

June 4, 1929.

J. H. FIELD

1,715,413

FILING DEVICE, TIDY, PAPER RACK, AND THE LIKE

Filed Aug. 1, 1923

Fig. 1.

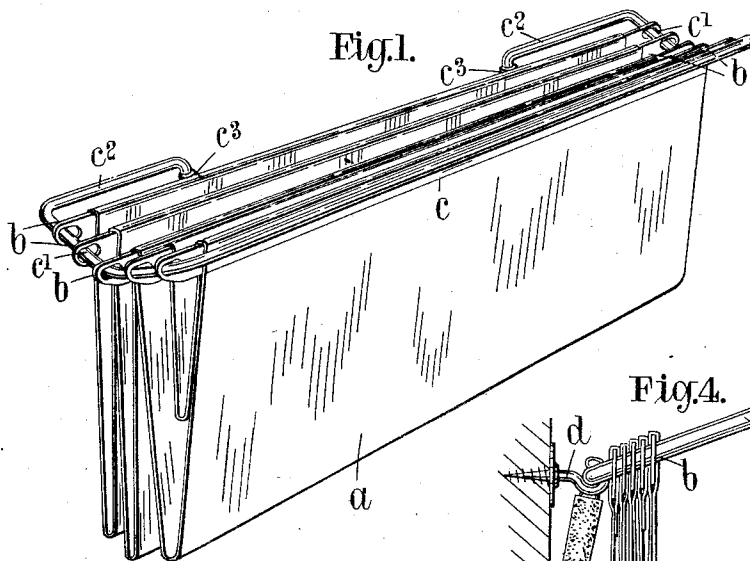


Fig. 2.

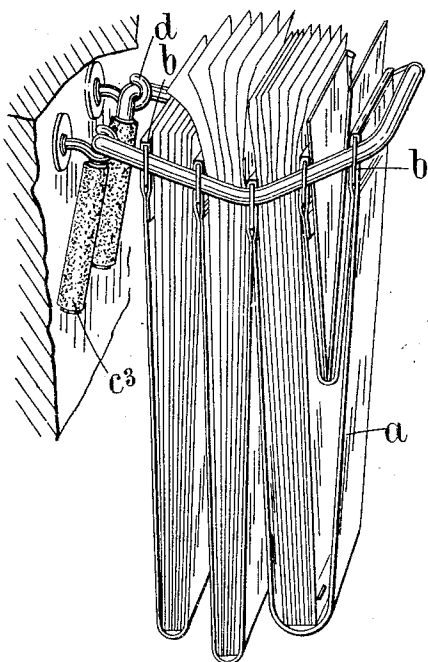


Fig. 4.

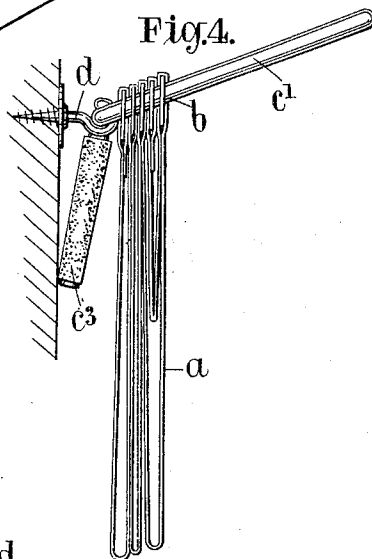
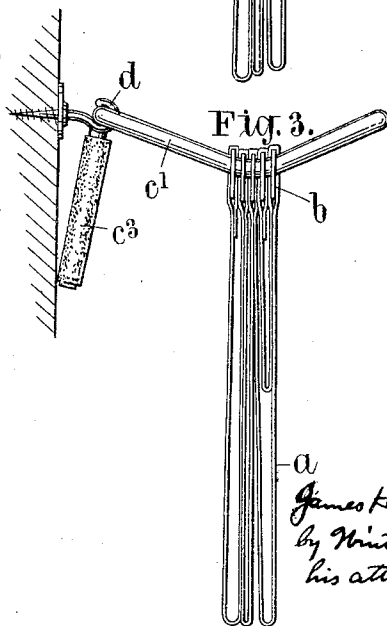


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FILING DEVICE, TIDY, PAPER RACK, AND THE LIKE.

Application filed August 1, 1923, Serial No. 655,025, and in Great Britain August 5, 1922.

This invention relates to filing devices, tidies, paper racks, and the like, such as are commonly used for the temporary accommodation of light articles, for example, newspapers, magazines, documents, gramophone records, music sheets or books, and numerous other similar articles which it may be necessary or desirable to have neatly and compactly stacked near at hand in the home, office, club, or elsewhere.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient device to accomplish the desired results and which, when in use, will tend automatically to keep its contents in place neatly and tidily.

A further object of the invention is to improve upon the filing device, tidies, paper racks, book racks, and the like now in use by providing an article which is attractive in appearance, compact in structure, and adaptable in use to accommodate various different types of goods to be filed or stowed temporarily away.

An important feature of the invention consists in a filing device, tidy, paper rack, and like appliance in which a simple frame supports extensible sectionalizing means capable of accommodating between them a number of the same articles or a variety of different articles at the same time in such a way that the appliance always tends to close upon its contents and therefore preserves a neat and tidy appearance.

To this end the invention consists of an extensible filing device, tidy or the like, suspended from a bracket or frame which is so shaped that the aforesaid filing device tends always to assume the collapsed position or in other words is self-closing; said bracket or frame being capable of attachment to any convenient support.

One suitable form of extensible filing device may be obtained by adapting to the present invention the flexible filing element already known in connection with vertical filing systems, that is to say, a series of flexible depending pockets formed by a continuous length of material secured at intervals to transverse members or runners, and the bracket or frame may be formed by bending to the required shape a continuous length of stout wire or light metal rod upon which said transverse members or runners are arranged slidably; the contour imparted to said wire or rod being such that said transverse mem-

bers or runners are constrained constantly by gravity to assume such a position on the bracket or frame as to tend to close the upper side of the filing device.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a perspective front elevation showing the filing device, tidy or rack slightly extended but for the sake of clearness with the contents omitted. Figure 2 is a side view of the tidy in use.

Figure 3 is also a side view showing the device empty. Figure 4 is a view similar to that illustrated by Figure 3 but of a slightly modified construction.

It is to be understood that these drawings illustrate only examples of carrying the invention into effect, and that the scope of the invention is not limited to the precise constructions shown but may, without departing from the spirit of the invention, be extended to very many other forms appropriate to household, domestic, or other uses.

The device illustrated comprises sectionalizing means embodying a continuous length or web or fabric *a* secured at intervals to transverse members or runners *b* constituted by light metal strips so that a series of flexible depending pockets is formed between adjacent runners *b* which latter are slotted at both ends in order to take freely over a bracket or frame *c* composed of a continuous length of stout round steel wire or light rod.

This frame *c* is formed by bending the wire or rod so as to form a frame which is substantially rectangular in plan view and of which the side rails or end members *c*¹, *c*², constitute ways or guides upon which the aforesaid transverse runners *b* are slidable.

The side rails or end members *c*¹, *c*², extend rearwardly from a front member *c* parallel to which they are then bent as at *c*², *c*², and may then be bent downwardly at right angles so as to form depending abutment members *c*³, *c*³, as shown; said abutment members being sheathed with rubber tubing if desired to protect if necessary the support to which the device is attached.

The frame may be attached to a suitable support by two screw-eyes or hooks *d*, *d*, which take over the member *c*², *c*², and may be screwed in to a table, door, wall or the like.

In order to constrain the device constantly to assume by gravity a closed position, or in other words to be self-closing, the two side

rails or end members c^1 , c^1 , of the frame may be bent about the middle of their length into a flattened V-form, as shewn in Figures 1, 2 and 3, or they may be inclined upwardly and forwardly as shown in Figure 4; in both of which cases it will be seen that the freely slidable transverse runners b will always tend to find the lowermost point on the side rails c^1 , c^1 , and therefore will maintain the device closed if it is empty or maintain it contracted against its contents if not empty.

In use the filling device or tidy may be adapted to a great variety of purposes, and in every instance it affords a simple, efficient and attractive means for stacking or holding compactly many different articles in every day use that it is desired to accommodate temporarily.

The device may be removed from its support and folded away into a drawer, and it is also capable of being carried as a portfolio if desired.

What I claim is:—

1. A filing unit, comprising a supporting member formed of a single wire to provide a rectangular frame portion, the terminals of said wire projecting laterally from said frame portion in spaced parallel relation, a plurality of bars having opposite ends slidably engaged on said wire with a pair of opposite sides of the frame portion thereof, for free movement between the other sides of said frame portion, flexible pocket forming elements suspended between adjacent bars, and supporting elements mounted on the vertically extending surface of a suitable support for detachably embracing a portion of said wire to mount said file unit, said terminals engaging the face of said support for said elements and holding said frame portion

in outwardly projecting relation from the vertically extending face of said support.

2. A filing unit, comprising a supporting member formed of a single wire to provide an open rectangular frame portion, a plurality of bars having opposite ends slidably engaged on said wire with a pair of opposite sides of the frame portion thereof for free movement between the other sides of said frame portion, flexible pocket forming elements suspended between adjacent bars, and cooperating means on the frame portion of said wire and a support for said file unit for supporting said frame portion in projecting relation from said support.

3. A filing unit, comprising a supporting member formed of a single wire to provide a rectangular frame portion, the terminals of said wire projecting laterally from said frame portion in spaced parallel relation, a plurality of bars having opposite ends slidably engaged on said wire with a pair of opposite sides of the frame portion thereof, for free movement between the other sides of said frame portion, flexible pocket forming elements suspended between adjacent bars, said frame portion having said first-mentioned sides inclined relative to the normal horizontal plane for normally causing said bars to move into adjacent relation thereon, and elements mounted on the vertically extending portion of a suitable support, and detachably embracing a portion of said wire to mount said file unit, said terminals engaging the vertically extending portion of said support and holding said frame portion in outwardly projecting relation from said support.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES HASLIP FIELD.

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION.

Patent No. 1,715,413.

Granted June 4, 1929, to

JAMES HASLIP FIELD.

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction as follows: Page 2, line 71, claim 3, before the word "elements" insert the word "supporting"; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 9th day of July, A. D. 1929.

(Seal)

M. J. Moore,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.