W. A. AMBERG.
Letter-File.

No. 199,395. Patented Jan. 22, 1878.

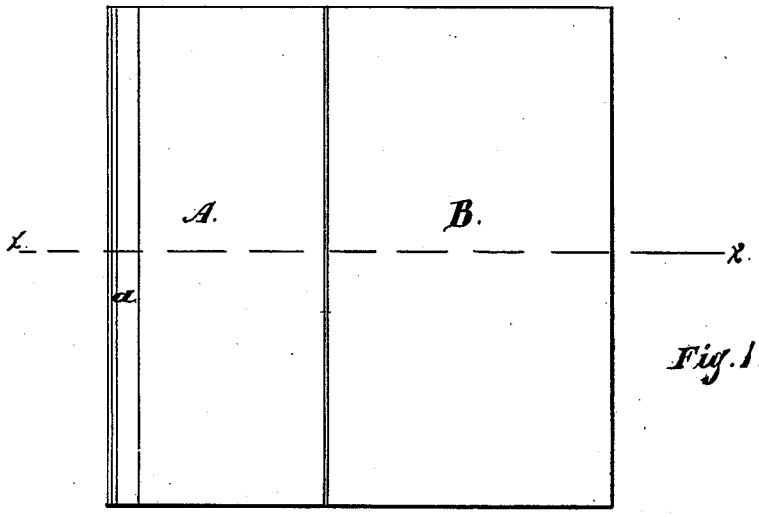


Fig. 1.

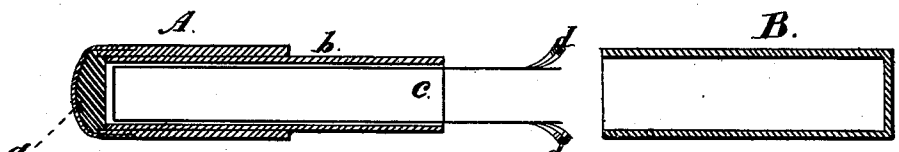


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. AMBERG, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER-FILES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,395**, dated January 22, 1878; application filed November 14, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. AMBERG, of the city of Chicago, Cook county, State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Filing-Cases, of which the following is a full description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view; and Fig. 2, a cross-section on line *x x* of Fig. 1, with the cover or cap drawn off.

The objects of my invention are to provide a case for receiving the contents of temporary letter or other paper files when completed, which files may have interleaved file leaves or sheets, so constructed and arranged that any desired letter or paper, when wanted, may be readily found; that the entire contents may be removed or taken out together, when desired, without being previously bound; that the case will be kept in shape when standing on end and stiffened, and keep the contents thereof clean and free from accumulating dust when stored away or out of common use; and its nature consists in arranging the body of the case so that the contained papers, or the file interleaves or sheets, will project beyond it when the cover is removed, so that they may be bent over or down for finding any desired letter or paper; in providing the case with a secondary sheet or partial case, so constructed and inserted that it will pass around the entire contents of the case, and project sufficiently far beyond the body of the case to permit by its use the withdrawal of the entire contents of the case without their being bound or otherwise fastened together; and in providing the case with a wooden back or back-board to keep it in shape.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the case; B, the cover; *a*, the wood back or back-board; *b*, the neck of the case, or portion of the body that is overlapped by the cover; *c*, the secondary sheet or wrapper, or withdrawable portion of the case; *d*, loops or straps that may be used in withdrawing the part *c* and its contents.

The back of the body of the case is made of wood or other suitable material, which may be rounded off or formed to give any desired configuration for the back. The sides and end of the body of the case are made of paste, straw, or card board, or other suitable material, glued or otherwise secured to the back *a* in any suitable manner; and these parts are so made that the interleaves, at least when used, shall project beyond the neck *b* of the case when inserted.

The cover B, as shown, is made wholly of paper-board; but, if desired, a strip of wood corresponding to the strip *a* may be used, to which the sides and ends of the cover can be secured. In use, the cover passes over the neck or part *b* and rests against the shoulder, as shown at Fig. 1.

The completed case, or the parts *a* A B, are covered with a finishing-paper, and the back *a* is covered with paper that can be written or printed on; or leather may be used for such purpose.

The secondary sheet or partial case *c* is made of card-board, manila, or other strong paper, folded or formed so that the contents can be placed therein and the whole inserted in the body of the case, and, when inserted, project beyond the body A, as shown at Fig. 2, so that by taking hold of it the entire contents of the case can be partially or entirely drawn out. If made of stronger or stiffer material, loops or straps *d* may be added to facilitate such withdrawal.

The case may be made of any thickness, but is made preferably of a size to hold as many papers as the file for which it may be designed to be an adjunct, so that the inserted contents may be held with reasonable firmness in the case, thus keeping the papers in good shape.

In use, the temporary files, when completed, are to be inserted in the body of the case, the cover placed thereon, and the back of the case marked to designate the nature of the contents.

When stored away or out of common use, the cases are placed side by side upon their ends, so that by looking at their backs the case containing any desired paper can be readily found.

By setting the cases on end, dust or dirt can only accumulate on top, which allows the case to be handled readily without getting the hands covered with dust, and also keeps the contents free from dust.

By using a wood or solid back for the body of the case, lighter material can be used for making the body, the back forming a strong support for the material, and also serving as a means for stiffening the case, and preventing it from getting out of shape when standing on end or out of use.

By this construction a filing-case can be made of light material, which will be strong and durable, easy of access to the contents, free from dust when handled, of proper shape and size for storing away, and in which the contents will be held without any binding or fastening, and in clean condition.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

As a new article of manufacture, the case herein described, consisting of the body A, having the solid back *a* and the neck *b*, the wrapper C, and cover B, as set forth.

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Witnesses:
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