

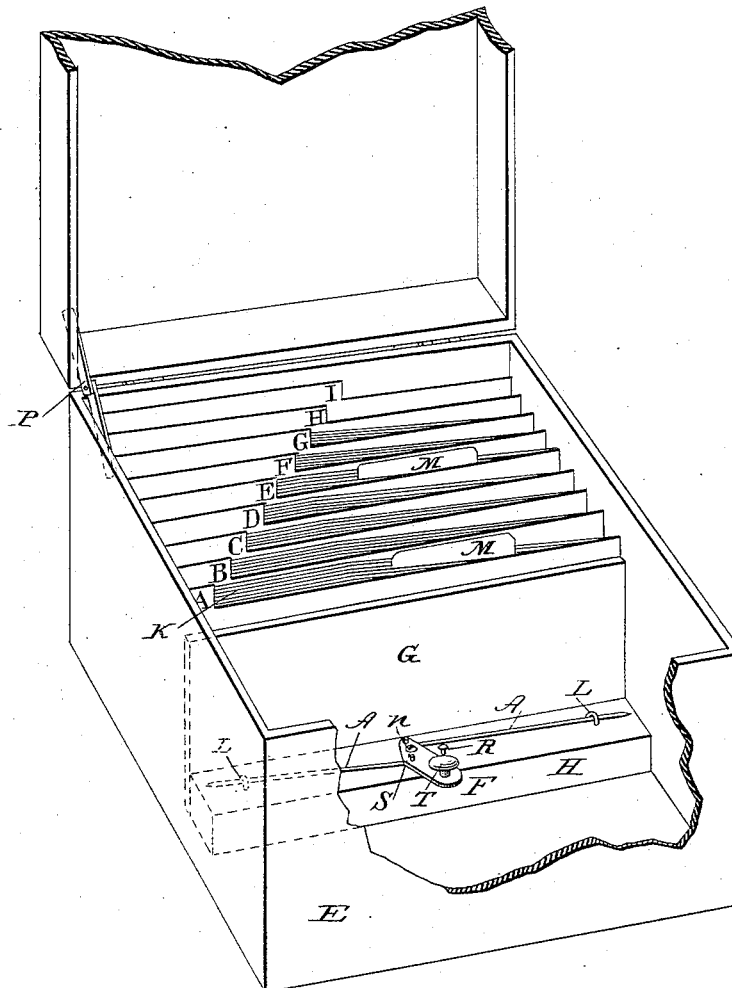
(No Model.)

F. G. DU BOIS.

BILL FILE AND DOCUMENT CASE.

No. 304,627.

Patented Sept. 2, 1884.



Witnesses:

John Brewer Jr.
R. M. Brewer

Inventor:

Frank G. Du Bois

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK G. DU BOIS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BILL-FILE AND DOCUMENT-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,627, dated September 2, 1884.

Application filed November 11, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK G. DU BOIS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bill-Files and Document-Cases; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved system of filing bills, letters, documents, and miscellaneous papers, &c., so as to be easily accessible and quickly found for reference, and at the same time so arranged that the paper referred to can be returned to its original place; also with an adjustable device to retain the contents of the case in position and to prevent accidental disturbance.

The drawing represents a perspective view of the case and its contents.

The case E, as shown in the drawing, may be constructed of wood, metal, or any suitable substance or material, and of any convenient size or shape.

The plates A B C, &c., represent an index.

The plates K represent separate or subdividing plates, and are intended to have a name, figure, or distinctive character stamped or written thereon, and to be placed in front of one or between two of the index-plates, thereby forming a separate division or compartment at will and enabling one set of documents or papers to be separate and apart from other papers that may be filed in the same box or case.

The plates M M are to slip in front of a paper just previous to removal for reference, and there left to remain while such paper is out, thereby retaining the exact position of said paper until it may be returned, when said plate is to be removed.

The two pieces of metal and rivet P form a stay and keep the cover or lid in an upright or proper position.

The device for keeping the contents of the box in position is movable and adjustable, and can be locked at any desired point, is made of wood, metal, or any suitable material. Said device consists of the base H, the upright or presser plate G, the rods A A, the staples or eyes L L, the washers S, (under lever F,) to elevate said lever F from the base

H, the screw or pivot u, the lever F, with its handle or knob T, and the stop-pin R. By pressing the lever F to one side the points of the rods A A are made to engage in the sides of the case E, thereby securely locking the contents of said case. A movement of the lever F in an opposite direction disengages the rods A A, thereby releasing the contents of said case. I prefer this mode of construction, but longitudinal grooves may be used, instead of eyes L L, for the rods A A to travel in.

The operation is as follows: The device for keeping the contents of the box or case in position is put in the case, with its base H to the bottom of the case E, and there made fast by moving the lever F to the left, forcing the rods A A into the sides of the case E. The index is next inserted in front of the presser-plate G, when the papers can be filed, in accordance with the following directions, viz: Insert the papers you wish to file in front of the plate (A B C, &c.) containing the letter with which the name begins. Where there are a number of papers from the same person or firm, use one of the plates K, writing the person's or firm's name thereon; insert said plate K in front of plate (A B C, &c.) with which the name begins, filing only papers from such party or firm in front of said plate K. When you wish to change the position of the device for holding the contents, release the points of the rods A A from the sides of case E by moving the lever F to the right; move said holding device into position at such a point, so as to allow of easily inserting the papers to be filed. When you wish to secure said holding device, push the lever to the left, forcing the points of the rods A A into the sides of the case E, thereby securing said holding device at any desired point. When you wish to remove a paper already filed, find the paper to be removed; but before removing the paper insert the plate M directly behind the paper, allowing it there to remain until such time as the paper removed is returned, such plate M retaining the exact position of the paper removed.

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

1. The base H and upright plate G, the pointed rods A A, the eyes or staples L L,

the stop-pin R, the lever F, the screw *u*, the knob or handle T, and the washers S, all in combination, as and for the purpose as set forth.

2. The indexed plates A B C, &c., the blank plates K, (for subdividing,) and the oblong plates M M, (for retaining the position or place of a paper temporarily removed for reference,) all in combination, as and for the purpose as set forth.

10 3. The box or case E, the indexed plates

A B C, &c., the blank or subdividing plates K, the oblong plates M M, the base H, and upright G, with its rods A A, eyes L L, lever F, handle T, screw *u*, washers S, and pin R, and the trunk-stay P, all in combination 15 as and for the purpose as set forth.

FRANK G. DU BOIS.

Witnesses:

THOMAS VAN ANTWERP,
ISAAC M. BABBITT.