

No. 660,811.

Patented Oct. 30, 1900.

W. E. DUNNING.

FILE BOX.

(Application filed May 10, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

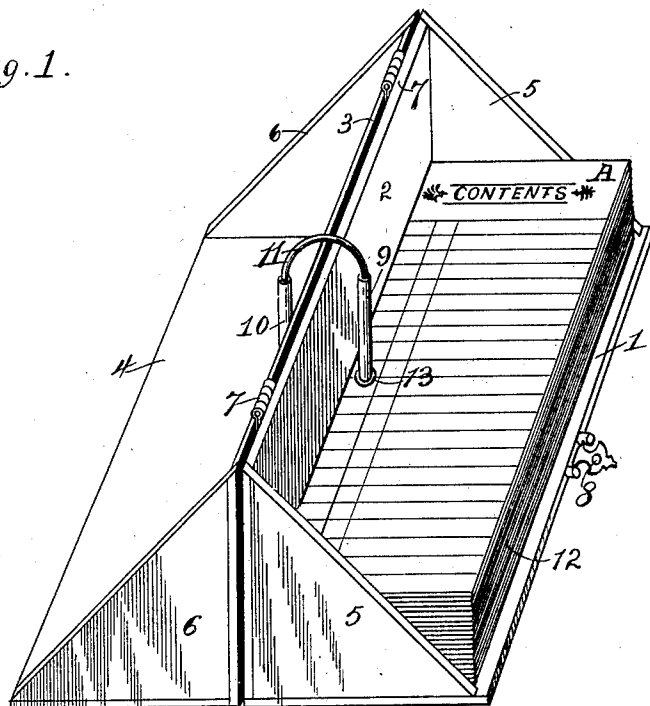


Fig. 2.

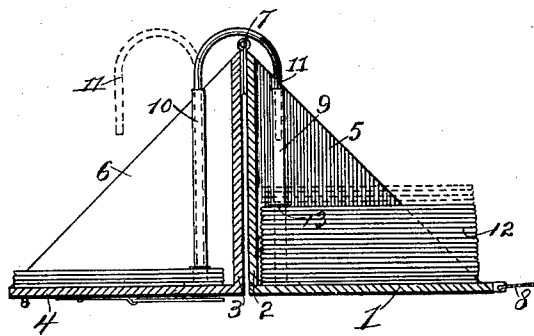
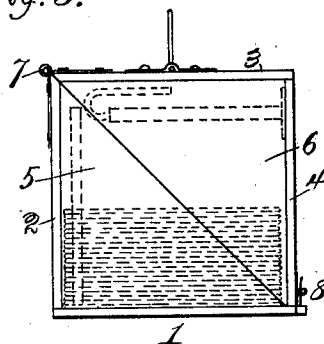


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

David C. Walter
L. E. Brown

INVENTOR:

William E. Dunning
By his Attorney,
Almon Hall

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. DUNNING, OF FREMONT, OHIO.

FILE-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 660,811, dated October 30, 1900.

Application filed May 10, 1899. Serial No. 716,191. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. DUNNING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fremont, Sandusky county, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in File-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to and its object is to provide a cheap, simple, and efficient file-box, and more particularly to so construct a file-box that the contents may be kept free from dust and in order and may be readily accessible without becoming disarranged. I attain this objects by means of the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and shown, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, made part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device open; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section of the same, and Fig. 3 another view of my device.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts throughout the drawings.

My box may be considered as an elongated rectangular case having a top and bottom and sides and ends, the case being divided into two equal parts by splitting the box longitudinally on a line leading from one of the upper corners to the opposite lower corner. Now one of the parts will have one of the sides and the bottom, and the other part will have the other side and the top, each of these parts having two triangular end pieces.

In the drawings, 1 is the bottom, and 2 the back, of my box.

3 is the top when closed, and 4 the remaining side.

5 5 are the two triangular end pieces of the bottom part, and 6 6 the triangular end pieces of the lid or cover. The pieces 2 and 3 being placed side by side are hinged together at their upper margins, as at 7. The part consisting of 1 2 5 and the lid portion consisting of 3 4 6 are each provided with suitable fastening devices, as at 8, which will engage each other when the two parts are brought into closed rectangular form.

From the bottom 1, midway of its length and near to the back, springs vertically a tube or spindle 9. This tube or spindle is somewhat shorter than the height of the back 2. From the part 4 springs in like manner a tube

or spindle 10, which corresponds and is in the same plane with the tube or spindle 9.

11 is a curved rod having straight extremities, one longer than the other, which extremities may be simultaneously inserted into the open ends of the tubes 9 10, thus making these parts practically continuous in inverted-U-shaped form. If desired, the parts 9 10 may be solid, and the part 11 may be made tubular with the same effect; but I prefer the form shown in the drawings.

12 is a series of envelopes bearing any desired inscriptions, whereby the envelopes may be arranged either in alphabetical, chronological, or topical order. Each of the envelopes has midway of its length and near its closed margin an eyelet 13, which will fit loosely the tubes or spindles 9 10. Instead of envelopes indexed cards may be used to separate the several groups of papers.

The operation of my device is as follows: Assuming that the envelopes or equivalent cards are arranged in their proper order and are thus held by means of the tube or spindle 9 passing through the series of eyelets 13, when it is desired to write upon or to open one of the envelopes the curved piece 11, which is loosely socketed in the piece 10, is slightly lifted and its free shorter end is swung around and inserted into the top of the tube 9. Now all of the envelopes above the one desired may be slipped along the pieces 9, 11, and 10 and are allowed to rest on the piece 4, leaving exposed the envelop sought for. The curved piece 11 is now slightly lifted to disengage it from the tube 9 and its free end is swung around out of the way. The envelop may now be removed and the contents readily reached and the envelop may be written upon. To return the envelopes to their place, it is of course only necessary to reverse the operation. When the box is to be closed, the curved piece 11 is disengaged from the piece 9 and the free end is swung around, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2. The box may now be closed and fastened. The parts 9, 10, and 11 will stand in relation to each other in the closed box, as indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 3.

It will be seen that although the two spindles are disposed in the same plane they will not interfere with each other when the box is

closed, for the reason that one of the spindles is shorter than the other. This arrangement also permits the closing of the box without disengaging the curved pieces 11 at both ends.

- 5 An important advantage of this arrangement of the spindles is that when the box is closed the two spindles are disposed end to end at a right angle to each other, whereby papers or envelopes are prevented from slipping off the
10 spindles when the box is inverted. It will also be seen that when the proper document, card, or envelop is exposed by swinging the ones above it upon the curved piece 11 out of the way such document, card, or envelop may
15 be written upon without removing it from the box, as the triangular top piece is folded back out of the way, so that it does not interfere with the arm or hand of the writer.

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

1. In a file box, a bottom portion consisting of a rectangular bottom, a side piece and triangular ends, a top portion consisting of a
25 rectangular top, a side piece, and triangular ends, and hinges connecting the margin of the side piece of the bottom portion with the margin of the top piece of the top portion, whereby when the box is opened said side
30 piece and said top piece will be folded side by side, and whereby the top and bottom may be closed in rectangular form, combined with a spindle for each of said two parts disposed

in the same plane and a detachable curved connection for said two spindles, substantially
35 as shown and described, for the purpose specified.

2. In a file-box, a rectangular case separated on a diagonal line from an upper corner to the opposite lower corner, hinged connections between these two parts, a spindle
40 for each of said two parts disposed in the same plane, and a detachable curved connection for said two spindles, the arrangement being such that when the box is closed the two spindles
45 stand end to end at a right angle to each other, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. A file-box, comprising a rectangular case separated on a diagonal line from an upper
50 corner to the opposite lower corner, hinged connections between these two parts, a spindle for each of said two parts disposed in the same plane, a series of envelopes engaged by
55 one of said spindles, and a detachable curved connection between said two spindles whereby said envelopes may be slipped upon and along said connection from one spindle to the other, and whereby when the box is closed
60 the two spindles are disposed end to end at a right angle to each other, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

WILLIAM E. DUNNING.

In presence of—

FRANK PERO,
SAMUEL RIDLEY.