F. MOINETT.

FILE OR ACCOUNT REGISTER.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 19, 1914.

1,235,533.

Patented July 31, 1917.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

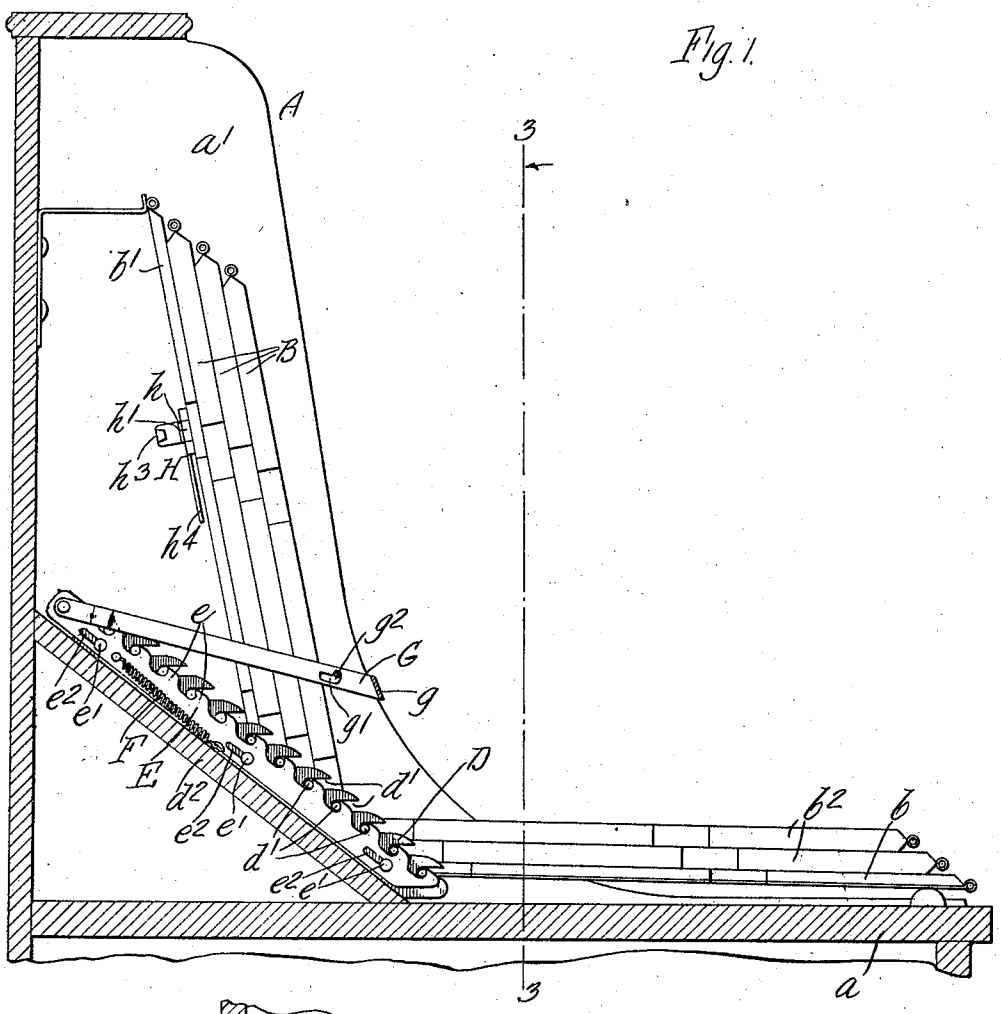
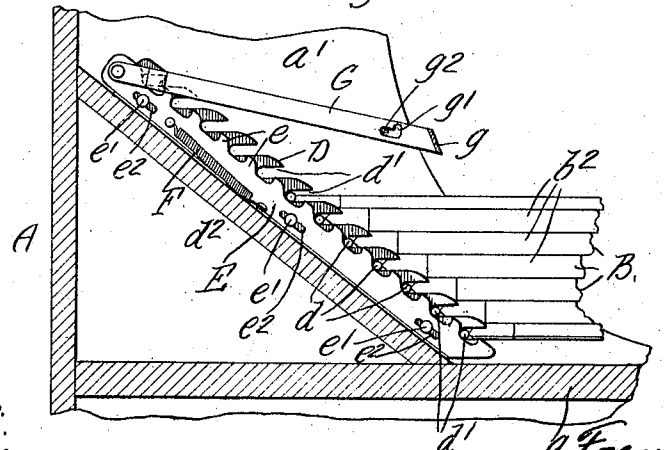


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

A. G. Dimond.

Richard Sommer

Inventor,

Frank Moinett

By Wilhelm & Parker

Attorneys.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 3.

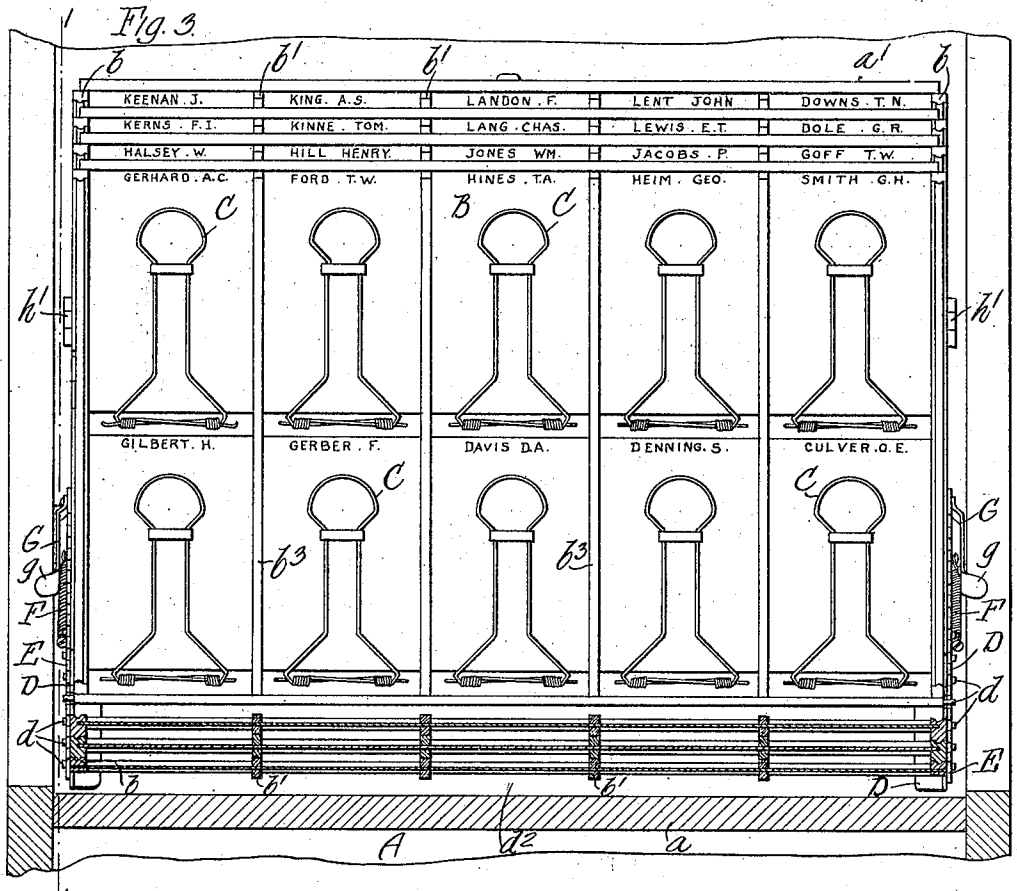


Fig. 4.

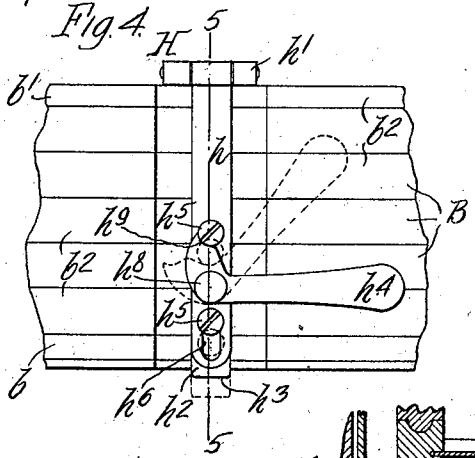


Fig. 5.

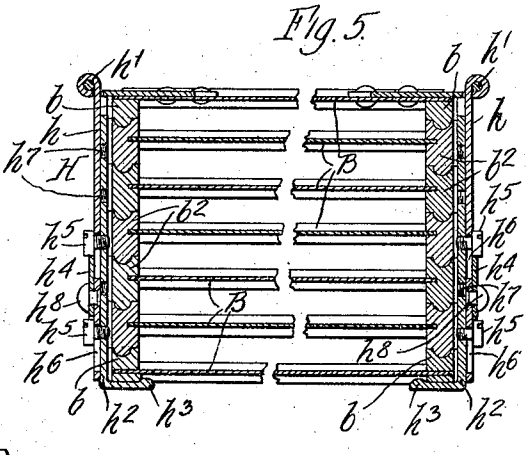
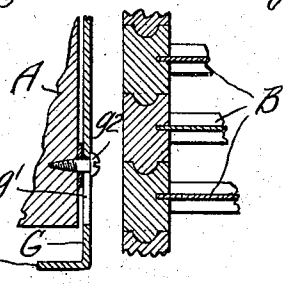


Fig. 6.



Witnesses.
A. J. Dimond.
Richard Sommer

Inventor:
Frank Moinett,
by Wilhelm & Parker
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK MOINETT, OF CANISTEO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO SUPERIOR REGISTER COMPANY, OF CANISTEO, NEW YORK.

FILE OR ACCOUNT-REGISTER.

1,235,533. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 31, 1917.

Application filed August 19, 1914. Serial No. 857,504.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK MOINETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canisteo, in the county of Steuben and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Files or Account-Registers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to account registers or paper files of that type, ordinarily employed for holding account slips, which comprise a group of leaves or holders on which the slips or papers are releasably retained by spring clips or other means, and which are pivotally supported at one edge to swing from one position to another to permit the papers on the leaves to be readily examined and secured on or removed from the leaves. These registers usually include a cabinet or support in which the leaves are pivotally mounted at their lower edges so that they can be swung forwardly from a standing position to a horizontal position and vice versa, and in most registers the group of leaves is adapted to be removed from the register to permit of the leaves being carried from place to place or put in a place of safe keeping. More particularly, this invention relates to improvements in files or registers of this kind in which the leaves are loose or detached from one another whereby they can be separated and handled individually, one or more of them removed and replaced by others, and the size of the register reduced or enlarged to suit the requirements of the user by removing or adding one or more leaves. Much difficulty has been experienced in manufacturing loose leaf registers of this sort which are entirely satisfactory and practical in the hands of the ordinary users. Most of the constructions heretofore suggested have been found to be impracticable or objectionable for one reason or another.

One object of this invention is to produce a loose leaf file or account register which is of a simple and inexpensive but entirely practical construction, such that the leaves can be placed in position in and removed from the cabinet with the minimum trouble or inconvenience by the ordinary user; in which the leaves can be swung either singly or more than one at a time to and from the upright position, and in which any desired leaf or leaves can be removed and replaced, and one or more leaves removed from or added to the register, without disturbing the other leaves. Other objects of the invention are to provide simple and desirable means for locking the leaves in place in the cabinet, and also to provide means of simple and desirable construction for binding the leaves securely together in a compact rectangular pack when they are removed from the cabinet, which means are adjustable to accommodate a greater or less number of the leaves.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional elevation in line 1—1, Fig. 3, of a file or account register embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary similar view showing the released position of the locking device.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional elevation thereof in line 3—3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary side elevation of the leaves removed from the cabinet and secured in a pack.

Fig. 5 is a broken section in line 5—5, Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary section showing the locking means for the retaining bars.

A represents a cabinet or holder in which the leaves B are arranged to swing from a standing or substantially upright position to a position in which they lie one upon another and vice versa.

With the exception of the means hereinafter described, for pivotally and releasably supporting the leaves in place in the cabinet, and for binding the leaves together in a rectangular pack when removed from the cabinet, the file or register can be of any usual or suitable construction.

In the construction shown in the drawings, the cabinet A has the usual horizontal base or desk portion *a* and the usual open front upright portion *a'* in which the leaves B are supported in a standing position from which they are adapted to be swung forwardly and downwardly so as to lie one over the other on the desk *a*.

The leaves B are preferably of known construction, consisting of thin metal sheets with beaded or reinforced edges at their lower and upper, or hinged and free ends, and having secured thereon parallel edge

and division wooden strips which serve to stiffen the metal and space them apart to thereby provide room between the leaves for the papers and prevent the papers on one leaf from bearing and rubbing against those on the next adjacent leaf. Preferably the front and rear or cover leaves have strips b b' on their inner faces only, while the remaining leaves have strips b^2 projecting from the opposite faces thereof. The edge strips preferably have interfitting tongues and grooves b^4, see Fig. 5, which constitute guides whereby the leaves are adapted to slide lengthwise one upon the other but are prevented from lateral displacement.

C represents spring clips for releasably securing the sales slips or other papers on the leaves B in the spaces between the spacing strips. Clips are provided on both faces of the intermediate leaves. Clips of any suitable construction or any other appropriate means can be used for releasably retaining the slips or papers in place on the leaves.

The leaves are removably and pivotally supported in the cabinet by pintles or journals d which project laterally from the side edges of the leaves at the lower or rear ends thereof and rest loosely in open bearing seats or slots d' in inclined bars D in the lower part of the cabinet. The pintles can be secured to the leaves in any usual or suitable way. The slot bars preferably consist of metal angle strips secured near the sides of the cabinet on an inclined bottom board d^2. The bearing slots d' are substantially horizontal and the inclination of the slot bars and the spacing of the slots are such that when the pack of leaves is laid face downward on the desk a with the pintles of the bottom leaf seated in the lowest pair of bearing slots, the pintles of all the other leaves will be disposed in the horizontal planes of their respective bearing slots so that by simply sliding the leaves horizontally rearward, one upon the other, the pintles of the several leaves will be properly engaged in their bearing slots. The disposition of the slots is also such that the leaves will be parallel and bear flat against each other both when standing and when lying down, while in the swinging of the leaves from one position to the other the hinge ends will separate somewhat and the leaves will bear against each other only at their upper or outer ends. When the leaves are slid one upon the other to place them in position in the cabinet, the tongues and grooves of the side spacing strips guide the pintles into their bearing slots and prevent the disarrangement of the leaves.

In removing the leaves it is only necessary to slide them horizontally forward one upon another until all of the pintles are disengaged from their slots. This construction in which the bearing slots are arranged to enable the leaves to be slid horizontally one upon the other to seat the pintles in and disengage them from the bearing slots is a decided advantage over constructions heretofore suggested having vertical or inclined bearing slots for the pintles, since with such constructions it is necessary to hold the leaves vertically when inserting and removing them, or to lift and separate the hinge ends of the leaves. It is difficult to hold and insert vertically leaves which are loose or disconnected from each other, and where the hinge ends have to be lifted or separated it is necessary to insert and remove the leaves separately or provide special means for manipulating the leaves.

E E represent retaining bars which are mounted to slide endwise at the outer sides of the slot bars D and are provided along their upper edges with projections e which, in the position of the bar shown in Fig. 1, extend up in front of the hinge pintles d and retain them in the bearing slots d'. The retaining bars can be slidably mounted on the slot bars D as shown, by headed studs e' on the latter extending through elongated slots e^2 in the retaining bars, or in any other suitable way. Springs F attached to the retaining bars and to the cabinet pull the retaining bars endwise forwardly and normally hold the projections e thereof below the lower edges of the bearing slots, as shown in Fig. 2, in which position they will not interfere with the movement of the hinge pintles into and out of the bearing slots. The retaining bars are moved rearwardly against the action of the springs F to secure the pintles in the bearing slots by push rods G which are attached to the rear ends of the retaining bars and extend forwardly therefrom close to the inner faces of the side walls of the cabinet. Each push rod is provided at its front end with an actuating thumb piece or handle g, which may be conveniently formed by bending outwardly the extremity of the rod, and each rod is preferably provided at its front portion with an angular slot g' for engagement with a lock screw or device g^2 secured to the side wall of the cabinet. The retaining bars are moved to the position to retain the pintles d in the bearing slots by shoving the push rods rearwardly with the thumbs, and, by then depressing the front ends of the push rods, the screws g^2 enter the upright front ends of the angular slots g' and lock the retaining bars in retaining position. The retaining bars are released by raising the front ends of the push rods, to disengage them from the lock screws g^2, whereupon the springs F will move the retaining bars forwardly to the released position. Means of other construction could be used for locking the push rods and retain-

ing bars, but the locking means described are exceedingly simple, yet nevertheless effective and positive in action.

For binding the leaves together in a compact rectangular pack when they are removed from the cabinet, adjustable clamps H are provided which are suitably hinged to the opposite side edges of the rear leaf and are adapted to be engaged with the edges of the front leaf and contracted for binding the leaves. Each of these clamps consists of a metal strap h attached by a hinge h' of any suitable construction to the edge of the rear leaf, a metal strap extension h^2 which is slidably secured to the strap h and is provided with a hook h^3 to engage the edge of the front leaf, and a cam or lever h^4 for forcibly moving the hooked extension to bind the leaves together. As shown, the strap h and extension h^2 are slidably connected by two screws h^5 which pass through elongated slots h^6 in the strap and are screwed into threaded holes h^7 in the extension h^2, and the cam or lever h^4 is pivoted to the strap h by a rivet h^8 and has a cam edge adapted to engage the head of one of the screws h^5 for operating the extension h^2. The cam edge of the lever preferably has a depression h^9 in which the screw engaged by the cam is adapted to seat to frictionally hold the lever in its dead center clamping position. The extension h^2 is provided with a series of the screw-threaded holes h^7 which are spaced apart correspondingly to the spacing of the leaves B so that by moving the screws h^5 from one to another pair of the holes h^7 the clamp can be lengthened or shortened to adapt it to operate properly upon a greater or less number of leaves in the pack. Thus if a person purchases a register and afterward wishes to enlarge it by adding one or more leaves, he can purchase the desired additional number of leaves and readily adjust the clamps to accommodate the enlarged pack of leaves.

When the leaves are in use in the cabinet the clamps are swung back out of the way behind the rear leaf. When the leaves are removed from the cabinet they are readily bound tightly together by swinging the clamps downwardly to place the hooks h^3 beneath the bottom leaf of the pack and actuating the levers h^4.

While the register described is essentially a loose leaf register in which the several leaves are entirely disconnected and adapted to be separated so that any one or more leaves can be removed from, examined and replaced in the cabinet separately, or the leaves placed in any desired order in the group, nevertheless the group of leaves can be handled, placed in and removed from the cabinet as a unit with as little or less trouble than in registers in which the leaves are attached to each other in the group. When the group of leaves is removed from the cabinet and bound together by the described clamps they are held firmly in a solid pack and are not liable to disarrangement. The loose or disconnected leaf construction is of great advantage to the user since he can purchase a register with as small a number of leaves as he may wish and can purchase and add leaves from time to time to increase the capacity of his register as occasion may require, without necessitating any changes or additions in his register to accommodate the added leaves.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a file, the combination of a group of disconnected paper holding leaves provided at one end with hinge pintles, a support for said leaves provided with an inclined series of substantially horizontal bearing slots for said pintles, the vertical distance between said slots being equal to the vertical distance between said pintles when the leaves lie flat one upon another, whereby the pintles of the several leaves can be moved into and out of said slots by sliding said leaves one upon another toward and from said support, and means for retaining said pintles in said slots.

2. In a file, the combination of a cabinet having upright side walls, a group of disconnected paper supporting leaves each provided with hinge pintles projecting laterally from the side edges of said leaf at one end thereof, a pair of inclined supporting bars for said leaves arranged at the opposite sides of said group of leaves adjacent to said side walls and provided with substantially horizontal open-ended bearing slots for said pintles, the vertical distance between said slots being equal to the vertical distance between said pintles when the leaves lie flat one upon another, whereby the pintles of the several leaves can be moved into and out of said slots by sliding said leaves one upon another toward and from said bars, and devices movably mounted at the outer sides of said supporting bars for retaining said pintles in said slots.

3. In a file, the combination of a group of disconnected paper holding leaves provided at one end with hinge pintles, a support for said leaves provided with an inclined series of substantially horizontal bearing slots in which said pintles are removably seated, slidably mounted bars for releasably retaining said pintles in said slots, actuating bars for said retaining bars extending therefrom to the front of said group of leaves, and locking means coöperating with said actuating bars for locking said retaining bars in retaining position.

4. In a file, the combination of a group of disconnected paper holding leaves provided at one end with hinge pintles, a sup-

port for said leaves provided with an inclined series of substantially horizontal bearing slots in which said pintles are removably seated, slidably mounted bars for releasably retaining said pintles in said slots, springs which normally hold said retaining bars in released position, actuating bars for moving said retaining bars against the action of said springs, and locking means coöperating with said actuating bars for locking said retaining bars in retaining position by shifting said actuating bars.

5. In a file, the combination of a group of disconnected paper supporting leaves, and a clamp for binding said leaves together in a pack, comprising a strap member attached to one of the outer leaves of the pack, an extension member slidably connected to said strap member and having a part adapted to engage the other outer leaf of the pack, said extension member being adjustable with regard to said strap member to adapt the clamp to a different number of leaves in said pack, and a lever pivoted to one of said strap members and engaging a part on said other strap member for moving said extension to clamp the leaves.

6. In a file, the combination of a group of disconnected paper supporting leaves, and a clamp for binding said leaves together in a pack, comprising a strap member attached to one of the outer leaves of the pack, an extension member slidably connected to said strap member and having a part adapted to engage the other outer leaf of the pack, and a lever pivoted to one of said strap members and engaging a projection on said other strap member for moving said extension to clamp the leaves, said projection being adjustable on the member to which it is secured for adapting the clamp to a different number of leaves in the pack.

7. In a file, the combination of a group of disconnected paper supporting leaves, and a clamp for binding said leaves together in a pack, comprising a strap member attached to one of the outer leaves of the pack, an extension member having a part adapted to engage the other outer leaf of the pack, screws secured to one of said strap members and entering slots in the other strap member for slidably connecting said members, and a lever pivoted to said slotted member and engaging one of said screws for moving said extension to clamp the leaves, said screws being adjustable to different positions on the member to which they are secured for adapting the clamp to different numbers of leaves in the pack.

Witness my hand, this 12 day of August, 1914.

FRANK MOINETT.

Witnesses.
FRED. G. CLARK,
K. A. ROE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."