No. 795,597. PATENTED JULY 25, 1905.

S. J. FLANAGAN.

BILL HOOK.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 19, 1905.

FIG. 1.

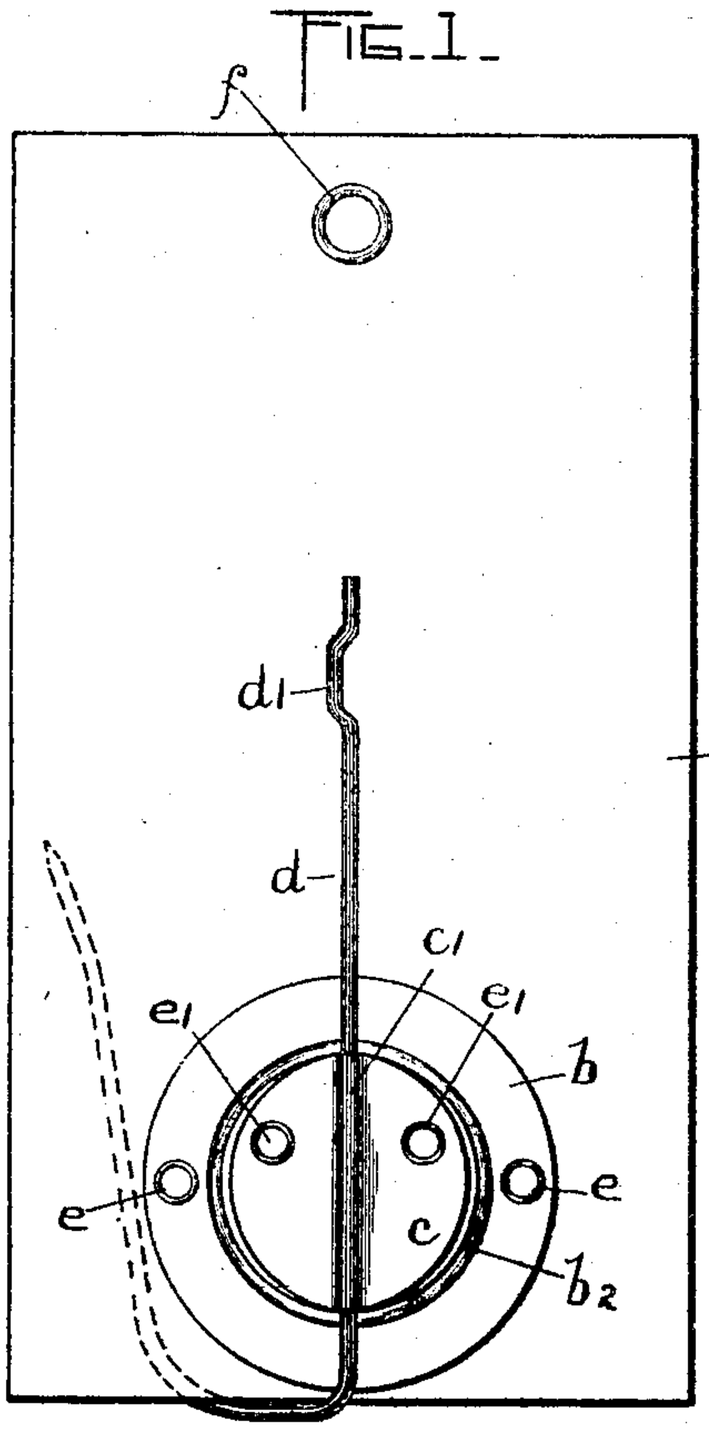


FIG. 2.

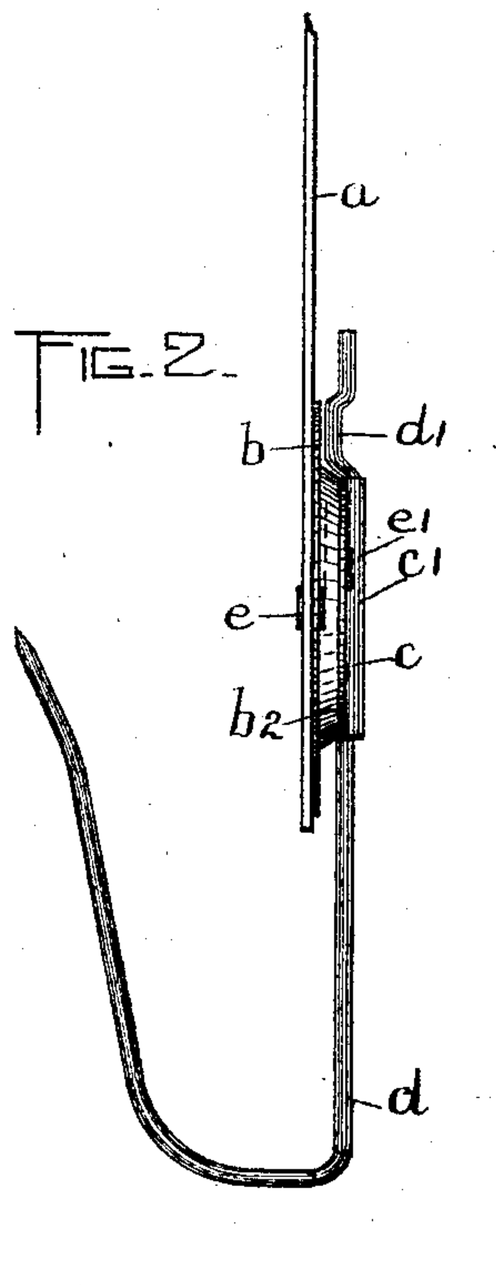


FIG. 4.

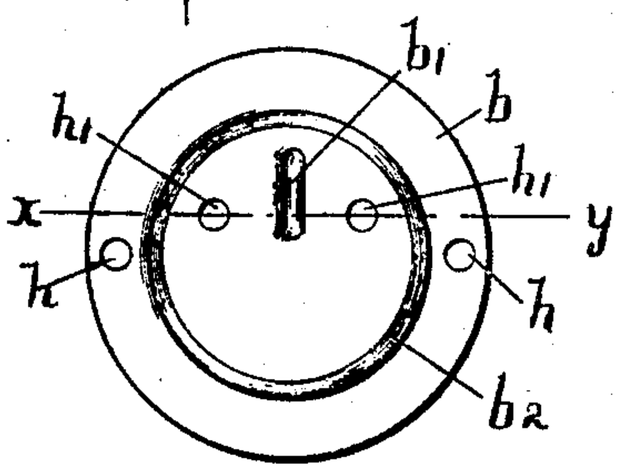


FIG. 5.

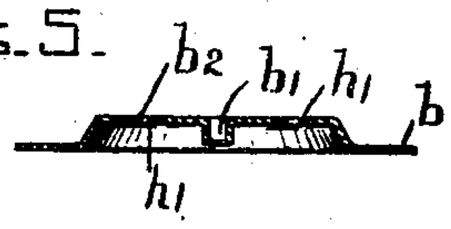


FIG. 6.

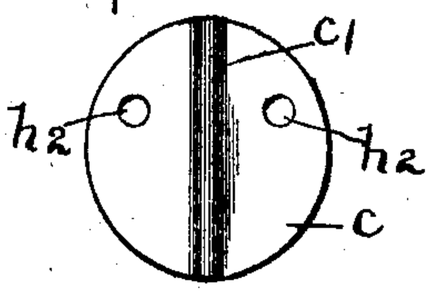


FIG. 7.

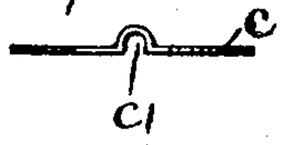
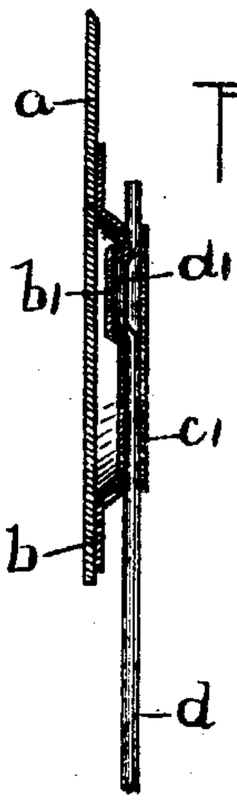


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES:

Osborne J. Gurney.

Clara M. Sidur.

INVENTOR:

Sylvester J. Flanagan

by W. H. Cooley atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SYLVESTER J. FLANAGAN, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO BASTIAN BROTHERS, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

BILL-HOOK.

No. 795,597. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 25, 1905.

Application filed April 19, 1905. Serial No. 256,459.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SYLVESTER J. FLANAGAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented an Improved Bill-Hook, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of bill-hooks comprising a supporting back piece, to which there is secured a hook with a pointed end for insertion thereover of the bills, letters, or memoranda to be kept for ready reference, the back piece serving as a means for suspending the hook from a wall or post in any suitable and convenient place.

This invention relates more especially to that class of bill-hooks which are termed "collapsible," in which the bill-hook proper can be turned so as to lie in a plane nearly or quite parallel with the back piece, so as to take up less room in packing, storing, or shipping, and has more especial reference to means for securing these desired features above mentioned in a more economical way, while serving more rigidly and effectually to hold the bill-hook proper in its operative position.

An essential feature of my present invention consists in a novel means whereby the hook is attached to the back piece more effectually than heretofore and permitting the complete assembling of the bill-hook proper with its directly-engaging parts in large quantities, so that they may be thus kept in stock and almost immediately attached to the desired back pieces upon receipt of an order for any particular kind of such back pieces, which usually bear advertisements of the concern purchasing them for gratuitous distribution for advertising purposes.

With these objects in view my invention consists in the combination of the usual back piece of cardboard, celluloid, or any suitable like material bearing when desired the advertising matter of a back plate or disk arranged to be attached to such back piece and having therein a slot for engaging the upper end of the bill-hook proper when in its operative position, and attached to such back plate there is a second clamping plate or disk having a suitable groove in which the bill-hook proper is arranged to slide and by means of which it is held against the back plate. The back plate and the clamping-plate with the bill-hook proper are arranged to be assembled in quantities and kept in stock and when desired can be attached to suitable back pieces.

The several drawings illustrating my invention are as follows: Figure 1 is a back view of the bill-hook assembled with the hook proper in its raised or upper position lying flat against the back piece of the bill-hook. Fig. 2 is a side view of the hook proper and the means for connecting such hook to the back piece. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken through the center line of the back piece and shows the hook in its downward or locked and operative position. Fig. 4 is a detailed view of one of the coöperating plates used to secure the hook proper to the back piece. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the plate shown in Fig. 4, taken along the dotted line $x\,y$. Figs. 6 and 7 are side and edge views, respectively, of the plate used to coöperate with the plate shown in Figs. 4 and 5 for securing the hook to the back piece.

As seen in the drawings, the bill-hook consists of a back piece a, having secured near its lower end by means of eyelets e a plate b, preferably of metal, with its central portion pressed out so as to lie in a plane parallel to the outside portion of the plate and a short distance back of it. In this central portion b^2 there is formed a short groove b', extending toward the back piece a, and on either side of this groove b' holes h' are made to register with similar holes h^2, formed in a second plate c. This plate c has formed along its vertical diameter a groove c', and such groove is so made as to fit around the hook d and form a slide for such hook. The plate c is secured to the plate b by means of eyelets e', and when thus secured in position upon the plate b the groove c' lies opposite the groove b'. The hook d has formed near its rear and upper end a projection d', arranged to lie in a plane passing through the hook d, and this projection is so made as to just fit into the groove b' when the plane of the hook is at right angles to the plane of the back piece a and when the hook is drawn downward, so as to bring such projection d' opposite to such groove b', which is the operative position of such hook. It will of course be understood that the plate c is formed of such material as to permit sufficient springing to allow the projection d' to pass over the central portion b^2 of disk b, just above the upper end of the groove b', and hold such projection firmly in

the groove b' when the hook is in its operative position, just described. Thus the plates b and c when held together by eyelets e', with the hook d in the groove c', form a guide in which such hook may be turned or moved longitudinally of the back piece when the projection d' is not in engagement with the groove b'. When the projection d' is forced into engagement with the groove b', it will be noticed the groove b' is so proportioned as to prevent either longitudinal or angular motion of the hook proper. Hence it will be seen that the plates b and c coöperate to form a positive means for holding the hook d in a position practically at right angles to the plane of the back piece a and also to prevent motion of the hook in a vertical direction. It will be noticed, also, that the plates b and c may be secured together with the hooks d between them in any desired quantity irrespective of the particular back pieces upon which these hooks are to be mounted, and thus that the bill-hooks proper may be made in advance and in readiness to secure to any back pieces, as may be desired. These back pieces a have usually near their upper end eyelets f inserted therethrough for hanging them where desired, so that the hooks may be used for preserving memoranda, such as bills, orders, &c.

What I claim is—

1. In a bill-hook, in combination with the hook thereof and a suitable back piece, an engaging projection formed on such hook in the plane thereof, supporting guiding and locking mechanism for such hook comprising a guide-plate permitting rotary and longitudinal movement of such hook and a separate locking-plate for engaging such projection on such hook and arranged to lock the same against rotary motion when drawn down to its lowest position, one of such plates attached to such back piece.

2. In a bill-hook, in combination with the hook thereof and a suitable back piece, an engaging projection formed on such hook in the plane thereof, supporting guiding and locking mechanism for such hook comprising a guide-plate permitting rotary and longitudinal movement of such hook and a separate locking-plate for engaging such projection on such hook and arranged to lock the same against vertical motion when drawn down to its lowest position, one of such plates attached to such back piece.

3. In a bill-hook, in combination with the hook thereof and a suitable back piece, an engaging projection formed on such hook in the plane thereof, supporting guiding and locking mechanism for such hook comprising a guide-plate permitting rotary and longitudinal movement of such hook and a separate locking-plate for engaging such projection on such hook and arranged to lock the same against vertical and rotary motion when drawn down to its lowest position, one of such plates attached to such back piece.

4. In a bill-hook, in combination with the hook thereof and a suitable back piece, supporting guiding and locking mechanism for such hook comprising two coöperating plates, one of such plates attached to such back piece.

5. In a bill-hook, a back piece, a hook having a projection at the upper end and in the plane of such hook, a first plate having a portion thereof lying in a plane parallel to but removed from such back piece, a second plate arranged to coöperate therewith and having a groove therein to support and guide such hook permitting vertical and rotary motion thereof and a groove in such first plate to engage such projection and prevent rotary and longitudinal motion of such hook when in its lowest position.

6. In a bill-hook, a back piece, a hook having a projection at the upper end and in the plane of such hook, a first plate having a portion thereof lying in a plane parallel to but removed from such back piece, a second plate arranged to coöperate therewith and having a groove therein to support and guide such hook permitting vertical and rotary motion thereof and a groove in such first plate to engage such projection and prevent rotary and longitudinal motion of such hook when in its lowest position, such plates held together independent of the back piece.

SYLVESTER J. FLANAGAN.

Witnesses:
ALBERT C. BELL,
CLARA M. SIENER.