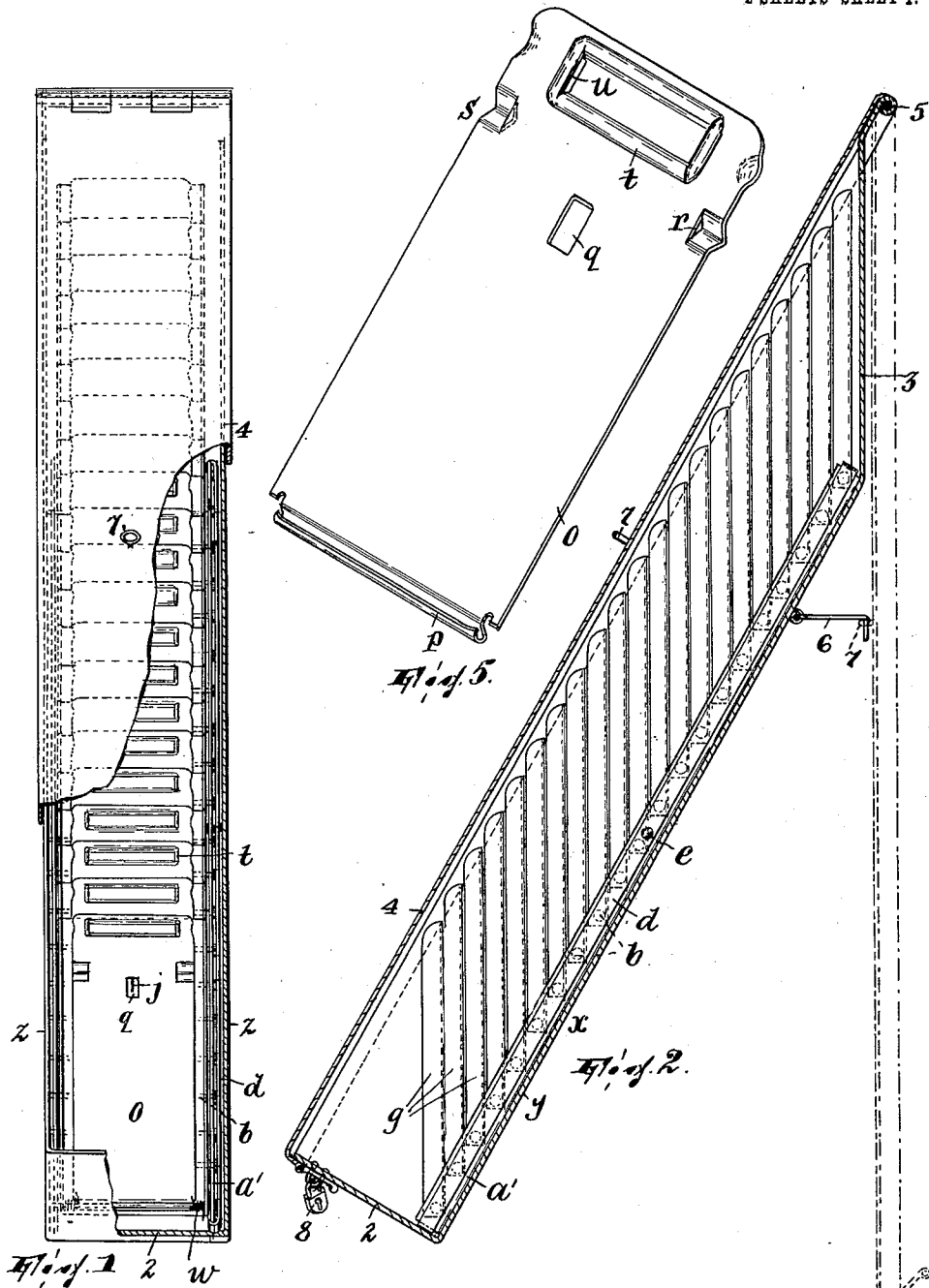


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 BILL FILE.
 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1911.

1,005,451.

Patented Oct. 10, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

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BILL-FILE.

1,005,451.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 10, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MOLENAAR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Paterson, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bill-Files, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to bill files and it has reference to that particular class of such files in which the bills or other papers to be preserved in orderly arrangement are held in a series of bill-holders all nested together in a single and compact unitary structure in such manner that ready access to the contents of any one of them may always be conveniently had.

My principal objects in the present instance are to cheapen the cost of manufacture; provide for retaining the bills in each holder in such a way that whereas each is held perfectly secure against accidental displacement therefrom it may readily be selected and removed from the others; and construct the file as a whole so that it will be both proof against damage of its contents by fire or access thereto by unauthorized persons, and a handy, compact and attractive business accessory.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows the improved bill file in front elevation, the case portion being partly broken away; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken just inside of and parallel with one of the side walls of the case portion of the bill file; Fig. 3 shows the improved bill file in side elevation, partly in section with the case-portion removed; Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view or a part of what is shown in Fig. 3; Figs. 5 and 6 are perspective views of the front and back members of one of the bill-holders; and, Fig. 7 is a vertical sectional view of the upper part of the front member of one of the bill-holders.

a is a channeled sheet metal support through the side *a'* of which extend the parallel pins *b* each having a head *c* on one end thereof (its right-hand end in Figs. 1 and 4). These pins form pivots on which the bill-holders and the members thereof are movable. Upon drawing any pin lengthwise to the right in Figs. 1 and 4 the bill-holder pivoted thereon may be removed. The pins are all normally held, however, in their working positions by a retaining strip *d* of spring steel or other elastic material, the same being pivoted on a rivet *e* in the

right-hand side of the support *a*. Each end of this strip is bent back upon itself so as to receive the corresponding extremity of each side wall *a'*, the portion bent back forming a hook *f*. To disengage the hooks and allow the retaining strip to be turned on the rivet *e* so as to expose all of the pins *b*, one end is simply moved in the plane of the strip until its hook may be shifted laterally out of engagement with the extremity of the side wall *a'* (the yielding nature of the strip permitting this). This arrangement permits the employment of nails or the like as pivots for the bill-holders and involves a considerably cheaper construction than that commonly employed and illustrated, for instance, in my Patent No. 883,468, where both ends of the pivoting pins were upset or riveted. It further permits, as stated, the ready removal of any bill-holder, should occasion require it.

Each bill-holder comprises two members. The rear member *g* is a sheet metal plane having its side edges bent forward, as shown at *h* and formed with holes *i* for one of the pins *b*. A tapering part *j* of the metal is cut out and pressed forward to form a spur, while at *k*, *k* slits are formed and the intermediate portion of the metal bent back (Fig. 6) to form stops *l*. At *m*, *m* in the lower edge of the plate other slits are formed, the intermediate portion of the metal *n* being bent forward to afford a rest for the bills.

The front member *o* is likewise a plate of sheet metal having its lower edge bent in the tubular form *p* to afford a bearing for the member on the pin *b*. Coinciding with the spur *j* of member *g* the member *o* has an aperture *q* to receive said spur. Further, a longitudinal slit *r* is formed in the plate *o* near each edge thereof, the metal between the slit and the adjoining edge being bent back to form a stop *s*; this stop serves to space member *o* slightly from member *g* to facilitate access to the interposed bills. Following a rectangular outline the metal near the top of the plate *o* is pressed forward to produce a bead or boss *t*, opposite sides of the rectangular bead on the inside thereof being provided with a slit *u* to admit a placard *v* on which matter referring to the contents of the bill-holder may be printed.

The bill-holders are all pressed rearwardly, and the forward member of each held against the rear member, by spiral springs *w* coiled about the pins *b*, one end

of each spring bearing against the front member of the corresponding bill-holder and the other against the support *a* (Fig. 1).

In view of the action of the springs, therefore, bills held by any one bill-holder will be held punctured by the spur *j* thereof, which retains the bills against accidental displacement from the bill-holders. The stops *l* serve to space the bill-holders so that the spur of any one bill-holder does not impinge against the rear member of the next forwardly adjoining bill-holder.

I have provided a case which preferably forms a part of my improved bill-file and may be described as follows:

x is the case, the same being formed of sheet metal so as to be fire-proof and having a bottom wall *y*, side walls *z*, a front wall 2, a rear wall 3 and a cover 4. The walls *y*, *z* and 2 are disposed in the usual arrangement of the walls of a rectangular box, but the wall *s* forms an obtuse angle with the bottom wall *y*. Against the wall 3, when the assembled bill-holders and their support *a* are assembled with the case, the rearmost bill-holder normally rests; the triangular space between the front bill-holder and the wall 2 affords the necessary play to the bill-holders for access to the contents of any one of them.

The cover 4 is pivoted on the pin 5 at the upper rear edge of the wall *s*, and when swung back into the position shown in broken lines in Fig. 2 and there held by a hook and eye 6 and 7 which serves to support the device in the inclined position shown in Fig. 2.

When the cover is in the closed position,

it may be secured by a lock 8 of any suitable design.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. The combination of a suitable support and pairs of sheet-metal bill-holder members arranged therein face to face, corresponding members in each pair having openings therein and each of the other members having a tapering part of the metal thereof cut out and bent to project as a spur in one direction therefrom into the opening of its complementary member and another part pressed out of the plane of said member to project as a stop in the opposite direction therefrom toward the next adjoining member, substantially as described.

2. A bill holder comprising a pair of sheet-metal members and means normally holding them face to face, one of said members having an opening formed therein and the other having a tapering part thereof cut out and bent toward the first member and received by the opening thereof, said other member being formed with two parallel slits contained wholly within the margin of said member and having the part of the metal between said slits pressed out of the plane of said member to project, as a stop, in the direction opposite to that in which the spur projects, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM MOLENAAR.

Witnesses:

WM. D. BELL,
ELSIE KAUFMANN.