

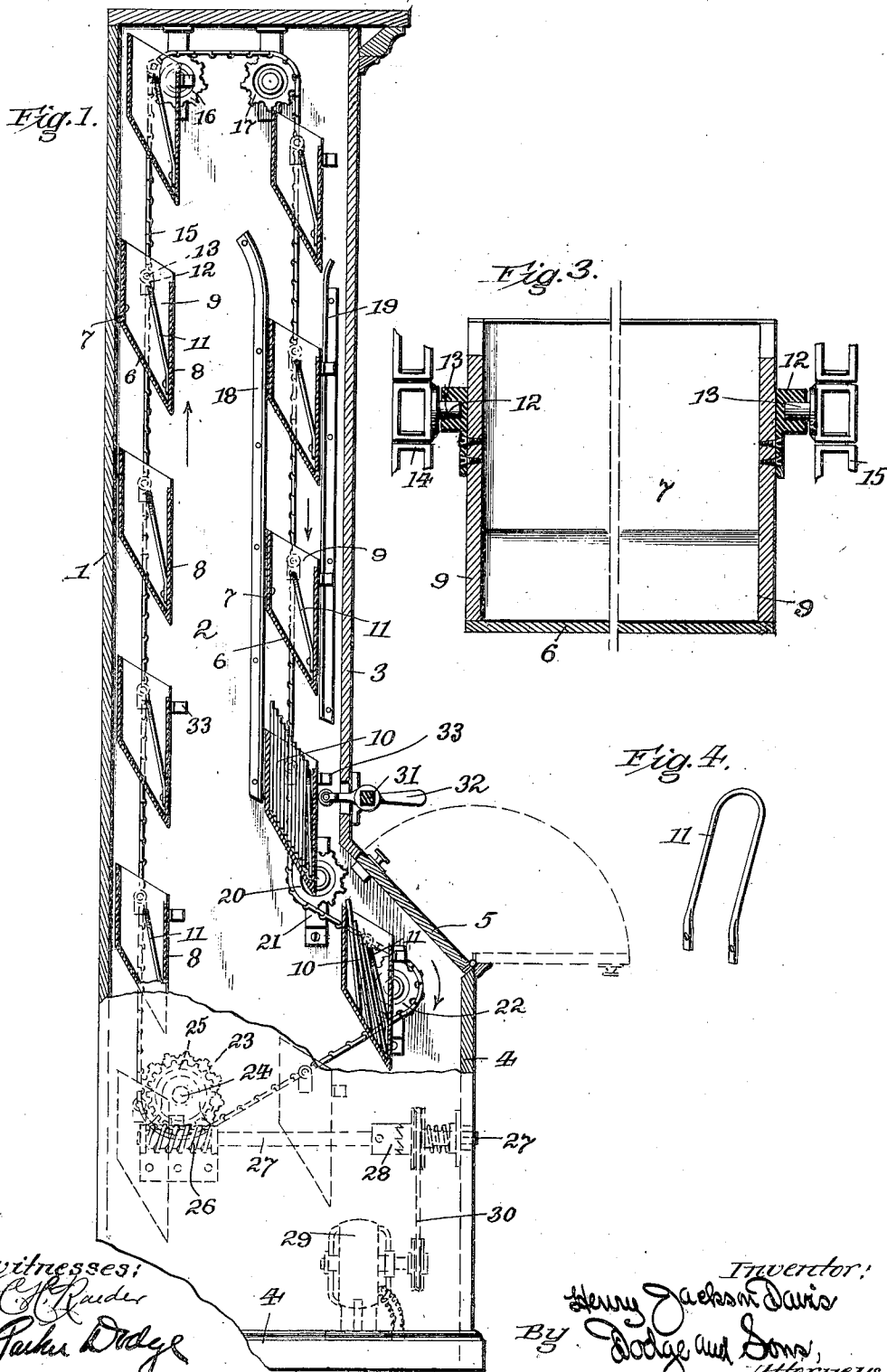
H. J. DAVIS.
FILING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 9, 1910.

962,749.

Patented June 28, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



witnesses:
C. J. Rader
Jack Dodge

Inventor:
Henry Jackson Davis
By *Dodge and Sons,*
Attorneys.

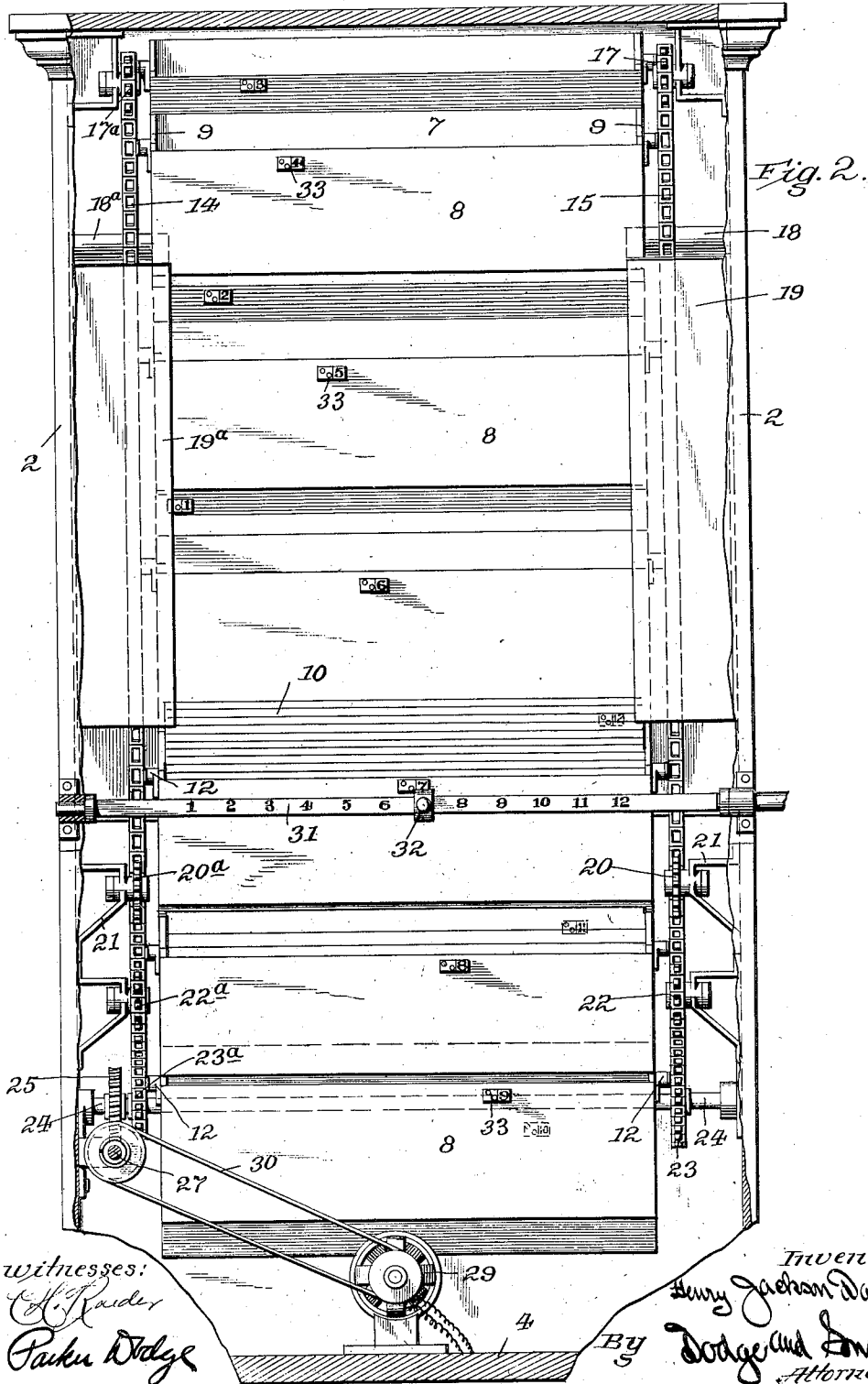
H. J. DAVIS.
FILING CABINET.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 9, 1910.

Patented June 28, 1910

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

962,749.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY JACKSON DAVIS, OF BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA.

FILING-CABINET.

962,749.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 28, 1910.

Application filed February 9, 1910. Serial No. 542,843.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY J. DAVIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Birmingham, in the county of Jefferson and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing-Cabinets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention pertains to improvements in filing cabinets the construction and advantages of which will be hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the annexed drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional elevation of the cabinet; Fig. 2 is a front elevation, the major portion of the front of the cabinet being broken away to show the mechanism and arrangement of the parts; Fig. 3 a vertical sectional view taken through one of the file boxes or holders; and Fig. 4 a perspective view of a spring preferably employed in connection with said file boxes.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a filing cabinet in which the file boxes may be readily brought to a point where access may be had to the contents thereof.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cabinet of such form that the file boxes or holders are brought in line with an opening formed in the forward portion or extension of the cabinet, the closure for such opening being so arranged that it may be thrown outwardly to form a shelf contiguous to such opening and to the file box which is then in use.

A further object of the invention is to provide a file box of special form which will so stack the cards or jackets for containing the papers or the like, that the index on each and every one of them may be readily seen at a glance when such box or holder is brought into position adjacent to the opening in the cabinet before mentioned.

The cabinet comprises a substantially rectangular shaped structure comprising the back 1, the ends 2, the front 3 and the front base piece 4. At the lower portion, the sides are extended forwardly, as shown in Fig. 1, so as to form or produce an extended base, the front of which is designated by 4. An opening is formed between the lower edge of the front 3, and the base 4, which opening is normally closed by a combined door and shelf 5, hinged at its lower end to the upper edge of the base 4; and when

closed, inclining rearwardly, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. When the door is swung outwardly, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1, it forms a shelf upon which the files or cards may be rested and examined.

The file boxes are of the form best shown in Figs. 1 and 3. They comprise an inclined bottom 6, a back 7, front 8, and end walls 9. The upper edges of the sides are inclined upwardly from the front to the rear and the upper edge of the front is lower than the upper edge of the back. A series of cards or files indicated by 10, when placed in the box, will by reason of the inclined bottom, present a stepped arrangement at their upper edge, so that the index on each of them will be clearly in view. A bow-spring 11 or its equivalent, may be secured to the inside face of the front of the box, the upper free end of the spring bearing against the files or cards and serving to hold the same in position, so that the indices thereon will always be in sight. A plurality of such boxes or receptacles is employed, and each box is provided upon its ends with brackets or lugs 12, adapted to receive pintles or studs 13, which extend inwardly from endless sprocket chains 14 and 15.

The chain 15 is mounted adjacent to one end of the cabinet, while the chain 14 is mounted in the opposite end. The chain 15 passes over a pair of sprockets or idlers 16 and 17, carried by brackets secured within the upper portion of the casing. The forward run of the chain passes downwardly between a pair of guides 18 and 19, secured to the end wall of the cabinet, the upper ends of said guides being flared out slightly to insure the free passage of the lower end of the file box between the same. The chain then passes beneath idler 20 mounted upon a bracket 21, secured to the end wall of the casing adjacent to the opening formed at the upper end of the base thereof. The chain thence passes forwardly beneath the opening and around an idler 22, located at the forward portion of the base, and thence downwardly and rearwardly about a sprocket 23 mounted upon a shaft 24, to which is secured a worm wheel 25. The chain passes from the sprocket 23 upwardly to the sprocket 16. The chain 14 is mounted in a similar manner and for convenience the sprockets are designated by similar numerals, to which the exponent "a" has been affixed. Guides 18^a and 19^a are likewise pro-

vided at that end of the cabinet adjacent to which the chain 14 runs, the guides occupying positions similar to the guides 18 and 19. The worm 26 meshes with the worm wheel 25, said worm being mounted upon a shaft 27, which has likewise mounted and secured upon it a clutch 28, one member of the clutch, and consequently the shaft, being normally driven by a motor 29, through a belt 30. If it be desired to operate the chains manually this may be readily accomplished by applying a crank to the outer end of the shaft 27 (Fig. 1) which is squared for that purpose.

It is proposed to employ a device for stopping and starting the motor similar to the construction shown in Letters Patent granted to P. G. Ault and myself under date of October 8, 1907, No. 867,804; means for starting the motor and bringing any one of the particular file boxes into position where access may be had thereto through the openings in the cabinet. To this end a bar 31 is located upon the forward face of the casing, said bar being provided with a series of numbers of graduation equal in number to the number of file boxes contained within the cabinet, said bar carrying a handle 32, which may be moved lengthwise of the bar to bring the inner end of the arm or handle into alinement with the stops or lugs 33, one of which is mounted upon each of the boxes. As the handle is positioned upon the bar and moved, as set forth in the patent above noted, it will bring the motor into operation, and the motor will continue to run until the desired box is moved into position, or in line with the opening formed in the forward portion of the casing. The mechanism will then be operated so as to break the current, by reason of the stop or lug coming into contact with the handle and shifting the same, as is clearly set forth in the patent above referred to. It is not deemed essential in the present case to illustrate all the mechanism and connections necessary to bring about the arrest of movement of the chains and the file boxes carried thereby. By extending the lower portion of the sides and thus producing a forwardly-extending base to the cabinet and having an opening formed in the upper forward portion of such extension, access may be readily had to any particular file box which may be brought into alinement with such opening. The location of the opening in the upper forward extension of the base, when combined with the door or shelf 5, produces a structure which permits the ready handling of the various file-jackets or the like and enables them to be readily withdrawn from the boxes, the contents ex-

amined or new papers placed therein, and the file returned to its particular box.

It is thought that the use and operation of the apparatus will be understood from the foregoing description.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. A filing cabinet provided with a base extending forward of the upper portion of the cabinet, and having an opening in the upper portion of the base; a door or closure for said opening, adapted to be swung outwardly therefrom; a pair of endless chains mounted in the cabinet, the chains extending forwardly during a portion of their run adjacent to the opening aforesaid; and a plurality of file boxes mounted upon the chains and movable therewith, whereby any box may be brought to position beneath said opening for the examination or removal of its contents.

2. In combination with a filing cabinet, provided with a base extending outwardly beyond the main body thereof, said base having an opening in the upper portion thereof; a plurality of endless chains mounted within the cabinet, each of the chains having a portion of its run extending forwardly beneath the opening aforesaid; a plurality of file boxes carried by the chains, each of said boxes being open at its top and provided with a downwardly and forwardly inclined bottom; and means for moving said chains.

3. In combination with a filing cabinet provided with a base extending outwardly beyond the body of the cabinet, said base having an opening in its upper portion, a pair of endless chains mounted in the cabinet, each of said chains having a portion of its run extending forwardly into the base and beneath the opening aforesaid; a plurality of file boxes pivotally secured to said chains, each of said boxes being open at the top and provided with a downwardly and forwardly inclined bottom; means mounted within the box for holding files or the like which may be placed therein in proper position within the box; means for imparting movement to said chains; and a door or closure for the opening in the base, said closure being adapted to be swung outwardly into a horizontal position and to form a shelf or desk adjacent to the opening.

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

HENRY JACKSON DAVIS.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. HOAG,
FRANK REA.