(No Model.)

L. SCHMITT.

ADJUSTABLE SHELF SUPPORT.

No. 397,251. Patented Feb. 5, 1889.

Fig. 1.

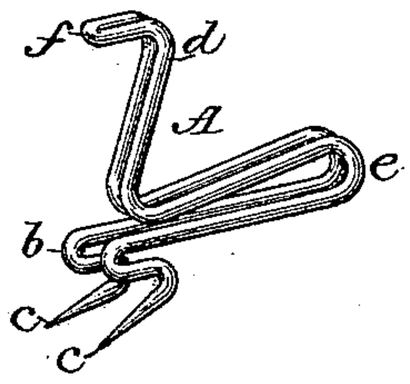


Fig. 2.

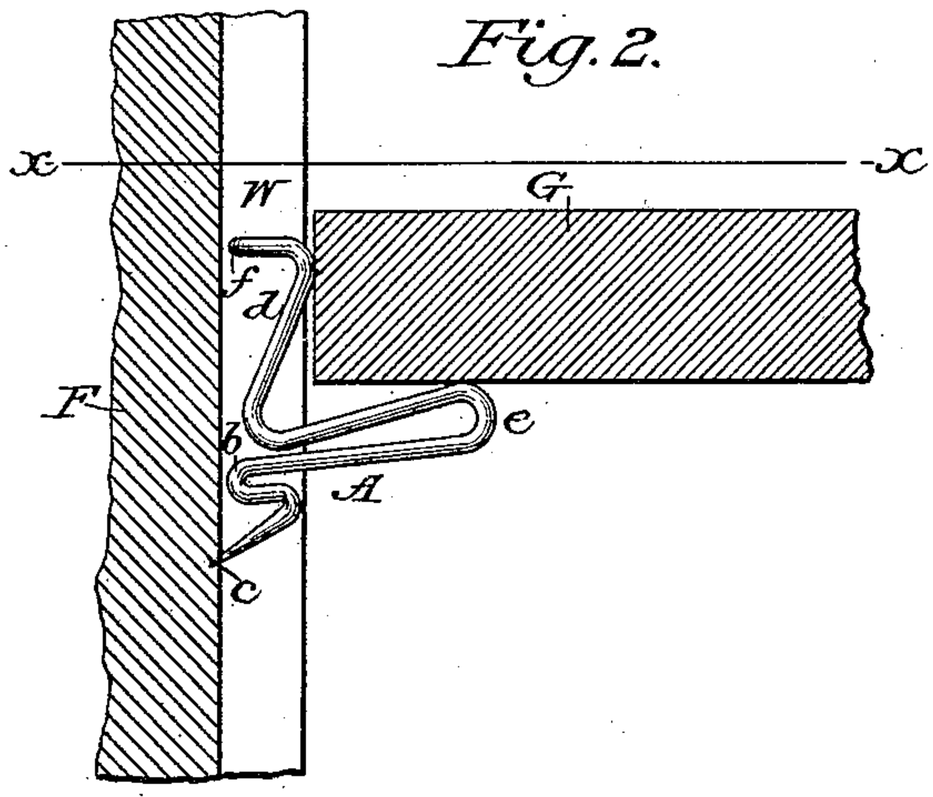


Fig. 3.

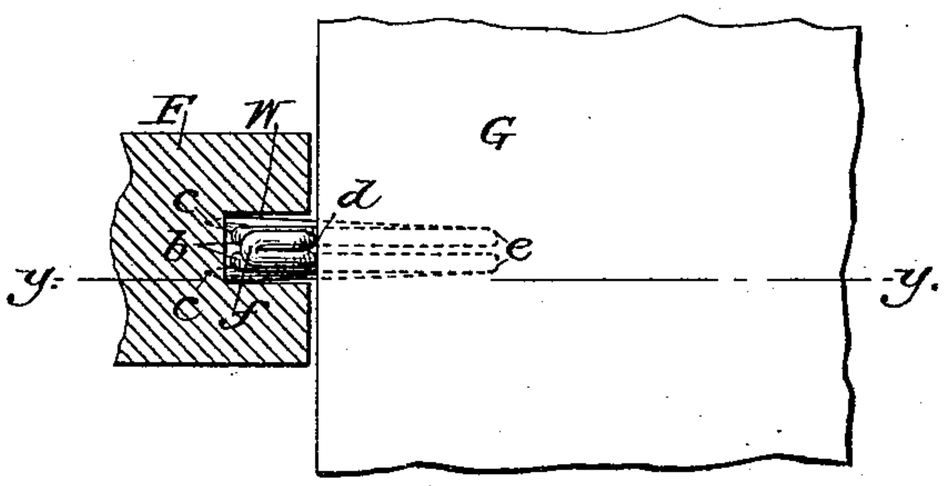


Fig. 5.

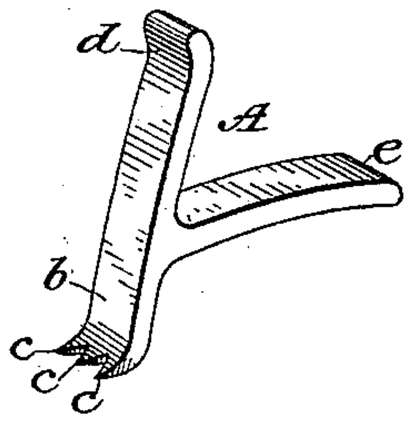
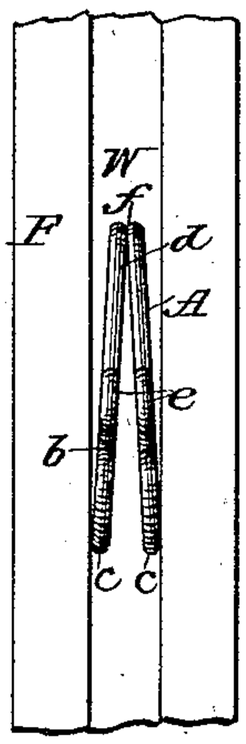


Fig. 4.



Attest:

A. K. Jesbera.

E. M. Watson,

Inventor:

Louis Schmitt

By David A. Burr

Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS SCHMITT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ADJUSTABLE SHELF-SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 397,251, dated February 5, 1889.

Application filed September 29, 1888. Serial No. 286,736. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS SCHMITT, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Adjustable Shelf-Supports; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of my improved shelf-supporting device or bracket when constructed of wire; Fig. 2, a sectional view of a shelf supported by means of said device; Fig. 3, a transverse section in line *x x* of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, an elevation of the device inserted in a retaining-groove in the upright for the support of the shelf, the shelf being removed; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the device when made solid.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, cheap, efficient, automatic adjustable device for the support of a shelf.

It consists, as represented in the accompanying drawings, Figs. 1 and 5, of a metallic end supporting piece or bracket, A, formed with a lower member, *b*, having sharp points or claws *c* projecting outwardly from its lower end, an upper member, *d*, extending upwardly to form substantially an extension of the lower member, *b*, and a third member, *e*, projecting about midway between the extremities of the members *d* and *b* on the side opposite that from which the claws *c c* project and at an angle more or less acute with the upper member, *b*, as shown in the drawings. This automatic, adjustable, and detachable supporting piece or bracket A may be cast or forged in one solid piece, as shown in Fig. 5; but preferably it is made of a piece of wire doubled upon itself, as shown at *f*, Figs. 1, 3, and 4, to present two parallel lengths, which together form the upper member, *d*, and are then together bent outwardly and doubled back again, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, to form the central member, *e*, and are finally extended in substantially a right line with the member *d*, but in the form of a reverse curve, (see Figs. 1 and 2,) so as to bring their two ends in position to project in the opposite direction from the member *e* in a plane parallel therewith, said ends being sharpened to form the points or claws *c c*, which are adapted to be readily forced into the surface of the upright F.

In the use of the device for the support of a shelf it is preferably inserted in a longitudinal slot or groove, W, cut vertically in the face of the upright F, by which the shelf G is to be upheld, and which serves to conceal the bracket and to permit the end of the shelf to come against the face of the upright.

The two lengths of wire forming the bracket are sprung apart at their lower pointed ends, as shown in Fig. 4, so that when inserted in the slot W they will have a lateral elastic bearing against the sides thereof sufficient to automatically uphold and retain the bracket in the slot before its claws are forced into the upright by the weight of the shelf. This automatic lateral hold of the device within the slot enables it to be moved up or down for adjustment without dropping out before it is made to more firmly engage the upright by means of its claws. The engagement of the claws *c c* with the upright F is enforced by the pressure or weight of the shelf G upon the outwardly-projecting member *e* of the bracket in connection with the confinement of the upper member, *d*, by the ends of the shelf, as shown in Fig. 2. The upper end of the member *d* of the bracket may be bent in the same direction as the claws to form a projection, *f*, to bear against the face of the upright, so that when the shelf is removed and it is desired to disengage the bracket the member *e* may be used as a lever, with the projection *f* as its fulcrum, to withdraw the claws from their hold upon the upright F.

It is evident that the greater the weight placed upon the shelf upheld by the bracket A in manner as described the firmer will be the hold of the bracket upon the upright F, to which it is attached.

I claim as my invention—

1. A shelf support or bracket formed, substantially as described, with an upper member, as *d*, to bear against the end of the shelf, a second central member, as *e*, projecting from

the first at an angle more or less acute to pass under the shelf, and a third lower member, as *b*, forming, substantially, an extension of the first, and terminating in sharp points projecting in a direction opposed to the second member to engage the standard provided for the support of the shelf.

2. The shelf-bracket constructed of a wire doubled and closed upon itself to form one end of the bracket, and having its two free ends pointed and bent at an angle with the length of the bracket to form its opposite end, and its central portion bent outwardly in a loop to project in a direction opposed to that of the pointed ends and at an angle inclined more or less toward its closed end, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

3. The shelf-bracket constructed of an upper member to bear against the end of the shelf, a central member projecting therefrom at an angle more or less acute to pass under the shelf, and a lower member forming, substantially, an extension of the first, and consisting of two elastic laterally-expanding arms terminating in sharp points projecting therefrom in a direction opposed to the central member of the bracket, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS SCHMITT.

Witnesses:
A. N. JESBERA,
E. M. WATSON.