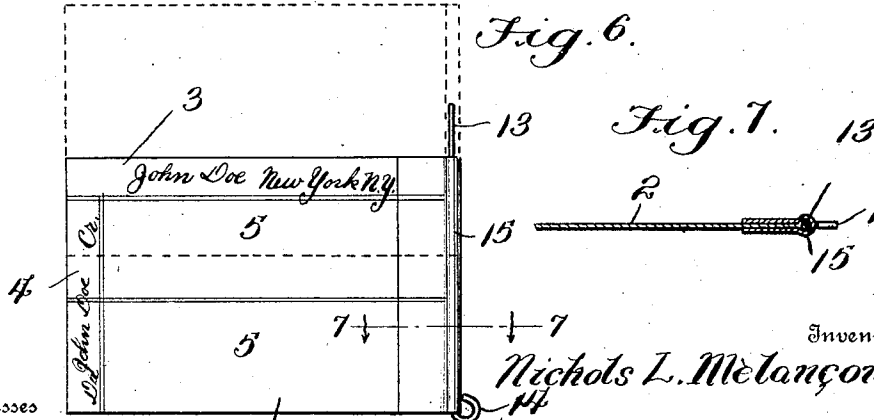
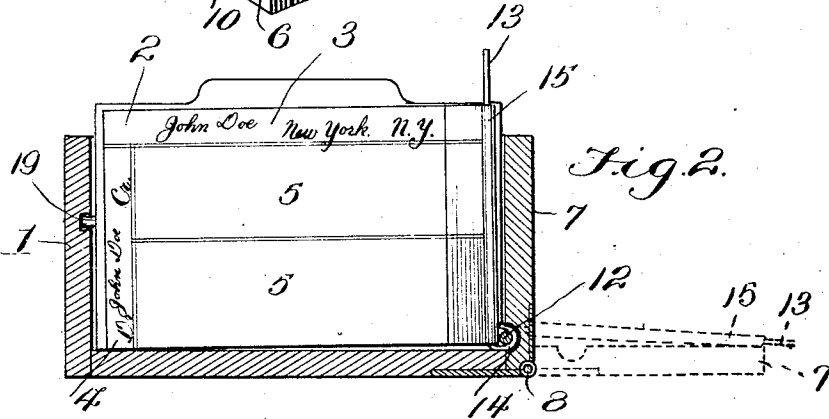
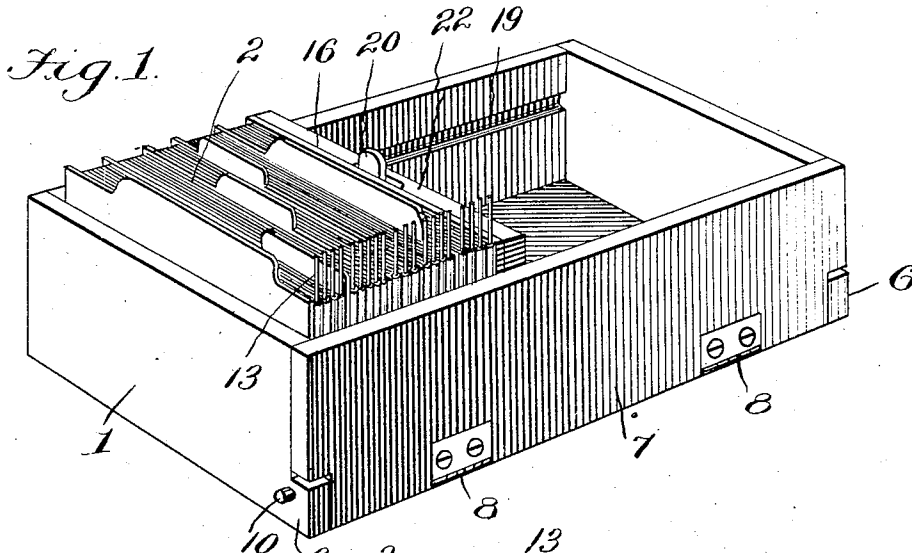


N. L. MELANÇON.
CARD SYSTEM.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 19, 1908.

948,235.

Patented Feb. 1, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

J. T. L. Wright
C. C. Hines.

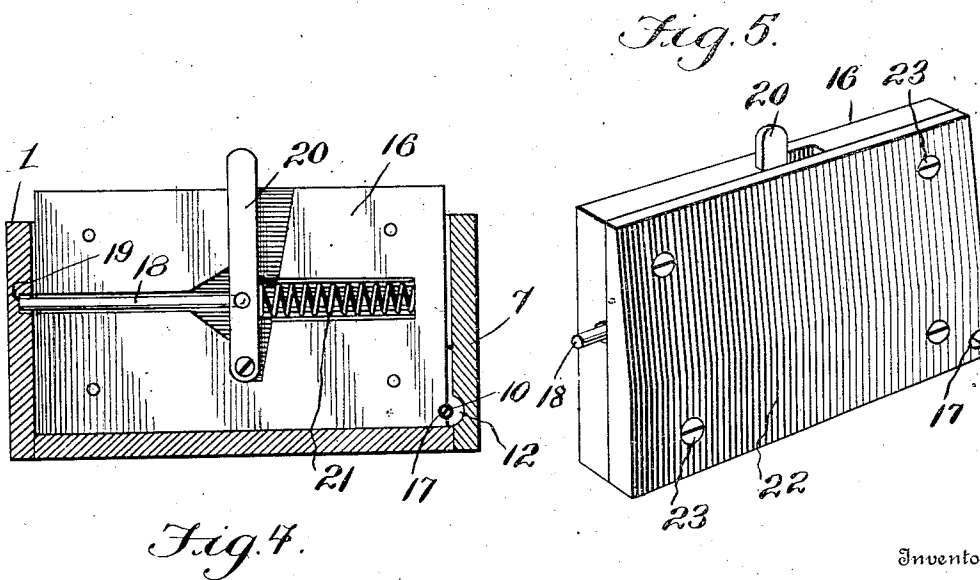
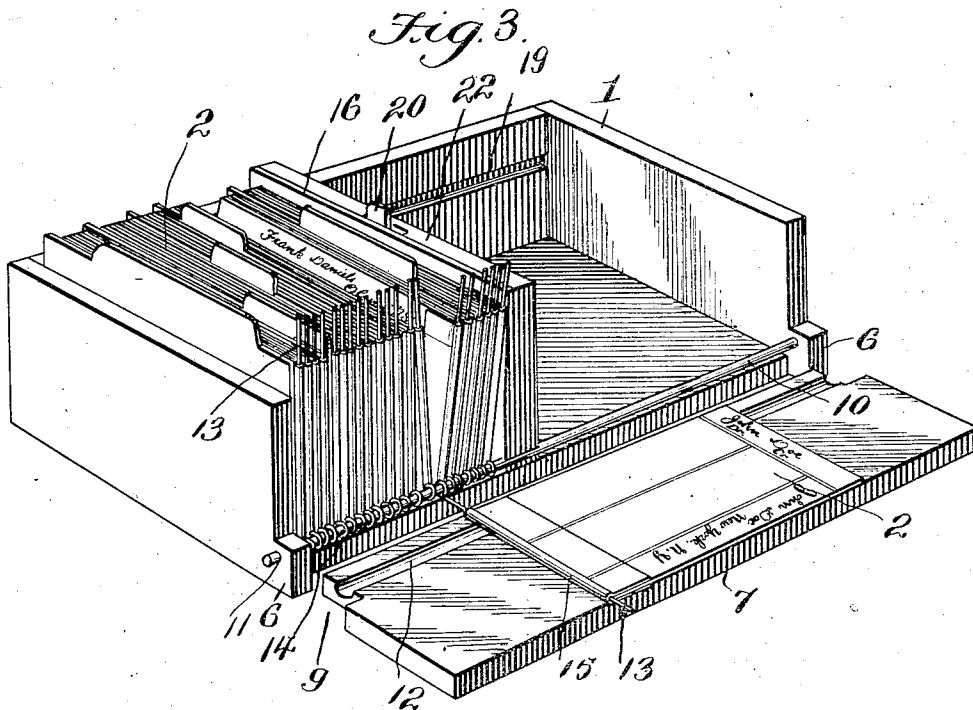
Inventor
Nichols L. Melançon,
By Victor J. Evans,
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NICHOLS L. MELANÇON, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

CARD SYSTEM.

948,235.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 1, 1910.

Application filed December 19, 1908. Serial No. 468,372.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NICHOLS L. MELANÇON, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Card Systems, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to card systems of that character in which cards containing or designed to contain entries are filed within a case and clamped by a follower or analogous means, and in which the cards are also adjustably strung upon a holder whereby they may be separated without removal for inspection.

One object of the invention is to provide a novel construction of file case and mode of mounting the cards therein whereby the operation of applying, removing and separating the cards for inspection is rendered easier and more convenient, and whereby any card may be partially withdrawn for inspection or to be written upon without loss of place or the necessity of inserting a place indicator between the adjacent cards.

Another object of the invention is to provide the case with a portion which may be let down to serve as a desk upon which the partially withdrawn cards may be rested for convenience in writing thereon, and further to provide a novel construction of follower or clamp for holding the cards in compact form.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a card case embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same on a line between adjacent cards. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the hinged side let down for use. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2 taken on a line in rear of the follower, the back of the latter being removed. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the follower. Fig. 6 is a face view of one of the cards and its holder, showing in dotted lines the operation of removing the card. Fig. 7 is a section on the line 7-7 of Fig. 6.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1

designates a file case, drawer or similar receptacle of conventional oblong rectangular form, and of proper width to accommodate the record and index cards 2, each of which is preferably provided at its upper edge and one end with spaces 3 and 4 to contain the name of the person or firm or proper headings indicating the purpose or subject matter of the card. Each card is also provided with longitudinal columns or spaces 5 for use in connection with the heading 4. The upper heading 3 is designed for use in the usual way to enable any particular card to be found for withdrawal by sliding the cards forward and upward in the case in the usual way.

The case is open at one side and provided with projections 6 at the lower edges of its front and rear or end walls and extending laterally beyond the adjacent side of the bottom of the case. This open side of the case is adapted to be closed by a door or let-down side 7 hinged or pivoted at its lower edge to the bottom, as at 8, and adapted to close against the end walls, the lower corner portions of said side being provided with notches or recesses 9 to receive and accommodate the projections 6 when said door is closed and to allow the door to bear squarely against the bottom and end walls. A retaining rod 10 extends longitudinally at the open side of the case between and is supported by the projections 6, which latter are provided with openings 11 to receive the ends of the rod and permit the latter to be slidably inserted and removed. The inner face of the door 7 is formed with a longitudinal groove 12 to receive the rod and the card holding devices mounted thereon, as hereinafter described, when the door is closed.

The cards are pivotally, slidably and removably mounted within the case upon individual holding devices, each consisting of a rod or stem 13 bent at its lower end to provide a hook or eye 14 slidably and pivotally engaging the rod 10. These card holding devices are thus arranged at the open side of the case, and they are normally disposed in a vertical position. The eyes 14 have a loose engagement with the rod 10 to also permit the cards to be tilted forwardly from a vertical position to facilitate relative adjustment of said cards and their inspection.

tion in the ordinary manner, as well as to enable any card to be grasped for removal, as hereinafter explained. Each card is provided at the end opposite the heading 4 with a fold or sleeve 15 to slidably engage its holding rod 13, and said rod is of sufficient length to project at its free end beyond the upper edge of the card so that it may be conveniently engaged by the finger and manipulated. It will be apparent that the cards are thus retained in position upon the holder rod 10 in such a manner as to permit them to be slid backwardly and forwardly on said rod, and that the slidable connection of each card with its holder adapts it to be conveniently applied and removed at any time by vertical movement and without the necessity of opening the door 7. Each card may also be swung outwardly when the door is opened upon its holding rod which pivots on the rod 10, by engaging the upper end of the holding rod and pulling it outwardly and downwardly. This and the pivotal connection of the card with its holding rod adapt the rod and card to be rested when swung outward upon the open door, as shown in Fig. 3, so that the door may be employed as a desk to allow indorsements or entries to be conveniently made on the face of the card without the necessity of wholly detaching the card from the cabinet. When in this position the proper place or position of the card with respect to the other cards is preserved by the eye 14 of its holder, which keeps the adjacent cards spaced so as to allow the outwardly swung card to be restored to its normal position with facility, this obviating the necessity of inserting a place indicator between the adjacent cards to indicate the proper position of the card.

The body of cards is adapted to be pressed against the rear end wall of the case to maintain the cards in compact condition by a follower or clamp 16, comprising a rectangular block or plate of proper dimensions to rest upon the bottom of the case and project above the same and to extend between the rod 10 and the opposite side wall of the case. The outer side edge of this follower is provided with a groove 17 to receive the rod 10, and the rear face of said follower is properly recessed to receive a sliding bolt 18, the free end of which is adapted to project and travel within a groove 19 in the fixed side wall of the case. The inner end of this bolt is pivotally connected with a pivoted operating lever 20, whose upper end extends for manipulation above the follower, and said lever and follower are normally held in projected position by a coiled spring 21. By the action of this spring the bolt is projected forcibly against the inner wall of the groove 19, whereby the follower is clamped between

the fixed wall of the case and the rod 10. By moving the lever 20 in the direction of the spring, the latter will be compressed and the bolt retracted, thus freeing the follower for adjustment within the case. A back or cover plate 22 is secured to the rear face of the follower and covers the recess therein and the locking mechanism. This cover is preferably fastened by screws 23, so that it may be detached to afford access to the locking mechanism for repairs when occasion requires.

From the foregoing description, the construction and mode of use of my improved card system will be readily understood, and it will be seen that it provides a construction affording advantages and a saving of time in the operations of applying, removing and inspecting the cards, and in permitting entries to be made upon the cards without the necessity of wholly detaching the same from the case. The advantage of the holders properly preserving the positions of the cards will also be appreciated.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. A card system embodying a file case open at one side, a door closing the open side and adapted to be let down to a horizontal position, and card holders slidably and pivotally mounted within the case and adapted to be swung outward so that any card may be disposed upon said door.

2. A card system embodying a file case open at one side, a swinging door closing the open side and adapted to be let down to a horizontal position, holders slidably and pivotally mounted within the case and adapted to be swung outwardly upon the open door, and cards slidably and pivotally mounted upon the holders.

3. A card system embodying a file case open at one side, a swinging door for closing the open side and adapted to be turned down to a horizontal position, a rod extending longitudinally at the base of the open side, a series of holders slidably and pivotally engaging said rod and adapted to be swung outwardly thereon and cards slidably and pivotally connected at one end with their respective holders.

4. A card system embodying a file case open at one side, a rod extending longitudinally at the base of the open side, a swinging door for closing the open side and adapted to be turned down to a horizontal position, a series of holders comprising rods having eyes at their lower ends slidably and pivotally engaging the rod and adapted to swing outwardly thereon, and cards each provided at one end with a sleeve slidably and pivotally engaging said holding rods.

5. A card system embodying a file case open at one side, a holding rod extending

longitudinally at the base of the open side,
an outwardly swinging door for closing the
open side, a series of holders slidably and
pivotally engaging the rod, cards each pro-
5 vided with a sleeve at one end pivotally and
slidably engaging the holders, a follower
slidably mounted between said rod and the
opposite side of the wall of the case, and

locking means for clamping said follower
against said rod and wall.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 10
in presence of two witnesses.

NICHOLS L. MELANÇON.

Witnesses:

WM. C. ERNON,
L. L. SABATT.