

T. H. BROWN, Jr.
Temporary Binder.

No. 237,955.

Patented Feb. 22, 1881.

Fig. 1.

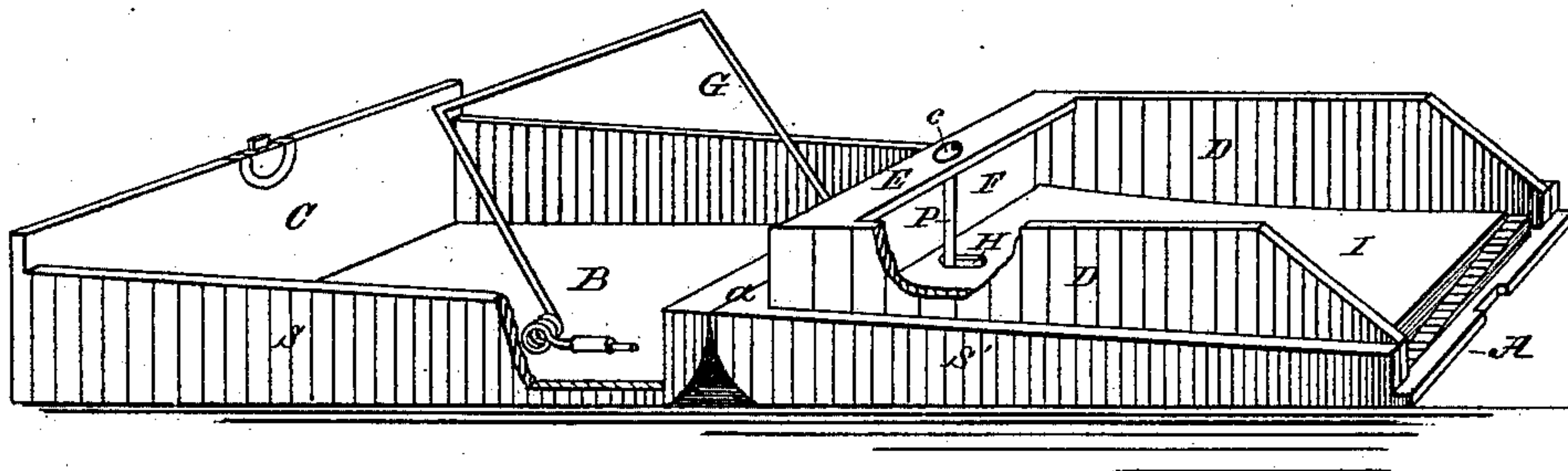


Fig. 2.

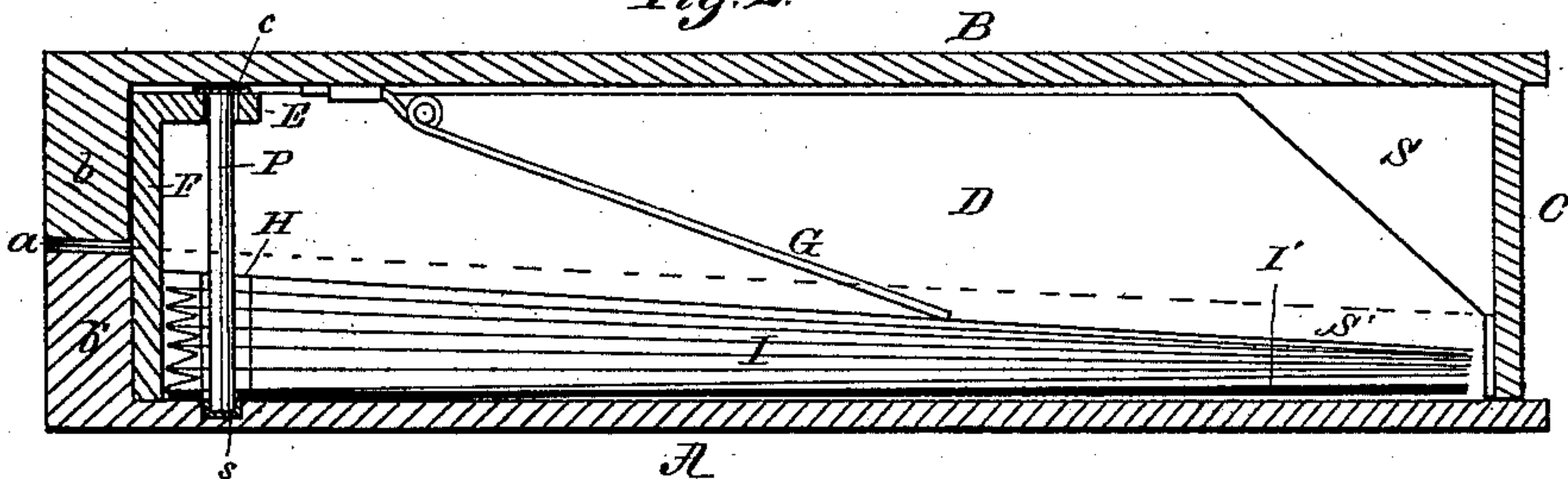


Fig. 3.

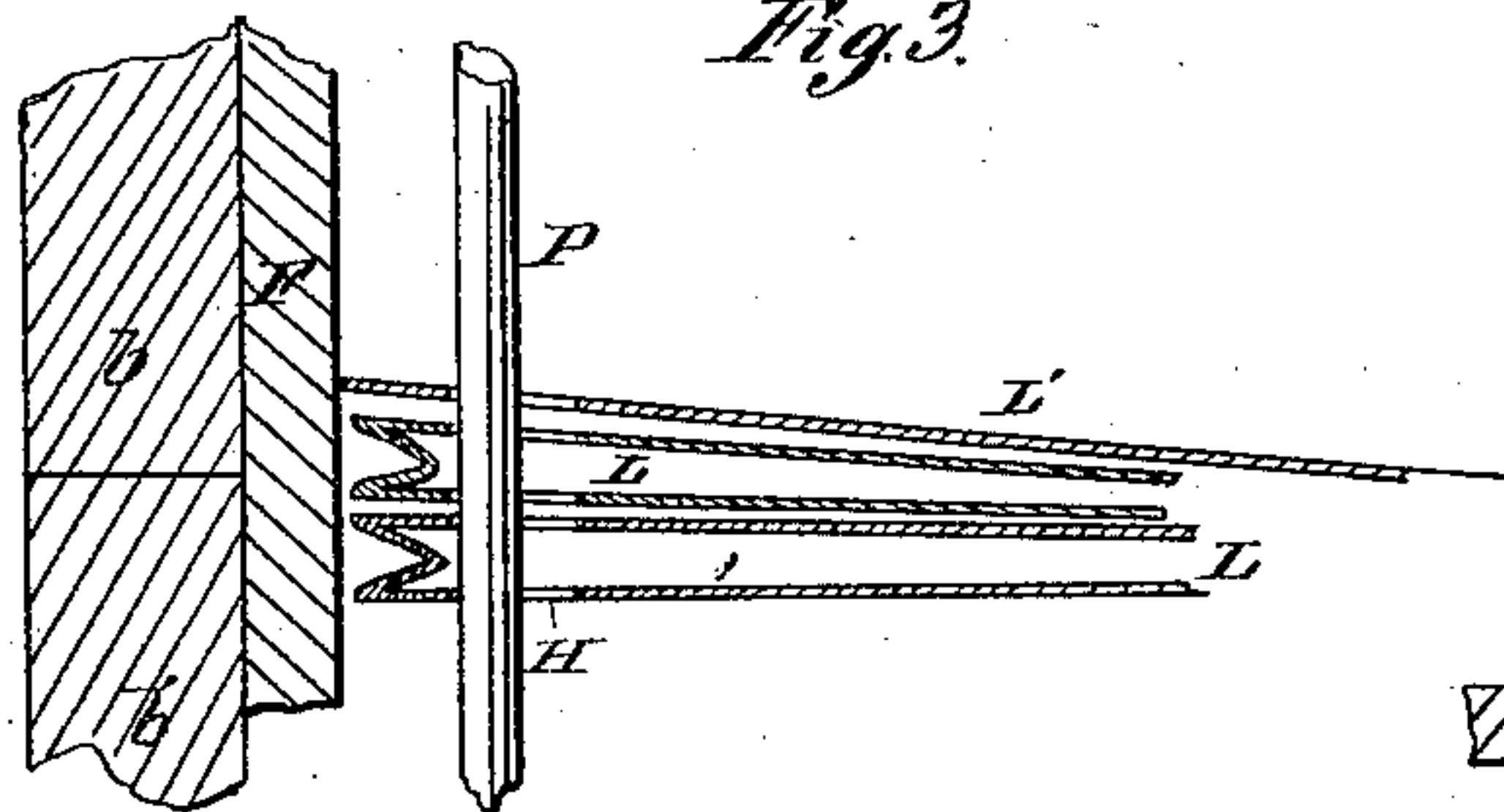
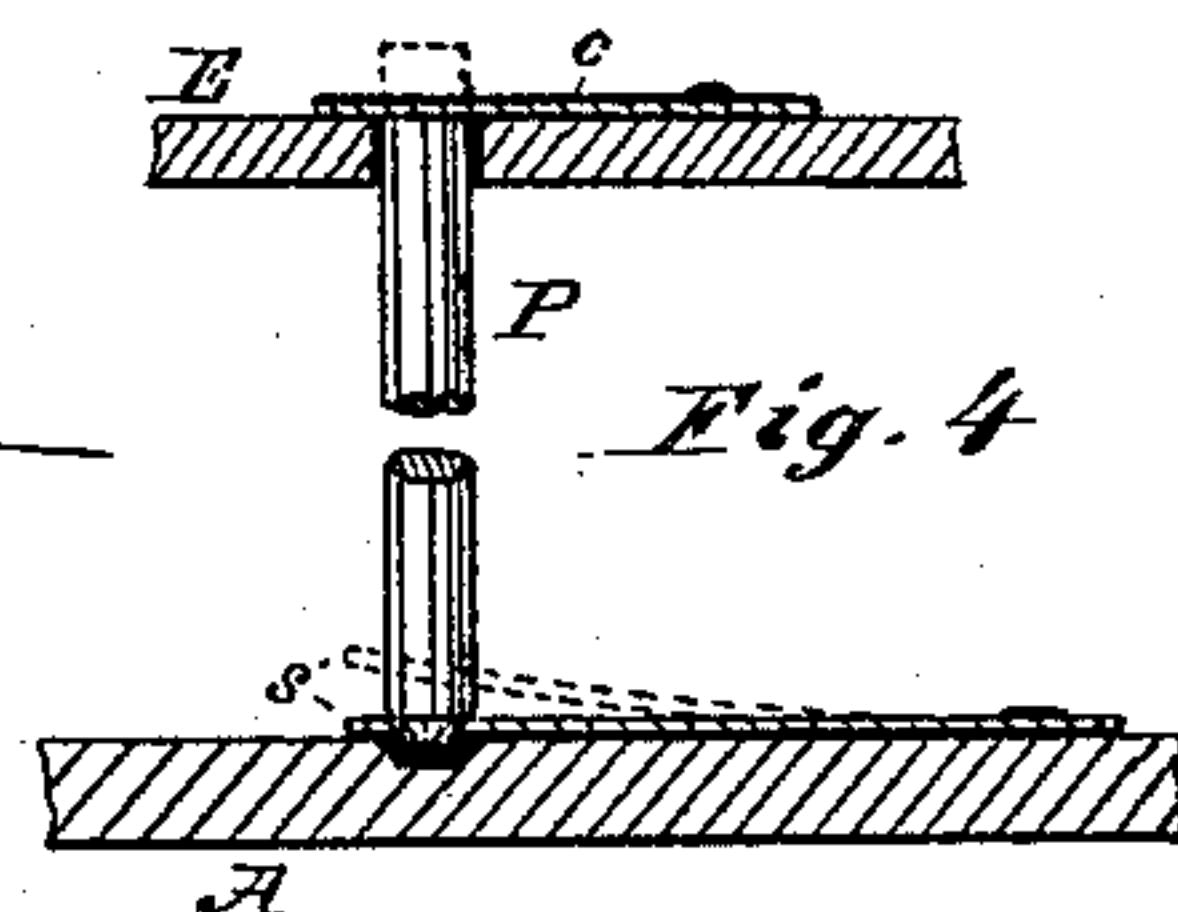


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS H. BROWN, JR., OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO STEPHEN CLARY, OF SAME PLACE.

TEMPORARY BINDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 237,955, dated February 22, 1881.

Application filed September 16, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. BROWN, Jr., of the city of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Temporary Binders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an indexing temporary binder of the general character described in Letters Patent No. 196,558, and dated October 30, 1877; and it consists in certain improvements, hereinafter fully set forth, which have for their object to make the device more convenient and durable, and to adapt it to be used as a temporary binder from which the contents, including the index-leaves, may be from time to time removed in a mass for permanent filing elsewhere.

My invention consists, first, in a temporary binder-case, the cover whereof is centrally hinged at the back and provided with sides rising to a height equal to the full depth of the case; second, in a case having an inner inclosure; third, in the arrangement of the rod whereby the leaves of the index are made removable.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows my improved file as it appears when thrown open for the reception or removal of papers. Fig. 2 is a central transverse vertical section of the same closed. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary transverse section, showing a novel construction of the index-leaves. Fig. 4 shows a device by which the removable rod is automatically thrown upward, so as to be easily seized and withdrawn when the button by which it is held is turned.

A represents the body or receptacle of the case, and B the cover. S and S' are the ends, respectively, of the cover and the body. b and b' are the back pieces, and C is a piece applied to the side of the cover, forming a front piece to the closed file.

In the file described in the Letters Patent above referred to, and in other filing-cases heretofore made, the cover has been hinged to the top of the body or receiving por-

tion of the file. I herein show these parts hinged in the middle of the back, so that when the file is opened both body and cover lie flat upon the desk or table, obviating the previously-existing tendency to break at the hinge. Thus, as seen in Fig. 1, the back pieces, b and b', are of equal height, and no strain falls on the hinge at a when the case is spread open on the table. The edges of the ends S and S' incline equally from the hinge a toward the sides of the file. Those of the cover widen toward the front piece, C, and by attachment thereto, for a greater part of its width, rigidly support the same at right angles with the top piece, B. Those of the body S' narrow equally toward the open or sideless face of the receptacle A, so that when the case is closed it forms a rectangular box of uniform depth and wholly inclosed. To make the entire depth of the case so divided available for papers, the supplemental end pieces, D, and back pieces, F, are inserted in the body, being placed close to the ends S' and back b', and permanently secured thereto. The horizontal piece E is secured both to the back F and ends D in the position shown. The body thus constructed is very rigid, and calculated to permanently retain its form.

P is a vertical metal rod, passing down through the ledge or horizontal piece E, and supported laterally at its foot by entering the bottom A. The rod is held removably in place by the stop-plate c, pivoted to E at one side of the rod, so as to turn either to cover or uncover the latter, as may be required, for its retention or to permit its removal. To give greater durability, the metal socket s, Fig. 2, may be inserted in the case-bottom as a footing for the rod P; but as the rod is somewhat difficult to seize for the purpose of withdrawing it when the file is full, I prefer to use the foot-spring s', Fig. 4, which, while laterally holding, also bears upward on the tapered or shouldered foot of the rod, and when the stop-plate or button c is turned to one side lifts the rod a short distance, as shown in dotted lines of said figure.

The rod P is intended to hold the index in place during the process of filling the file, and it is made removable for the purpose of allow-

ing the index and the contained papers to be bodily withdrawn and another index substituted in the place of that removed.

I is an index composed of a suitable number of leaves L, bearing marginal index-letters distributed in the usual or any desired order. The upper leaf, L', is made heavier than the others, for the purpose of better receiving the sliding pressure of the spring G attached to the cover.

Near the back edge of all of the index-leaves, and at right angles therewith, a smooth oblong aperture, H, with rounded ends, is made, of such width as to freely work on the rod P, which passes through the rear or inner end of said aperture. The form of this aperture, in this connection, will constitute the subject of a claim in a separate application for patent.

It has been customary to make each leaf of the index entirely separate from the others. Fig. 3 of the drawings shows such leaves joined in pairs, two being made of a single piece of paper folded inwardly at the back. It is an advantage of this construction that the several leaves are less likely to turn horizontally on the rod P and thus get out of place, by reason of their union with one another, and because each has practically the broad bearing of two separated edges against the back F of the case.

The filing-case herein described is intended to form the temporary binder, or one such of a system of cases which embraces also a number or series of permanent binders intended to successively receive the contents of the temporary case as, in the course of business, the

latter is filled. A desirable form of permanent filing-case forms the subject of an application for patent of even date herewith.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A temporary binder-case having the body and cover centrally hinged at the back, and in which the walls of the body or receptacle rise to the height of the cover when the file is closed, whereby the full depth of the closed file is made available for papers, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the cover and body of a temporary binder-case centrally hinged to each other at the back, and having the sides S' and S, which meet to give uniform depth to the closed case, the inner side pieces, D D, and back F, applied to the body so as to extend upward within the cover, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

3. A temporary binder-case having a bottom, sides D, end F, and the ledge E, in combination with the rod P, inserted through the ledge and laterally supported at the bottom in a socket, s, as described, and the button c, arranged to hold the rod in place, substantially as set forth.

4. The spring s', in combination with the rod P and button c, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOMAS H. BROWN, JR.

Witnesses:

M. E. DAYTON,
W. C. ADAMS.