

(No Model.)

J. BAKER.
BOOK AND FILE CASE.

No. 293,701.

Patented Feb. 19, 1884.

Fig. 1.

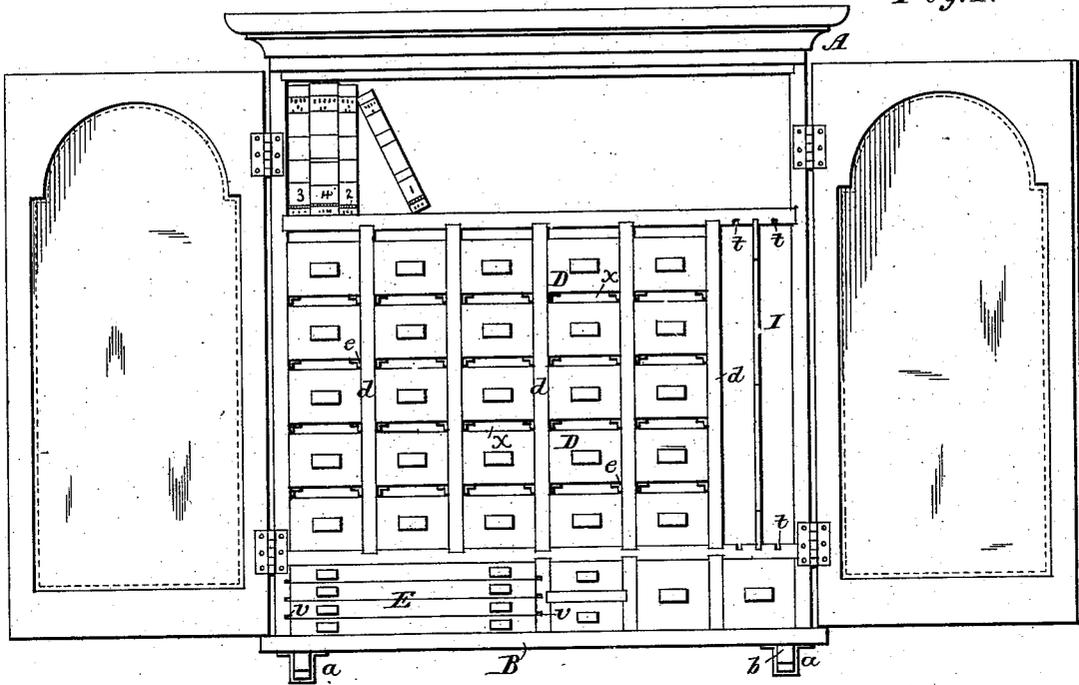


Fig. 3.

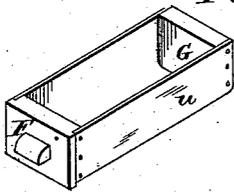


Fig. 6.

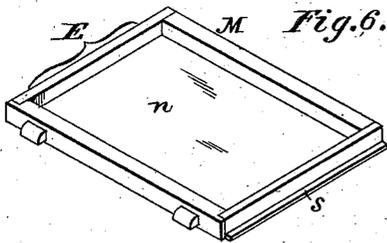


Fig. 7.



Fig. 2.

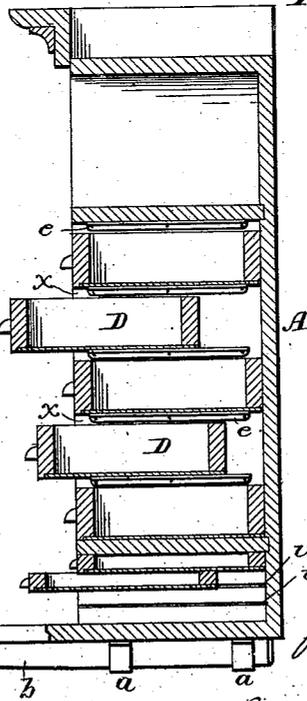
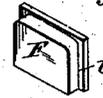


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Jacob Baker

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB BAKER, OF GREENVILLE, OHIO.

BOOK AND FILE CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 293,701, dated February 19, 1884.

Application filed May 11, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB BAKER, of Greenville, in the county of Darke and State of Ohio, have invented certain Improvements in Book and File Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is a secretary and file-case, constructed as fully described hereinafter, so as to facilitate the assorting and filing of papers, and secure a cheap easily-made receptacle for ink, stationery, books, &c., and adapted to receive papers of various sizes and kinds.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a file, secretary, and case, showing my improvements. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one of the boxes for receiving folded papers. Fig. 4 is a face view, and Fig. 5 a perspective view, of one of the ends of said boxes. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a box for receiving flat sheets. Fig. 7 is a section of Fig. 6.

The main body or frame A of the case and secretary is of any suitable size and construction, and is provided at the bottom with loops or open hangers *a*, adapted to receive strips *b b*, attached to a platform or shelf, B, so that the latter may be applied to the case in the position shown in Fig. 2, or wholly removed therefrom by merely drawing it outward to carry the strips *b* from the loops. This construction is specially applicable to wall-cases, or cases which must be arranged behind counters or supported where the space is contracted, so that a permanent platform could not be employed. The case is divided by vertical partitions *d*, against the sides of which are nailed horizontal parallel metallic angle-strips *e*, the flanges of which constitute the guides or supports for oblong boxes D, which, however, instead of being of such a depth as to completely fill the spaces formed for their reception, are so shallow as to leave intervening recesses, *x*. This affords means of rapidly filing or assorting papers, as each paper may be slipped through the opening *x* into the box intended to receive it, without, as is usually necessary, drawing the said box forward. When any paper is required, the box containing it may be drawn forward or taken out in the same manner as in ordinary file-cases. Where the case is provided with doors, the dust will be

excluded thereby from the boxes. When the case is an open one, a short curtain of leather, cloth, or other fabric may hang from the bottom of each box over the opening *x*, excluding the dust without interfering with the slipping of the papers into the boxes.

The ordinary mode of making file-boxes by nailing, dovetailing, or otherwise securing together the wooden side and end pieces, is not only objectionable on account of the cost, but from the lack of strength, the liability of the thin sides and bottom to shrink and split, and to the room occupied by the thickness of the material, and the liability to swell in damp weather. I avoid these objections by making each box of a front piece, F, a back piece, G, and a strip, *u*, of tinned or japanned iron or other metal, bent to a U shape, so as to receive the block G at one end and the block F at the other, the latter having rabbets *i* at the sides of the bottom, to receive the edge of the metal strip, so that the same shall not be exposed to view when the boxes are in place in the case. The blocks F and G are secured in their places by the use of nails or other fastenings driven into them through the metal portion *h*. The box thus formed is not only strong and serviceable, but occupies less space than one having wooden sides, while affording greater width of space for papers, and it can be made very much cheaper.

As ordinary wooden strips or guides would contract the width of the recesses *x*, so that papers equal in width to the boxes could not be placed therein, I use the bent metallic strips *e*, which afford the requisite support without contracting the opening. These strips, however, could not be employed in connection with flat shallow boxes or trays E adapted to receive flat papers or drawings. I therefore construct these trays by forming a light frame, M, of wood, and nailing to the bottom thereof a sheet, *n*, of metal longer than the frame, so that the sides will constitute projecting flanges *s*, adapted to fit narrow grooves *v*, cut into the sides of the partitions *d*. This permits the trays to be arranged in close contact, but so that any one of them can be removed without disturbing the others, while no more space is taken up within the case than is equal to the aggregate depth of the trays.

The parts composing the top and bottom of the space intended as a receptacle for day-book, ledger, and other matters, have grooves *t* therein, Fig. 1, to receive the edges of removable partitions *I*, so that the space may be varied or divided to conform to any size books, or by the entire removal of the partitions the entire space is available as one compartment.

I claim—

10 1. The main body or frame of the case, in combination with partitions and drawers, said partitions being provided with supporting-strips for the drawers at intervals, substantially as described, whereby a space is left
15 above each drawer, for the purpose specified.

2. The receptacle for file-cases, consisting of a block, *G*, rabbeted block *F*, and a strip, *u*, of metal, bent to form the sides and bottom of the box, inclosing the block *G*, and fitted to the rabbeted edge of the block *F*, substantially as set forth. 20

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JACOB BAKER.

Witnesses:

L. F. LIMBERT,
SMITH DYE.