

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARK H. BERRY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y

COMBINATION CHECK-BOOK.

No. 848,429.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 26, 1907.

Application filed March 29, 1906. Serial No. 308,810.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARK H. BERRY, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Check-Book, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to combination check-books in which a block of blank checks, drafts, or the like and a suitable register or record-book are detachably secured to a binder.

The object of my invention is to produce a book of this class which shall be more compact in form and more simple and convenient for use than those heretofore known.

My invention consists in providing a binder having front and back covers connected by a flexible back; in constructing the back cover so that a block of blank checks, drafts, or the like may be detachably secured to the inside of said back cover, and so that said block of blank checks may cover, substantially, the whole area of said back cover; in providing means upon the inside of the front cover for detachably securing the back cover of a blank or record book or check-register in such a way that said register opens and closes from and toward the center of the binder, and in other novel features of construction and arrangement to be hereinafter more fully pointed out and described.

In the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a combination check-book embodying the preferred form of my invention laid open. Fig. 2 represents a section on line *a a* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a view similar to Fig. 1 where the check-register has been closed. Fig. 4 represents a portion of a combination check-book closed.

The reference characters are used in the same sense throughout the drawings and the specification.

Numeral 1 represents the binder, which is composed of the front cover 2 and the back cover 3, joined by the flexible back 4.

Attached to the inner edge of the inside of the back cover are the studs 5, threaded on their outer ends to receive the nuts 6.

A block of checks, drafts, or other similar forms 7, provided with longitudinal perforations 8 and a transverse perforation 9, and provided also with holes adapted to receive the studs 5, is located upon the inside of the

back cover and securely held in position by means of said studs. Each sheet of said block is preferably divided up so as to form three blank checks and a narrow binding-strip 10, so that a single check may be easily severed from the rest of the sheet.

The left-hand or front cover 2 of the binder is provided with one or more bands or strips 11, preferably located parallel and near to the inner and outer edges of said front cover. These bands or strips are preferably made of thin metal and are secured at their ends by being embedded into the cover or in any suitable manner.

12 is a register or record-book, adapted to be detachably secured to the front cover of the binder, so as to open from and close toward the center of said binder. The pages and the covers of the register 12 are but little smaller than and approximately the same shape as the cover of the binder, and the vertical length of the back cover of the register is such as to permit it to enter between the bands 11 and the binder-cover 2, as shown in Fig. 1. The arrangement of the ruling and the headings of the register may be of any convenient form to suit the purposes for which it is intended. I have illustrated a form which is especially adapted for bank-checks. The right-hand page, which is especially for the registration of the checks as they are drawn, and takes the place of the familiar check-stub, is provided with columns headed, respectively, "Date," "Number," "Drawn in favor of," "Amount of check," "Posted." It is to be noted that a single one of these pages will suffice for many checks, ordinarily about twenty-five.

On the left-hand page are two columns headed "Deposits," which are subdivided for the date, name, and amount, and the third column headed "Bank account," which is subdivided into columns for dates and balances. By means of this arrangement it will be seen that I have provided a combination check-book in which the size of the book when closed is only a little greater than that of three checks without stubs, and a book of convenient thickness will have a capacity of four to five hundred checks. It will also be noticed that the writing-surfaces both on the checks and on the pages of the register are flat and that the relative position of the checks, the page on which the checks are registered, and the page for deposits, is substantially the same as that of the old check-

book with stubs attached, the arrangement with which nearly every one is familiar and to depart from which would cause great inconvenience.

- 5 Nearly all banks supply customers with check-books and checks on which their customers' names are printed. It is the custom with most banks to order checks in large numbers and have them printed complete
10 with everything except the bank customer's name, and held by the manufacturer for completion by printing in the bank customer's name. The number printed for any customer is usually from five hundred to one
15 thousand. It is therefore a great advantage for both the bank and the manufacturer if the block of checks for the individual customers of the bank can be kept of such small size and weight to make it possible to
20 send these through the mail. The registers and binders being uniform for all customers may be shipped by freight in large quantities.

By means of my improved construction blocks containing five hundred checks may
25 be kept within the limits permitted to be sent through the mails where the expense of express and the delays by freight would be inconvenient. It is also to be observed that by means of my construction I have produced
30 a combination check-book of large capacity which at the same time closes to a size substantially that of the block of checks.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

- 35 1. A binder for a combination check-book comprising front and back covers connected by a flexible back, and a metallic strip or band secured at its ends to an edge of the front cover.
40 2. A binder for a combination check-book comprising front and back covers connected

by a flexible back, binding-posts attached to the inner edge of the back cover, and a metallic strip or band secured at its ends to the outer edge of the front cover.

3. In a combination check-book the combination with front and back covers connected by a flexible back of a block of checks, means for attaching said block of checks to the inside of the back cover, a metallic strip
50 or band secured at its ends to the front cover and a record-book or register having one of its covers held in place by said metallic strip.

4. In a combination check-book the combination with front and back covers connected by a flexible back of a block of checks, a binding-post for attaching said block of checks to the inside of the back cover, a
60 metallic strip or band secured at its ends to the front cover and a record-book or register having one of its covers held in place by said metallic strip.

5. In a combination check-book the combination with a binder consisting of front
65 and back covers joined by a flexible back, of binding-posts secured to said back cover near said flexible back, a block of checks secured by said binding-posts, a metallic strip and a register having its back cover
70 held by said metallic strip to the front cover, the top edges of said register and of said block of checks being at right angles to said flexible back.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
75 name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARK H. BERRY.

Witnesses:

THOMAS H. CALHOUN,
EMILIE LUND.