

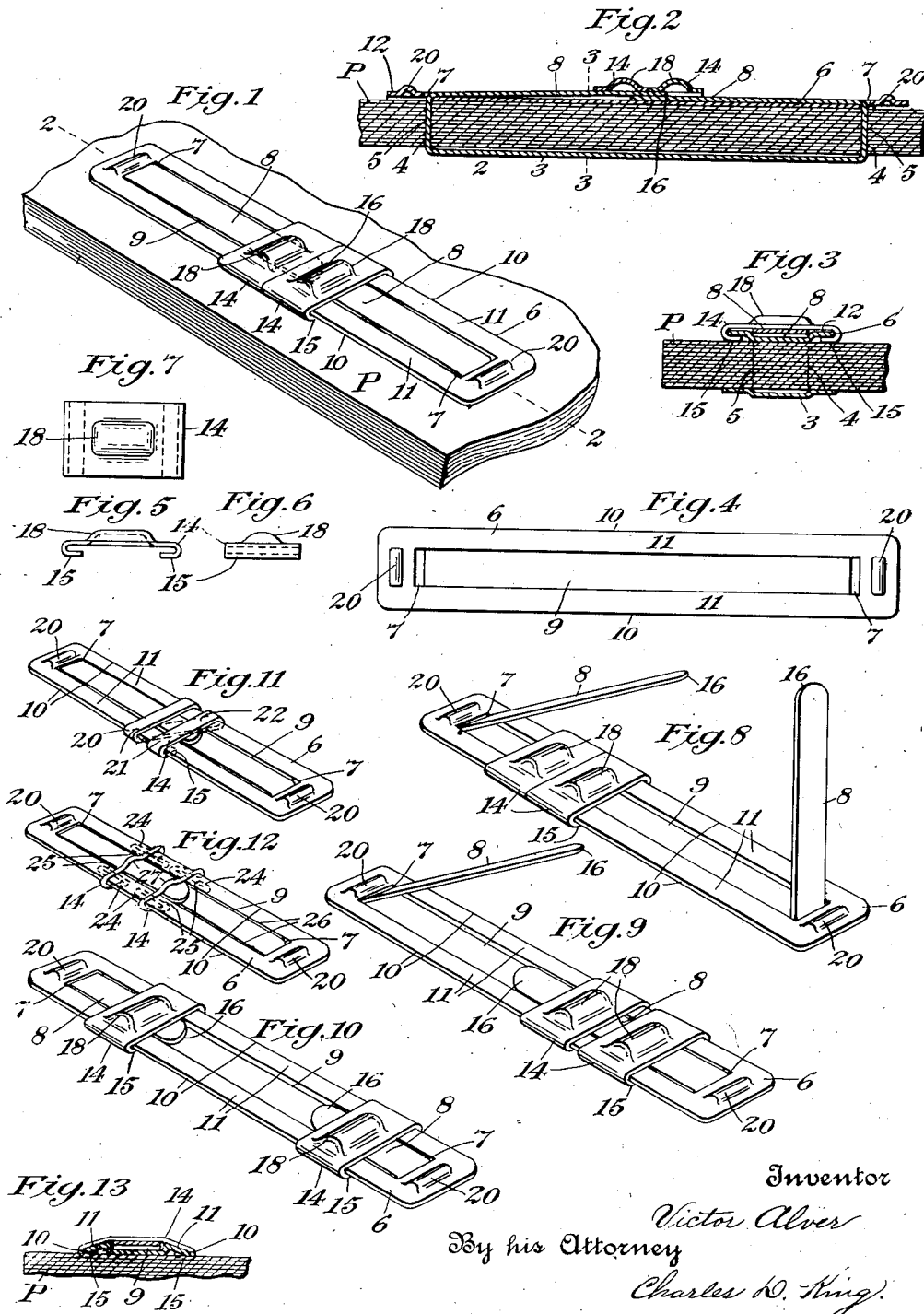
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PAPER FASTENER

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PAPER FASTENER.

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This invention relates to paper fasteners and more particularly to tongued paper fasteners for use in filing documents, letters and the like and which fasteners embody a member having two spaced apart tongues adapted to be pushed through the papers to be filed and preferably through a pair of perforations in a retaining member or washer and the ends of the tongues then bent down flat on the same.

The main object of the invention is to provide improved means for holding down the ends of said tongues so as to prevent their catching on papers and other objects when the files are in use. Another object is to provide means for this purpose which are more easily manipulated than certain devices for a similar purpose now in use. Another object is to provide such means that will operate properly and easily if said tongues should become bent or uneven.

The means I prefer to employ to accomplish the above-named objects together with other advantageous features of my improved paper fastener not hereinbefore mentioned, are illustrated in the drawing accompanying and forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a paper fastener embodying my invention and applied to a file of papers.

Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the same taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a plan of the form of retaining member used in the above adaptation of my invention.

Fig. 5 is an end elevation of a tongue holding member forming part of my invention.

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the same.

Fig. 7 is a plan of the same.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view illustrating the method of applying or removing my improved paper fastener.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view illustrative of another part of the method of applying my paper fastener.

Fig. 10 is a perspective view showing another arrangement of my improved paper fastener.

Fig. 11 is a perspective view illustrating a modified form of my invention.

Fig. 12 is a perspective view illustrating another modification, and

Fig. 13 is a transverse section on another modification.

Like characters of reference refer to like parts in all the figures of the drawing.

In the various figures of the drawing the numeral 2 designates a member provided with a base portion such as 3 and two tongues such as 4, preferably spaced apart at right angles to 3 and adapted to be pushed through two slits 5 in the file of papers indicated by P, and the ends of said tongues will then project up above the topmost paper and above a retaining member or washer 6. Two perforations such as 7, through which said tongues 4 can be passed, are ordinarily provided in the retaining member 6, and, after the said projecting portions of the tongues are passed through them, the said portions which are indicated by 8 can then be bent down flat on the upper part of said retaining member 6.

The retaining member or washer 6 is preferably provided with a longitudinal groove such as 9 extending between the perforations 7 and lying midway between the side edges 10. Preferably the member 6 has flat side edge portions 11 at each side of the groove 9. The groove 9 is of such depth that the end portions 8 of the tongues will lie in the groove without projecting much above the top surface 12 of the retaining member 6, even when one of said tongue ends lies over the other as in Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

For finally holding down and securing the end portions 8 of the tongues, I have provided one or more slidable members 14, each of which is comparatively short longitudinally, and preferably spans the retaining member and the groove 9 therein. Suitable means are provided on the slidable members 14 to secure them to the retaining members 6, and preferably said means consist of flanges such as 15, bent down around the side edges of the retaining member 6. The said side edges 10 preferably are slightly above the surface of the topmost paper so as to allow the members 14 to pass along smoothly from end to end of the groove 9. In some arrangements of the fasteners, the tongue ends 16 will lap over one another as in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9, while in others there will be a gap between the tongue ends as in Fig. 10; in the first instance, one slidable member 14 would suffice for holding down the tongue ends, but in the last example,

two are necessary, as illustrated in the figure. Ordinarily I provide two members 14 for each retaining member, and said members 14 can in the first instance, such as in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 8 and 9 be moved as one member, while in the arrangement in Fig. 10, they would be moved singly over the separate tongue ends as required. Projections 18 are provided on said tongue-holding members 14 for the purpose of conveniently moving them to and fro, and projections 20 are provided near the ends of the retaining member, beyond the perforations 7, which projections act as stops to prevent the tongue-end-holding members 14 from being separated from the retaining member 6.

Fig. 11 illustrates another form of my invention in which the slidable member 14 is formed by wrapping a strip of sheet metal or wire 20 as it is frequently termed, around the retaining member 6. Two portions 21 are formed bridging the groove 9 above and a third portion 22 connects them together under the member 6. Portions 15 project under the side edges 10 of the member 6. One or more slidable members 14 can be used as desired.

Fig. 12 illustrates two slidable members 14 formed of round wire and provided with portions 24 bent down under the side edges 10 of the member 6. The said portions 24 have branches 25 extending parallel with the longitudinal walls at the sides of the groove 9 and guided thereby. Portions 27 preferably rounded, project upward slightly above the groove 9 and the bent down tongues therein and serve to move the members 14 to and fro. In Fig. 13, I have illustrated a slightly modified form of the member 6 in which the side edges 10 slope outwardly and

downwardly towards the papers so that loose papers cannot be pushed underneath. The side portions 11 in this form slope upward from the edges 10, and the member 14 slopes to conform to the member 6 and the portions 11 thereof. There is enough elasticity in the papers and the member 6 to allow the flanges 15 of the member 14 to be slid along the edges 10. The flanges 15 are illustrated in dotted lines as pressing down the upper papers in the file P.

What I claim is:—

A paper fastener comprising a member having two spaced apart tongues to be pushed through papers, a retaining member having two slots through which said tongues can then be pushed, a groove extending from one of said slots to the other and into which said tongues can then be bent, two stops formed by portions pressed upwardly from the body of the retaining member one between each of said slots and the adjacent end of the retaining member and longitudinal side edges one on each side of said groove, and two slides movable over said groove and the bent down tongues therein, said slides each having its ends crimped respectively under said longitudinal side edges of the retaining member and permanently confined on said member by said stops and said crimped portions, and said slides being together movable over all parts of said groove and each also movable by itself but its individual movement being less than the full length of said groove.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, this 10th day of April, 1923.

VICTOR ALVER.