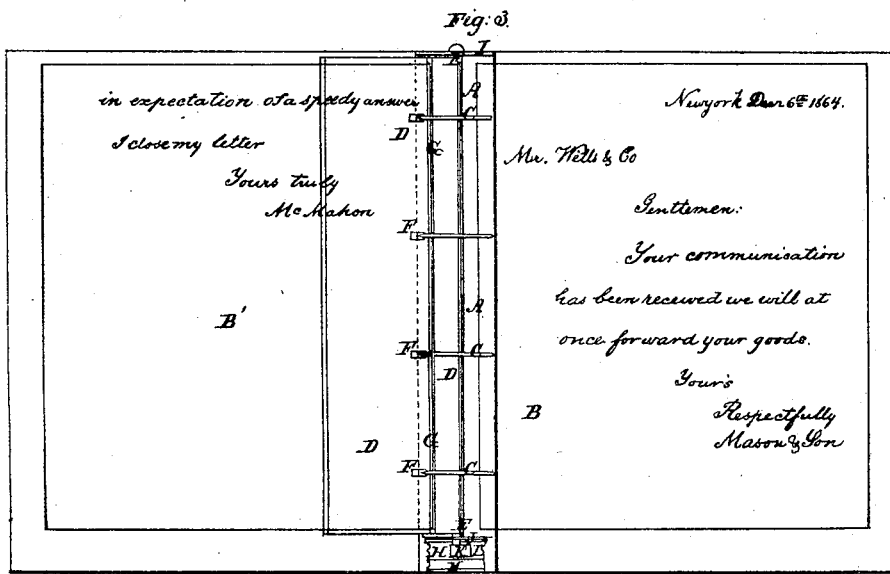
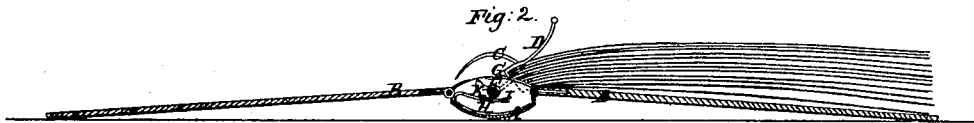
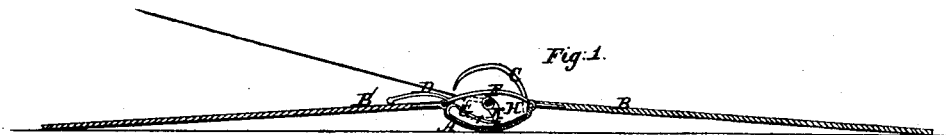


R. BOECKLEN.
LETTER OR INVOICE FILE.

No. 50,652.

Patented Oct. 24, 1865.



Witnesses *W. H. Harker*
R. Erhard

Inventor,
R. Boecklen

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REINHOLD BOECKLEN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HENRY T. SISSON, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

LETTER OR INVOICE FILE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,652, dated October 24, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REINHOLD BOECKLEN, of the city of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter or Invoice Files; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents an end view of my improved file, the cover on the end of the spring-case removed and exhibiting the file open and the paper flap turned back ready to receive a letter. Fig. 2 is a similar view, but the paper flap is in a position after it has received and bound the letter. Fig. 3 is a plane view of the same, the relative position of the parts being shown the same as in Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

The first part of my invention consists in the use of a spring, is disconnected from the cam, crank, or eccentric of the axial rod of the binding-flap, and is otherwise so applied with respect to it that it (said spring) alone serves to retain the flap in a position which will permit of the introduction of a letter or letters under the points of the binding-hooks, and also serve for forcing the flap and letters over upon the hooks, and in this condition retain the same until it is desired to take the letters again off the hooks. By this part of my invention the use of a catch-pin or other additional fastening than the spring and eccentric of the axial shaft of the flap is dispensed with, and the operator is enabled to file letters without employing more than one hand, as it is not necessary with my invention, as is the case with other letter-files which have preceded it, to hold back the binding-flap with one hand, or with a catch-pin, while the other hand is used for filing a letter.

The second part of my invention consists in bending the binding-flap with a deep back shoulder, and between said shoulder and the front edge of the flap bending it into a form which approximates very closely a *cyma reversa*. By this part of my invention a guide is provided, and the letters can be filed against the same so as to have a uniform margin, and a large portion of the bulk of letters are sup-

ported at their back edge; and besides this a greater number of letters can be bound in a file of given size than can be with any of the files previously invented, as the form of my flap affords a greater amount of space between it and one of the backs of the file than those which are used in other files. The *cyma reversa* form of my flap also affords convenience for turning it back for the purpose of filing a letter, and also admits of its free edge resting down upon the inside of one of the backs of the file while the letters are being filed.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my improvements, I will proceed to describe their construction and operation.

A represents the back of the file, which I make of metal or any other suitable material, in the shape of the back of a book. B B' are the usual covers to the same, which are made of pasteboard.

C are the curved binding-hooks which stitch and hold the letters in their place.

D is the paper flap, by means of which the binding-hooks are forced into the letters. This flap D is secured to a strong wire, E, which forms its axis to turn by, and is provided with oblong holes F F F F, to allow the file-hooks C C C C to work through, and thus to stitch through the letter. The plate of the flap D is bent to form a shoulder at G, against which the edge of the letter is placed in order to guide the operator in binding or booking his letters or invoices at an even margin. The end of the flap-plate is bent curved in order that easy hold can be taken of when the same is turned back, as clearly shown in Fig. 2.

The wire E rests in bearings, one being formed in the top end of the file at I and the other in the lower end of the file at the inner side of the spring-box H at J, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The lower end of the wire E projects to within the spring-box H, and to this end of the wire E is attached or formed on an eccentric, K, which is acted upon by a flat spring, L, one end of which presses against the center of the eccentric while the other end is resting in the bottom of the spring-box H, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The operating face or periphery of the eccentric K is made with a decreasing radius and in such relative position with the flap-plate D

that when the flap-plate D is off from the hooks C and pressed upon the cover B' the largest radius of the eccentric K has just passed and is off to the right of a vertical radial line from the center of motion of the flap-plate D, so that the spring L, pressing vertically against the end of the eccentric K in this position, tends to press the flap-plate D upon the cover B'; but as soon as the flap-plate D is raised a little by means of taking hold of the respective cover B', the end or the largest radius of the eccentric K is brought to the left of the vertical radial line from the center of motion of the flap-plate D, and the spring L acts on the operating-face of the eccentric in a tangential direction on the left side of the vertical radial line of the center of motion of the flap-plate D, whereby the same is thrown toward the cover B on the right side of the vertical radial line of motion of the flap-plate D.

In order to file or book a letter the letter-file is opened, the flap-plate D turned off from the file-hooks C C C C, and the back edge of the letter is entered under the points of the hooks C C C C, over the plate D, against the shoulder G, as shown in Fig. 1 by a red line. The flap-plate D is now raised either by taking hold of the cover B' and closing the letter-file or by taking hold of the flap-plate D itself and raising the same to force the letter onto the binding-hooks and hold it in place by the action of

the spring L upon the eccentric K on wire E of the flap-plate D.

In place of the eccentric K, a cam or a crank supplied with a friction-roller may be used.

From the foregoing it will be clearly perceived that by the employment of this device to the file the same can be operated with one hand, and that it is more simple and more durable than those heretofore in use for the same purpose; also, that the paper-flap D, constructed as herein shown, is much more serviceable and stronger than those heretofore used.

I do not claim a binding-flap which is connected to a spring and requires to be retained back by the hand or by a catch-pin; but

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The employment of a spring which is disconnected from the cam, crank, or eccentric of the axial rod of the binding-flap, and applied to a letter-file so as to operate in the manner substantially as herein described.

2. The construction of the binding-flap with a shoulder, and from said shoulder to its front edge with a curved form, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

R. BOECKLEN.

Witnesses:

R. ERHARD,
ANDREW I. TODD.