(No Model.)

H. DIDOUT, FILS.

FRAME FOR POCKET BOOKS, &c.

No. 296,940. Patented Apr. 15, 1884.

Fig. 1

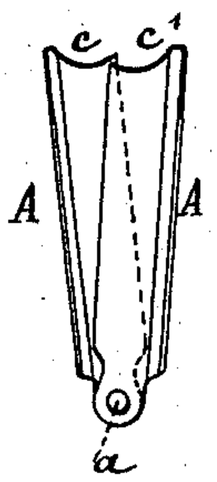


Fig. 2

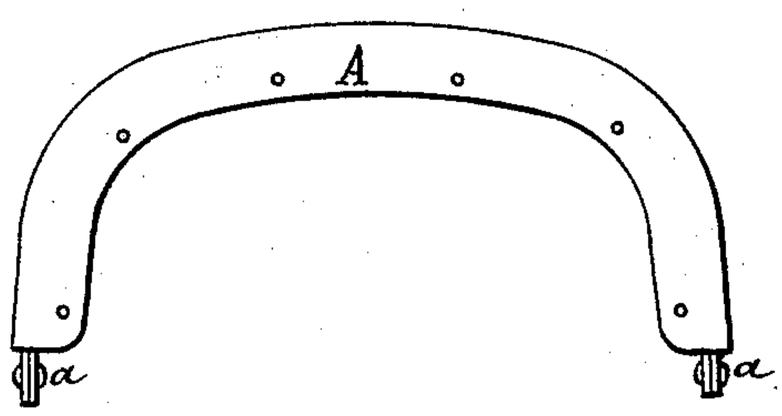


Fig. 3

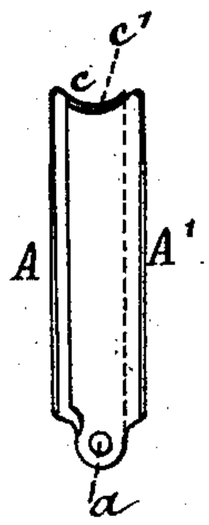


Fig. 5

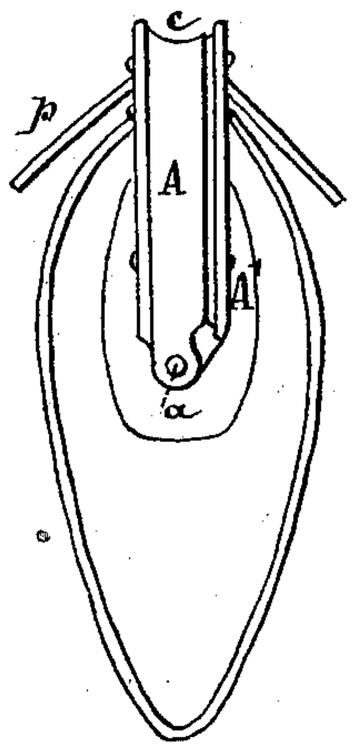


Fig. 6

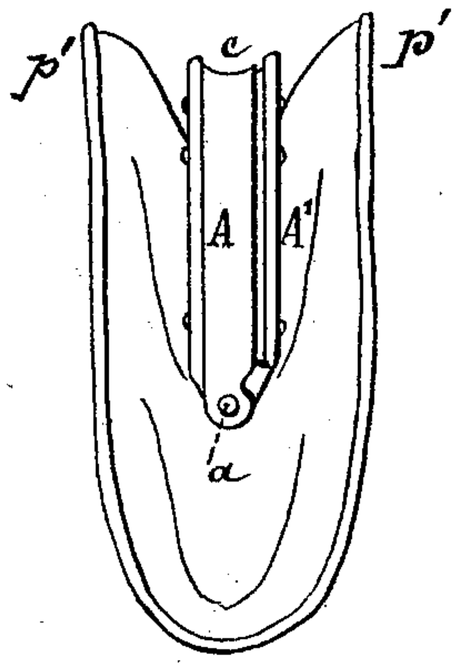
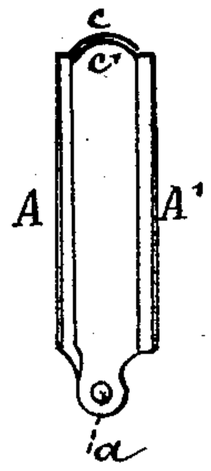


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIPPOLYTE DIDOUT, FILS, OF PARIS, FRANCE.

FRAME FOR POCKET-BOOKS, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,940, dated April 15, 1884.

Application filed February 27, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HIPPOLYTE DIDOUT, Fils, a citizen of the French Republic, and a resident of the city of Paris, France, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Frames for Pocket-Books and Similar Receptacles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to metallic hinged frames for pocket-books, porte-monnaies, purses, bags, &c., provided with means for keeping the same fastened when the receptacle is closed.

The object of the invention is to provide a fastening that will keep the jaws of the frames fastened one to or within the other without the employment of extraneous or visible means of fastening.

In the drawings which serve to illustrate my invention, Figure 1 represents a frame constructed according to my invention in cross-section and unfastened. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the frame. Fig. 3 is a cross-section similar to Fig. 1, showing the jaws of the frame closed and fastened. Fig. 4 is a section similar to Fig. 3, illustrating a slightly-modified form of the jaws. These four views show the frame alone detached from the receptacle. Figs. 5 and 6 are end views illustrating two different forms of bags or receptacles.

A and A′ represent the two jaws of the frame, which are hinged at *a a*, in the usual way. These may have any of the ordinary forms—as, for example, that shown in Fig. 2, which is arched or curved. On the inner faces of the jaws are formed projecting flanges *c* and *c′*. These are formed usually by turning up the edge of the sheet metal from which the jaw is formed. These jaws are so constructed as to size that when they are hinged together one flange or lip, *c*, will take over the other, *c′*. Now, in order to form a fastening to hold the two jaws together when they are thus closed, I form the flanges slightly concavo-convex, as clearly shown in Figs. 1, 3, and 4. When constructed in this manner, a slight pressure is necessary to engage them; but the elasticity of the metal causes both to yield slightly, and they engage with a snap, the parts standing then in the position shown in Fig. 3. This fastening will be amply sufficient to prevent the jaws from being opened inadvertently, and if the parts be properly fitted the joint will be substantially dust-proof. To open the receptacle, the jaws may be separated by a slight pull, and to enable this to be effected the receptacle may be provided with metal or leather tabs *p*, as shown in Fig. 5, or with hinged rings or other similar devices that may be grasped by the fingers; or the bag or receptacle may be provided with upwardly-projecting parts *p′*, as shown in Fig. 6.

In lieu of making the flanges *c c′* concave exteriorly, they may be made convex enteriorly, as in Fig. 4.

The advantages my construction has over those in ordinary use are these: It offers no projecting parts to wear or injure the pocket or to catch on the clothing, and it is very simple, durable, and cheap. If properly made, it will wear indefinitely, or at least as long as the material of the receptacle.

Having thus described my invention, I do not wish it understood that I claim, broadly, as a fastening, concave and convex pieces of elastic metal arranged to engage by a pressure which will cause the metal to yield until the parts are engaged, as this is not new; but

What I do claim is—

A frame for pocket-books and similar receptacles, comprising the two jaws A and A′, of elastic metal, hinged together as shown, and provided with concavo-convex engaging-flanges *c* and *c′*, respectively, constructed and arranged to operate substantially as set forth.

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

HIPPOLYTE DIDOUT, FILS.

Witnesses:

LOUIS PHILIPPE MONET,

AMAND RITTER.