

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1

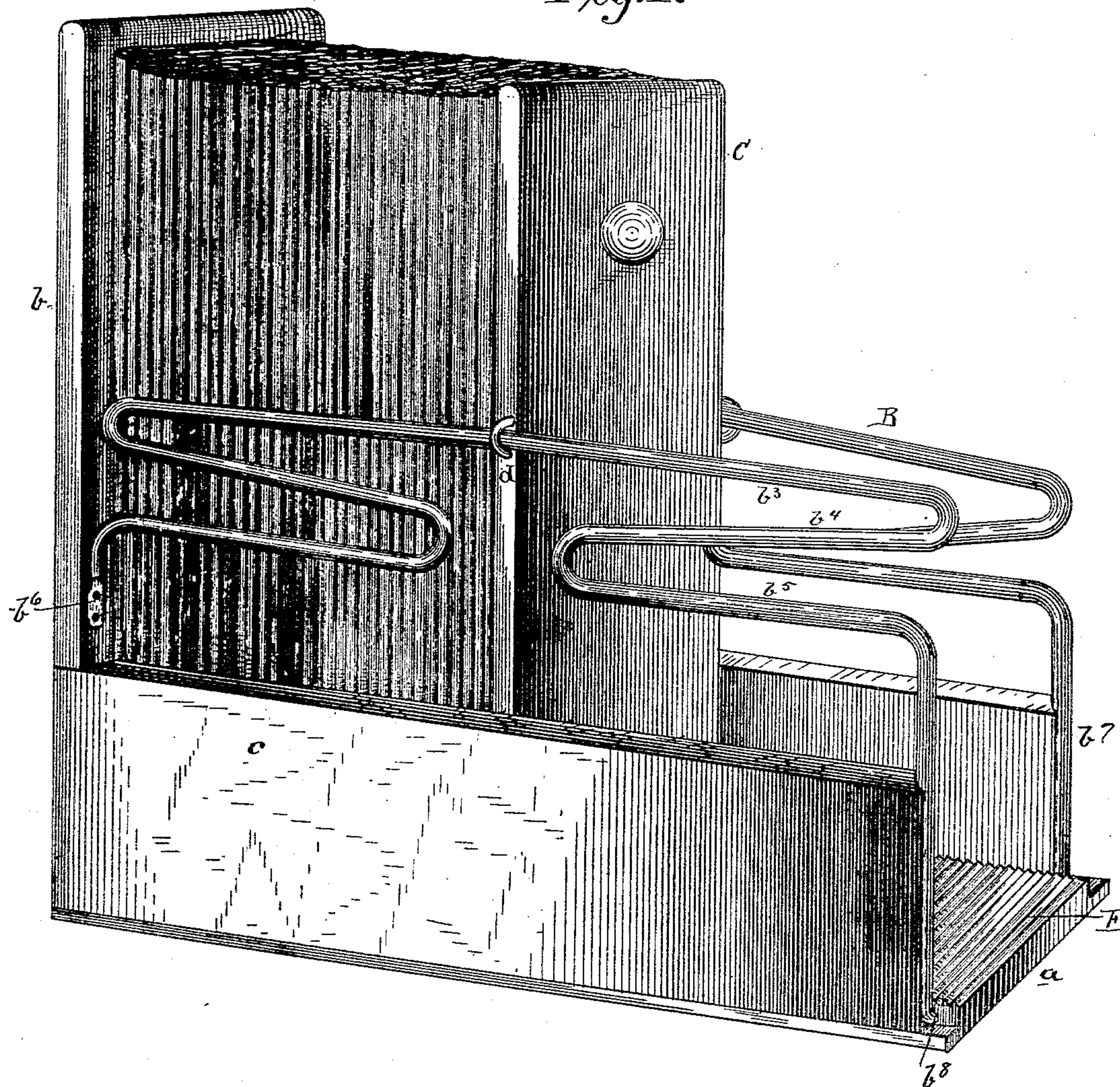
T. E. BADEN.

FILE HOLDER.

No. 300,432.

Patented June 17, 1884.

*Fig. 1.*



WITNESSES

*Wm. J. Tanner*  
*C. J. Bell*

INVENTOR

*Thomas E. Baden*  
*by A. M. Tanner*  
Attorney



(No Model.)

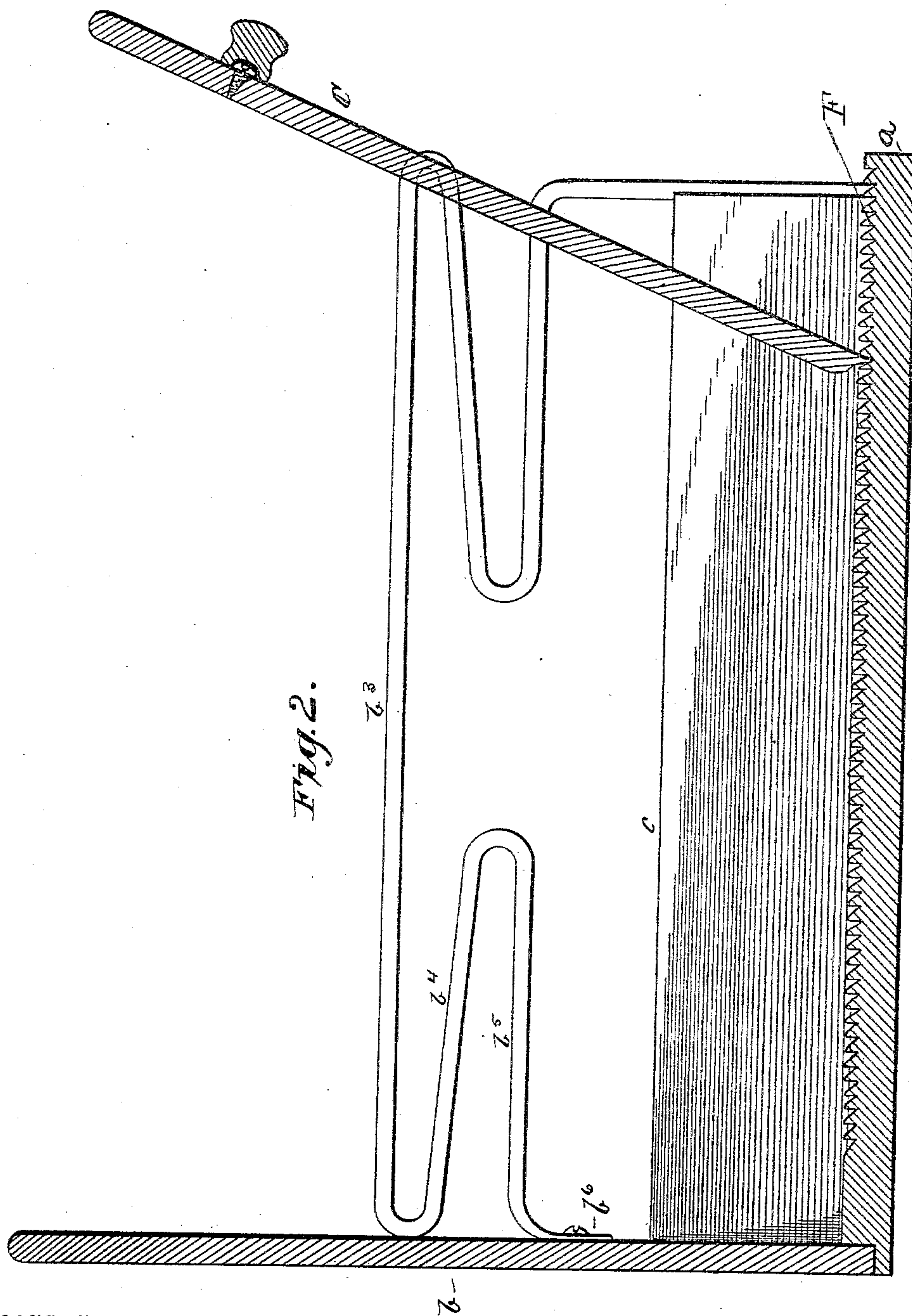
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

T. E. BADEN.

FILE HOLDER.

No. 300,432.

Patented June 17, 1884.



Witnesses:

C. J. Bell

L. Blum

Inventor:  
Thomas E. Baden  
by A. M. Tanner  
Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. BADEN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## FILE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,432, dated June 17, 1884.

Application filed September 17, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. BADEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in File Holders or Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

15 This invention relates to that class of file-holders in which is employed a sliding follower for clamping the files between the same and a stationary end board of a casing or box.

20 In several file-holders heretofore devised the pressure of the files or papers is relied upon for holding the follower in a locked position, and in others there is employed a rack-and-pawl device for holding the follower in contact with the files. These are types of file-holders which, although in general use, have not proved entirely satisfactory, because the pressure of the files is the sole medium resorted to for locking the follower, and no provision made in such file-holders for locking the follower when short papers or files are placed therein.

35 My invention obviates all the defects of existing file-holders, and involves a construction which is both simple and cheap and effective and reliable in use; and it consists in the employment of spring-guides or elastic side arms upon which the follower is free to slide back and forth. These spring-guides are formed of metal wire or rods which are bent in such a manner as to possess a sufficient degree of elasticity or springiness to hold the sliding follower in contact with the bottom of the file box or holder. A ratchet or corrugated surface may be made on the bottom of the file-box for engagement with the lower beveled end of the sliding follower; or the bottom of the box may be left smooth when the elasticity of the spring guides or arms is sufficient to hold the follower by frictional contact with said bottom.

50 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a file-holder constructed

according to my invention, the follower being in position for clamping the files. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view showing the follower when released from the files and drawn to the rear of the box.

The box or holder is composed of the bottom board, *a*, and the vertical end board, *b*, permanently secured thereto. Side boards, *c*, may be attached to said bottom and end boards for giving strength and rigidity to the box or holder. Instead of these side boards, I may employ diagonal stays or braces for a like purpose.

65 At the sides of the box or holder are located spring or elastic guides or arms *B*, upon which the follower-board *C* is free to slide back and forth. The connection between the follower and guide-arms is made by means of staples or loops *d*, applied to the side edges of the follower, and fitted on the guide-arms, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1. These guide-arms are generally formed of metal wire, as is shown in the drawings, and consist of the straight longitudinal upper member or guide-arm proper, (marked *b*<sup>3</sup>), the reversely-bent end arms, *b*<sup>4</sup> *b*<sup>5</sup>, and the vertical extensions *b*<sup>6</sup> *b*<sup>7</sup> of the latter for securing the same to the stationary end board, and to the bottom board of the box or holder. The vertical extensions *b*<sup>7</sup> virtually constitute end standards, which may have their lower ends bent inwardly, so as to form prongs or points *b*<sup>8</sup>, that enter seats in the edges of the bottom board. The side boards, when used, may also be grooved at their rear ends for receiving said vertical extensions or standards *b*<sup>7</sup>. This construction is clearly shown in Fig. 1. The extensions *b*<sup>6</sup> are shorter than the standards *b*<sup>7</sup>, and serve for attaching the guide-arms to the stationary end board, suitable screws being used for making the connection, and the extensions *b*<sup>6</sup> being flattened and perforated. I have in the present instance shown the guide-arms and their reversely-bent spring-arms or extensions, when made of round wire or rod metal, in one continuous piece; but it is obvious that the guide-arms proper may be made of bar metal, or even of wooden or other bars, to which are attached U-shaped springs that give elasticity to the guide-arms, and are connected by ears and standards with the stationary end board and the bottom board of the



box or holder. The sliding follower or movable board C is beveled at its lower edge, as is shown in Fig. 2, and this beveled edge may engage with a rack or "saw-tooth" surface, 5 F, on the bottom board, or simply be held against a smooth-surfaced bottom board by the pressure of the spring-arms, the friction between the bottom board and follower sufficing to hold the latter in certain instances. 10 The rack-teeth may extend entirely across the bottom board and be cut therein when said board is made of wood, or be cast or otherwise formed when the bottom board is made of metal or other material. Detachable plates 15 suitably corrugated or provided with rack-teeth may also be used by attaching the same so as to cover the bottom board or only the portions thereof at the sides of the box.

It will be manifest that when the spring 20 guide-arms are in the position shown in Fig. 2—that is, with the follower drawn to the rear of the box and inclined or thrown back to obtain easy access to the files—no pressure is exerted upon said follower; but when the latter 25 is moved toward the end board or the files contained in the box and brought into an erect position, as is shown in Fig. 1, the spring-arms bear upon the bottom surfaces of the staples or loops *d* and exert a downward pressure 30 upon the follower for holding the same in engagement with the bottom of the box.

It will be evident that the pressure of the spring-guides alone is used to lock the follower, and hence the files or papers need not be com- 35 pressed for obtaining a force for locking said follower. In order to release the latter, the top of the same is pulled back by hand, which causes it to turn or vibrate upon the guide-arms proper, the latter being brought to bear 40 or rest upon the upper surfaces of the loops or staples *d*. The follower can now be drawn back, as its lower edge has been released from the rack-teeth, and the spring-arms ceased to exert a downward pressure upon the follower.

The rearward inclination of the follower 45 shown in Fig. 2 will allow the files to be loosened and turned back for inspection, and, if desired, the spring-guides may be continued beyond the bottom board for also carrying the follower beyond the same. It will be evident, 50 however, that when the file-holders are used in connection with cabinets the spring-arms must be no longer than the end board of the holder.

Having thus described my invention, what I 55 claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a file holder or box, the combination of smooth-surfaced spring-arms or elastic fol- 60 lower-guides, adapted to spring out of a straight line by the locking action of the follower-board, with stationary end and bottom boards, and a follower-board adapted to slide and rock on said spring-arms and engage with the inner sur- 65 face of the stationary bottom board by the downward pressure of the spring-arms, substantially as herein set forth.

2. In a file-holder, the combination of the spring arms or guides, consisting of a straight 70 guide or upper portion and reversely bent spring members at its ends, with a movable follower having side loops or staples, and a stationary end and bottom board, substantially as herein set forth.

3. In a file-holder, the combination of the 75 spring arms or guides, consisting of a straight longitudinal top portion, reversely-bent spring-arms, and vertical downward extensions of the latter, all made of one piece of metal, with the bottom board, the end board, 80 and the movable follower, substantially as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THOS. E. BADEN.

Witnesses:

J. W. BUKER,  
C. T. BELT.