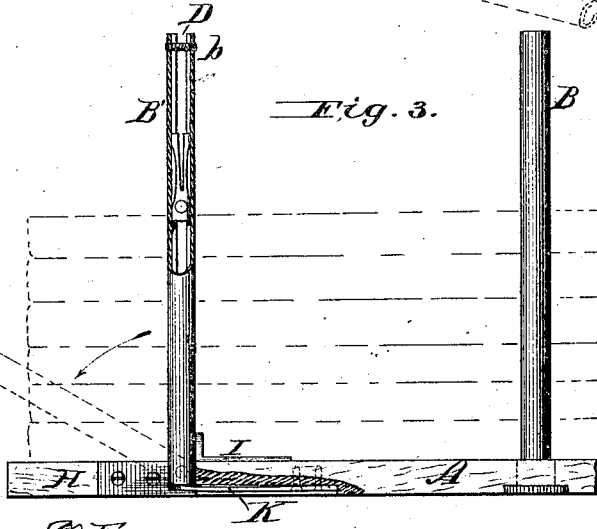
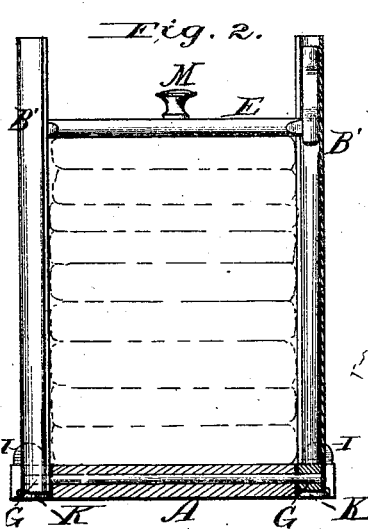
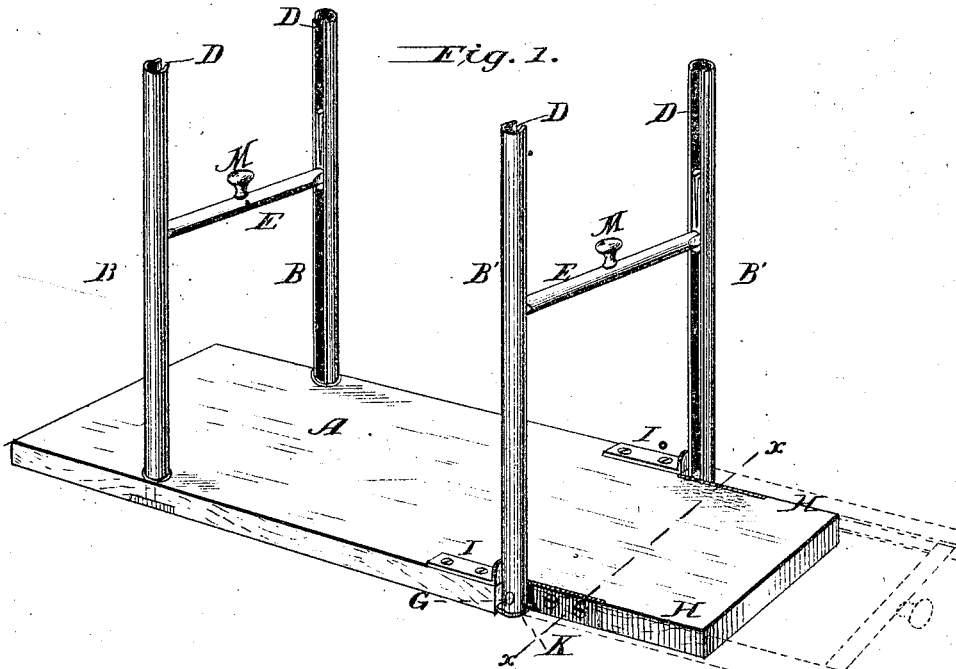


H. BALDWIN.
Bill and Paper Files.

No. 207,477.

Patented Aug. 27, 1878.



Attest.
W. P. Perrin,
J. A. Rutheford

Inventor:
Hannum Baldwin,
By James L. Norris, Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HANNUM BALDWIN, OF WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BILL AND PAPER FILES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 207,477, dated August 27, 1878; application filed July 11, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HANNUM BALDWIN, of West Chester, in the county of Chester and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bill and Paper Files, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to an improved device for holding and filing bills, letters, and other papers; and it has for its object to provide a means by which any convenient number of such papers, properly folded, may be conveniently clamped together in a compact bundle and retained, and at the same time to provide for readily releasing one end of such bundle in order that the indorsements upon the separate papers may be readily examined without separating the papers of the bundle, as more fully hereinafter specified.

My invention consists of a rectangular base or table provided with four vertical hollow standards, two of which are stationary and the other two pivoted to said base, so that they may be turned down into a horizontal position, each of said standards being provided with a longitudinal slot or opening, into which set the ends of two transverse binding-rods, which are provided with binding-springs, adapted to slide in the hollow standards and hold the rods in any desired position, as more fully hereinafter specified.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved device; and Fig. 2 represents a transverse vertical section through the base on the line *xx*, Fig. 1, and diametrically through one of the hinged standards. Fig. 3 is a side view with a portion of the base and also a portion of the wall of one of the standards cut away. Fig. 4 is a detail view, showing the construction of the spring-slides.

The letter A represents a rectangular base, constructed of wood or other suitable material; and B B and B' B', four vertical standards secured to the sides of the same near the ends thereof. Said standards consist of hollow metallic columns slotted longitudinally on their inner sides from end to end, as shown at D, in which slots set the ends of the transverse binding-bars E, which are provided with friction-springs F, setting in the hollow standards, and adapted

to expand and clamp against the interior surfaces of said standards.

The standards B B are rigidly secured to the base A in any convenient manner, the standards B' B' being pivoted to said base by means of pivots G, the sides of said base being cut away toward the end, as shown at H, to permit said pivoted standards to be turned down into a horizontal position, for the purpose to be hereinafter specified. Each of said standards is open at the top for the insertion of the cross-bars and their springs, and is provided with a transverse screw, *b*, by means of which said cross-bars are confined in said standards after being placed therein.

The letter I represents two abutments, located at the rear of each of the pivoted standards, which serve to limit their movement and retain them in a horizontal position when elevated.

Immediately below the pivoted ends of the standards B' B' are located the free ends of the flat springs K K, and secured to the lower side of said base. Said free ends of the springs bear against the lower ends of the pivoted standards, and serve to confine the same in position when either elevated or depressed.

To file the papers in my improved device, the transverse bars are elevated by means of the knobs M thereon a sufficient distance to leave a proper space for the insertion of the papers. After the same have been properly arranged upon the base the cross-bars are forced down upon the papers, the friction-springs serving to hold the same in place and secure the papers in a compact bundle upon the base.

When it is desired to refer to any particular paper the cross-bar secured between the pivoted standards is elevated a sufficient distance, and said standards with the cross-bar are thrown into a horizontal position, so as to clear one end of the bundle of papers and leave the same free to be separated and examined, the other end of the bundle being securely held by the cross-bar between the stationary standards.

When it is desired to remove a paper entirely, after the proper one has been selected, the bar of the stationary standards is sufficiently elevated to permit the paper to be slipped out.

After this the pivoted standards and the cross-bars may be returned to their normal position, securing the papers again.

The advantages of my invention consist in its simplicity, cheapness of construction, and the convenience with which it can be operated. Moreover, it forms a neat and ornamental device, by means of which the papers may be temporarily retained in a compact form, and referred to or removed without inconvenience, the whole occupying but little more room than an ordinary package of similar papers.

What I claim is—

1. In a paper-file, the combination, with slotted tubular standards and a transverse or cross bar, of friction-springs fitted in the standards and attached to the ends of the said bar, and adapted to hold the same in any adjusted position by frictional contact, as set forth.

2. The combination of the stationary standards with transverse clamping-bar, and the pivoted standards and transverse clamping-bar, whereby the ends of the papers may be left free in order to examine the papers separately, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of the pivoted standards and their clamping-bar, the springs bearing against said standards for holding the same in a vertical or horizontal position, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

HANNUM BALDWIN.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. RUPERT,
J. H. DARLINGTON.