(No Model.)

J. F. TAPLEY.

Temporary Binder.

No. 243,411. **Patented June 28, 1881.**

Fig 1

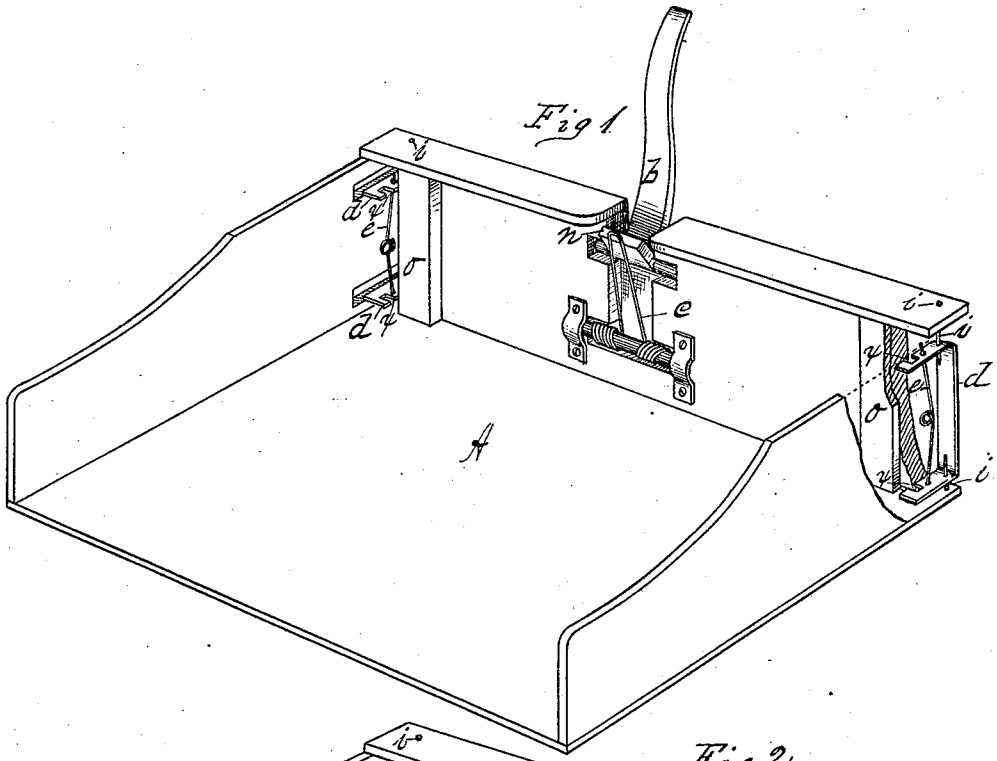


Fig 2

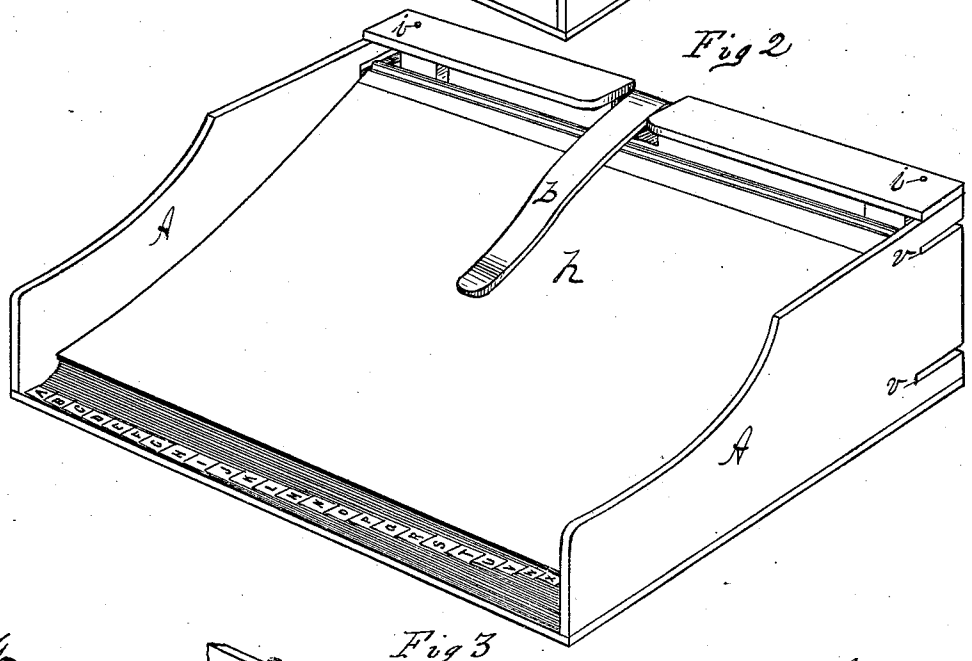
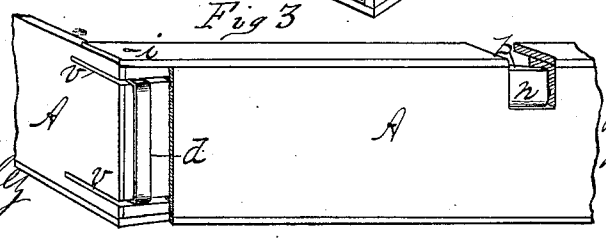


Fig 3



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JESSE F. TAPLEY, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

TEMPORARY BINDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 243,411, dated June 28, 1881.

Application filed March 25, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JESSE F. TAPLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, county of Hampden, and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Letter-File Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the details of the construction of a case for holding indexed letter-files while being filled, the object being to provide a convenient case for holding and preserving in good order said indexed file while it is being filled with letters, bills, or other papers, one which admits of being placed in uniform receiving-pockets in a desk, and which is provided with easily-manipulated catches to secure said file therein temporarily, and to release it therefrom when desirable.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved letter-file case embodying my improvements, one corner of which is broken away to show the form of the file-hook, its retaining-spring, and the manner in which it is pivoted to the case. Fig. 2 is a view of the file-case, showing the indexed letter-file in place within it. Fig. 3 is a view of a portion of the rear and one side of the file-case, showing the position of a part of one of the file-hooks at the corner thereof.

Like letters refer to like parts in the several figures.

In the drawings, A is the file-case. *b* is a cover-lever. *c* is a spring operating to hold lever *b* both up and down. *d d* are file-hooks. *e e* are file-hook springs. *i i* are file-hook pivots, and *h* is the letter-file.

I construct my file-case of any suitable material, and of a tray-form—that is to say, having a bottom, two sides, and one end—and of such a size as to adapt it to receive the indexed letter-file *h*. Two guard-posts, *o o*, are set vertically on the inside of the end of the file-case, against which the letter-file is placed when put into the case, and which cause the back of it to come to the proper position to let the hooks *e e* easily engage therewith, and to keep said back far enough forward of lever *b* and its spring to prevent it from interfering with their proper operation. Lever *b* is pivoted in the end of case A, as shown, and is provided with a short arm, *n*, against which the spring *c* bears to hold it up when in the position shown in Fig. 1, and when it is turned to that shown in Fig. 2 to hold it down upon the cover of the file *h*. It will be seen that when lever *b* is turned down upon said cover spring *c* will bear upon the side of arm *n* which is uppermost in Fig. 1, and thus cause said lever to bear upon the cover of the file.

In each back corner of the case A is pivoted a file-hook, *d*. The vertical portion of said file-hook is outside of the end of the case A, as seen in Fig. 3, and the ends thereof are bent to reach from said vertical portion through slots *v*, cut in the sides of said case, in beyond the face of the guard-posts *o*, as seen in Fig. 1, and the edges of said ends of said hooks toward the interior of said case are provided with notches *x*. Said hooks are pivoted in the corners of the said case by pivots *i*, and light springs *e*, secured to the case by their centers, have their ends engaging with the hooks *d*, to keep their notched ends swung toward the interior of case A.

The indexed file *h* is of ordinary construction, having a back of some rigidity.

To operate the file-case the lever *b* is turned up, as in Fig. 1. The file *h* is laid in the case, as in Fig. 2. The portion of the file-hooks outside of the case A, Fig. 3, is pressed from the corner, causing the hook to swing on pivot *i* and the notched ends thereof to retire within the slots *v* in the sides of the case. The indexed file may now be moved back in the case until the back of it rests against the posts *o*, when the hooks *d* may be released, and springs *e* will throw their notched edges toward the ends of the back of the file *h*, and cause the said notches *x* to engage with said ends of the file-back and retain the file therein.

The hooks *d d*, it will be observed, are constructed to engage with each end of the back of the file *h*, near its junction with each cover. This arrangement of said hooks causes the said file-back to be retained and supported in such a position as prevents it from "crippling" or falling, and thus to keep it distended, so that the index-leaves of the file will not lie close against each other where they are joined to the back and hinder papers which may be placed between them from being easily placed

therein. When the file has been so placed in the case lever *b* is turned down upon it, as in Fig. 2.

To place a letter in the file lever *b* is lifted up, as in Fig. 1, and subsequently turned back, in which position it serves to closely hold the contents of the file from derangement, while the case may be handled or transported from place to place. When the letter-file is full of letters, hooks *d* are disengaged from it, and an empty one put in its place, as described.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination, with the case A and the letter-file *h*, of the spring-actuated lever *b*, the file-hooks *d d*, pivoted in the corners of the case A, and springs *e e*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the letter-file case A, of the file-hooks *d d*, pivoted in the corners of said case, and of the springs *e e*, substantially as set forth.

JESSE F. TAPLEY.

Witnesses:
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