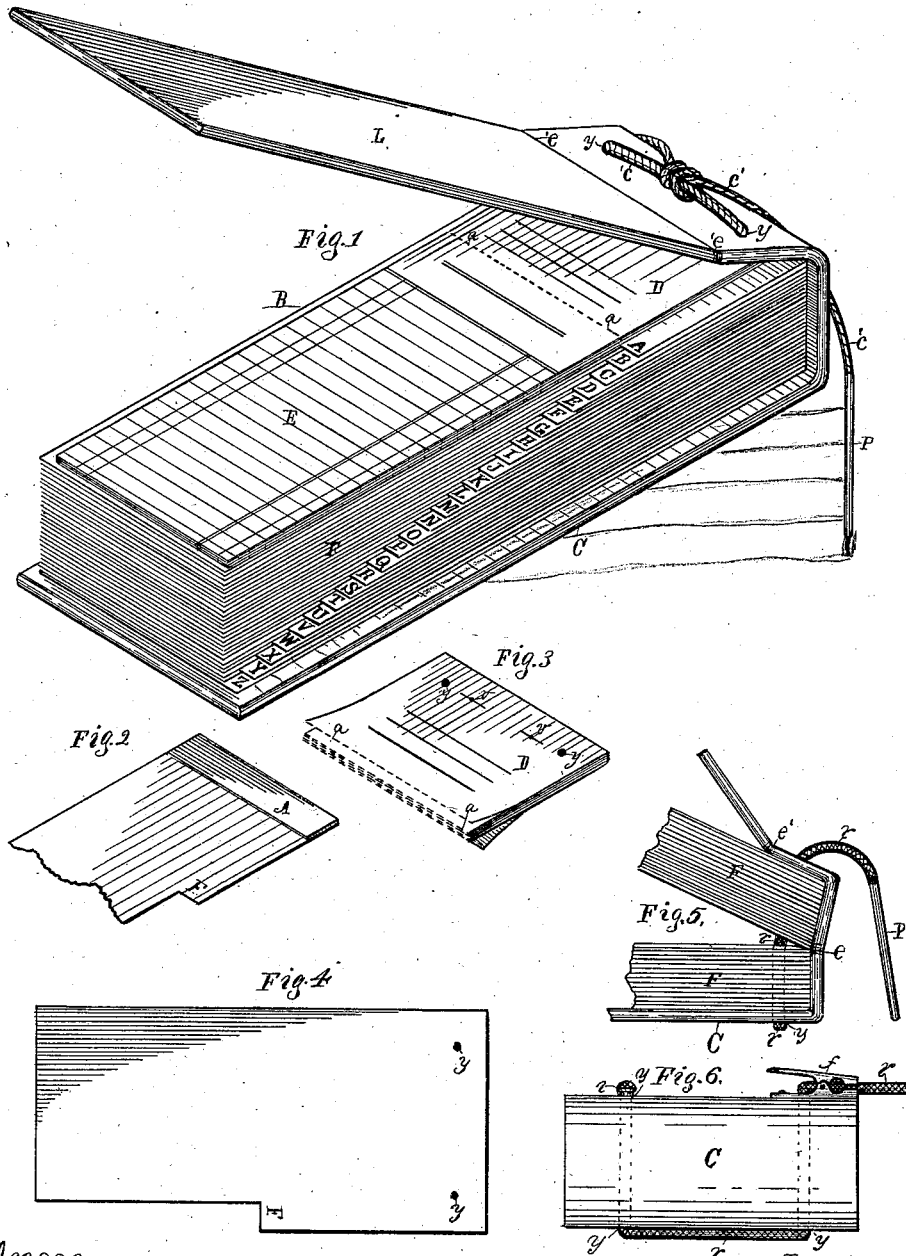


(No Model.)

A. L. PRATT.
TEMPORARY BINDER.

No. 259,915.

Patented June 20, 1882.



Attest.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR L. PRATT, OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

TEMPORARY BINDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,915, dated June 20, 1882.

Application filed January 18, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR L. PRATT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kalamazoo, county of Kalamazoo, State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Temporary Binder, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention consists in certain improvements in the construction of that class of devices known as "temporary binders," "indexed blank leaf or bill holders," and "petit ledger and bill holders," &c., whereby they are made more convenient and practical for the purpose for which they are designed, and the cost of construction greatly lessened.

The purpose of the device is that business men may have a convenient ledger for temporary or short-time accounts, from which the bill, when paid, may be detached and given signed as a receipt, leaving a stub in the holder showing the state of the account, said holder being intended for refilling with bills, and serving as a convenient device for carrying the bills around, either in the pocket or hand, in making collections. So far as this purpose is concerned I am not the first to devise means intended to meet the demand; but I have invented improvements which, associated with certain old features, effect a far more practical device, the novelty and especial utility of which are set forth in the following detailed description.

In the drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective of my device complete; Fig. 2, index-leaf detached; Fig. 3, stubs detached from holder and bills; Fig. 4, plan view of index-page; Fig. 5, a modification in constructing the case, and Fig. 6 a rear view of the case.

C is the case, similar in form to a book-cover, made of very heavy board or other material covered with coarse canvas or its equivalent. The upper cover, L, is hinged or jointed at *e'* by severing the board at this point and allowing the canvas to serve as a hinge.

The contents F of case C consist of index-leaves containing a letter of the alphabet on the projecting side, as F, Fig. 4, and F, Fig. 2, and the complete alphabet in Fig. 1. These index-leaves are perforated at *y y*. The contents further consist of packages of blank or

ruled leaves, E, Fig. 1, including the stubs D, with which they are detachably connected by perforations, as at *a a*, in the usual manner. These packages are also provided with the perforations *y y*.

In the arrangement of the contents a package of blank leaves, E, alternates with an index-leaf in regular succession throughout the holder. This arrangement is almost identical with that of other constructions now in use; but I have made many changes in the construction, both slight and material. First, it will be observed that my device, so greatly resembling a book, is every way as handy. Further, the blank leaves of each package E are secured together at the rear side of the stubs, either with mucilage, little holders *v v*, or other practical means. These packages and the index-leaves are detachably connected with the case, also provided with holes *y y* through the top and bottom, by means of a flexible cord, C', Fig. 1. This cord, similar to a shoe-lace, serves the purpose, and is provided with an elongated metal end, P, of sufficient length to reach entirely through the holder. Thus after all the bills proper have been detached from the stubs, said stubs, now forming distinct packages D, Fig. 3, representing classified divisions of the alphabet, which may be provided with a letter showing the same, may be readily filed away in regular order, to be referred to again, while the holder may be refilled again and its same use continued. Confusion is not only thus obviated in filing the stubs away, but also in refilling the holder and in handling the contents in their manufacture and shipment.

The advantage of using a flexible cord or lace is that the contents may be more easily opened, like the leaves of a book, for which reason also the stub-ends may be much narrower, thus effecting in an extensive business a marked saving in paper. By this means also the contents can be secured snugly or loosely, which may be readily governed when tying the cord. The looser the cord is tied the narrower the stub-end of the package may be.

The variation shown in Fig. 5 consists in making the back of the case jointed at *e* in the manner of making the hinge *e' e'*. In this construction the respective parts are provided with holes *y y*, as in the first instance. The

cord *r* is elastic. By this arrangement the device may be opened farther and with greater freedom, and when closed again the same compactness retained, owing to the contraction of the elastic cord. The jointed back, however, may be used to a degree of advantage with the flexible cord *c'*, as can also the solid back with the elastic cord *r*. In the construction in Fig. 5 the stub-ends may be narrower than in either of the other methods.

Fig. 9 shows a method of securing the cords instead of tying them. *i* is a knob holding one end, and *f* a spring-clamp holding the other. This is especially designed for holding the elastic cord *r*. Its operation will be readily understood without further explanation.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a temporary binder, the combination of a removable cover, a series of independent packages composed of blank leaves and stubs, and index-leaves interposed between the packages, said packages having transverse lines of perforations separating the stubs from the other parts of the leaves, and the whole detachably secured together by a cord passing through holes in the cover, index-leaves, and stubs, substantially as described.

ARTHUR L. PRATT.

Witnesses:

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