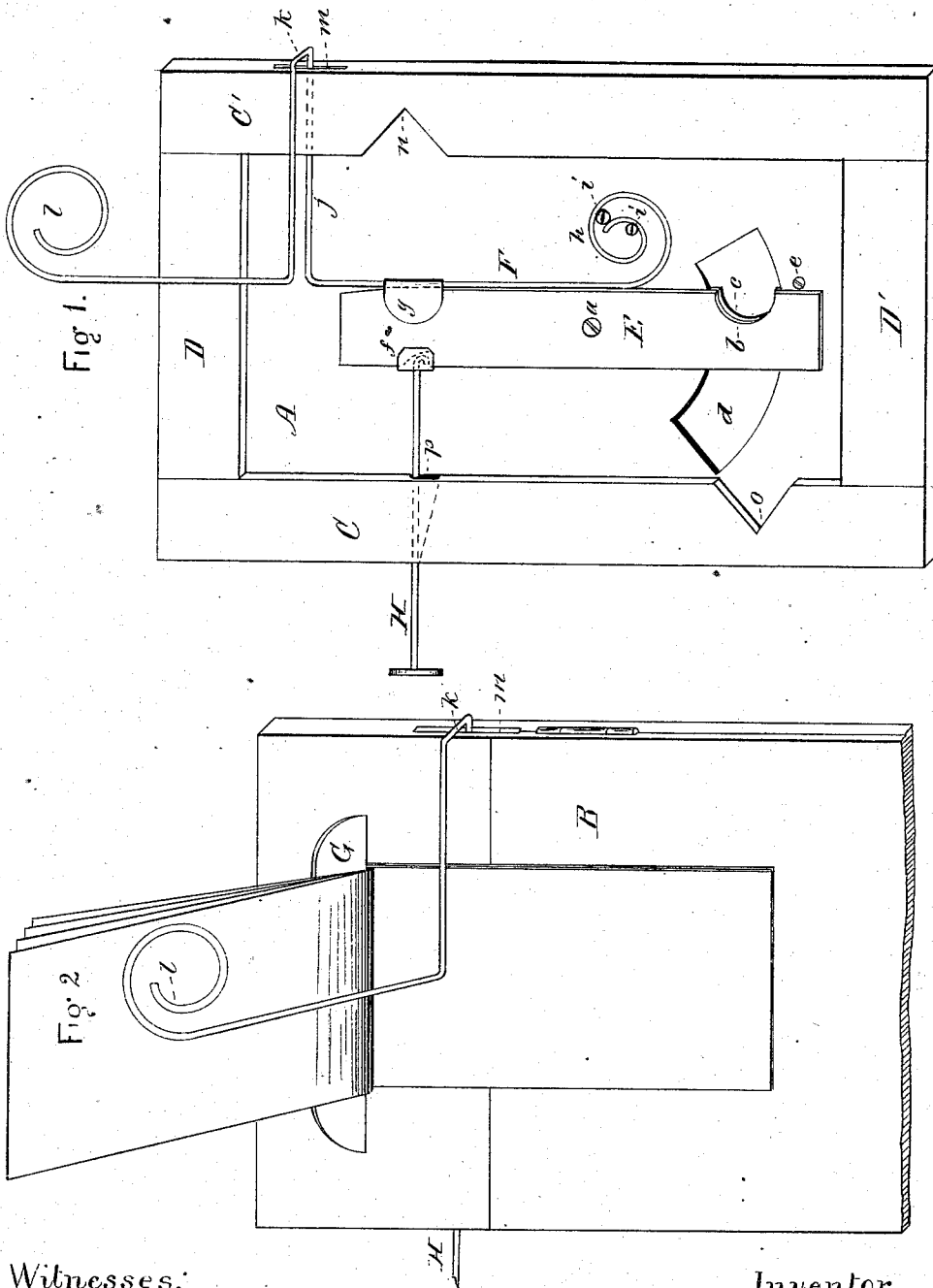


A. M. LOCKHART.

Combined Bill Holder and Separator.

No. 160,780.

Patented March 16, 1875.



Witnesses:
B. C. Pole.
Thos. E. Oliphant

Inventor.
Alexander M. Lockhart.
per Charles H. Fowler

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER M. LOCKHART, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMBINED BILL HOLDERS AND SEPARATORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **160,780**, dated March 16, 1875; application filed January 26, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER M. LOCKHART, of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Combined Bill Holder and Separator; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of an isometrical view of the interior of my device; and Fig. 2 is a similar view of my device, showing the manner of its operation.

My invention has relation to that class of devices commonly known as bill-holders; and consists in certain improvements in the same, whereby the bills, invoices, memoranda, or other papers may be separated without removing them from the clip, and securely held in position, for the purpose of which will be hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawings, A is designed to represent the lower side piece, and B the upper side piece, the two forming together, in connection with the strips C C' and D D', the frame-work of my device. Pivoted upon the lower side piece A, at *a*, is a main operating-lever, E, suitably notched or cut away, as shown at *b*, to receive the finger of the operator when holding the device in his hand. Upon the under side of the lever E is a stop or guide-strip, C, moving in the opening *d*, the lever E being kept in position when not in use by a suitable stop, *e*. Embracing the upper end of the lever E is a strip of metal, the same forming guides *f g*. Through the guide *g* freely works the spring-rod F, the lower end of which is embedded in the side piece A after being coiled around, as shown at *h*, and securely held in place by suitable fastening-screws *i*. This spring-rod F, after passing in an upward direction parallel with the side of the main operating-lever E, and extending somewhat above the end of the same, is bent at right angles thereto, as shown at *j*, and again as shown at *k*, after which it takes a course parallel with the angle *j*, and then extending upward in a vertical direction, terminating in a suitable curve, *l*,

above the clip or other suitable paper-holder G, as represented in Fig. 2 of the drawings. That part of the spring-rod F designated by the letter *j* passes through an elongated opening, *m*, formed in the side strip C', the same having a suitable recess, *n*, which, in connection with a similarly-formed recess, *o*, upon the lower end of the side strip C, allows the respective ends of the main operating-lever E to enter, when it is pressed over to its greatest extent of vibrating motion.

To adapt my device to a desk or table when the same lies flat thereon, I provide in place of the lever E a side supplemental operating-lever, H, which passes through a suitable slot or opening, *p*, in the side piece C, the inner end of said lever H being curved around, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, and passing through an opening in the guide *f*, a portion of the lever E at that point being cut away to receive the curved end and give it its required action; also to render it easily removable when the device is held in the hand and the lever H not used.

The upper side piece B, used as the writing-board, may be, if desired, hinged to either of the side pieces C or C' in a manner that it may be swung back when it is found necessary to remove the lever H or to repair the operating-parts, shown in Fig. 2.

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

1. The combination, with a suitable bill, invoice, or memoranda holder, of a separator, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
2. The combination, with a suitable bill, invoice, or memoranda holder, of a separator consisting of an operating-lever, E, and spring-rod F, substantially as described.
3. The combination with the lever E and spring-rod F, of the supplemental side lever H, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
4. The separator herein described, consisting of the spring-rod F, main operating-lever E, guide *g*, the lever E being notched or cut away, as shown at *b*, and provided with a guide strip or stop, C, substantially as specified.
5. The separator, consisting, substantially,

of side piece A, having slot or opening *d*, strips C C', the same formed with recesses *n o* and slots *m p*, main operating-lever E, guides *f g*, spring-rod F, supplemental lever H, and the upper side piece B, the whole combined to operate in connection with a suitable bill, invoice, or memoranda holder, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

ALEXANDER M. LOCKHART.

Witnesses:

T. D. D. OURAND,
WM. H. BARNES.