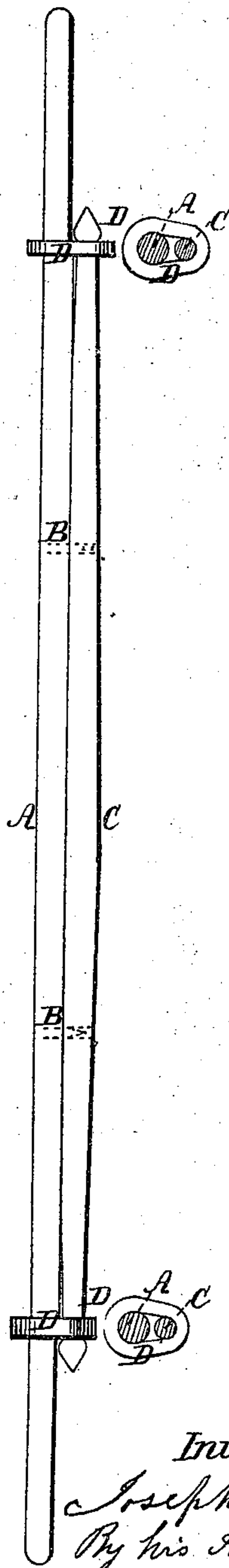


*J. H. Atwater.*  
*Newspaper File.*  
*N<sup>o</sup> 40,545. Patented Nov. 10, 1863.*



*Witnesses*  
*J. E. Dennis*  
*C. Hadway*

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*Joseph H. Atwater*  
*By his Atty*  
*J. Dennis Jr*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. ATWATER, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

## NEWSPAPER-FILE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **40,545**, dated November 10, 1863; antedated October 29, 1863.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH H. ATWATER, of the city and county of Providence, and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Files for News and other Papers; and I do hereby declare that the same are described and represented in the following specifications and drawing.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my improvements, I will proceed to describe their construction and operation, referring to the drawing.

The nature of my invention and improvements in files for news and other papers consists in making one or both of the rods which hold the news or other papers largest in the middle, tapering gradually toward each end, so that when they are clasped together at the ends they act as springs on the paper between them; also, in encircling the rods toward each end beyond the paper clamped between them with an elastic band or strap, which will stretch and accommodate the gradual increase of papers filed between the rods.

In the accompanying drawing of my improved file for news and other papers, A is a rod, made of some strong or tough wood about three feet long and half an inch or more in diameter, and provided with one, two, or more pointed metal pins or spurs, as shown by dotted lines at B B. The shanks of these spurs are firmly fastened in the rod A.

C is a wooden rod about twenty-seven inches in length and half an inch in diameter in the middle, gradually tapering toward the ends to five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter and terminating in a pointed spheroidal knob at each end, as shown in the drawing. This rod C is perforated to receive the spurs B B after

they pass through the papers filed. To clasp these rods together I make two elastic bands, of india-rubber or other material, and apply them around the rods, as shown in the drawing, and these bands D D may be fastened to the rod A, by screws, pins, or staples, to hold them in their proper places. To separate the rods force one of the bands D over the knob on the rod C and raise the rod, lay the paper to be filed over the rod A on the spurs B B, then press the rod C onto the spurs, which pass through the paper, and force the band D over the end of the rod back again and it holds the paper firmly.

The longest rod may be made of a uniform size from end to end or tapering from the middle toward one or both ends, as may be preferred, either with or without knobs at the ends, and the rods may be of such length as to adapt them to the paper filed.

I believe I have described and represented my improvements in files for news and other papers so as to enable any person skilled in the art to make and use them without further invention or experiment.

I claim—

1. Making one or both of the rods largest in the middle and tapering gradually toward one or both ends, so that when they are clasped together at the ends they act as springs on the paper between them.

2. Encircling the rods toward each end beyond the paper clamped between them with elastic bands or straps, substantially as described.

JOSEPH H. ATWATER.

Witnesses:

SIMON S. LOSHAM,  
WILLIAM H. GREENE.