

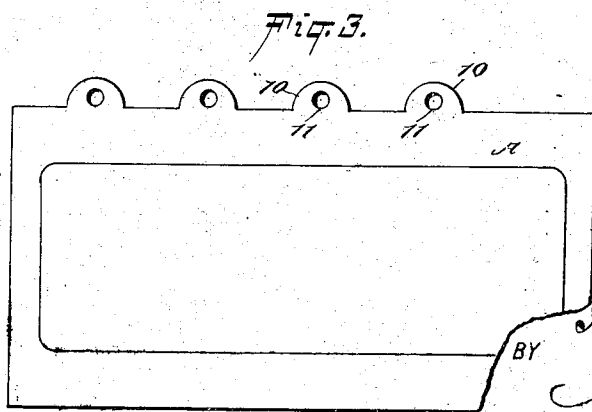
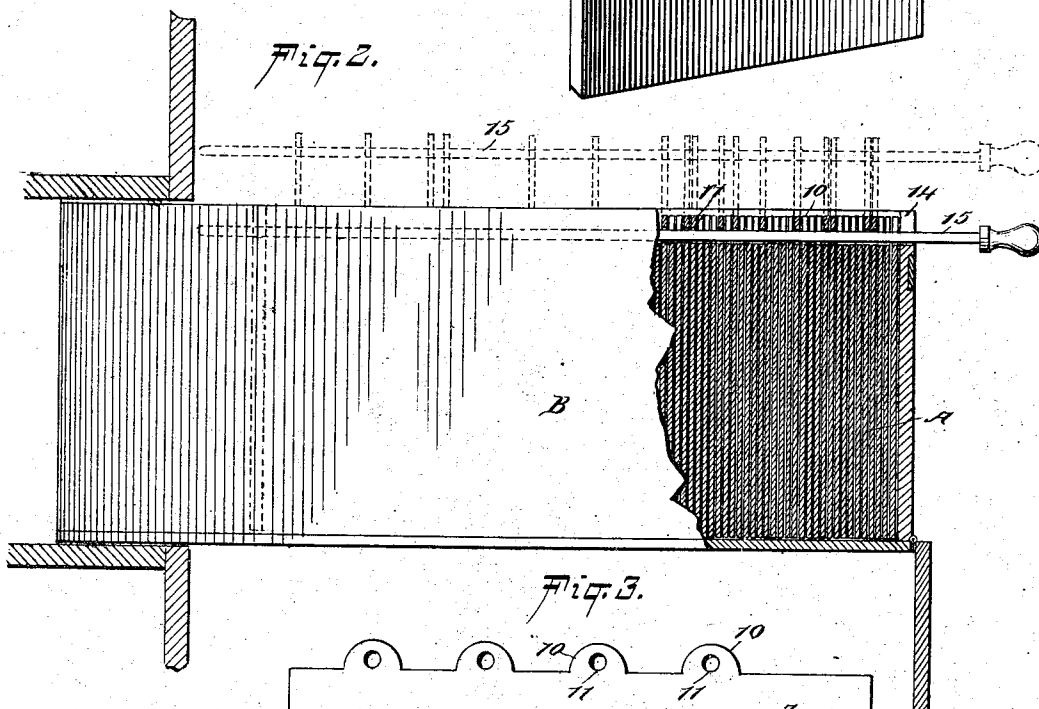
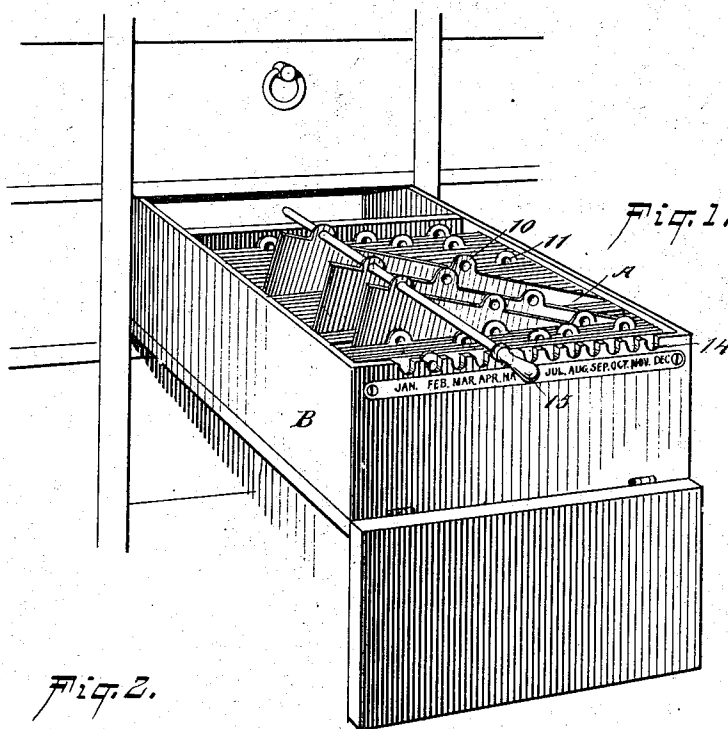
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

H. P. STAMFORD.  
INFORMATION CARD.

No. 564,117.

Patented July 14, 1896.



WITNESSES:

William Geibel.  
Fred Acker.

INVENTOR

H. P. Stamford

BY

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ATTORNEYS.

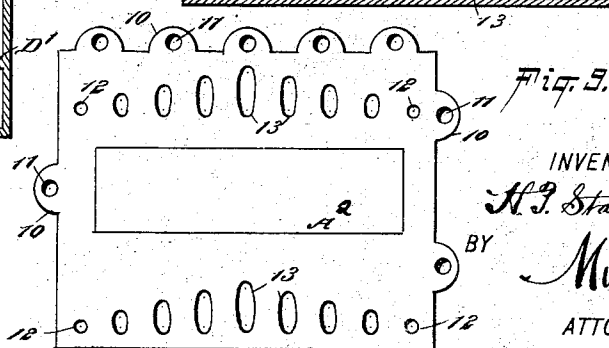
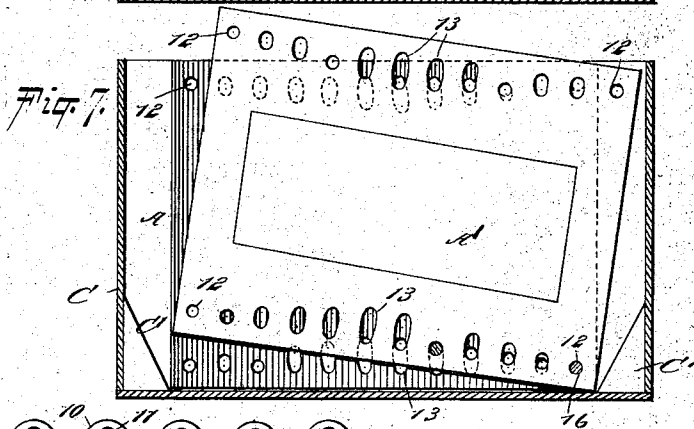
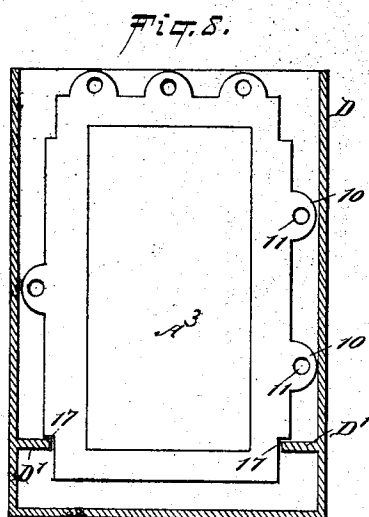
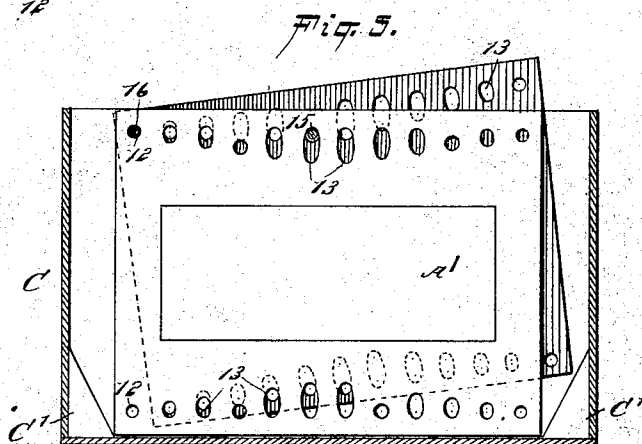
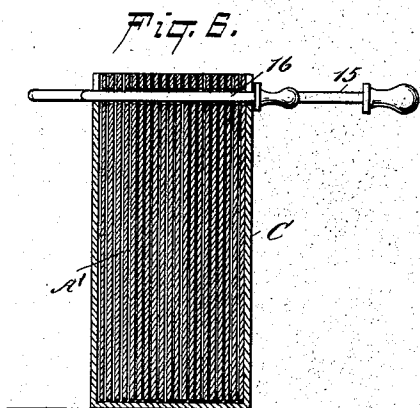
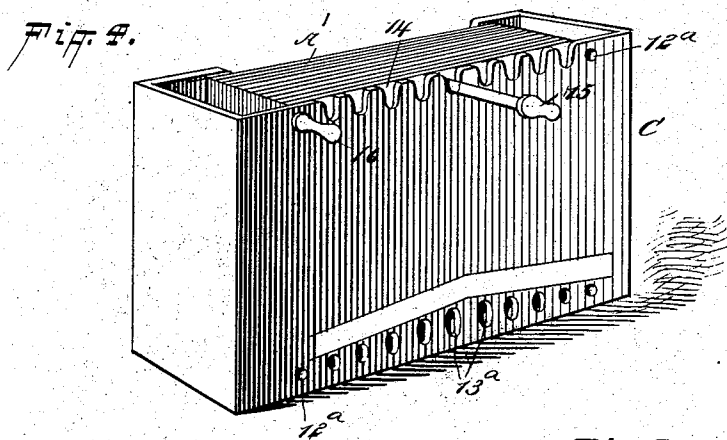
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

H. P. STAMFORD.  
INFORMATION CARD.

No. 564,117.

Patented July 14, 1896.



WITNESSES:

William Gaebel.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY P. STAMFORD, OF GRAND VIEW ON HUDSON, NEW YORK.

## INFORMATION-CARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,117, dated July 14, 1896.

Application filed May 23, 1895. Serial No. 550,424. (No specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY P. STAMFORD, of Grand View on Hudson, in the county of Rockland and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Information-Card, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in information, classification, or index cards; and it has for its object to provide a means whereby a number of cards bearing different information, or classified information on the same subject, or cards containing various information classified in any desired manner, may be easily accessible, the cards being so constructed that any given series numerically, alphabetically, or otherwise designated may be simultaneously, expeditiously, and conveniently gathered and drawn from an apparently miscellaneous pack of cards; and the invention consists in the novel construction of the cards and the arrangement or grouping of a number of cards, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures and letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box or drawer, illustrating one arrangement of the improved cards. Fig. 2 is a broken side elevation of the box or drawer, partly in section, through sundry of the cards therein. Fig. 3 is a broken plan view of one of the cards. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of box or drawer. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view through the box shown in Fig. 4, illustrating a slight modification in the construction of the cards, the cards being especially adapted for the box shown in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a transverse vertical section through the box and the cards contained therein, as shown in Fig. 4, the section being at the pivot-pin for the cards. Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 5, illustrating the pivot-pin placed at a reverse corner to that shown in Fig. 5, the cards being lifted from the bottom. Fig. 8 is a section of a modified form of a box in which the cards shown in Fig. 1, or similar cards, may be placed to be again sorted after having been withdrawn from the main box; and Fig. 9 is

a side elevation of a further modification of the card, embracing the construction shown in the cards in both Figs. 3 and 5.

These cards are especially adapted to contain matter relating to a business involving numerous details—as, for example, an insurance business, in which it is desirable to place in a box cards containing the names of policy-holders of a certain class, and wherein it is desirable and frequently necessary to withdraw from the box cards alphabetically, numerically, or otherwise arranged, containing the names, for instance, of policy-holders whose premiums become due in January, then the names of policy-holders whose premiums become due in February, and so on.

The prime object of this invention is to enable a person to simultaneously and expeditiously separate, for example, from a mass of alphabetically or numerically arranged, or otherwise classified, cards all of the cards containing the names of policy-holders the record of whose policies are necessary to be consulted during a given month, or upon a certain day, or at a certain hour.

The simple form of the card A is shown in Fig. 3, and it is especially adapted for use in connection with a box B, (shown in Figs. 1 and 2,) although any form of box or drawer may be employed. The cards are provided upon one, two, or more edges with tabs 10, which are either integral with or are attached thereto. These tabs are of any desired shape. The most convenient, however, are of semi-circular shape, as illustrated.

Each tab is provided with an aperture or opening 11, and the said tabs are arranged at predetermined intervals apart, and the cards of one classification, or of one series, are provided with the same number of tabs in the same grouping, but a single tab only may be employed in one set of cards.

Take, for example, cards having four tabs arranged at certain distances apart. Upon these cards the names of all of the policy-holders whose premiums, payable quarterly, are due in January, April, July, and October are written, and cards having two tabs upon which the names of policy-holders whose premiums, payable semiannually, due in February and August, are written and arranged so as to intervene the tabs on the cards rep-

representing the January premiums, whereas the names of the policy-holders whose premiums, payable annually, are due in March would be provided with but a single tab, so arranged  
 5 as to intervene the tabs of the January and February cards. And in this manner the cards for the various months would have their tabs differently located, so that when the  
 10 cards had been numerically, alphabetically, or otherwise arranged the openings in the tabs of the cards representing the same month would be in alinement.

In the front of the box B a series of recesses 14 is usually made, one recess being shown  
 15 over the name of each month of the year, as shown in the drawings, and in connection with these cards a pin 15 is employed. Now, if the cards are wanted bearing the names of the policy-holders whose premiums are due  
 20 in March, the pin will be passed through the recess in the box over the name of that month and to the rear of the box. The pin will thereupon pass through the openings of alin-  
 25 ing tabs of all of the March cards, and will pass between the tabs of the cards representing the other months. Therefore, by lifting up the pin 15, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2 and in positive lines in Fig. 1, all of the March  
 30 cards may be lifted simultaneously from the box, and in alphabetical, numerical, or otherwise arranged order, thus obviating the necessity of running over the entire lot of cards to obtain a particular set or series.

In Figs. 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9 I have illustrated  
 35 modifications in the construction of the cards. The tabs 10 are dispensed with in the form of cards shown in Figs. 4, 5, 6, and 7, and instead of the tabs each card A' at each corner has preferably an opening 12 made therein  
 40 to receive a pivot-pin 16, and either at the top or bottom of the card, or at both points, or near each margin, a series of apertures 13 is produced, which apertures are graduated  
 45 in size, and are usually also graduated in arrangement. Under this construction of cards a box C is used, as shown in Fig. 4, and this box is substantially rectangular, and is provided in the bottom at each end with an in-  
 50 clined block C', in order to hold the cards straight when packed in the box and at the same time admit of the cards being raised from either of their corners. This box is like-  
 55 wise provided with recesses 14 in the top, and a lifting bar or rod 15 is likewise employed, while at or near the bottom of the box a series of graduated apertures 13\* is produced, corresponding to those in the bottom portion  
 60 of the card, the apertures in the top portion of the card being practically in registry with the recesses 14 in the box; and the box at or  
 65 near its corners is provided with openings 12\*, adapted to register with the corner openings 12 in the cards. These cards are placed face to back miscellaneously or in given se-  
 ries, the cards of one series being so placed

that certain openings therein will be brought in registry with the openings of the other  
 cards, the smaller openings in one series being in registry with the larger openings in an-  
 other series, so that by passing the pivot-pin  
 70 16, for example, through the upper left-hand aperture 12\* in the box and through the cor-  
 responding apertures or openings 12 in the cards all of the cards will be pivoted, and by  
 75 passing the lifting-pin 15 through a certain opening, as shown in Fig. 5, it will be passed through corresponding openings of the de-  
 sired series, the openings of the series being  
 80 practically smaller than those of the series not wanted, so that upon lifting the pin the series of cards not wanted will remain stand-  
 ing in the box, while the series desired will be raised above the standing cards, and by  
 85 passing a pin through the raised series at a corner opening they may all be removed from the box. The same operation may be carried  
 out from the bottom of the box, as shown in Fig. 7, and if in practice it is found desir-  
 90 able the cards A<sup>2</sup> may be provided with the tabs 10 and the elongated openings 13, as shown in Fig. 9, thus permitting of a numer-  
 ous grouping of various series in the same box, and all the cards may be either alpha-  
 betically, numerically, or otherwise arranged.

In Fig. 8 I have illustrated a box D, in  
 95 which ledges D' are made at or near the bottom and shoulders 17 are made in the corners of the cards A<sup>3</sup>. This box is adapted espe-  
 cially for the separation of the cards of a given series into subseries or classes after  
 100 they have been removed from the main box or drawer in which they were grouped with others, and the tabs, or the openings 13, will be arranged in a manner to admit of this second separation.

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

1. A series of information-cards provided with openings arranged in a predetermined  
 110 order, the cards designed for recording the same kind or class of information having their openings corresponding in position or ar-  
 rangement, whereby when the cards are placed in a pack the openings in certain of  
 115 the cards will be in alinement with each other, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A pack of information-cards provided with openings arranged in a predetermined  
 120 order, and a lifting-pin adapted to be passed through openings in sundry of the cards, whereby certain of the cards may be raised  
 by the pin and certain of the cards will remain stationary, as and for the purpose speci-  
 125 fied.

3. A pack of information-cards provided with openings arranged in a predetermined  
 130 order, a lifting-pin adapted to be passed through openings in sundry of the cards, whereby certain of the cards may be raised

by the pin, the said cards being likewise provided with registering pivot-openings, and a pivot-pin adapted to be passed through all of the pivot-openings in the pack of cards, substantially as described.

5 4. A pack of information-cards, the said cards being provided with extensions from their margins and openings in said marginal projections, the cards being in series alphabetically or numerically arranged, or otherwise classified, all of the projections of one series being in alinement, and out of alinement with the projections of a second or other series, as and for the purpose set forth.

15 5. The combination, with a box or drawer having openings therein, of cards arranged in series alphabetically, numerically or otherwise, the said cards being provided with openings of different lengths arranged in a predetermined order and registering with the  
20 openings in the box, and a lifting-pin adapted to be passed through the box-openings and into sundry of the openings in the cards, the cards being so arranged that the openings in  
25 the cards of a certain series may be entered by a pin and the said cards elevated without

disturbing the remainder of the cards, as and for the purpose specified.

6. The combination with a box or drawer having recesses formed therein and provided  
30 with an opening, of cards arranged in series, alphabetically, numerically or otherwise classified, the said cards being provided with openings arranged in a predetermined order and registering with the recesses in the box,  
35 a lifting-pin adapted to be passed through the box-recesses and into sundry of the openings in the cards, the cards being so arranged that the openings in the cards of a certain series  
40 may be entered by the lifting-pin and the said cards elevated without disturbing the remainder of the cards, the said cards being likewise  
45 provided with registering pivot-openings, and a pivot-pin adapted to extend through the opening in the box or drawer and through the registering pivot-openings in the said cards, substantially as shown and described.

HENRY P. STAMFORD.

Witnesses:

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C. SEDGWICK.