

J. BODENSTEIN.
FILING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 21, 1914.

1,160,104.

Patented Nov. 9, 1915.

Fig. 1.

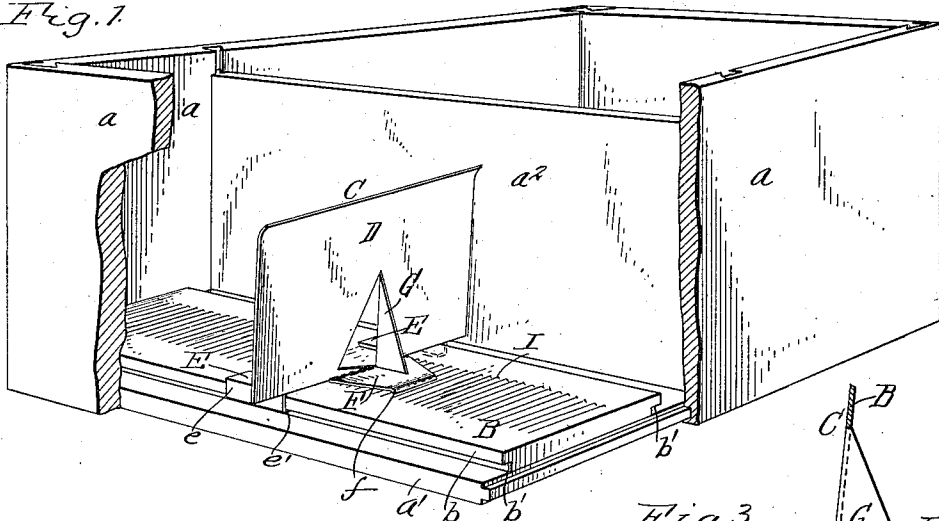


Fig. 3.

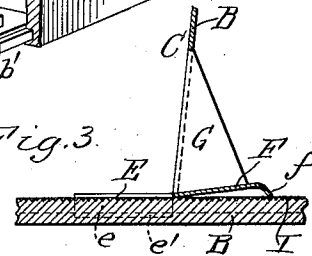


Fig. 2.

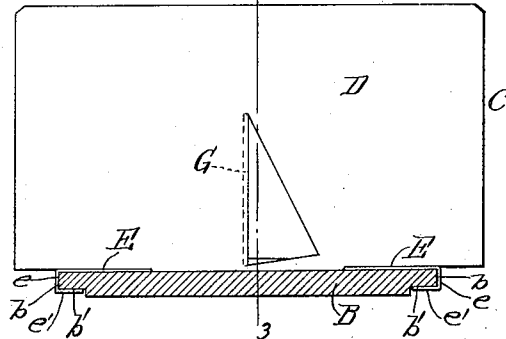
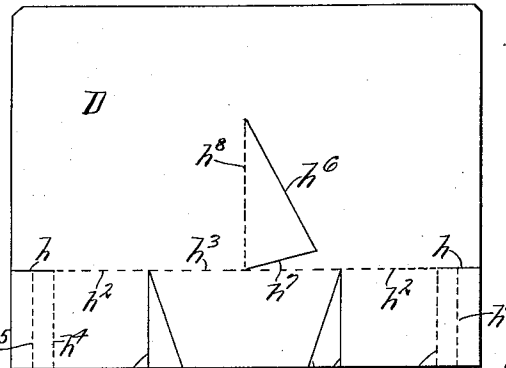


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:-
A. L. McCre.
A. G. Dimock.

Inventor
Jacob Bodenstein,
by Wilhelm Parker,
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB BODENSTEIN, OF HERKIMER, NEW YORK.

FILING DEVICE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 9, 1915.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB BODENSTEIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Herkimer, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Filing Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to filing devices of the kind having a movable follower adapted for holding a variable number of papers, files, cards or the like in an upright position, so that they are readily accessible.

The objects of the invention are to produce a simple desirable device of this kind which can be readily inserted into or removed from a desk drawer or other receptacle without requiring any changes or alterations in the receptacle; and to produce a follower of improved construction for a device of this kind.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a drawer having a filing device embodying the invention in place therein, a part of the drawer being shown broken away. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the filing device, showing a face view of the follower. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional elevation thereof on line 3—3, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view showing the blank from which the follower of the filing device is formed, indicating in dotted lines where the blank is to be bent.

The device consists of a rigid guide strip or board adapted to be placed in the bottom of a desk drawer or other receptacle, and a follower slidably mounted on the guide strip and provided with means, actuated by the pressure on the follower of the paper or other article in the device, for frictionally engaging the guide strip to retain the follower in any set position. The follower is preferably made of a single piece of sheet metal bent into shape and having parts engaging the guide strip for guiding the follower in its movement lengthwise of the same, and a part for frictionally engaging the guide strip to releasably hold the follower against movement.

Fig. 1 shows the filing device arranged in a desk drawer having upright walls a , a bottom a' , and a partition or division wall a'' which forms in the drawer a compartment for the cards, papers or other articles to be filed.

B represents the guide strip of the filing device which consists of a flat strip or board preferably of substantially the same length

as the receptacle into which the filing device is placed. The guide strip is provided with suitable means for guiding the follower. In the construction shown the side portions or edges b of the base are used for this purpose and are preferably reduced in thickness, for example, by providing rabbets b' in the lower portions opposite the side edges of the guide strip.

The follower C has an upright or supporting portion for holding the articles in an upright position, base portions which rest on the guide strip and extend substantially parallel therewith and which are provided with guide members engaging the guide strip, and a frictional detent which is adapted to engage the guide strip for holding the follower in position to press the articles together. Preferably the follower is made from a single piece of sheet metal bent into shape.

D represents the substantially upright portion against which the articles to be filed rest, and E the base portions which are bent at an angle to the upright portion D. The base portions extend substantially parallel to the guide strip and have downwardly bent outer side portions e which embrace the opposite sides of the guide strip and inwardly extending portions e' which enter into the rabbets b' in the edges of the guide strip. The base and guide portions hold the follower on the guide strip and guide the same in its movement lengthwise of the strip.

F is the detent portion which extends in the opposite direction from the base portions and which is preferably provided at its end with a downturned edge f adapted to frictionally engage the upper face of the guide strip to hold the follower in any position in which it is set. In order to strengthen the detent portion of the follower, a brace is preferably provided which is made from an integral portion of the follower by slitting the upright portion D thereof and bending a part of the upright portion to form a brace G, the lower portion of which will engage the detent portion F and prevent the same from being bent upwardly.

By means of the construction recited the follower can be formed from a single rectangular piece of sheet metal in such a manner that there is very little waste. Fig. 4 shows a blank from which the follower is formed and which has slits h at opposite sides, and slits h' in the bottom thereof. The base portions E are bent along the line h'' and the de-

tent portion F is bent along the line h^3 in the opposite direction from the base portions. The outer edges of the base portion are first bent downwardly on the line h^4 and are then bent inwardly toward each other along the line h^5 . The blank is also slit along lines h^6 and h^7 and the brace G is bent along the line h^8 over the detent portion F.

If desired, the guide strip can be provided with transverse notches or depressions I in its upper face with which the detent F is adapted to engage for preventing any slipping of the same on the guide strip.

In the operation of the device the metal follower can be pushed against the cards or other articles by applying force to the bottom of the follower, adjacent to the guide strip. When the force is relieved the pressure of the articles against the upper part of the supporting portion D of the follower will tend to force the detent F into engagement with the guide strip and thus cause the follower to be held against movement in the reverse direction. If it is desired to move the follower back, it is only necessary to press the upper portion thereof toward the articles and thus raise the detent out of engagement with the guide strip.

I claim as my invention:

1. A filing device comprising a guide strip, a follower slidably arranged on and supported by said guide strip and consisting of a single piece of sheet metal having a part of its lower portion extending in one direction substantially parallel to said guide strip and slidably engaging the same to form guide means for the follower, and having another part of its lower portion extending in the opposite direction and adapted to engage the face of the guide strip to hold the follower against movement.

2. A filing device comprising a guide strip, a follower slidably arranged on said guide strip and consisting of a single piece of sheet metal having an upright supporting portion and having a part of its lower portion bent in one direction to form a horizontal base portion resting on the guide strip, guide portions on said part of the base slidably engaging said guide strip, another part of said sheet metal piece being bent in the opposite direction and forming a detent engaging said guide strip to hold said follower against movement.

3. A filing device comprising a guide strip, a follower slidably arranged on said guide strip and consisting of a single piece of sheet metal having an upright supporting portion, a base portion bent at an angle to said supporting portion and resting on said guide strip, guide portions on said base portion and engaging said guide strip, and a detent portion formed by bending a part of said

sheet metal piece at an angle to said supporting portion and in the opposite direction from said base portion and adapted to engage said guide strip to hold the follower against movement.

4. A follower for a filing device consisting of a single piece of metal having an upright supporting portion and having a part of its lower part bent to form a base portion extending at an angle to said supporting portion, a downwardly extending guide portion on said base portion, an inwardly extending part on said downwardly extending guide portion, and a detent portion formed by bending another portion of said lower part at an angle to said supporting portion and extending therefrom in the opposite direction from said base portion.

5. A filing device comprising a guide strip, and a follower consisting of a single piece of metal having an upright supporting portion, a base portion consisting of a part of said metal piece bent at an angle to said upright portion resting on said strip and having parts embracing the opposite side edges of said strip for guiding the follower lengthwise of said strip, and a detent portion engaging said strip for holding the follower against movement.

6. A filing device comprising a single strip and a follower consisting of a single piece of sheet metal bent into shape and having an upright support for the articles to be filed, a base portion slidably engaging said strip, means for guiding the follower lengthwise of said strip, a detent portion adapted to engage the strip and formed by bending a part of the lower portion of the support on a substantially horizontal line, and a brace for said detent formed by bending a portion of said support on a substantially vertical line into a position to engage said detent to limit the upward bending of the same.

7. A filing device comprising a guide piece adapted to support the articles to be filed and which may be loosely placed on a support in a position to receive the articles, and a follower carried by said guide piece and slidably held on the same and having an upright portion adapted to hold the articles in upright position and substantially horizontal integral parts extending in opposite directions from said upright portion and which bear respectively upwardly and downwardly against said guide piece and adapted to grip said piece when said articles rest against said upright supporting portion.

Witness my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JACOB BODENSTEIN.

R. LYNN LASHER,
WM. H. RICHARD.