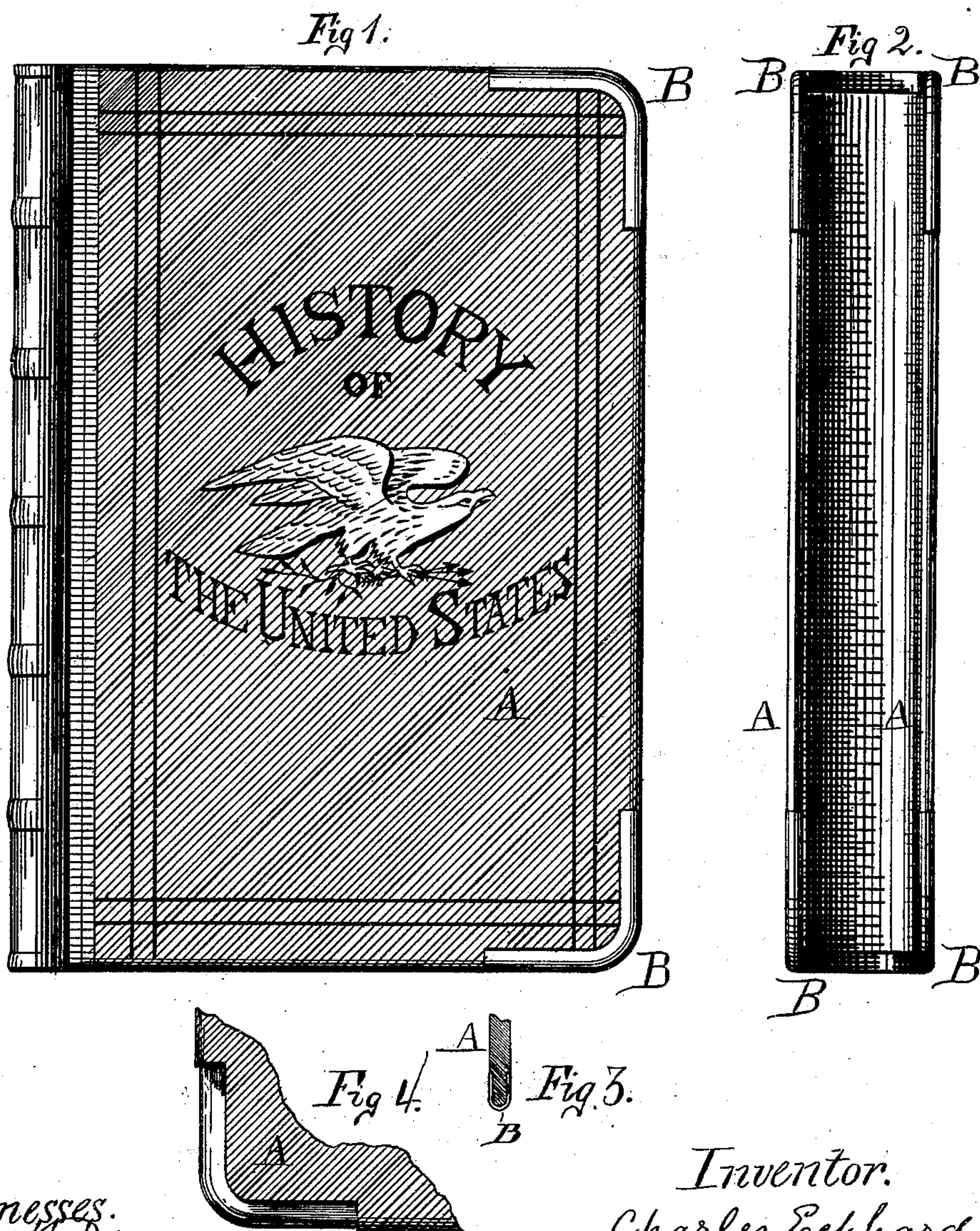


C. ECKHARD.  
Book-Cover.

No. 216,318.

Patented June 10, 1879.



Witnesses.  
H. A. Parker.  
J. W. Whitney.

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Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES ECKHARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOK-COVERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,318**, dated June 10, 1879; application filed March 3, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES ECKHARD, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Book-Covers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is more especially designed for school-books, which, from the exceptionally hard usage to which they are exposed, commonly have their corners bruised and destroyed long before the printed portions are seriously impaired.

It comprises a stiff book-cover made with rounded corners, recessed and rabbeted upon their peripheries, and fitted with correspondingly-curved metallic shields, which are U-shaped in their cross-section, and have their external surfaces flush with the adjacent surfaces of the cover and their outer edges flush with the adjacent edges of said cover.

The rounded corners present no salient point for blunting or abrasion; the metal protects the weaker material of which the cover itself is formed; and the shields being countersunk flush with the surfaces and edges of the cover, no salient edges are presented against which force accidentally or mischievously applied can be exerted to push the shields from their places.

Figure 1 is a side view of a book or bound volume the cover of which is made according to my invention. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view in cross-section of one of the curved metallic shields. Fig. 4 is a detail view of one of the recessed rounded corners of the cover.

The cover A is made of board or other suitably stiff material, and may be backed upon the book in any appropriate way. The outer corners of the cover are rounded off into semi-circular form, and have affixed upon them the metallic shields B, of corresponding curvature. These shields are made of sheet metal, are U-shaped in transverse section, as shown in Fig. 3, and are clasped upon the peripheries of the

rounded corners aforesaid, the said peripheries being rabbeted, as shown in Fig. 3, so that the sides of the shields are let in to bring their surfaces flush with the flat adjacent surfaces of the cover. Moreover, the edges of the cover, at the rounded corners thereof, where the shields are applied, are recessed or cut away, as shown in Fig. 4, to enable the outermost or circumferential edges of the shields to come flush with the adjacent edges of the cover, as more clearly shown in Fig. 1. The shields are retained in place by being tightly compressed upon the material of the cover passed into their interior when they are applied in place.

I do not claim flat angular plates applied to the external surfaces of book-covers, and projecting beyond the said surfaces and the edges of the books, as is sometimes done with costly bindings, said devices being open to all the objections which my invention overcomes—such, for example, as presenting sharp hard corners, more or less dangerous under the handling of young children, heavy and clumsy if applied to books for school-room use, too expensive in production and application for use upon that class of books necessarily sold at a low price, and withal liable to be knocked off even with only moderately rough usage; but,

What I do claim as my invention is—

The herein-described stiff book-cover, having rounded, recessed, and rabbeted corners, and furnished with the correspondingly-curved metallic shields B, which are U-shaped in their cross-section and fixed flush with the adjacent surfaces and edges of the cover A, all substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

CHAS. ECKHARD.

Witnesses:

W. R. WHITNEY,  
H. F. PARKER.