

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. A. COOKE, Jr.  
LETTER AND INVOICE FILE.

No. 282,275.

Patented July 31, 1883.

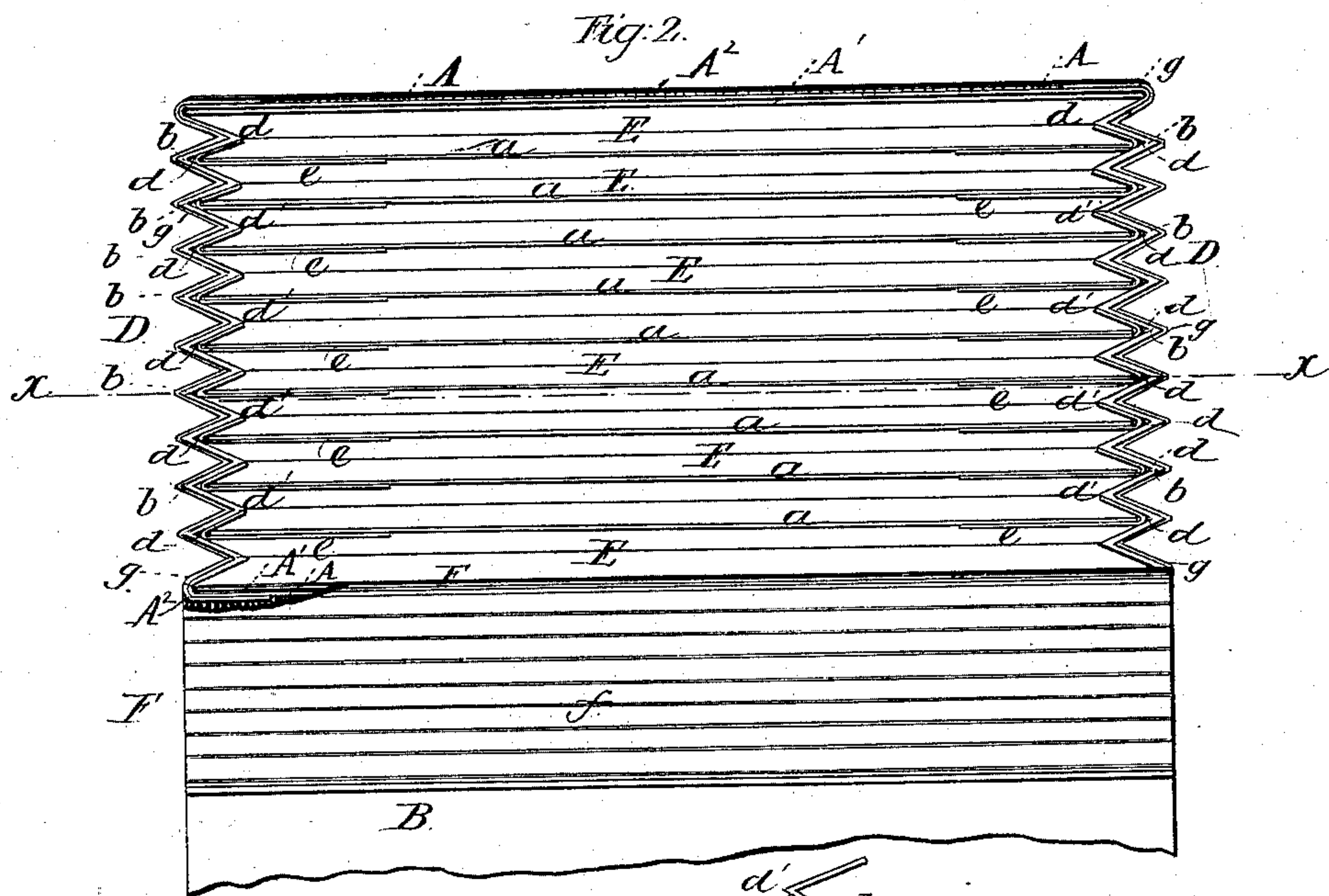
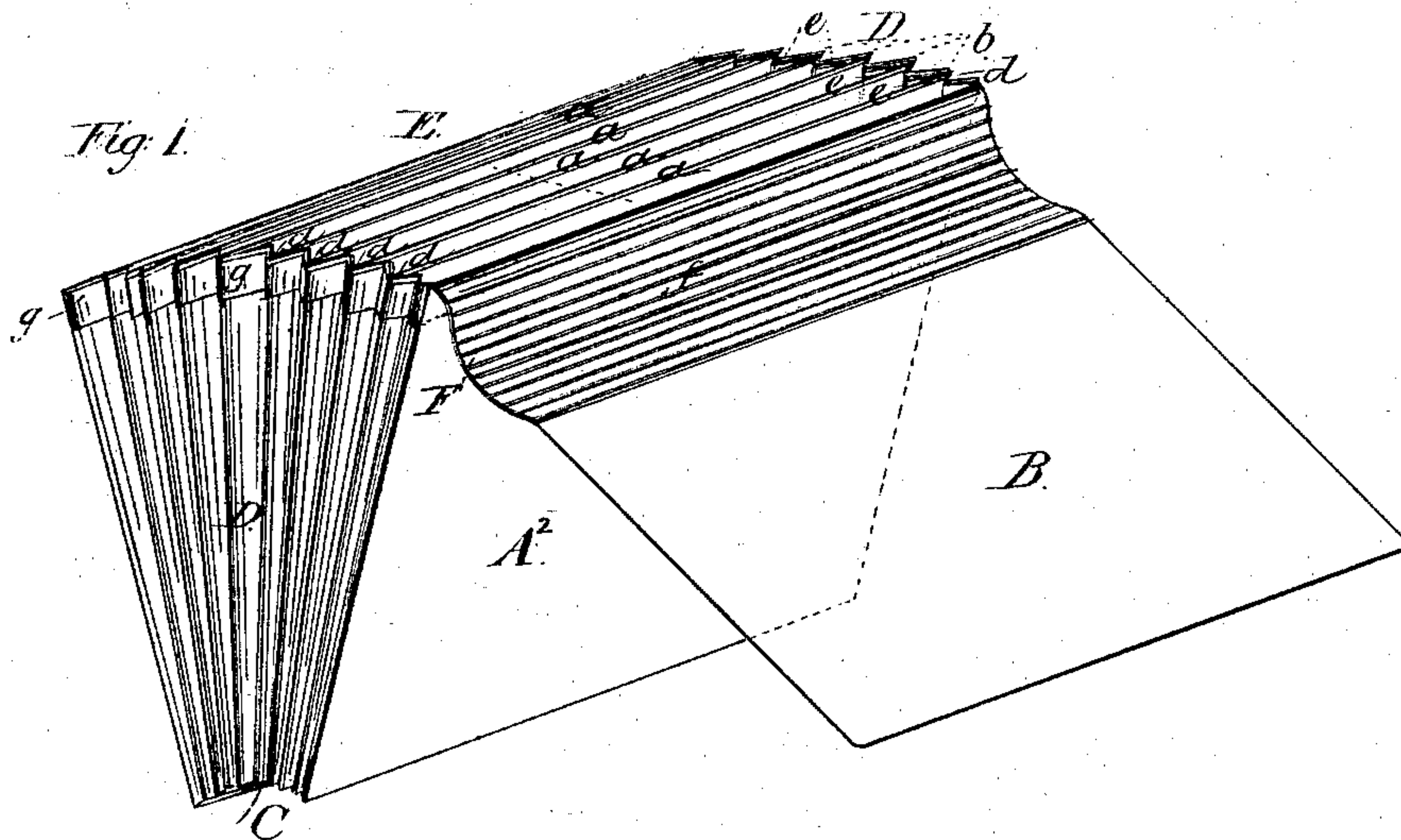
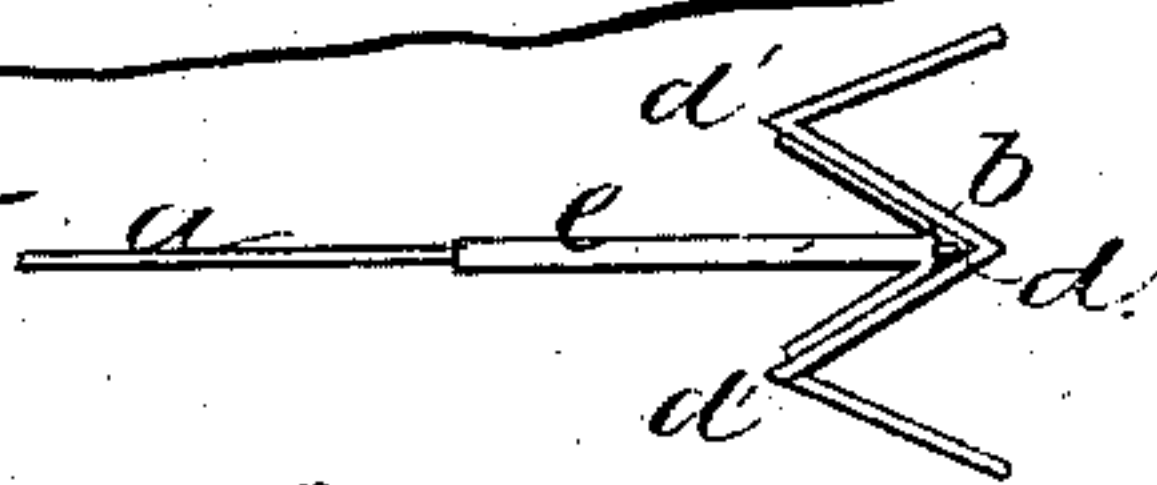
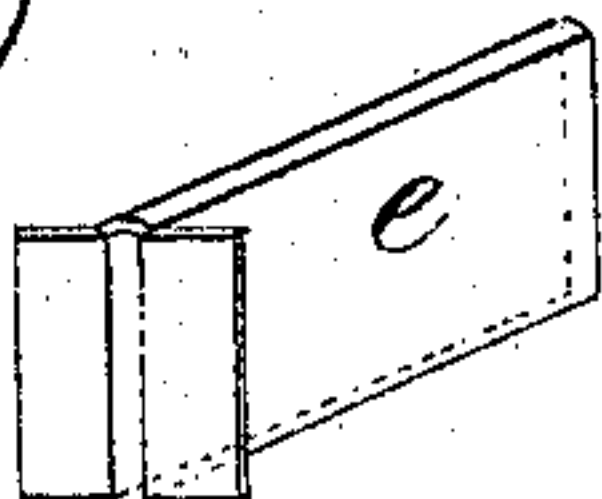


Fig. 6



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Wm. M. Cruthbert,  
Samuel Keeler



INVENTOR

W. A. Cooke Jr.

BY

M. C. Dorn

ATTORNEY

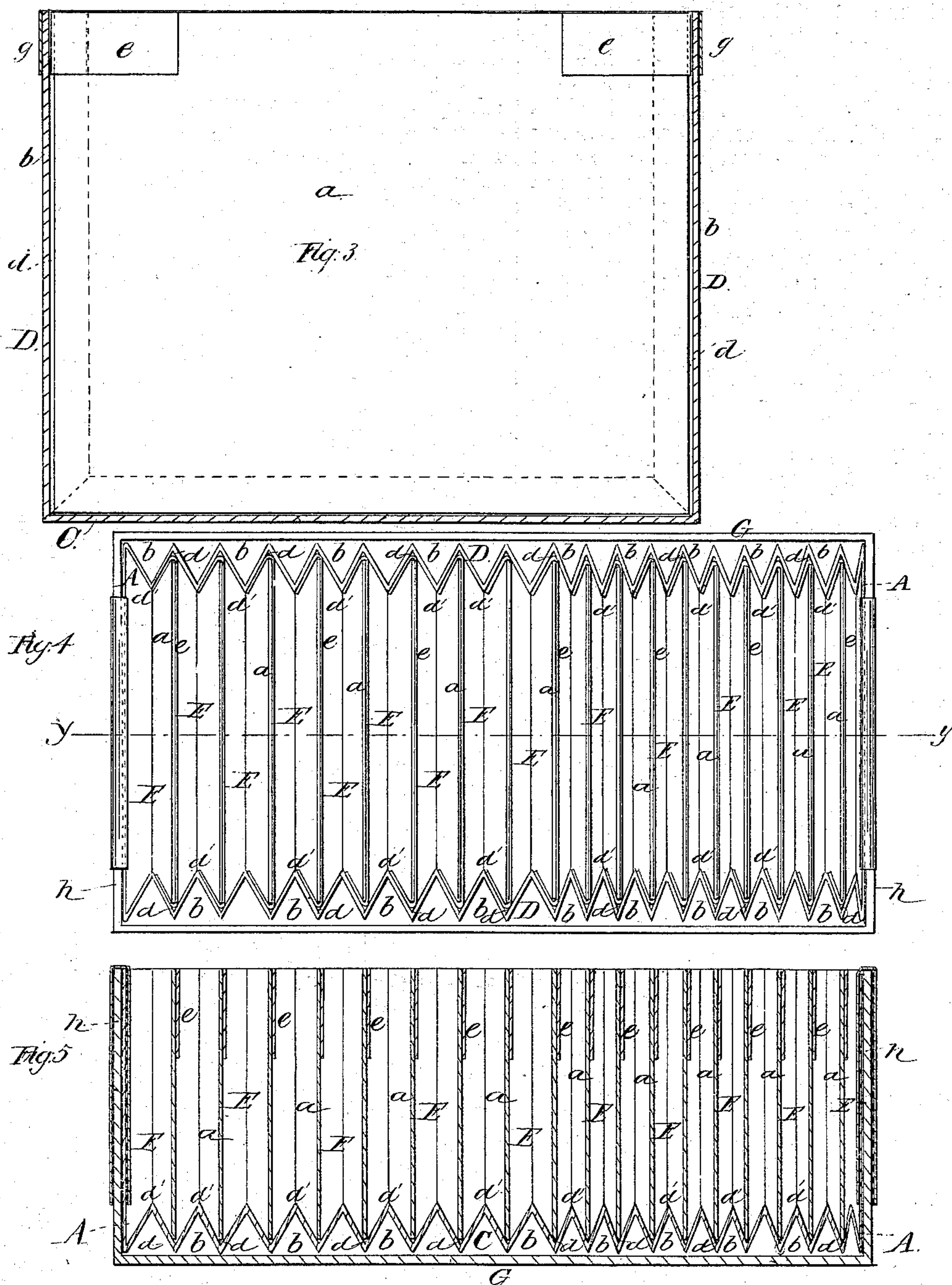
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*Wm. M. Cuthbert.*  
*Samuel Keeler*

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*W. A. Cooke, Jr.*

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*W. C. Doring*

ATTORNEY



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. COOKE, JR., OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## LETTER AND INVOICE FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 282,275, dated July 31, 1883.

Application filed March 29, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. COOKE, JR., a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Letter and Invoice File, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in the construction of that class of letter and invoice files which have pockets for the reception of and classification of the various papers placed in the file; and the object of the invention is to economize the manufacture of such files, to strengthen the connection between the leaves or partitions which form the pockets and the case or cover of the file, and to arrange the pockets so that they can be contracted or expanded, as may be required, without distorting the file case or cover.

The invention consists in confining the leaves or partitions of the file in the grooves or channels formed by the outwardly-projecting gussets in the ends and bottom of the case, and in securing them in the said grooves by flexible connections with the sides of the said gussets.

It also consists in strengthening or stiffening the gusseted ends of the case or cover opposite the connections of the leaves or partitions.

The invention further consists in details of construction hereinafter specifically described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved letter and invoice file. Fig. 2 is an enlarged plan of the top of the file. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same, taken on line *x x* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents the incased file. Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section of the same, taken on line *y y*. Fig. 6 represents a modified form of connecting-piece.

Referring to the drawings, A A represent the sides of the file, B the flap, C the gusseted bottom, and D D the gusseted ends. The ends, bottom, and sides are preferably made in one piece, so that no openings are left in the case or cover of the file. The sides A are re-enforced by stiff inside plates, A', and outside covers, A<sup>2</sup>, for the purpose of giving stiffness and durability to the sides of the file.

E represents the pockets, of which there

may be one or more for each letter of the alphabet, or as many as may be required to properly classify the papers placed in the file. The pockets are formed by placing leaves *a*, of paper or other suitable material, parallel to each other, within the covers of the file, so that between each a space forming the pocket is left.

The leaves are spaced and held in position in the following manner: The outwardly-projecting angles *b* of the gussets form continuous grooves *d* in the ends and bottom of the case and inside of the same, between which are the inwardly-projecting angles *d'*, both in the ends and bottom. When the leaves or partitions are placed in the cover, their ends and bottom edges are entered into these grooves, the angular sides holding them in an upright position, while the inner projections, *d'*, separate the leaves. In this way the form of the pockets is preserved. To prevent the leaves from slipping out, I employ strips or tapes *e*, made of cloth, paper, or other suitable material, which are pasted to the side or sides of the leaves and to the adjacent wall or walls of the gussets, so as to form a flexible connection between the leaves or partitions and the walls of the gussets. By this arrangement the leaves are securely attached to the gussets, so that they cannot become displaced, and at the same time the connection is sufficiently flexible to permit the pockets and the gusseted ends to be expanded without liability of breaking the connection between the leaves and the said gusseted ends.

The connecting-strips *e* may be short, and separate pieces applied to each end of the leaves; or they may extend the entire length of the leaves, and have their ends prolonged for connection with the gussets, (both forms being shown in the drawings.) In Fig. 6 is shown still another form of connection for the leaves or partitions. In this the connecting-strip is doubled or folded to form a clip, which is placed over the top of the leaf, and pasted so that two ends or extensions are left free. The ends or extensions are pasted to the sides of the gussets, and thus form a double connection between the ends of the leaves or partitions and the gussets, as shown.

To permit the flap to be folded flat over the



top of the file and the pockets, the part F, which rests on top when the flap is closed, may be provided with longitudinal scores or grooves *f*, so that the part F, instead of bulging up when the flap is turned over, lies flat and close over the top of the file. This arrangement may also be applied to the flaps of document-envelopes.

On the outside of the end gussets, opposite or in line with the connecting-strips *e*, a reinforce piece or tape, *g*, of linen or other suitable material, may be pasted or otherwise applied to the gussets, and connected with the sides of the file by having its ends fastened between the sides A and the outside covers, A<sup>2</sup>, the object of the said tape *g* being to strengthen the tops of the gussets and give stiffness to the parts to which the connecting-strips are attached; also, to connect the opposite sides of the file together by a stronger and more durable material than the gusseted ends D are required to be made of.

In Figs. 4 and 5 the incased file is shown. The construction of the file is substantially the same as that of the letter and invoice file above described, the corresponding parts being indicated by the same letters. The case is indicated by the letter G. It may be a box, as shown; or it may be formed of a bottom and end pieces alone, and a cover may be provided made like an ordinary box-cover. The sides A A of the file are connected with the ends *h h* of the case by pasting pieces of paper or cloth over the ends of the case and the sides of the file, or in any other convenient and secure manner. The gusseted ends and bottom of the file are unconnected with the case, whereby the pocketed parts of the file between the attached sides are free to be moved laterally. The object of this is to permit the pockets to be varied in size, as shown

in the drawings, without altering the proportions of the several parts of the file. Some classes being larger than others, the convenience of this arrangement for changing the width of the pockets is great, and it is especially suitable for the filing of postal-cards.

I claim—

1. In combination with a letter or invoice file having gusseted bottom and ends, the leaves or partitions *a*, held in place and separated from each other by the gussets, substantially as set forth.

2. The leaves or partitions *a*, each separate and distinct from the other, in combination with the inwardly-projecting folds of the gussets forming the bottom and ends of the file, and the flexible connecting-pieces *e*, by which said leaves or partitions are permanently attached to the file, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination with the gusseted ends of a letter and invoice file, the leaves or partitions *a*, and the connecting-pieces *e*, the reinforce piece *g*, applied to the gusseted ends of the file opposite the connecting-pieces *e*, to prevent the bending and tearing of the gusseted ends by the strain of the connecting-pieces when the file is distended, substantially as described.

4. In combination with the gusseted ends D and sides A, the tapes *g*, attached to the gussets, and having their ends held between the sides A and outside covers, A<sup>2</sup>, for the purpose specified.

5. The flap B of a letter or invoice file and similar articles, having the part F, provided with scores or grooves, substantially as described.

WILLIAM A. COOKE, JR.

Witnesses:

O. S. X. PECK,

JAMES DOUGLAS BROWN.