

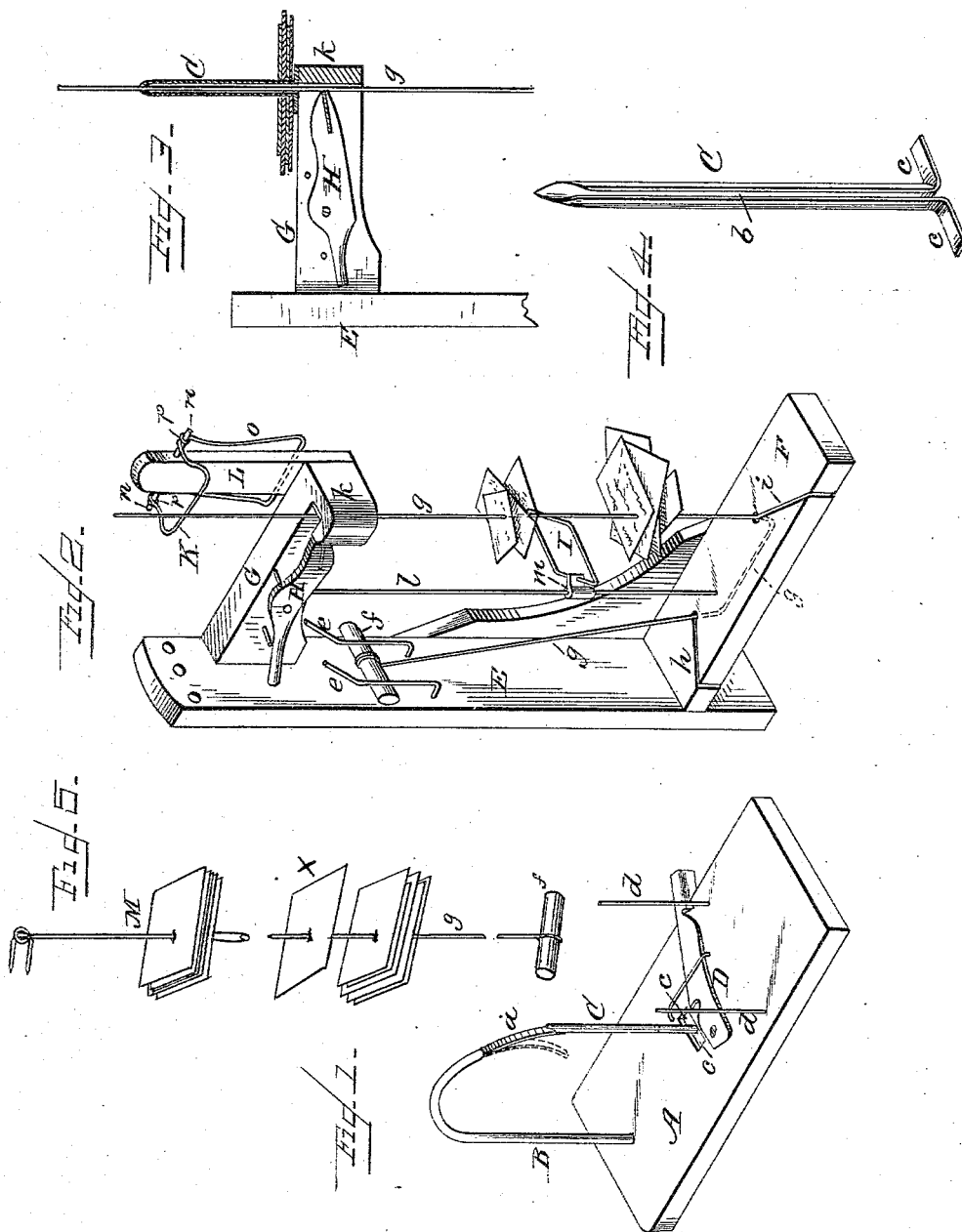
(No Model.)

W. E. ELAM.

DEVICE FOR STRINGING AND FILING PAPERS.

No. 302,989.

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WITNESSES
F. L. Oursand
L. L. Miller

INVENTOR
William E. Elam,
per Cha. H. Fowler
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. ELAM, OF AMERICUS, GEORGIA.

DEVICE FOR STRINGING AND FILING PAPERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,989, dated August 5, 1884.

Application filed May 19, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. ELAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Americus, in the county of Sumter and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Stringing and Filing Papers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a temporary binder for which a patent has been previously granted to me; Fig. 2, a similar view of my improved prescription-holder for use in connection with the binder; Fig. 3, a detail view of the upper portion of the holder, partly in section, with the hollow standard in position; Fig. 4, a detail view, on an enlarged scale, of the slotted hollow receiving-standard; and Fig. 5, a detail view of the supplemental wire.

The object of the present invention is to provide means for filing away prescriptions and other papers convenient for reference; and it consists in the several details of construction substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Fig. 1, A represents a suitable base provided with upright B, having spring end *a*, which impinges against the upper end of a grooved or slotted hollow standard C, the slot *b* extending the entire length thereof. This standard C has right-angular projections *c* at its lower end, and fits over a suitable stub projecting from the base A. The projections *c* fit in mortises in the base, and the standard is held on the stub by a pivoted locking-plate, D, which is moved back, as shown, when it is desired to remove the standard with the papers thereon.

The base A may be provided with the usual guides, *d*, if desired, and a thumb-piece may be formed on the outer end of the locking-plate, for operating it.

I have described substantially the construction of binder patented to me March 11, 1884, No. 294,775; but the principal feature of the device, which I shall use in connection with the present invention, is the removable slot-

ted hollow standard C; and therefore I do not desire to be understood as confining myself to any special form of binder so long as it is provided with a standard constructed as above described, and adapted to be removed therefrom.

The prescription holder or file consists of a suitable standard, E, of any desirable material or design, either ornamental or plain, to suit the taste of the purchaser, and may be provided with means for suspending it from a wall or other object. The standard E has a right-angular extension or base, F, which, together with the standard and an arm G, at the upper end thereof, forms or constitutes the frame of the device.

To the standard E is secured a holding device, *e*, for receiving a cross-bar, *f*, to which is secured one end of a suitable wire, *g*. This wire *g* extends down through an open slot, *h*, under the base F, and up through a similar slot, *i*, and thence upward through the curved or hooked end, *k*, of the arm G. To this arm G is pivoted a suitable cam-latch, H, of any suitable construction, that will serve the purpose of holding the wire at that point, and by any downward pull thereon will cause the latch to press the tighter against the wire. An upright rod, *l*, is provided, having its ends connected, respectively, to the base F, and arm G, and upon this rod is a suitable slide, *m*, carrying what I term a "separator," I, either of wire or other desirable material and of any form or shape found most convenient for the purpose—viz., to hold out of the way any given number of papers while the others below it are being examined. The slide *m* can be adjusted or moved to any point throughout the length of the rod *l*, and by turning the slide in either direction, the separator I will be brought in position, as shown in Fig. 2, either in abutment against the wire *g* or from contact therewith, as circumstances require.

The cross-bar *f*, to which one end of the wire *g* is connected, is attached to the holding devices *e*, after which the wire is brought down and engaged with the slots *h i*, and thence upward to and above the arm G, as shown, the device as shown in Fig. 2 being ready for the operation of stringing the papers, which is accomplished in the following manner:

In Fig. 1, place the papers against the knife edge or point of the standard C, and press down thereon, which will force the spring inwardly, as shown in dotted lines, allowing the papers to pass down as far as possible on the standard. This being repeated until the standard is filled with papers, the standard is removed with the papers thereon, and passed over the end of the wire *g*, as shown in Fig. 3. In this position, the papers having been pushed from the standard on to the wire *g*, the standard can be readily removed by means of its slot *b*, thus leaving the papers properly strung on the wire. By inserting the wire through the standard from the bottom and slipping the papers off from the top of said standard, the entire space between the arm G and base F occupied by the wire can be filled, and every paper will be in regular order. Each time the standard C is emptied of its papers, previous to so doing a card or stiff piece of paper may be placed on the standard with the date thereon, thus indicating the time it took to fill the standard, and thus facilitating the finding of any particular paper, the card, as should be understood, with the date thereon, being strung with the papers on the wire.

In order to prevent the papers from working off of that part of the wire *g* which is above the arm G, I provide what I term a "guard," K. This guard I construct preferably of wire, bent substantially as shown, and has eyes *p*, through which pass the ends of laterally-extending pins *n* upon a bracket, L, formed with or secured to the arm G, said guard K having a bail, *o*, extending down and against the outer side of the bracket. This guard K, as will be understood from the above description, is pivotally connected to the bracket L, its normal position being shown in Fig. 2, the bail *o*, coming against the bracket, acting as a stop for the guard, to limit its upward movement. As will be seen, the guard, being pivoted, naturally gives way to any downward pressure thereon, while it will resist any upward pressure; hence, when a paper is placed on the wire *g*, the guard will prevent its working off, and when the standard, with papers thereon, is placed over the wire, as shown in Fig. 3, the guard will readily turn down out of the way.

Although I have shown what I consider to be the most simple and practical means of constructing the guard, I do not desire to be understood as confining myself thereto, as any desirable form of guard may be substituted so long as its action is the same and is capable of a swinging motion, for the purpose hereinbefore described.

The latch H, as well as the separator, may be each modified in form and construction, as may also the frame of the device, these changes coming within the scope of my invention, and are therefore left with the discretion of the manufacturer.

In order to enable one to extract or remove any particular paper from the long stringing-

wire *g* without removing others or tearing the one desired in removing it, I provide a hollow wire, M, or a wire with a tube or socket at its end, of the required size to receive the end of the stringing-wire *g*. The opposite end of this wire M has a loop or eye and a staple, which provide means of attaching it to the standard E or to any portion of the frame of the device. This supplemental wire M should be long enough to receive all the papers on the long stringing-wire *g* between the base F and arm G of the frame.

If desired, the standard E may be provided with suitable means for holding the wire M in position, and out of the way when not in use.

I do not desire to confine myself to the means shown for attaching the two wires *g* and M together, as so long as means are employed that will form such a joint that the papers will pass over from one wire to the other and admit of the ready separation of the supplemental wire when not in use will come within the scope of my invention.

When it is desired to remove a certain paper from the wire *g*, the wire is removed from the frame, with the papers thereon, and its end inserted in the hollow portion of the wire M. Suppose the paper marked X is the one needed. Then all the papers above it are pushed on to the supplemental wire M, after which the wire *g* is disconnected therefrom, as shown in Fig. 5, and the paper marked X removed. This being done, the wire *g* is again connected to the wire M and the papers on the latter pushed back on the stringing-wire, and the wire again separated and replaced in the frame of the device, as shown in Fig. 2.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A device for stringing and filing papers, consisting of a frame constructed substantially as described, and provided with a slotted base and an extended arm, to which is connected a latch, and a wire for stringing the papers detachably connected to the frame, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a device for stringing and filing papers, the combination, with a frame constructed substantially as described, and provided with a stringing-wire detachably connected thereto, of a supplemental wire for receiving the papers from said stringing-wire, and provided with means, substantially as specified, for detachably connecting it thereto, whereby the two wires, when thus connected, will make a continuous wire, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A device for stringing and filing papers, consisting of a frame constructed substantially as described, and having an extended arm provided with a latch and a stringing-wire for receiving the papers, and an adjustable separator constructed substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

4. A device for stringing and filing papers, consisting of a frame constructed substantially

as described, and provided with a stringing-wire detachably connected thereto, in combination with a pivoted guard constructed substantially as specified, and attached to a bracket
5 extending from the projecting arm of the frame, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

5. The combination, with a slotted or grooved hollow standard removably connected to a temporary binder, of a device for stringing and filing papers, consisting of a frame
10 constructed substantially as described, provided with a stringing-wire detachably connected thereto, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

15 6. The combination, with a temporary binder provided with a removable hollow, slotted, or grooved standard, of a device for stringing and filing papers as they are removed from the binder, consisting of a frame constructed
20 substantially as described, and provided with

a slotted base, an extended arm to which a latch is connected, and a removable wire for receiving the papers from the binder, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

7. A device for stringing and filing papers, 25 consisting of the following elements constructed substantially as described, viz: a frame provided with a slotted base and an extended arm having a latch, and a bracket to which is connected a pivoted guard, and an adjustable
30 separator arranged between the base and extended arm of the frame, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence 35 of two witnesses.

WM. E. ELAM.

Witnesses:

T. N. HAWKES,
LOTT WARREN.