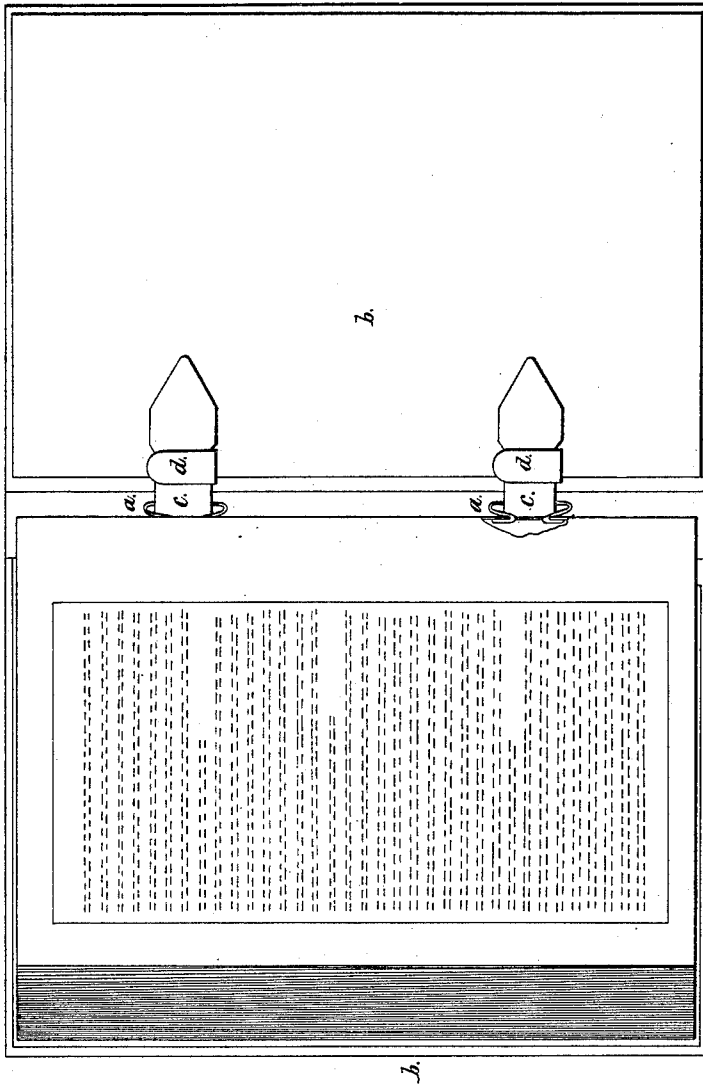


G. & E. ASHWORTH.
PORTFOLIO.

No. 81,864.

Patented Sept. 8, 1868.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

L. W. Griffin
A. C. Klink

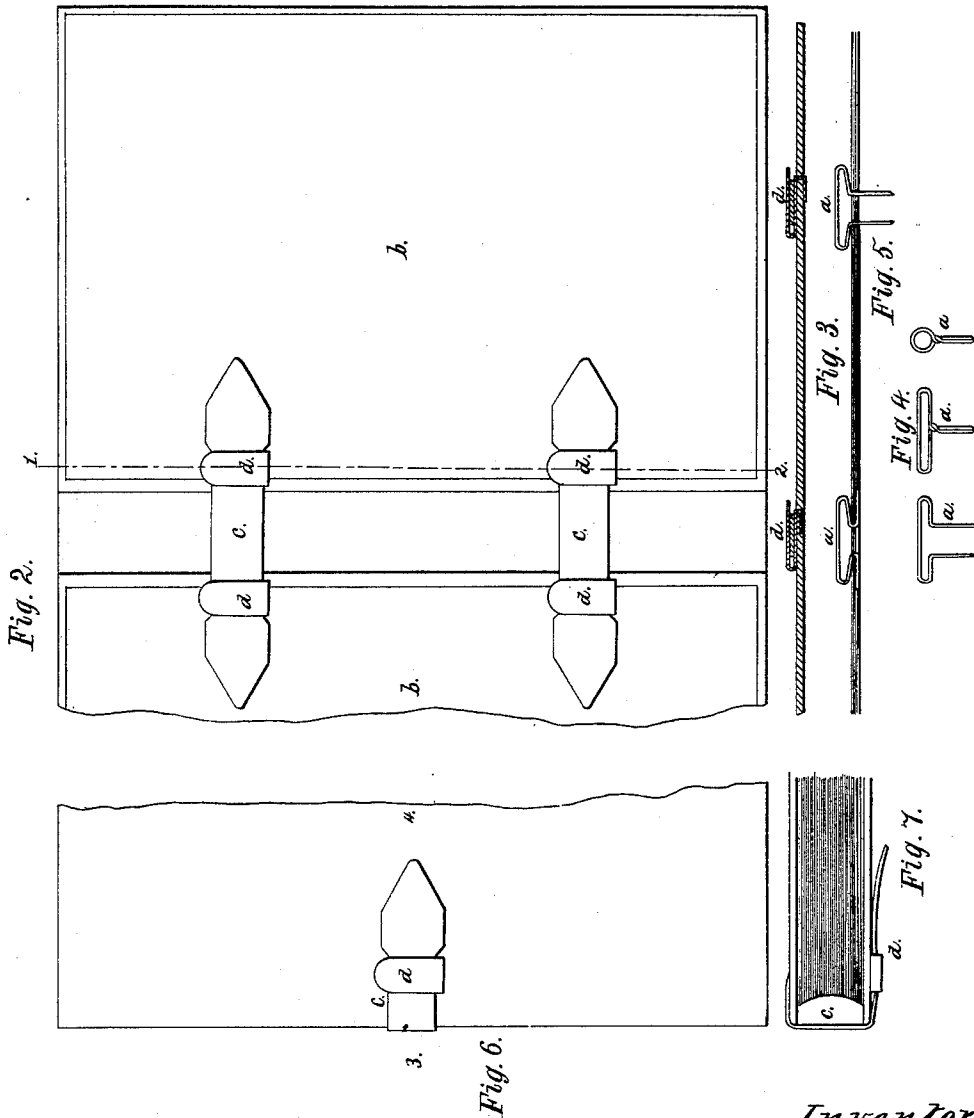
Inventors.

G. Ashworth
E. Ashworth
By their attorney
H. Howson.

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H. Houson

United States Patent Office

GEORGE ASHWORTH AND ELIJAH ASHWORTH OF MANCHESTER, GREAT BRITAIN.

Letters Patent No. 81,864, dated September 8, 1868; patented in England, March 15, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN PORTFOLIOS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, GEORGE ASHWORTH and ELIJAH ASHWORTH, of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, in the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Portfolios, or cases for holding musical publications, periodicals, manuscripts, and the like matter, and in binders to be used therewith; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Our invention is designed for the purpose of binding together the several folded sheets of paper constituting a periodical publication, pamphlet, catalogue, musical publication, or other similar printed or written matter, and is especially adapted to the connecting together of the several members or parts of a publication forming a volume or portion of a volume, or of various "pieces of music," for the better preservation of the same, and for easier reference to their contents.

To the insides of the portfolios or cases we attach strips or bands of leather, caoutchouc, or other suitable material, the said bands being attached at each end to the inner edges of the sides of the portfolio, in such a manner that one or both ends of each band may be readily detached from the side of the portfolio, the bands reaching from side to side, across the back or flexible part of the portfolio or case.

When sheets of "music" or other matter are to be filed in the portfolio, wire staples or binders, constructed as fully described hereafter, are fixed in the sheets, the points of the binders being thrust through the fold of the sheets, from the outside to the inside, and the points of each binder flattened down, thus binding together the several sheets in each number or part, the binders being inserted at different points to suit the position of the bands in the portfolio.

The ends of the bands being detached at one side from the portfolio, and passed through the loops in the binders, on being reattached, retain the sheets or periodicals in position in the portfolio.

In the case of the employment of bands of caoutchouc, the ends may be secured by being drawn through slits or loops in metallic holders, the slits being smaller than the section of bands, a similar fastening being applied to the outside edges of the portfolio, in lieu of ribbons or strings, if desired.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will now proceed to describe the manner of carrying it into effect, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents the portfolio, with a series of sheets bound in the same.

Figure 2, a part of the portfolio, the sheets being removed.

Figure 3, a section on the line 1-2, fig. 2.

Figure 4, a view representing several forms of metal staples, which may be applied to the sheets to be bound in the portfolio.

Figure 5, a detached sectional view, showing the manner in which the loops are applied to the sheets.

Figure 6, a detached view of sufficient of the portfolio to show the device for connecting the outer edges of the lids together; and

Figure 7 a section on the line 3-4, fig. 6.

To the inside of each lid, *b*, of the portfolio, near the point where it joins the back, are secured plates, each of which is bent so as to form an elastic clip, *d*, open at one side, as shown in fig. 4, the clips on one side of the portfolio being directly opposite those on the other side, so that the opposite ends of a strip or band, *c*, of rubber, leather, or other material, may be introduced laterally into the clip, which contracts on the band and holds it firmly.

The sheets of music or other matter are secured together by wire staples or "binders" *a*, which are of the form shown in fig. 5, and the ends of which, after being passed through the paper, are bent outwards, so as to hold the loop in its place.

The binders having been inserted in the fold of the sheet to be placed in the portfolio, in positions suitable to the distance apart of the bands *c*, the point or end of each band is passed through the loop of one of the binders, and, in the case of the use of bands of caoutchouc, is fastened or held by stretching the band, and inserting it in the slit in the appropriate clip or fastener, *d*, the relaxation of the end of the band retzizing the band in the fastener. The sheets will thus be fixed in the portfolios, as shown in fig. 1, and may be used and referred to, under ordinary circumstances, in the same manner as if permanently bound into a book or volume.

In figs. 6 and 7, the clips and band are shown applied to the outer edges of the lids of the portfolio, to secure them together, the improved mode of fastening being employed in lieu of the tapes and ribbons sometimes used.

The loops *a* may be of various forms, as shown in fig. 4, and the bands *c* may, in some instances, be permanently fastened at one end to one of the lids of the portfolio.

We claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The spring-clips or fasteners *d*, constructed and applied to a portfolio substantially as described, in combination with a band or bands, *c*, of leather or other suitable material, and which are adapted to staples or binders secured to the sheets to be bound, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof, we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE ASHWORTH,
ELIJAH ASHWORTH.

Witnesses:

TH. ROBERTSHAW,

RICHARD HALLIDAY.