J. F. ADAMS.

PERMANENT LETTER-FILE.

No. 169,665. Patented Nov. 9, 1875.

Fig. 1.

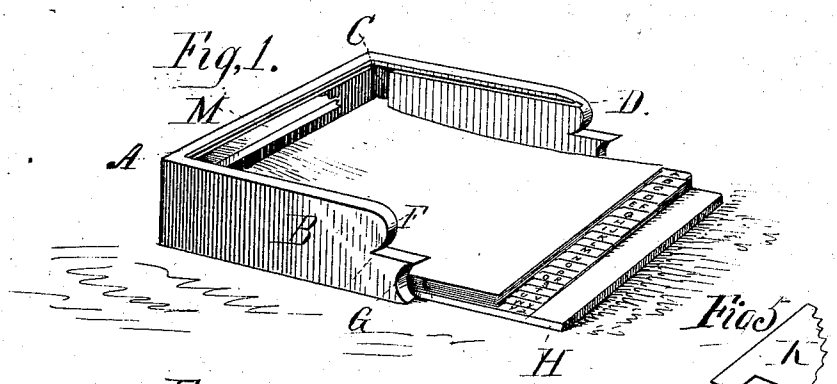


Fig. 5

Fig. 3.

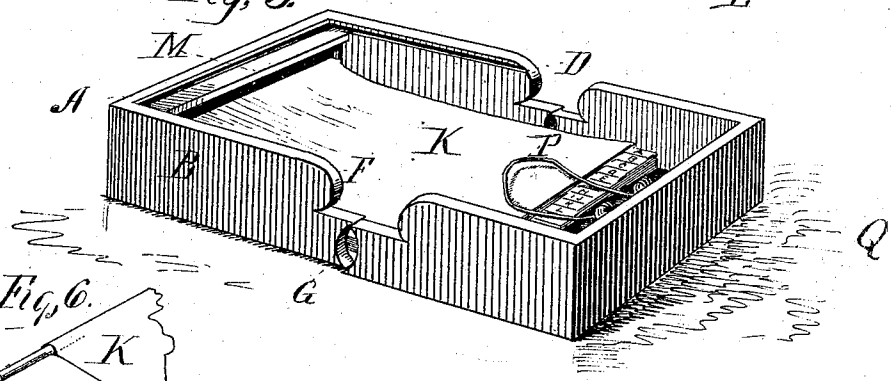


Fig. 6.

Fig. 2.

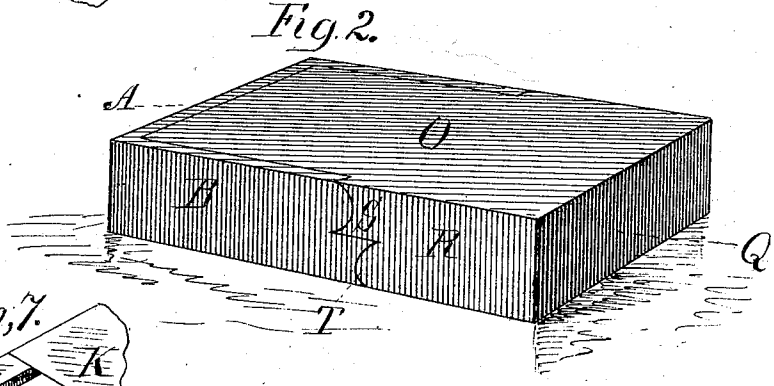


Fig. 7.

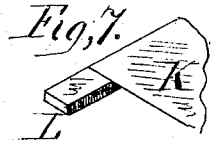
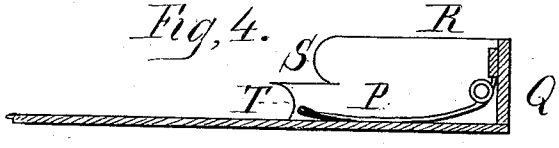


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
E. K. Dorsey
M. M. Philipp

Inventor
John F. Adams,
by Munson & Philipp Attys.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN F. ADAMS, OF IRVINGTON, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN PERMANENT LETTER-FILES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,665**, dated November 9, 1875; application filed September 27, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN F. ADAMS, of Irvington, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Permanent Letter and Paper Files; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to produce a permanent letter or paper file, in which the index or other sheets are adjustable, and which permit the introduction between any two of them of any desired number of papers, letters, &c., whose edges may reach to the back of the sheets, and yet permit the whole to lie smooth, however much the quantity between any two sheets may exceed that between any two other sheets, the ends of said sheets being prevented from flying up and throwing or permitting the papers, &c., between them to fall out; and it consists in the device constructed in the manner hereinafter set forth.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my file with one part thereof removed. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the file with the two parts together. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the file with one portion inserted under the index or other leaves, showing the clip for holding them down. Fig. 4 is a sectional view of one part, to which the spring forming the clip is secured. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a portion of one of the binding-leaves cut so as to form a means for holding it adjustably in the file. Fig. 6 shows a modification of the same, said means consisting of a wire around which one end of the sheet is secured. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of another modification of the same, a bar of wood or other material being used instead of the wire shown in Fig. 6.

A represents the lower part of the file, the sides B thereof being, on their inner surfaces, provided with grooves C and D, for the purpose hereinafter more fully set forth. The ends E of these sides are formed, as shown in the drawing, with projections F and recesses G, and terminate near the middle of the bottom H. This latter is made of a width sufficient to permit ordinary letter-paper to be placed in sidewise, and half-note sheets to be placed in endwise, two on a page; but it may be made of any width to adapt it to the papers to be filed. K represents adjustable sheets of card-board, or suitable stiff paper, between which the letters, &c., are held. One end of these sheets is provided with a projection or projections, L, and the other may be marked with an appropriate letter of the alphabet, or with other suitable designating character, or may remain plain.

The projection or projections may form a part of the sheet itself, as shown in Fig. 5, or it or they may be constructed of cloth or other material pasted upon the same.

A wire, extending part way or entirely across the end of the sheet, may form the projection or projections, as shown in Fig. 6; or they may be made of strips or bars of wood or other material, as shown in Fig. 7, or in any other convenient manner.

The sheets K are placed in the part A, their projection or projections L resting in the groove or grooves C, which prevents them from being pulled out.

A strip, M, is secured so as to close up the tops of said groove or grooves, shown in the drawing as extending the whole width of the box. Instead of this, however, short strips can be used over the top of the groove or grooves for this purpose, the object being to prevent the sheets from being moved out of the grooves. The form of the groove or grooves C, and that of the projection or projections L, may be varied, any form which will prevent the sheets from being withdrawn, except through the grooves C, being all that is essential for this purpose. The part Q of the file, which forms the cover and extension of the sides of part A, is provided with a spring, P, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, which enables it to be used as a convenient desk-clip when desired. Its top O fits in the grooves D. Its sides R are provided with projections S and depressions T, which correspond with and fit into and over recesses G and projection F of the sides of part A, so as to form a secure lock and prevent the two parts A and Q from being separated by excess of papers within or from any other cause.

Under some circumstances, to prevent the letters, papers, &c., from falling out from between the adjustable sheets K, where they are placed, the top O of the part Q may be inserted under the part A, and the spring P placed over the adjustable sheets, as shown in Fig. 3; or said part Q may be placed under the bottom of part A while in use, and the spring P under the sheets to hold the two parts together. This, however, is not always necessary, as a weight may be placed upon the sheets K when it is desired to use the part Q as a desk-clip.

When the file has been filled the part Q is inserted in the grooves D, which gives it a rectangular shape, convenient to be placed away properly labeled for reference.

The projections and recesses on the ends of the sides of the parts A and Q may be of any configuration which will enable the two to be secured together for the purpose specified, and the ends of the part A may terminate in the middle thereof, at or near its open end, the sides of the part Q or its end being adapted to them.

The advantages possessed by my file are, that it can be cheaply manufactured. It obviates the necessity of costly devices to hold the papers between the sheets, and also the expense and inconvenience of binding them together, and, when filled, its two parts are prevented from being separated, and it forms a strong, durable, permanent file, easily accessible for reference.

Having thus described my invention and the merits it possesses, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The part A, provided with a groove or grooves, C, at one end, in combination with a sheet or sheets having a projection or projections, L, at one end, substantially as shown and described.

2. The part A, having projections and recesses on the ends of its sides, in combination with the part Q, provided with similar recesses and projections upon its sides, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination of the part Q, provided with a spring, P, with the part A and adjustable sheets K, substantially as shown and described.

4. The combination of the part Q with the part A and adjustable sheets K, substantially as shown and described.

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

JOHN F. ADAMS.

Witnesses:

M. J. BAXTER,

WILLIAM B. PHILIPP.