

G. W. BETTESWORTH.
Numerical Filing Cases.

No. 144,593.

Patented Nov. 18, 1873.

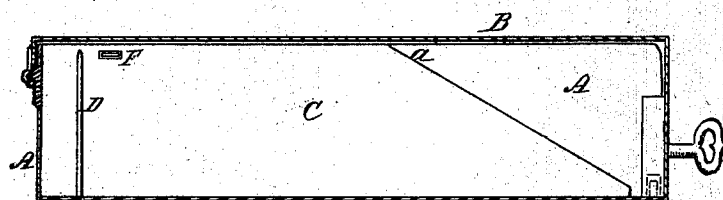
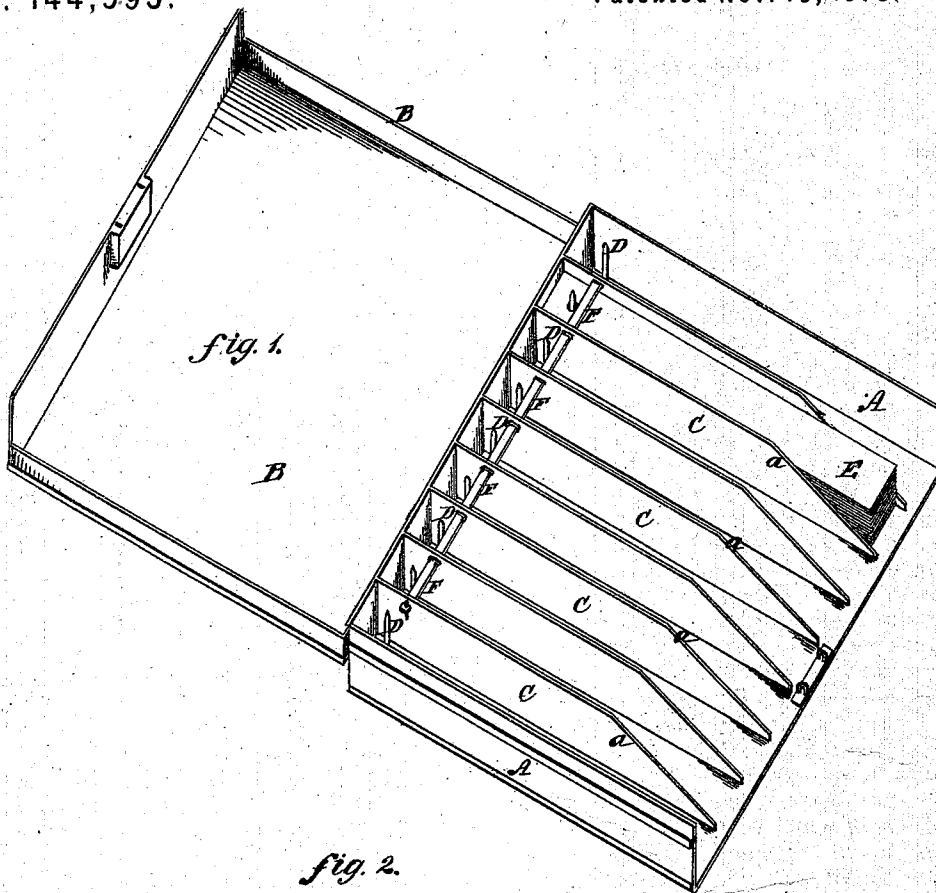


fig. 3.

John F. Blair and W. H. Blair, Trustees, N. T. Loan Blair Signed by W. H. Walker, Secy City in face of Cedar Rapids, Iowa		St. Louis City and Pacific R.R. Co. Mch 27/74 Apr 29/74		St. Louis, Mo. Mch 15, 1874 Apr 29, 1874	
Top.					
Back.					

Witnesses:

J. West Wagner,
J. R. Rutherford.

Inventor:

Geo. W. Bettesworth
 By *Johnson, Klauke & Co.*
 his Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. BETTESWORTH, OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN NUMERICAL FILING-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **144,593**, dated November 18, 1873; application filed June 13, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. BETTESWORTH, of Cedar Rapids, in the county of Linn and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful improvement, being a Numerical Filing Case or Book for Slip Abstracts, Accounts, &c., of which the following is a specification:

My invention is especially adapted for the preservation, record, and convenient finding of abstracts of papers relating to the sale of public lands, and for use in the offices of United States registers; and my said invention consists of a case or slip-book provided with partitions to form spaces for the reception of abstract slips held in place by an elastic guard, the inner end of each space-division being provided with a file-wire to receive numbered or otherwise-indicated file-slips, and the outer ends of the partitions sloped from the top edges to the bottom of the case to afford convenience in manipulating the inclosed slips to obtain the abstract required, the object and advantage of which are to dispense with much expensive and laborious book-keeping, and to greatly simplify the abstract system of lands and accounts now practiced.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a view, in perspective, of my numerical filing book or case open; Fig. 2, a cross-section thereof closed; Fig. 3, views of the front and back of one of the slips, illustrating the application of my invention.

The case A is provided with a suitable hinged cover, B, which is fastened by lock and key. Arranged within the case are partitions or divisions C, of the same height of the case and running the breadth thereof, but sloping at the front, at *a*, to the bottom of the case, to admit of the easy handling and discovery of any desired number of abstract. In each division-space C, at a short distance from the back of the case, is an upright file-wire, D, which holds in place the perforated abstract slips E, said

slips being held thereon in such manner as to admit of their being lifted to expose their character and subject-matter without displacement by means of a rubber band, F, passing through openings in the partitions and resting upon the slips as an elastic guard to prevent them from parting with the files, while allowing them to be easily removed when desired by pressing up the holding-guard.

It is obvious that my numerical file-case may be used for any business or counting-room purposes; but in the example shown the files are numbered with special reference to the preservation of register's abstracts of deeds, and in Fig. 3 I have shown several examples, the numbers on the slips corresponding with the numbers on the record-books; and I design to use my invention in connection with records in a way to render far more convenient the use of such records, and to facilitate searches.

In the example shown the book has nine divisions, and its dimensions may be fourteen inches long, and nine inches wide, and two inches deep. The slips are made of paper or parchment, with a narrow face of linen across the end perforated. Upon these slips memorandums of abstracts, accounts, &c., are made and filed in numerical order, so as to be referred to as the pages of a book, the file-wire and holding-guard serving the purpose of the binding of a book. The cover is made to close over the front, or in any suitable way without interfering with the slips in opening the case.

I claim—

The numerical filing-case consisting of the compartments formed by the sloping partitions C, the rubber holding-band F, and file-wire D, as described and shown, and for the purpose set forth.

GEORGE W. BETTESWORTH.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. CRANDELL,
GEORGE HILLS.