

(No Model.)

C. H. BABBITT.

FILE HOLDER.

No. 259,994.

Patented June 27, 1882.

Fig. 1.

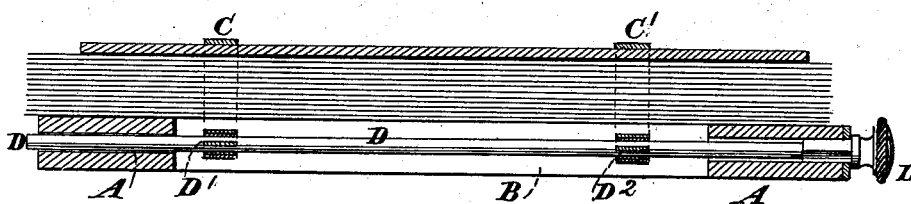


Fig. 2.

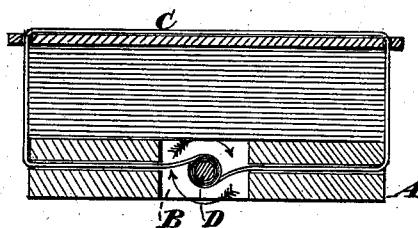


Fig. 3.

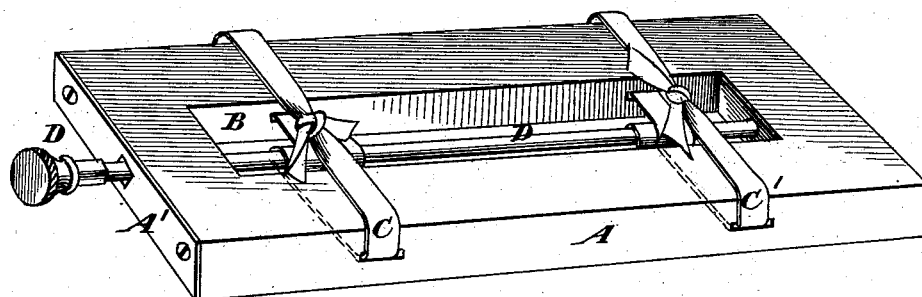
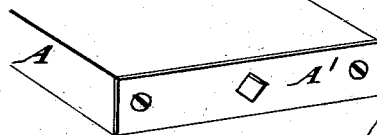


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

A. Ruppert.

D. P. Holloway



Chas. H. Babbitt,
Fig. 5. Inventor.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. BABBITT, OF COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.

FILE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,994, dated June 27, 1882.

Application filed January 18, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. BABBITT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Council Bluffs, in the county of Pottawattamie and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in File-Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to that class of devices which are used for filing away papers, such as bills and others which have been written upon; and the object of my improvement is to provide a novel combination of devices which shall constitute a file for papers which will receive such papers and protect them from loss and from undue wear. I attain this object by the mechanism and the combinations thereof illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation, showing the base or bottom of the device, a series of papers placed thereon, a board or plate for covering said papers, bands passing through slots formed in the base or bed, and a shaft or rod around which the bands are wound for the purpose of tightening them. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section, showing the position of the parts and the method of tightening the bands. Fig. 3 is a perspective view, showing the base or bed of the device, the slot in the center thereof, a plate of metal upon one of its ends for holding the shaft or rod in position, and the bands for tightening the papers and holding them in position on the bed. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the base or bed, showing a plate of metal attached thereto, and having in it a square aperture through which this winding shaft or rod passes; and Fig. 5 is a detached view of a portion of the shaft or rod around which the bands are wound, one of the slots through which a band passes being shown in it.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Various methods have heretofore been adopted for fastening papers, such as bills, memorandums, and others which have been written upon and thus made valuable; but all such with which I am familiar have been found ob-

jectionable on account of their inefficiency, complication, and cost of construction, or on account of the time required in placing the papers therein and securing them in position.

My object is to provide an apparatus for such purpose that shall be cheap, durable, certain in its operations, and in which papers can be placed or from which they can be removed by the expenditure of the least possible period of time.

In constructing devices of this type I provide a bottom plate or bed, A, which may be of wood of the required thickness, and of such length and width as to receive upon its upper surface the papers which it is desirable to place thereon for preservation and protection. This bed or bottom, however, may be made of sheet or other metal, and have upon its edges downwardly-projecting flanges, or it may be made of any other suitable material. Whatever the material out of which it is made, it is to have at its central portion an aperture, B, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. This aperture serves a twofold purpose: First, it makes papers placed thereon more difficult of removal, as its edges form resting-places for such papers when pressed down thereon; and it also serves as a space in which the bands C C' can be moved, and the rod or shaft D, they passing thereto through slots formed in the sides of the bed. For the purpose of clamping the papers or of holding them firmly upon the surface of the bed A the shaft or rod D, just alluded to, is provided, it being round for the greater portion of its length, and having its bearings in the end portions of the bed A, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. This shaft or rod is provided at the proper points within the slot B with apertures D' D'', through which the bands C C' are passed in such a manner that when the shaft or rod is turned they will be drawn down upon any papers that are placed on the bed, their operation in this respect being clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

For the purpose of making provision for holding the bands in contact with the papers, or with a plate of wood, metal, or other material placed thereon, the shaft or rod D is made square, or of such other form as will prevent it from turning around in the plate of metal A',

attached to bed A, the arrangement being such that when the shaft D is pushed inwardly to its full extent the square portion thereof will enter or be within the aperture in said plate, and thus prevent said shaft or rod from turning. When it is desirable to remove any one of the papers from the file the shaft D is withdrawn far enough to cause its square portion to pass out of plate A', as shown in Fig. 3, when by taking hold of the bands C C' and pulling gently thereon the shaft will be rotated to such an extent as to leave the papers free from the downward pressure of said bands, and the required one or more may be readily removed, when by means of the knob formed on the end of the shaft it may be rotated in such a direction and manner as to firmly clasp the papers and hold them in place, when the shaft D is to be pushed inward to such an extent as to cause the square portion thereof to enter the aperture in plate A, as shown in Fig. 1, by which means it will be prevented from turning so as to loosen the papers until it is again desired to be opened.

I have so far described my file as consisting of a flat piece of material upon which the papers are to be placed, and proper mechanism for confining and relieving the papers when desirable; but it is apparent that bands or strips of metal or other substance may be se-

cured to one or both of its ends and to its sides, and thus form an inclosure for the papers which would, to some extent, protect them from accumulations of dust and from view; but such an addition would not in any manner affect the other parts of the devices.

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

1. In a file-holder, the combination of the slotted bed A, the longitudinally-tightening shaft or rod D, having near its outer end a polygonal or square section, a polygonal or square socket for the reception of the square portion of said rod, and bands C C', they being arranged for joint operation, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the longitudinally-adjustable shaft or rod D, the socket A' in the end of the plate or bed A, bands C C', and the binding-plate which rests upon the upper surface of the paper, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

CHARLES H. BABBITT.

Witnesses:

D. P. HOLLOWAY,

WM. BAGGER.