W. A. COOKE, Jr.

BINDER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 8, 1911.

1,107,658. Patented Aug. 18, 1914.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

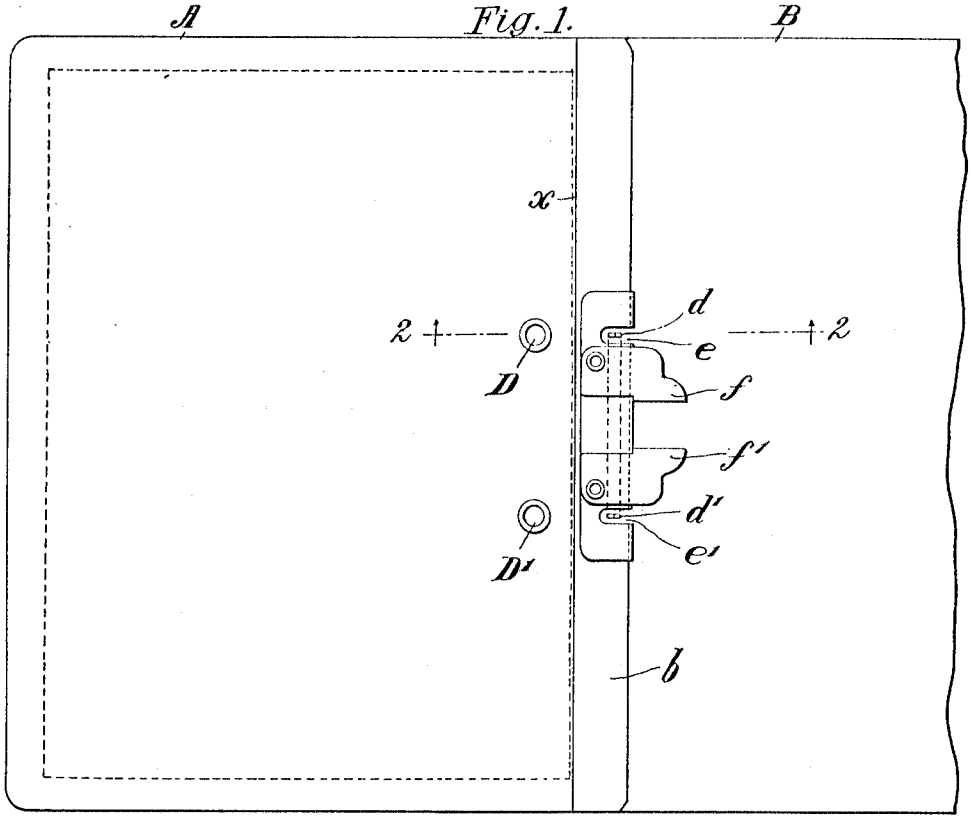


Fig. 2.

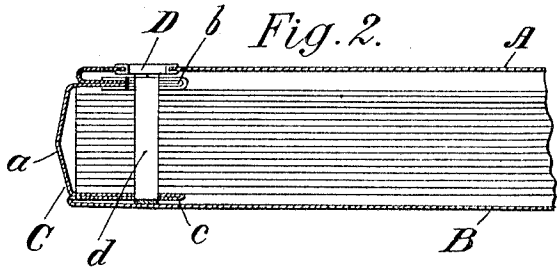
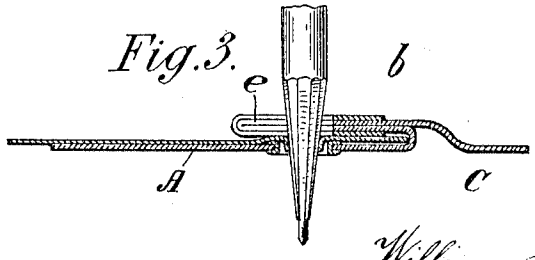


Fig. 3.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

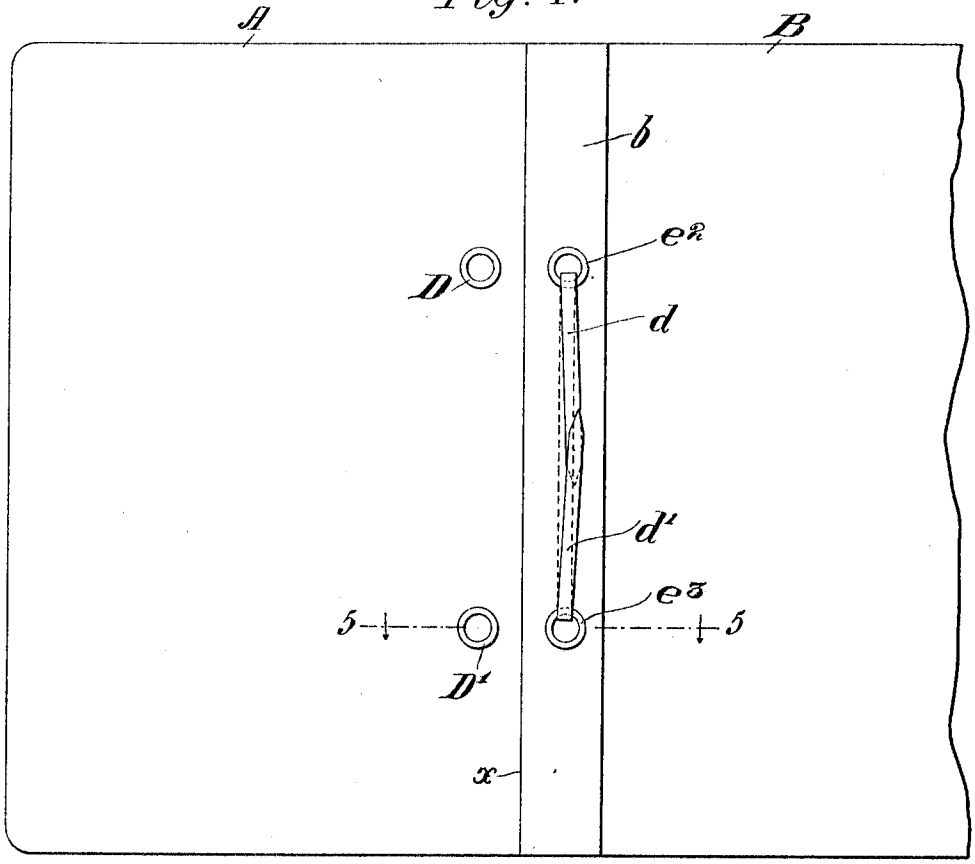
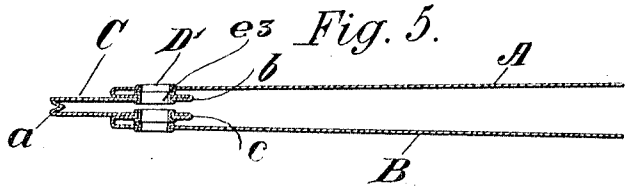


Fig. 5.



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BINDER.

1,107,658. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Aug. 18, 1914.**

Original application filed March 17, 1908, Serial No. 421,676. Divided and this application filed March 8, 1911. Serial No. 613,024.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. COOKE, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing in borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, city and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Binders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to letter-files, temporary binders and the like, several embodiments of which are illustrated and described in my application Serial No. 421,676, filed March 17, 1908. The present application is in part a division and continuation of said application and describes and claims one of the aforesaid embodiments.

The invention aims to provide a convenient means in combination with the binder for perforating sheets of paper which are adapted to be filed and bound within the binder.

In the accompanying drawing,—Figure 1 illustrates a binder, with its cover open, embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the binder shown in the preceding figure on line 2—2. Fig. 3 is an enlarged view of a portion of the binder, showing the manner of use. Fig. 4 illustrates an equivalent construction. Fig. 5 illustrates a section on line 5—5 of the preceding figure.

In said drawings A and B indicate the two covers of the file, and C the back, folded in the middle at *a* to allow for expansion. Guards or flaps *b c* are provided, between which the inclosed sheets of paper are adapted to be bound by any suitable means. These flaps are preferably formed at the line of connection of the covers and back, which line is indicated by the line *x*, and is preferably formed by a fold in the material constituting the back and covers of the binder, as illustrated. In the construction illustrated I have shown attached to the flap *c* a plurality of projecting flexible prongs *d d'*, which are designed to pass through perforations in the papers filed. The prongs are received in recesses or slots *e e'* or the like formed in the flap *b*, and are bent over upon the latter to bind the flaps together and hold the papers together. Clamps, such as *f f'*, are usually provided for holding the prongs in their bent positions.

Adjacent to the inner edge of the cover are formed holes or apertures D D'. These apertures are in line with the vertical parts of prongs *d d'*, and also the slots *e e'* through which the prongs project. In use the paper to be filed is placed in position over the apertures D D' and a pencil or other pointed instrument is forced through the paper and holes, providing a well defined puncture through which the prongs are capable of easily passing when the paper is filed. The holes or apertures D D' not only constitute guides for determining the distance between the punctures, but their edges provide a forming means adapted to coact with the pencil or other instrument so as to provide a well defined and rounded puncture, which is not liable to tear. The positions of holes D D' beneath the paper may be easily ascertained by the finger of the user. The perforations D D' are also preferably spaced from the inner edge of the cover the same distance that the slots *e e'* and vertical parts of the prongs *d d'* are spaced from the inner edge of the flap. That is, the perforations D D', slots *e e'* and the vertical portions of prongs *d d'* are all equidistant from the line *x*, coincident with the line of connection between the cover and flap. By laying the inner edges of sheets, which are laid over the perforations D D to be punctured, along the inner edge of the cover, holes may be punctured therein a regular distance from their edges and also an appropriate distance for properly fitting within the binder. By this means the rear edges of the sheets will be in vertical alinement and the sheets assume an orderly arrangement in the binder. With this construction the operation of puncturing and positioning the sheet may be facilitated by disengaging one of the flaps *b c* from the binding prongs and bending it over upon the cover. Such flap, when bent over, serves to hold an interposed sheet between it and the cover and in position over the apertures D D'. The sheet may be securely and conveniently held upon the cover in this manner. The flap also serves for the convenient positioning of the sheet. The sheet may be simply placed under the flap, and pushed back until it comes in contact with the bend between the flap and cover, it being unnecessary to exercise care in seeing that the edge of the sheet projects the proper amount over the apertures D D'. The sheet is then in position to have holes punched in it a regular distance from its edge.

The slots *e e'* in the flap, when the flap is

bent upon the cover, lie over the perforations D D′ and in line with them. These slots consequently serve as guides to the perforations D D′ lying under the superposed sheet, and the puncturing operation may be conveniently performed by passing a puncturing instrument through the slots *e e′*, while the flap is in bended position. The slots *e e′* may be closed if desired as illustrated at e^2 d^3 in Fig. 4, or of any other suitable shape.

Preferably the perforations D D′ are provided with eyelets, so as to prevent their enlargement from repeated use. Preferably also some part of the binder, such as the top or bottom edge of the cover, is utilized as a guide to indicate the proper points for the perforations longitudinally of the sheet. Thus, in Fig. 1 the top or bottom edge serves as a guide for indicating the position of a sheet placed thereon. Any other suitable means may be employed, however.

It is to be understood that my invention is not limited to the details or forms shown in the drawings, as many modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention. For instance, in place of the holes or apertures D D′, any other means may be used which will accomplish the same result, and such means are intended to be covered by the term "apertures" as used in the claims. Furthermore, it is immaterial on which one of the covers the apertures are formed, and they may even be formed on both.

While my invention finds its chief field of usefulness with a file of the type illustrated, it is nevertheless adapted for use with other types of files.

What I claim is:—

1. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising a hinged cover, means for fastening sheets in said cover, and means for perforating said sheets to be engaged by said fastening-means comprising apertures in the cover adjacent its inner edge, said perforating apertures in the cover being independent of said fastening-means, and said cover being adapted to support sheets thereon while being perforated.

2. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising a hinged cover, means for fastening sheets in said cover, and means for perforating said sheets to be engaged by said fastening-means comprising apertures in the cover adjacent its inner edge, said perforating apertures in the cover being independent of said fastening-means, and spaced from the inner edge of said cover a distance not greater than that of the fastening-means from the rear of the binder.

3. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising a hinged cover, means for fastening sheets in said cover, and means for perforating said sheets to be engaged by said fastening-means comprising apertures in the cover adjacent its inner edge, said perforating apertures in the cover being independent of said fastening-means, and spaced from the inner edge of said cover a distance equal to that of the fastening-means from the rear of the binder.

4. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising flaps having openings therein, filing means passing through the openings in said flaps, a cover, and apertures in said cover spaced apart a distance equal to the distance between the openings in said flaps, and spaced from the inner edge of said cover the same distance as the openings in said flaps from the said inner edge of said cover.

5. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising flaps having openings therein, filing means passing through said openings, a cover, and apertures in said cover adjacent its inner edge, spaced apart a distance equal to the distance between the openings in said flaps and spaced apart from the inner edge of said cover the same distance as the openings in said flaps from the said inner edge of said cover.

6. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising flaps having openings therein, filing means passing through said openings, a cover, and apertures in said cover registering with those in the flaps when the flaps are bent over upon said cover.

7. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like, comprising flaps having openings therein, filing means passing through said openings, a cover, said cover and one of said flaps being connected together along their inner edges, and apertures in said cover registering with the openings in said flap when said flap is bent over upon said cover.

8. A binder or file for sheets of paper or the like comprising fastening means, a cover, apertures in said cover spaced apart a distance equal to that between the filing means, and means comprising a part of the filing means adapted to indicate the position of said apertures in said cover.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM A. COOKE, Jr.

Witnesses:
GEORGE W. HARRINGTON,
WILLIAM JAEGER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."