

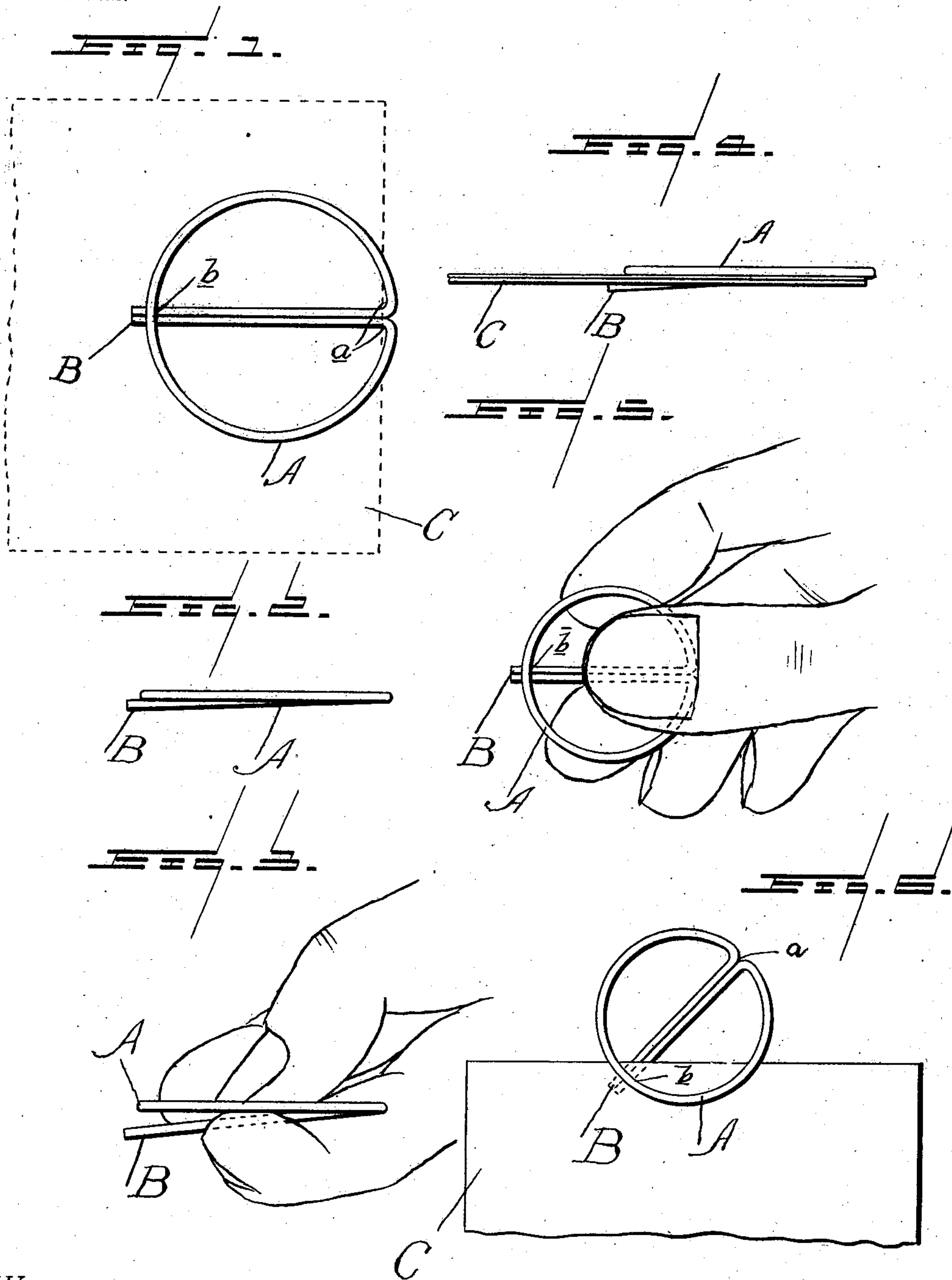
No. 744,529.

PATENTED NOV. 17, 1903.

H. E. GIFFORD.
PAPER CLIP.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 19, 1903.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:

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HARRY E. GIFFORD, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

PAPER-CLIP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 744,529, dated November 17, 1903.

Application filed May 19, 1903. Serial No. 157,861. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY E. GIFFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Bedford, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper-Clips; 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 the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in paper clips or fasteners; and it has for its object the provision of a simple, cheaply-constructed, and serviceable paper-clip constructed of a single piece of wire so formed as to permit the device to readily engage the edges of two or more papers and hold the same securely in place without injury to the device itself and without soiling or bending the papers at the point at which the clip is attached.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain the same consists in the novel form of the device, as more fully hereinafter described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and then specifically defined in the appended claim.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the device, the position occupied by the paper when engaged by the clip being indicated in dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the clip. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the method of applying the clip, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the clip attached to papers. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the clip, showing the method of applying it to the paper; and Fig. 6 is a top plan view showing its application without compressing the cross-wires.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates the clip, which is composed of a single piece of wire, the body portion of which is of a circular form. The free ends B of the wire are bent at substantially right angles at one side of

the circular body portion and extend transversely across said body portion upon horizontal lines and adjacent to each other, the ends of the wires terminating at a point a short distance beyond the body portion, as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

The diameter of the circular body portion of the clip is in clips for ordinary use slightly greater than the width of a person's thumb, so that in engaging the clip with the papers to be retained thereby the operator has merely to force downward the free ends of the wires, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, thus rendering it possible to quickly and readily insert the edges of the papers C to be retained by the clip between the parallel portions B of the wire of which the clip is composed and the circular body portion. It will at once be noted that the size and circular form of the clip will serve to provide a uniform pressure extending over a considerable surface of paper and that the paper engaged by the clip will be securely held in place without defacement or injury, and it will also be noted that the paper may be readily removed when desired from the clip without danger of tearing. It has been found that with many of the paper-clips that are in common use the paper is bent out of shape by the clip, and it is liable to be torn in hastily removing the paper. With the clip which I have described the wires, it will be noted, are absolutely straight and with no offsets or angles which would be likely to indent or injure the paper.

The essential features of my form of clip reside, first, in the circular body portion of the clip through which the thumb passes in pressing upon the free parallel ends of the wire, this circular form also affording a bearing for the fingers pressing in the opposite direction, thereby permitting the clip to be opened readily, and, second, in the distance between the spring-shoulder *a* and the point of contact *b*, where the free end portions B of the wires press against each other. By this construction the spring action of the cross-wires is not weakened in use, and the clip can in consequence be used for an indefinite time without injury.

It will be seen that it is not necessary to bend the papers in passing them between the wires of the clip, while the size of the body

portion is such as to prevent wrinkling or disfigurement of the papers, as above stated, and it will not be necessary that the edges of the papers be arranged uniformly in order
5 that the same should be firmly gripped by the arms of the clip.

When but few sheets of paper are to be engaged, the clip may be readily engaged, as shown in Fig. 6, without the necessity of com-
10 pressing the cross-wires.

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

A paper-clip made of a piece of flexible wire
15 having a circular shank portion, with two

straight parallel portions extending diametrically across the shank portion and in contact their entire length, the free ends of said straight portions extending beyond the circular shank portion against which they are
20 yieldingly held, the other ends of the straight portions terminating in angles in the circular shank portion, serving as stops to the edge of the paper, as shown and described.

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

HARRY E. GIFFORD.

Witnesses:

JESSE GIFFORD,

EDNA L. BURBANK.