

H. H. & J. R. EDWARDS.  
Temporary Binders for Letters, &c.

No. 199,525.

Patented Jan. 22, 1878.

Fig 1

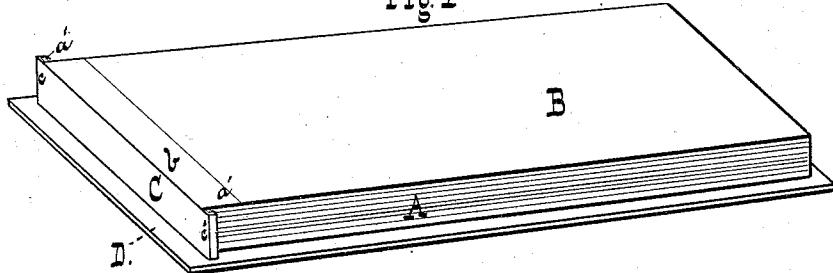


Fig 2.

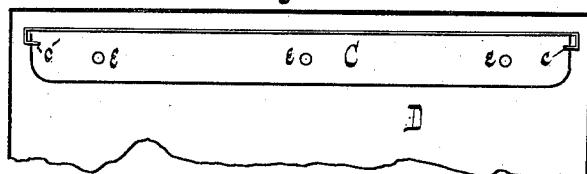


Fig 3.

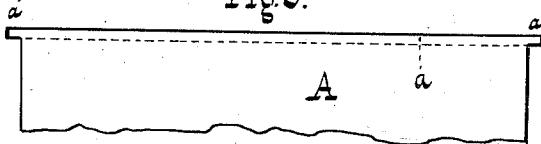
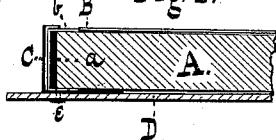


Fig 4.



Attest.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN TEMPORARY BINDERS FOR LETTERS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 199,525, dated January 22, 1878; application filed July 24, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, HENRY H. EDWARDS and JOHN R. EDWARDS, of the city of Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Temporary Binders; and we hereby declare the same to be fully, clearly, and exactly described as follows:

This invention relates to that class of devices used for removably securing books or leaves to a cover or covers; and it consists in certain details of construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of our letter-sheet blotter and binder; Fig. 2, a plan view of a portion of the cover carrying the binder; Fig. 3, a similar view of the corresponding portion of the letter-sheet; and Fig. 4, a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the entire device.

The object of our invention is to furnish a "letter-block" firmly but removably attached to a suitable cover, and provided with a removable blotter adapted to be used upon each sheet of manuscript as written.

To this end our device is constructed as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

A represents the letter-block, consisting of a number of sheets of letter-paper, which are primarily attached together, exactly after the manner of attachment of the leaves of the ordinary "scratch-block," namely, by means of a piece of paper which is pasted against one of the ends of the block. Over this is then pasted a slip of thick card-board, *a*, having a width about equal to the thickness of the block, but being somewhat longer than the width of the same, so that its ends project, as shown at *a' a'*.

B represents an ordinary sheet of thick blotting-paper, to which is attached a piece of muslin, *b*, of which the object will be presently described. D represents the cover or back, consisting of a suitable piece of card-board, properly bound, to which is fastened, by means of rivets *e e*, the binder C. The lat-

ter consists of a piece of tin or other sheet metal, bent at right angles in the direction of its length, and having upon each end a tang, *c c'*. These latter are then bent twice at right angles, as shown, and constitute the holders for the block or tablet.

The length of the binder should, of course, correspond to that of the piece *a* attached to the block.

In placing the parts together the muslin end of the blotter is laid against the inner side of the binder, and should preferably be long enough to extend for a short distance upon the cover D. The blotter being then folded back over the binder, the block A is placed upon the cover, and the ends *a' a'* of its backing, being caused to enter the holders *c c'*, are pressed down until they bring up against the bottom of the binder. Finally, the blotter is folded over upon the block.

In use the blotter is folded back while the uppermost sheet of the tablet is being written upon. When the writing is completed or the sheet is full the blotter is folded over and pressed down in the usual manner to absorb the surplus ink, and the sheet is finally detached.

When all the sheets are used up the card-board back *a* is removed from the binder, when a new block may be inserted. If prior to this the blotter shall have become so saturated with ink as to be useless, the removal of the block will enable a new blotter to be inserted or the old one to be reversed.

The advantages of our device are evident. The blotter, being attached to the block, is always at hand, and, being removably attached, a new one may readily be substituted for it. The leaves, being attached merely at the edge to the backing, admit of their being detached without leaving a ragged edge or an unsightly stub.

Instead of attaching a backing to the tablet to form the studs *a'*, the leaves may, of course, be cut to the shape shown in Fig. 3, it being only essential that the tablet be provided with projections to engage with the recurved ends of the binder.

Having thus described our invention, what

we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A letter-block or tablet attached by means of a temporary binder to a cover or backing, and provided with a removable blotter, substantially as described.

2. In combination, the binder C, having recurved ends *c c'*, the tablet A, having studs *a'*, and the blotter B, having the flexible end *b*,

all substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

Witness our hands this 23d day of July, 1877.

HENRY H. EDWARDS.  
JOHN R. EDWARDS.

Witnesses:

R. D. WILLIAMS,  
HARRY T. HEANY.