Feb. 21, 1928. 1,659,620

P. VIGNOS

FILE FOLLOWER

Filed Feb. 26, 1927

Fig. 1.

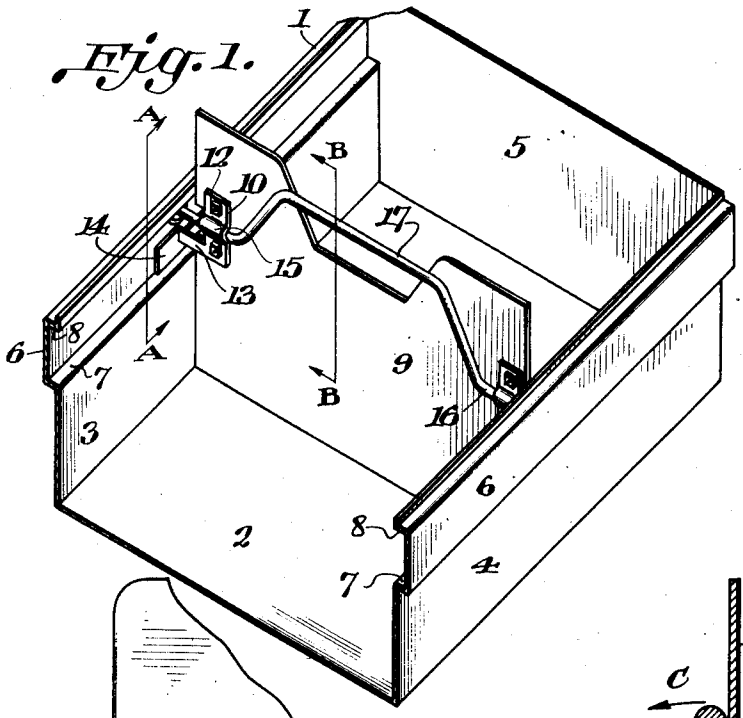


Fig. 4.

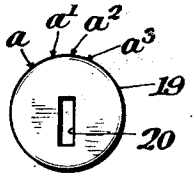


Fig. 2.

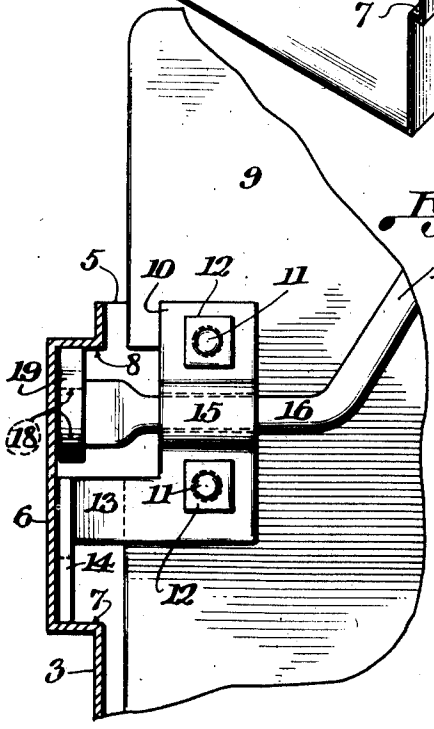
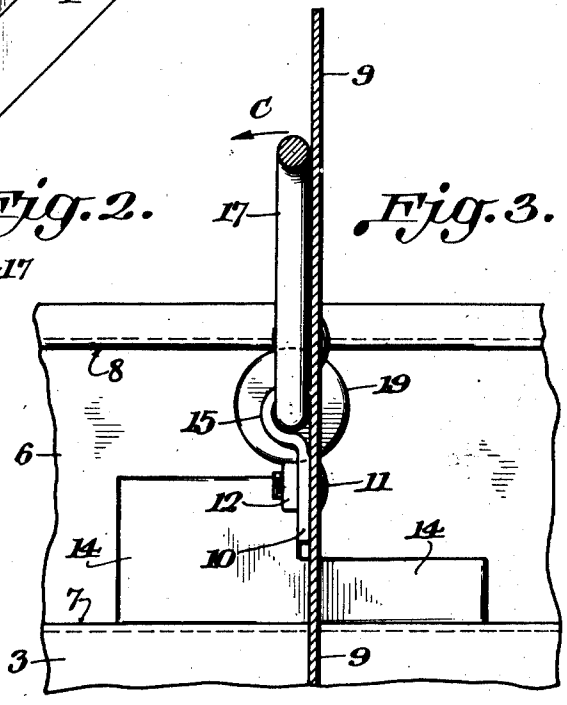


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL VIGNOS, OF CANTON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE BERGER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF CANTON, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

FILE FOLLOWER.

Application filed February 26, 1927. Serial No. 171,288.

This invention relates to a novel file follower, such as is commonly employed in metal filing cabinet drawers, and in similar structures, to compress and hold in an upright position, letters, folders, etc.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a file follower, which may be effectively locked or held against longitudinal movement or displacement in a drawer.

Another object of the invention is to provide a file follower, having a novel locking mechanism, which may be readily released to permit longitudinal adjustment of the follower to any desired position.

These and other attendant objects of the invention will become more readily apparent in the course of the following description of the invention, taken in connection with the drawings, and the scope of protection contemplated will be defined by the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is an isometric view of a portion of a filing cabinet drawer from the rear thereof, showing the novel file follower therein;

Figure 2 is a detail view of the locking mechanism, looking in the direction indicated by the arrows A—A in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a detail view of the locking mechanism, looking in the direction indicated by the arrows B—B in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a detail view of the follower cam.

In Fig. 1, 1 represents a filing cabinet drawer, comprising a bottom 2, sides 3 and 4, front end 5, and a rear end (not shown). The sides 3 and 4 have longitudinal guideways 6 therein, which are so formed as to provide a lower bearing or supporting surface 7 and a cam-contacting surface 8, these surfaces being parallel to each other and the surface 8 being disposed directly above the surface 7.

The file follower consists of a follower board 9, and follower clips 10 secured thereto by any suitable means, as for example by the bolts 11 and nuts 12. The clips 10 have outwardly extending portions 13 at their lower ends, terminating in depending supporting arms 14, which are preferably integral with the clips and are disposed at right angles to the plane of the follower board.

The clips 10 have bearing portions 15 formed therein, which are adapted to support the crank arms 16 of a follower lever 17. The lever is ordinarily formed of round stock, and the ends of the crank arms 16 are flattened to provide tenons 18, which are adapted to enter the mortised follower cams 19. The mortise 20 in the follower cam is offset from the center of the cam, so that the cam may in one position be in engagement with the guideway surface 8, and in another position, out of contact with said surface.

When the lever is in the position shown in Fig. 3, the follower cams are in their uppermost position and in contact with the surface 8, and the movement which results in bringing the cams to this position, forces the supporting arms 14 downward into contact with the bearing surface 7. As the result of the contact of the cams with the contacting surfaces 8 and the arms with the supporting surfaces 7, the follower board 9 is effectively secured in locked position.

In order to release the follower board, to permit its longitudinal adjustment, the lever 17 is moved in the direction indicated by the arrow C in Fig. 3. This movement simultaneously causes the follower cams to move in the same direction, and to occupy a lower position clear of the surfaces 8. The follower board may then be moved forwardly or rearwardly to any desired position in the drawer, and again locked by moving the lever towards the follower board, i. e., in a direction opposite to that indicated by the arrow C.

The follower cam is so designed that its vertical diameter (considered when the cam is in its uppermost position, as in Figs. 2 and 3) is slightly more than its horizontal diameter, i, e., it is slightly elliptical in shape. This form of design provides a multiplicity of contact points, a, a^1, a^2, a^3, along the upper surface of the cam, equidistant from the point where the crank arm enters the cam, and any of these points may be moved into contact with the surface 8. If the cam were a true circle, only one contact point a^2, would be provided, and when this point becomes worn through continued use, the cam would cease to function properly. By providing a multiplicity of contact points in the manner described, a number of wearing points are provided, and the life of the cam is accordingly prolonged.

I claim—

1. In a filing cabinet construction, a drawer having longitudinally extending

guideways in its sides, each of said guideways having a supporting and a contacting surface, disposed above the supporting surface; and a file follower provided with a locking mechanism having means adapted to simultaneously contact both the supporting and contacting surfaces for the purpose of preventing longitudinal movement of the follower.

2. In a filing cabinet construction, a drawer having longitudinally extending guideways in its sides, each of which has a supporting surface and a cam-contacting surface, disposed above the supporting surface, and a file follower provided with supporting arms and cams, said arms and cams being adapted to simultaneously and respectively contact the supporting and cam-contacting surfaces, for the purpose of holding the follower in adjusted position, and to prevent longitudinal displacement thereof.

3. In a filing cabinet construction, a drawer having longitudinally extending guideways in its sides, each of said guideways having a supporting and a contacting surface, disposed above the supporting surface; and a file follower provided with clips having portions thereof resting on the supporting surfaces, and a lever supported by the clips, said lever having a cam at each extremity thereof, and each of said cams being adapted to be forced into direct contact with a contacting surface of the guideways when the lever is canted.

4. In a filing cabinet construction, a drawer having longitudinally extending guideways in its sides, each of said guideways having a supporting and a contacting surface, disposed above the supporting surface and a file follower provided with clips having portions thereof resting on the supporting surfaces, and a lever supported by the clips, said lever having a cam at each extremity thereof disposed at right angles thereto, and each of said cams being adapted to be forced into direct contact with a contacting surface of the guideways when the lever is canted.

5. In a filing cabinet construction, a drawer having longitudinally extending guideways in its sides, each of said guideways having a supporting and a contacting surface, disposed above the supporting surface; and a file follower provided with clips having portions thereof resting on the supporting surfaces, and a lever supported by the clips, said lever having a circular disk-like cam at each extremity thereof, and each of said cams being adapted to be forced into direct contact with a contacting surface of the guideways when the lever is canted.

6. In a filing cabinet construction, a drawer having longitudinally extending guideways in its sides, each of said guideways having a supporting and a contacting surface, disposed above the supporting surface; and a file follower provided with clips having portions thereof resting on the supporting surfaces, and a lever supported by the clips, said lever having a circular disk-like cam at each extremity thereof disposed at right angles thereto, and each of said cams being adapted to be forced into direct contact with a contacting surface of the guideways when the lever is canted.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

PAUL VIGNOS.