

No. 788,164.

PATENTED APR. 25, 1905.

P. A. McCASKEY.
CREDIT ACCOUNTING APPLIANCE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 29, 1904.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

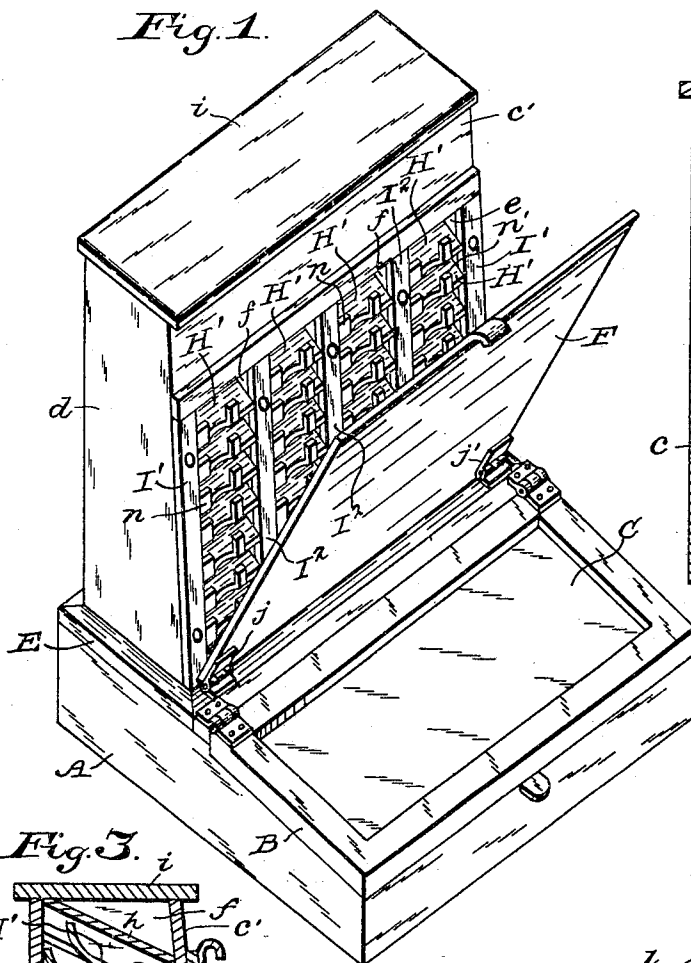


Fig. 2.

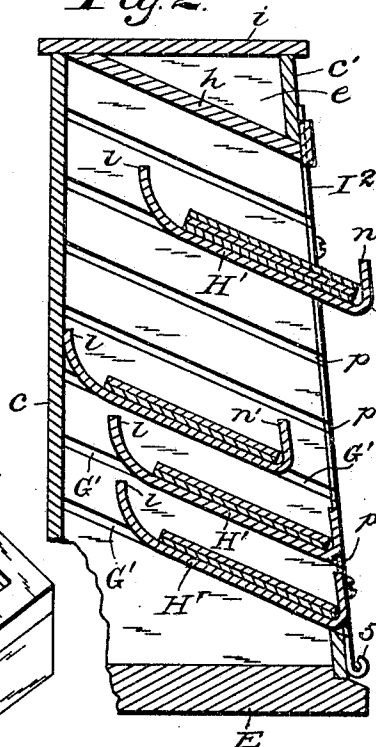
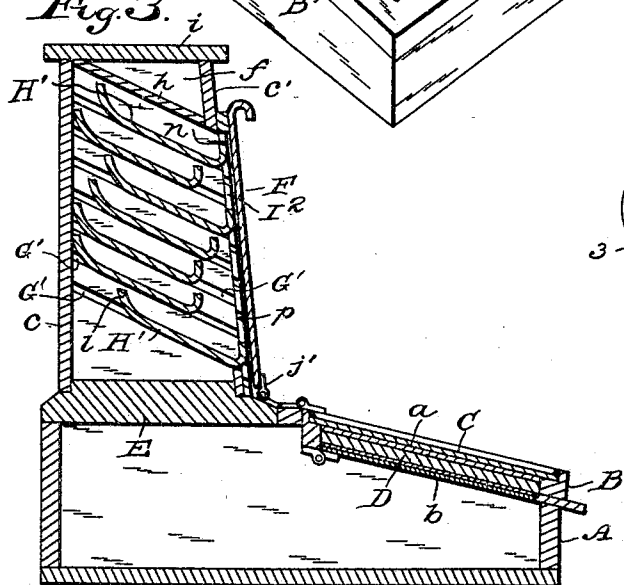


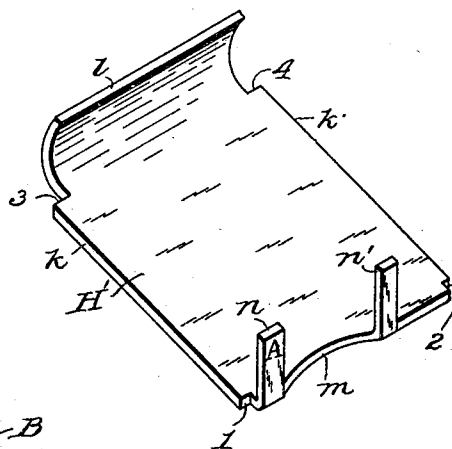
Fig. 3.



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Fig. 4.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

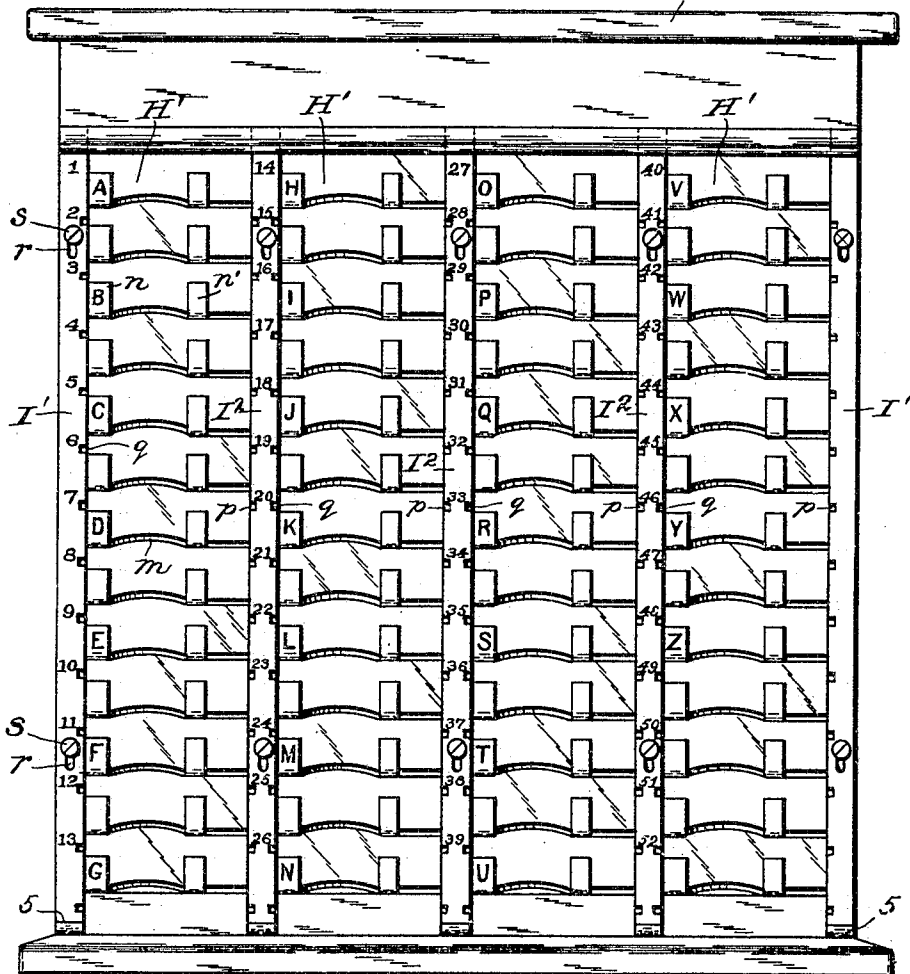


Fig. 6.

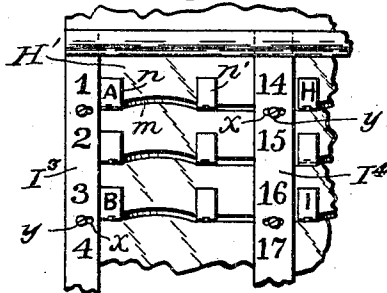
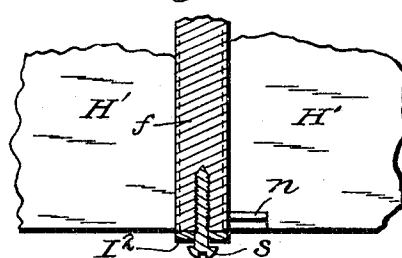


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CREDIT-ACCOUNTING APPLIANCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 788,164, dated April 25, 1905.

Application filed August 29, 1904. Serial No. 222,554.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERRY A. McCASKEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lisbon, in the county of Columbiana and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Credit-Accounting Appliances; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to appliances or devices that are designed to be employed by retail merchants in connection with simple systems for keeping accounts of credit customers; and the invention has reference particularly to indexed cabinets for conveniently holding the duplicate bills or invoices that are made and used in carrying out credit systems.

A particular object of the invention is to provide compact and convenient account-cabinets and bill-holders thereof that may be constructed and maintained at the minimum cost, so that the smaller dealers may be provided with facilities practically as good for the purpose as those enjoyed by larger dealers who may have more elaborate and expensive appliances.

The invention consists in improvements in the bill-holding cabinets and in the bill-holders thereof, and particularly with respect to the indexing features thereof; and the invention consists also in the novel parts and in the combinations and arrangements of parts, as hereinafter particularly described, and pointed out in the claims appended.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective representation of a complete cabinet-desk including the improved bill-holding cabinet; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse sectional view of the cabinet part detached from the desk and partially broken off, the plane of the section being near the farther side of the cabinet; Fig. 3, a vertical central sectional view of the complete cabinet-desk on a plane near the middle partition in Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a perspective view of one of the bill-holders of the cabinet removed therefrom; Fig. 5, a front

elevation of the cabinet detached from the desk part and adapted to be used separately, if so preferred; Fig. 6, a fragmentary front elevation showing portions of the cabinet part in which parts are slightly modified, and Fig. 7 a fragmentary detail view showing a horizontal section of a portion of a vertical partition of the cabinet and connecting parts.

In Fig. 2 several of the bill-holders are omitted and others are changed in position and have bills thereon.

Similar reference characters in the several figures of the drawings designate like parts or features.

In construction a suitable desk part is provided, which comprises a body A and a hinged lid consisting of a frame B, in which is mounted a glass table C and a leaf D, hinged to the frame B. This lid is described in an application for Letters Patent filed on April 27, 1904, Serial No. 205,094, in which the index-sheet *a* on the top of the leaf and the delinquent-list sheets *b* on the bottom of the leaf D are also described, these being arranged conveniently to the credit-accounts in the cabinet part, which is mounted on the desk part. When preferred, however, the desk part may be constructed differently, according to requirements.

The cabinet part, which is adapted to be used either in connection with the desk part or alone, includes a case which comprises a base E, a back *e*, sides *d* and *e*, a suitable number of vertical partitions, as *f*, an inclined partition *h*, and a top *i*, also a front panel *e'* beneath the top *i*. A front door F is connected by hinges *j* and *j'* to the base E and is adapted to close the front of the case from the base up to the panel *e'*; but in some cases the door may be omitted.

The inner sides of the sides *d* and *e* and both sides of the vertical partitions, as *f*, of the case are provided with holder-guides, as G', formed as grooves, and in the guides are mounted adjustable and removable bill-holders, as H', all formed alike, there being a holder in each pair of guides. Each holder, as H', has notched corners 1 2 3 4, leaving straight sides *k* and *k'*, which bear in the

guides, the holder having an upwardly and rearwardly inclined rear end l , which, by reason of the notched rear corners, is narrower than the body of the holder. The front edge of the holder has a recess m , and at opposite sides of the recess are a pair of upturned fingers n and n' . The holders are each somewhat shorter than their guides, so that they may slide therein and will remain in any position in which they may be placed in the guides.

In order to provide gages so that the fronts of the holders may normally be kept in alinement at the front of their case and also to prevent the holders from accidentally sliding out of their guides when adjusting them, gage-plates, as $I^1 I^2$, are mounted on the fronts of the sides d and e and on the partitions between the sides, as f , the plates normally closing the forward ends of the guide-grooves and preventing the withdrawal of the holders. The gage-plates may be variously modified in detail, and in Figs. 2, 3, and 5 those that are connected to the partitions each have notches p in one edge thereof and like notches q in the opposite edge thereof, and the other plates that are connected to the case sides have similar notches in only one edge thereof, the notches being spaced the same distance apart as are the guides for the holders and permit the holders to move out of their guides when the plates are properly adjusted vertically so that the notches are opposite to the ends of the guides. Each gage-plate is supported adjustably by means of a suitable number of screws, as s , each screw extending through a slot, as r , that is formed in the plate, and into the case part, so that the plates may move vertically, and each plate has a handle 5 for its operation.

For indexing purposes a number is placed at the side of each bill-holder on the adjacent gage-plate, and in order to augment the indexing facilities some of the bill-holders are provided with index-letters, so that the customers' accounts may be grouped under the different alphabetical designations. The holders having index-letters may be shifted about, as occasion may require.

In some cases, which may be preferable, the gage-plates, as $I^3 I^4$, may be arranged to move laterally instead of having longitudinal movements vertically, in which case they will have transversely-arranged slots x to receive retaining-screws y , as indicated in Fig. 6, and the notches will not be required in their edges.

The fingers n and n' may stand perpendicularly or they may lean inwardly at their tops, as indicated in Fig. 2 particularly, and various other modifications may obviously be made, such as the omission of one finger.

In practical use the bill-holders will rest in their guides against their gages, the duplicate bills, a convenient form of which is illustrated in Letters Patent No. 717,247, dated December

30, 1902, will be placed on the bill-holders systematically, so that they will be indexed and be conveniently accessible for future reference. The bills may vary slightly in length, and whether so or not the turned-up ends l of the holders will cause the bills to slide forwardly and pack against the fingers n and n' , so that air-drafts will not be able to dislodge the bills. The bills will contain the customers' names and also will be numbered, and they will be arranged with respect to the numbers on the gages, as well as with regard to the alphabetical designations, so that the dealer may become familiar with his customers' numbers taken in connection with the known alphabetical designations. The holders having the index-letters will be arranged to suit requirements—as, for instance, there may be several holders, more or less, that have no index-letters following each holder that has an index-letter. The holders and their contents may be removed from their case and be placed in fire-proof safes for safety at night, if desired. When the cabinet part is mounted on the desk part, the index-sheet and the delinquent-sheets will be in most convenient positions for ready reference; but when the desk part is not furnished an index-book may be used or an index-sheet may be attached to the top of the door F , if one is provided. In some cases the names of the customers will be written on their bills, at the bottoms thereof, and the total amounts of the bills will appear at the bottoms thereof, so that they may be read on each holder without removing the bills therefrom. Such names and words so written on the bottoms of the bills contained in any holder may be readily exposed to view by pushing rearwardly the holder next above the one containing the bills to be exposed. The holder in position to expose the bills in the holder next beneath is illustrated in Fig. 2, wherein there is also illustrated a holder partially withdrawn.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. Credit-accounting appliances including a case having holder-guides, bill-holders mounted removably in the guides, and movable gage-plates mounted on the case and normally retaining the holders in the guides.

2. Credit-accounting appliances including a case having inclined guides, bill-holders mounted slidably in the guides and having upturned rear ends, and gage-plates mounted on the case limiting the forward movements of the bill-holders.

3. Credit-accounting appliances including a case having inclined guides, bill-holders mounted slidably in the guides and having upturned fingers at their forward ends and also having upturned rear ends, and gage-plates mounted on the case limiting the forward movements of the bill-holders.

4. Credit-accounting appliances including a

case having inclined guides and also provided with gage-plates at the forward ends of the guides adapted for the application of index characters thereto, bill-holders mounted in the guides and retained therein by the gage-plates and provided with upturned fingers at the fronts thereof.

5 5. Credit-accounting appliances including a case having guides therein, bill-holders mounted slidably in the guides, gage-plates having slots therein and serving to retain the holders in the guides, and securing devices attached to the case and extending through the slots in the gage-plates serving to support the gage-plates and permit movements thereof to release the bill-holders.

10 6. Credit-accounting appliances including a case comprising ends and partitions, bill-holders mounted removably in the case, gage-plates connected movably to the fronts of the partitions and the ends of the case and having notches therein through which the bill-holders may be removed from the case.

15 7. Credit-accounting appliances including a desk part, a cabinet part mounted on the desk part and comprising a case, a hinged door for the case, bill-holders mounted slidably and removably in the case, and gage-plates mounted movably on the case and normally retain-

ing the bill-holders and also gaging the movements thereof, substantially as set forth. 30

8. A device of the character described comprising a case, holders in said case, said holders being each provided with retaining means at their front ends and with an upwardly and rearwardly inclined rear portion. 35

9. A device of the character described comprising a case, inclined guides therein, holders slidably mounted in said guides, each of said holders being provided at its front end with upwardly-extending retaining means and having its rear portion upwardly and rearwardly inclined. 40

10. A device of the character described, comprising a case having guides therein, holders movably supported in said guides, and gage-plates adjustably secured to said case and adapted in one position to permit the withdrawal of the holders from the case and in another position to engage said holders to prevent such withdrawal. 45 50

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

PERRY A. McCASKEY.

Witnesses:

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JOHN J. BROWN.