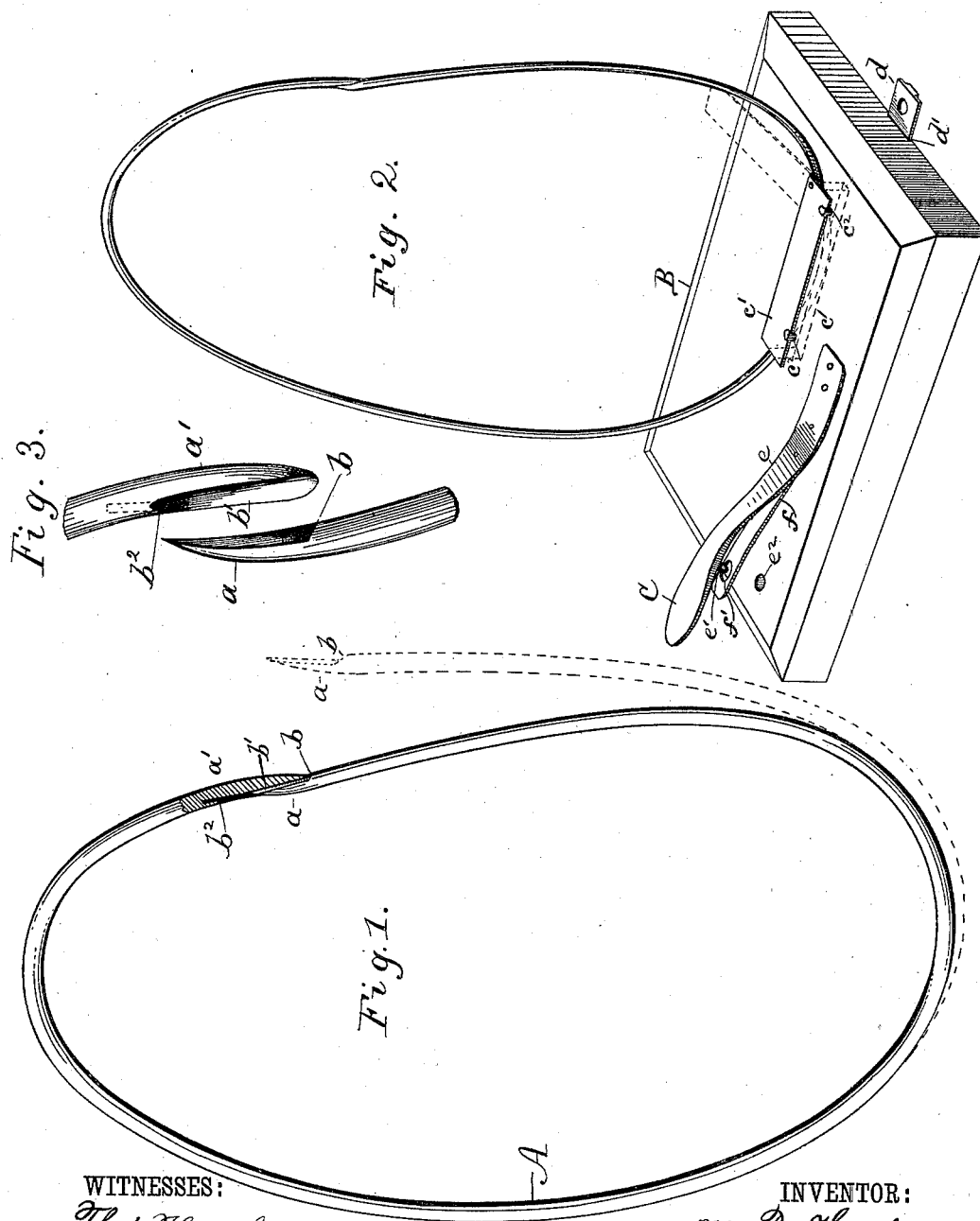


(No Model.)

M. B. HURLY.
BILL OR LETTER FILE.

No. 301,368.

Patented July 1, 1884.



WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL B. HURLY, OF QUEBEC, QUEBEC, CANADA.

BILL OR LETTER FILE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,368, dated July 1, 1884.

Application filed March 4, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL BLENNER-HASSET HURLY, of Quebec, in the Province of Quebec and Dominion of Canada, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bill and Letter Files, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to the class of bill-files which are formed of a wire stringer having jointed ends, on which bills or letters, after being punctured by the wire, are strung; and my invention consists of the construction hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved bill-file without a stand. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the same attached to a stand, and Fig. 3 is a detail view.

A indicates a piece of wire, which is bent into any desirable form in which its ends may be brought together. The end *a* is cut away to form a beveled shoulder, *b*, on its outer surface, and is pointed, so that papers may be strung thereon by pressing them against its point. The other end, *a'*, is provided with a groove, *b'*, in its inner surface, and is set farther in toward the center of the device than the end *a*, so that when the latter is pressed inward to allow the end *a* to be caught in the groove *b'* the spring of the metal will draw said end *a'* against the end *a* and hold them firmly together. By means of the groove *b'* and the shoulder *b* the extreme ends of the wire are made flush with the continuous surface, so that the papers on the stringer may be moved about thereon or over the joint in either direction without being caught on the ends. When used without a stand or holder, the file may be hung on a nail driven into a wall. The upper end of the groove *b'* terminates in a hole, *b²*, formed, like the groove, longitudinally of the wire, in which hole and groove the end of a second wire may be inserted to allow the papers to be transferred from the file to the second wire when it is desired to empty the file of old papers and to bind the papers together for preservation.

A convenient stand or holder for the file is formed of a block, B, having a vertical groove,

c, in its upper surface, into which a portion of the ring or other form of the file is to be set. Various forms of devices may be used for locking it in said position. A convenient locking device consists of a pivoted latch, *c'*, which is adapted to be swung over that part of the groove *c* which lies between the upward-projecting parts of the file, said latch being of such a length that its ends will rest against said parts, and being of such a breadth that in moving over the groove it will be engaged by the tongues *c²*, which are secured to the stand. With this construction the file may be used either with or without the stand, the parts being readily detachable.

The stand may rest flat on a desk, or it may be hung on a nail in the wall by means of a sliding plate, *d*, which is fitted in a recess, *d'*, in the bottom of the stand, and is provided with a perforation, whereby it may be hung on a nail. When the stand is not to be hung up, the plate *d* may be pressed into the recess *d'* out of the way.

The stand B is provided with a paper-punch, C, consisting of a spring, *e*, secured to the upper surface of the stand, and having a pointed projection, *e'*, which is adapted to be inserted into a hole, *e²*, in the stand when the spring is pressed down. To the under side of the metal spring *e* is secured a supplemental spring, *f*, which is provided with a perforation, *f'*, opposite to the projection *e'*. With this construction, when the punch is pressed down upon several sheets of paper placed thereunder, the projection *e'* will through the perforation *f'* into the papers, and when allowed to rise the spring *f* will force the papers off the projection *e'*.

I do not broadly claim a bill-file consisting of a bent wire having one end adapted to be set in a recess in the other end; nor do I broadly claim the combination, with such a wire, of a stand for supporting the same.

What I claim is—

1. A bill-file consisting of a piece of bent wire having the end *a* pointed and cut away on its outer surface, forming a shoulder, *b*, and having the end *a'* provided with a longitudinal groove, *b'*, in its inner surface, and set in toward the center, about which the wire is

bent farther than the end *a*, and having said end *a'* provided with a longitudinal bore, *b'*, for receiving a second wire, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

5 2. The combination, with a bent wire for holding papers in a bill-file, of a stand having a seat or groove in which said bent wire may be set up, and a catch for securing said wire

in said position, substantially as shown and is described.

MICHAEL B. HURLY.

Witnesses:

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Of the city of Quebec, Painter.

J. B. PARKIN,

Of the city of Quebec, Notary Public.