(No Model.)

# A. G. LYNE.

## FILE BOX.

No. 301,452. Patented July 1, 1884.

Fig. 1.

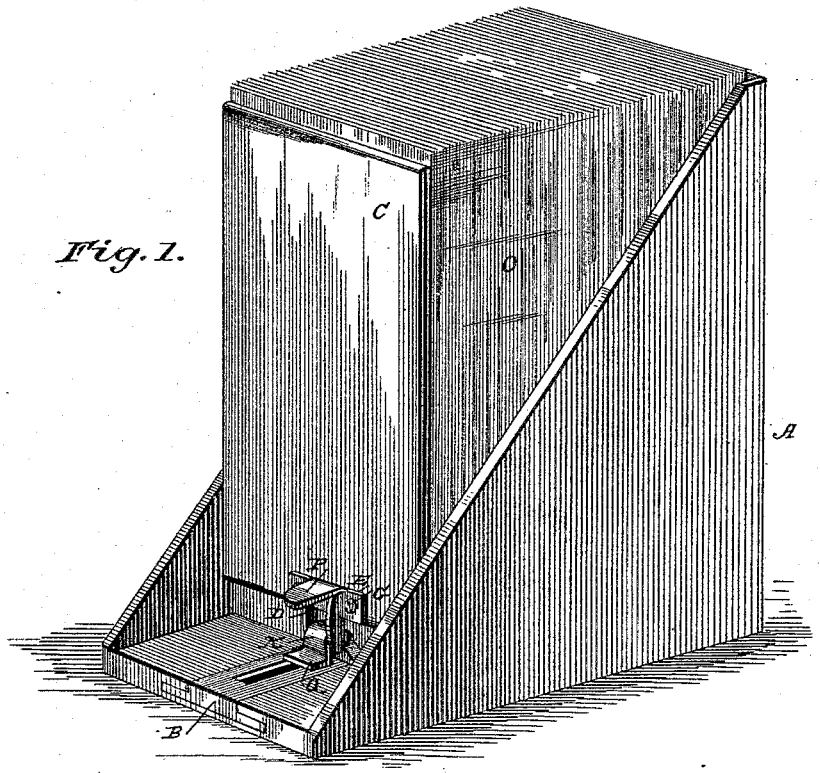



Fig. 2.

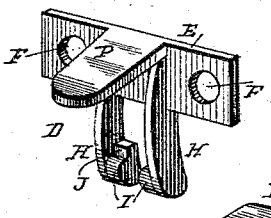



Fig. 3

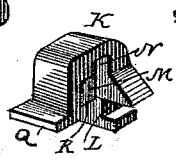



Fig. 4.

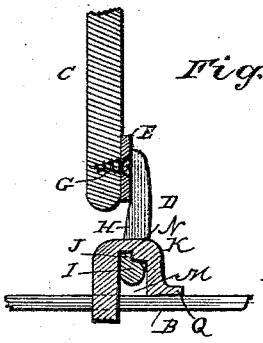



Fig. 5.

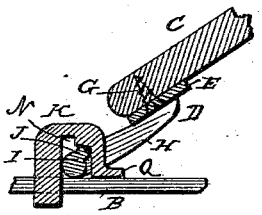



Fig. 7.

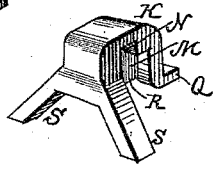
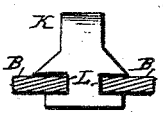



Fig. 6.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALPHEUS G. LYNE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## FILE-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,452, dated July 1, 1884.

Application filed April 26, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALPHEUS G. LYNE, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in File-Boxes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention consists of a file-box in which the follower-board is connected to the body of the box by means of a sliding hinge, the joint of which is adapted to be rendered rigid or flexible at will, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a file-box showing my improvement. Figs. 2 and 3 are perspective views of the two parts of the sliding hinge enlarged and detached from the box. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view showing the two parts of the hinge rigidly connected together for supporting the follower in a vertical position against the pressure of the papers in the box. Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the two parts of the hinge in position for forming a flexible joint to allow the follower to be turned back to release the papers. Fig. 6 is a front elevation of the lower part of the hinge, showing the guide-plate in section; and Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing a modified form of the lower part of the hinge, whereby it is adapted to slide in two oblique grooves in the bottom of a box.

A indicates the body of a file-box, and B is a guide-plate of well-known construction, secured longitudinally in the bottom of the same.

To the follower C is secured the upper part, D, of what I call the "sliding hinge." This part D consists of a plate, E, having perforations F for nails or screws G, by which it is secured to the lower end of the follower, and two downwardly-extending parallel arms, H, having gudgeons I, which are provided with projections or lugs J on their upper surfaces. The gudgeons are formed on the inner surfaces of the arms opposite to each other, with a narrow space intervening between them.

Between the arms H is arranged the lower part, K, of the hinge. The part K consists of a separate solid casting having grooves L in opposite sides thereof, which loosely engage the opposite edges of the slot in the guide-plate B, to adapt the casting to slide freely in said plate.

In opposite sides of the part K are formed rectangular recesses M, for receiving the gudgeons I, which recesses terminate at the forward part of their upper ends in smaller rectangular recesses N, for receiving the lugs J, which are shaped to fit said recesses N. The recesses M are equal in width—that is, horizontally—to the diameter of the gudgeons I, but are made longer vertically than said diameter, in order that when the gudgeons are allowed to rest by gravity in the lower ends of said recesses and on the guide-plate B the lugs J may not enter the recesses N, but will allow the gudgeons to be turned backward in the recesses M until said lugs rest against the rear walls of recesses M, and thus form stops to limit the further backward rotation of the gudgeons. When the gudgeons are turned forward until the follower assumes a perpendicular position and are lifted upward in the recesses M, the lugs J will then enter the recesses N, and thus form stops against the rear walls of said recesses N, to prevent the backward rotation of the gudgeons. The pressure of the papers O in the box against the follower will prevent the lugs from becoming accidentally disengaged by gravity from the recesses N; but a suitable pressure of the hand against the back of the follower will overcome the resistance of the papers sufficiently to allow gravity to act upon the follower and cause it to drop downward and backward to the position shown in Fig. 5.

P is a handle attached to the upper part of the hinge, by which the follower is to be turned upright and lifted into locking position.

I have shown the grooves L formed only in the forward part of the casting K, and the rear part of the latter made narrower than the forward part to adapt said rear part to be readily passed between the arms H in placing the gudgeons in engagement with the recesses M, and the rear part of the casting K is made to terminate in a flange, Q, which rests on top of the plate B. Where the arms H are arranged farther apart than herein shown, the grooves L may be extended from the front to the rear of

the casting K, but will need to be cut away at the center to admit the gudgeons into the recesses M.

Instead of the two separate gudgeons, a single cross-bar connecting the lower ends of arms H may be used, in which case the recesses M will communicate with each other, forming a single opening or slot through the casting K. The construction shown is preferred, however, because the partition R between the said recesses in the two sides of the casting serves to strengthen the latter, and thereby adapts it to be made light and less expensive than when constructed without such partition. Where it is desirable to dispense with the guide-plate B the lower part of the hinge is to be formed with a flange, S, extending obliquely outward and downward from each side thereof, as shown in Fig. 7, and two corresponding grooves are to be formed in the bottom of the box for receiving said flanges. Such grooves may conveniently be formed by means of two circular saws set at a suitable angle with each other in an obvious manner.

It is obvious that the upper part of the hinge may be made longer than herein shown, and connected to the middle instead of the lower end of the follower, and its connection with the follower, instead of being rigid, may be made loose or flexible, in a manner already employed in file-boxes, without changing the character of my invention.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with the follower and the body of the box having a guide or way therein, of the sliding hinge for connecting said follower and body together, and stops formed on or about the interlocking parts of the hinge for rendering the joint of the hinge rigid at will to support the follower in an upright position, one of the parts of said hinge being adapted to slide in said guide or way, and the other being attached to said follower, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with the follower and the body of the box having a guide or way therein, of the sliding hinge for connecting the said follower and body together, said hinge consisting of two interlocking parts having corresponding shoulders and recesses which are adapted to be made to engage each other to support the follower in an upright position, and to be disengaged from each other to allow the follower to be turned backward, one of the parts of said hinge being adapted to slide in said guide or way, and the other being attached to said follower, substantially as shown and described.

3. The hinge for connecting the follower and body of a file-box together, consisting of the upper part having two parallel arms provided with shouldered gudgeons, and the lower part having shouldered recesses in opposite sides thereof of greater vertical than horizontal extent, for receiving said gudgeons, and means, substantially as described, for engaging a guide or way in the body of the box, substantially as shown and described.

4. The hinge for connecting the follower with the body of a file-box, consisting of the upper part having two parallel arms provided with shouldered gudgeons, and the lower part having shouldered recesses in opposite sides thereof of greater vertical than horizontal extent, for receiving said gudgeons, and grooves L in opposite sides thereof, and the heel or flange Q at the rear thereof, substantially as shown and described.

ALPHEUS G. LYNE.

Witnesses:
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