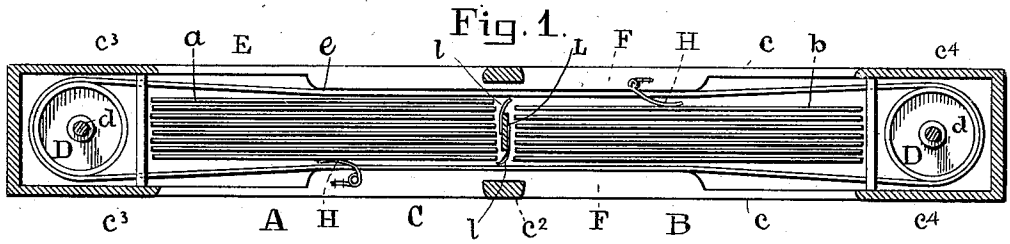
(No Model.)

H. C. WHEELER.

CARD DISPLAYING DEVICE.

No. 594,506. Patented Nov. 30, 1897.

Fig. 1.



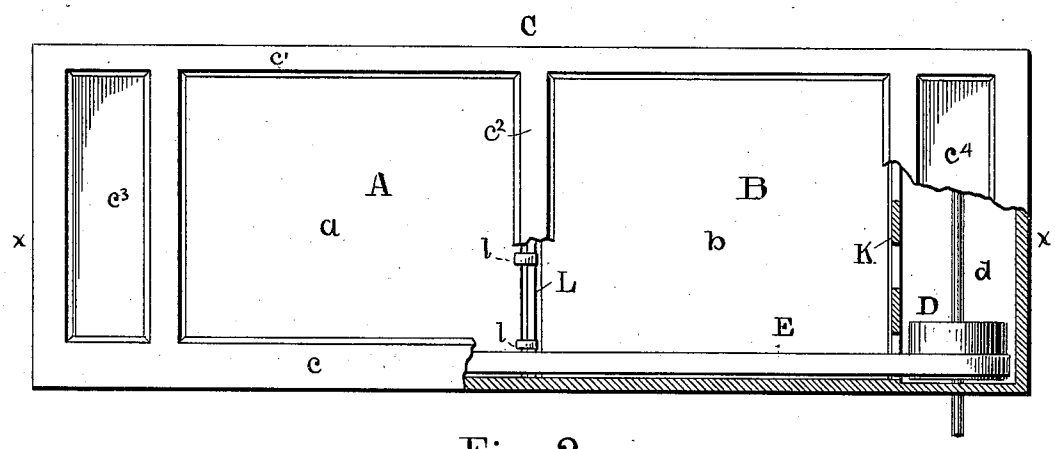


Fig. 2.

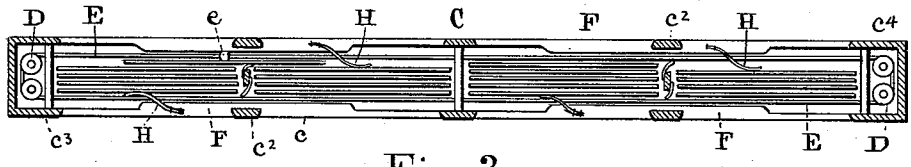


Fig. 3.

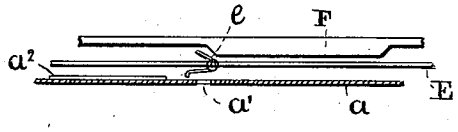


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARVEY C. WHEELER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

CARD-DISPLAYING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 594,506, dated November 30, 1897.

Application filed February 3, 1897. Serial No. 621,795. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARVEY C. WHEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, (Jamaica Plain,) in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Card-Displaying Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is the effecting of automatic means whereby the individual cards of two adjacent stacks of cards can be removed one by one from each stack to the other and the order of such removal be so arranged that every card shall have its turn at being exposed to view. The purpose of this is, first, to enable a large number of advertising-cards to be displayed to the public and still be contained in a small space, and, second, to exhibit mounted photographs, engravings, &c., to would-be purchasers. This idea may be embodied in many forms capable of accomplishing the desired results; but what I consider the simplest and most practical means for carrying the invention into effect is that illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a section of the same through *x x* in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a front elevation thereof with a portion broken away. Fig. 3 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 1 of a modified form of the invention. Fig. 4 is a detail view of another modified form of the card-engaging device.

The means illustrated for transferring the cards from one stack to the other consists, essentially, of an endless belt moving exterior to said stacks and provided with a card-engaging device and means for causing the same to engage with a card at a proper point, carry the same to the next stack, there leave it, then pass around to the back of this latter stack, and there engage and transfer a card to the first-named stack.

Referring to the drawings, A and B indicate two stacks of cards standing in a suitable framework or case *c c'* c^2 c^3 c^4, and E is the endless belt passing about the two pulleys D. The shaft *d* of one of said pulleys should be connected with some source of power so geared down as to rotate somewhat slowly. Said belt I prefer to have quite narrow and placed at the foot of the card-stacks behind the frame-strip *c*. Said pulleys are made larger in diameter than the thickness of the stacks of cards, in order that the engaging device or catch *e* may not touch the cards except when forced into engagement therewith by the shoulder F. Springs H serve to press the cards toward the opposite side of their containing-framework, one pressing one stack toward the front of the case C and the other pressing the other stack toward the back. Cross bars or partitions K prevent the cards from touching the pulleys D, and a vertical partition L, provided with two or more springs *l*, curved as shown, serves to keep all the cards in place except the one which is forced past said springs by the catch *e*.

As will be readily understood, the belt E being slowly moved until the catch *e* reaches the shoulder F said catch enters a perforation or slot *a'* (see Fig. 4) in the nearest card and carries it along until the other end of the shoulder F is reached. Here the catch leaves the card and passes on until the shoulder F is reached at the opposite side of the case, where a card is similarly engaged and transferred to the stack from which the card first mentioned was removed. Then the catch moves on, engaging a card every time the shoulders F are reached and leaving it when passed. In this way the cards are one by one passed from stack to stack until the entire number have been exposed to view.

In the construction just described the framework or case C is shown as open both at front and rear, in order that advertising matter may be imprinted upon both sides of each card and so be visible to people at each side.

In Fig. 3 is illustrated a plurality of such stacks, all shown as operated by a single belt. In this case the belt should be a round one instead of flat, and the catch *e* is in the form of a button extending laterally in all directions from the belt. In this case the belt, when the button is not in contact with a shoulder F, extends in a straight line from periphery to periphery of the pulleys D. When, however, said button meets a shoulder, it is deflected thereby and caused to engage with a card.

Fig. 4 shows a further modification of the catch *e*. Here it is represented as a resilient

finger pivotally held by the belt and provided with an arm, which when struck by the shoulder F presses said finger into the aperture a'.

Although I have spoken of the catch being designed to enter an opening in the cards, the same may be imperforate or provided with a protecting-strip of fabric or felt and said catch made sufficiently sharp-pointed to engage directly therewith. This is indicated by a^2 in Fig. 4.

Referring again to Fig. 3, I would call attention to the fact that in the construction here illustrated I have substituted two small pulleys for the single large one at each end of the case C. In this way the belt E can be separated sufficiently wide to accommodate a large number of cards without increasing the diameter of the pulleys, as is necessary when a single pulley is employed at each end.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows, to wit:

1. In a card-displaying device, the combination of the stacks of cards, the continuously-moving belt exterior to said stacks but in close proximity to the outermost of said cards, catches carried by said belt, and shoulders adapted for pressing said catches into engagement with the outermost of said cards, whereby said cards are automatically transferred from stack to stack, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a card-displaying device, the combination of the case provided with the partitions K and L, the stacks of cards located therein, the pulleys at the ends of said case, the endless belt passing about said pulleys and in close proximity to the faces of the outermost cards in said stacks, the catches carried by said belt, and means for pressing said catches into engagement with said outermost cards, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a card-displaying device, the combination of the case, the partitions K, the central partition L having the springs l, the four pulleys located at the corners of the case, the endless belt passing about said pulleys and moved by the same, the catches carried by said belt, the shoulders, F, the springs H, and the stacks of cards located in said case, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing invention I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 28th day of January, in the year 1897.

HARVEY C. WHEELER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
J. P. HUTCHINSON,
A. B. UPHAM.