

(No Model.)

M. H. ROBERTS.
APPARATUS FOR KEEPING ACCOUNTS.

No. 580,899.

Patented Apr. 20, 1897.

Fig. 1.

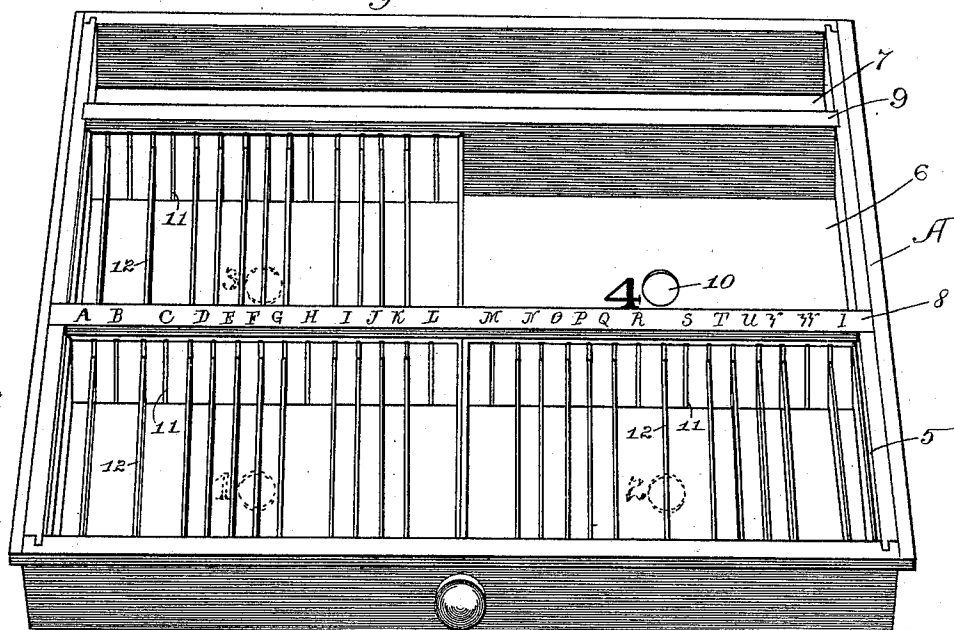
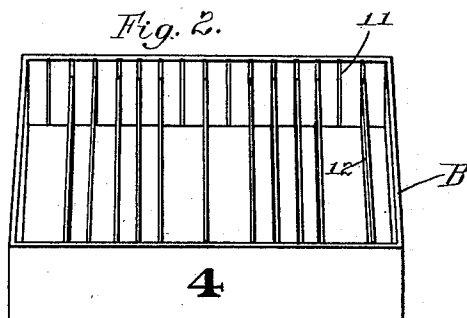


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILTON HENRY ROBERTS, OF OAKES, NORTH DAKOTA.

APPARATUS FOR KEEPING ACCOUNTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 580,899, dated April 20, 1897.

Application filed August 26, 1895. Serial No. 560,588. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILTON HENRY ROBERTS, of Oakes, Dickey county, North Dakota, have invented certain Improvements in Apparatus for Keeping Accounts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in apparatus for keeping accounts, its object being to provide adjustable receptacles, alphabetically arranged, for statement or account cards, and so constructed that they can be readily manipulated in use and placed in a safe when not in use.

To this end my invention consists in the features of construction hereinafter particularly described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a plan view of a drawer fitted with my improved apparatus, one of the receptacles being removed; and Fig. 2 is a detail of a receptacle so removed.

In the drawings, A represents a drawer, such as is ordinarily arranged under the counters in stores, which is divided into three compartments 5, 6, and 7 by means of the transverse partitions 8 and 9, the front and middle compartments 5 and 6 being of like dimensions.

B is a removable receptacle adapted to be fitted into one of the compartments, the receptacles being shown of such size that two will fill the compartment as a matter of convenience in use. Through the bottom of the drawer and centrally arranged under each of the receptacles B is a hand-hole 10, by means of which the receptacle can be thrust upward out of the drawer to assist in removing it from the drawer. The top of the partition 8 is inscribed with the letters of the alphabet, as shown in Fig. 1. The receptacles B have their front and rear walls provided with a series of vertical channels 11, adapted to receive removable partitions 12, by means of which the receptacle may be subdivided into compartments, running longitudinally of the drawer, of variable sizes. These compartments are so adjusted and the letters of the alphabet so arranged upon the partition 8 that the letters will severally refer to the

compartments in the receptacles on both sides of the partition 8.

The receptacles marked 1 and 2 are arranged at the front of the drawer and are designed to receive the "active" statement-cards, or those on which the accounts are being kept. The receptacles numbered 3 and 4 are designed to receive the filled or completed account-cards similarly arranged and referred to by corresponding letters of the alphabet, while the compartment 7 at the rear of the drawer is designed as a receptacle for blank cards or those not in use.

The apparatus is used as follows: The accounts of customers, instead of being kept in books, are written upon suitable cards, and these are placed severally in the proper compartments in the front set of receptacles, so that in order to procure any particular card or refer to an account it is necessary simply to open the drawer sufficiently to disclose the first series of receptacles. The cards can then be removed, the proper entries made upon them, and restored to their proper compartments. The statement-cards, when filled or completed, are transferred to the next set of receptacles for storage, and the blank cards, or those not in use, can be stored in the rear compartment of the drawer.

At the close of business the receptacles are designed to be removed from the drawer and placed in the safe for fire protection. This is done by pulling the drawer outward, thrusting the hand through the hand-hole 10, and pushing the receptacle upward out of the drawer, when it can be grasped and entirely removed therefrom.

I claim—

1. In an apparatus of the class described, the compartment-drawer, the partition between the compartments being inscribed with an alphabetical index, the removable receptacles having closed bottoms and fitted to said compartments, and the adjustable transverse partitions in said receptacles subdividing the same into spaces adjacent and proportioned to the letters of said index to receive statement-cards.

2. In an apparatus of the class described, in combination, the drawer having fixed com-

partments, and a hand-hole through the bottom of each compartment, the alphabetical index on the compartment-partition, the removable receptacles fitted to said compartments, and having closed bottoms permitting
5 their being thrust upward by the hand passed through the opening beneath, the adjustable transverse partitions in said receptacles subdividing the same into spaces for statement-
10 cards, and corresponding in position to the

letters of the adjacent index, and the card-storage compartment in the rear of said receptacles.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MILTON HENRY ROBERTS.

Witnesses:

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