(No Model.)

A. M. CLARK.

CHECK OR CARD CASE.

No. 389,873. Patented Sept. 25. 1888.

Fig. 1

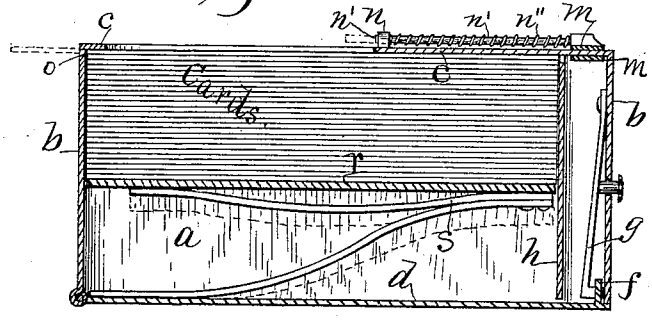
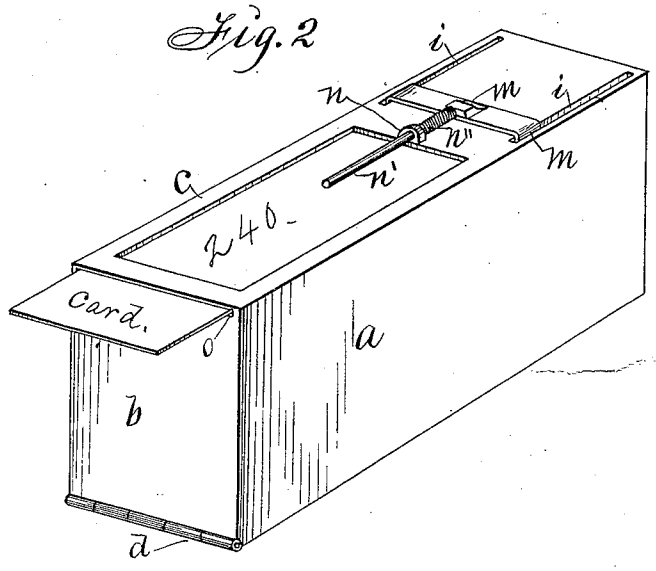


Fig. 2



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT M. CLARK, OF MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

CHECK OR CARD CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 389,873, dated September 25, 1888.

Application filed May 21, 1888. Serial No. 274,479. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT M. CLARK, a citizen of the United States of America, reding at Marshalltown, in the county of Marshall and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Check-Box for Railway Conductors, of which the following is a specification.

My object is to retain checks, tickets, or cards in a case in such a manner that the face of only one will be exposed at the same time, so that a person can write thereon or read its contents and readily withdraw it from the case to allow another to take its place in the case, and also in such a manner that only one of the checks, tickets, or cards can be withdrawn at one time, and consequently all become visible and detachable in succession.

My invention consists in the construction and combination of a case having an opening in its top and a hinged bottom, a spring fixed to the hinged bottom, a follower fitted in the case, and a device for engaging and moving cards in succession, as hereinafter set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical and longitudinal sectional view of the case partly filled with checks; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the complete device, showing one check partly withdrawn.

a are the sides, *b* the ends, and *c* the top, of an open-bottomed oblong box or case, that may vary in dimensions as desired and that is preferably made of sheet metal.

d is a bottom, hinged to one of the ends *b* and provided with a catch, *f*, that will engage a spring-latch, *g*, connected with the opposite end *b* in such a manner that the bottom will be locked when closed.

h is a partition fixed in one end of the box, to extend to the bottom, but not quite to the top.

i i are slots in the sides of the top *c*, and *m* is a sliding loop that surrounds the top and moves in the slots. *n* is a perforated projection on the top *c*.

n' is a rod fixed to the loop *m*, and *n''* a coil-spring placed on the rod in such a manner that it will, in its normal condition, press the slide away from the projection *n'*. An opening in the opposite end portion of the cover allows the top face of a check or card to be visible, and an opening, *o*, across the end *b* and immediately under the top *c* allows the checks or cards to escape in succession.

r is a flat metal plate or follower fitted in the case, and *s* is a spring fixed to the hinged cover *d* in such a manner that it will engage the follower and press the cards on top of the follower upward and in succession against the under side of the fixed top *c*.

To withdraw a card I simply compress the spring *n''* and move the slide toward the center, and in so doing the edges of the slide will come in contact with the end of the upper card in the case and push it out through the slot in the opposite end of the case, as shown in Fig. 2, so that it can then be seized with the fingers and withdrawn. Each check, ticket, or card in the case will in this manner be brought to the top and a part of its face exposed so it can be written upon, and then withdrawn, and all will be protected until successively required and taken out by means of the operative devices connected with the case.

I claim as my invention—

1. A receptacle for checks, tickets, or cards, comprising a case having an open bottom and a partially-open fixed top, and a slot across the top of one of its ends, a slide fitted to the closed end portion of the fixed top, to extend across the under side of the cover and to move longitudinally relative to the cover, a hinged bottom carrying a spring, a latching device for retaining the bottom closed, and a follower fitted in the case and supported and moved by the spring fixed to the bottom, arranged and combined to operate in the manner set forth, for the purposes stated.

2. A case having closed sides *a*, ends *b*, and a partially-open fixed top, *c*, a sliding loop, *m*, fitted to the top *c*, and mechanism for operating said slide, a hinged bottom, *d*, carrying a spring, a fastening device to retain the bottom closed, and a removable plate or follower, *r*, constructed and combined to operate in the manner set forth, for the purposes stated.

ALBERT M. CLARK.

Witnesses:
GEO. E. ADAMS,
HENRY L. VOTAW.