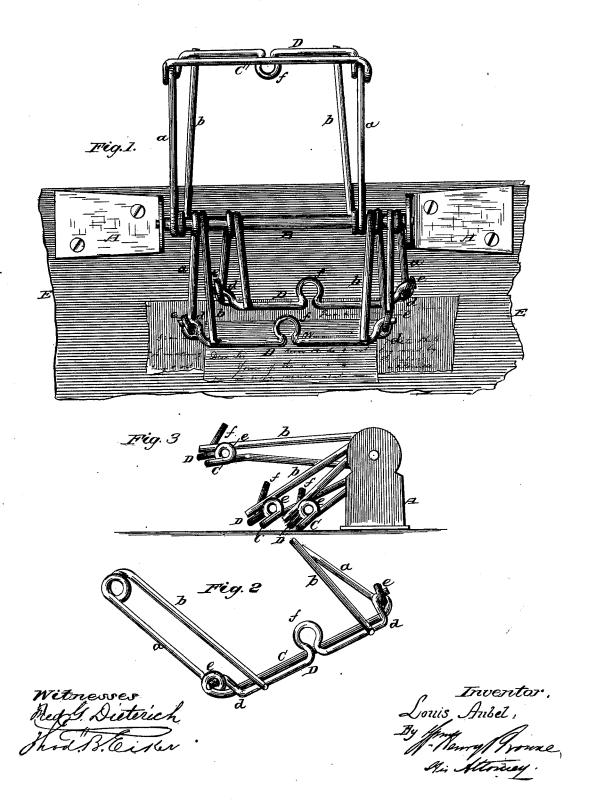
L. AUBEL. Letter Clip and File.

No. 213,374

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS AUBEL, OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN LETTER CLIP AND FILE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **213,374**, dated March 18, 1879; application filed February 17, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS AUBEL, of the city of Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Letter Clips or Files, of which improvement the following is a full and clear specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a convenient and comparatively inexpensive apparatus for counting-houses, offices, and places of business, whereby two, three, or more sets of bill-headings, letter-headings, or other blank forms, or papers, may all be kept on the same file without being mixed or confused, or for any analogous purpose.

I accomplish my object by having any desired number of clips moving backward and forward on a single shaft resting on standards, as will more readily appear by referring to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 represents my invention as when ready for use, the outer clip being thrown back on the shaft, so as to expose the second. The inner clip or clasp is represented as holding a paper. Fig. 2 represents one of the clips or clasps temporarily detached from the shaft with the jaws parted. Fig. 3 is a side view of my device, with one of the clips or clasps partly raised.

In the drawings similar letters indicate similar parts.

A A are standards fastened to the top of the board or back E. B is a shaft supported by said standards. C C C are the lower jaws of the clips or clasps, and D D D are the upper jaws of said clips or clasps.

In details a a a are wires coiled round the shaft B and forming the lower jaw of the clip or clasp, the ends b b b constituting springs which operate on the upper jaw, D D D, d d being the cranked ends of the said upper jaw, the journals working in supports e e e, and f f being the thumb bar or lever of the upper jaw.

It must be obvious that all that is necessary to do to open the jaws of said clip or clasp is to press said thumb - bar, which causes the wire D to partly revolve, and, owing to the crank at each end thereof, to rise. When pressure on the thumb-bar is removed, the springs press down the cranked wire and the jaws are tightly clasped.

I claim as my invention—

1. A device for holding letters or other papers, consisting of two or more clips or clasps, D C, said clips or clasps being hinged on a shaft, B, so as to move backward or forward, as desired, in combination with the standards A A, and arranged and operating as described.

2. The clip or clasp formed of two pieces of wire, the longer of which pieces constitutes the lower jaw, C, and spring, and the shorter of which pieces, with a crank at each end and a thumb-bar, constitutes the upper jaw, constructed, arranged, and operating as described.

LOUIS AUBEL.

Witnesses:

E. PLEASANTS, E. A. HERN.