A. T. Jenning,

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ALVA F. JENNINGS, OF FREDONIA, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 97,198, dated November 23, 1869; antedated November 11, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN BRAID-HOLDERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVA F. JENNINGS, of Fredonia, in the county of Chautauqua, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Braid and Binding-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention.

Figures 2 and 3 represent a slight change in the shape of the holder, the latter having a hank or skein of binding thereon.

Like letters of reference designate corresponding

parts in all the figures.

My invention consists in forming out of a single piece of elastic metal wire a holder, upon which can be placed, without previously unwinding it, a skein or hank of braid, binding, lace, webbing, &c., which securely holds the same, and will do away with the tedious process of winding on cards and the other methods now in use.

In the drawings, fig. 1 shows a side view of my invention in its simplest form. Fig. 2 shows it slightly

varied.

To form these holders, I simply take a single piece of suitable metal wire possessing a springy property, brass or steel being preferable, and bend the two ends backward and downward, giving to the two upper corners the appearance of loops, which serve for the various purposes of preventing the braid, &c., from slipping off, of attaching tags for prices, number of yards, &c., as shown in fig. 3, and to hang up the article in sight of customers.

The lower ends a a of this wire are then bent outward parallel to the straight top piece A, and are either left straight out, as in fig. 1, or bent in loop-

shape, as in figs. 2 and 3.

The operation and use are as follows:

Take the skein, hank, or bundle of cord, lace, bind-

ing, &c., and select a holder having sufficient length and width, insert one end into the hank. Then, by pressure, spring back inwardly the other end far enough to insert it into the opening at the other end of the hank, as shown in red lines. When this is done, stop the pressure, and the holder will spring back into shape, and securely hold the braid, as shown in fig. 3.

This makes a very light holder, and the peculiar shape prevents the braid, &c., from slipping off; and if sold in the piece, the article can be at once taken off as readily as put on, without unwinding.

These holders will be made any and all sizes, to suit the different articles for which they are intended.

They are designed to do away with cards of wood, pasteboard, &c., now generally used, and which are objectionable, as what they hold has first to be wound on them, and when the braid or other article which encircles them has been unwound, they are seldom, if ever, of use again, and are thrown away, and in all cases liable to be broken or defaced. As fast as mine become entirely vacated, they can be inserted into a fresh skein. &c.

Their unquestionable durability, exceeding cheapness, saving of trouble, &c., will make them an important article in the business for which they are intended. Therefore,

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure

by Letters Patent, is-

The holder A, made in one piece of wire, so bent as to form spring sides, with retaining stops, all constructed and operating in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALVA F. JENNINGS.

Witnesses:

L. HURLBUT,

L. AVERY BANNORE.