(No Model.)

S. HILLMAN.

Combined Pen Rack and Letter Holder.

No. 238,117. Patented Feb. 22, 1881.

Fig. 1.

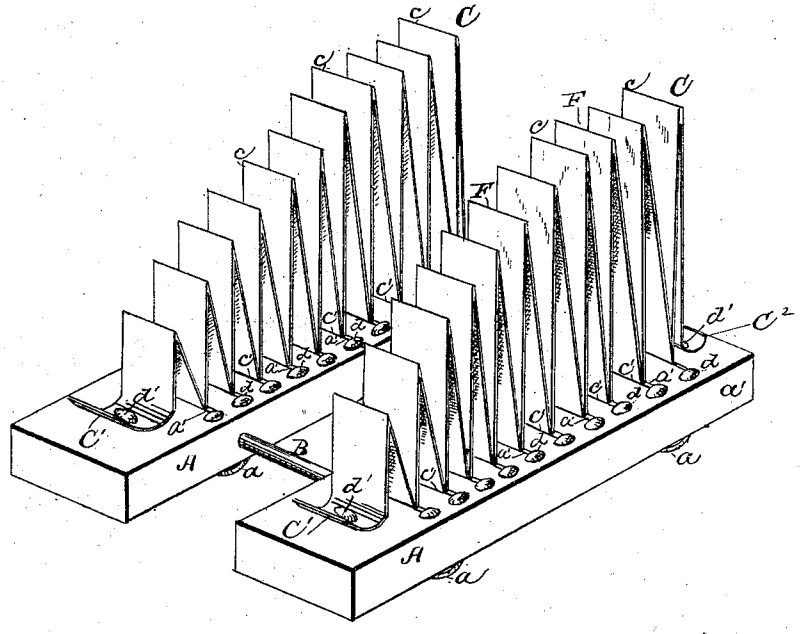
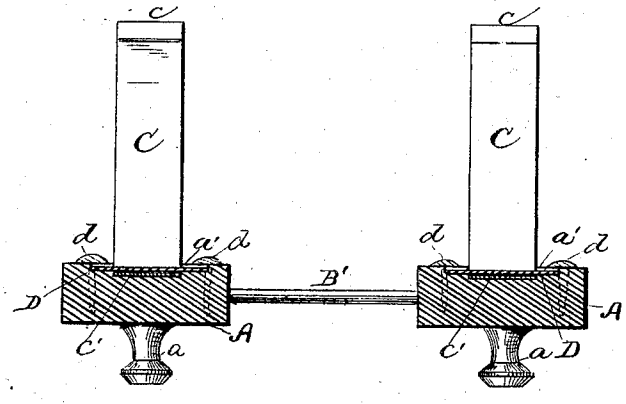


Fig. 2.



Attest:
W. H. H. Knight,
Moses Foskey, Jr.

Inventor:
Seth Hillman,
by S. S. Fisk,
Attorney.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SETH HILLMAN, OF BLACKWOODTOWN, NEW JERSEY.

COMBINED PEN-RACK AND LETTER-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 238,117, dated February 22, 1881.

Application filed August 12, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SETH HILLMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Blackwoodtown, in the county of Camden and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Pen-Rack and Letter and Document Holder; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my combined pen-rack and document or letter holder. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view.

Business men, or any and all persons whose business or profession necessitates a large amount of correspondence, are aware of the importance of having such correspondence or papers as convenient as possible, in order that valuable time may not be wasted by the misplacement and consequent search after any part of such correspondence or papers. They are also aware that the surest way to avoid such misplacement of papers and consequent loss of time is to have a suitable receptacle for any and all correspondence, legal papers, official documents, &c., requiring immediate attention right before them.

To meet the above-named requirement, and at the same time to provide a simple, neat, and compact combined letter or document holder and pen-rack, is the object of my invention; and to this end it consists in a suitable wooden or metallic base, provided with a metallic strip bent or fashioned into a series of compartments and secured to the base, substantially in the manner hereinafter described.

Referring to the drawings, A A are wooden or metallic blocks, provided with short legs or supports *a*, and connected together by the bolts B B′.

The drawings represent the parts A as being made of wood. When such parts are of metal the bolt B may be dispensed with, the two parts A A being connected by a thin web of metal cast with and made a part of such blocks, as will be clearly seen.

C C are strips of metal, preferably brass, bent upon themselves at the point *c* and *c′*, thus forming the compartments F. The points *c′* are inserted into slots *a′* in the upper surfaces of the blocks A, and may be securely fastened therein by the wires D, which pass across and above the metal strips, the ends extending out into the slots *a′* at either side, and are secured therein by the nails or tacks *d*, or equivalents of the same.

Other means of fastening the metal strip to the base may be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention.

The free ends C′ C² of the strips C are secured to the block A by nails or tacks *d′*, or their equivalents, and the forward ends may be bent upward to give an additional place for a pencil or pen-stock.

It will be seen from the drawings that the rear compartments, F, are much deeper than the forward ones, and also that from about the center to the forward part of the device the decrease is gradual. The purpose of the said inequality in depth is that the rear compartments are designed for large envelopes, mail matter, or legal papers, documents, &c., the central compartments for smaller matter, cards, &c., while the short forward compartments are for pencils or pen-stocks.

It will be clearly seen that the above-described construction insures a strong and durable file and rack, inasmuch as the sides of each compartment serve to brace and strengthen the sides of the next adjoining.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The pen-rack and letter-holder consisting of two continuous flexible strips, C, bent at the points *c c′*, forming compartments of different depths, as shown, suitably attached at each of their points *c′* to a base, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a combined letter or document holder and rack for pen-holders, the combination of the base A, provided with supports *a*, metal strips C, wires D, tacks *d d′*, and bolt B, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SETH HILLMAN.

Witnesses:

MOSES FOSKEY, Jr.,

M. P. CALLAN.