UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOOLLOWER FOR FILING APPARATUS.

1,065,104.


To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN AUSTIN BEST, a citizen of the United States, and a citizen of Augusta, in the county of Richmond and State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Followers for Filing Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates generally to filing apparatus, and more particularly to a follower or a card supporting member, my object being to provide a follower having means whereby it may be readily and effectually secured in adjusted position and quickly and easily released when desired.

It is my further object to provide such means that the operator may be free to devote both hands to the movement of the follower block subsequent to its release.

With these and other objects which, together with the advantages of my present invention, will be clearly apparent from the following description, my invention resides in the features of construction, arrangement and operation to be now described with respect to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which,

Figure 1 is a transverse vertical section through a filing apparatus illustrating my improved follower block and its locking and releasing means in elevation; Fig. 2 is a detail sectional view taken substantially on the line 2--2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 illustrating the adaptation of my invention to a filing apparatus embodying a pair of follower guides or supporting members arranged in horizontal alignment; and Fig. 4 is another similar view illustrating the adaptation of my invention to a filing apparatus embodying follower guides or holding members arranged in vertical alignment.

Referring to these figures, my improved follower comprises the usual follower block A which is movably mounted upon its guide or holding rod B. Mounted upon the rear face of the follower block A is a locking rod C, said rod comprising an upper upright portion c, terminating at its upper end in a bent handle c', and a lower angular portion c', the extremity of which is pivotally secured at c'.

As will be noted, the point of pivoting of the locking rod C is in substantially horizontal alignment with the guide member B, and the upright and angular portions of the locking rod are movably in guides secured in the follower block A in such a manner that movement of the rod in one direction causes its angular portion c' to firmly engage the guide member B in such a manner as to lock the follower block against movement theren. In the last-mentioned position, the upright portion c of the locking rod C engages the shoulder portion d of a keeper D also secured upon the rear surface of the follower block. Thus it is only necessary that the upright portion c of the locking rod be moved laterally in one direction and then slightly in a direction rearwardly from the block A, in order to effect its release from the keeper D, and consequently its release from the guide member B, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

The form of my invention as shown in Fig. 1 indicates the extremity of the angular portion c' of the locking rod C as being pivoted at c' by means of a screw E.

In case the follower block A', as shown in Fig. 3, is to be movably mounted upon a pair of horizontally aligned guide members B' and B', a locking rod F, similar in construction to the rod C previously described, may have the extremity of its lower angular portion f loosely coiled about the guide member B' whereby to form its pivot and enable the said angular portion to bear against the other guide member B' as will be clearly seen. Should the follower A', as shown in Fig. 4, be movably mounted upon vertically aligned guide members B' and B', as shown in Fig. 4, however, the same construction as illustrated in connection with Fig. 1 is employed to operate in connection with the lower of the guide members B'.

Thus from the foregoing, it will be understood that with the parts in the locked position as indicated in the several figures in full lines, it is simply necessary to grasp the upper handle end of the locking rod and move the same laterally, and then slightly to the rear of the follower block in order that it may be released from its keeper and at the same time release the block for movement. From this, it will be apparent that inasmuch as the locking rod does not need to be held in the released position, the operator is free to use both hands in sliding the follower block to the position desired, this being of considerable advantage, especially where only a single follower guide rod is provided as the block if canted.
in any direction will frictionally engage its guide rod and impair its movement. It may be readily seen that my invention is simple and comparatively inexpensive, and may be readily installed in connection with follower blocks which either have no locking means or are provided with locking means, the operation of which is faulty or ineffective.

I claim:—

1. A follower for filing apparatus, comprising the combination with a guide or holding member, of a follower block movable on said member, a locking rod having an upright portion and an angular end portion, the extremity of which latter end portion is pivoted in substantially the same horizontal plane with the said guide or holding member whereby lateral movement of the upright portion will cause the said angular portion to frictionally engage the other guide member, and a keeper mounted on the follower block and with which the said upright rod portion is engageable to maintain the rod in engaged position against the guide or holding member.

2. A follower for filing apparatus, comprising the combination with a pair of guide or holding members in horizontal alignment, of a follower block movable on both of said members, a locking rod having an upright portion and a lower angular end portion, the extremity of which latter is loosely bent around one of the guide members whereby lateral movement of the upright rod portion will cause the said angular portion to frictionally engage the other guide member, and a keeper mounted on the follower block and with which the said upright rod portion is engageable to hold its said angular portion against the said guide member.

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Witnesses:

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