

Dec. 25, 1923.

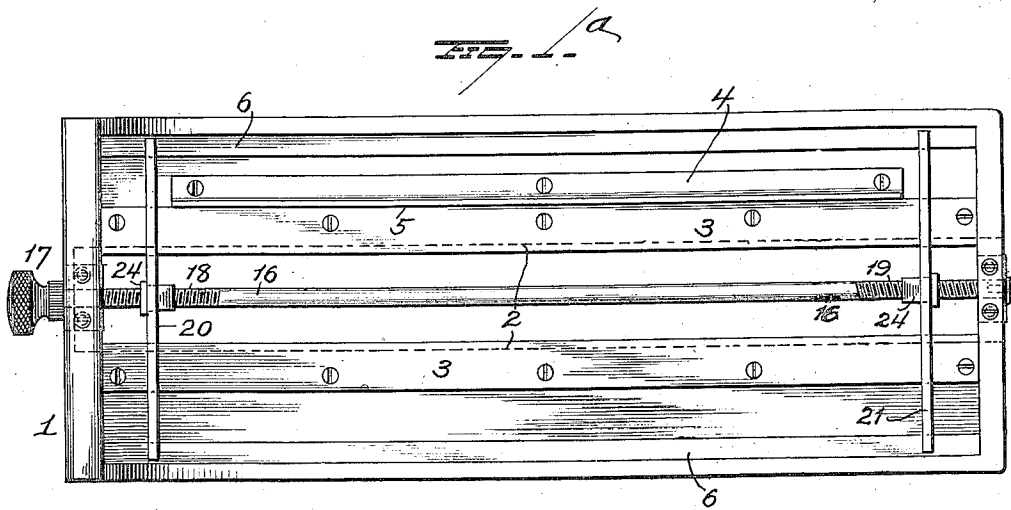
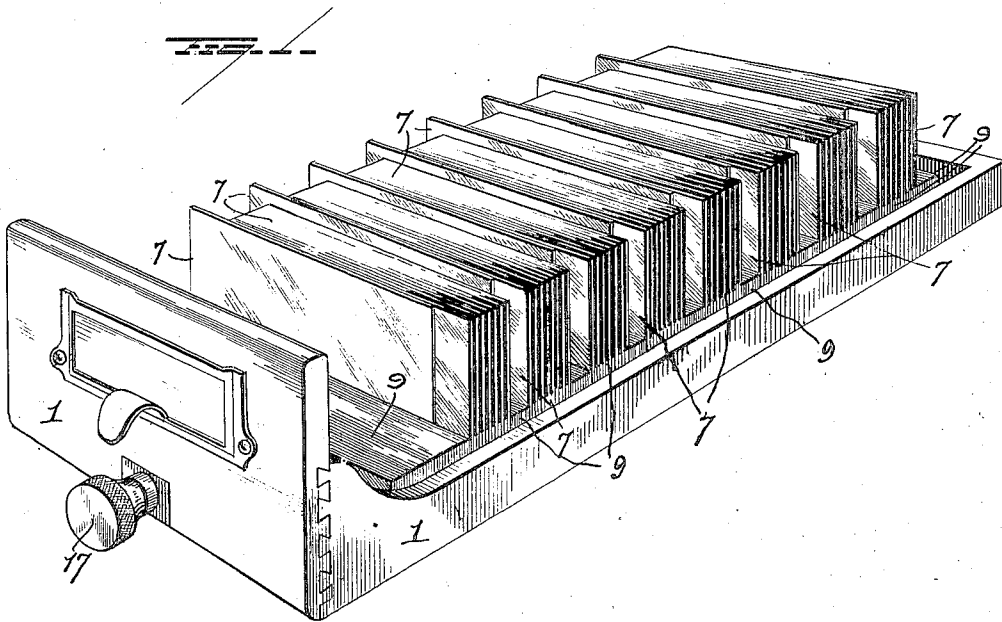
1,478,762

R. C. RUSSELL

CARD INDEX

Filed Feb. 10, 1921

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Inventor

R. C. Russell

By Seymour & Bright

Attorneys

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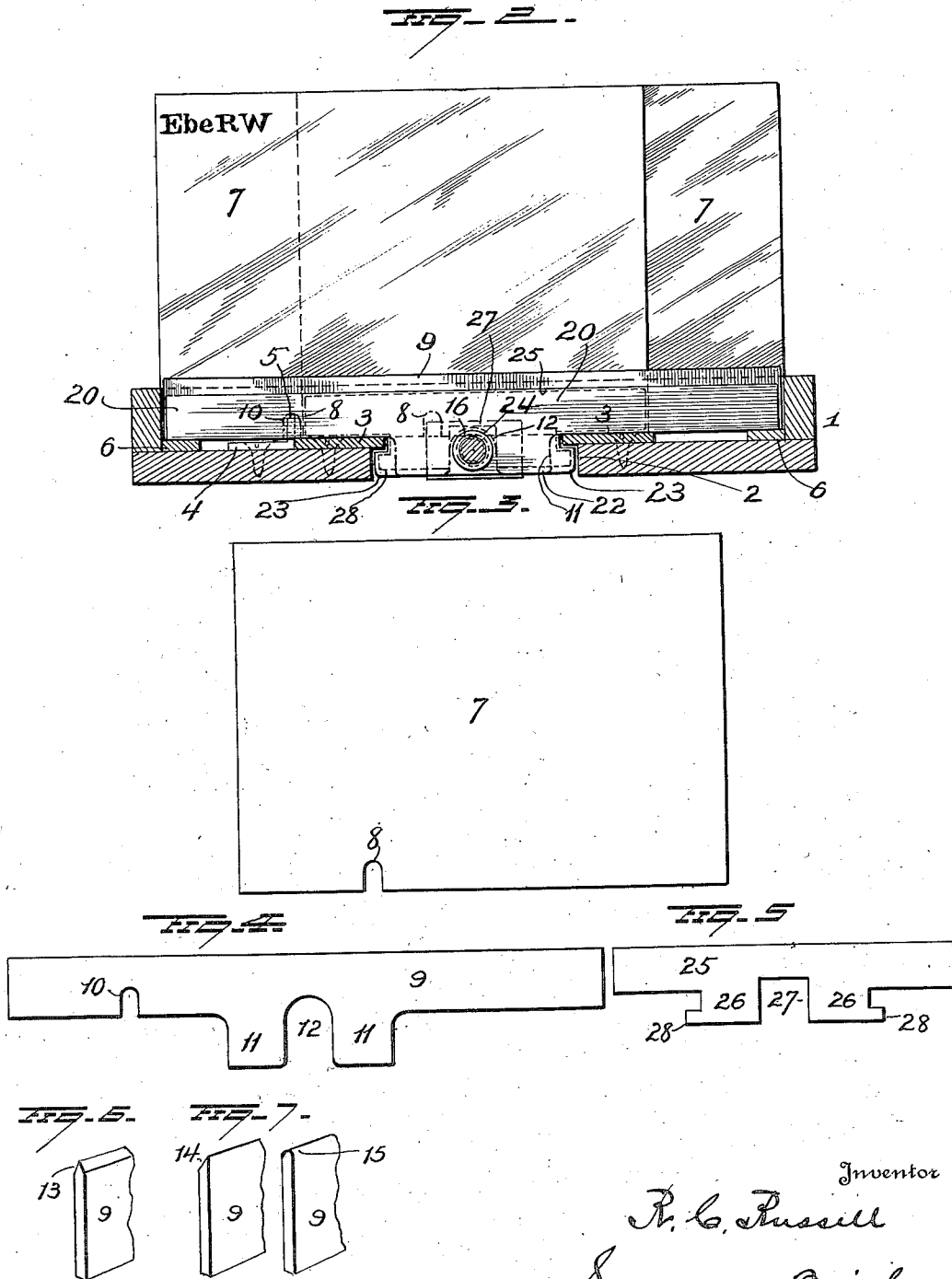
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT C. RUSSELL, OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA.

CARD INDEX.

Application filed February 10, 1921. Serial No. 443,852.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT C. RUSSELL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Pittsburgh, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Card Indexes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in card indexes, objects of the invention being to facilitate the firm securing of the cards in the drawer or holder and yet permit the ready removal or insertion of cards; to avoid necessity for the use of tabs on the cards or specially constructed guide-cards, but to utilize certain of the cards of the index as guide-cards; to provide means which will operate to hold such selected cards as guide-cards, in proper offset positions; to so construct the fillers as to facilitate the insertion of index cards without undue conflict with said fillers, and to provide means whereby the series of cards will be prevented from buckling when tightly clamped together.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts as hereinafter set forth and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a card index embodying my invention. Figure 1^a is a plan view omitting the cards. Figure 2 is a transverse sectional view. Figure 3 is a view of one of the index cards. Figure 4 is a view of one of the fillers. Figure 5 is a view of one of the anchor plates or fillers. Figure 6 is a detail view of a portion of one form of filler, and Figure 7 includes similar details of two modified forms of the filler.

1 represents a holder for the cards of a card index and, in the present instance is shown in the form of a drawer or slide. The drawer is provided in its bottom and centrally between its sides with a longitudinal slot or opening 2, at respective sides of which metal plates 3—3 are secured and these plates overlie the side portions of said slot or opening. At one side of one of the plates 3, a strip 4 (preferably of metal) is secured to the bottom of the drawer and is provided at one edge with an upwardly projecting flange

5,—said strip being so located that its flange 5 will be disposed an appreciable distance from the left hand side of the drawer. The drawer may also be provided near its side edges with strips 6 secured to the bottom of said drawer to assist in supporting cards 7 of the index.

The cards 7 have the names of persons indicated thereon near their upper left hand corners and these cards will be so arranged that the names will be properly grouped. Each card is provided in its lower edge between its center and one end with a slot 8. One card of each group may be utilized for a guide-card for the group by moving it laterally so that its slotted portion will engage over the flange 5 and be held thereby in such lateral or offset position, while the other cards of the group will lie between the right hand side of the drawer and said flange. It will be seen from this arrangement that the flange 5 constitutes locking means for the offset or guide-cards of the index and also an abutment for other cards of the several groups. In this way the provision of tabs on the cards or specially constructed guide-cards will be avoided. Fillers 9 are provided for properly spacing the various cards and groups of cards of the index and are provided with notches 10 to engage the flange 5 and also with depending portions 11 forming a slot 12 between them,—said depending portions entering the slot or opening 2 in the bottom of the drawer and the slots 12 permitting the passage of a clamping rod hereinafter described. Each filler is provided with a beveled upper edge which may be formed with two faces extending upwardly and inwardly from the respective faces of the filler, as indicated at 13, Figure 6, or said beveled edge may extend from one face to the other of the filler, as indicated at 14, Figure 7, or the upper edge of the filler may be rounded as shown at 15, Figure 7. By thus constructing the fillers, the insertion of the index cards will be facilitated and conflict with said fillers when the index cards are being inserted will be avoided, as a portion of the upper edge of each filler will be separated from its neighbor.

A rod 16 extends through the slot or opening 2 in the bottom of the drawer and is mounted to turn freely in suitable bearings at respective ends of said drawer,—one end of said rod being provided at the front end of the drawer with a knob 17 to facilitate

its manipulation. The rod 16 is threaded as at 18 and 19,—one of said threaded portions having a right hand thread and the other a left hand thread. Clamping bars 5 20—21 are disposed transversely within the drawer and provided with depending portions 22 to enter the slot or opening 2 and these depending portions are provided at 10 the metal plates 3—3 and are guided by the latter. The clamping bars are provided with suitable openings in which internally threaded sleeves 24 are secured and through 15 the rod 16 pass. It will be observed that when the rod 16 is turned the clamping bars will move in directions toward each other and the index cards and fillers will be firmly clamped together.

20 At suitable intervals throughout the series of cards, metal anchor plates or fillers 25 are located. Each of these anchor members may consist of a strip of sheet metal having depending portions 26 with an opening 27 25 between them for the accommodation of the rod 16 and said depending portions are provided with lateral lugs 28 to underlie the inner edge portions of the plates 3. When 30 the cards and fillers of the index are clamped, those which lie adjacent to the anchor members will have frictional connection with the latter and said anchor members being connected with the plates 3, as above explained, the plurality of cards 35 and fillers will be prevented from buckling while being clamped.

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

1. In a card index, the combination with 40 a holder and a plurality of index cards therein, of a flange or rib extending longitudinally of said holder between one side and the longitudinal center of said holder, each card having a notch for engaging over 45 said flange or rib, all of said cards having name designations thereon and arranged in groups, one card of each group being laterally disposed or offset and engaging said rib or flange and the other cards of the several 50 groups being disposed between said rib or flange and the opposite side of the holder.

2. In a card index, the combination with a holder, index cards therein, and means 55 for holding said index cards in place, of fillers for spacing the index cards, each of said fillers having its upper edge formed to provide entering spaces between said fillers.

3. In a card index, the combination with a holder, a plurality of index cards therein and means for holding said cards in place, 60 of fillers for spacing the cards, each of said fillers having a beveled upper edge.

In testimony whereof I have signed this 65 specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT C. RUSSELL.

Witnesses:
JAMES P. RUSSELL,
BELLE WILHELM,