(No Model.)

C. E. DARROW.

FILE.

No. 358,006. Patented Feb. 15, 1887.

Fig. 1.

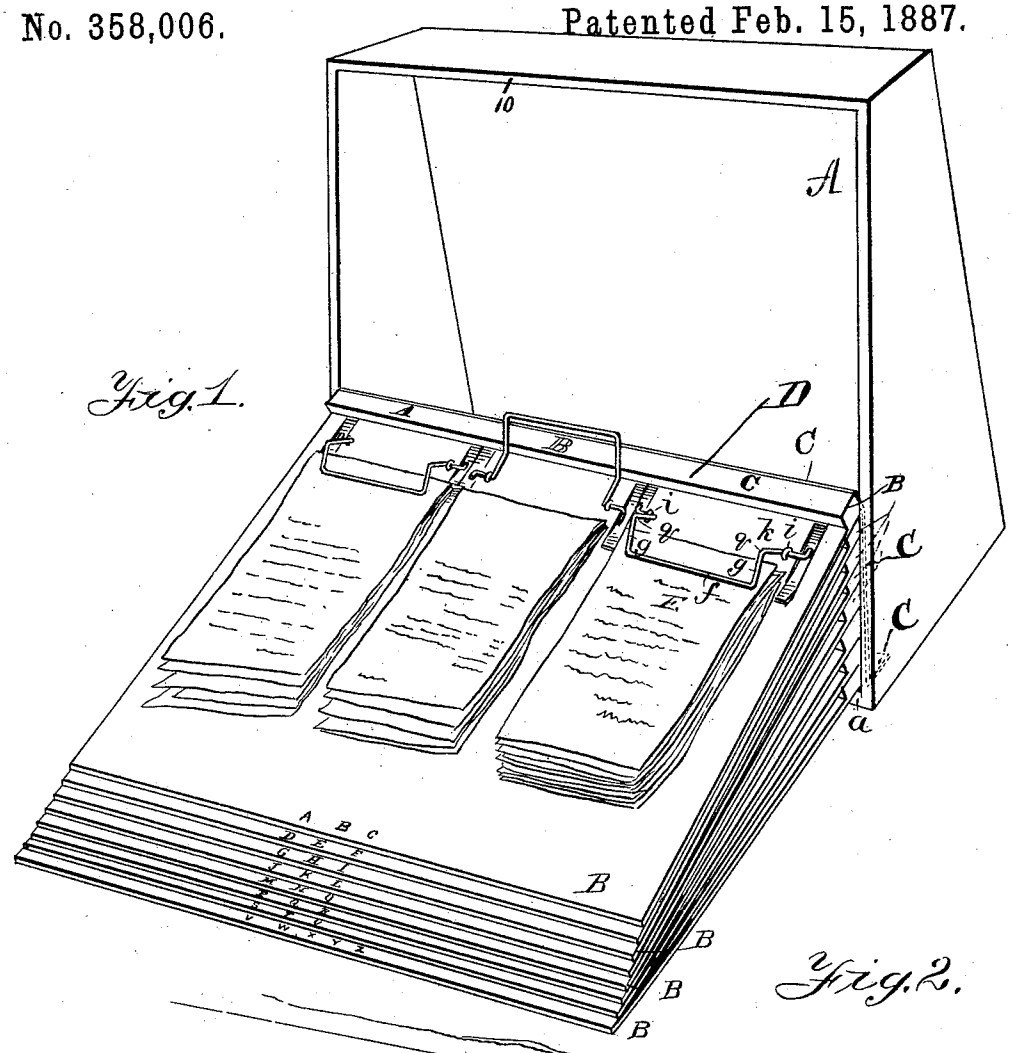
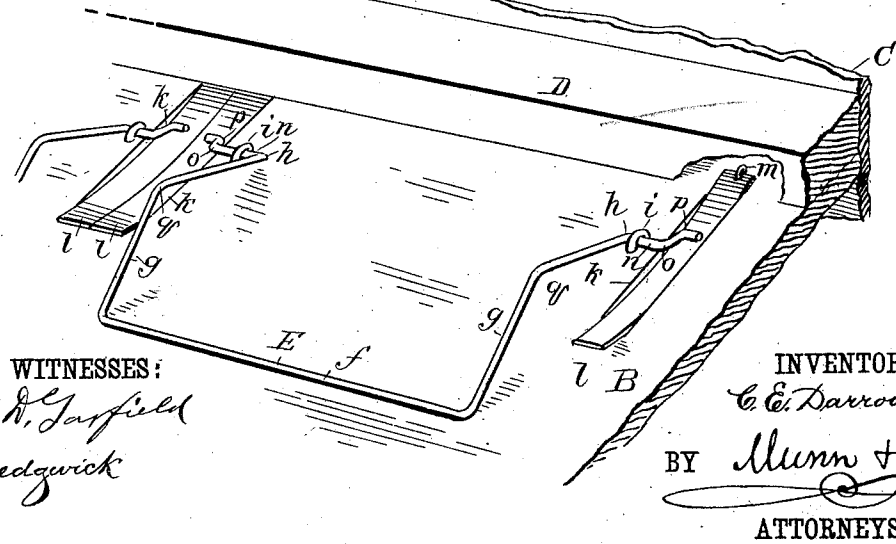


Fig. 2.



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CHANNING E. DARROW, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 358,006, dated February 15, 1887.

Application filed November 17, 1885. Serial No. 183,098. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHANNING E. DARROW, of Denver, in the county of Arapahoe and State of Colorado, have invented a new and Improved File, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to the construction of that class of devices employed to preserve papers—such as bills, receipts, and letters—in an orderly methodical manner, the object of the invention being to provide a case within which papers may be alphabetically arranged for preservation and ready reference.

To the end named the invention consists of a series of leaves arranged to fold within a case, each leaf being provided with spring-actuated clips by which the papers are held in place.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the open case, the leaves being shown as folded down to the position they would occupy when papers were being placed within the file or removed therefrom for the purpose of referring to their contents. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of one of the spring-actuated clips, illustrating its construction and relative arrangement with the adjacent parts.

In carrying my invention into practice I make a box-like case, A, which is preferably deeper at one side than at the other, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. Secured to the lower edge of the deeper side *a* are a number of leaves, B B, of which leaves there are preferably eight, although any other number of leaves could be used with slight modifications as to the arrangement of the alphabetical indices. The connection between the case A and the leaves B B is made by means of a heavy strip of fabric, C, which is glued or otherwise secured to the case and to the inner edges of the leaves, each of said leaves being formed with a spacing-strip, D, which is fixed in place along the inner edge of the leaf and upon the face of said leaf.

In the construction illustrated in Fig. 1 the seven upper leaves are each provided with three spring-actuated clips, E, each clip being designated by a letter, the several letters being arranged alphabetically, and this alphabetical arrangement is continued on the eighth leaf, whereon there are five clips, or whereon two of the clips are designated by double letters.

As all of the clips are precisely alike, I will confine my description to one clip, together with its spring, and as the construction of the clip is best shown in Fig. 2, I would at this point direct particular attention to that figure.

The clip E is formed of a piece of wire bent so as to have a bearing length, *f*, from which the wire extends backward in two legs, *g g*, which are bent outward at the points *h h* to pass beneath wire loops or staples *i i*, by which the clips are held to the leaves B B. Just outside of the staples *i i* the leaves are provided with recesses *k k*, over which I place stiff steel springs *l l*, which are held to the leaves by rivets or staples *m m*. The projecting ends *n n* of the clip E are bent backward at *o o* and then outward at *p p*, or, if preferred, the wire may terminate at the points *p p*. At the points *q q* the wire is bent downward, so that while the length *f* rests hard against the leaf B the legs *g g* extend upward from said length and then downward to the staples *i i*, the action of the springs *l l* being to hold the length *f f* of the clip against the leaf when in the position shown in Fig. 2, and to hold the clip away from the leaf when mounted to the position shown in the center of Fig. 1.

The upper outer edge of each of the leaves is provided with the letters corresponding to those which designate the clips carried by the leaf, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1.

Such a file as has been described is exceedingly convenient, in that any letter or paper therein contained may be referred to at once without the necessity of looking over a vast number of papers.

The papers arranged in the file are not mutilated, and are preserved from the injurious action of the light and air.

To close the file, the box A is moved so that its edge 10 will rest upon the desk or shelf, and when the parts are in this position the contents of the file will be protected from dust.

Having thus described my invention, what I

claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a file-case, the combination, with an inclosing-box, of leaves between which there are arranged spacing-strips, the leaves being connected to the case and to each other by a strip, C, clips E E, bent as described, staples *i i*, and springs *l l*, substantially as described.

2. In a file-case, the combination, with an inclosing-case, of leaves, a connecting-strip by which the leaves are united to each other and to the case, spacing-strips placed between the leaves, clips formed of a single length of wire properly bent, staples by which the clips are secured to the leaves, and springs arranged in connection with the clips, substantially as described.

CHANNING E. DARROW.

Witnesses:
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