

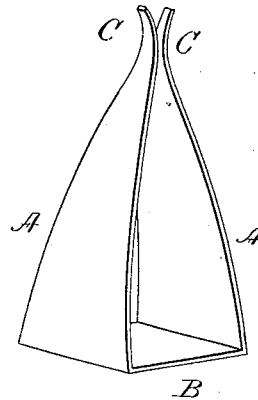
(Model.)

M. F. POTTER.

BILL FILE.

No. 263,576.

Patented Aug. 29, 1882.



Witnesses:
Gara C. Potter
Mark H. Potter

Inventor:
Merritt F. Potter.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MERRITT F. POTTER, OF HINCKLEY, ILLINOIS.

BILL-FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 263,576, dated August 29, 1882.

Application filed January 13, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MERRITT F. POTTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hinckley, in the county of De Kalb and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Device for Filing Bills, Letters, and other Miscellaneous Papers, of which the following is a specification.

The nature of my invention consists in a spring-clamp adapted to stand vertically on a table, and open at the top to retain bills or letters edgewise, like books on a table, and in a small, compact, and convenient form for filing, inspection, or removal.

The accompanying figure shows a spring made from elastic sheet metal.

B is the flattened base of the spring. A A are two substantially-vertical arms, having their upper extremities slightly divergent to receive documents pressed downward between them. As additional papers are inserted the arms spring outward and hold them securely.

If it be desired to have some of them displayed more than the others, they can be left inserted only one-half the width of the document. The arms are made tapering from the bottom upward. This adds much to their elasticity, as the strain is diffused equally along the whole length of the spring, instead of being all spent at the bottom, as it would be if the arms A A were of the same width at each extremity. Still the arms A A could be made with parallel instead of convergent sides; but they would be less elastic than those shown in the drawing.

I claim—

A bill-file consisting of the base B and the substantially-vertical spring-arms A, bent to approximate each other at their upper ends, and adapted for use, as set forth.

MERRITT F. POTTER.

Witnesses:

J. A. CARTER,
V. M. POTTER.