

(No Model.)

W. O. GOTTWALS.
LETTER AND BILL FILE.

No. 512,020.

Patented Jan. 2, 1894.

Fig. 1.

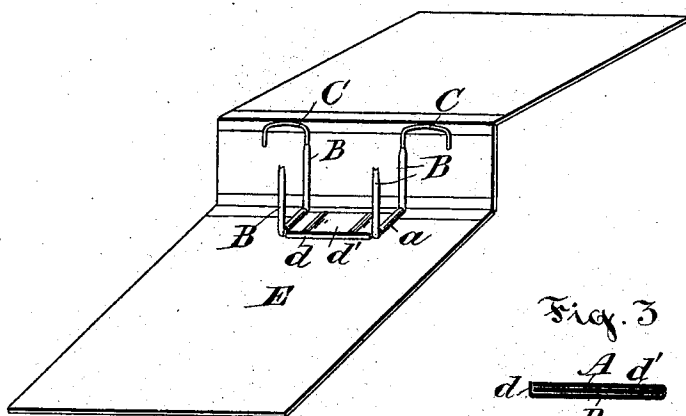


Fig. 3



Fig. 2.

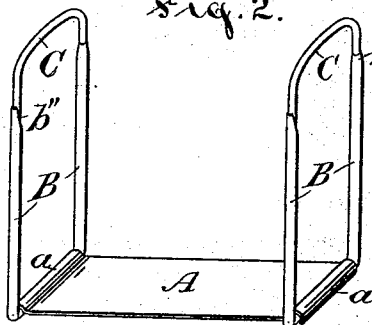


Fig. 5

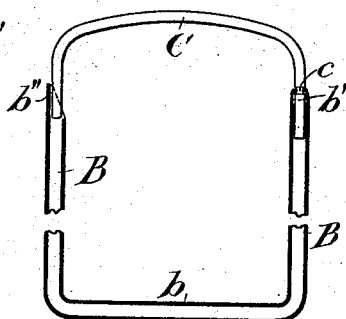
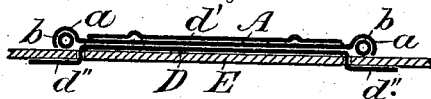


Fig. 4



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LETTER AND BILL FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 512,020, dated January 2, 1894.

Application filed April 21, 1893. Serial No. 471,353. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM OTTERBEIN GOTTWALS, of the city of Ottawa, in the county of Carleton and Province of Ontario, in the Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter and Bill Files; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention, which will be hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, relates to letter and bill files.

The object of my invention is a simple and inexpensive contrivance answering the purpose of a letter and bill file, but which is specially adapted for use as a file for a binding case.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved file, as forming part of a binding case and showing the arches open. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a part of the file showing the arches closed. Figs. 3 and 4 are transverse and longitudinal sections through the base, showing manner of attachment and separation, and Fig. 5 is a detail showing the connections of the arch with the posts or standards.

A strip of sheet metal, A, has its ends, *a*, turned up and down to form bearings for the lower cross shanks *b* of the posts or standards, the latter being either left to turn snugly in said bearings or secured in place by solder or other convenient means. The standards B B are of stout wire or tubing, bent to form two uprights or posts on a cross shank *b*, the rear one holding the arch and the front one being the file wire. If made of wire, the upper end of each post or upright is drilled so as to be made tubular a short distance down, adapting said ends to receive the ends of the arch, one, *b'*, to form a bearing and the other, *b''*, a catch, the latter being beveled off on the inner edge to form a semi-tube or notch.

C C are the arches. They are of wire of such a thickness as to fit the tubular ends of the posts. One end, fitting the rear post, has an annular groove, *c*, cut in it and when inserted in the post the metal of the edge of the

latter, having been previously pointed or beveled, is pinched in so as to form a burr or collar to enter in said groove and prevent said arch from being lifted out, while being free to turn or swivel. The upper tubular end of the file wire, being beveled off, forms an open notch convenient to receive the free end of the arch, a little sidewise pressure and guidance between the thumb and finger being sufficient to lock or unlock, *i. e.* engage or disengage them.

D is a clasp, shown in Figs. 3 and 4 in section, which is secured to the file board or backing E. It consists of a piece of strong tin or other sheet metal bent up on one edge at a right angle to form a rim or flange *d*, and then about one half of the remaining part is doubled over to form a cover *d'*, the width of the flat base or space between the front rim *d* and upturn of the cover being just equal to the width of the file base or strip A. Two ends, *d''*, are left on the base part for insertion in slits in the wood or millboard forming the file back E, the length of the cover being of course just equal to the distance between the two bearings *a*. In this clasp the base A of the file is readily inserted and retained after pressing down the cover *d'*.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a letter and bill file, the combination of a metallic base A having its ends turned up to form a bearing for the posts, the posts B bent to form two uprights on a cross shank secured in said bearings and having its ends made tubular, the arches C each having one end provided with an annular groove and inserted in a rear post and secured therein by having the edge of the tube upset to enter the annular groove, and the front posts having their ends beveled, a clasp D having a rim *d*, doubled over cover *d'* and ends *d''* adapted for insertion in slits, and a backing E holding said clasp, substantially as set forth.

2. In a letter and bill file, the combination of a metallic base having its ends turned up to form bearings *a*, two pairs of posts or standards B formed of a pair of tubes or wires each bent to form two posts on a cross shank *b* secured in said bearings and having the tubu-

lar ends *b'* and *b''* and two arches *C* each having one end grooved annularly and inserted in a tubular end of a post and the metal of the latter closed in upon said groove, and the
5 end *b''* beveled on the inside to receive the other end of the arch, substantially as set forth.
3. In a letter and bill file, the combination, of two posts *B* connected by a cross shank, a tubular end *b'* and a tubular end *b''* beveled
10 off from the inside to form a notch, an arch *C* having one end grooved and inserted in the bearing *b'* and the metal of the edge thereof closed in upon said groove and the other end adapted to fit said notch, substantially as set
-5 forth.

4. In a clasp to hold the base of a letter and bill file, the combination of a piece of sheet metal *D* corresponding to the base of the file it is to hold, a turned up edge to form a rim or flange *d*, a turned over portion *d'* and ends *d''* forming extensions of the base and adapted to be inserted in a wood or millboard backing, substantially as set forth. 20

In testimony whereof I have signed in the presence of the undersigned witnesses.

WILLIAM OTTERBEIN GOTTWALS.

Witnesses:

A. HARVEY,
A. FROWSE.