A. ST. C. EDE.

FILING SYSTEM.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 3, 1919.

1,365,388. **Patented Jan. 11, 1921.**

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

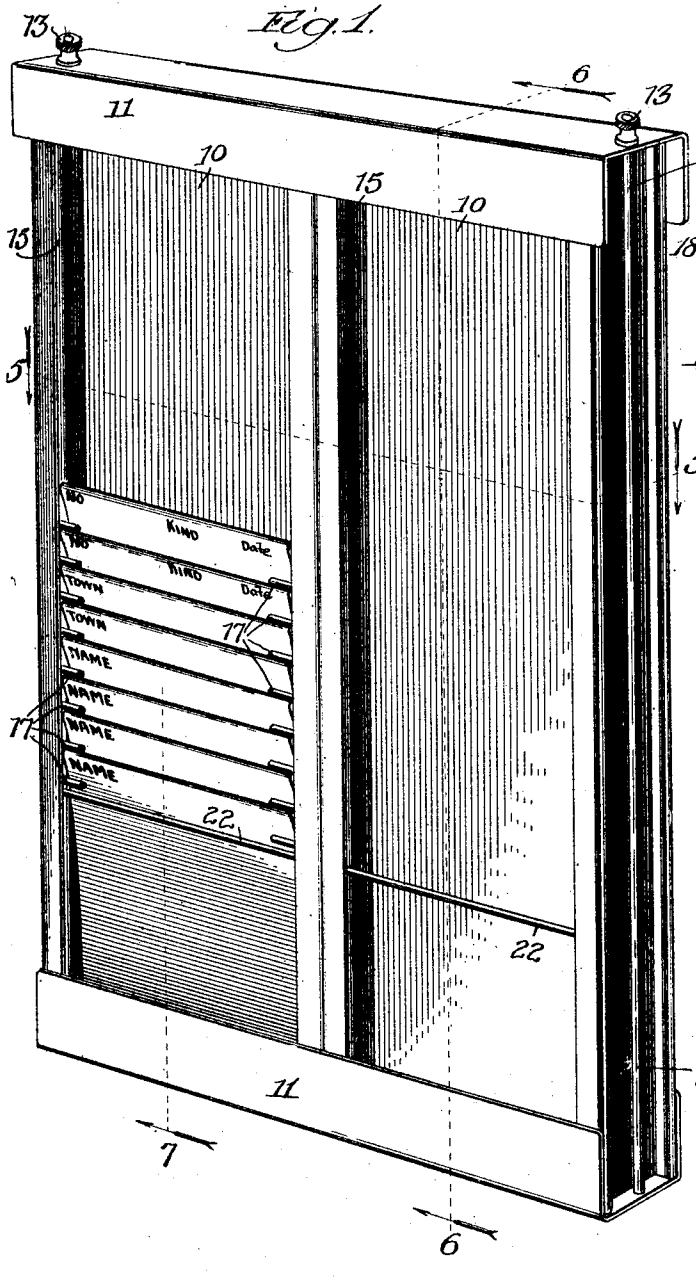


Fig. 2.

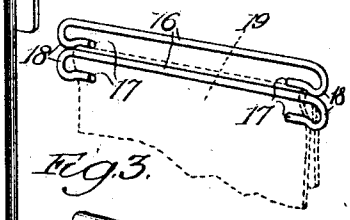


Fig. 3.

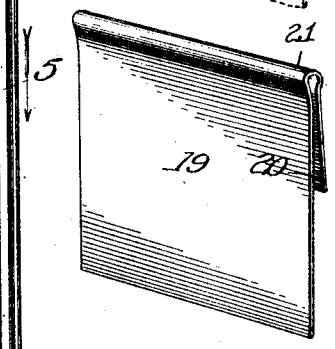


Fig. 4.

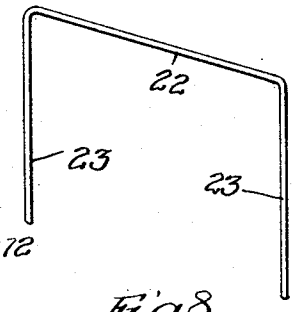
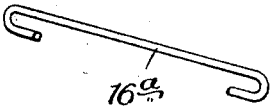


Fig. 8.



Inventor:
Allsworth St. Clair Ede,
By Dyer, Horth, Lee, Christton & Niles,
Attys.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

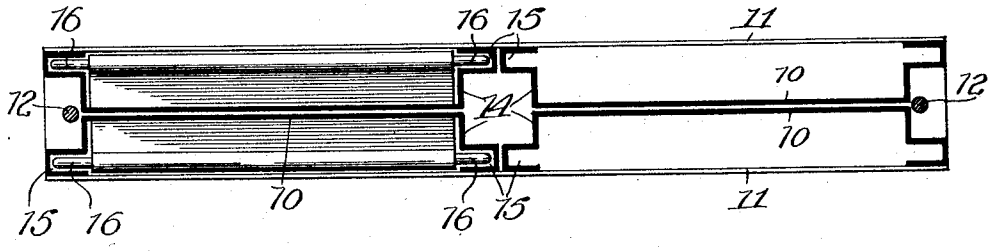


Fig. 6.

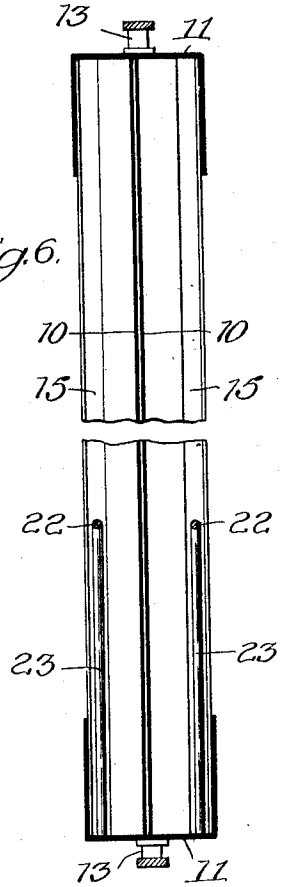
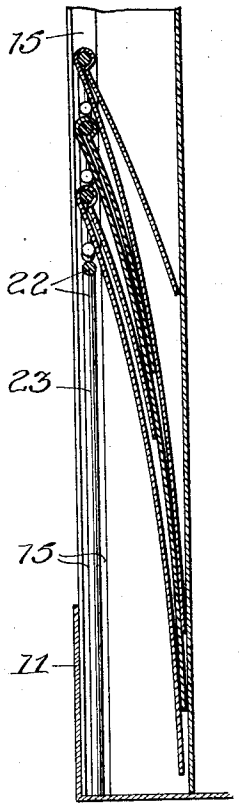


Fig. 7.



Inventor:
Allsworth St. Clair Ede,
By Dyrenforth, Lee, Chritton & Wiles,
Att'ys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLSWORTH ST. CLAIR EDE, OF DUBUQUE, IOWA.

FILING SYSTEM.

1,365,388. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 11, 1921.

Application filed July 3, 1919. Serial No. 308,612.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLSWORTH ST. CLAIR EDE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dubuque, in the county of Dubuque and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Filing Systems, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to filing systems or cabinets, and particularly to those having a rack and removable cards.

An object of this invention is to provide a filing system or cabinet which will give easy access to any card desired which will allow the cards to be readily inserted or withdrawn, as for adding data or for any other purpose.

Another object is to provide a filing system having the fewest possible number of dissimilar parts, all of which are of simple construction and inexpensive to manufacture.

These and other objects which will appear from the specification are accomplished by my invention which comprises among other things a filing cabinet having a rack, cards slidable in said rack, the sides of the rack acting as guides for said cards and a holder for each card.

In another aspect my invention comprises a card holder for filing cabinets having a straight member with means for gripping a card such as returned or bent back ends.

Referring now to the drawings,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cabinet or case embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a card holder, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a card; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a stop for the cards; Fig. 5 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1; Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1, showing the cards and holders removed; Fig. 7 is an enlarged sectional view on the line 7—7 of Fig. 1; Fig. 8 is a modified holder.

I have illustrated my invention in connection with a filing cabinet which consists preferably of a number of sections 10 placed back to back and edge to edge and maintained in this relation by means of end plates 11 and guide rods 12, the latter being secured by means of thumb nuts 13. Each cabinet section consists of a flat back portion with short sides 14 which are turned up at right angles to the back portion. The sides are then carried around as clearly shown in Fig. 5 so as to form a deep groove, the grooves on the two sides facing each other. Holders 16 are formed preferably of wire with return ends having a rounded or bulged portion 18 and a raised end portion 17. This raised end portion 17 extends in a plane slightly above that of the lower corner portion of the bend 18 and, as will be seen in Fig. 2, exerts a gripping action on the front face of card and causes an inward bend of the card with reference to the plane of such bend 18. The end portion helps retain its own card by lateral pressure thereon, but does not touch the top of the next lower card. The pressure of the column as in raising or lowering is transmitted through the holders alone. The length of these holders is such that they will have a little end play when placed in the groove 15 of one of the cabinet sections. A card 19 is adapted to fit over the holder 16 and slide between the sides 14 of the cabinet section. This card is preferably bent so as to have a long front section and a comparatively short rear section 20, the bend being so formed as to provide a slightly enlarged semi-cylindrical portion 21 when the front section and the rear section 20 are brought near each other. At the bottom of each cabinet section is placed a wire stop 22 which preferably has bent ends 23 which are adapted to lie in the groove 15 and be soldered therein.

In operation the holders 16 are first placed transversely of the groove 15 and then the cards 19 are fitted down into place as shown in Figs. 2 and 7. Owing to the semi-cylindrical section 21 of each card it has a tendency to grip the wire holder. This gripping action is also increased by the pressure which the long and short flaps of the card exert against the back of the section 10. This action is more clearly illustrated in Fig. 7. Because of this frictional action when any card or any number of cards are shoved up they will remain stationary at any point. The cards are placed one behind the other with only the upper portion of each exposed. The width of this exposed portion is determined by means of the returned ends 17 of the holders. We can thus vary the amount of the card exposed by varying the width of the gap in the rounded portions 18. The indices will be carried at the top of the card. This may consist of the name of an individual or of a firm, or it

may be a number or the name of a town, depending of course upon the purpose for which the card cabinet is used.

The desired information is then carried upon the lower part of the card; just enough of the upper part of the card need be exposed to give the necessary indicia. It is possible therefore to get a great many cards in a very limited space by means of my filing cabinet. By means of this cabinet the cards are made very readily accessible. Suppose for example it was desired to examine a card marked "A", it is only necessary to place the finger upon the card so marked and raise it and all of the cards above it until the desired card is completely exposed. The card may then be withdrawn by pushing directly upward upon it, the card above it remaining suspended or held by the frictional action which I have previously explained.

It will readily be understood that a system of this kind can very readily be expanded without changing the form of the section but merely by increasing the number thereof, by placing additional sections for instance side by side and increasing the length of the end strips 11.

While I have shown and described but a single embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that it is capable of many modifications. Changes therefore in the construction and arrangement may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed in the appended claims.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A filing cabinet comprising a rack having a back, sides and a groove adjacent each side, a member having returned ends adapted to lie crosswise in said grooves, a card adapted to be bent around said member and under said returned ends so as to place the card under flexure by bringing the lower portion of it against the back of said rack.

2. A filing cabinet comprising a rack having a back and grooves fronting each other and spaced from said back and from each other, a member having returned ends adapted to lie crosswise in said grooves, a card adapted to be bent around said member and under said returned ends so as to place the card under flexure by bringing the lower portion of it against the back of said rack.

3. A card for use in a filing cabinet bent upon itself between its ends to form a semi-cylindrical enlarged portion at the line of bending, a flat face and a back portion substantially parallel thereto, and a holder for said card having a straight portion over which the bent portion of said card extends, said holder being provided with means for gripping said card below the semi-cylindrical bent portion thereof.

4. A card holder for filing cabinets comprising a member having a straight portion and returned ends, said ends extending in a plane above the lowermost portions of the bends in said returned ends of said holder.

5. A card holder for filing cabinets comprising a straight wire member provided with free ends bent to extend backwardly and slightly above the plane of the lowermost portions of the bends in said free ends.

ALLSWORTH ST. CLAIR EDE.