

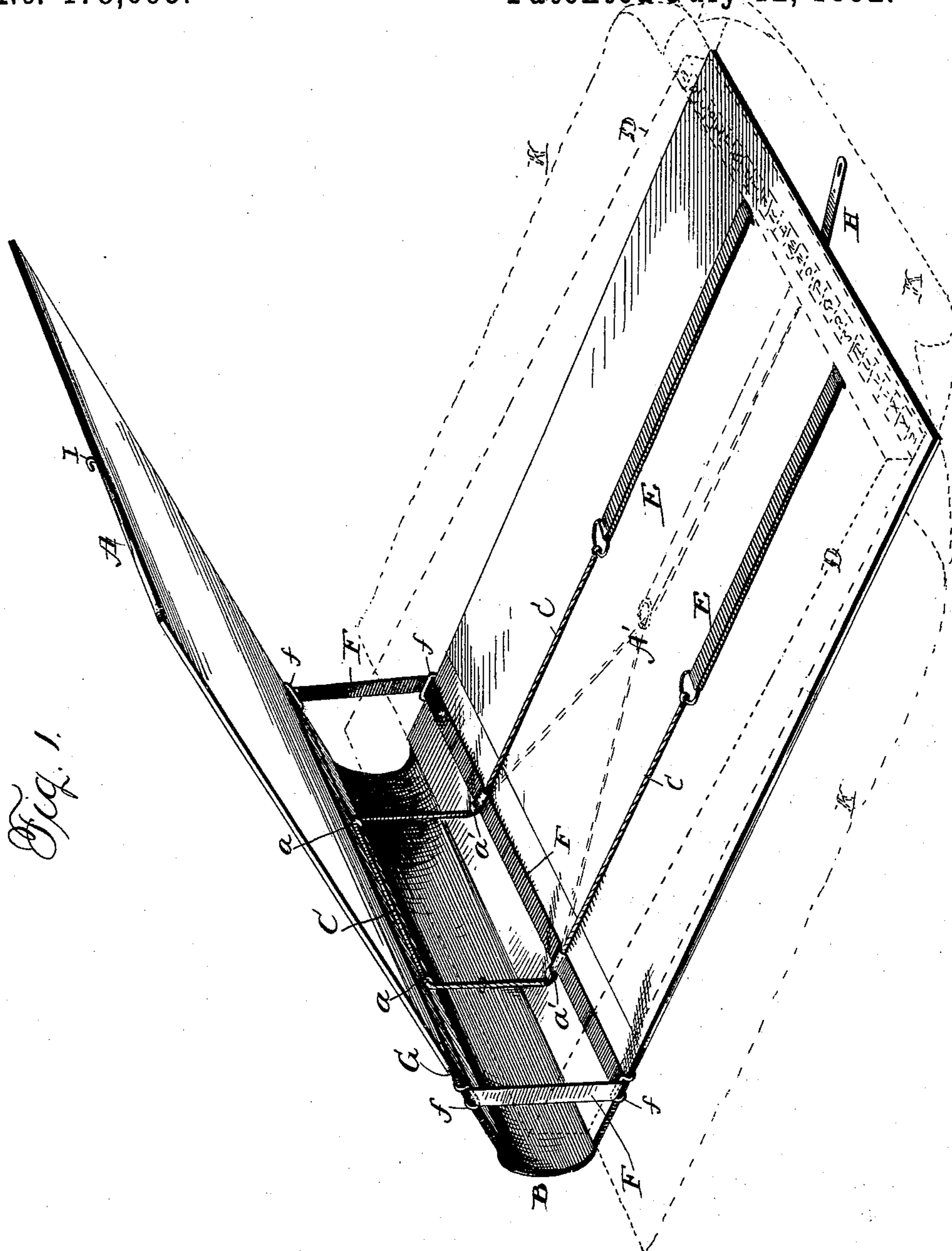
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

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FILE FOR LETTERS AND PAPERS.

No. 478,695.

Patented July 12, 1892.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE HARVEY AND WILLIAM RICHARD GRUNDY, OF WINNIPEG, CANADA,

## FILE FOR LETTERS AND PAPERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 478,695, dated July 12, 1892.

Application filed November 25, 1891. Serial No. 413,046. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, GEORGE HARVEY and WILLIAM RICHARD GRUNDY, subjects of the Queen of England, residing at Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Files for Letters and Papers; and we do 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 of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in files for letters and other papers of such description as are needed for orderly preservation in condition for ready reference; and it relates more particularly to that class of files which have the general appearance of a book, consisting of a back and covers, between which are a number of indexed sheets of paper, between which the papers to be filed are orderly placed.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a file of this description which will admit of the expeditious filing and removal of papers and which shall be simple and durable in its construction and cheap of manufacture.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain the same consists of the peculiar construction and in the novel combination, arrangement, and adaptation of parts, all as more fully hereinafter described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and then specifically defined in the appended claim.

The invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, like letters of reference indicating the same parts throughout the several views, and in which drawings—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our file shown opened and with the index-sheets removed for clearness of illustration. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof with the index-sheets in place and in a closed position. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken on the line  $\alpha$   $\alpha$ , Fig. 2, passing through the point where the two covers and the indexed sheets are held

together; and Fig. 4 is a section similar to Fig. 2 of a portion of the file, illustrating a modification.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates the upper, and A' the lower, cover, constructed of card-board or any other suitable or desirable material and united together by a flexible binding-strip B of leather, cloth, or any other material that taste or necessity may dictate. On the under side of the upper cover, near the point of attachment of the flexible strip B, are two eyes  $a$   $a$ , located at equal distances from the edges or sides thereof, through which passes a cord C, that from each eye has an end that passes from thence through openings  $d$  in a number of indexed sheets D, between the covers, to and through an eye  $a'$  on the inside of the lower cover A', being from it carried to or nearly to the middle of the latter, where it is attached to one end of an elastic device E, which may be a piece of rubber, elastic cord, or a small diameter-coiled spring, whose other end is secured to the cover A' near its edge. By means of the elastic devices E and the cords C it will be seen that the covers will be tightly drawn together upon the indexed sheets D at the point at which the cord passes through the latter, and of course any letters or other papers which may be placed between the sheets with their edges at the same point will likewise be tightly and securely clamped and held.

To supplement and assist the elastic devices E, we provide an elastic band F, which is placed between the covers and around the collection of indexed sheets D just in advance of the cord C where it passes through the latter, which elastic band is attached to both covers by means of wire loops  $f$   $f$ , secured on both edges of the covers, with the loops on adjacent edges opposite each other, the said band passing through the loops. Being under tension, the band thus arranged tends to draw the covers together and to clamp them on whatever may be placed between them.

Thus constructed the manner of using the device is as follows: Having by reference to the index-sheets located the proper place for the paper to be filed, the paper is simply arranged so that its top edge will be at a point



where it will be clamped through the operation of the elastic devices described. No punching of holes in the paper has to be resorted to, but simply its insertion between the covers, 5 so that it may be clamped, an operation most easily and expeditiously accomplished. The tension of the elastic devices is such that whether but few papers be filed or a number equal to the full capacity of the file the covers 10 will always be drawn with the requisite clamping pressure, the same being thus self-adjusting and making the bulk of the file vary with and depend upon the number of papers placed therein.

15 For convenience in use and for reference to the contents of the file the top cover A is made flexible or hinged at G just in advance of the elastic-band-attaching loops *f*, so as to leave at A<sup>2</sup> a stiff or rigid piece to constitute a part 20 for clamping purposes. This hinging or making flexible the top cover, although preferable, is not necessary, and the same may be dispensed with, if desired, as shown in Fig. 4, as may also the supplementary clamping device F, as shown in said figure. We also con- 25 template using a single elastic device E by joining the free ends of the cord C and connecting the single device E to both.

30 To hold the covers closely together at their front edges when the file is not in use, we employ an elastic strip H, fixedly attached at

one end to one cover and having its other end adapted to be detachably engaged with the button or hook I on the other end.

With a view to the exclusion of dust, &c., 35 without providing a special case for the file, we propose to provide at each side and one end, as shown in dotted lines in Figs. 1 and 2, flaps K K K, of either paper or cloth, having one edge attached to the cover, which can 40 be folded over the sides and end of the file and contents when closed.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 45

In combination, the two backs or covers, a cord secured to one and passed through guiding-eyes in the other, an elastic device connected to the last-named cover and to each 50 end of said cord, the supplementary elastic band, and the loops on the covers for securing it thereto, one of said covers being hinged in advance of said supplementary band, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures 55 in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE HARVEY.

WILLIAM RICHARD GRUNDY.

Witnesses:

ALBERT WALSH ALAN CHAMBRÉ,  
ALLAN SYME.