

# A. P. Stephens. Paper File.

N<sup>o</sup> 87,598. Patented Mar. 9, 1869.

Fig: 2.

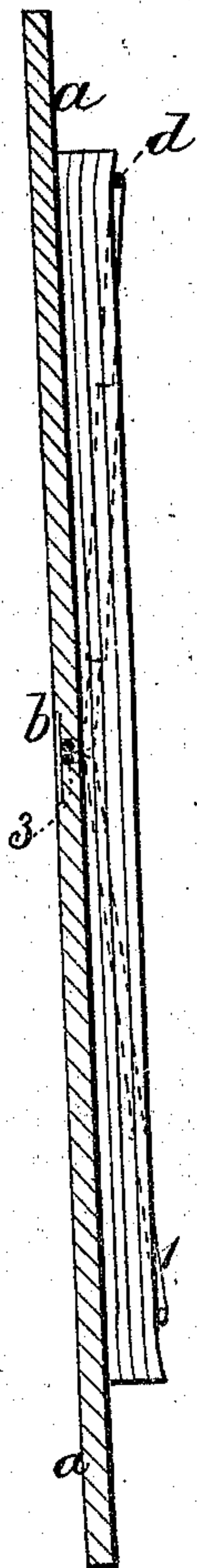


Fig: 1.

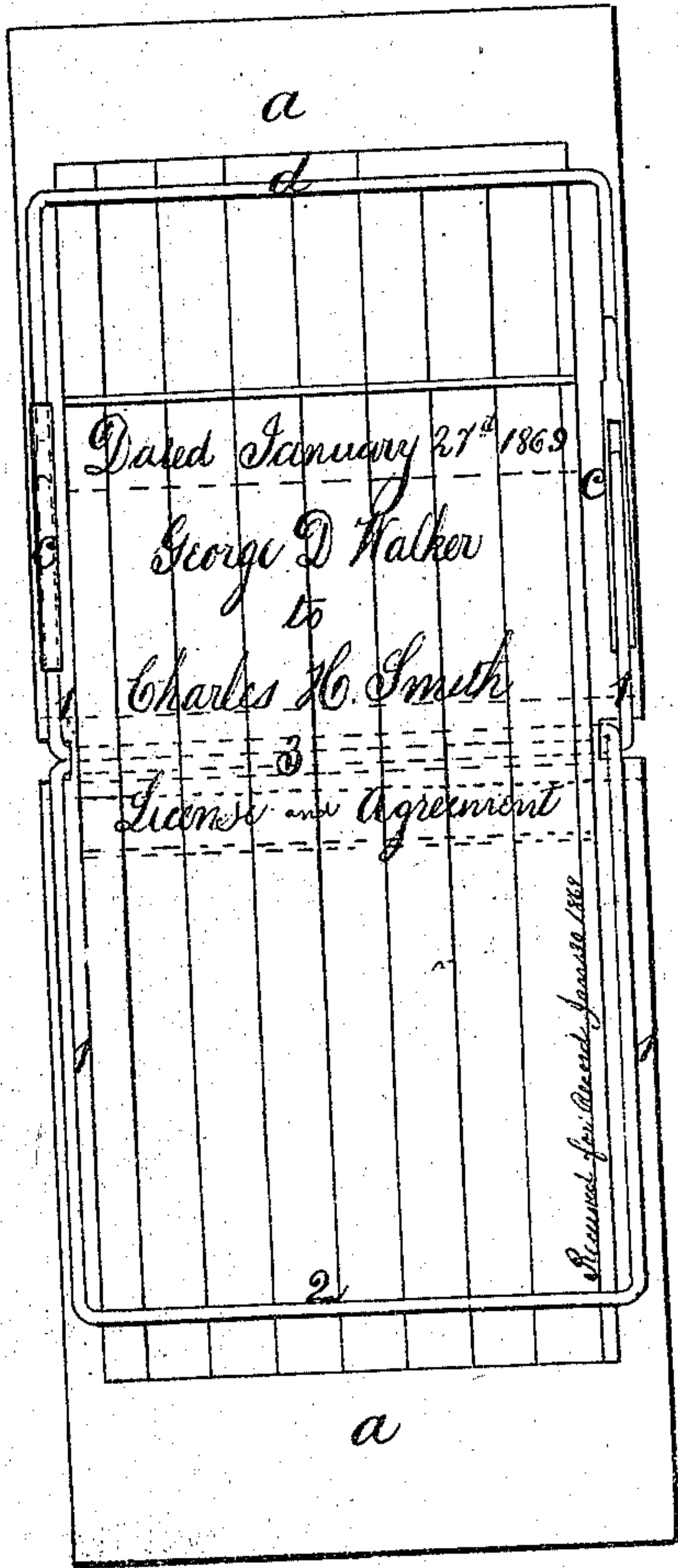


Fig: 3.

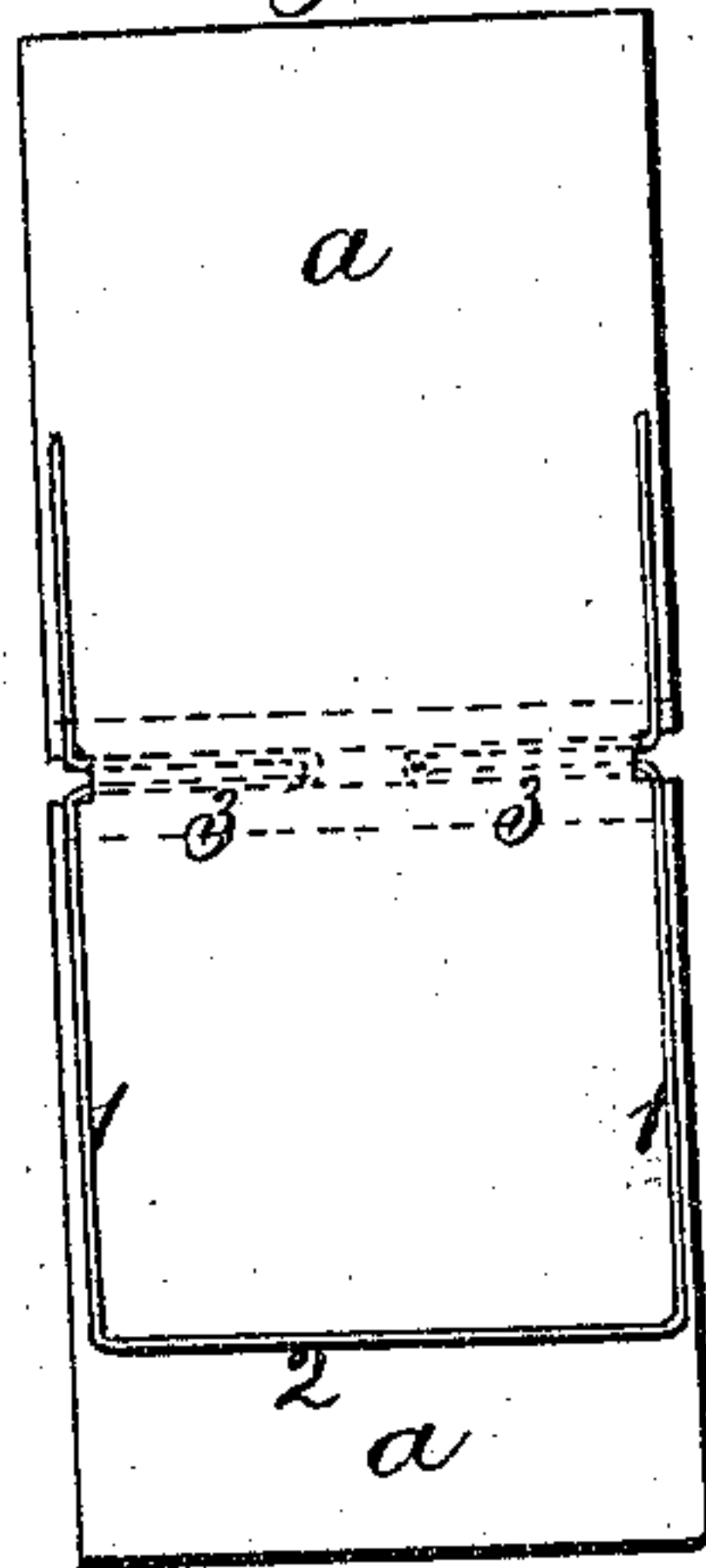


Fig: 5.

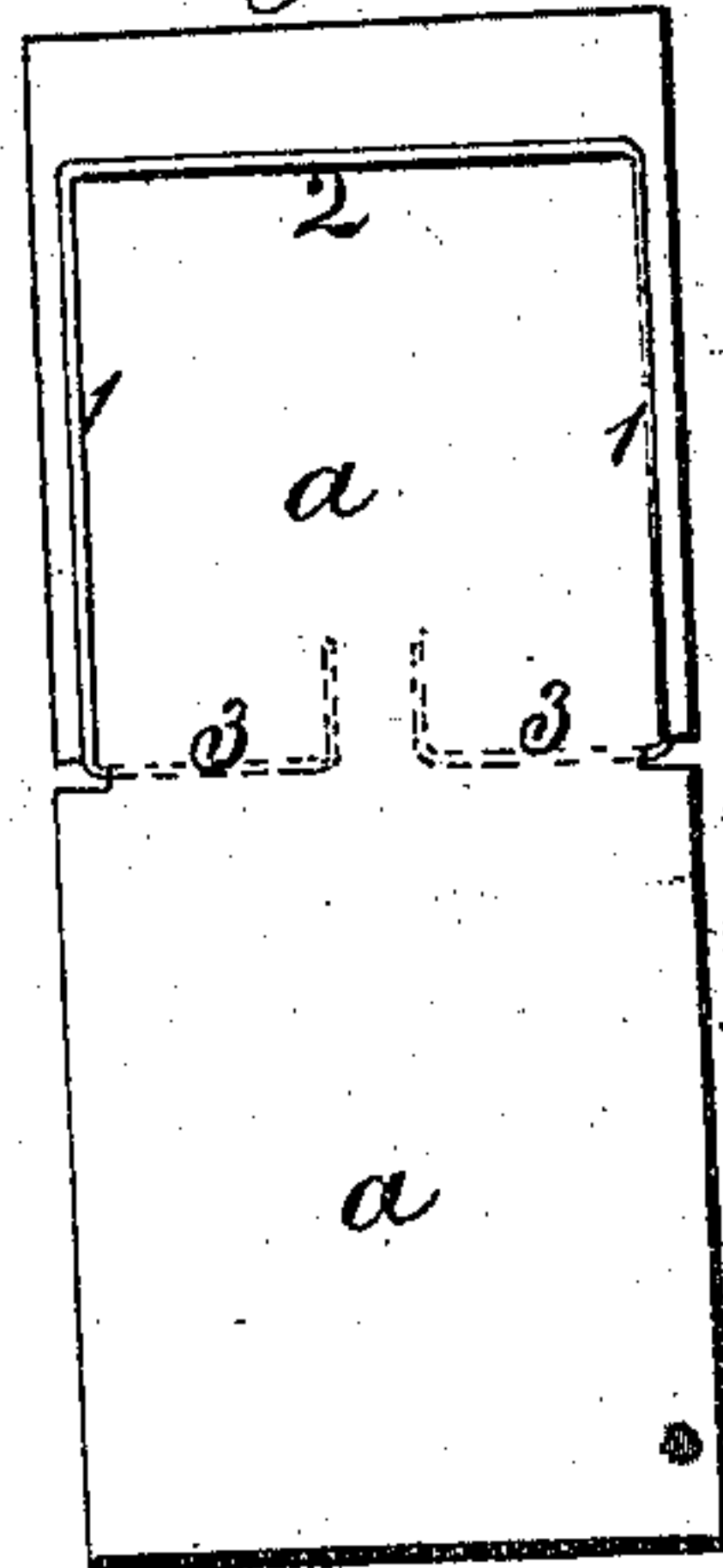
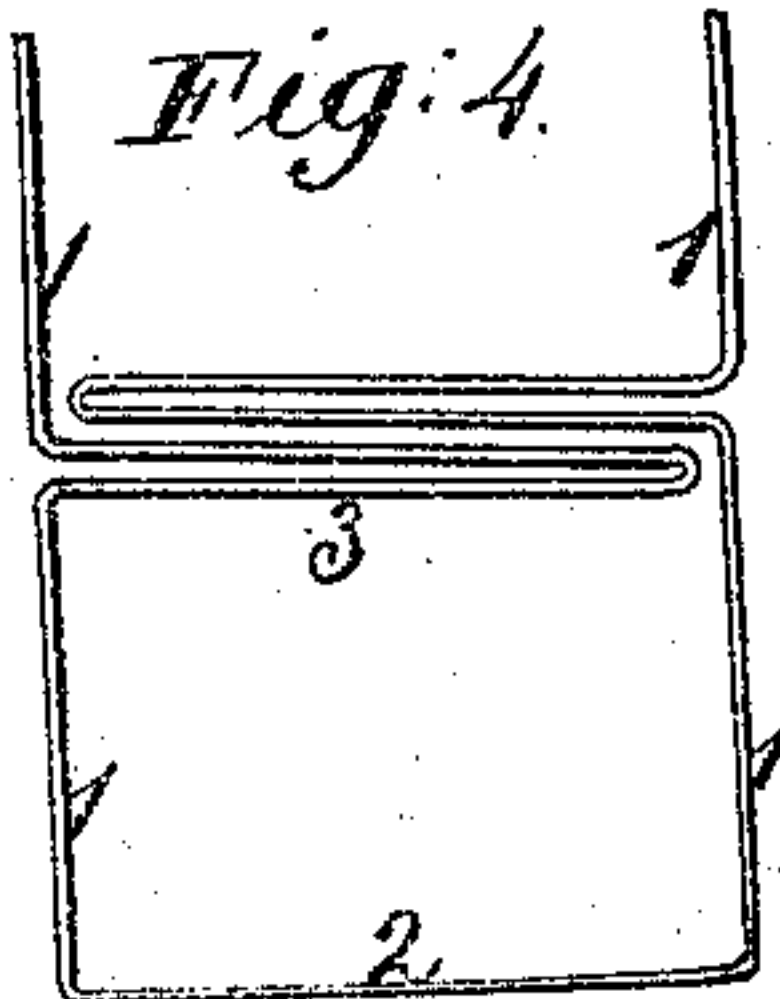


Fig: 4.



Witnesses;

Charles H. Smith  
Geo. D. Walker

Inventor;

Amos P. Stephens



# United States Patent Office.

ANSON P. STEPHENS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO  
HIMSELF AND BENJAMIN F. STEPHENS, OF SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 87,598, dated March 9, 1869.

## IMPROVEMENT IN PAPER-FILES.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANSON P. STEPHENS, of the city of Brooklyn, Kings county, New York, have invented and made a certain new and useful Improvement in Paper-Files; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the said invention, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making part of this specification, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of said paper-file;

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same as in use; and

Figures 3, 4, and 5, represent modifications in the manner of bending the wire to insure greater elasticity.

Similar marks of reference denote the same parts.

A file for papers has before been made, in which there is a piece of thin board, to which a bent wire is applied, said wire being twisted near the middle, to form a helical spring, and the ends of the wires are twisted around the wire that crosses the said piece of board. In this file-wrapper, the rectangular frame of wire has the spring-power applied at only one of its angles; hence, when a bundle of papers is inserted in said file, the portion of the wire that crosses said bundle is pressed more firmly upon one side, or toward one edge of the papers, than toward the other.

My invention is intended to obviate this difficulty, by bending the wire, forming the rectangular clamping-frame or frames, in such a manner that the torsional spring-power of the wire acts from the two angles of said rectangular frame, to cause the said wire to press evenly and tightly upon the surface of the bundle of papers where said wire crosses them, and thus hold the said bundle of papers much more firmly.

In the drawing, *a* represents the piece of thin board forming the body of the binder.

The rectangular wire clamping-frame is made of the one piece of wire, bent up to make the side portions 1 1, the cross or clamping-portion 2, and the torsional spring-portions 3 3, shown in fig. 1 by dotted lines.

The torsional spring-portion 3 is inserted in a hole or recess formed in the board, or binder *a*. I have shown, in fig. 2, a groove for said spring, as covered by the veneer, or thin strip *b*.

I prefer that two of these rectangular wire frames be employed, as seen in fig. 1, the torsional spring-portions 3 extending across the file, but the same may be bent in double, as seen in fig. 3, or otherwise extended, the power, in any case, of the spring, acting upon both arms, or side portions 1 1, to press the portion 2 against the bundle of papers in the file.

The torsional portions of the wire can be extended twice across the binder, or file, as in fig. 4.

I have shown and prefer to have sliding tubes, *c*, upon the end portions of the spring clamping-arms 1 1, said tubes being connected by the cross-piece *d*, and a limited endwise-sliding motion allowed to the said tubes *c*, so that the cross-piece *d* can be slipped up beyond the end of any recently-filed paper, thus facilitating both the insertion and withdrawal of papers from said file.

In place of having the tubes *c*, there may be eyes or loops bent up on the respective wires, so as to allow of the wire or bar *d* being slidden up, as before mentioned.

The wire in the file, fig. 5, is only applied to one end of the board. The action of the spring is the same as before; and I remark that the clamping-wires, formed as before described, may be applied to both sides of the board, if desired.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The rectangular wire clamp, formed in substantially the manner set forth, so that the torsional spring-pressure shall act upon both the side portions, or arms 1 1, substantially as specified.

2. The extension *c* and cross-piece *d*, applied to the portions 1 1, as set forth, in combination with the body, or board *a*, of the paper-clamp, for the purposes and as set forth.

Dated, this 27th day of January, A. D. 1869.

ANSON P. STEPHENS.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. SMITH,  
GEO. T. PINCKNEY.