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Patented Oct. 18, 1898.

M. STEINTHAL.
SAMPLE DISPLAY DEVICE.

(Application filed Dec. 10, 1897.)

(No Model.)

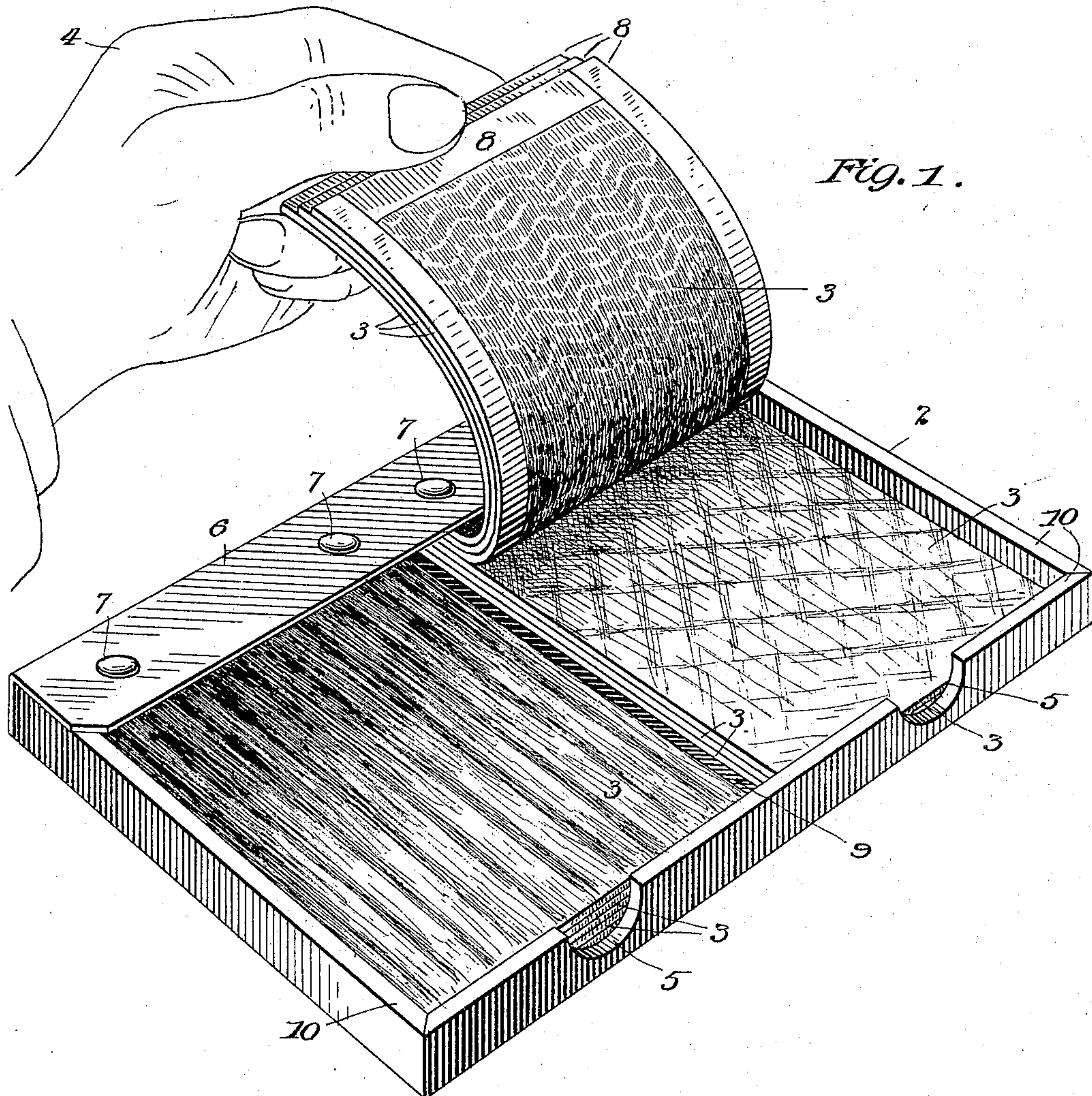


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

Paul S. Ober.
A. M. Hayes.

INVENTOR

Martin Steintal,
BY
Fowler & Fowler
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN STEINTHAL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SAMPLE-DISPLAY DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 612,463, dated October 18, 1898.

Application filed December 10, 1897. Serial No. 661,390. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN STEINTHAL, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Samples and Display Devices Therefor, of which the following is such a full, clear, and exact description as will enable any one skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in samples and devices for displaying samples of materials, whereby samples of materials which are ordinarily displayed in stacks or bunches with a fastener at one end thereof may be rendered neater and may be looked over with greater ease and facility and at the same time the samples themselves may be better protected and made to last longer for the purpose for which they are used.

To these ends my invention consists in the various novel and peculiar arrangements and combinations of the several parts of the devices, all as hereinafter fully described and then pointed out in the claims.

I have illustrated a type of my invention in the accompanying drawings, wherein—
Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved sample-tray with some of the samples shown as being held in the hand of the user as he looks them over and lets them fall back into place one by one. Fig. 2 is a view of a sample, in cross-section, showing the manner of applying the backing thereto.

Referring to the drawings, in which like numbers of reference designate like parts throughout, 2 is a tray of rectangular shape made after the manner of an ordinary tray with a bottom 9 and four upright sides or edges 10.

3 3 represent samples of material—such, for instance, as pieces of cloth—which are cut in rectangular form of uniform sizes, so that they may be put up in stacks or bunches with their edges falling in the same planes.

The tray may be of a size to easily receive a single stack of samples or may be elongated, so as to receive side by side more than one stack, the drawings herein showing two such stacks, each of which is so arranged as to

have its upper surface flush with the top of the tray, as indicated in the drawings. The stack of samples is secured by one end to one side of the tray, and the other three sides are left free, so that the samples may be taken up by the hand 4 by the other end of the stack from where they are fastened and may be turned over like the leaves of a book, as indicated in Fig. 1.

In order to enable the user to more readily get hold of the outer end of the stack of samples to run them over, I form the side of the tray opposite that to which the samples are fastened with a notch 5, so that the thumb may be easily entered therein and the samples readily picked up. Two notches 5 are shown, one being for use with each stack of samples.

The samples may be secured in place by any ordinary well-known means, though in the drawings herein I show a fastening device comprising a strip 6, which extends over the side of the tray and projects over a sufficient distance upon the stack of samples to permit the ordinary McGill fasteners 7 to be passed down through the strip and through each sample out through the bottom of the tray, where they are clenched in the usual way. The clenched ends of the metallic fasteners 7 7 are concealed by a flap on the bottom 9 of the tray after the manner shown in my United States Letters Patent No. 587,881, granted August 10, 1897, to which reference may be had in this connection.

A great drawback in handling samples of woven materials is the constant fraying or raveling of the pieces at their edges, and in addition to affecting the neat appearance of the sample the continued action thereof quickly destroys the sample and makes it necessary for the same to be renewed, which renewal in some instances entails considerable expense upon the person putting out the samples. In order to overcome this objection and, furthermore, to facilitate the ease with which the samples may be run over by one hand, I apply to the backs of the samples a backing-piece 8, which I secure directly to the material by paste or like substance, so as to secure them intimately together. This backing-layer 8 may, if preferred, cover the entire under surface of the sample or it may

be applied in the form of a strip around the edges thereof, as shown herein. The strip-like form of backing is preferable in use with cloth samples for the reason that the samples
5 are not materially stiffened throughout the greater portion thereof, but are merely given a desired degree of stiffness at the edges. This backing may be applied to the material before the samples are cut up or after they
10 have been so cut; but the former way does not necessitate subsequent trimming down of the edges, as is likely to be the case in the latter instance. Where the samples are very flimsy material, the backing 8 may cover the
15 entire back of the sample; but in any case the backing must extend out flush with the exposed edges of the sample.

The backing 8 may be of any suitable material, and from use I recommend a thin paper somewhat stiff or a fabric like silesia.
20 The particular qualities which are preferable in the backing material are those of smoothness, thinness, and slight stiffness, as the edges of the samples are then well protected, and the ends which are manipulated by the
25 hand of the user may be run off from the thumb like the leaves of a book. In fact, in using a bunch of samples provided with my backing they may be quickly run off from the
30 thumb by being held in the position shown in Fig. 1 and without liability of running off two together, and thereby missing a sample, as is often the case where a bunch of samples having raw unprotected edges is used.

35 In addition to the advantages already pointed out in connection with my improvements the tray, with its contained samples, affords a handy device for one looking over the samples and is neat and attractive in its appearance. The device is very compact, and
40 several of them can be stacked up in a comparatively small space for transportation. The tray itself affords a housing for the stack of samples, the edges of which are concealed
45 and protected by the sides of the tray, and in this way the samples are not only protected against wear and mutilation, but are

also protected from dust and foreign matter, the presence of which would soil the samples and in some cases render them unfit for use. 50

I have made the trays with a pasteboard bottom and wooden sides, the whole being covered with figured cloth or linen; but of course any desired well-known material can be used for making them and, if preferred, 55 any desired inscriptions may be placed on the strip 6, where it will be conspicuous. The tray may be made quite ornamental by covering it with ornamented material.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is— 60

1. The combination of a set of superimposed raw-edged samples of flexible woven material, each having a layer of thin backing 65 material secured directly thereto flush with the raw edge for stiffening the same and preventing the samples from adhering to each other, whereby the samples may be readily separated from each other in running them 70 over, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of a tray provided with sides, one or more sets of superimposed samples of flexible material, each having a layer 75 of thin backing material secured directly thereto for stiffening the same and preventing the samples from adhering to each other, whereby the samples may be readily separated from each other in running them over, 80 a fastening device at one side of said tray for attaching thereto a stack of samples, the side of said tray opposite to the side where said samples are fastened being formed with finger-notches for gaining access to the edges of 85 the samples, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, this 9th day of December, 1897, in presence of the two subscribing witnesses.

MARTIN STEINTHAL.

Witnesses:

CHARLES ADLER,
S. MILLER CHESANT.