

(No Model.)

P. M. MAY.
FILE HOLDER.

No. 282,742.

Patented Aug. 7, 1883.

Fig. 1.

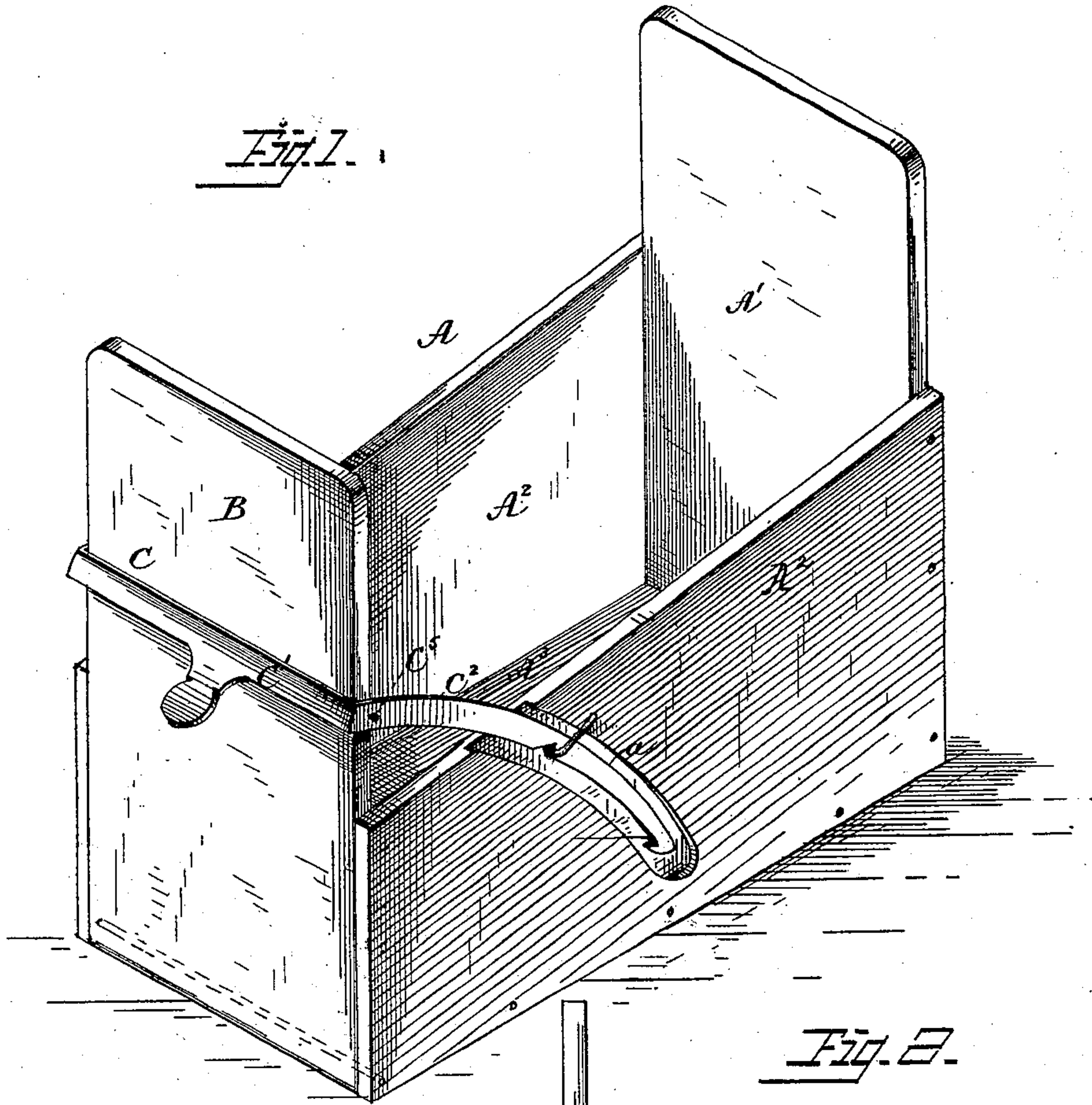
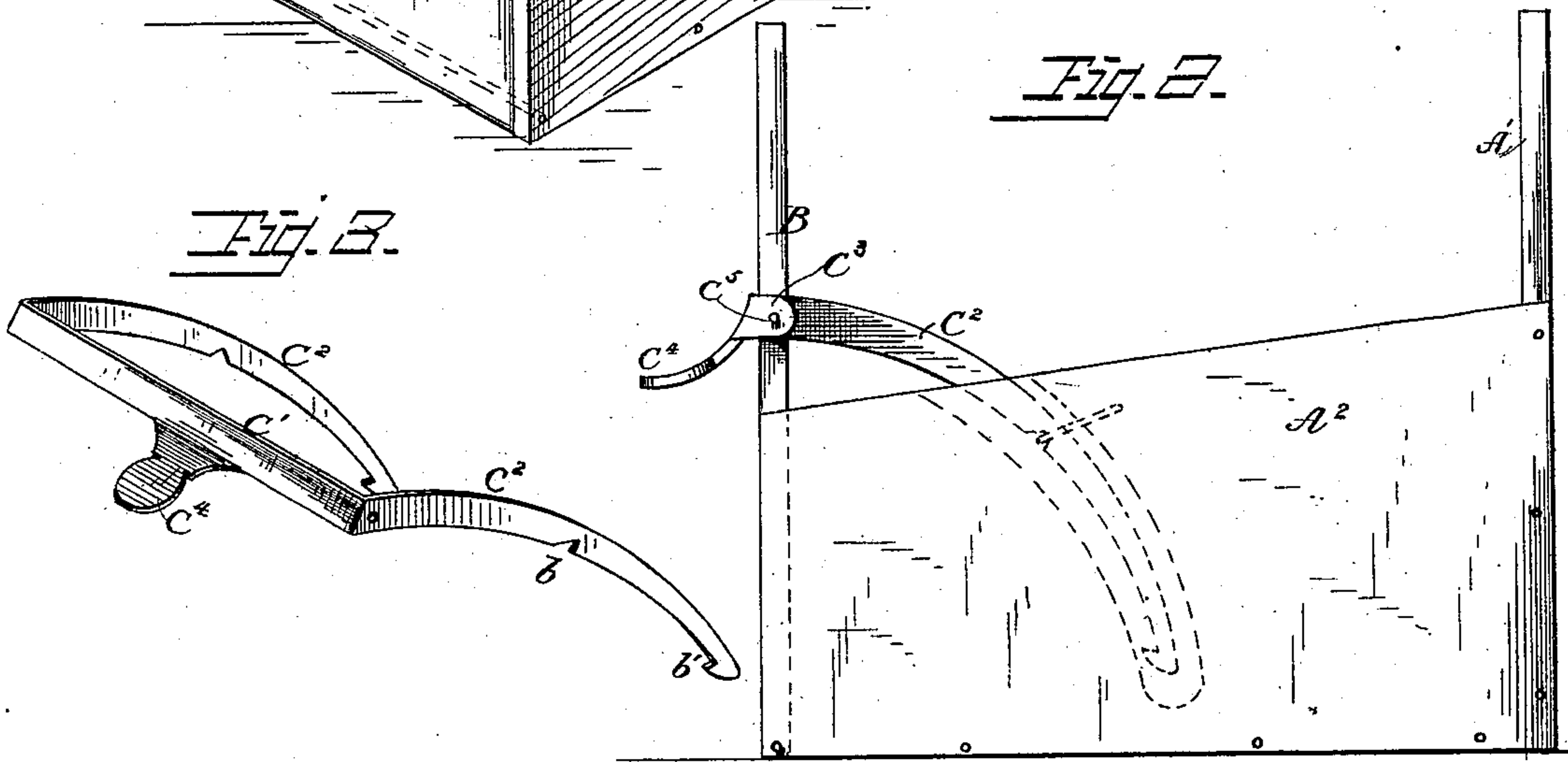


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES
H. L. Ostrander
W. H. Rowe

INVENTOR
Philip M. May
by Alex. Mahon
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP M. MAY, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

FILE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 282,742, dated August 7, 1883.

Application filed April 27, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP M. MAY, of the city of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in File-Holders, of which the following is a full and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a file-box, showing my improved locking device applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the locking device detached, showing a locking-arm on both sides.

My invention relates to that class of file-holders having a pivoted end-board adapted to be swung back for enlarging the file-receptacle, for permitting the ready inspection of the papers contained therein or the removal of any one thereof, and to be returned to its upright or normal position to again compress the papers; and the invention consists, first, in the combination, with a file-holder having the grooved sides and the hinged or pivoted end, of a pivoted tilting or rocking catch adapted to engage a pin or staple, and with the handle for opening the same.

It further consists in the combination, with the file-holder having the hinged or pivoted end, of a rocking catch provided with a handle for operating said catch.

It further consists in the combination, with the file-holder, of a tilting bifurcated locking device for locking the end in any desired position, provided with a handle for operating said locking device from the front of the holder, all as hereinafter explained.

In the accompanying drawings, A is the file-box, composed of the upright end-board, A', and the inclined sides A², and having a suitable bottom, A³, these parts being constructed in any usual or preferred manner.

B is the front end-board, pivoted at its lower end between the side boards, A², in any preferred way. The side board or boards are provided with curved grooves or slots *a*, as shown, and in which grooves the arms of the locking device hereinafter described move.

C is the locking device, composed of an inclined horizontal bar, C', and a curved side arm, C², and is also provided on its opposite end with a lug or ear, C³, hereinafter referred

to. The curved side arm is notched, as shown at *b b'*, for adapting said arm to engage a pin or staple connected to the side board of the box in the slot formed therein. The notches are formed in the arm, so as to engage the pin at the extreme limits of the throw of the hinged end-board, for locking the same in either its upright or inclined position. The arm, however, may be provided with additional notches, if desired, for holding the end at different inclinations.

The locking device constructed as above described is pivoted to the hinged board by means of a rod or bolt, C⁵, passing through the ear C³ and through the board, and engaging a perforation formed in the locking-arm opposite the perforation formed in the ear.

The horizontal bar C' is provided centrally of its length with a curved projection, C⁴, forming a thumb-piece or handle, which serves as a pull for drawing the file-box out where said box is inclosed in a case, or where a series or nest of such boxes are used.

The slots or grooves are cut in the side board or boards of such depth that the edge or face of the locking-arm, when placed therein, shall be below or flush with the sides of the box, for permitting a series of boxes to be placed closely together, and to permit the free sliding movement of the box upon the side face of the adjacent box or upon the face of the inclosing-case. The slot is also of such width as to allow of the locking device having sufficient play to release the notches formed therein from engagement with the pin or staple when said locking device is rocked upon its pivot.

By pivoting the locking device as above described, the device is made automatic in its action, as it will be seen that as the arm rides over the pin or staple in opening or closing the hinged front the weight of the arm tends to throw it downward, which action causes the notch to engage the pin or staple and to hold the same until released by the action of the thumb-latch.

By inclining the horizontal bar of the locking device as shown and described, and providing the same with the thumb-piece or handle, it will also be seen that the locking device can be operated from the front for permitting the papers contained therein to be inspected without removing the box from the in-

closing-case, and also that the device can be readily operated with one hand, thereby remedying a serious objection heretofore existing in this class of file-holder, in which it was
5 necessary to take the box entirely out of its inclosing-case before it could be opened, and then being necessary to use both hands to release the locking device.

10 In Fig. 3 I have shown two curved locking-bars; and it will be readily seen that either or both may be employed with equal facility.

I am aware that a locking device for file-holders having spring-arms rigidly attached to the pivoted end-board for holding the same
15 in an upright or inclined position has been heretofore used; and I am also aware that locking-arms similar to mine have been employed to hold the tail-board or end-gate of wagons, and these I do not claim; but,

20 Having now described my invention, I claim—

1. The combination, in a file-holder having

the grooved sides and the hinged or pivoted end, of the pivoted tilting or rocking catch adapted to engage the pin or staple for hold- 25 ing the end in any desired position, and with the handle for operating the same, substantially as described.

2. In a file-holder, the hinged or pivoted end, in combination with the pivoted tilting 30 or rocking catch provided with the pull or handle, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a file-holder, the hinged or pivoted end having the tilting bifurcated locking de- 35 vice connected therewith for locking the end in any desired position, in combination with the handle or pull for operating said device from the front of said holder, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

PHILIP M. MAY.

Witnesses:

JNO. R. YOUNG,
WM. H. ROWE.