

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN TICKET AND LABEL HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 209,285, dated October 22, 1878; application filed July 1, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HENRY MITCHELL, of Bloomfield, in the county of Davis and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ticket and Label Holders, of which the following is a specification:

My invention, which I call a "druggist's label-cabinet," is more particularly intended for the use of druggists and apothecaries, for the purpose of keeping labels in order and in place ready for use; but it may be employed as a holder for labels, cards, or tickets for various other purposes.

Heretofore it has been customary for druggists to keep their labels in a drawer divided into compartments for the various kinds of labels, and under that system considerable inconvenience is experienced in consequence of the misplacement of labels and the delay occasioned in looking for the desired label. Moreover, the labels are liable to be blown about by the wind when the drawer is opened, or to be soiled by various substances which may be spilled upon them. These and other disadvantages are obviated by the use of my invention.

The accompanying drawings represent a cabinet embodying my improvements, Figure 1 being a transverse vertical section, and Fig. 2 a front view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The cabinet or casing A may be of any desired size and of any suitable shape—either round, square, or polygonal. It is here shown as of a form somewhat resembling, in general appearance, an ordinary book-case surmounting a desk, being square in its front view and oblong in its horizontal section, with a desk-like extension, A², at the bottom.

The casing A is divided longitudinally by a vertical partition, *b*, into two chambers, C D, and its rear side is provided with a hinged door, *e*. The front chamber, C, is divided transversely by vertical partitions *f* into a number of vertical compartments, side by side, which again are subdivided into compartments G, one above another, by means of bars H, attached to the sides of the partitions *f*, and plates J, running across the front edges of said partitions. In the compartments G which

are next to the ends of the casing A one of the bars H of each pair is attached to the partition *f*, and the other to the inner surface of the end wall of the casing. The bars H are preferably inclined downward toward the front of the casing, as shown in Fig. 1, and their outer surfaces are inclined toward the surfaces of the partition *f*. The plates J are attached by screws or nails passing through them and into the front edges of the partitions *f*. The lower edge of each plate is slightly higher than the upper surface of the front end of each bar, for the purpose hereinafter described.

In each compartment G works a follower or press-board, consisting of a board or plate, K, corresponding in shape with the horizontal section of said compartment, and of such dimensions as to enable it to easily work up and down therein. In the center of the upper surface of the follower K is a staple, *l*, in which works the front end of a lever, M. The end of the lever bears upon the upper surface of the follower, and the staple *l* holds it in place and prevents lateral vibration.

The lever M passes through a slot, *n*, in the vertical partition *b*, and is pivoted about midway of its length by a wire, *p*, having its ends secured in said partition. The rear end of the lever is formed into a hook, *m*, to which is attached one end of a spring, S, the other end of which is attached to a hook, *t*, projecting from the partition *b* above the lever. This spring pulls upward on the rear end of the lever, so as to cause its front end to bear downward on the follower K. The spring may be arranged in any suitable manner which will cause it to operate as desired on the lever, and it may be of coiled wire or of rubber, such as the one shown, or of any other suitable material and construction.

The door *e* allows access to the rear chamber, D, in order to adjust the levers and springs, when desired.

The plates J may have marked on their outer surfaces the names of different drugs, chemicals, preparations, and other articles such as are sold by druggists and labeled when put up, and also words and figures corresponding with certain forms employed when a label has a portion of its title printed and a portion left

blank, to be filled up by writing when the label is used. Each of these words or titles occupies a portion of the plate immediately in front of one of the compartments G, as shown in Fig. 2, and the labels which correspond with each title are placed in the compartment indicated thereby. For example, the labels for castor-oil are placed in the compartment which has "castor-oil" marked on the plate immediately in front of it, and the title "oil of" or "essence of" indicates that in the compartment immediately behind it are labels on which corresponding words are printed and the remainder of the title left blank, to be filled in by writing.

The labels *v* are placed in the compartments G, so that their two opposite side edges will rest upon the upper surfaces of the bars H, and the follower K is placed over the uppermost label, so that the lever M will cause it to press them down firmly and hold them in place.

The distance between the lower edge of the plate J and the upper surfaces of the bars H at their front ends is slightly greater than the thickness of the label, so that there is just sufficient space for the passage of a single label between said plate and said bars.

In order to withdraw a label from the cabinet, the end of the finger is inserted under the bottom of the compartment containing the desired label and pressed against the under surface of the lowermost label between the bars H, so as to pull the label outward and cause its end to protrude between the lower edge of the plate J and the upper surface of the bars H, as shown in Fig. 1. The label can then be readily pulled entirely out of the compartment by taking it between the thumb and finger.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A label cabinet or holder divided by a vertical partition into a front and rear chamber, the former having compartments, in each of which is a follower and lever, while the latter contains the rear ends of the levers, the springs, and a door, substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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