

No. 813,679.

PATENTED FEB. 27, 1906.

A. G. VETTER.
FILING TRAY FOR CARD INDEXES, &c.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 11, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIGURE 1.

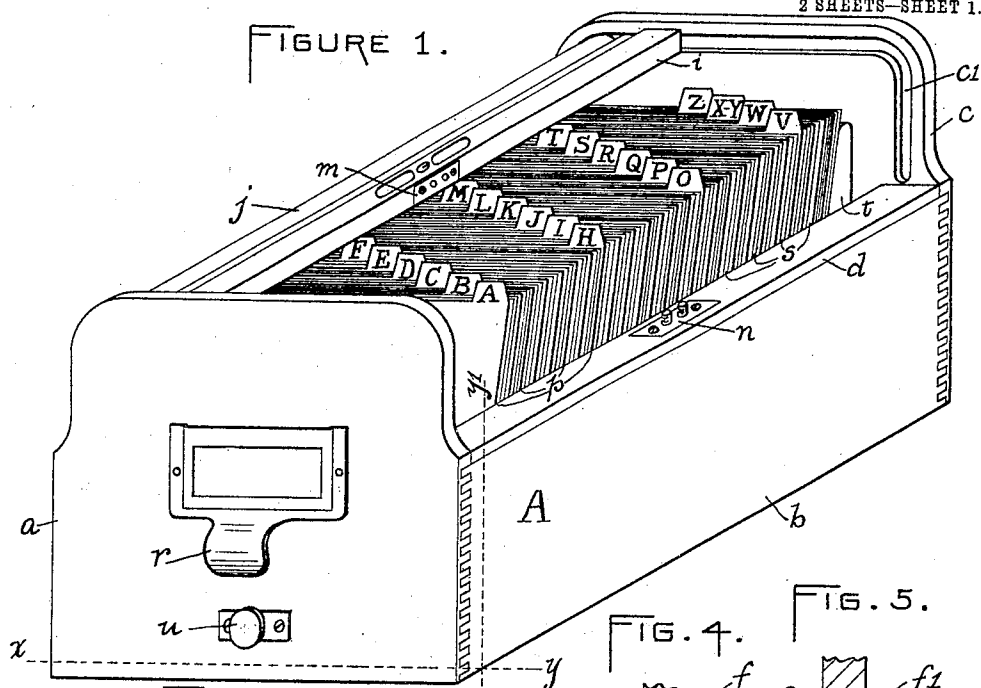
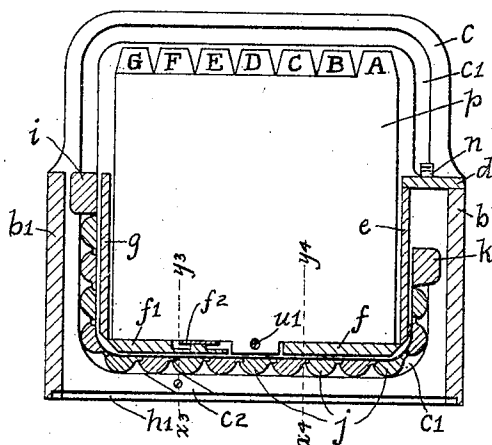


FIG. 6.



FIG. 2.



WITNESSES:

Albert C. Bell
Oliver M. Linder.

FIG. 4.

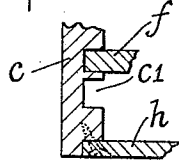


FIG. 5.

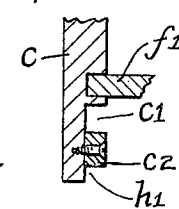
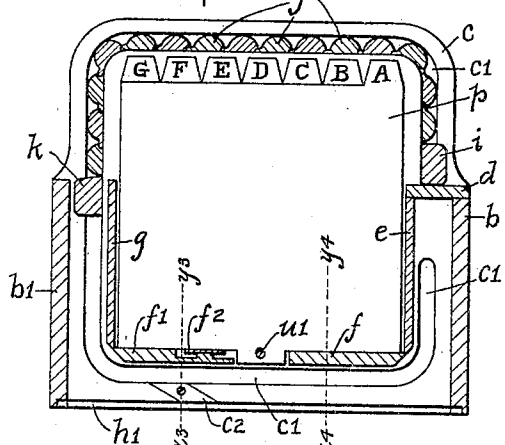


FIG. 3.



INVENTOR:

August G. Vetter

By Wm. H. Cooley.
ATTY.

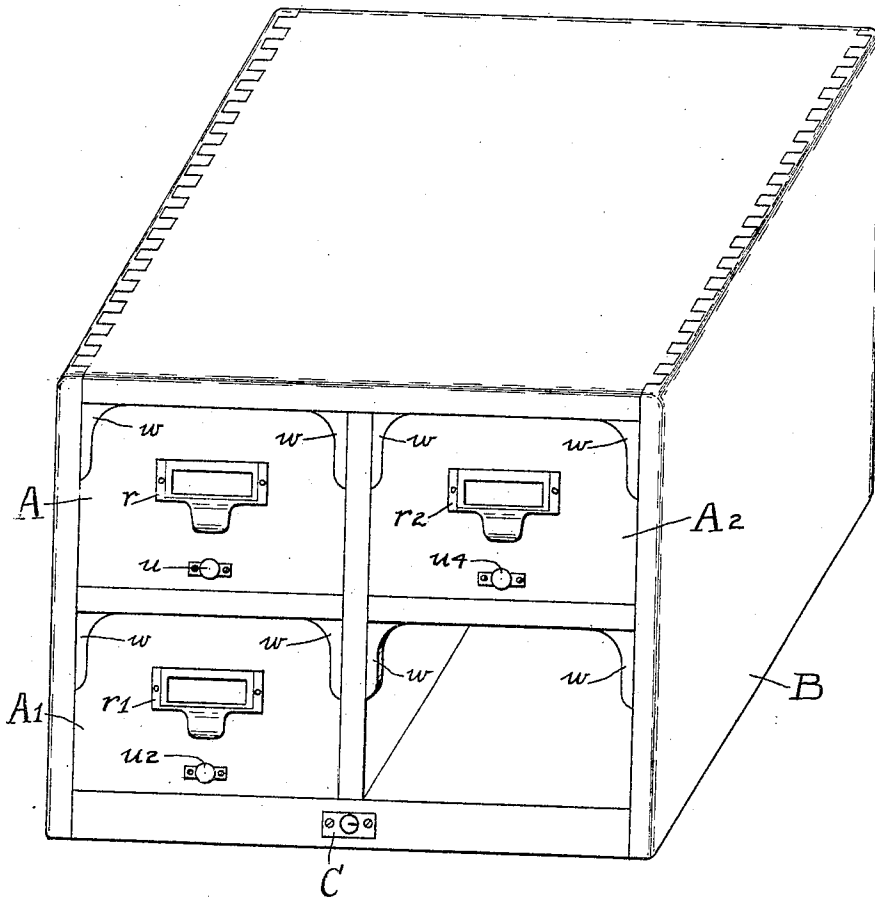
No. 813,679.

PATENTED FEB. 27, 1906.

A. G. VETTER.
FILING TRAY FOR CARD INDEXES, &c.
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 11, 1906.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 7.



WITNESSES:
Albert C. Bell
Clara M. Sinner.

INVENTOR:
August G. Vetter
By Wm. H. Cowley.
ATTY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST G. VETTER, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO VETTER
DESK WORKS, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

FILING-TRAY FOR CARD-INDEXES, &c.

No. 813,679.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 27, 1906.

Application filed September 11, 1905. Serial No. 277,871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST G. VETTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented an Improved Filing-Tray for Card-Indexes, &c., of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to trays such as are used for card-indexes and similar purposes.

It often happens in the use of card-index systems that it is desirable to remove one or two of the trays from the cabinet and allow them to remain for some time upon the desk or table where they are being used and referred to. In case of an interruption in the work for which these trays are being used in order to conceal their contents and to protect the trays from getting filled with dust, they have to be returned to the case or cabinet where they belong and then withdrawn when the matter is taken up again. In case of frequent interruptions in work of this character much valuable time is lost and no little inconvenience is experienced in returning the trays to the cabinet at the time of such interruption. Again, it often happens that it is desirable to keep a tray out on a desk or table where it is being used for several hours or for a day or two at a time. In such a case it is desirable to provide a cover for the tray of such a character that the tray may be inserted in its compartment in the cabinet regardless of the position of the cover or inclosure therefor. It is also important that the contents of the tray be open when in use to inspection at the top and for a considerable distance down each side, preferably about half of the distance down each side, in order to facilitate the inspection of the cards or the contents of the tray and to facilitate their ready removal.

The object of my present invention is to provide a card-index tray such as may be used either individually or in connection with a large number of the same kind, each arranged to be contained in a proper compartment in a frame or case for such trays, the special purpose being to provide a tray which may be so used and which may have its individual inclosure or covering and that, too, of such a character that whether an individual tray is opened or closed it may be inserted in its proper compartment, and that each tray may be closed and locked individually, although removable from the case or cabinet. In the accompanying drawings I have shown an individual tray in detail and a num-

ber of such trays also ranged in a compartment, such trays being so made in accordance with my present invention as to permit of their use in the way above described.

Figure 1 shows in isometric perspective a tray embodying my invention and partly opened. Figs. 2 and 3 show sectional views of such a tray, taken along the plane indicated by dotted lines $x y$ and $x' y'$ of Fig. 1. In Fig. 2 the tray is shown as open, and in Fig. 3 as closed. Fig. 4 shows in sectional view, taken along the dotted line $x^4 y^4$ in Figs. 2 and 3, the lower part of an end piece in one of my trays and shows also the method of securing a bottom in such a tray when a bottom is deemed desirable. Fig. 5 shows a sectional view taken along the dotted line $x^3 y^3$ in Figs. 2 and 3 of a portion of one of the end pieces of my tray and shows the method of closing the opening in the slot through which the cover is arranged to be inserted. Fig. 6 shows a detail to be explained. Fig. 7 shows in perspective a four-tray cabinet containing three trays made in accordance with my invention.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings, A is one of the trays having front and rear ends a and c , respectively, and right and left hand side pieces b and b' , respectively. The sides and ends of my tray are dovetailed together in the manner indicated in the drawings. The sides b and b' extend a little more than half-way up from the bottom of the tray. The end pieces a and c have grooves therein, as seen at c' , arranged, as seen, to form nearly a continuous groove in each end piece in which the cover works.

The cover of my tray comprises the end pieces i and k , between which are seen the intermediate sections j . The parts i , j , and k are flexibly secured together by means of a canvas on the inside of the cover.

The parts j are arranged to slide in the grooves therefor in the end pieces a and c , while in these same grooves tenons formed on the end pieces i and k are also arranged to slide. The space for the cards proper is contained within the side pieces g and e , which enter and are secured in suitable grooves therefor in the end pieces a and c . Suitable bottom pieces f and f' are also secured in grooves therefor in the end pieces a and c in the manner indicated in Figs. 4 and 5. The bottom piece f' is cut away on the upper sur-

face thereof toward the center of the tray to make provision for the guide f^2 and leave room for the usual slide or runner to operate thereon, which is secured on the lower edge of the follower-block t , the end of which only is seen in Fig. 1, and this follower-block may have any desired one of the well-known locking mechanisms for securing it upon the track f^2 in any desired position longitudinally of the tray A. These elements just referred to constitute no part of my present invention and being already so well known in the art as to call for no further description herein are not shown in detail.

Upon the bottom pieces f and f' the usual tab or septum cards p are supported, and between them are seen the usual memorandum cards s . All of these cards have a downward extension thereon and near the center of the lower edge, through which there is a suitable opening for the usual retaining-rod u' , removable from the tray in the usual way by means of the head u . (Seen in Fig. 1.)

The space between the right-hand side b of the tray and the card-inclosing element e is covered by means of the cap-piece d . The end piece i of the cover may bear any suitable lock, as m , arranged to cooperate with the catch-piece n on the cap-piece d . The front of the tray may have the usual label-bearing handle r .

In the construction of my tray it is very important that the entire framework of the tray shall be put together before the insertion of the cover, and for this reason it becomes necessary to form an opening into the grooves in the end pieces in which the cover works. For the proper working of the cover it is desirable that the grooves should be closed in order that the cover may not accidentally work out of the grooves. Such an opening is seen in Figs. 2 and 3 in the rear end c of the tray, and it is shown as closed by means of the piece c^2 , held in position by means of a screw. (Shown also in section in Fig. 5.)

When found desirable, a bottom h may be inserted in a suitable rabbet h' , formed therefor, as seen in the drawings.

Referring to Fig. 7, B represents a four-tray cabinet, such as may be used in connection with my trays. In this cabinet there are seen three trays A, A', and A², having the label-bearing handles r , r' , and r^2 , respectively, and the operating-heads u , u^2 , and u^4 , respectively, for the retaining-rods for the cards. At C is seen a lock for locking all the trays in the cabinet, which may be built after any one of the well-known constructions when such a lock is desired. At $w w$ are seen suitable corner-pieces conformed to fit the front pieces of the trays, so as to present a finished appearance.

As seen in Fig. 6, the side b' is cut away to permit the user to engage with the finger the

groove therefor in the end piece i of the cover when such cover is open.

By the use of trays constructed in accordance with my present invention it will at once be seen that any one or more trays may be removed from the cabinet and treated as an individual tray, and the contents thereof may be concealed from view and protected from dust by the closing of the cover and that whether the covers are opened or closed the trays are readily insertible in the spaces therefor in the cabinet, and, when desired, any individual tray may have its cover closed and locked to protect its contents from inspection or observation, although removable from the cabinet.

What I claim is—

1. A filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., having a bottom and suitable side and end pieces arranged to support the cards and expose them on one of their edges and a cover for such tray adapted in all of its positions relatively to such tray to be contained within the space between such end pieces and inclosed by lines connecting the same at any and all corresponding points on their edge peripheries.

2. A filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., having a front and a rear end for such tray extending beyond the cards on all four of their edges, grooves in such front and rear ends and a flexible cover shorter than the straightened-out length of such grooves and arranged to work therein and adapted when open to expose the cards on one edge thereof.

3. A filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., having a bottom and suitable side and end pieces arranged to support the cards and expose them on one of their edges and part way down on one of their adjacent sides and a cover for such tray adapted in all of its positions relatively to such tray to be contained within the space between such end pieces and inclosed by lines connecting the same at any and all corresponding points on their edge peripheries.

4. A filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., having a bottom and suitable side and end pieces arranged to support the cards and expose them on one of their edges and part way down on two adjacent sides and a cover for such tray adapted in all of its positions relatively to such tray to be contained within the space between such end pieces and inclosed by lines connecting the same at any and all corresponding points on their edge peripheries.

5. A filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., having a front and a rear end for such tray extending beyond the cards on all four of their edges, grooves in such front and rear ends and a flexible cover shorter than the straightened-out length of such grooves and arranged to work therein and adapted when open to expose the cards on one edge thereof and a part of an adjacent side.

6. A filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., having a front and a rear end for such tray extending beyond the cards on all four of their edges, grooves in such front and rear ends and a flexible cover shorter than the straightened-out length of such grooves and arranged to work therein and adapted when open to expose the cards on one edge thereof and a part of two adjacent sides.

7. In a filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., adapted to support the cards and expose them on one edge and a part of an adjacent edge, a front and a rear end for such tray extending beyond the cards on all four of their edges, grooves in such front and rear ends and a flexible cover shorter than the straightened-out length of such groove and arranged to work therein, that portion of such grooves in the end pieces arranged to receive the cover when open concealed between the extreme out-

sides of the box and internal partitions for supporting and retaining the cards.

8. In a filing-tray for card-indexes, &c., adapted to receive and support the cards and expose them on one edge and a part of two adjacent edges, a front and rear end for such tray extending beyond the cards on all four of their edges, grooves in such front and rear ends and a flexible cover shorter than the straightened-out length of such groove and arranged to work therein, that portion of such grooves in the end pieces arranged to receive the cover when open concealed between the extreme outsides of the box and internal partitions for supporting and retaining the cards.

AUGUST G. VETTER.

Witnesses:

ALBERT C. BELL,
CLARA M. SIENER.