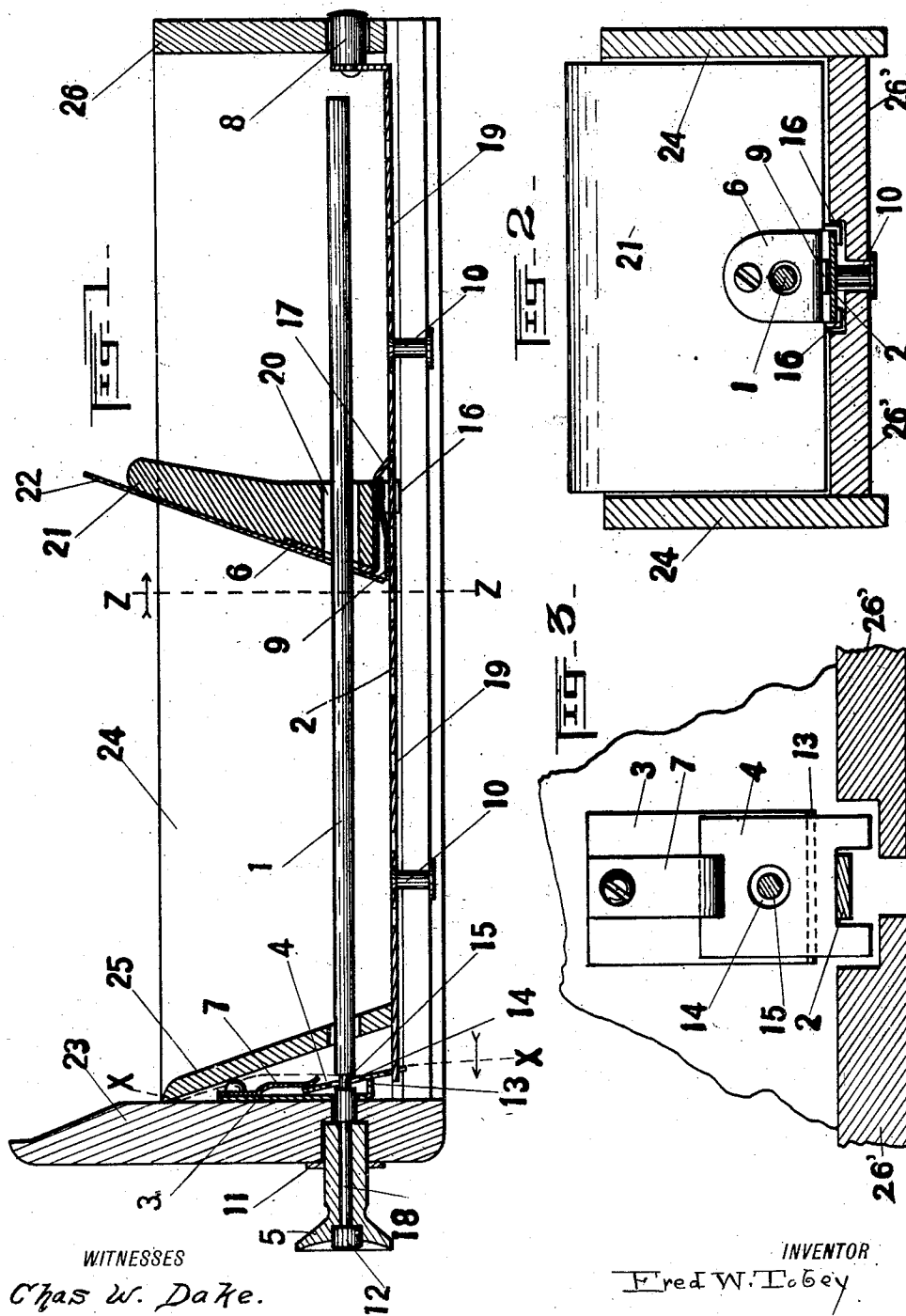


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F. W. TOBEY.
CARD INDEX CASE.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1910.

Patented Dec. 20, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

Chas W. Dake.
Harry F. Johnson

INVENTOR

Fred W. Tobey

BY

Wilson, Wilson & Rice
ATTORNEY

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2 SHEETS-SHEET 2.

Fig. 4-

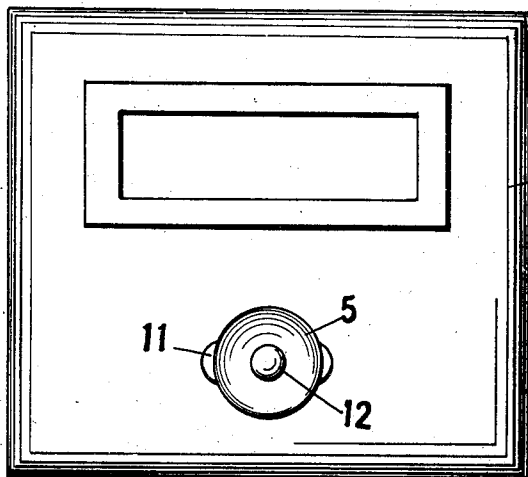


Fig. 6-

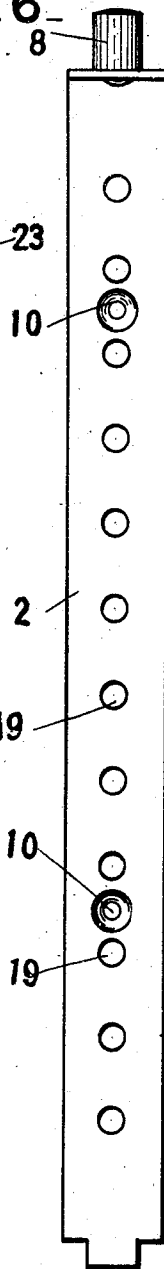
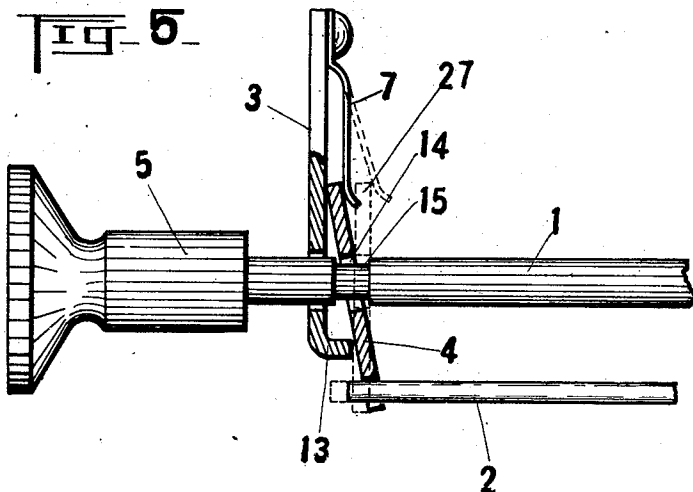


Fig. 5-



WITNESSES

Chas W. Dake.

Harry F. Johnson

INVENTOR

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BY

Wilson, Wilson & Rice
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRED W. TOBEY, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

CARD-INDEX CASE.

978,960.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 20, 1910.

Application filed April 27, 1910. Serial No. 553,057.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRED W. TOBEY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card-Index Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to the devices commonly known as card indexes, in which the cards are held in their case by a retaining rod passing through suitable orifices in them: and the object of my invention is to provide a simple and effective lock by which such rod may be secured in its operative position and may be released therefrom when desired.

This object is attained by, and my invention is embodied in, the mechanism hereinafter described, illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal central vertical section of a card index case or drawer equipped with my device; Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same on line Z—Z of Fig. 1 (the card 22 being removed); Fig. 3 is a like section of Fig. 1 on line X—X thereof, certain parts being broken away; Fig. 4 is a front view of the card index case or drawer; Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail view of a portion of the parts shown in Fig. 1, and illustrating the main operative parts of my device; and Fig. 6 is a detail plan view of the slidable bar by which my device may be operated.

A slidable retaining rod 1 passes through suitable aligned openings in the front 23 of the card case or drawer 24, the inclined card supports 21 and 25, and the cards, one of which 22 is shown in Fig. 1. The rod may be slid outwardly by drawing its knob 5 (which is also the knob for opening the drawer 24), thus releasing the cards and permitting the insertion of new ones. My present invention locks the rod 1 in its operative position to hold the cards in the case, and unlocks the rod therefrom when desired. Thus my lock has a clamp 4 having a lever-like movement in the plane of the rod's axis, with a fulcrum 13 on the plate 3. This clamp has a bore 14 through which the rod passes, and which is of sufficient size to permit the free sliding of the rod therethrough when the clamp is moved, as by the bar 2 against the pressure of a suitable spring 7, into a position (as illustrated in dotted lines

at 27 in Fig. 5) at or nearly at right angles with the rod; but this bore is small enough to cause its internal wall to engage and bind upon the rod when the spring is permitted to exercise its pressure to move the clamp into its more inclined or oblique position relatively to the rod, thus locking the rod in its operative position. This locking is rendered more effective by providing an annular groove on the rod 1, having a shoulder so placed as to abut against the face of the clamp, as particularly shown in Fig. 5, thus locking the rod positively. To operate the clamp to unlock the rod the bar 2, which abuts against or is loosely connected with the clamp, has a sliding movement parallel with the rod 1, its studs 10 traveling in a suitable slot in the bottom 26' of the case as shown; this bar is provided with a button 8 extending through the back 26 of the case, which button may be pressed to release the clamp. The movable card support 21 slides on its flanges 16 along the bar 2 and is provided with a spur 17 adapted to engage in any of the recesses 19 of the bar to fasten the support in a desired position, in which it is held by a spring 9; and by means of the engagement of this spur the bar may be moved by the support 21 to operate the clamp, as well as by pressing the button 8.

In the drawings, 12 is a nut by which the knob 5 may be fastened to the rod 1; 18 indicates a reduced portion of the rod inside the knob; 11 is a plate on the front of the drawer case having a bore to admit the knob portion of the rod; 6 indicates a strengthening plate on the support 21, having a bore for the rod, etc., and 20 indicates the bore in this support through which the rod passes.

Not confining myself to the construction shown and described further than as set forth in the claims, I claim:

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of a slidable card-retaining rod, and a lever-arm clamp having a movement in the plane of the rod's axis and adapted in one position to engage and hold the rod from sliding movement and in another position less inclined relatively to the rod to release the rod from such engagement.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of a slidable card-retaining rod having a shoulder, and a lever-arm clamp having a movement in the plane of the rod's axis and adapted in one position

to engage the shoulder to hold the rod from sliding movement and in another position less inclined relatively to the rod to release the shoulder from such engagement.

5 3. In a device of the character described, the combination of a slidable card-retaining rod, and a spring-pressed lever-arm clamp having a movement in the plane of the rod's axis and adapted in its spring-pressed position to engage and hold the rod from sliding movement and in another position less inclined relatively to the rod to release the rod from such engagement.

15 4. In a device of the character described, the combination of a card-index case, a card-retaining rod slidable therein, a lever-arm clamp having a movement in the plane of the rod's axis, a spring adapted to press the clamp into a position to engage and hold the rod from sliding movement, and a slidable clamp-operating bar extending through the back of the case and engaging with the clamp to move the same against the pressure of the spring and into another position less inclined relatively to the rod.

25 5. In a device of the character described, the combination of a card-index case, a card-

retaining rod slidable therein, a lever-arm clamp having a movement in the plane of the rod's axis, a spring adapted to press the clamp into a position to engage and hold the rod from sliding movement, a slidable clamp-operating bar engaging with the clamp to move the same against the pressure of the spring and into another position less inclined relatively to the bar, and an adjustable card-support having a spur adapted to engage the bar.

6. In a device of the character described, the combination with a card-index case, of a card-retaining rod slidable therein, a clamp adapted to hold said rod from sliding movement, an adjustable card-support in the case, and means intermediate said support and said clamp to release the latter by the movement of the former.

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

FRED W. TOBEY.

Witnesses:

HARRY G. JOHNSON,
MARY SCHULTE.