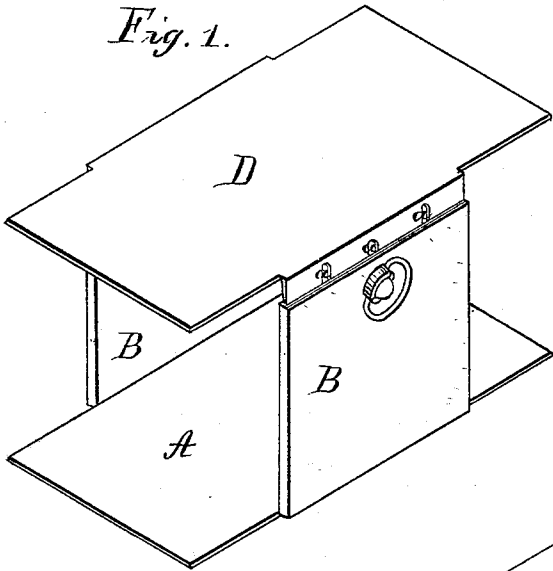


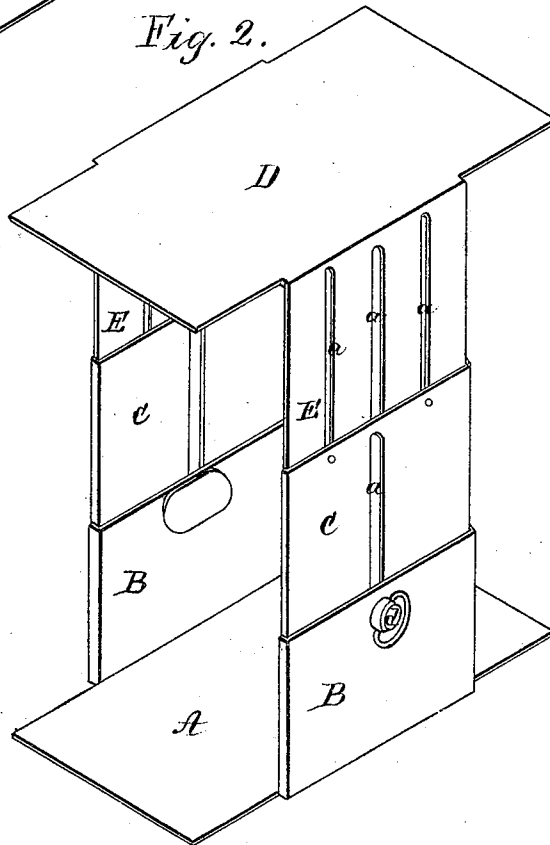
*H. Riggs.*  
*Bill & Paper File.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 51,520. Patented Dec. 12, 1865.*

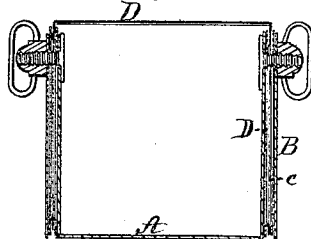
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Witnesses.*  
*H. D. Hatch,*  
*C. M. Ingersoll*

*Inventor.*  
*H. Riggs.*  
*John C. Cook*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER RIGGS, OF OXFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND WILLIAM CHURCH, OF SAME PLACE.

## PAPER AND LETTER FILE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 51,520, dated December 12, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HOMER RIGGS, of Oxford, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Letter or Paper Files; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a perspective view closed; Fig. 2, a like view extended, and in Fig. 3 a cross-section.

My invention relates to an improvement in a case for filing letters or papers of a like character; and it consists in a metallic case made adjustable so as to extend or be contracted, according to the quantity of papers placed therein.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my invention, I will proceed to fully describe the same as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

A is the bottom of the case. It should be made about the size of the papers to be filed, and is formed, as is the whole case, of sheet-steel. To each edge of the bottom A a flat tube, B, is fixed, or, as I prefer, formed from the same piece of metal as the bottom. Within the said tube B I place a second similar tube, C.

D is the top, of like form and size as the bottom A, with sides E turned down, so as to enter the second tube, C, as seen in Fig. 2. When put together, the slots *a a* and pins passing therethrough in the common and well-known manner, or other similar device, prevents the parts from separation, while a screw and nut, *d*, secures them together at any point desirable.

To use my invention, place the papers between the top D and bottom A; then press the top down hard upon the papers and turn up the screw to secure it in that position.

If a file of two extensions is required, the tube C may be left out, or, if more, the tubes B and C may be made longer.

My invention is designed more particularly for the use of the Post-Office Department to make up packages of letters for transportation, instead of the paper now used, but is useful and equally adapted for many other uses.

Having, therefore, thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described metallic letter-file, made adjustable, so as to extend, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

HOMER RIGGS.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. EARLE,  
H. D. HATCH.