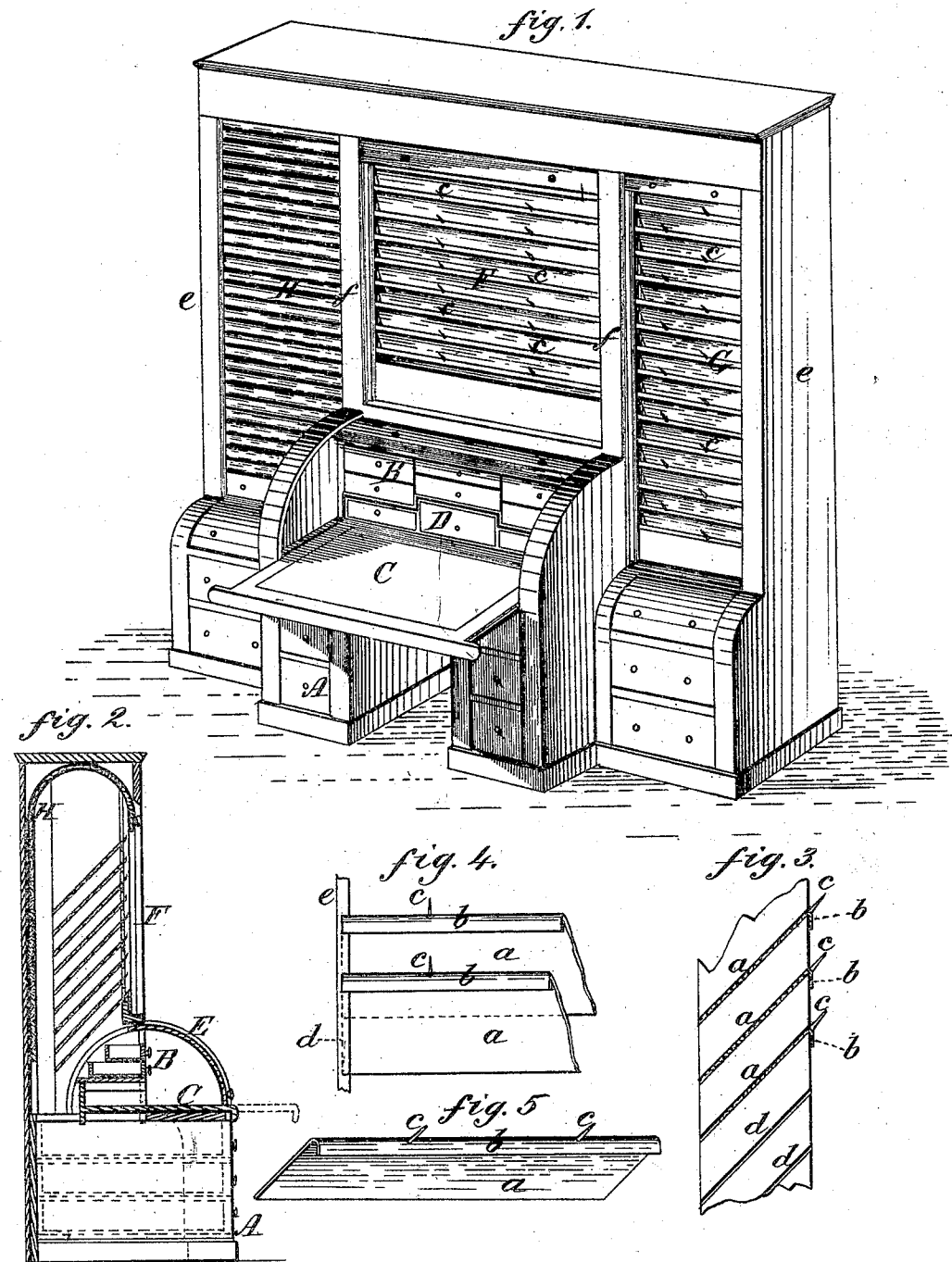


C. N. AYRES.
COUPON TICKET-CASE.

No. 172,686.

Patented Jan. 25, 1876.



Witnesses:
J. M. Wagner,
J. A. Rutherford

Inventor:
Charles N. Ayres,
by Johnson & Johnson,
his Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES N. AYRES, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN COUPON-TICKET CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **172,686**, dated January 25, 1876; application filed December 11, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES N. AYRES, of Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Coupon-Ticket Case, of which the following is a specification:

By my improvement I design to produce a coupon-ticket case that will hold the largest number of tickets in the smallest possible space, and afford all necessary desk facilities as a base structure for the ticket-holder, in order to avoid the necessity of separate desks. The width of the case to hold any number of tickets need not be over eight inches. In my plan of shelves, to obtain this advantage I make them of equal length, arranged at an angle of about forty-five degrees, of sheet metal, and form upon the front edge an upset brace of equal length with the shelves. These braces serve also as the support for the ticket-hooks by upsetting or bending the front edges of the shelves over at an angle to present a vertical front bearing, so as to form acute angles with the shelves. This upset brace serves another very important function—that of a stop to hold each end of the shelf in place in the grooves within which it is set.

These stops are made by the ends of the upset brace lapping over and upon the front edge of the grooved side pieces of the case, so that in fitting the shelves in their grooves the angle shelf-braces will pass down and lock over the front edges of these grooved sides, and thus support the shelves without fastenings. The bracing shelf-front serves to give the shelf great rigidity throughout its length, and prevents its sagging or bending under its own and the weight of the tickets, and also forms a drop-lock to maintain the shelves in place. The shelves are arranged in tiers above a base desk structure, consisting of a central desk, A, with drawers B in front, and a sliding extension, C, provided with a rear guard, D, of blank drawer-fronts, so that, when drawn out flush with the drawer fronts, it will show the drawers complete; but its object is to prevent the papers and inkstand from being carried over the inner edge of the extension-slide C when the latter is pushed in, as they would be liable to do, and thereby obtain an extension desk-slide, C, on which the papers will remain undis-

turbed. The center desk has a quadrant-shaped cover, E, and above this rises the center tier of ticket-shelves F, while the side tiers of ticket-shelves G rise from the side tiers of drawers, giving thereby a most compact arrangement of ticket-holders and desk. The ticket-holders present perpendicular fronts, and they are provided with flexible splint covers H, fitted to move in grooves in the sides, and vertical partitions, which form the several shelf-tiers.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of a coupon-ticket case with desk attachment, and embracing my invention; Fig. 2, a vertical cross-section; Fig. 3, a sectional view of the shelves on an enlarged scale; Fig. 4, a front view of a portion of two of the shelves enlarged, and Fig. 5 a view of one of the braced shelves.

The ticket-shelves *a* are arranged horizontally, in vertical tiers, and are of tin or galvanized iron, with an upset surface, *b*, formed at an acute angle with the shelf, as shown in Fig. 3, and of equal length therewith, to receive the pins *c*, and form a ticket-bearing surface. These shelves are secured in grooves *d*, formed in the side pieces *e*, and the vertical partitions *f* forming the tiers. These shelves are placed at an angle of forty-five degrees from a vertical line, and with suitable spaces between them for the reception of the tickets. Their bracing-fronts are turned down, as shown, to receive the pins, and allow the face of the tickets to hang vertically over the braces. By these braces the shelves are stiffened horizontally, and by fitting and wedging down over the edges of the grooved sides, as shown in Fig. 4, they serve as drop-holds, so that the shelves require no fastenings.

By this construction I am enabled to use thin shelves, which is an important advantage in gaining space.

The steep angle at which they are arranged also economizes space, in requiring a comparatively narrow case with a perpendicular front.

The flexible splint covers H open and close vertically within grooves, and they move over the ticket-holders to uncover them, and descend in the space between the rear ends of the shelves and the rear side of the case, as shown in Fig. 2. When drawn down they

cover the front of the ticket-cases, making a compact construction without doors. The upper portions of the guides for the flexible covers are rounded to admit of easy movement.

The desk attachment gives great convenience in a coupon-ticket case, in affording all the facilities for keeping accounts and books in the same article in which the tickets are displayed, and within convenient reach from the desk.

The back of the case is made removable to recover any tickets which may become detached and fall down behind the shelves.

I give notice that I shall apply for a design patent for substantially the design shown in the accompanying drawings.

I claim—

1. In a coupon-ticket case, the shelves pro-

vided with the upset longitudinal front bracing-stiffeners and bearing-surfaces *b*, of equal length with the shelves, provided with pins *c* for the tickets, and arranged at acute angles with the shelves, as shown and described.

2. The shelves arranged at angles of about forty-five degrees, and secured in place by drop-holds formed by the upset front bearing-surfaces and stiffeners, as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES N. AYRES.

Witnesses:

DWIGHT C. REXFORD,
HENRY W. MONTROSE.