No. 863,944. PATENTED AUG. 20, 1907.

E. G. SAMPSON.

FILING CASE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 13, 1907.

FIG. 1

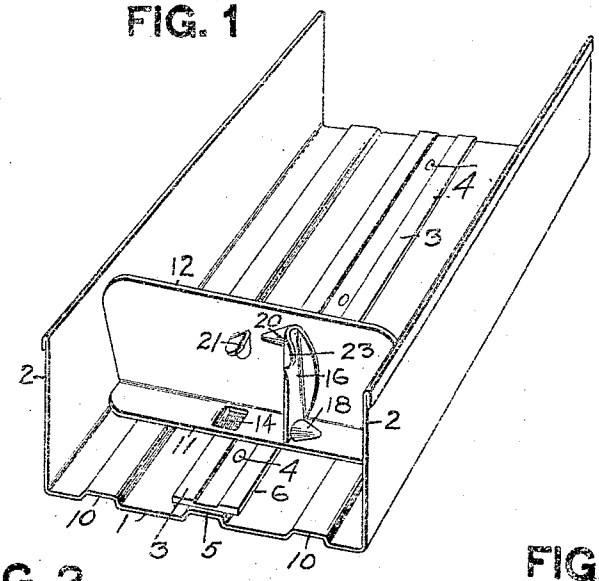


FIG. 2

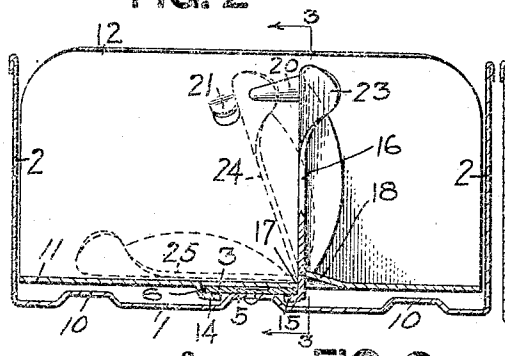


FIG. 5

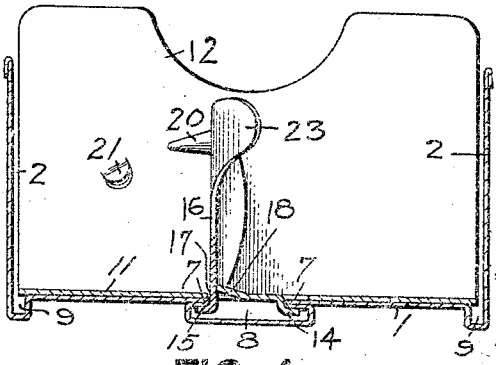


FIG. 3

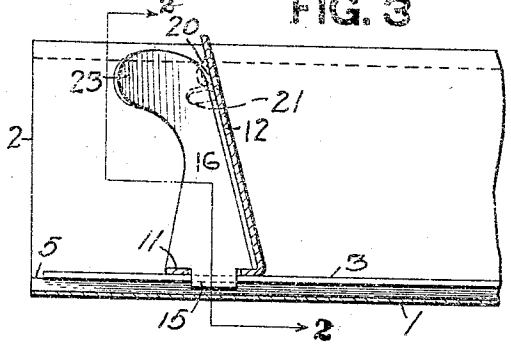
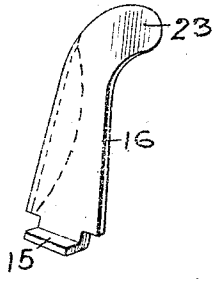


FIG. 4



WITNESSES.

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FILING-CASE.

No. 863,944. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 20, 1907.

Application filed April 13, 1907. Serial No. 367,915.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERICK G. SAMPSON, a resident of Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Filing-Cases; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

This invention relates to filing cases and more especially to a drawer or base and follower therefor.

The object of the invention is to provide a filing base and follower formed of sheet steel and so constructed that it is cheap to manufacture, and so that the follower can be readily adjusted and easily removed.

In the accompanying drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a filing drawer or base, showing the improved follower; Fig. 2 is a cross section on the line 2—2, Fig. 3; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section on the line 3—3, Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the locking lever; and Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse section showing a modification.

The improved follower can be applied to a file base of any desired character, the drawing showing a portion of a drawer which forms a file base, this having the bottom 1 and sides 2, the ends not being shown. The bottom of the drawer or other base is provided with suitable undercut guides or ways, which may be either in the form of a separate strip or plate 3, arranged centrally of the base or drawer and suitably secured as by rivets 4 to an upwardly pressed portion 5 of the drawer bottom, the edges 6 of said strip being free to provide an engagement for the follower; or the said undercut guides or ways may be formed by the overhanging edges 7 of a groove 8 formed in the bottom of the drawer or other base, said groove being formed by pressing the metal of the bottom as indicated in Fig. 5. The drawer shown in Fig. 5 has practically a flat bottom, except for the undercut groove 8 at its center, and smaller grooves 9 at its sides, while the bottom of the drawer shown in the other figures has a bottom pressed upwardly at the center, as at 5, to receive the guide strip 3 and having other upwardly projecting portions 10 towards the sides of the drawer so as to form a support for the follower.

The drawer described is made entirely of sheet metal, but the follower may be applied to a drawer other than sheet metal, even a wooden drawer, provided the same has at its bottom the undercut guides such as formed by the edges 6 of the strip 3 or the overhanging edges 7 of the groove 8.

The follower is made of resilient sheet metal, such as steel, and has the horizontal portion or foot 11 which rests upon the base, and the upwardly inclined follower board 12 for supporting and clamping the cards, letters or other matter to be filed away.

The foot 11 is provided with a suitable toe piece 14 for engaging one of the undercut guides or ways, such as by projecting underneath one of the free edges 6 of the strip 3 or overhanging edge 7 of the groove 8. This toe piece preferably is formed by punching a tongue out of the foot 11 of the follower and bending said tongue downwardly, as shown in Fig. 3. Coöperating with this toe piece and also acting as the locking member for the follower, is a toe 15 on the lower end of the locking lever 16. Preferably this locking lever is formed of a piece of sheet steel bent to the shape shown in the drawings and projecting loosely down through an opening 17 in the foot 11 of the follower, so that said lever can be taken out without removing the pintles or other hinge parts. A fulcrum for the lever is provided by pushing one edge of the metal adjacent to the opening 17 upwardly to form a shoulder 18 against which the back of the lever rests when the latter is locked, so that the lever is fulcrumed on said shoulder. A lug for holding the lever in its locking position is shown at 20, this being formed by punching up a portion of the metal of the follower board 12. A lever stop 21 is formed by punching a tongue out of the follower board 12 and turning the same at right angles to said board as shown.

In use, the follower rests upon the bottom of the drawer or base with its toe piece 14 projecting underneath one of the free edges of the undercut guide or way, while the toe 15 of the lever 16 projects underneath the other free edge of said guide or way, and said lever is held by the lug 20 in locking position, that is, to clamp its toe 15 tightly against the free edge of the guide or way, thus locking the follower in position. To release the follower it is merely necessary to pull backwardly slightly on the upper end of the lever 16, such as on the finger piece 23, or preferably, merely push forwardly on the upper edge of the follower board 12. Inasmuch as the lever and the follower are made of resilient metal, either of these movements will disengage the lever from the lug 20 when said lever will move over toward the left, viewing Fig. 2, to the dotted line position 24, coming to rest against the stop 21. In this position the toe 15 has released its grip on the free edge of the guide or way, and the follower can be moved back and forth as desired. To again lock the same in position, it is merely necessary to push the lever over toward the right, or to the full line position shown in Fig. 2.

Inasmuch as the drawer or other base is usually provided with end pieces, the follower cannot be removed by merely moving the same endwise. To provide for this, however, it is merely necessary to push on the top edge of the follower board 12 and pull back on the upper end of the lever 16 until the lever passes the stop lug 21 when said lever can be moved over practically to horizontal position, as shown by dotted lines 25, Fig.

2, when its end 15 can be lifted out of the opening 17. This entirely releases the follower, and by swinging it diagonally the toe piece 14 can be drawn from under the free edge of the guide or way and the follower removed.

The follower described is very simple and cheap to manufacture, has no parts which can break or become displaced, and is readily adjustable or even removable from the drawer or base.

What I claim is:

1. A filing base provided with undercut guides or ways, a follower composed of resilient metal having a horizontal foot and an upwardly projecting follower board, a toe piece on the follower arranged to engage one of the undercut guides or ways, and a locking lever mounted on the follower and having a toe arranged to engage the other of the undercut guides or ways.

2. A filing base provided with undercut guides or ways, a follower composed of resilient metal having a horizontal foot and an upwardly projecting follower board, a toe piece on the follower arranged to engage one of the undercut guides or ways, a locking lever mounted on the follower and having a toe arranged to engage the other undercut way or guide, and a lug on the follower board arranged to be engaged by the lever and to hold the latter in locking position.

3. A filing base provided with undercut guides or ways, a follower having a horizontal foot provided with an opening therethrough and also having an upwardly projecting follower board, a toe piece on the follower arranged to engage one of the undercut guides or ways, and a locking lever projecting through the opening in the foot of the follower and provided with a toe for engaging the other undercut guide or way.

4. A filing base provided with undercut guides or ways, a follower having an upwardly inclined follower board and a horizontal foot, the latter being provided with an opening therethrough and with a shoulder at one side of said opening, a toe piece on the follower arranged to engage one of the undercut guides or ways, and a locking lever projecting through the opening in the follower foot and arranged to fulcrum on the shoulder and having a toe for engaging the other undercut guide or way.

5. A filing base provided with undercut guides or ways, a follower having a horizontal foot and an upwardly projecting follower board, a toe piece on the follower arranged to engage one of the undercut guides or ways, a locking lever mounted on the follower and having a toe arranged to engage the other undercut guide or way, and a locking lug and a stop lug for the lever formed on the follower board.

6. A filing base provided with undercut guides or ways, a follower composed of resilient metal and having a horizontal foot and an upwardly projecting follower board, said foot being provided with an opening and having a tongue punched out and bent downwardly to form a toe piece for engaging one of the undercut guides or ways, a lever mounted on the follower and having a toe arranged to engage the other of the undercut guides or ways, and a locking lug pressed out of the metal of the follower board and arranged to engage the lever.

7. A metallic follower for filing cases, provided with a horizontal foot and an upwardly inclined follower board, said foot having a tongue punched out of the same and bent downwardly and also provided with an opening and having the metal at one edge of the opening pressed upwardly, and a locking lever projecting through the opening in the follower foot and arranged to fulcrum against the shoulder thereon and having a toe arranged oppositely to the toe on the follower foot.

8. A follower for filing cases composed of resilient metal and having a horizontal foot and upwardly inclined follower board, a toe piece punched out of the metal of the foot and bent downwardly, said foot also being provided with an opening and having a shoulder at one edge of the opening, a lever projecting through said opening and provided at its lower end with a toe piece, and a locking lug and a stop lug on the follower board formed by punching out the metal thereof.

In testimony whereof, I the said ERICK G. SAMPSON have hereunto set my hand.

ERICK G. SAMPSON.

Witnesses:
E. EKEDAHL,
LINCOLN M. STEARNS.