March 20, 1928. 1,662,873

T. F. VALLEAU

FILE, BINDER, AND THE LIKE

Filed Jan. 28, 1927

Fig. 1.

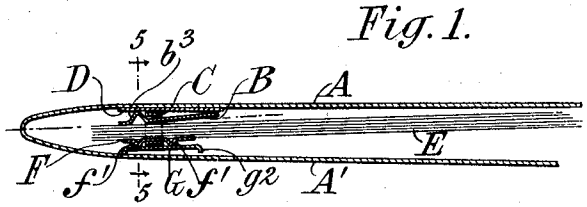


Fig. 2.

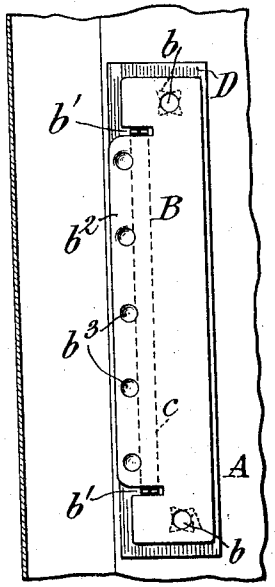


Fig. 3.

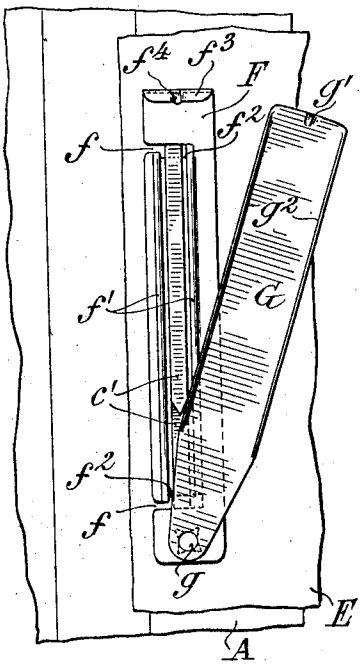
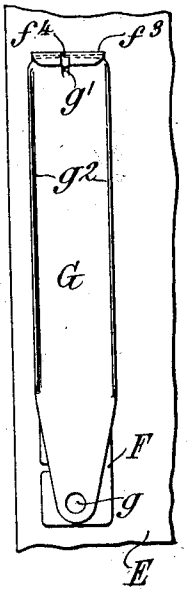


Fig. 4.



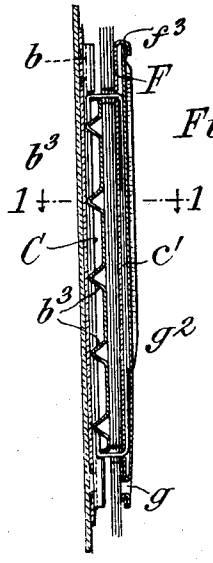


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS F. VALLEAU, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO THE COOKE & COBB COMPANY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

FILE, BINDER, AND THE LIKE.

Application filed January 28, 1927. Serial No. 164,162.

The present invention relates to letter files, temporary binders and the like of the type wherein the papers to be filed are received on flexible tongues, said tongues and filed papers being removable as a unit from the binder, and aims to provide certain improvements therein. Devices of this type as conventionally constructed consists of an anchor plate, secured to a cover of the file, adapted to support a member having a pair of tongues to be pushed through or to receive the papers to be filed, a retaining member having openings through which the tongues are threaded and over which said tongues can be bent down to lie flat, and means for holding said tongues in their bent down or flattened position. In most of these devices the constructions are too expensive to be commercially practicable, or the means for holding the tongues in bent down position are difficult, inconvenient or awkward to manipulate, or are such as require too much time for performing the filing operation.

According to the present invention I provide an improved and simplified binder of the type described which overcomes the objectionable features inherent in the earlier devices. Specifically, my improved device consists of an anchor plate permanently affixed to a cover of the file, said anchor plate having a resilient lip under which a tongued, flexible member can be positioned and removably held so that the ends thereof can receive the papers to be filed, a slotted retaining member adapted to be laterally positionable over the filed papers and engage the tongued member, and a latching device pivotally carried by the retaining member, adapted to cover said tongues and hold them in bent down position against accidental removal. The invention also embodies other features of novelty which will be hereinafter more fully described.

A preferred embodiment of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein

Figure 1 is a transverse section of a file embodying my invention, said section being taken on the line 1—1 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the anchor plate in the present invention.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the invention with the latching member in partly closed position.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 with the latching member in closed position.

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section taken along the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings, let A, A′ indicate the covers of a file or binder, B an anchor plate affixed to the cover A, C a tongued member adapted to be mounted on said anchor plate, E the correspondence or filed papers, F a retaining member for holding the papers E in place, and G a latching member adapted to hold the bent down tongues of the member C against accidental displacement.

The anchor plate B, which is preferably formed of sheet metal, may be directly secured to the cover A, or, as shown in the drawings, it is first affixed to an intermediate carrier member D by being riveted thereto, as shown at b, after which the carrier member D may be secured to the cover by adhesive or other suitable means. The plate B is formed with lateral slots b' near its opposite ends, which slotting provides the plate with a lip b^2 under which an intermediate portion c of the tongued member C is adapted to be received and held when the correspondence-receiving ends c' of the tongue are inserted in the slots b'. To effectively hold the member C in said position the lip b^2 is formed near its free edge with detents b^3 or equivalent means which render said edge more rigid and give to the lip as a whole greater resiliency and increased clamping engagement with the cover.

The retaining member F consists of a strip of sheet metal formed with a pair of lateral slots f adapted to coincide with the slots in the anchor plate B, said retaining member being laterally positionable and slidable over the filed correspondence to engage the ends c' of the tongued member, which ends are adapted to be bent down to lie flat against said retaining member. To accommodate the bent down ends c', the retaining member F is formed with a pair of struck-up longitudinal ribs f' forming therebetween a trough in which said bent down tongues are receivable. To facilitate the bending down operation and to insure against accidental withdrawal or removal of the retaining member from said tongues, each of the slots f therein is formed with an incut or offset portion f^2, said incuts extending

in the direction in which the tongued ends are bent down.

To insure against displacement or opening of the bent down tongues whereby they may be injured or do injury to the filed correspondence, I have provided the latching member G, which, as herein shown, consists of a flat strip of metal of substantially the same length as the retaining member F to which it is pivotally secured at one end, as shown at g and over which it is movable and adapted to be latched at its other end. The latching engagement is accomplished through the turning up and over of the end f^3 of the retaining member, as best shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5, the middle point of said turned up end being provided with a detent or V f^4 adapted to engage and co-operate with a similarly formed detent g' in the free end of the latching member G. The corners of the free end of the latching member are preferably rounded so as to readily engage under the lip f^3 upon bringing the latching member into engaging position from either side. To facilitate the manipulation of the latching member G into and out of latching position, the lateral edges of said member are turned up, as shown at g^2 to provide it with blunt finger-engageable portions.

In use the tongued member C, which may be in the form of a flat flexible strip or needle, first has its intermediate portion c inserted under the resilient lip b^2 and its free ends brought through the slots b^1 and extended at right angles to the plate B. In this position it is adapted to receive the correspondence or papers E to be filed thereon. The retaining member F is then applied over the filed papers to laterally engage the tongues c' in the slots f. Thereafter the tonges c' are bent down to lie in the trough formed between the struck-up ribs f' in the retaining member, after which the latching member G is moved about its pivot g into protecting position over the bent down tongues and brought into latching engagement with the detent device f^4 of the retaining member. The papers as thus filed are securely held in place against accidental removal, as are the tongues c'.

To add or remove any papers from the binder, the reverse operations up to the point of bringing the tongues into position for receiving papers are carried out.

When the binder is filled to its capacity or when it is desired to remove the filed correspondence from the file as a unit the member G is first unlatched, the retaining member F is removed and the tongues with the filed papers thereon can be removed from the anchor plate by merely applying a little force thereto in the direction of the free edge of the lip, which will permit the intermediate portion c to become disengaged from under the lip. After this has been done the retaining member F and latch G are re-applied to the tongued ends, as before described, and the filed correspondence as a unit disposed of as desired.

While I have shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention it will be understood that I do not wish to be limited to the precise construction disclosed, since modifications thereof may be restored to without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. A file or binder for correspondence and the like comprising a file base having an anchor plate mounted thereon, a member having a pair of tongues upon which correspondence can be mounted and an intermediate portion adapted to be removably held by said anchor plate and a slotted retaining member laterally positionable over the top sheet of the filed correspondence mounted on the tongues to engage the tongues and adapted to have said tongues bent down to lie against said retaining member, said tongued member, together with the filed correspondence and the retaining member, being removable as a unit from the file base by the removal of the tongued member from the anchor plate.

2. A file or binder for correspondence or the like comprising a file base having an anchor base formed with a resilient lip mounted thereon, a member having a pair of tongues upon which correspondence can be mounted, said member having an intermediate portion removably mounted under the resilient lip on said anchor plate and a slotted retaining member laterally positionable over the top sheet of the filed correspondence mounted on the tongues to engage said tongues, said retaining member being adapted to have said tongues bent down to lie flat thereagainst, said tongued member, together with the filed correspondence and the retaining member, being removable as a unit from the file base by the removal of the intermediate portion of the tongued member from under the resilient lip on the anchor plate.

3. A file or binder for correspondence and the like comprising a binding tape having an intermediate portion and a pair of end portions constituting tongues upon which correspondence can be mounted, a retaining member having a trough in its top face and having incut slots in one of its longitudinal edges for laterally receiving the tongues, and a latching member carried by the retaining member and movable over the face thereof, said tongues being adapted to be bent down over the face of the retaining member and seat in the trough therein and to be held therein against accidental removal by the latching member.

4. A retaining member for use with files

or temporary binders of the type wherein the papers to be filed are received on flexible tongues, consisting of a member having a trough in its top face into which the flexible tongues can lie after being bent down over the retaining member and having incut slots in one of its longitudinal edges for laterally receiving the tongues and a latching member movable and retainable over the face of the retaining member.

5. A retaining member for use with files or temporary binders of the type wherein the papers to be filed are received on flexible tongues, consisting of a member having a trough in its top face and having incut slots in one of its longitudinal edges for laterally receiving the tongues and a latching member pivotally mounted on the retaining member adjacent one end thereof and engageable with a latch at the other end, said latching member being movable over the face of the retaining member.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

THOMAS F. VALLEAU.