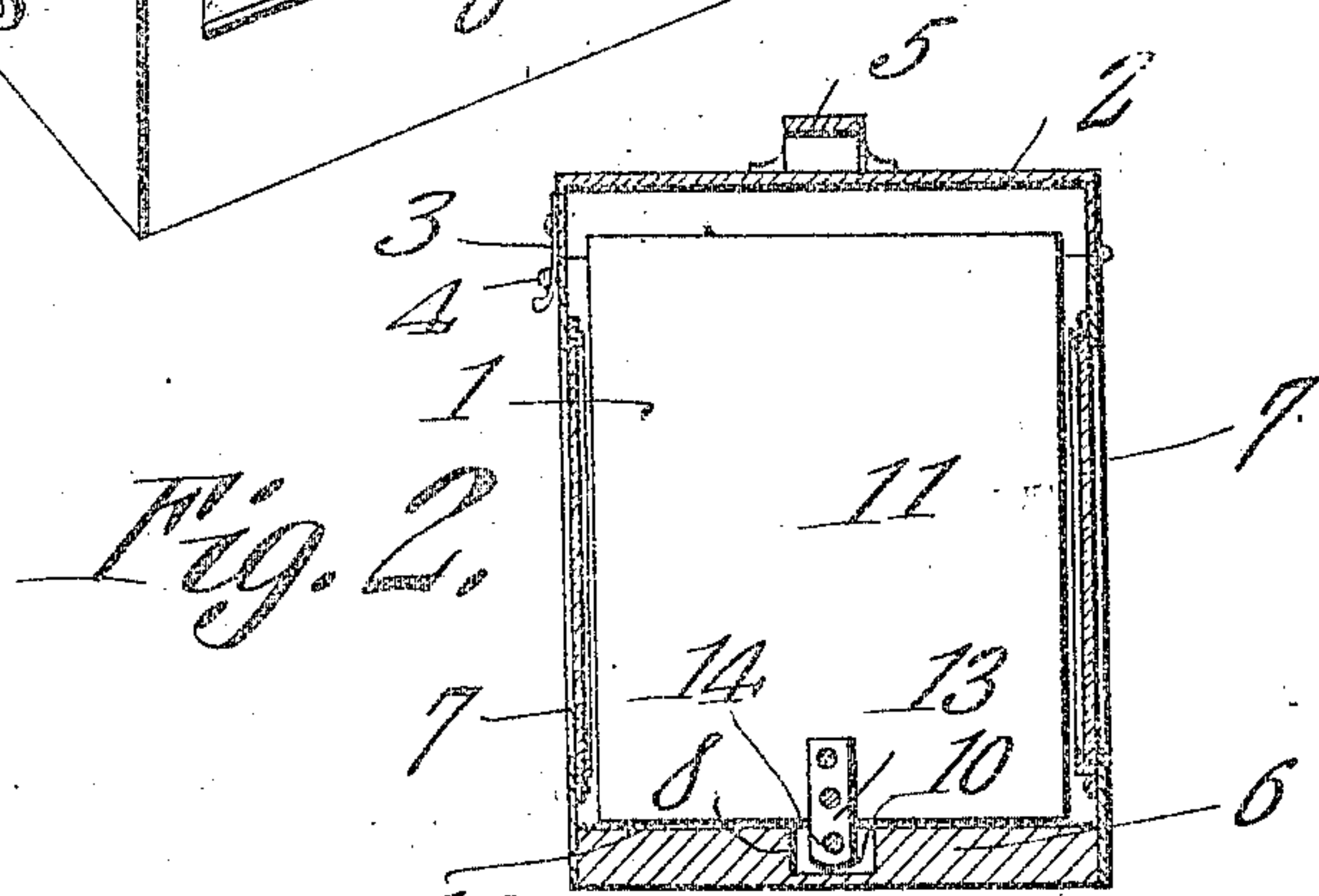
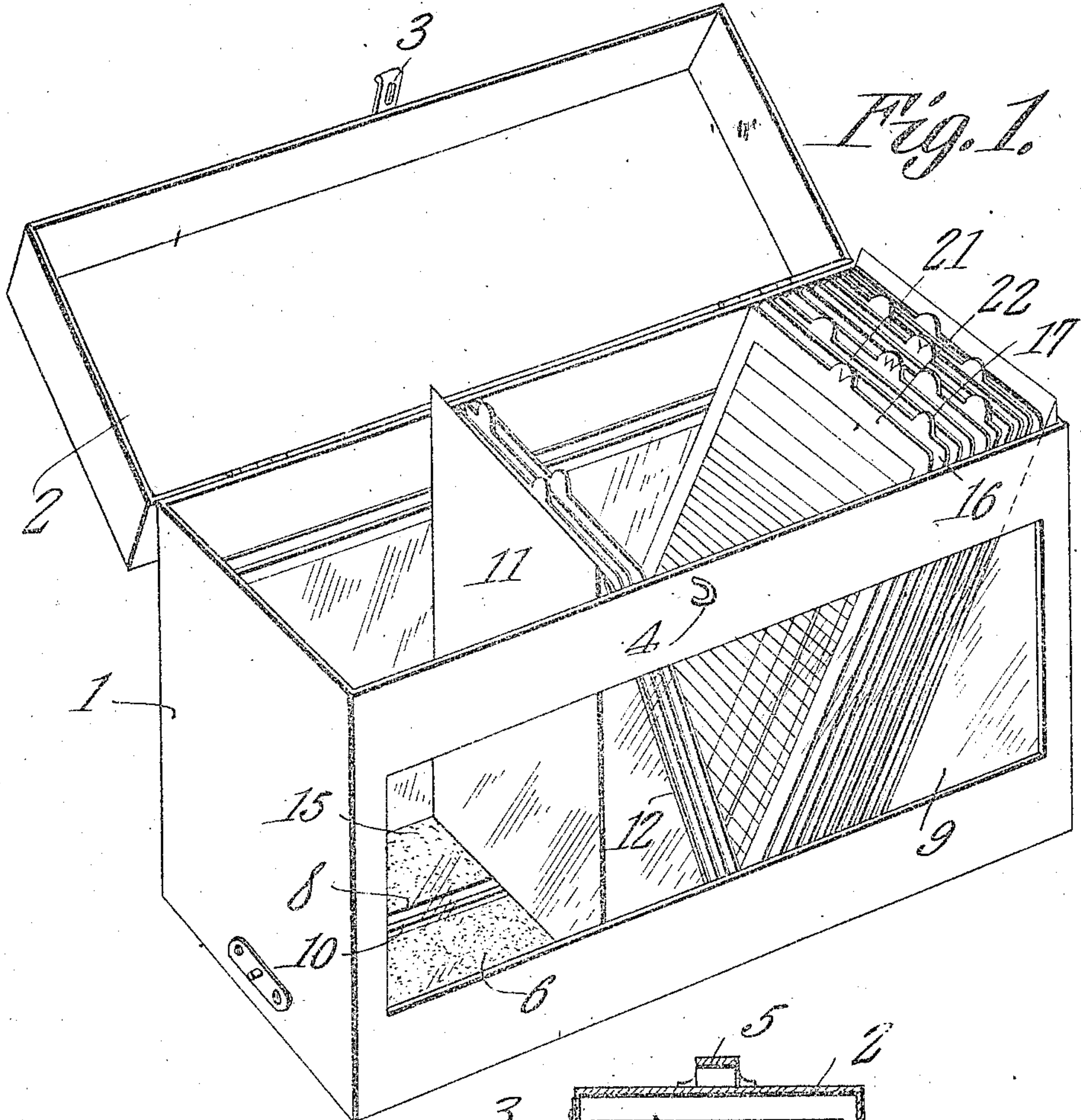


W. B. MITCHELL.  
FILE FOR ACCOUNTS.  
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963,919.

Patented July 12, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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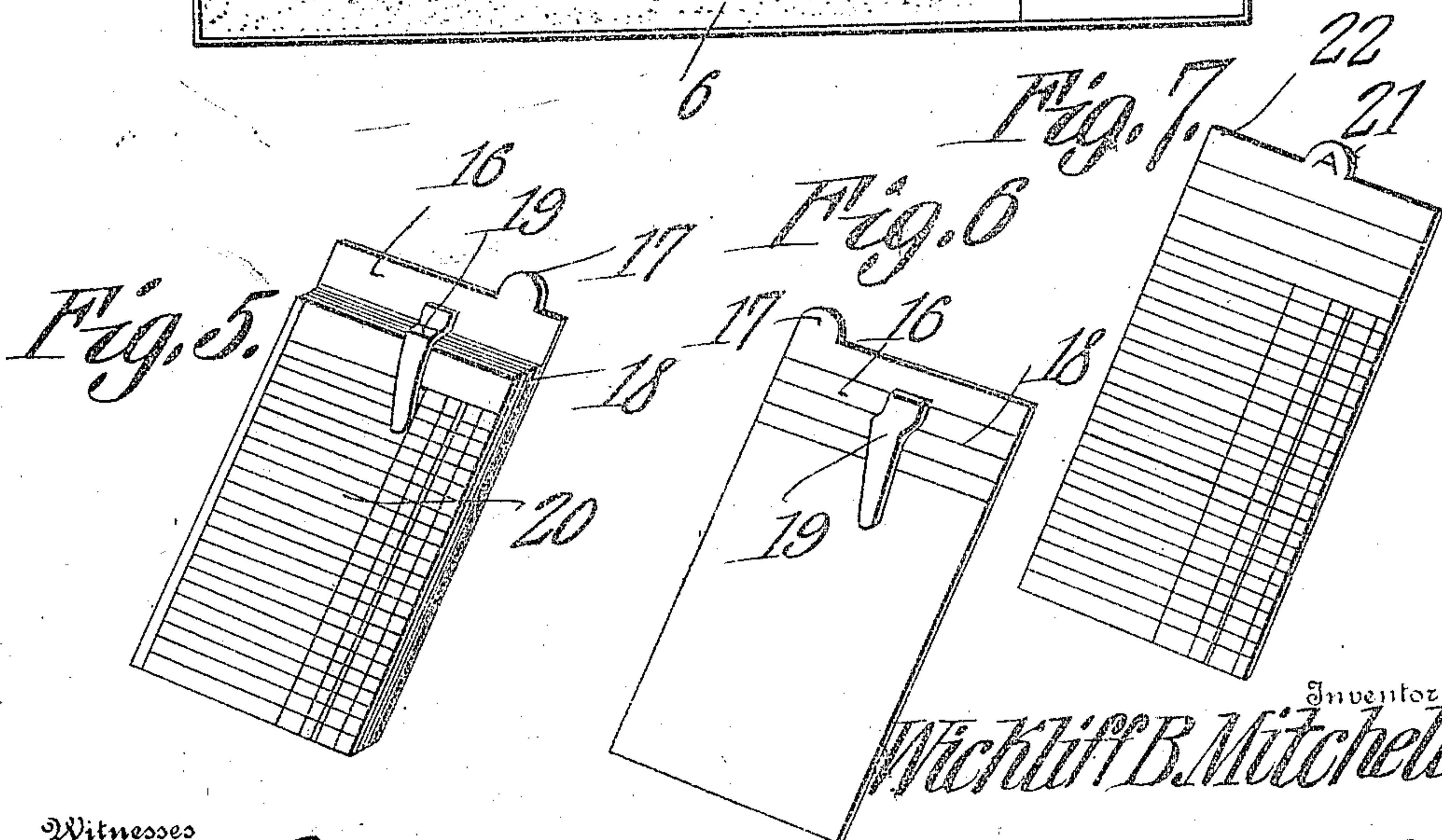
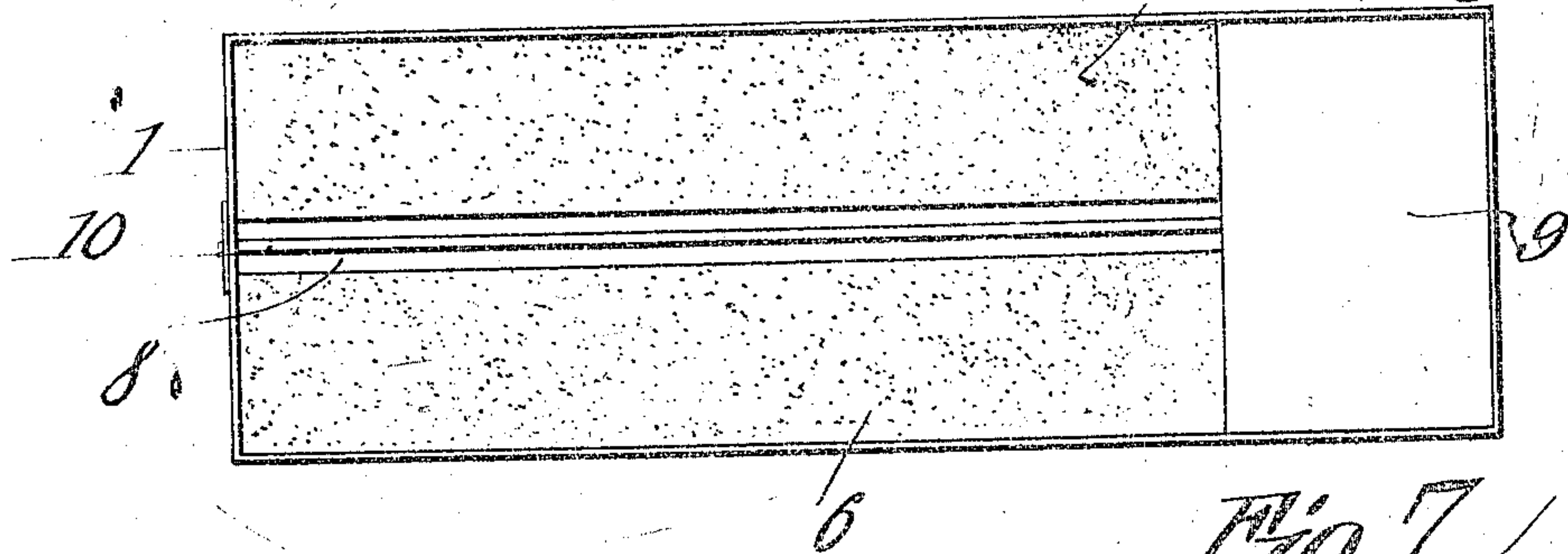
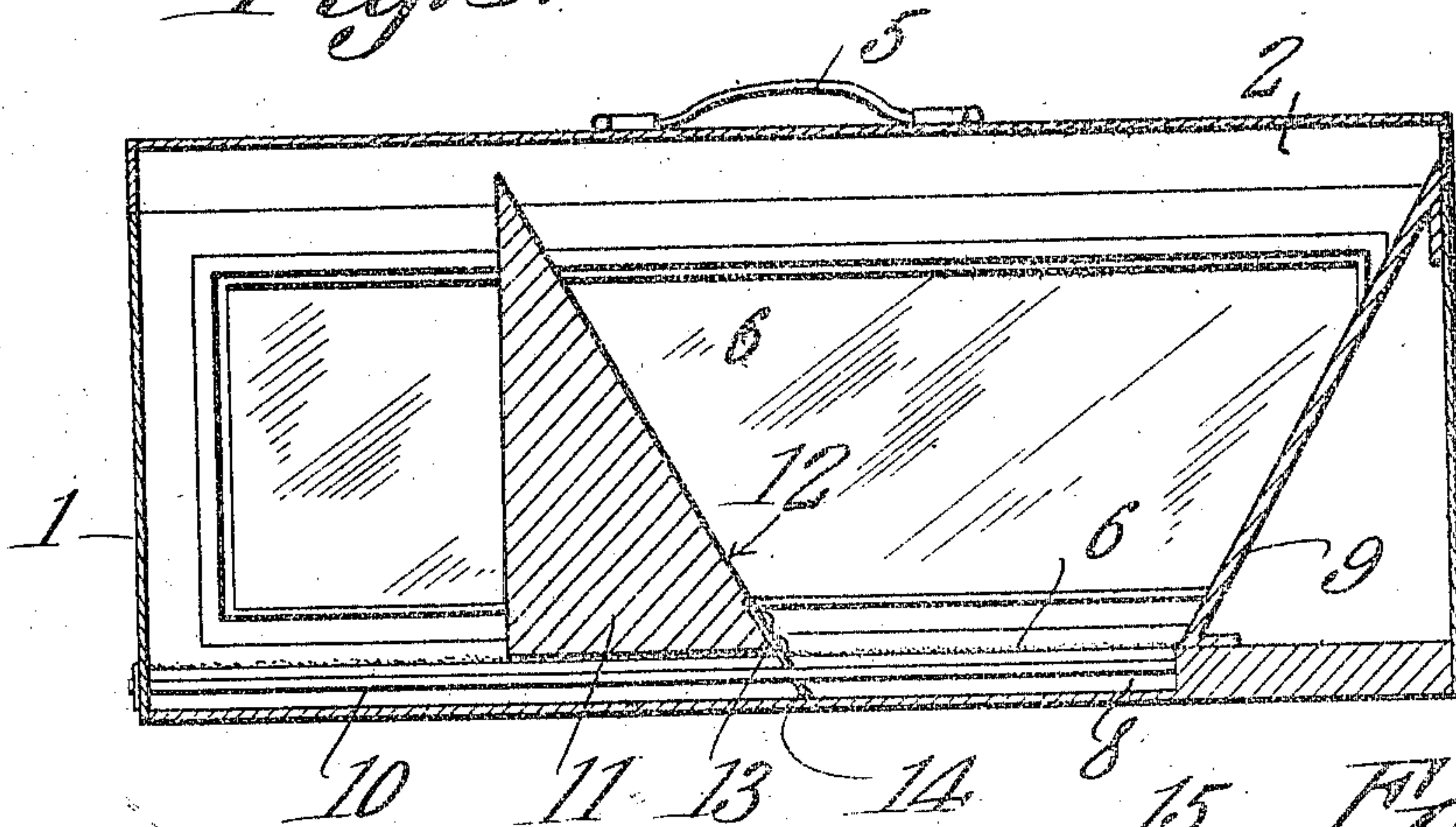


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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WICKLIFF B. MITCHELL, OF BEDFORD, INDIANA.

FILE FOR ACCOUNTS.

963,919.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 12, 1910.

Application filed September 8, 1909. Serial No. 516,694.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WICKLIFF B. MITCHELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bedford, in the county of Lawrence and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful File for Accounts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to files for account slips and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of the parts as hereinafter shown and described.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and convenient means for holding file slips upon identified cards and means for holding the said cards in alphabetically indexed relation.

Also it is the object of the invention to provide means whereby the said cards may be held in open or closed order so that the cards may be easily referred to when needed and compactly stored when not in use.

With the above objects in view the file includes a receptacle having transparent sides and a grooved bottom. That part of the bottom lying at the opposite sides of the groove therein is roughened or covered with a material having a rough surface, and it is upon this roughened surface or rough material that the ends of the cards are adapted to rest. A fixed block having an inclined side is located in the receptacle and a rod traverses the length of the groove in the bottom thereof. A movable block having an inclined side rests upon the bottom of the receptacle and is provided with a depending lug having an opening which at times is adapted to grip the said opposite edges of the said rod. Each of the cards used for the purpose of keeping an account with an individual is provided with a clip under which the edges of slips containing the items of account may be inserted, and each of the said cards is provided at its upper end with a tab upon which individual identification marks may be placed. The tabs of the said account cards are not arranged in continuous line throughout the series and consequently sufficient space intervenes between the tabs of the series of cards to enable one to distinguish one card from another at a glance. Index cards are also provided and have at their upper ends tabs bearing distinct alphabetical characters, and the tabs upon the index cards are located at points approximately midway between the side

edges of the cards, and consequently the tabs of the series containing the alphabetical characters are alined throughout the series of index cards.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the file. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the bottom of the receptacle forming a component part of the file. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the slip retaining cards, showing a slip in position thereon. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the slip retaining cards devoid of slip. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of one of the index cards used in the file.

The file includes a receptacle 1 having a hinged top 2 provided at its free edge with a hasp 3 adapted to engage a staple 4 upon the receptacle 1 and upon its upper outer surface is a handle 5. The body of the receptacle 1 is provided in its sides with transparencies which may be of glass, celluloid, or other suitable material and the bottom 6 of the said receptacle is provided with a longitudinally disposed groove 8. A block or partition 9 having an inclined surface is fixed within the receptacle 1 and at one end thereof. A rod 10 traverses the length of the groove 8 and at its ends is secured to fixed parts of the receptacle 1, while its intermediate portion is spaced from the walls of the groove 8. A block 11 is slidably located in the receptacle 1 and is provided with an inclined face 12 at the lower portion of which is located a lug 13. The lug 13 is provided with a perforation 14 which receives the rod 10 and when the lower side of the block 11 is resting upon the bottom 6 of the receptacle 1, the upper and lower edges of the perforation 14 grip or engage against the upper and lower surfaces of the rod 10, and hold the block 11 against movement within the receptacle 1. The upper surface of the bottom 6 at the opposite sides of the groove 8 is roughened, as at 15 (best shown in Fig. 4). This may be effected by covering the bottom of the surface 6 with sand-paper or by gluing granules of sand to the upper surface of the bottom or by applying any other strip of material to the upper surface of the bottom and providing the said material with a rough surface.

Each slip retaining or account card 16 is



provided at its upper end with a tab 17 upon which may be entered the initials or name of an individual. Each card 16 is further provided at its upper portion with a space 5 18, in which may be entered address or other data. A clip 19 is fixed to the face of each card 16 and while the said clip may not necessarily be of spring material, it should possess sufficient resiliency to permit the edges 10 of account slips 20 to be passed under the free end or to be readily removed from the card 16. The slip 20 may be of any design or pattern but should not be of such dimensions as to project beyond the edges of the 15 card 16 when placed thereon. Index cards 22 are provided, and each of the said cards is provided at its upper end and at a point midway between its side edges with a tab 21 and the tab of each card bears a distinct 20 alphabetical character. The card 22 may be plain or if desired may be provided with lines as shown in Fig. 7 upon which entries or notes may be made.

When the cards 16 and 22 are in position 25 in the receptacle 1 they rest at their lower ends upon the roughened surface 15 on the bottom 6, and in the case of the index cards the tabs 21 throughout the entire series are in alinement longitudinally of the receptacle 30 1. The account cards are arranged alphabetically between the index cards 22 but the tabs 17 carried by the cards 16 are not located at the same points along the upper edges of the cards and consequently the said 35 tabs 17 of all of the account cards 16 cannot assume alinement longitudinally of the receptacle 1 and therefore entries made upon the said tabs 17 may be observed at a glance when the cover 2 is swung back from the 40 receptacle 1 and the block 11 is moved to such an extent as to permit all of the cards to lie approximately parallel with the inclined surface of the block or partition 9.

When it is desired to have access to any 45 particular card 16 for the purpose of placing an account slip 20 thereon, or for removing such a slip therefrom, the cards preceding the desired card may be swung over, and inasmuch as all of the said cards have their 50 lower edges in contact with the roughened surface 15 of the bottom 6, the said cards will not slide along the said bottom as they are turned. In order to move the block 11 along the bottom 6 of the receptacle 1, it is 55 necessary to swing or tilt the said block so that the opposite edges of the perforation 14 in the lugs 13 will disengage the sides of the rod 10 and thus liberate the block 11 and

render the same free to move within the receptacle 1. As soon as the block 11 is permitted to fall back in a normal position 60 upon the bottom 6 it is automatically locked in fixed position upon the bottom 6 as heretofore described. By this arrangement it will be seen that a simple and convenient 65 file is provided for holding accounts in a readily accessible manner and by reason of the fact that the sides of the receptacle 1 are provided with transparencies, sufficient light is admitted into the receptacle 1 to enable a person to see entries made at the lower 70 portions of the slips without necessitating that the card bearing the particular slip be withdrawn from the receptacle in order to gain sufficient light. Also it will be seen 75 that convenient means is provided for adding or deducting items from the account of any particular individual for each slip upon each card may be removed from its card 80 without disturbing the other slips.

By reason of the fact that the clips 19 are located upon the sides of the cards 16, they may securely hold the slips in place. The clips prevent the slips from working up 85 when the cards are handled and they prevent a front card from sucking along a slip upon a rear card when the front card is turned, thus holding the slips and preventing the same from getting lost or misplaced. The clips need not be of spring material 90 but they should possess elasticity and flexibility.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is: 95

A file comprising a receptacle having its sides provided with transparencies and provided in the bottom with a groove, a rod traversing the length of the groove, a block located in the receptacle and having an inclined surface, a block slidably mounted in 100 the receptacle and having a lug which receives the rod and being provided with an inclined surface, a series of cards adapted to fit within the receptacle and having at their 105 upper edges tabs, clips provided upon the said cards and a series of index cards having at their upper edges tabs provided with distinct alphabetical characters.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as 110 my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WICKLIFF B. MITCHELL.

Witnesses:

HORATIO HARRYMAN,  
WALTER G. OWENS.