

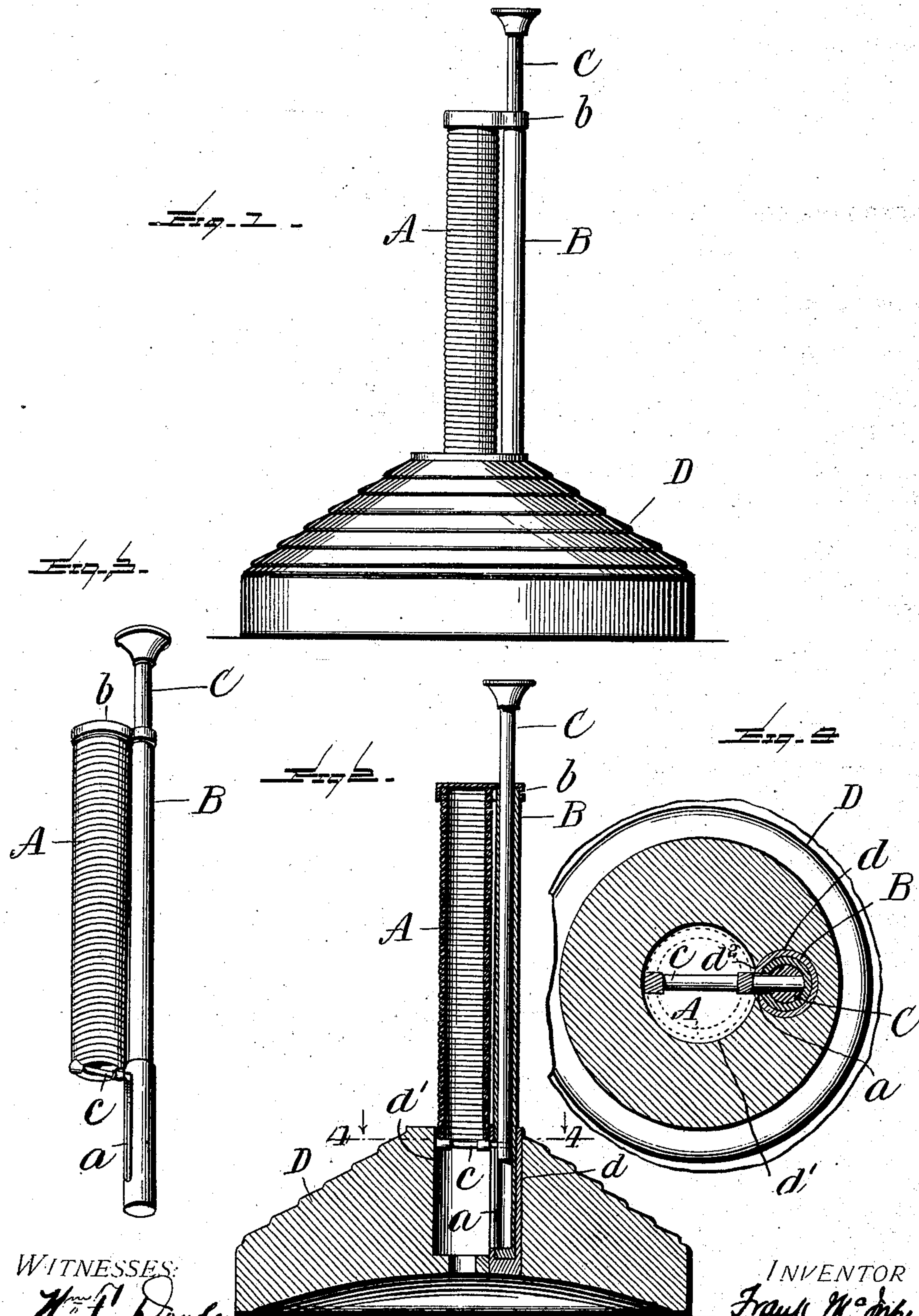
No. 693,301.

Patented Feb. 11, 1902.

F. MCINTYRE.  
LETTER FILE.

(Application filed Dec. 5, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK MCINTYRE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO EAGLE PENCIL COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## LETTER-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 693,301, dated February 11, 1902.

Application filed December 5, 1901. Serial No. 84,847. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK MCINTYRE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Letter-Files, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has relation to letter-files designed for the temporary holding of letters and other papers. Its main object is to provide an arrangement which will permit one to withdraw any particular letter without disturbing the balance of the letters on the file.

I will first describe the invention by reference to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and will then more particularly point out in the claims those features which I believe to be new and of my own invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 is a vertical central section, of the complete article. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the device detached from its supporting-base. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on line 4 4, Fig. 2.

The device proper is one in which a closely-coiled spiral spring is used as the letter-holder, the letters being inserted between the coils or folds of the spring. It consists, generally speaking, of the closely-coiled spiral spring A, the standard B, from which the spring is suspended by its upper end, and the controlling-rod C, supported by and adapted to move lengthwise in bearings in the standard B and connected to the lower end of the spring, the arrangement being such that when the rod is depressed it will, by reason of its connection with the spring, draw apart or open the coils of the spring sufficiently to permit a letter to be inserted or withdrawn from between. The upper end of the rod of course is provided, as shown, with a suitable head or knob to facilitate its manipulation. The standard B in this instance is tubular, and to its upper end is secured a laterally-projecting bracket *b*, in which the top of the spring A is housed and fastened. The rod C fits and is adapted to move up and down in the tubular standard and is connected to the lower end of

the spring by a cross-pin *c*, which projects laterally from the lower end of the rod through a longitudinal slot *a* in the tubular standard B and is soldered or otherwise secured to the base of the spring. The slot *a* is of length sufficient to permit enough movement to the slide-rod C to properly open the coils of the spring.

This device as a whole is erected and secured upon a suitable base. I prefer for this purpose a base D, having a socket *d*, in which the lower end of the standard B is fitted and secured, and a central chamber *d'*, in which the lower end of the spring A is housed. There is between the chamber *d'* and the socket *d* a communicating longitudinal slot *d''*, through which passes the cross-pin *c*.

The device as a whole is convenient, effective for the purpose for which it is intended, and can be made at small cost.

What I claim herein as new and of my own invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A letter-file, comprising a standard having a suitable supporting-base, a closely-coiled spiral spring secured at its upper end to the standard, and a controlling-rod, connected at its lower end to the base of the spring, and mounted in, and adapted to slide lengthwise in bearings in the standard, as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

2. In a letter-file, a tubular standard, a closely-coiled spiral spring attached at its upper end to a bracket laterally projecting from the upper end of the standard, a controlling-rod mounted and adapted to slide lengthwise in the tubular standard, and a cross-pin or connecting-piece which is attached to the base of the spring and to the lower end of the rod, and projects through a longitudinal slot in the standard, substantially as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 3d day of December, 1901.

FRANK MCINTYRE.

Witnesses:

SAMUEL KRAUS,  
P. H. BUCKMASTER.