

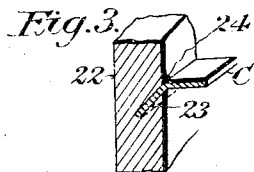
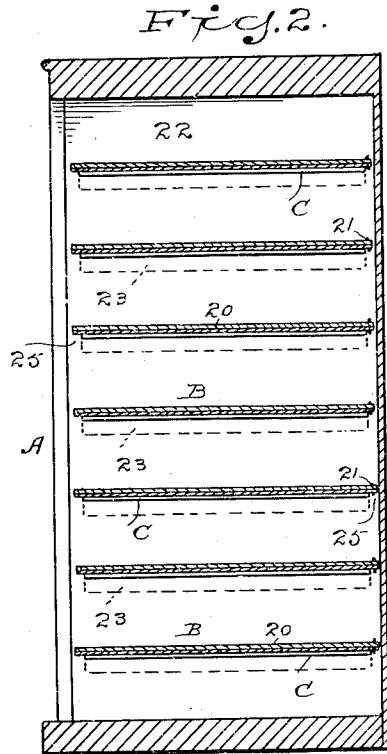
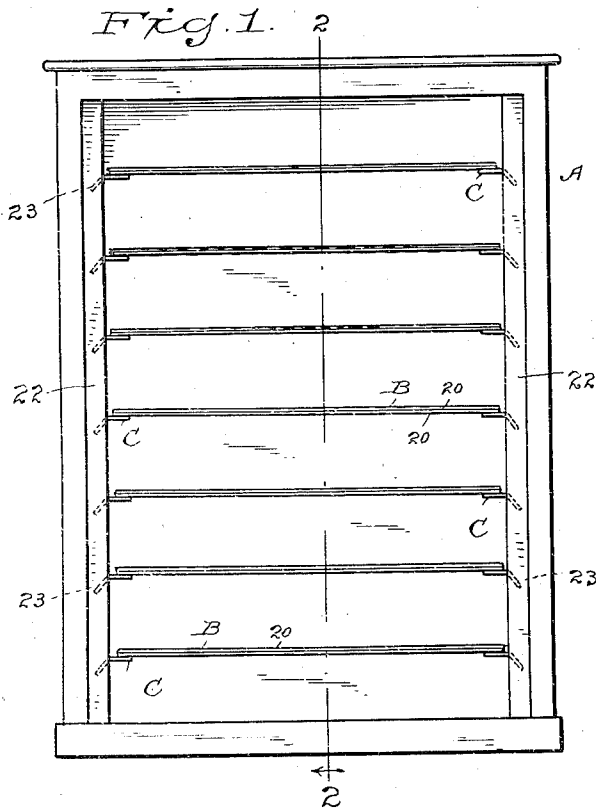
No. 701,000.

Patented May 27, 1902.

C. F. W. AHRENS.  
FILE CABINET.

(Application filed July 31, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL F. W. AHRENS, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

## FILE-CABINET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 701,000, dated May 27, 1902.

Application filed July 31, 1901. Serial No. 70,377. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CARL F. W. AHRENS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful File-Cabinet, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object to furnish a cabinet of the class commonly known as "file-cabinets" which shall be adapted for the filing away and the temporary or permanent preservation of letters, documents, music, &c., where it is required that letters, documents, or sheets of music be preserved chronologically, alphabetically, or otherwise in such a manner that they may be easily found at any time and as easily replaced, the special features of advantage of my novel cabinet being that it provides for convenient classification and in such a manner that a document may be either found or replaced in an instant's time, and, most important of all, that it is so simple and economical in construction as to place within the reach of all a file-cabinet which may be made exceedingly attractive in appearance and will be just as good for all practical purposes as the more expensive file-cabinets now upon the market.

With these ends in view I have devised the following simple and novel file-cabinet of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, reference characters being used to designate the several parts.

Figure 1 is an elevation of a simple form of my novel cabinet without doors and for convenience in illustration, showing a limited number of rests and portfolios; Fig. 2, a vertical section on the line 2 2 in Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a detail perspective on a large scale, illustrating one form of rest and the mode of its attachment to the side piece of the cabinet.

A denotes my novel cabinet as a whole, which may be made of wood, pasteboard, or any suitable material and of any required shape, size, and style of ornamentation and with or without doors.

B denotes portfolios, holders, binders, or files for letters, documents, sheets of music, or anything of a like nature that may be required to be preserved for reference or use,

and C denotes removable metallic rests adapted to engage the side pieces of the cabinet and to support the portfolios, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The special structure of the portfolios, holders, binders, or other devices to contain letters, documents, or music is not of the essence of my invention, it being simply required that the portfolio or other device be sufficiently rigid to be self-sustaining without sagging when its ends or edges are supported by the rests. I preferably use a portfolio or other device consisting, essentially, of two side pieces 20, which may be made of pasteboard, wood, or other material of suitable lightness and rigidity.

22 denotes the side pieces of the cabinet. These side pieces and the rests are made mutually interdependent—that is to say, the side pieces are so prepared as to adapt them to receive and retain the rests—and the rests, which consist simply of strips of sheet metal, are provided with attaching devices to adapt them to engage the side pieces and be self-retaining therein, it being required that the rests, while being readily removable from the side pieces, shall be perfectly firm and self-retaining therein, and, furthermore, that they be retained against longitudinal sliding movement. I therefore so construct and adapt the corresponding parts upon the rests and side pieces that the rests will engage with a downward and outward movement and be removable only by an upward and inward movement.

In Figs. 1, 2, and 3 I have shown the rests as provided with oblique downwardly-extending flanges 23, which engage oblique upwardly-extending kerfs or channels 24 in the side pieces. It will be readily understood from Fig. 2, in connection with Figs. 1 and 3, that the rests may be readily placed in engagement with the side pieces by lateral downward movement and that while self-retaining under the ordinary conditions of use they will be readily removable therefrom by lateral upward movement. The kerfs or channels do not extend to the edges of the side pieces, but are closed at the ends, as at 25, so that the rests cannot be moved longitudinally by insertion or removal of the portfolios. In practice there is no tendency to-

ward upward movement of the rests, and they are locked against downward movement and against outward movement laterally by the inclination of the corresponding flanges and 5 kerfs or other attaching devices.

The operation of my novel file-cabinet will be perfectly obvious from the description already given and can hardly require detailed explanation. Any number of portfolios and 10 corresponding rests therefor may be used, and letters, documents, or pieces of music may be classified alphabetically or chronologically by the day, week, month, or year. The rests may be removed and replaced at 15 the convenience of the user to provide for more or less space between the portfolios. No shelves are used, the portfolios themselves being made to fit the cabinet with a loose fit, so that they will pass in and out easily, but 20 at the same time be firmly supported by the rests.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In a device of the character described, 25 the combination with side pieces having inclined oblique kerfs, of rests for portfolios comprising downwardly-inclined attaching devices adapted to engage the kerfs and horizontal supporting-arms extending directly

outward from the upper edges of the inclined 30 attaching devices.

2. In a device of the character described the combination with side pieces having upwardly-inclined oblique kerfs closed at the 35 ends, of rests for portfolios comprising downwardly-inclined flanges adapted to engage the kerfs and removable only with an upward and outward movement, and horizontal flanges extending directly outward from the 40 upper edges of the inclined flanges.

3. In a device of the character described the combination with side pieces having upwardly-inclined oblique kerfs closed at the 45 ends, of rests for portfolios comprising downwardly-inclined flanges adapted to engage the kerfs and removable only with an upward and outward movement, and horizontal flanges extending directly outward from the upper edges of the inclined flanges, and rigid 50 portfolios adapted to rest on the horizontal flanges.

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

CARL F. W. AHRENS.

Witnesses:

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EFFIE FICKEN.