

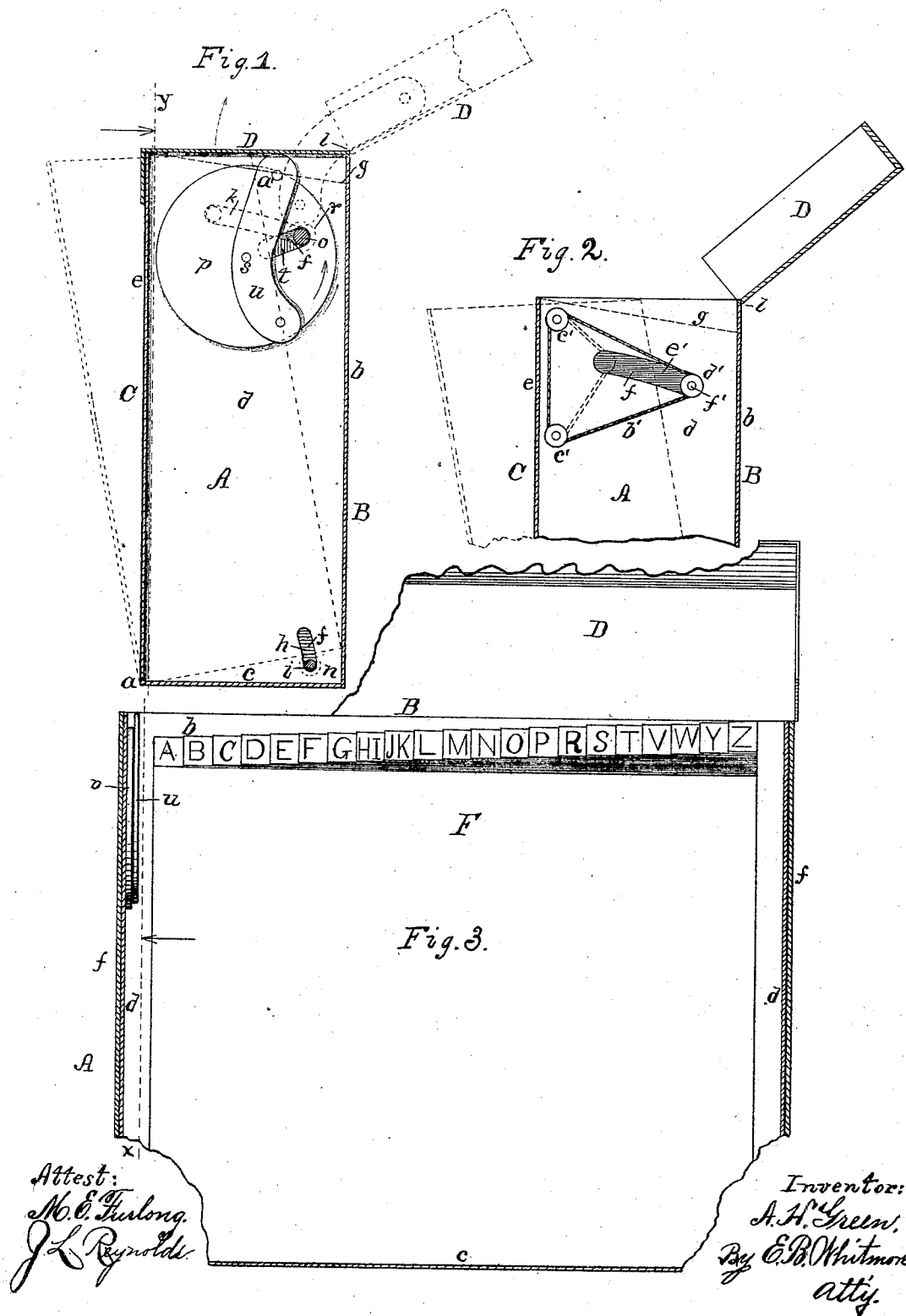
(No Model.)

A. H. GREEN.

LETTER FILE.

No. 341,903.

Patented May 18, 1886.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT H. GREEN, OF LE ROY, NEW YORK.

LETTER-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 341,903, dated May 18, 1886.

Application filed May 8, 1885. Serial No. 164,785. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT H. GREEN, of Le Roy, in the county of Genesee and State of New York, have invented a new and useful
5 Improvement in Letter-Files, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to produce a
10 convenient letter-file, the same being constructed of parts combined and arranged substantially as hereinbelow specified, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical transverse section of the case of the letter-file, taken as on the dotted line *x* in Fig. 3, and viewed as indicated by arrow in said latter figure, drawn to show the interior working parts of the same, parts being shown in full
20 and dotted line positions, and the portfolio omitted; Fig. 2, a similar view of the operating parts of the same, showing another manner of expanding or opening the mouth of the case, parts being shown in two positions by
25 full and dotted lines; and Fig. 3 a longitudinal vertical section of the case, taken on the dotted line *y* in Fig. 1, and viewed as shown by arrow in said latter figure, drawn to further show the parts within the case.

Referring to the parts, A is the case of the letter-file, preferably made of substantial pasteboard, formed of such size two ways as to hold without folding common letter-sheets, and of such thickness as to receive a portfolio with
35 as many or more pockets or apartments as there are letters in the English alphabet. The case A is composed of two main parts, B and C, one lapping or closing over the other, both together forming five sides of a complete rectangular inclosure or prism, said parts being
40 connected by a hinge-joint at *a* along the horizontal lower front corner of the case. When thus joined, the open sides of the parts B and C are turned toward each other, the part C forming in part a cover for the part B, closing over on the outside of the same, and covering the broad open side thereof.

The main part B of the case is made up of the back sheet of pasteboard, *b*, bottom sheet,
50 *e*, and two similar and equal end or side sheets, *d d*, all secured together to form a rectangular inclosure, within which the portfolio F rests.

The other or lesser part, C, of the case is made up of a front sheet, *e*, similar and equal to the sheet *b*, above mentioned, and two sides or
55 end sheets or flaps, *f f*, similar and equal to the sheets *d d*, above mentioned, save that they are cut across obliquely at the top, as shown by dotted line *g*. The sheets *e* and *f f* are joined to form three adjacent sides of a rectangular inclosure, a little wider than the inclosure formed by the sheets *b c* and *d d*, above described, so that when the two parts B and C are put together to form the case A, as shown, the sheets *f f* will close or lap over or on the
65 outside of the sheets *d d*, making the end walls of the case of two thicknesses, *d* and *f*.

Near the bottom of the case each sheet *d* is formed with a short circular slot, *h*, concentric with the hinge-joint *a*, and a stud, *i*, transversely sectioned in the figure, is secured rigidly to the inner face or surface of each adjacent overlapping sheet *f* in position to reach through a slot, *h*, and receive at its inner end a simple head or button, *i*. (Shown in dotted
75 circle in Fig. 1.) These studs and buttons—one on each side of the case—serve to hold the sheets *f f* at their lower ends in place against the respective sheets *d d*. Near the upper part of the case a longer circular slot, *k*, is formed
80 in each of the sheets *d d*, concentric with the joint at *a*, with a similar stud, *o*, secured to each sheet *f f*, and projecting through the respective slots *k*, with a thin button, *r*, (shown in dotted circle,) at the inner end of each, *85* which serves to hold the upper ends of the sheets *f f* snugly against the end sheets, *d d*, of the part B. The slots *h* and *k*, being concentric with the hinge-joint at *a*, permit the part C of the case to be swung or tipped back away
90 from the part B, as shown in dotted lines.

The cover D of the case is held by a hinge-joint, *l*, to the part B, and when closed laps down over the outside of the part C, and thus holds the parts B and C together, altogether
95 forming a comparatively perfect inclosure for the portfolio and letters within.

In Fig. 1 is shown a thin vertical disk, *p*, pivoted on a pin, *s*, projecting horizontally inwardly from the inner face of the sheet *d*, midway between the front and back sheets, *b* and
100 *e*. The disk is formed with a radial slot, *t*, in position to also receive through it the stud *o*, the button *r*, above mentioned, being on the

inner face (the one seen in Fig. 1) of the disk. Bearing in mind the fact that the stud *o* is rigid with the sheet *f*, it will be understood that if the disk be turned upon its pivot in the direction indicated by the arrow thereon the part C of the case A will be forced back to the position indicated by dotted lines—that is to say, the mouth of the case will be expanded to assist a person to more readily get at the contents of the case. A bent connecting-strap, *u*, is pivoted at one end at *z* to the disk, and at the other end to the inner surface of one side of the cover at *a'* in such position that when the cover is opened it will turn the disk and automatically expand the mouth of the case, as stated, and when closed will act in the opposite direction and contract the mouth of the case. Thus by simply opening or closing the cover, the case of the letter-file will be expanded or contracted in a desirable manner.

It is designed to have one of the automatic openers and closers at each side of the case to operate the part C alike and evenly at both sides.

In Fig. 2 is shown an elastic cord, *b'*, passed around the buttons *c' c'* and *d'*, the two former being secured to the sheet *d*, and the latter to

the sheet *f* by means of a stud, *f'*, passing through a slot, *e'*, in the sheet *d*, similar to the slot *k* in Fig. 1. As arranged, the tendency of the cord is to draw the button *d'* toward the buttons *c' c'* to the position shown in dotted lines, in which position the mouth of the case will be expanded, as above described. This serves to expand the mouth of the case, when released, by opening the cover of the same; but in this construction the case has to be contracted by a pressure of the hand when it is wished to close the cover.

What I claim as my invention is—

A letter-file case consisting of the part B, formed with slots *e'*, and provided with buttons *c'*, and the part C, provided with studs *f*, passing through said respective slots *e'*, and buttons *d'*, held at the inner end of the respective studs *f* in line with the buttons *c'*, said parts B and C being joined by a hinge-joint, *a*, in combination with elastic cord *b'*, passed over said buttons, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

ALBERT H. GREEN.

Witnesses:

E. B. WHITMORE,
M. E. FURLONG.