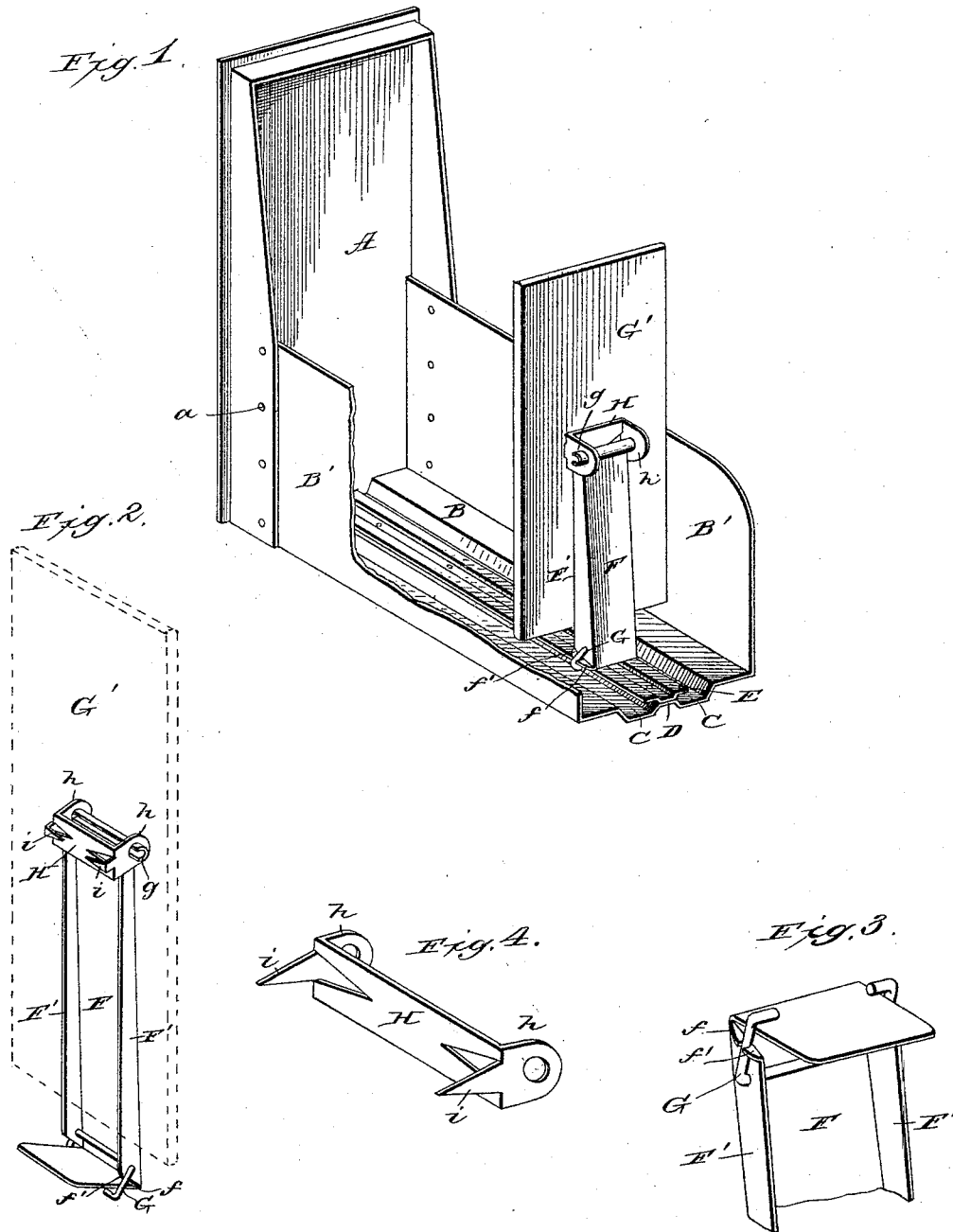


(No Model.)

P. H. YAWMAN.
FILE BOX.

No. 458,882.

Patented Sept. 1, 1891.



WITNESSES:

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PHILIP H. YAWMAN, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

FILE-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 458,882, dated September 1, 1891.

Application filed November 17, 1890. Serial No. 371,709. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP H. YAWMAN, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and
5 useful Improvements in File-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and to the
10 letters of reference marked thereon.

My present invention relates to file-boxes for holding and retaining letters, bills, invoices, &c., embodying a base and end and
15 employing a follower for clamping and retaining the papers against the end, and particularly to that class in which the follower is locked to the base portion when the papers are clamped, the pressure of the latter affecting the operation of the clamping device, and
20 has for its objects to simplify and cheapen the construction of said boxes, particularly the clamping device; and it consists in certain novelties of construction and combinations of parts, all of which will be hereinafter
25 described, the novel features being particularly pointed out in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a file-box constructed in accordance
30 with my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the clamping device detached, the follower being shown in dotted lines; Fig. 3, a perspective view of the under side of the clamping device; Fig. 4, a view of the bracket for attaching the
35 clamp to the follower.

Similar letters of reference in the several figures denote the same parts.

The box proper I preferably construct of two pieces of sheet metal, A indicating the
40 front end portion, and B the base connected to it by suitable rivets *a* or other fastenings and having the vertical sides or flanges B' B'. The base B is preferably struck up at the center, as shown in Fig. 1, forming two channels
45 C C, with the central rib D between them, and upon this rib is riveted a plate E, with the depressed center portion and the sides projecting above the rivet-heads, said plate projecting partly over the channels C C and forming
50 ways for the ears or lugs on the follower-clamp, which are adapted to slide in them and to be clamped against the under side of

the plate E, as will be described. The lateral flanges on plate E, it will be noted, are substantially on the same level with the bottom,
55 so that a practically even base will be provided and on which the bottoms of the papers rest. By providing the plate E with the depressed central portion in which the rivets are located I not only secure a smooth surface
60 on which the lower end of the clamp can operate free from obstructions, the clamp end being broad enough to operate upon the two flanges, but the rib materially strengthens this piece, preventing its being accidentally
65 bent up by any strain to which it will be subjected. This construction also simplifies and cheapens the clamp-guide and box-base and obviates the necessity of employing special
70 castings for the guide.

The clamp to which the follower is attached and which is adapted to co-operate with the way at the bottom of the box is represented in the drawings by the letter F, and is constructed, preferably, of a sheet-metal body portion,
75 with the flanges F' F' bent up at the sides to strengthen it and to which the loop G, preferably of stout wire is, secured. This loop is passed through said flanges F', bent down at the sides at an angle to the main
80 plate, and the ends are bent inward toward the center, as shown, said ends being adapted to project in the ways formed by the plate E at the bottom and forward of the point where the lower end of clamp F rests upon said
85 plate. Formed upon the lower end of the flanges F are ears *f f', f' f'*, preferably two on each flange turned outward, and between these the sides of the loop pass, as shown, for preventing its turning in the flanges and
90 causing it to maintain the same position relative to the clamp-body all the time. It is not absolutely necessary to employ two pairs of ears *f f'* on each flange, as the lower ones *f* alone will answer the purpose of preventing
95 the loop turning to the rear when the lower end of clamp F and the ends of the loop engage plate E in securing the follower; but I prefer to employ both, as a more rigid fastening for the loop is secured, and it in effect
100 forms part of the clamp without the necessity of soldering or forming the whole device in one piece, as by casting, thereby making a much cheaper and simpler locking device.

The lower end of the plate F is bent toward the front slightly, as shown, affording a slightly broader bearing on the central plate E; but the main object of this is to prevent the plate tipping forward when there are no papers in the box, and it is extended far enough to accomplish this purpose without interfering with the movement of the plate to release the clamp. The upper end of clamp-plate F is provided with laterally-projecting ears *g g*, stamped out of the metal of which it is composed, and slightly rounded, as shown, to which the follower G is pivoted, said ears being adapted to enter perforated lugs *h h*, formed on the bracket H, secured to the follower. The bracket is also formed of a single piece of sheet metal, having formed on one side the lugs *h h*, perforated as shown, and on the other suitable points or prongs *i i* struck out of the body and bent back and adapted to be passed through the follower-board and their ends bent over on the other side, effectually securing the bracket to it, while the pivotal connection between the clamp and bracket will permit the follower to turn and accommodate itself to the papers to be secured.

When the parts are assembled as in Fig. 1, the lower end of the clamp-plate rests upon the top of plate E, the end of the loop being beneath said plate in the way and forward of the point at which the clamp-plate engages it. The papers to be secured are placed in the box between the ends A and follower, and the latter is moved up against them; then when the desired pressure is obtained the lower end of clamp F is moved forward, causing it to securely engage the top of plate E, and the ends of loop G the under side of said plate, when the elasticity of the papers themselves will hold them in frictional contact and securely locked in position.

When desired to have access to the papers, it is only necessary to press the upper end of the follower forward, turning the clamp slightly and causing lower end to be released from the plate E, as will be understood.

By constructing all the parts of sheet metal formed up in suitable dies without the necessity of employing special castings, I materially cheapen and improve the construction of the box and render it much lighter than the boxes heretofore in use, besides which, the sheet metal being smooth, a better finish can

be given them either by lacquering or plating than where rough castings are used.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with the follower, of the clamp constructed of sheet metal, having the flanges and lugs or ears *ff* formed thereon, and the loop passing through the flanges, having the laterally-extending ends, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the follower, of the clamp constructed of sheet metal, having the flanges and the lugs or ears *fff'f'* formed thereon, and the loops passing through the flanges and between the ears, having the laterally-extending ends, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the base, of the clamp, the loop secured thereto, having the laterally-extending ends, and the ears or projections *ff* for preventing the loop turning backward, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with the slotted base, of the clamp pivoted thereto, constructed of sheet metal, having the flanges and with the lower end extending forward, and the loop passing through the flanges and having the laterally-extending ends for engaging the base, substantially as described.

5. The combination, with the follower, of the clamp pivoted thereto, constructed of sheet metal, having the side flanges, and the wire loop passing through the flanges and prevented from turning therein, having the laterally-extending ends, substantially as described.

6. In a file-box, the combination, with the base and the flanges thereon, of the follower, the clamp pivoted to the follower, and the wire loop passing laterally through it and secured rigidly thereto, said loop having laterally-extending arms for engaging the flanges on the base.

7. The combination, with the base having the flanges, of the follower, the clamp constructed of sheet metal, having the trunnions formed at its upper end pivoted to the follower, the flanges at the sides, and the wire loop secured thereto, having the laterally-extending ends engaging the base-flanges, substantially as described.

PHILIP H. YAWMAN.

Witnesses:

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