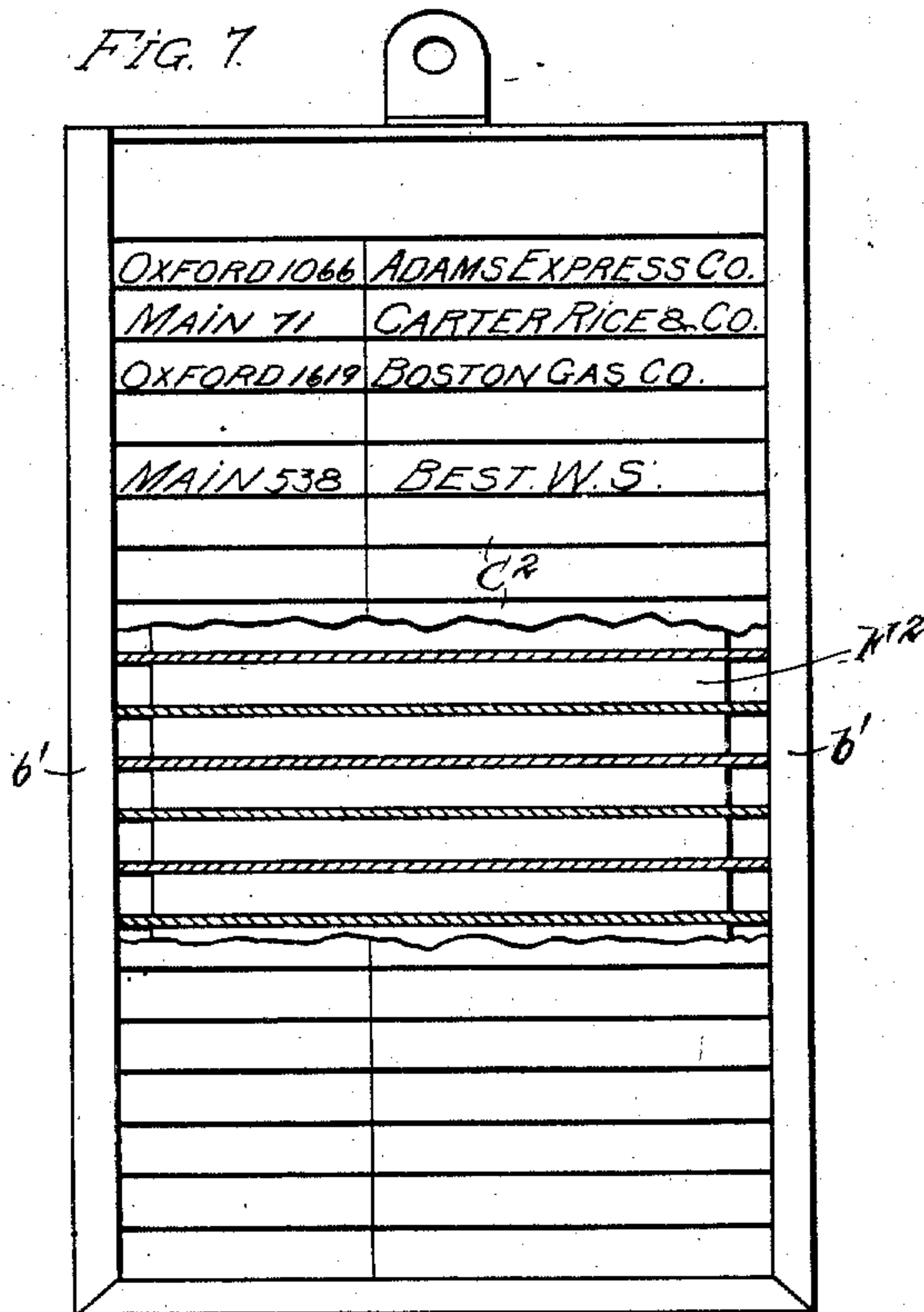


FIG. 8.

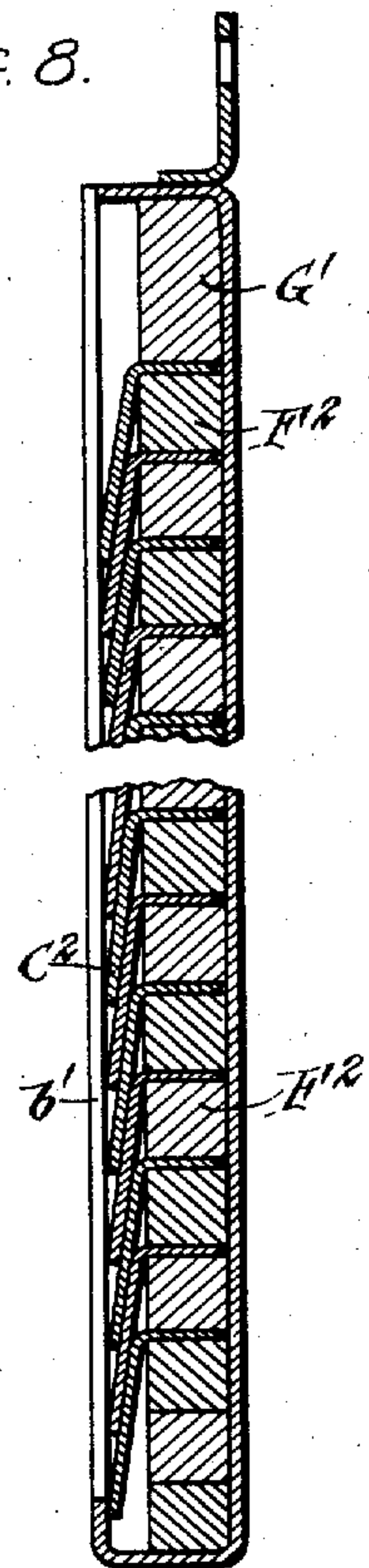
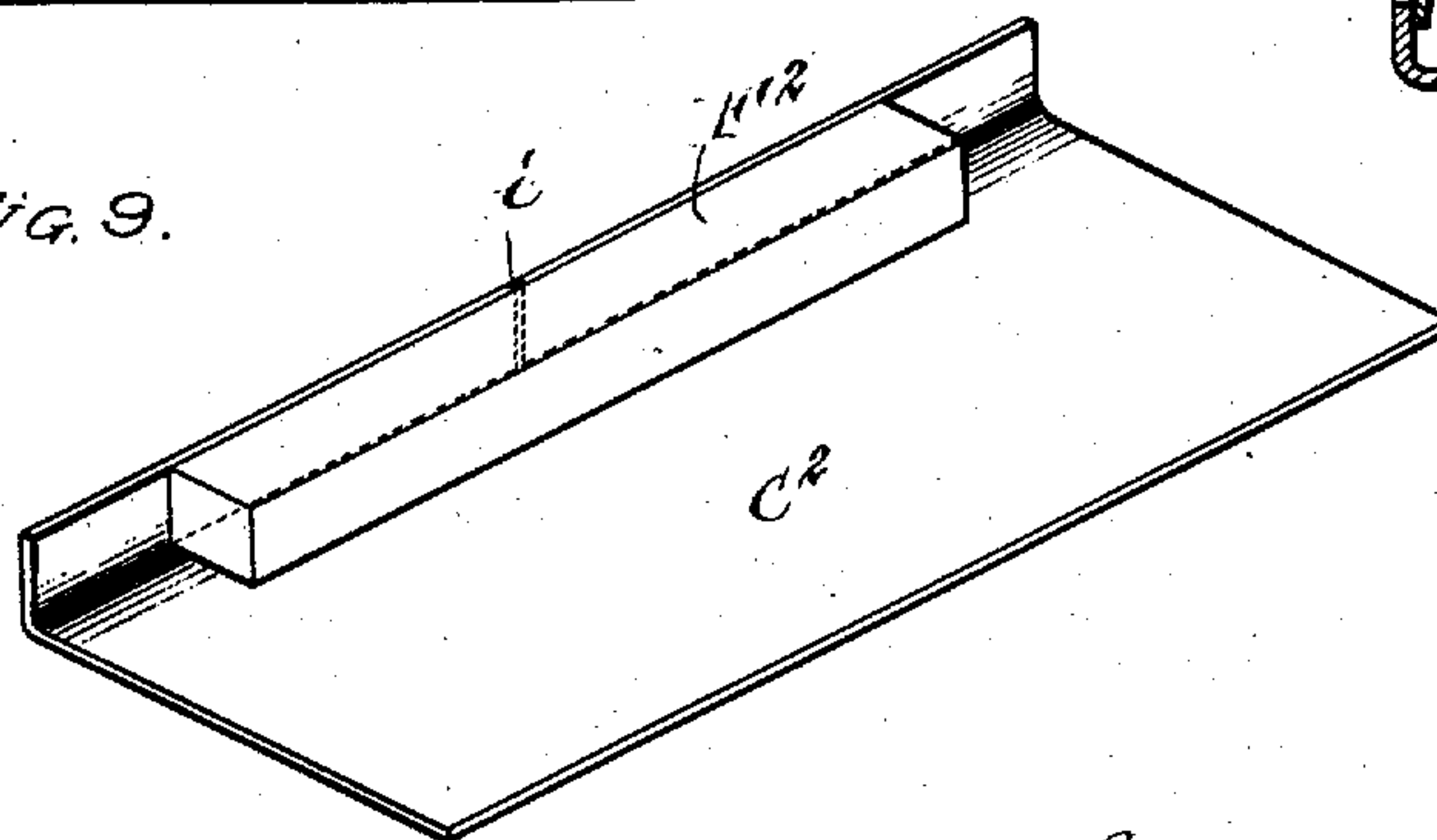


FIG. 9.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. RAND, OF NEWTONVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

ADJUSTABLE INDEX OR REGISTER.

No. 829,670.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 28, 1906.

Application filed October 19, 1905. Serial No. 283,372.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. RAND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newtonville, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Indexes or Registers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an adjustable index which is especially desirable as a telephone register or directory; but the same is also adapted to various other uses where it is necessary to change or insert names or entries from time to time—such, for example, as the price-lists employed in stores.

The object of my invention is the provision of an inexpensive register or indicator of this character which permits the index-cards to be readily removed or adjusted for changing the cards or inserting new ones, as required.

In the accompanying drawings, consisting of two sheets, Figure 1 is a face view, partly in section, of a telephone-register embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section thereof, on an enlarged scale. Fig. 3 is a transverse section in line $x y$, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, showing a modified construction of the register. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the index-cards used in the register shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. Fig. 6 is an inverted perspective view of one of the index-cards, showing a modification of the same and the space-blocks. Fig. 7 is a face view, partly in section, of another modified construction of the register. Fig. 8 is a longitudinal central section thereof, on an enlarged scale. Fig. 9 is an inverted perspective view of one of the index-cards and the corresponding space-block of the last-mentioned modification.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the construction shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 5, A indicates a back or frame forming the body of the register and constructed of sheet metal, such as tin or any other suitable material. The vertical edges of the back are bent forwardly and inwardly to form lips, guides, or flanges b .

C indicates the index cards or slips, arranged horizontally in the frame and preferably overlapping one another, as shown. The cards may extend across the full width

of the frame and under its flanges b , as shown, or they may be shorter, if desired, their exposed portions, which receive the names and numbers of telephone subscribers or other entries, being of any suitable width from top to bottom, as required.

Each card is provided at one of its longitudinal edges, preferably its upper edge, with a tab or tongue c , which is bent inwardly substantially at right angles thereto, and this tab has an opening c' , through which passes a guiding and retaining rod D. This rod extends lengthwise of the back or frame and is arranged centrally in a longitudinal groove or pocket E, formed in the back, the ends of the rod being soldered or otherwise rigidly secured to the end walls of the pocket. This pocket is of the proper width to receive the tabs c of the cards, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. The tabs are provided with slits c'' , extending from their openings c' to their inner or lower edges to permit them to be engaged with and disengaged from the rod D.

Between the tabs of adjacent cards are interposed space members or blocks F, which keep the tabs at the proper distance apart to properly expose the faces of the overlapping cards. In the construction shown in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, the blocks are of skeleton form, and each consists of a strip of tin or other suitable sheet metal bent into the form of a rectangle loop the ends of which are turned inwardly to form elastic lips f , which bear against opposite sides of the rod D. A comparatively wide compressor-block G is preferably arranged at one end of the series of cards C and blocks F.

If desired, the series of cards may be covered by a plate H of celluloid or glass, which slides in the guides b of the back.

In the use of the register to insert a new name the compressor-block G is removed to release the index-cards, and one of the blank cards and its companion space-block F are then removed from the retaining-rod D. The remaining cards and blocks are next slid up or down in the register for separating them at the proper place to admit the new card, which latter and its space-block are then inserted and engaged with the retaining-rod, after which the compressor-block G is replaced. By the insertion of this block all of the cards and space-blocks are shifted toward

the upper end of the register, pressing the tabs and blocks together and uniformly spacing the cards. In this way new names can be readily added or inserted before or after any name previously placed in the register for keeping the names in the proper alphabetical order.

If desired, the back of the register may be made without a pocket or groove, as shown in Fig. 4. In this case the tabs of the cards C' may extend from end to end thereof, as shown at c^3 , Figs. 4 and 6. The last-named figure also illustrates a modified form of the space-blocks. In this case each block consists of two solid sections F , of wood or pasteboard, arranged on opposite sides of the tab-opening.

If desired, the blocks may be glued or otherwise secured to the cards instead of being separate from them.

Instead of retaining and guiding the cards by means of the rod D the latter may be omitted and the side flanges of the back employed for this purpose, such a modified construction being shown in Figs. 7 and 8. In this case the cards C^2 are of the proper length to engage under said flanges b' . In this modified construction the tin space-blocks of the first-described construction are replaced by wooden strips or blocks F^2 , loosely interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards. A removable compressor-block G' is interposed between the tab or intumed edge of the uppermost card and a wall or flange at the upper end of the frame.

In order to remove a card from this register, the compressor-block G' is first removed to release the series of cards and blocks, and the thumb-nail is next placed under the card immediately above the one to be taken out, and all of the cards above it are shifted toward the top of the register. The card to be removed and the companion space-block are then taken out of the register, and the displaced cards and blocks are again moved down, care being taken to raise the card immediately above the gap or opening, so that it overlaps the one below it. Finally, the compressor-block is replaced. In putting a new card in the register after separating the cards at the proper place the new card is sprung under the guide-flanges b' , the corresponding space-block is inserted, and the compressor-block is replaced, as above described. To facilitate bending the cards in springing them in place, the tab of each may be provided at its center with a transverse slit z , as shown in Fig. 9.

The cards may be of any desired length and width, according to the special purpose for which the index is to be used, and the spacing of the cards may be varied by making the space-blocks of different thicknesses, as required.

1. An adjustable index, comprising a back or frame having its side walls provided with guide-flanges, a series of slidable cards arranged in said frame and engaging under said flanges and each provided at one edge with an inwardly-turned tab, and spacing members interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards, substantially as set forth.

2. An adjustable index comprising a back or frame having its side walls provided with guide-flanges, a series of slidable cards arranged in said frame and engaging under said flanges, each card having at one edge an inwardly-turned tab provided centrally with a transverse slit, and spacing members interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards, substantially as set forth.

3. An adjustable index, comprising a back or frame, a guide-rod arranged lengthwise in the frame, a series of cards each provided at one edge with an inwardly-turned tab having means for removably engaging it with said rod, and spacing members interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards, substantially as set forth.

4. An adjustable index comprising a back or frame, a guide-rod arranged lengthwise in the frame, a series of cards each provided at one edge with an inwardly-turned tab, having an opening through which said rod passes and a slit extending from the opening to the edge of the tab, and spacing members interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards, substantially as set forth.

5. An adjustable index, comprising a frame provided in its back with a longitudinal groove or depression, slidable index-cards each having an inwardly-turned tab arranged in said groove, means located in said groove for guiding and confining the cards in the frame and spacing members interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards, substantially as set forth.

6. An adjustable index, comprising a frame provided in its back with a longitudinal groove or depression, a longitudinal rod secured in said groove slidable index-cards each having an inwardly-turned tab arranged in said groove and provided with an opening for the passage of said guide-rod and a slit leading to said opening, and space-blocks interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards, substantially as set forth.

7. An adjustable index comprising a back or frame, a guide-rod arranged in the frame, slidable index-cards each having an inwardly-turned tab engaging said rod, and space-blocks interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards and having elastic lips which bear against opposite sides of the guide-rod, substantially as set forth.

8. An adjustable index comprising a back or frame, a guide-rod arranged in the frame, slidable index-cards each having an inwardly-

turned tab engaging said rod, and space blocks interposed between the tabs of adjacent cards and each consisting of a metal strip bent to the proper form and having its ends turned inwardly to form lips which bear against opposite sides of the guide-rod, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 16th day of October, 1905.

JAMES H. RAND.

Witnesses:

R. B. RAYMOND,
H. G. PARTHENAIS.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 829,670, granted August 28, 1906, upon the application of James H. Rand, of Newtonville, Massachusetts, for an improvement in "Adjustable Indexes or Registers," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction, as follows: On page 2, at top of second column, the clause *I claim as my invention:*— should be inserted, making line 65; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 18th day of September, A. D., 1906.

[SEAL.]

E. B. MOORE,

Acting Commissioner of Patents.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 829,670.

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