J. W. PENNEWILL.

FILE CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 11, 1911.

1,060,020.

Patented Apr. 29, 1913.

Fig. 1

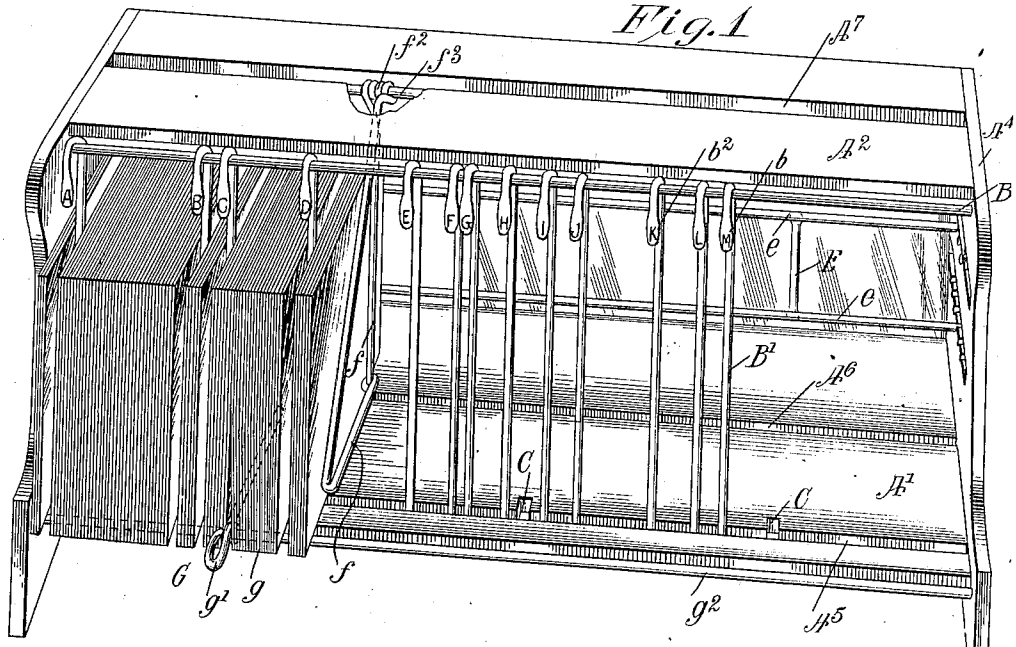


Fig. 5

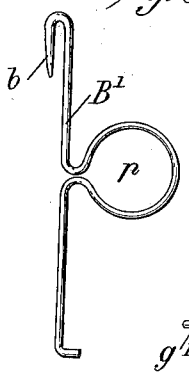


Fig. 2

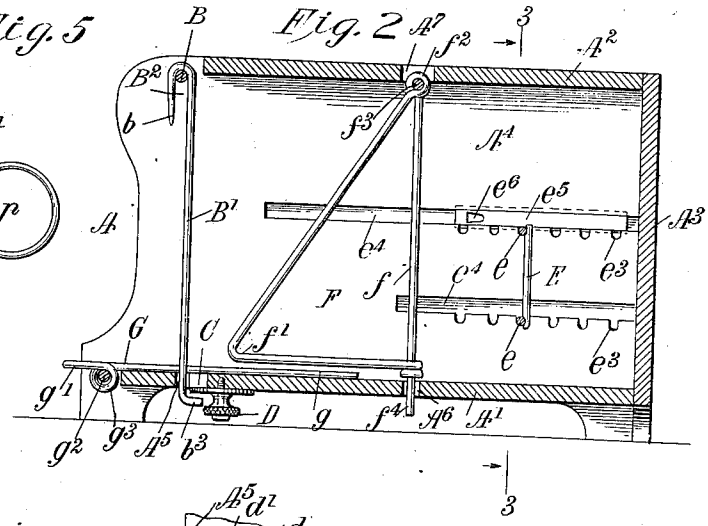


Fig. 3

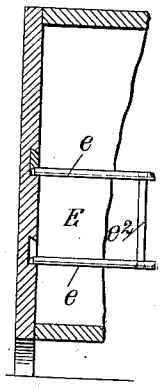
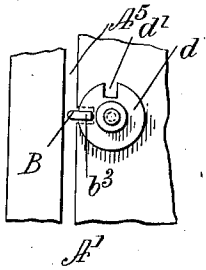


Fig 4



WITNESSES

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FILE-CASE.

1,060,020. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 29, 1913.

Application filed July 11, 1911. Serial No. 637,883.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. PENNEWILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Silver City, in the county of Grant, State of New Mexico, have invented a new and Improved File-Case, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to filing cases or cabinets and it has for its object to produce a filing case or cabinet having adjustable means for positioning, holding and indexing the contents thereof, of simple form and construction, whereby the contents of the case while at all times freely accessible and removable, will when in the case be held compactly, and in proper position therein.

A further object is to provide novel index rods so constructed as to be securely held against accidental displacement, but freely movable toward and from each other when required to adjust them to the contents of the case. Further objects will be pointed out hereinafter.

To the above ends my invention consists of the improved filing case or cabinet, and the devices and combinations of devices which will be hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a filing case or cabinet embodying the invention, looking at the open front of the case; Fig. 2 shows a vertical transverse section through the frame, certain parts being in elevation; Fig. 3 shows a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2; Fig. 4 shows a bottom plan view of the retaining device for the lower ends of the index rods; and Fig. 5 shows a modified form of index rod.

The cabinet comprises a suitable frame or casing of any desired size, and it may be a single section such as shown in the drawing designed as a desk case or cabinet, or it may comprise a plurality of such sections built into or against partition walls, or in any place where the space is suitable.

As shown in the drawing the case or frame A is formed of wood and is open at the front, and has a bottom A′, a top A^2, a back A^3 and suitable ends A^4, held together in any suitable manner.

As shown in the drawing the top A^2 is somewhat narrower than the bottom A′, and along its front edge there extends a bar B, it being secured at its ends in the sides A^4 directly over a longitudinal slot A^5 in the forwardly extending portion of the bottom A′.

The envelops or documents or other articles to be filed and indexed, are inserted in the open front of the case in the usual manner, and for the purpose of dividing them into groups according to their contents and to properly index the various groups, there are provided the index rods B′ which at their upper ends are provided with the open hooks B^2, which have the ends of the "bills" preferably flattened as shown at b, and bear suitable index characters, such as the letters of the alphabet as shown, or numerals or other appropriate and required indices.

The index rods B′ are suspended upon the bar B, and at their lower ends are angularly bent as at b^3, and take into the slot A^5, the arrangement being such that they may be freely moved along the bar B and the slot A^5 when desired, for the purpose of adjusting their relative positions to each other without the necessity of removing them from engagement with the bar B.

In order to prevent the accidental disengagement of the hooks B^2 from the bar B, the angularly bent ends b^3 are slightly longer than the width of the slot A^5, and at intervals along said slot in one edge thereof, are provided the notches C, of a length to permit the free passage therethrough, of the angularly bent ends b^3 in removing and inserting the rods B′. A retaining device comprising a turn button D having a flange or collar d, with a peripheral notch d', is pivotally mounted upon the under side of the bottom A′, with its peripheral edge adjacent the notched edge of the slot A^5, at each point where there is provided a notch C. When the notched collar d is in the position shown in Figs. 2 and 4 of the drawing it closes the notches C and prevents the withdrawal of the lower ends of the index rods from the slot A^5, but should the turn button D be turned so as to bring the notch d' in the flange or collar d, in register with the notches C in the edge of the slot A^5, the lower ends of the index rods may be disconnected from the slot A^5, and their hooked upper ends lifted from the bar B. A plurality of notches C may be provided as

shown, in which event a retaining device D would be provided for each notch. To facilitate the turning of the turn button D it may be provided with a milled head as shown.

The case may be found to be deeper than is required for the particular size of envelops, or document which it is desired to place therein at any given time, and in order to adapt it for use with various sizes of envelops and documents, it is provided with an adjustable back stop E, comprising a light frame composed of the longitudinally extending parallel bars e of a length to extend from and to the end of a compartment of the case, and united by the cross bars e^2. The bars e at their ends fit into notches or seats e^3 formed along the lower edge, of the horizontally extending grooves e^4 in the inner faces of the ends A^4 of the case. By means of these grooves and notches the back stop E may be adjusted to different positions with relation to the front of the case. In order that it shall be held securely in that position to which it may have been adjusted, one of the grooves e^4 is made longer than the other and dove-tail in shape in cross section, and has fitted to slide therein a bevel edged slide e^5 provided with a thumb notch e^6. When the slide e^5 is in the position shown in Fig. 3 of the drawing the notches or seats e^3 in the longer groove will be closed, and thus the ends of that particular bar e of the back stop E in engagement therewith will be held therein, and the back stop E prevented from accidental displacement.

A compressing side stop F is provided, to engage the mass of groups of envelops and documents in any particular compartment, and is adjustably mounted to be moved longitudinally to hold and clamp a mass of documents or envelops less than the compartment will hold, as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing. The side stop F is made of wire and has a vertical member f and an angularly bent member f, and presents generally the shape of the Fig. 4. At its upper end it is provided with a spring coil f^2 embracing and adapted to slide upon a bar f^3 and at its lower end the member f has an extension f^4 which fits in a longitudinally extending slot A^6 in the bottom A' of the case. The top of the case A^2 has a longitudinally extending slot A^7, above the bar B, whereby access is afforded to the coil f^2 for the purpose of moving the stop F along the bar f^3. The stop is held in a clamping position against the contents of the case, by the cramping of the coil f^2 upon the bar f^3 caused by the expansive pressure of the mass of envelops and documents against the body of the side stop.

It will be noted that the side stop F provides for the automatic adjustment of the space occupied by the contents of the case, as an incident to the mere clamping of the contents by the pressure of the side stop against the end of the mass contained therein, thus the occupied space will be adjusted to the contents whether a portion of the contents be removed or additions be made thereto.

As shown in Fig. 5 the index rods may be provided with a projection p extending therefrom in the plane of the rod to form somewhat more of a partition between adjacent groups of envelops and documents, than would be afforded by the rods only, and such projection may be conveniently formed by bending the rod intermediate its ends into the form of a loop or eye as shown. By thus forming the index rods a comparatively large contact between an envelop or document and the rod is provided, and thus the rod is adapted to support an envelop or document which when pushed back into the case might be too short to extend out to the line of the rods.

For the purpose of marking a particular point in the mass of documents and envelops, as for instance the place where one of them may have been removed for some purpose, and to insure its return to its proper place, there is provided a marker G comprising a bar having a long arm g, and a short arm g', and it is pivotally mounted upon a rod g^2, extending along the front edge of the bottom of the case A', so that it may be freely moved along said rod g^2 to any point desired and its longer arm g inserted in the mass of envelops or documents as clearly shown. The marker may conveniently be formed of wire and bent to form the arms and the intermediate pivoted eye g^3 all as clearly shown in the drawing.

While I have shown and described the case or frame A as made of wood, it will be obvious that it may be made of sheet metal or wire embodying the novel features as hereinbefore set forth, and a case or frame so made I regard as within the scope of my invention.

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

1. A file cabinet, comprising a casing open at the front, a bar extending along the top of said opening, a plurality of hooked rods removably and slidably supported on said bar and extending down in front of the opening, and guiding and retaining means for the lower ends of said rods, whereby the rods may be moved freely along the bar toward and from each other, to divide the contents of the cabinet into groups of different sizes.

2. A file cabinet, comprising a casing open at the front, asid casing having horizontal parallel grooves in its ends and provided

with a plurality of vertical members for dividing the documents to be held thereby into groups, a back stop for increasing or decreasing the depth of the casing, formed of bars having their ends in the grooves of the casing, and means for adjustably securing the bars in the grooves.

3. A file cabinet, comprising a casing open at the front, a back stop comprising parallel bars connected by transverse cross arms, longitudinal grooves in the inner faces of the ends of the casing provided with notches along one edge to receive the ends of the parallel bars, and a retaining slide in one of said grooves closing the notches therein and holding the back stop in adjusted position.

4. A file cabinet, comprising a casing open at the front, a bar extending along the top of said opening, a slotted retaining guideway in the bottom of said casing below the bar, hooked rods supported on said bar, said rods being angularly bent at their lower end and passed into said slotted retaining guideway, and means for confining said rods in said guideway.

5. A file cabinet comprising a casing open at the front, laterally movable vertically extending rods spanning the opening, and a movable stop slidably mounted to engage and compress the contents of the cabinet.

6. A file cabinet, comprising a casing having parallel top and bottom members, said casing being open at the front, a bar extending along the opening at the top, a slot in the bottom member beneath said bar, rods supported on said bar and fitted at their lower end in said slot, and means to removably secure the lower end of said rods in said slot.

7. A file cabinet, comprising a casing open at the front and comprising parallel top and bottom members, a longitudinal slot in each of said members in vertical alinement with each other, a rod supported adjacent to the top and beneath the slot therein, and a compressing side stop mounted upon said rod and having an extension at its lower end fitting the slot in the bottom member.

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

JAMES WILLIAM PENNEWILL.

Witnesses:
I. W. DREIFUSS,
C. F. REIHS.