(No Model.)

F. TRAMBLAY.

CHECK FILE.

No. 486,993. Patented Nov. 29, 1892.

Fig. 1.

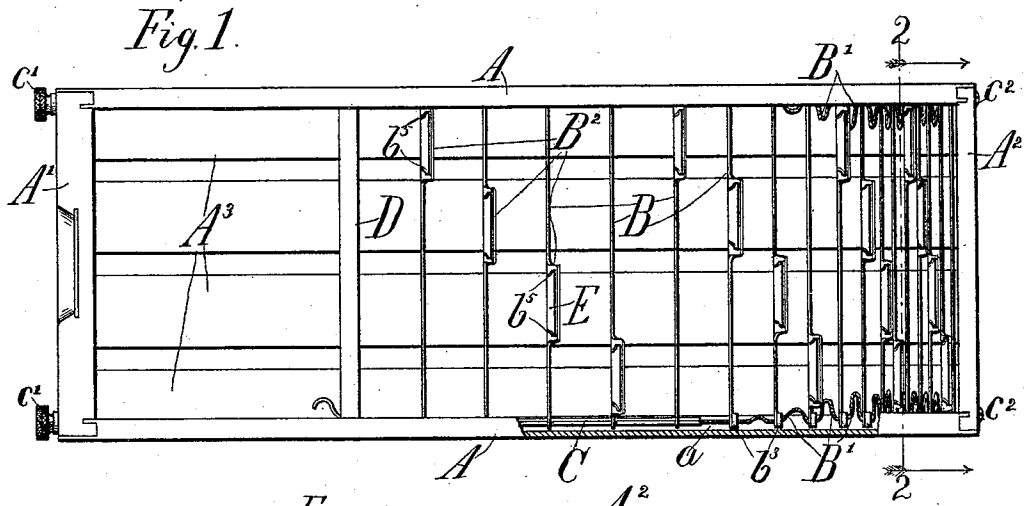


Fig. 2

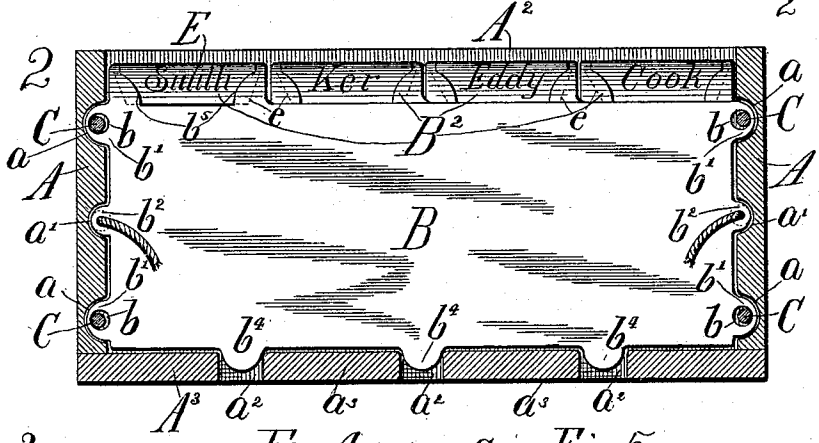


Fig 3.

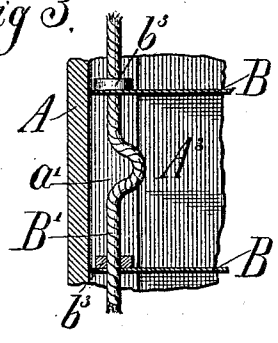


Fig 4

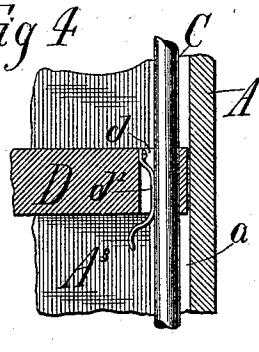
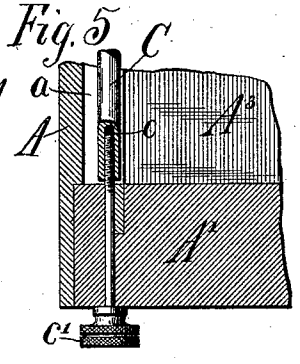


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FELIX TRAMBLAY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CHECK-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 486,993, dated November 29, 1892.

Application filed March 8, 1892. Serial No. 424,207. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FELIX TRAMBLAY, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check-Files; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

In banks, libraries, and other business institutions it is desirable to provide a receptacle or receptacles for so filing checks, drafts, return-cards, or other vouchers or memoranda in alphabetical or other predetrmined order as to facilitate ready access thereto in the regular daily routine of business. One class of devices heretofore in use for this purpose has comprised a drawer-shaped frame or case provided interiorly with transverse partitions constructed to slide freely within said case to accommodate a greater or less number of checks, vouchers, or cards between them.

The object of this invention is to improve the construction of this class of files for general purposes and with a special view to their employment in banking institutions as check-files and the like.

To this end the invention consists in the matters to be hereinafter described, and particularly set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a check-file embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a transverse section on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are sectional details, drawn to a large scale, illustrating some of the novel features of the invention, as hereinafter explained.

The frame or case, which may be constructed of wood, metal, or other suitable material, is a rectangular open-top structure consisting of sides A, front and back pieces A′ and A^2, and a bottom A^3, as best illustrated in Fig. 1. Within the case are arranged a number of sliding partitions B, provided at each end near their upper lower edges with eyes *b* to receive parallel supporting-rods C, which are connected at their ends to the front A′ and back A^2 of the case. These rods C are detachably connected to the ends of the case to admit of their removal and replacement, thereby facilitating the insertion of the partitions B within the case after the completion of the latter, and also admitting of the removal or insertion of one or more partitions in a completed file, should occasion require. A convenient means for attaining this end is illustrated in the drawings, consisting in forming sockets *c* in the ends of the rods C to receive pins or screws passing through the front A′ and back A^2 of the case. As illustrated, the sockets *c* at the front ends of the rods C are threaded to engage the threads of thumb-screws *c′*, passing through the front A′ of the case, the sockets *c* at the rear ends of said rods being designed to fit upon or receive screw or other studs c^2, projecting inward from the back or rear A^2 of the case. Other means may, however, be used, if desired, for removably securing the rods.

To economize space and provide an unobstructed interior space for the file, the rods C are desirably arranged in grooves *a*, formed in the inner faces of the sides A, and the eyes *b* of the partitions B are formed in lugs or ears *b′*, shaped to move freely in the grooves *a*. The partitions B are also provided at their ends with intermediate ears b^2, adapted to move freely in grooves *a′*, formed between and parallel with the grooves *a* of the sides A, and these ears b^2 are pierced to receive a flexible cord or tape B′, carrying stop-buttons b^3, designed to limit the movement of said cord B′ with relation to the respective partitions B, thus enabling the partitions to be nested closely together or moved a desired distance apart, as shown in Fig. 1. The buttons b^3 may be adjustably secured upon the cord B′, in order to admit of varying the width of the spaces between the partitions B, and are desirably formed of disks or pieces of soft rubber provided each with a small perforation, which, owing to the elastic character of the rubber, admits of the passage of the cord B′, but will embrace said cord so snugly as to require the exertion of some force to move a button lengthwise of said cord. This construction involves but slight cost, and any required adjustment may be easily and quickly made.

The front ends of the cords or tapes B′ are secured to the outermost one of the partitions B or to a follower-board D, Figs. 1 and 4, where such is used, thereby enabling the op-

erator to straighten said cords and separate the partitions by the forward movement of said front partition or follower-board.

The bottom edges of the partitions B are provided with one or more guard-lugs b^4, which enter longitudinal channels a^2, consisting of grooves or slots formed in the bottom A^3 of the case, the purpose of this arrangement being to prevent a check, draft, or other voucher or paper from becoming lost or misplaced by working down beneath one or the other of the partitions B, between which it has been filed. To avoid the accumulation of dust and dirt within the case, the slotted form of channel a^2 is preferable, and a saving of weight and material may be effected by constructing said bottom of a number of independent slats or strips a^3, secured at such distance apart as to leave slots or spaces a^2 between their adjacent edges, as best shown in Fig. 2.

The partitions B may be formed of cardboard, hard rubber, or other suitable material, though I prefer to stamp them out from tin or other light sheet metal, the latter occupying but little space and not being liable to warp and bind upon the guide or supporting rods C. These partitions B are each provided at the top with a tag-holder consisting of an elongated lug B^2, projecting above the top edge of the partition and provided with two diverging slits b^5 to receive the opposite ends of a tag, slip, or card E, bearing a name, letter, or some other indication of the contents of the compartment behind it. The cards or tags E are preferably of the form indicated in Fig. 2—that is to say, provided at their ends with extensions or shoulders *e*, which engage beneath the outer ends of the diverging slits b^5, and thus lock said tag or card against accidental displacement.

In the instance shown the lugs B^2, forming the tag-holders, are of about a quarter the length of the partitions B and are arranged in two sets, the lugs of one set (marked 1) extending from the end—say the left-hand end—of the partitions toward the center, and the lugs of the other set (marked 2) extending from the center of the partitions toward the left-hand end thereof. By reversing the partitions of either set the lugs B^2 thereof will be at or near the right-hand end of said partition, whereby I am enabled to arrange said partitions in series of fours composed of two members of each set, each tag-holder being clearly visible from the front of the case. This arrangement insures economy in construction, inasmuch as but two dies are required to make a series of four partitions.

In practice the lugs B^2 after completion will be bent rearward on the line of the upper edge of the partitions to bring the card or tag secured thereon at right angles, or approximately so, to the line of sight to facilitate the ready discernment of the letter, name, or other designating device thereon.

The follower D is preferably of greater thickness than the partitions B and is arranged between the outermost one of said partitions and the front A′ of the case. Openings *d* are provided for the passage of the guide or supporting rods C, and a spring friction device is secured to the follower adjacent to one of said rods C or to the corresponding rods at opposite sides of the case, the purpose of said spring being to retain the follower in its various positions of adjustment along the supporting-rods C. As shown, this device consists of a plate-spring *d′*, arranged within the supporting-rod opening *d* and secured at one end to the follower D. The spring bears upon the side of the rod C, its forward or free end projecting beyond the outer face of the follower D and terminating in a curve or loop to afford a hold for the thumb or finger of the operator. Any other friction devices may be used, if desired.

What I claim is—

1. A check-file comprising a case having a slotted bottom, guide-rods secured within the case, and a plurality of loose transverse partitions mounted on said guide-rods, each partition being provided at its lower edge with depending lugs projecting into the slots of the case-bottom, substantially as described.

2. A check-file comprising a case, a plurality of loose transverse partitions therein provided at their sides with eyes, and two parallel guide-rods secured within the case adjacent to each side thereof and passing through the eyes of the partitions, substantially as described.

3. A check-file comprising a case, the sides of which are provided with parallel grooves in their inner faces, a plurality of transverse partitions provided at their ends with perforated lugs fitting loosely within said grooves, and guide-rods located within said grooves, secured at each end thereof and passing through the perforated lugs of the partitions, substantially as described.

4. A check-file comprising a case, a plurality of loose transverse partitions therein provided at their ends with eyes, and parallel guide-rods removably secured in the case adjacent to each side thereof and passing through the eyes of the partitions, substantially as described.

5. A check-file comprising a case having a slotted bottom, two parallel guide-rods secured in the case adjacent to each side thereof, and a plurality of loose transverse partitions having depending lugs at their lower margins adapted to enter the slots in the case-bottom and provided at their ends with suitable eyes through which the guide-rods pass, substantially as described.

6. A check-file comprising a case, a plurality of loose transverse partitions mounted on guides within the case, and flexible connections secured to the sides of the partitions to limit the movement of said partitions with relation to each other, substantially as described.

7. A check-file comprising a case, guides secured therein, a plurality of transverse partitions mounted on said guides, flexible connections passing through the partitions at the sides, and adjustable buttons or stops mounted on said connections between the partitions, substantially as described.

8. A check-file comprising a case, guides secured therein, a plurality of transverse partitions mounted on said guides, a follower also mounted on said guides and provided with a friction device bearing thereon, and flexible connections secured to the partitions and to the follower, substantially as described.

9. A check-file comprising a case, a plurality of loose transverse partitions having eyes at their sides and two parallel guide-rods secured adjacent to each side of the case and passing through the eyes of the partitions, and means, substantially as shown and described, for attaching a tag or designation-card to each of said loose partitions, substantially as specified.

10. A check-file comprising a case having a slotted bottom, guides secured within the case, and a plurality of loose transverse partitions mounted on said guides, each partition being provided at its lower end with depending lugs projecting into the slots of the case-bottom and at its upper end with a tag-holder comprising an elongated lug, as B^2, provided with two diverging slits b^5, substantially as specified.

11. A check-file comprising a case, a plurality of light transverse partitions having eyes at their sides, parallel guide-rods adjacent to each side of the case and passing through the eyes of the partitions, and a tag-holder integral with each of said transverse partitions and consisting of an elongated lug B^2, projecting above the top edge of the partition and provided with two diverging slits b^5, the latter being adapted to receive the opposite ends of a tag or card, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FELIX TRAMBLAY.

Witnesses:

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