K. A. FREID.

FILING DEVICE.

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1,184,735. Patented May 30, 1916.

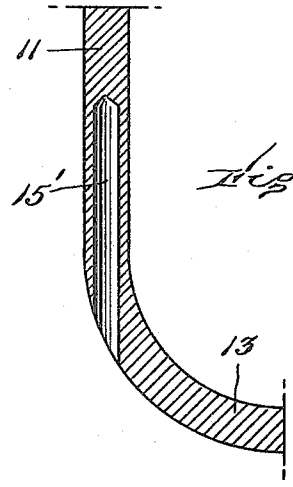


Fig. 2

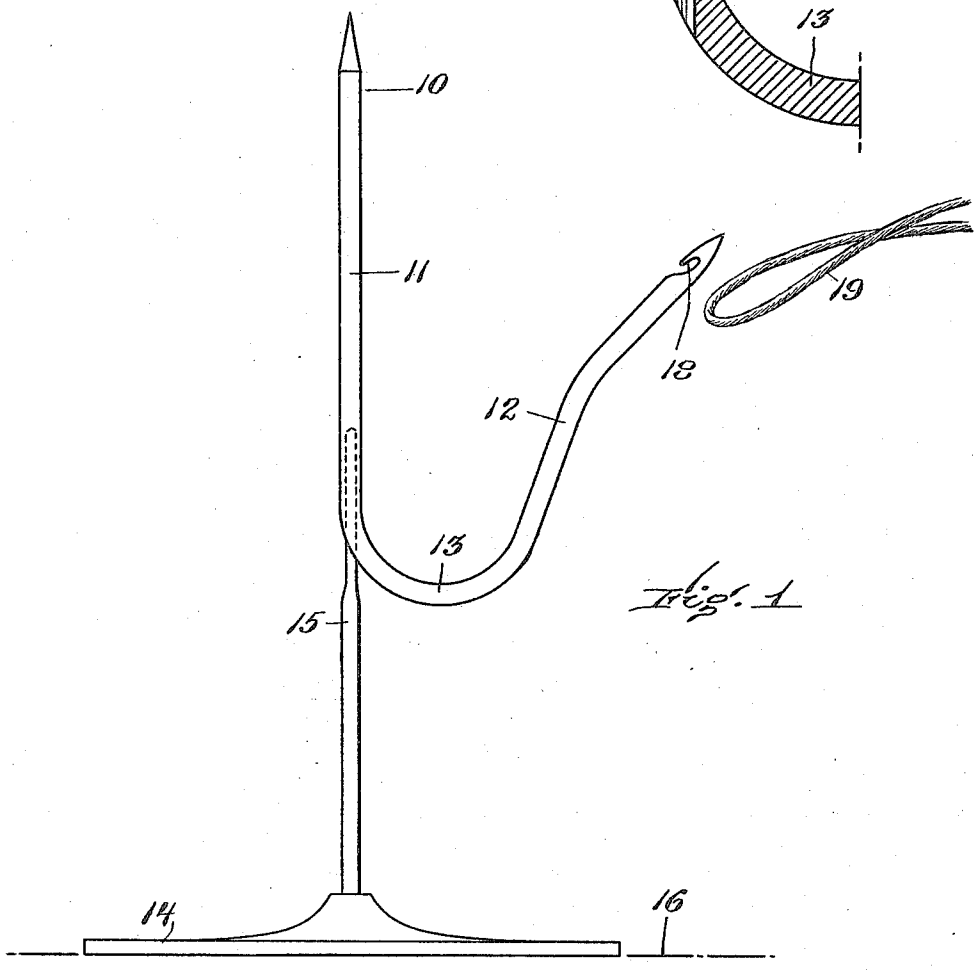


Fig. 1

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FILING DEVICE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KNUTE ALFRED FREID, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Filing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the present invention is to provide an improved filing device of the spike type. The desk or wall spike now commonly in use consists of a base and a spike member, one end of the latter being affixed, generally permanently, to the base. When detaching papers from such a device they necessarily come off in the reverse order of their attachment. For certain purposes, such for example as filling requisitions in the order or sequence of the receipt of the requisitions, it is desirable to detach the requisition slips from a spike in the same order or sequence of their attachment; and in order to adapt the filing spike so that the slips can be detached in such sequence, the spike member must be detachable from its support and it must be adapted to receive the slips at one end and to enable the slips to pass along it and be detached from the other end.

My filing device hereinafter described comprises a spike member and a base or support, the spike member being detachable from the support and being formed to permit the slips or other papers to be attached at one end and to pass along its entire length and be detached from the other end. I am aware that this is not broadly new in view of U. S. Patent to Gentsch, 720,576, and U. S. Patent to Barnet, 738,275. However, in each of the cases cited the spike member must be detached from the base or support at the time of detaching the papers or slips in the order of their attachment. This condition is due to the fact that in each of the cases cited the spike member is attached by its delivery end to the base or support. My device differs from both of these in that both ends of the spike member are remote from the portion which is attached to the base or support; and although it is necessary at some time to detach the spike member from the base or support in order to permit detaching the slips or papers in the order or sequence of their attachment, the spike member may be replaced upon the base or support before the slips or papers are detached from the delivery end. Consequently, while the spike member is attached to its base or support, it is capable of receiving slips or papers at one end and of discharging them from the other end.

Of the accompanying drawings, which illustrate one form in which my present invention may be embodied: Figure 1 represents an elevation of the complete device, in such form that it is adapted to rest on a horizontal supporting surface. Fig. 2 represents a sectional view, on a larger scale, of the socket portion of the spike member.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts wherever they occur.

The spike member 10 is adapted to receive and discharge papers at both ends, and for this reason the ends are preferably pointed. The preferred form of spike member is substantially U-shaped, the branch 11 and branch 12 thereof being connected by a bend 13. The support for the spike member comprises a base 14 and a spindle portion 15. The spike member is provided with a socket 15′ for the reception of the spindle portion. As shown, the socket 15′ extends longitudinally in the portion 11 which is substantially straight, the lower end of said socket being open at the junction of the straight portion and the bend 13. While I consider this the most desirable arrangement of the socket in a spike member of the form shown, it is not to be understood that the invention is limited to such arrangement.

The spindle and base are adapted to rest upon a substantially horizontal supporting surface such as 16, but the spindle is capable of being bent so that the base may be fastened, by screws or otherwise, against a vertical surface.

The papers which are to be filed may be attached at either end of the spike member, and may also be detached from either end. Assuming for the sake of explanation that the branch 11 is to be used regularly for receiving the papers and that the papers will be detached regularly from branch 12, such papers could not pass along the bend 13 without detaching the spike member from the spindle; but having detached the spike member and having passed one or more papers from the branch 11 along the bend, the spike member may be replaced upon the spindle without necessarily detaching the transferred papers from the branch 12. The transferred papers may remain upon

the spike member, and the spike member may remain upon the spindle, in which condition the device may receive additional papers upon the branch 11 and at the same time the transfererd papers are capable of being detached from the branch 12 according to the sequence of their attachment. The fact that the transferred papers are capable of being detached and that additional papers are capable of being attached while the spike member remains upon its spindle, distinguishes the present device from all others hitherto provided, and has several advantages, some of which I will explain.

One clerk may have instructions to detach only those requisitions or other papers which have been transferred from the receiving branch 11 to the bend 13 or delivery branch 12, in which case the filing clerk may segregate the foremost paper or papers from the others by passing them along the bend 13 as hereinbefore explained. In such case it is not incumbent upon the first-named clerk to determine how many papers or which papers he is expected to handle, those matters being predetermined by the segregation of the papers into two groups. It would be desirable in some cases to separate the papers into groups according to different dates. I believe my filing device is the first one which makes use of a supporting element to keep two groups of papers upon a filing spike separate from each other.

A further advantage of the device is that a paper which may require attention ahead of those which have been previously received may be attached to the branch 12 in the first instance instead of being attached to the branch 11 and passed along the bend 13. In such case a paper which may require attention earlier than it would according to the ordinary method of filing would be sure of receiving such attention from the clerk who detaches the papers from the branch 12.

Although the foregoing explanation treats the branch 11 as the receiving branch and the branch 12 as the discharging branch, the different uses of the branches may be reversed without sacrificing any of the principles involved. The end portion of the branch 12 has a barb 18 the throat of which is adapted to receive a string. If it should be desired to preserve the sequence of papers after the latter are taken from the spike member, a string such as that at 19 could be readily passed through the papers by forming a loop of the string, placing the bight of the loop in the barb 18, and sliding the papers from the spike member to the string. Thus while the two branches 11 and 12 are holding the late orders and the early orders in two distinct groups, the early orders may be strung without passing the string through or otherwise disturbing the late orders. So far as this advantage of the device is concerned, it does not matter whether the string-receiving opening is formed by a barb or whether it is in the form of an eye.

I claim:

1. A filing device comprising a spike member having a socket between its ends, and a holder therefor having a spindle portion adapted to occupy said socket, said spike member being detachable from said spindle portion.

2. A filing device comprising a spike member having a substantially straight portion and a bend, said straight portion having a socket extending longitudinally thereof, one end of said socket being open and being at the junction of said straight portion and said bend, and a holder therefor having a spindle portion adapted to occupy said socket, said spike member being detachable from said spindle.

3. A filing device comprising a spike member having a bend between its end portions and a socket adjacent said bend, and a holder having a spindle portion adapted to occupy said socket, said spike member being detachable from said spindle portion.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

KNUTE ALFRED FREID.

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