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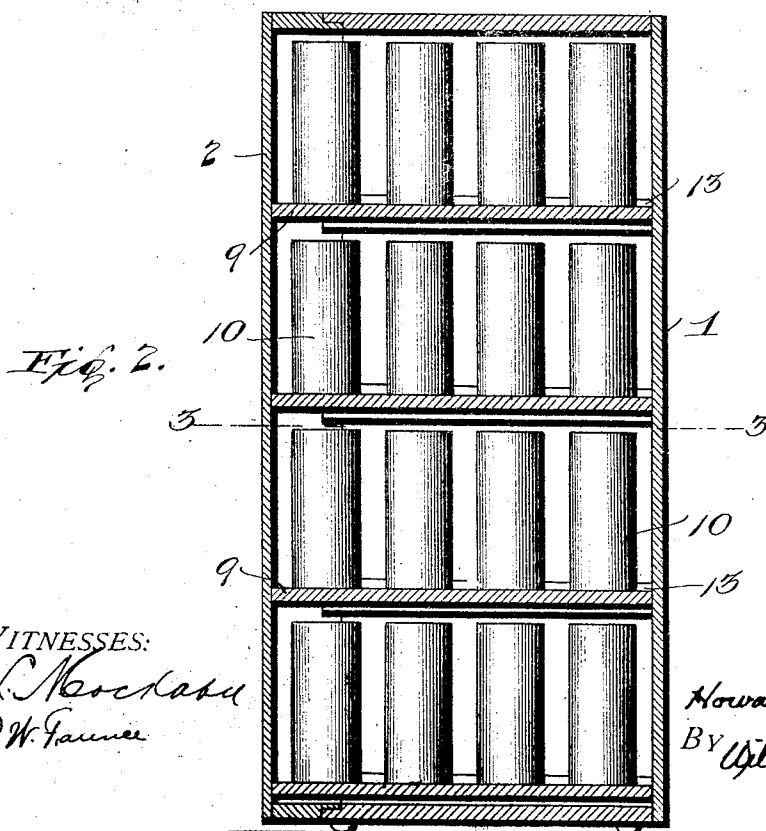
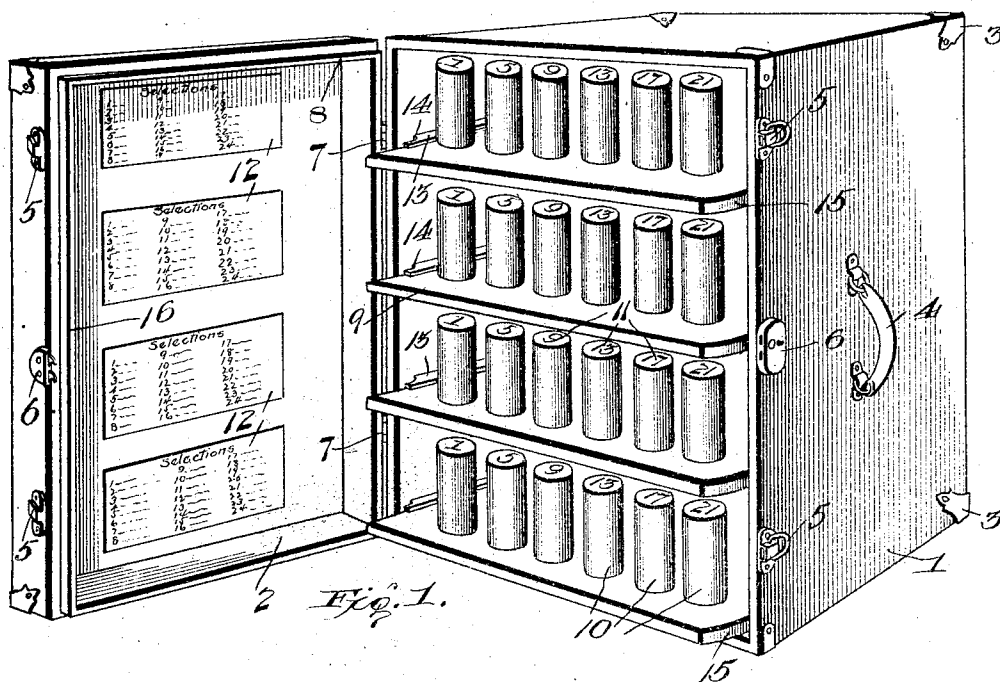
H. W. TOPHAM.

PATENTED JUNE 5, 1906.

PORTABLE CABINET CARRYING CASE FOR PHONOGRAPH AND GRAPHOPHONE RECORDS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 24, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES:
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P. W. Fanner

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His Attorney

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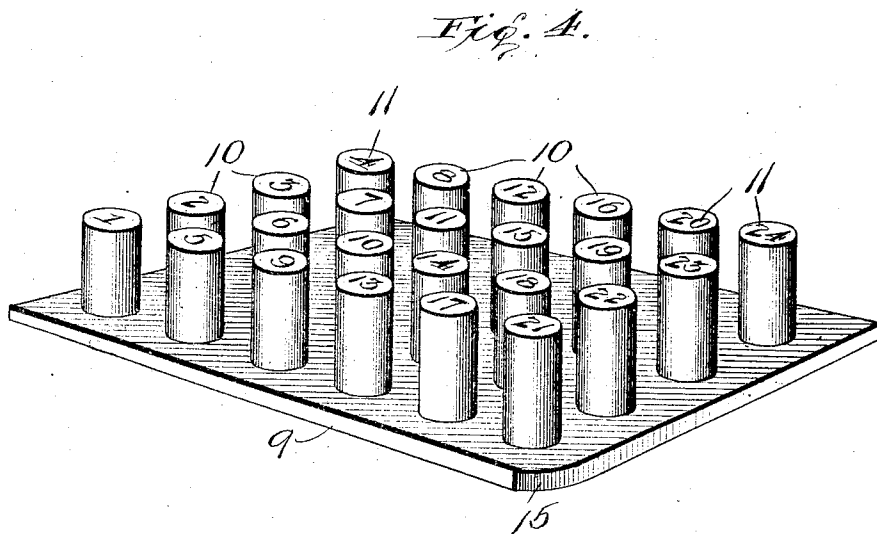
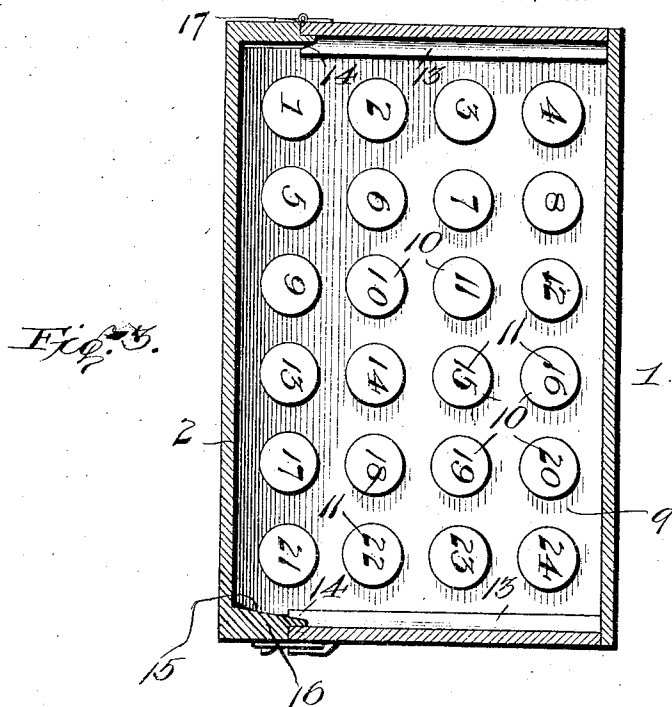
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J. L. Montague

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD W. TOPHAM, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
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PORTABLE CABINET-CARRYING CASE FOR PHONOGRAPH AND GRAPHOPHONE RECORDS.

No. 822,875.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 5, 1906.

Application filed March 24, 1905. Serial No. 251,843.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD W. TOPHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Cabinet-Carrying Cases for Phonograph and Graphophone Records, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved portable cabinet carrying and packing case of a type specially designed for handling phonograph and graphophone records, while at the same time being so constructed as to be capable of general use as a small case or valise.

To this end the invention primarily has in view an improved construction of portable case in the general form of a valise or hand-trunk and embodying means for carrying a plurality of phonograph or graphophone records.

In this connection the invention has in view the provision of a plurality of record-carriers in the form of removable partitions and each of which is provided with a plurality of record-holders of a form adapted to receive and support thereon the common cylindrical type of phonograph or graphophone records.

A further object of the invention is to provide simple and practical means for rendering the case thoroughly dust and weather proof, so as to keep the records therein in the best possible condition, while at the same time providing means for securing and bracing the individual record-carriers or partitions in such a manner as to positively prevent independent movement thereof, which would tend to jar the records carried thereby.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel arrangement of the record-carriers or partitions in conjunction with means provided upon the lid of the case whereby each record on each carrier or partition may be quickly and readily identified for selection.

With these and other objects in view, which will more readily appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated, and claimed.

The preferred embodiment of the latter is

shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portable case embodying the present invention and illustrating the lid thereof open to expose the arrangement of the individual record-carriers therein and the indicating-lists. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the case with the lid closed. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the individual carriers or partitions.

Like reference-numerals designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the invention the body of the case (designated by the numeral 1) is preferably in the form of a rectangular box open at one side and designed to be closed by a flanged lid 2. The box-body 1 may be fitted with any suitable trimmings commonly employed by a trunk or valise maker to give the case the appearance of a valise or hand-trunk such as used by commercial agents. To this end the box-body 1 is preferably equipped with metal corner-protectors 3, a carrying-handle 4, and the hasp and lock-fittings 5 and 6, respectively, which are employed for securing the lid in its closed position in a manner similar to the fastening of a trunk or valise lid. These details, however, form no part of the present invention and may be varied to suit the option of the manufacturer.

The flanged lid or cover 2 for the open side of the box-body is hinged at one edge, as at 7, to one edge of the body, so that the lid may be thrown back entirely out of the way of the removable record-carriers nested within the box-body, and a distinctive feature of the invention resides in providing the lid 2 at the edge of the flange thereof with a continuous narrowed guard-rib 8, extending throughout the length of the lid-flange and adapted to tightly register inside the edge of the box-body 1 to provide a thoroughly dust and weather proof joint between the lid and the box-body, and thus protect the phonograph or graphophone records from weather conditions and dust, which is a very necessary and desirable feature in a case of the character herein claimed.

The box 1, which constitutes the body of the case, is designed to accommodate therein a plurality of record-carriers in the form of removable partitions or boards 9, each of which has securely united to one side of the same a multiplicity of record-holders 10, preferably of a cylindrical form and size to receive thereon the common cylindrical type of phonograph or graphophone record.

While any desired number of record-holders 10 may be secured upon one side of each of the partitions 9, said holders are so spaced and disposed as to keep adjacent records entirely out of contact and prevent the possibility of the same knocking or jarring against each other. An additional feature of the invention in connection with the plurality of record-holders 10, projected laterally from one side of the record-carrier or partition 9, is the provision upon the outer exposed end of each record-holder 10 of an indicating number or character 11, which corresponds to the number upon a selecting-list 12, which is secured to the inner side of the main wall of the lid.

There is one of the selecting-lists 12 for each of the record-carriers or partitions 9, and the selecting-list for each record-carrier or partition is arranged in a position opposite thereof upon the lid of the case, so that when the lid is thrown open and one of the record-carriers or partitions 9 be removed by means of the indicating characters 11 upon the record-holders 10 any individual record may be immediately selected by reference to the number on the selecting-list 12 associated with the said record-carrier or partition. A plurality of record-carriers or partitions 9 are nested in parallel spaced relation within the box-body of the case, and to provide for properly guiding and holding the record-carriers or partitions in position the box-body 1 has fitted to opposite sides thereof a series of longitudinally-grooved guiding and holding strips 13. The opposite guiding and holding strips are paired, so that directly-opposite strips slidably receive the end edges of a single partition 9, and therefore provide means whereby such partition may be readily inserted in place and also easily removed from the case to obtain access to the records. The guiding and holding strips 13, extending the full depth of the box-body, are provided at their upper ends with notched seats 14 to receive therein the guard-rib 8 of the flanged lid.

Another feature of the invention resides in providing the front outer corners of all of the record-carriers or partitions 9 with inclined shoulders 15, adapted to be engaged by the inclined wedge-face 16, provided at the inner side of the front outer flange of the lid 2. By reason of this construction when the lid is closed the face 16 wedges against the shoulders 15 of all of the partitions 9 and by so

doing presses the partitions against the walls of the body 1, and thereby serves to secure and brace such partitions in such a manner as to prevent jarring of the records carried by the partitions.

Should it be desired to use the case as a valise or hand-trunk for general purposes, all of the record-carriers or partitions 9 can be removed. It will also be observed that by the compactness of all parts of my case all loss of space is obviated. In this connection attention is particularly directed to the space between any pair of the partitions, which only slightly exceeds the length of a record. Moreover, by the employment of feet for the case to rest upon sufficient space is allowed for the lid to freely swing to its open and closed positions when case is used as a cabinet.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction and advantages of the herein-described case will be readily apparent without further description.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a casing having an open side and a removable transverse partition having a portion thereof projected beyond the open side of the casing, of a lid or cover constructed to exert a wedging action upon the projecting portion of the partition to urge said portion in an endwise direction.

2. The combination with an open-sided casing, of a removable partition therein and a movable lid or cover constructed to engage the partition and urge the same toward one end of the casing.

3. A portable case of the class described, comprising a box-body, a flanged lid therefor having a wedge-face at the inner side of its front outer flange, a series of guiding and holding strips arranged at the inner side of the box-body, and a plurality of removable record-carrying partitions, each of said partitions slidably engaging a pair of said strips and being provided with a plurality of record-holders, said partitions also being each provided at one corner with an inclined shoulder engaged by the wedge-face of the lid.

4. A portable case of the class described, comprising a box-body having a plurality of guides provided at their outer ends with notched seats, record-carriers engaging said guides, and a flanged lid having at the edge of its flange a continuous guard-rib engaging within the open side of the box-body and also fitting in said notched seats.

5. A portable record-holder comprising an open-sided casing having its walls provided with guides, a plurality of removable record-carrying partitions slidably in the guides and having inclined faces, and a cover hinged to

the casing to close the open side thereof and having an inclined face arranged to engage the inclined faces of the partitions to urge said partitions toward the back and also toward one end of the casing and to retain the partition against rattling and vibration during transportation of the holder.

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

HOWARD W. TOPHAM.

Witnesses:

JAMES S. TOPHAM,
HENRY J. GROSS.