

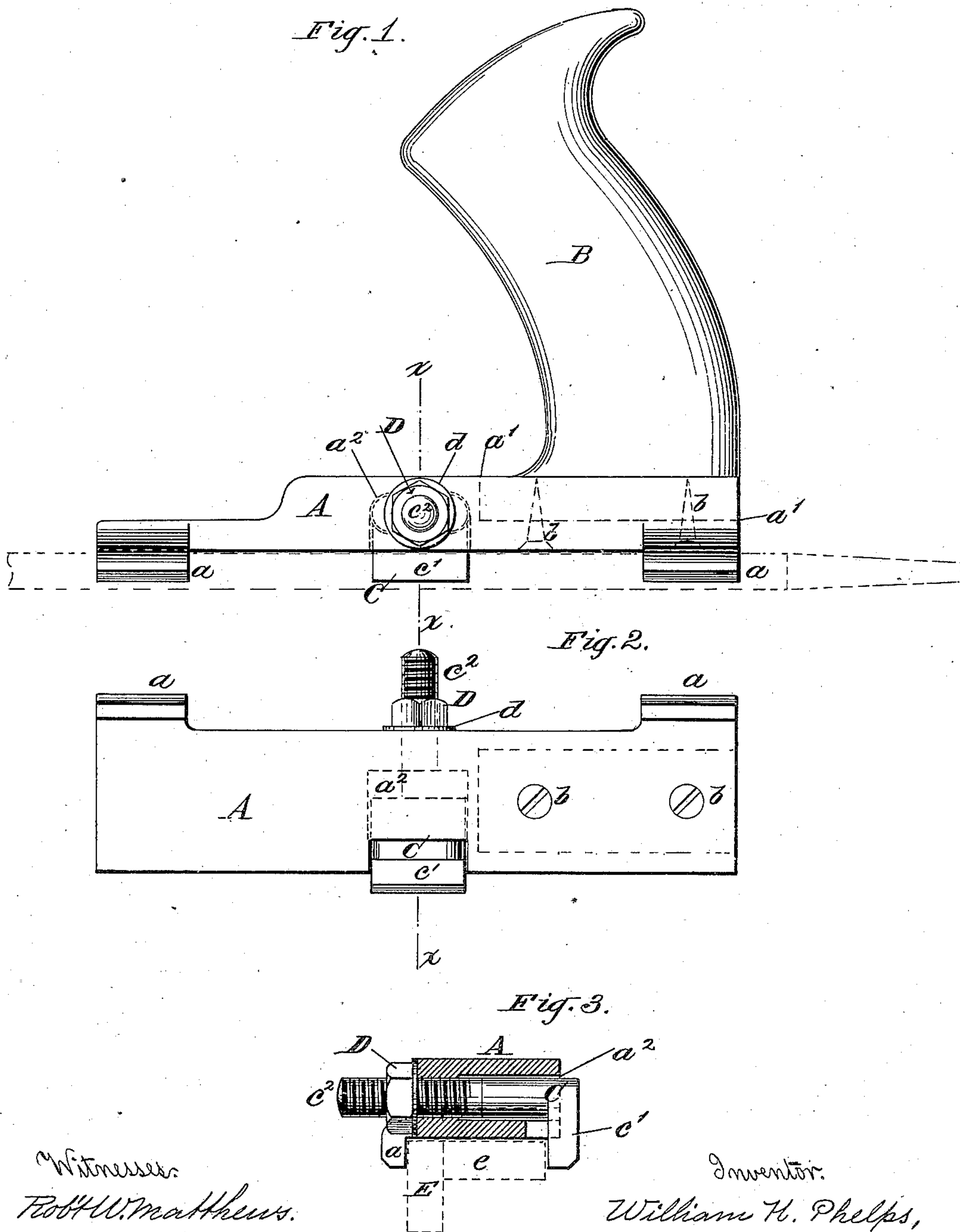
(No Model.)

W. H. PHELPS.

FILE HOLDER.

No. 312,012.

Patented Feb. 10, 1885.



Witnesses:  
Robt W. Matthews.  
W H BeVoe

Inventor.  
William H. Phelps,  
by A. W. Almquist Atty



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY PHELPS, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT.

## FILE-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 312,012, dated February 10, 1885.

Application filed June 11, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY PHELPS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Stamford, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in File-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices such as are used for holding files when it is impracticable to operate with the ordinary axial handle attached upon the file-tongue—as, for instance, when filing large slide-valves and other flat surfaces too large for the reach of the file.

The object of my invention is to provide a file-holder of simple and improved construction which will afford facility for rapidly adjusting and firmly grasping the file in proper position for such uses as aforesaid, and will enable the operator to apply with a comfortably large rest for his hand the required downward pressure forward of the handle (in the manner of planing with an ordinary hand-plane) without risk of hurting or cutting the fingers of his forward hand against the metal operated upon. The latter advantage is particularly important when filing the bottom and side walls of long grooves—such as spline-grooves in shafts—where owing to the depth of the groove only a small portion of the file is accessible to the hand, and with file-holders as heretofore made the fingers were constantly liable to be cut by the sharp edges of the groove.

My invention will be hereinafter described and claimed with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved file-holder. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross-section taken on the line *x x* of the other figures.

A is the stock or body of the holder, somewhat similar to that of an ordinary hand-plane, and made of metal. B is the handle, which is also like that of a hand-plane, and may be cast in one and the same piece with the body or stock A; but I prefer to attach it by screws *b* in a recess, *a'*, formed at the rear end in the upper surface of the stock. The stock A has at one side edge thereof and at opposite ends of the said side edge two stationary downward-projecting jaws, or, rather, shoulders, *a*, the

inner vertical edges of which are in line with each other, and form the support for one edge of the file to be clamped in the holder. About midway between the shoulders *a* the stock A has a transverse socket or perforation, which serves as a guide for and in which is fitted to slide a sliding clamp, C. The said clamp consists of a broad and flat portion, *c*, which allows it to slide but prevents it from turning. A jaw or shoulder, *c'*, projects downward from one end of the portion *c* at the side of the stock A opposite to that having the shoulders *a*, and a threaded shank, *c''*, projects from the other end of the portion *c* through the side edge of the stock A at which the aforesaid shoulders *a* are located, and is there provided with a washer, *d*, and a nut, D, by which the file may be pressed against the stationary shoulders *a*, and held firmly in position to work.

For filing large flat surfaces the file may be clamped by its side edges, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1; but when filing long grooves—such as the spline-groove of a shaft—the file may be held on edge—that is, clamped by its broader surfaces. This is done by inserting between the surfaces of the file E and the sliding jaw *c'* a suitable block, *e*, as shown in Fig. 3. This will enable the operator to conveniently file the sides and bottom of the spline-groove, bearing with his forward hand upon the flat end of the stock A to depress the file against the work without danger of cutting his fingers upon the sharp edges of the groove. If another file be substituted for the block *e*, it is evident that two sides of an outer right angle may be filed simultaneously.

I am aware that a handle for holding a file by clamping two opposite edges thereof is very old, and I do not claim, broadly, such a handle; nor do I claim the constructions thereof shown in the United States Patents Nos. 135,684 and 231,890.

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

1. A file-holder consisting of a stock, A, having at one edge thereof and at a distance apart two downward-projecting shoulders, *a*, a handle, B, projecting upward from the said stock, a clamp, C, arranged intermediate to the said shoulders to slide transversely to the

said stock, and provided with a toe,  $c'$ , projecting downward at the side edge of the stock opposite that having the said shoulders  $a$ , and means for tightening the grip of the said clamp C, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A file-holder consisting of a stock, A, having at one edge thereof and at a distance apart two downward-projecting shoulders,  $a$ , a handle, B, projecting upward from the said stock, a clamp, C, arranged intermediate to the said shoulders to slide transversely to the said stock, and provided with a toe,  $c'$ , projecting downward at the side edge of the

stock opposite that having the said shoulders  $a$ , the said clamp having also a threaded shank,  $c^2$ , and a nut, D, upon the said shank for tightening the grip of the said clamp C, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 21st day of May, 1884.

WILLIAM HENRY PHELPS.

Witnesses:

LEONARD BACKSTRAN,

ALBERT S. ALDEN.