

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE WILLIAM LEPPER, OF ST. ALBANS, VERMONT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO H. ELMER WHEELER, OF SAME PLACE.

PAPER-BAG HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 549,875, dated November 12, 1895.

Application filed August 3, 1895. Serial No. 558,071. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE WILLIAM LEPPER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of St. Albans, in the county of Franklin and State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper-Bag Holders; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of the invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section through same with bags inserted.

This invention has relation to a device for holding paper bags; and it consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of the above-named character which can be suspended from a ceiling or other overhead support, which can be quickly filled, which is capable of holding bags of different sizes in convenient and accessible positions, the bottoms of the bags being all on the same level, and from which the bags can be withdrawn by a downward and outward movement without in any way weakening them, as is the case where they are torn from a wire or like holding device.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the bottom of the holder, which consists of an elongated piece of board whose longitudinal edges are cut or notched at intervals, as at *a*, for the purpose hereinafter stated. Secured to the upper face of this board at suitable intervals from each other are a series of upright brackets B, to the lateral vertical arms of which are secured side strips C, which extend the full length of the holder. These brackets form partitions which divide the holder into a series of compartments. Supported in the upper portions of said brackets, centrally of the holder, is a longitudinal bar D, which also extends the full length of the holder.

E E designate a series of holding devices,

which are for the purpose of pressing the bags outwardly against the side strips C. Each of said devices preferably consists of a piece of wire whose central portion is coiled around the bar D to form a strong spring *e*, while its branches are extended downwardly and laterally in opposite directions under the tension of the spring and are formed into broad loops *e'*, between which and the said side strips the bags are confined. One of these devices is provided for each compartment.

In the drawings I have shown the holder suspended from a bar F by means of a series of wires G, which are attached to the brackets B. The bar F is in turn suspended from the ceiling or other overhead support. Other suitable suspension devices may, however, be employed.

H H designate guards, one at each side, which are for the purpose of preventing the upper portions of the larger sizes of bags from falling outwardly. These guards are shown as consisting each of a piece of wire whose ends are loosely connected to the end brackets B, from which the wire obliquely extends upward toward the central portion of the holder, where it forms a horizontal arm *h*. In this horizontal arm are bent loops *h'*, which loosely engage two of the suspending-wires G. The rod or bar D prevents the bags from falling inward.

I I are twine-holders, one of which is usually provided at each end of the bag-holder. These holders in the present instance are shown as consisting each of a cup having a headed lug *i*, which engages an open vertical slot *i'* in the end bracket. The holder is filled by simply cutting the bands on the packages, pressing back the spring-arm of the holding devices, and dropping the bags in bottom down. The bags are drawn out as wanted by the thumb and finger through between the side strips and bottom, the notches *a* permitting them to be readily grasped.

It will be noted that the bottom projects slightly beyond the vertical plane of the inner faces of the side strips in order to catch the bags, and whereby as a bag is drawn out the remaining bags, if caught up, will be drawn down.

For convenience in packing the suspension-

wires G may be made to fold down upon the box D, as indicated in Fig. 2.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters

5 Patent, is—

1. The herein described paper bag holder, comprising essentially an elongated bottom portion, a series of brackets or partitions secured to said bottom portion, side strips secured to said brackets or partitions above the
10 bottom portion, a rod or bar supported centrally over the said bottom portion, and a series of holding devices carried by the said rod or bar and having opposite and outwardly
15 pressing spring arms which are designed to hold the bags against the side strips, substantially as specified.

2. The herein described bag holder consisting of an elongated, horizontal bottom portion having a series of notches formed in each of its lateral edges, a series of parallel brackets secured thereto, side strips secured to said brackets a short distance above said bottom
20 portion, a longitudinal rod or bar supported by the brackets over the central portion of said bottom portion, a series of holding devices carried by said bar and having spring actuated laterally acting arms which hold the
25 bags against the side strips, lateral-guards for the upper portions of the bags, and means for suspending the holder, substantially as specified.
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3. A bag holder comprising essentially a

bottom having its longitudinal edges notched, a series of brackets secured to said bottom, 35 side strips affixed to said brackets, a longitudinal bar supported by said brackets centrally over the bottom, a series of holding devices consisting each of a wire coiled around
40 said bar and having looped, oppositely extending arms arranged to hold the bags against the side strips, the suspending wires, and lateral guard wires loosely attached to the end brackets of the holder and formed
45 with loops which loosely engage a number of the suspension wires, substantially as specified.

4. A suspended bag holder having a series of compartments for bags, spring arms in each compartment for pressing the bags
50 against the lateral walls thereof, suspension wires attached to said holder, lateral guard wires upon each side of the holder, said wires being loosely attached to the holder, and arranged to engage the suspension wires at
55 their upper central portions, their end portions being downwardly inclined from said central portion, and one or more twine holders attached to the bag holder, substantially
60 as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE WILLIAM LEPPER.

Witnesses:

SILAS W. FLINN,

E. J. DANIELS.