

R. N. PEMBERTON.
PAPER FILE.
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924,929.

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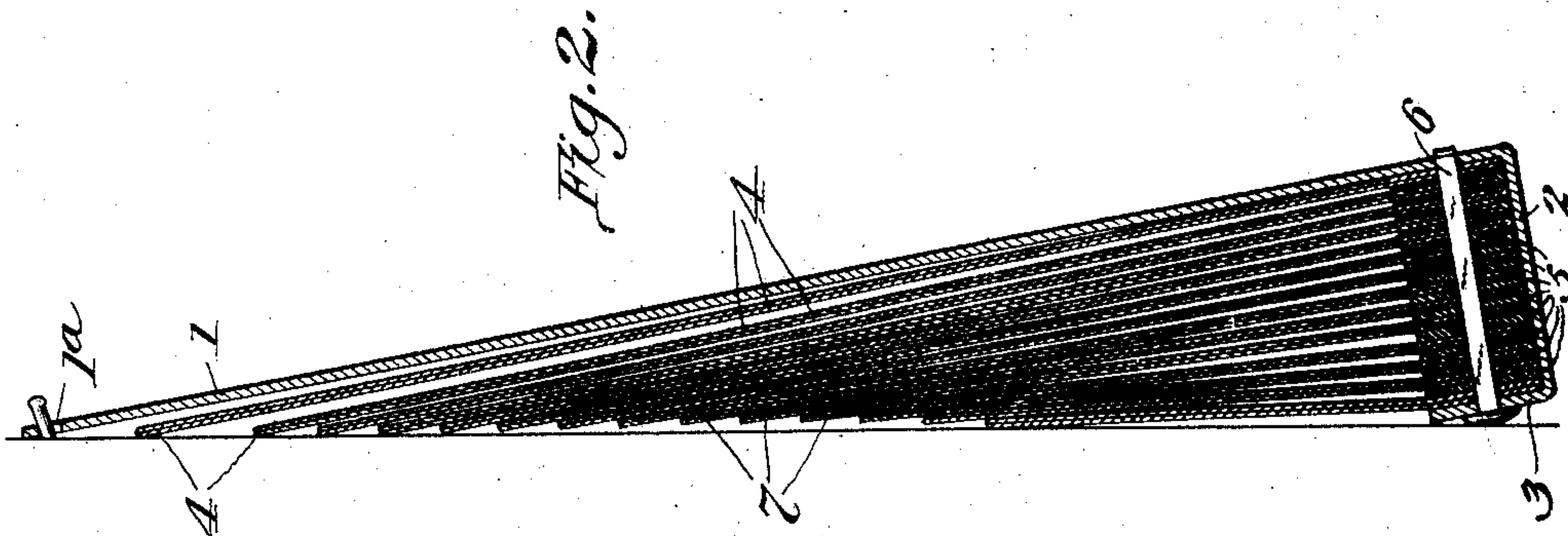


Fig. 1.

RECEIPTED BILLS.													
YEAR	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
MISCELLANEOUS													
DRY GOODS													
GROCERIES													
LAUNDRY													
DRESS-MAKER													
FUEL-BILLS													
REPAIRS													
TAILOR													
TAXES-RENT													
DOCTOR-DRUGS													
BOOKS-PAPERS													
WATER													
ICE-BILLS													
LIGHT													
HIRED HELP													
INCIDENTAL													
TOTALS													

Before filing Bills in the pockets enter amount of Bill in Month Column opposite proper item.

THE RECORD HOUSEHOLD FILE

Witnesses:
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Fig. 1.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PAPER-FILE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD N. PEMBERTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Topeka, in the county of Shawnee and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper-Files, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to paper files, and more particularly to a file of this character adapted to household use.

The primary object of my invention is to provide a device by means of which a ready record may be kept of the usual household expenses, and which will serve, at the same time, as a receptacle for the receipted bills.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the above character, which may be conveniently hung on the wall and have an ornamental appearance.

With the above objects in view my invention consists in the construction hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved bill file. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof.

Referring to the drawings in detail, it will be seen that the device comprises a stiff backing or base, 1, preferably formed of heavy cardboard. This backing is bent around at the end, 2, and over at the front, 3, to form a binding for the pockets which constitute the receptacles for the bills. These pockets consist of a series of envelopes, 4, preferably formed of a strong grade of paper, the lower closed ends of which all rest against the bent over portion, 2, of the backing, 1. Filling or spacing strips, 5, are placed between the lower ends of the envelopes, and rivets, 6, pass through the flap, 3, envelopes, 4, filling strips, 5, and backing, 1, thus securely binding the whole together. The backing is provided near its upper edge with an opening, 1^a, by means of which it may be hung on a nail, as shown in Fig. 2. By reference to this figure, it will also be seen that the envelopes, 4, are of progressively decreasing length, the longest being located adjacent the backing, 1, and the shortest, remote therefrom. The upper edge, therefore, of each envelop, falls below the edge of the one immediately behind it, and each envelop projects a uniform distance, as 7, above the one next in front. The front surface of the bill file is therefore composed of the upper portions of all the envelopes, rising, one be-

hind the other, and the upper edges of the envelopes thus divide this front surface into a number of horizontal lines. Across these lines I draw vertical lines, thus dividing the surface into a number of vertical columns.

In practice I prefer to so rule the surface as to provide a comparatively wide column at the left, twelve narrow columns, adjacent thereto, corresponding to the months of the year, and a column at the right.

The large envelop at the back projects farther than the others, and in this comparatively wide space I draw a horizontal line, above which are written the names of the months, one in each vertical column. Over the right hand column I write the word "Total." In the wide, left hand column I write the names of the usual items of household expense, one on the projecting portion of each envelop, taking care to place on the largest envelop that item for which there is likely to be the greatest number of bills rendered. At the bottom of the vertical columns I provide a line for totals.

It will thus be seen that the amount of the various bills, as they are received and paid each month, may be entered in the proper line and column, and the bills themselves placed within their respective envelopes, where they may be always located for ready reference. By this arrangement, it is evident that "totals" may be obtained both of the horizontal lines, and of the vertical columns, the former giving the amount of any particular item for the whole year, and the latter giving the entire household expenses for any month. It is obvious that, if desired, the vertical columns may be divided into weeks instead of months.

My improved bill file is thickest at the bottom, and gradually tapers to a thin edge at the top. Thus, when hung on a nail, facing the wall, as shown in Fig. 2, the upper edges of all of the envelopes practically rest against the wall, thus holding them closed. This method of hanging the device, therefore, serves the double purpose of excluding the dust, and, at the same time, concealing the figures on the front of the envelopes.

To render the device more ornamental, I preferably mount a picture, or the like, on the outside of the backing.

What I claim is:—

1. A paper file comprising a series of superposed envelopes separately formed, of flexible material and of progressively decreasing

length, a stiff backing against which the longest of said envelops is adapted to lie, and fastening means passing through one end of said superposed envelops and rigidly securing them to one end of said backing, the other end of said envelop being free and open.

2. A paper file comprising a series of superposed envelops of progressively decreasing length, filling strips between the lower ends of said envelops, a stiff backing folded around the said lower ends of said envelops, and fastening means passing through such folded end and envelops and securing said parts firmly together.

3. A paper file comprising a series of superposed separately formed envelops open at their upper end and rigidly secured together at their lower end, a backing to which said envelops are attached, and means for so hanging said file against a plane surface that the open ends of said envelops are maintained closed.

4. A bill file, comprising a series of separately formed superposed envelops of progressively decreasing length, the upper portion of each projecting beyond the edge of the next, such projecting portions collectively

forming the front surface of said file, and the edges of successive envelops forming a series of horizontal lines, said front surface being divided into vertical columns, items of expense in one column, one in each horizontal line, the months of the year at the heads of other columns, and spaces for totaling both the horizontal lines and vertical columns.

5. A paper file comprising a series of thin, flat receptacles of progressively increasing length open at one end and closed at the other, said receptacles being superposed in such manner that their closed ends register, and their open ends form a sloping surface, a stiff backing to which said receptacles are rigidly secured at their closed ends, and means for so hanging said backing against a wall that the open ends of said receptacles constituting the sloping surface, bear against the wall in such manner as to maintain said receptacles closed and exclude the dust.

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

RICHARD N. PEMBERTON.

Witnesses:

H. G. LARIMER,
W. G. BOLES.