No. 743,429. PATENTED NOV. 10, 1903.

W. C. BENBOW.

FILE CASE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 29, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1

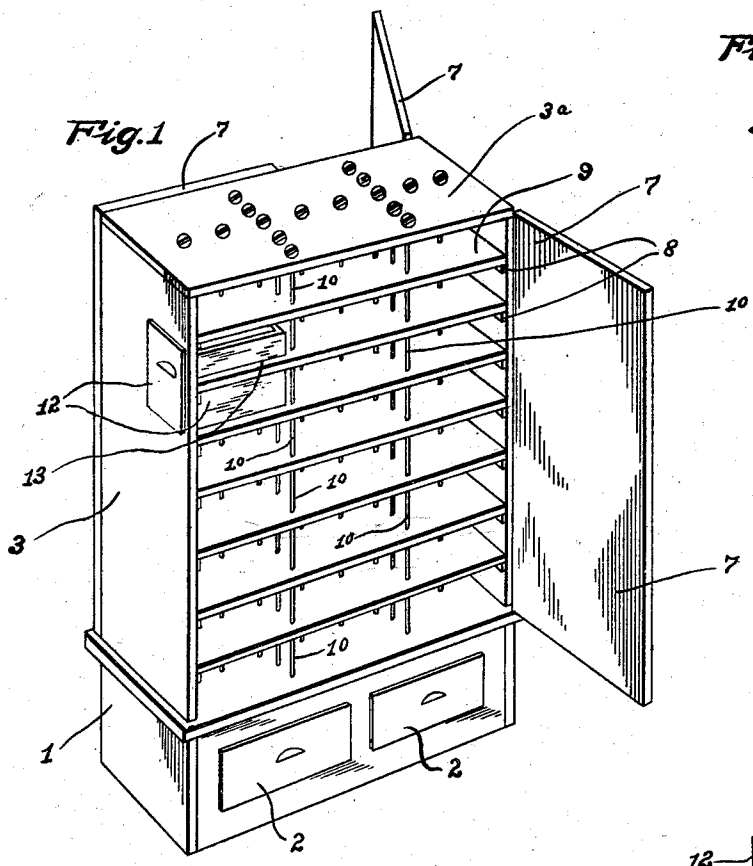


Fig. 2

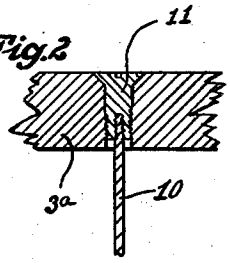


Fig. 3

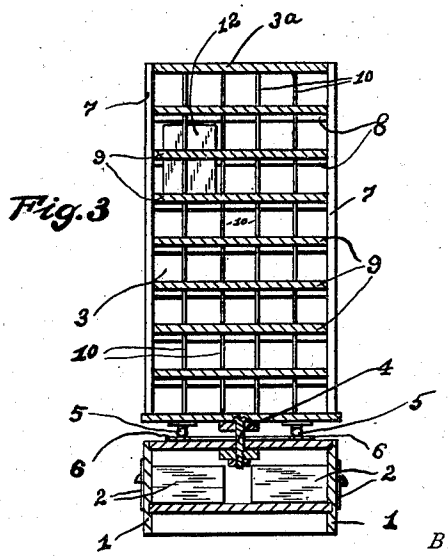
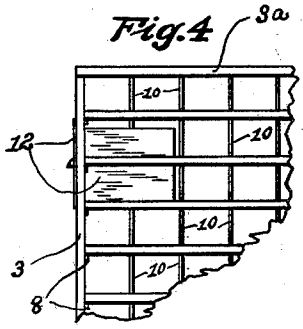


Fig. 4



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No. 743,429. Patented November 10, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. BENBOW, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

FILE-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 743,429, dated November 10, 1903.

Application filed January 29, 1902. Serial No. 91,682. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. BENBOW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in File-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the improvement of file-cases, and has particular relation to the improvement of file-cases adapted for the reception of catalogues and similar articles.

The objects of my invention are to provide a file-case of improved construction and arrangement of parts, to provide improved means for forming and regulating the sizes of compartments, to provide improved means for removably supporting the compartment-dividing rods, and to produce other improvements, the details of which will be more fully pointed out hereinafter. These objects I accomplish in the manner illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of my improved file-case with one of the doors removed for the sake of clearness in illustration. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view through a portion of the upper end of the casing, showing the means of supporting the compartment-forming rods. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the case, taken transversely through the shelves; and Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a portion of the case.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In carrying out my invention I employ a suitable base-frame 1, which is preferably of the oblong form shown and which may be provided with removable drawers 2. The upright file-case body 3 is pivotally mounted upon said base 1 through the medium of a suitable pivot-bolt 4, which depends from the central portion of the under side of the file-case body and passes loosely through an opening in the central portion of said base. The under side of the body 3 is provided at desirable intervals with depending casters 5, which are arranged on an imaginary circular line drawn on the under side of the casing and which are adapted to bear upon the base 1 or upon a suitable track-plate 6, surmounting the same.

In the construction of the case 3 the otherwise open front and rear sides thereof are adapted to be closed by suitably-hinged doors 7. Between the vertical end walls of the case are supported upon cleats 8 or otherwise the ends of parallel and horizontal shelves 9, the latter being arranged at desirable intervals. In order to divide the spaces between these shelves and the space between the upper and lower shelves and the upper and lower sides of the casing into suitably-sized compartments, I provide a plurality of vertical rods 10, which intersect said shelves at desirable points. In order to provide a desirable form of detachable support for each of the rods, an opening is bored vertically through the top 3^a of the case 3, into which is inserted a wood-screw 11, the lower end of this wood-screw having screwed in connection therewith the upper threaded end portion of the rod 10. The arrangement of the rods is preferably substantially that shown in the drawings, in which a central row of said rods is employed, said row extending approximately throughout the width of the casing and is intersected by cross-rows, there being two of these cross-rows shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, with the result that the intersection of the rods and shelves form between each pair of shelves six compartments. It is obvious, however, that any desired number of the rods may be used and that the same may be arranged in any desired relative positions, so as to form compartments of different numbers and sizes. It will here be noted that besides dividing the interior of the cabinet into compartments the rods 10 prevent looseness and accidental displacement of the shelves 9 when the doors are open, and any shelf may be removed to increase the height of any compartment by lifting the rods clear of such shelf and then drawing the latter outwardly through any open side of the cabinet, the rods of course being replaced after the removal of the shelf.

In one side of the case 3 I provide a removable drawer 12, one or more of the shelves 9 being recessed at its end, as indicated at 13 in Fig. 1, to permit the entrance of the body of the drawer between the shelves, also to form a guide, so as to prevent lateral play or

looseness of the drawer. This drawer is particularly designed for the reception of cards where a card-index-file system is employed.

In case it is desired to remove the rods 10 or certain numbers thereof for the purpose of increasing the size of the compartments it is obvious that the screw 11 may be readily removed with the result that the rod may be drawn outward therewith. By filing or cutting off the lower portions of the rods 10 it will be seen that two or more compartments may be merged into one, and that this severing of said rods will in no way interfere with their support.

It is obvious that a file-case of the character herein shown and described will be exceedingly convenient for the reception of catalogues, records, or papers of any character, and that the shelves above or below the various compartments may be provided with index letters or numbers in the usual manner.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a file-case, the combination with a casing-body and edgewise-removable shelves arranged at intervals therein, of a plurality of endwise-removable compartment-forming rods intersecting said shelves vertically and removably suspended from the top of said casing, substantially as specified.

2. In a file-case, the combination with a casing-body, removable shelves arranged at intervals therein, said casing-body having openings in its upper side, of rods intersecting said shelves, and rod-supports removably inserted in said upper side openings with which the upper ends of said rods are connected, substantially as specified.

3. A cabinet, having a series of edgewise-removable shelves, and a series of endwise-removable rods piercing a portion of the body of the cabinet and the shelves to divide the interior of the cabinet into compartments and to prevent looseness and accidental displacement of the shelves.

4. A cabinet, having a series of corresponding ledges, edgewise-removable shelves supported upon the ledges, and a series of endwise-removable rods piercing one end of the cabinet and the shelves to prevent looseness and accidental displacement of the latter.

5. The combination with a cabinet, of a vertical series of removable shelves therein, removable rods piercing the shelves and dividing the cabinet into compartments, and rod-holding devices removably carried by the top of the cabinet and connected to the upper ends of the respective rods.

6. The combination with a cabinet, of a vertical series of shelves removably supported therein, removable rods piercing the shelves and provided with upper screw-threaded ends, and removable rod-holders piercing the top of the cabinet and provided with screw-threaded sockets receiving the screw-threaded ends of the respective rods.

7. The combination with a cabinet, of a vertical series of removable shelves, removable rods piercing the shelves and having their upper ends screw-threaded, and wood-screws removably piercing the top of the cabinet and provided at their inner ends with screw-threaded sockets receiving the screw-threaded ends of the respective rods.

8. The combination with a cabinet-body which is open at the front and the back thereof, of doors to close the open front and back, a vertical series of shelves within the cabinet and edgewise removable through the open front and back thereof, and vertical rods piercing the top of the cabinet and the shelves and also removable vertically to permit the removal of the shelves, said rods forming means to prevent looseness and accidental displacement of the shelves.

9. A cabinet-body having a series of edgewise-removable partitions, and a series of endwise-removable rods piercing a portion of the cabinet and the shelves to prevent looseness and accidental displacement of said shelves and to permit removal thereof when the rods are withdrawn therefrom.

10. A cabinet-body having a series of removable partitions, a series of endwise-removable rods piercing one side of the cabinet-body and the shelves to divide the cabinet into compartments and to prevent looseness and accidental displacement of the shelves, and removable rod-holders piercing said side of the cabinet and provided in their inner ends with screw-threaded sockets, the adjacent ends of the rods being screw-threaded and received within the screw-threaded sockets of the respective holders.

WILLIAM C. BENBOW.

In presence of—
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A. L. PHELPS.