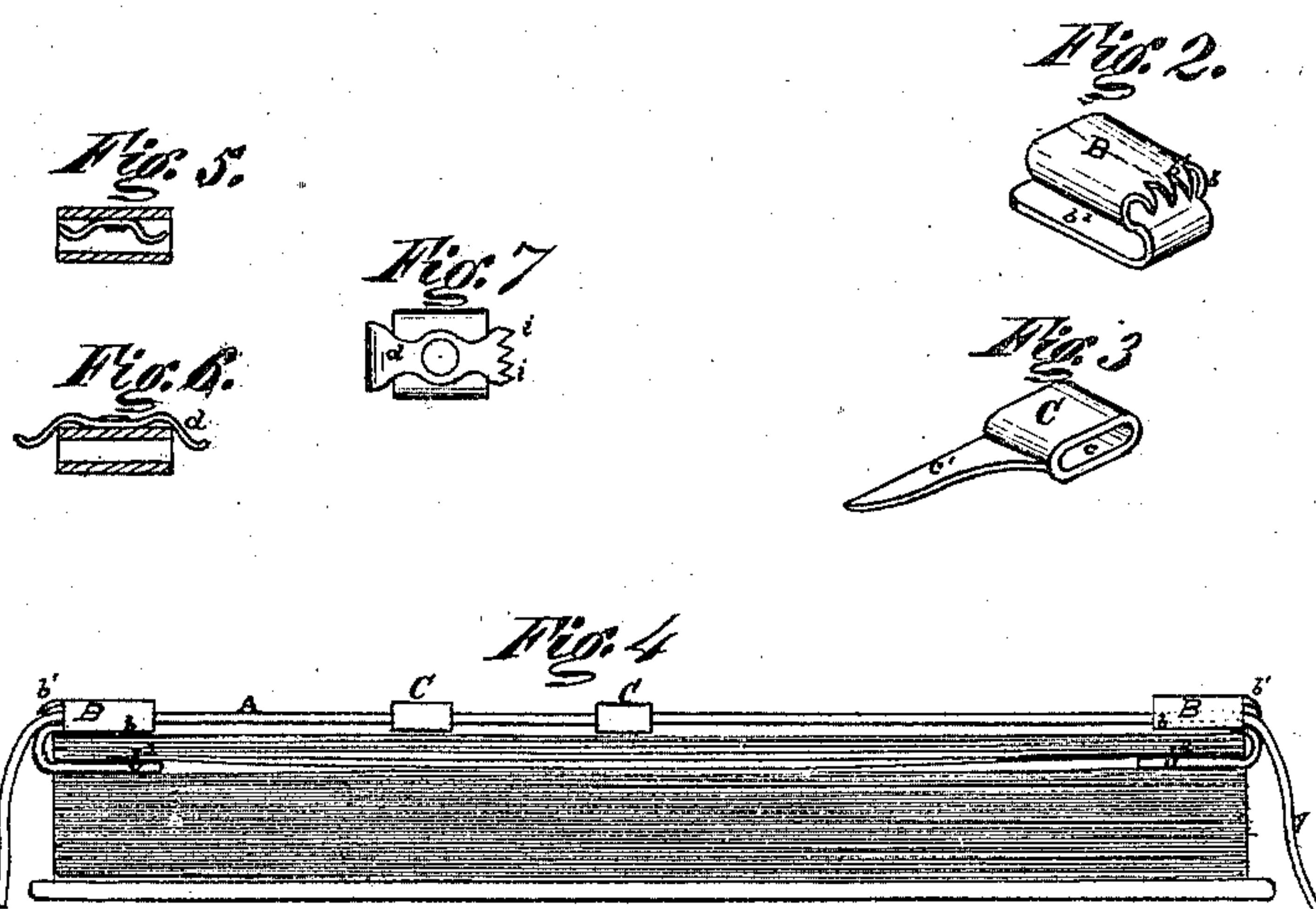
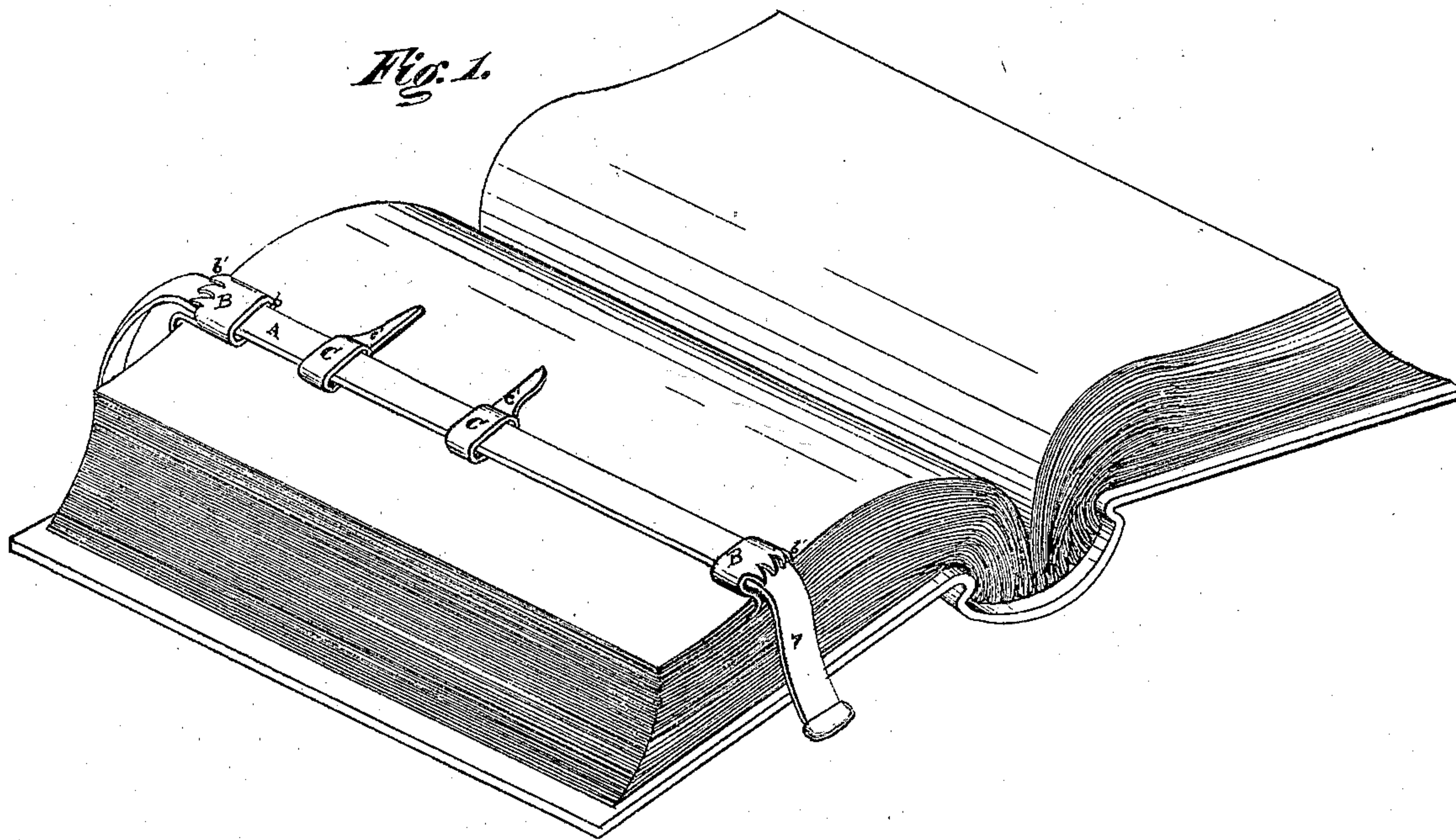


H. M. WARD & G. E. DOLTON.

Book-Marks.

No. 139,936.

Patented June 17, 1873.



WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY M. WARD AND GEORGE E. DOLTON, OF MONEE, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOK-MARKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **139,936**, dated June 17, 1873; application filed August 7, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, HENRY M. WARD and GEORGE E. DOLTON, of Monee, in the county of Will and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Book-Marks, of which the following is a specification:

Our improvement or invention has reference to a device intended to mark a particular place in a book, and also a particular line or lines on the page; and consists of a band upon which are two clasps which grasp a number of leaves at the top and bottom of the book, respectively, and in one or more pointers which slide upon the band, all arranged as hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure I is a perspective view of our device in use. Figs. II and III, respectively, are perspective views of a clasp and pointer; Fig. IV, an edge view of our device in use; Fig. V, a section of one of the pointers showing the employment of a spring; Fig. VI a similar view with the spring outside; Fig. VII, a plan of the above provided with teeth.

A is a band, preferably made of elastic material, such as rubber, or rubber covered with cotton or silk. B B are two clasps, consisting of the slide *b*, through which the band A passes, and which are furnished at one end with teeth *b*<sup>1</sup> for retaining the clasp on the band, and of the hook *b*<sup>2</sup>, which in use is made to clasp a suitable number of pages. C C are pointers, formed of a slide, *c*, to fit the band A, and a point, *c*<sup>1</sup>, projecting out from the slide for the purpose of marking any line or word desired.

In some cases we prefer to provide the pointer C, and even the clasp B, with a small sheet-metal spring, *d*, Fig. VI, which is placed on the slide *b*, and presses down upon the band to increase the friction and thereby retain the clasp or pointer safe from accidental movement upon the band. The spring *d* may also be arranged on the inside of the clasp, as shown in Fig. V, and provided with teeth *i i* to retain the band shown in Fig. VII.

The operation of the invention is as follows: The pointers C are first slid upon the band A, and afterward the clasps B, the hooked parts of the clasps *b*<sup>2</sup> being pointed toward each other, and the teeth *b*<sup>1</sup> from each other. The clasps C are brought sufficiently near together to hold firmly to the leaves upon which they are hooked, the edge of the leaves passing between the hook *b*<sup>2</sup> and slide *b*. The clasp is prevented from slipping on the band by the teeth *b*<sup>1</sup>, which do not restrain said clasps from being drawn nearer together, but oppose any movement in the other direction by penetrating into the material of the band. After hooking the band in the place desired the pointers can be slid either up or down upon it to the place or places required to be marked, the clasp *c* being made to fit the band so as to be moved without difficulty, but not sufficiently loose to endanger an accidental shifting of position. When it is required to change the band to another part of the same book it is only necessary to stretch it sufficiently to withdraw the hooks *b*<sup>2</sup> from their hold upon the edge of the leaves, and then after placing the band where required suffer it to contract and hold the hooks firmly clasped upon a suitable number of leaves as before. If desired to transfer the band to a larger book, it is stretched at the point where the clasps B are placed, so as to reduce the thickness of the band sufficiently to permit either of the slides *b* to be drawn toward the end of the band without having the hook *b*<sup>1</sup> to catch upon said band. The clasps can thus be adjusted to any size of book. If a rubber band is used the clasps B will not require frequent changing, as its elastic nature will adapt it to a very considerable range in the size of the books.

The principal advantage claimed for this device over book-marks heretofore in use is superior convenience. It can be so readily adjusted to any size of book, and the pointers—any number of which can be used upon a band—are so conveniently arranged that taken together they are believed to more nearly answer the requirements of lawyers

and others needing such marks than any before offered to the public.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

An elastic band, A, in combination with the clasps B, and pointers C, for the purpose described.

In witness whereof we have hereunto

signed our names in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY M. WARD.

GEORGE E. DOLTON.

Witnesses:

W. F. HUTCHINSON,

AUG. EHRHARD.