No. 881,078. PATENTED MAR. 3, 1908.

W. A. JOHNSON.

LETTER FILE AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 2, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

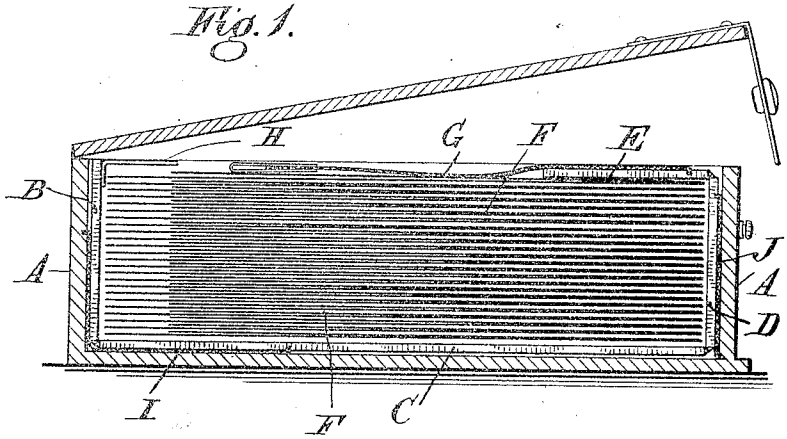
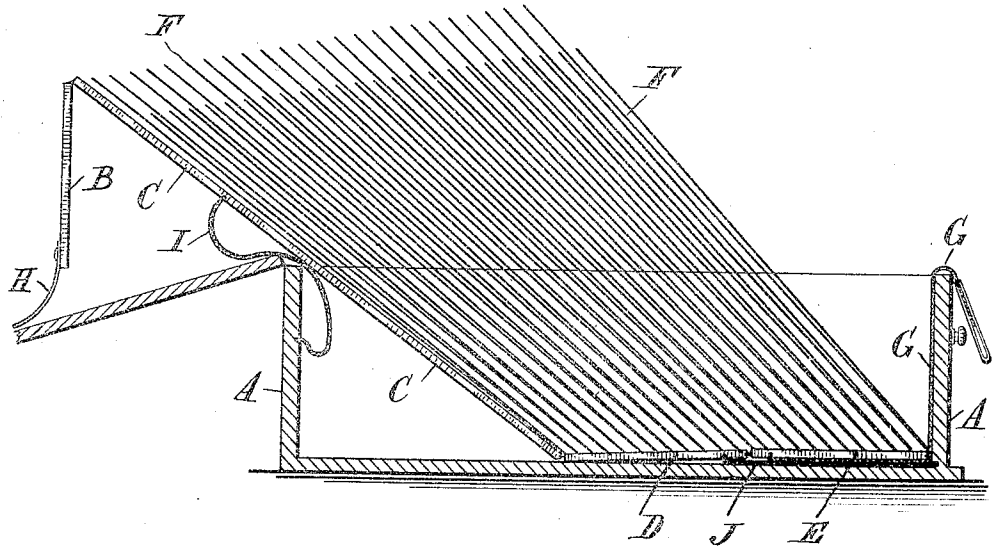



Fig. 2.




Witnesses:
Chas. D. Kesler
Robt. Ewitt.

Inventor
William A. Johnson
By
James L. Norris.
Atty.

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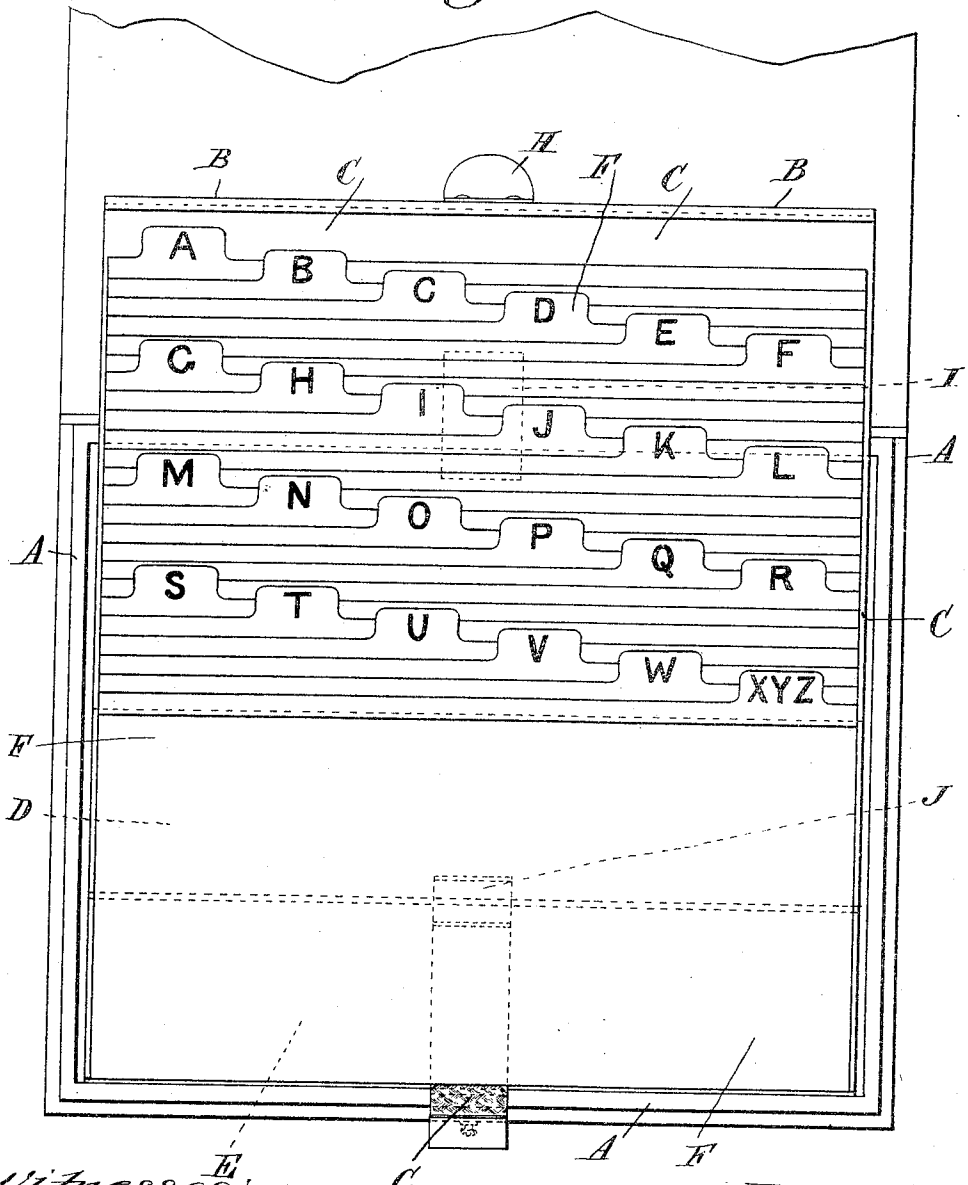
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.




Witnesses:
Chas. D. Kesler
Robt. Everett.

Inventor
William A. Johnson
By
James L. Norris

C. Abby

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM ALFRED JOHNSON, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

## LETTER-FILE AND THE LIKE.

No. 881,078. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 3, 1908.

Application filed August 2, 1907. Serial No. 386,774.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM ALFRED JOHNSON, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at 18 Union street, Southwark, London, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Files and the Like, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to so construct a file for letters and other papers, that the folders, envelops, covers or cards dividing same, can by the movement of a folding flap, be caused to assume an angle, and the envelops, cases or the like become spaced or fanned out, so that all of the folders, envelops or cards are readily discernible, and the required one easily removed or opened, and the contents got at.

My invention will be clearly understood from the following description aided by the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1. is a side sectional elevation of my letter file nested in the box, and with the lid partly opened. Fig. 2. is a side sectional elevation, and Fig. 3, a plan of my letter file in the opened out condition ready for ascertaining and removal of papers, the lid being shown partly broken away.

For the purpose of my invention, I take a box A or drawer of the ordinary construction, and in this box A, drawer or the like, I position a folding flap, having say four members B, C, D and E, so that the member C has a position against the bottom, and B and D against the two sides or front and back, with the portion E to fold over and be positioned at the top. In this folding flap I place my folders, envelops, covers or cards F, these being of the usual construction, and marked with the letters of the alphabet or otherwise, see Fig. 3, and piled one above the other in the box A as at Fig. 1, the free portion of the folding flap resting on top. Now, if I lift the folded end B of the flap, it will lift the bottom portion C at an angle, and raise the envelops F, and by moving the flap sidewise, a certain distance, and resting the member C of the flap on the edge of the box A, the two other folds D, E, of the flap will be moved, so that they lie flat on the bottom of the box, and the contents, by the movement and the placing of the bottom of the flap at an angle, will move also and space or fan themselves, so that either folders, envelops, cards or the like can be readily got at, as shown at Fig. 2. A lifting of the flap will, by its member E, cause the envelops F to reassume their proper position, so that they, with the flap, can be positioned snugly in the box or drawer, as at Fig. 1.

The folding flap, preferably has a tape or ribbon G, H, or tags fitted on the members B and E, by which it can be moved, and may also be restricted in its movement by tapes I, J, or other means secured to the members C and D, and the box A, and should the envelops be of rough paper, a slight shake of the flap will insure the necessary fanning or opening out.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. The combination with a receptacle, of a filing device comprising a plurality of rigid flaps flexibly connected together and normally forming an envelop for the contents of the box and adapted when manipulated to bring said contents to a position for access, one of said flaps adapted to rest in an inclined position upon one edge of the receptacle and constitute a support for the contents of the box and certain of the remaining flaps forming a base for the contents when the latter are supported at an inclination and the remaining flap being free of the contents when the latter is supported at an inclination, and means for flexibly connecting the file to the interior of the receptacle.

2. A letter file or the like, consisting of a box, drawer, or the like, a folding flap contained within said box, drawer or the like, and having four folding members, two to engage walls of the box or drawer, one the bottom and one to fold over on to the top of folders, envelops, covers, cards or the like adapted to be positioned within the folding flap when in a closed state, the flap being movable within said box, drawer or the like, so that when in an opened state, the flap is angled with two of its members lying at the bottom of the box, and the folders, envelops, covers, cards or the like spaced or fanned out; substantially as set forth for the purpose described.

3. A letter file or the like, consisting of a box, drawer, or the like, a folding flap contained within said box, drawer or the like, and having four folding members, two to engage walls of the box or drawer, one the bottom and one to fold over on to the top of folders, envelops, covers, cards or the like adapted to be positioned within the folding flap, when in a closed state, the flap being

movable within said box, drawer or the like, so that when in an opened state, the flap is angled with two of its members lying at the bottom of the box, and the folders, envelops, covers, cards or the like spaced or fanned out, ribbons, cords, tags, or the like attached to the two outside members of the flap, and by which the flap can be actuated in combination with tapes, ribbons, cords or the like connecting the two inner members of the flap with the box or casing, and so limit the movement of the flap, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM ALFRED JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

WM. O. BROWN,

F. C. SMITH.