

A. J. TICE.
BILL HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 2, 1905.

Fig. 1.

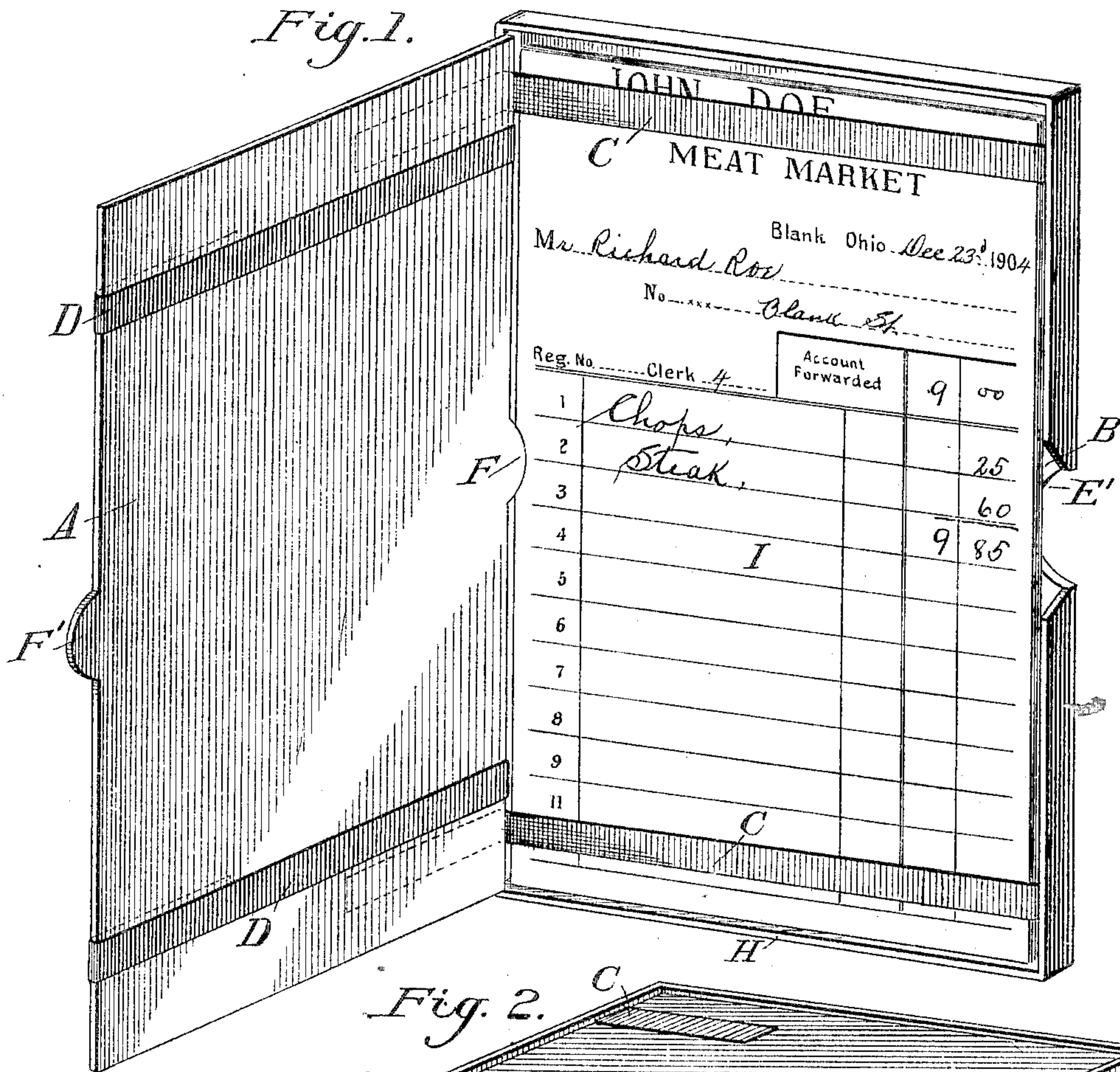


Fig. 2.

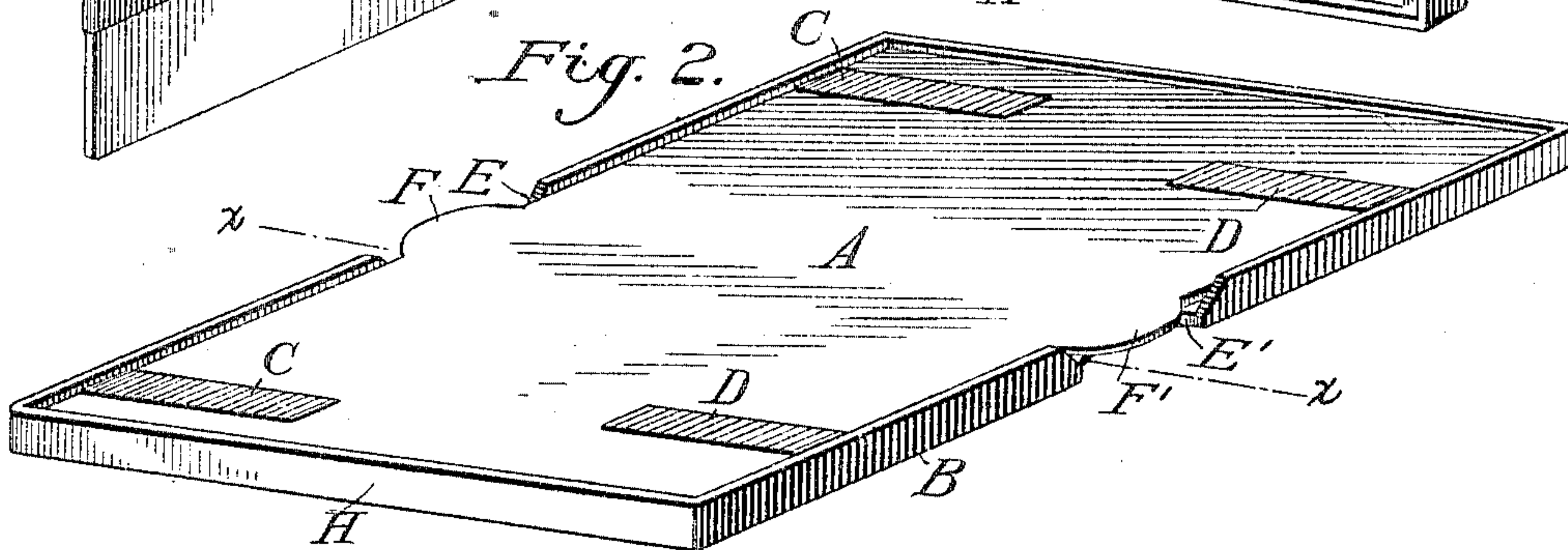
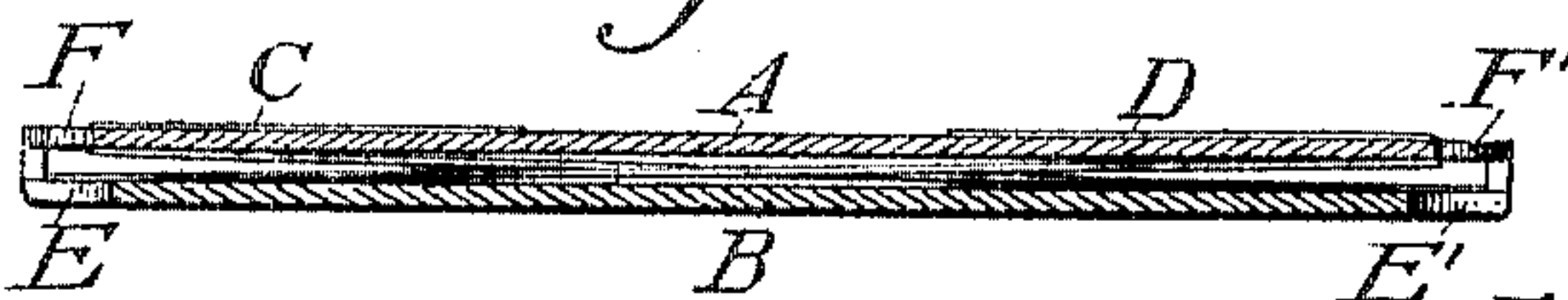


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. TICE, OF LISBON, OHIO.

BILL-HOLDER.

No. 804,445.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 14, 1905.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. TICE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lisbon, in the county of Columbiana and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bill-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

It is customary among mercantile establishments, particularly retail houses, for each salesman to make out original and duplicate bills for each sale, the original being retained by the house and the duplicate placed with the goods and given to the purchaser. This method of handling the duplicate bills or slips does not insure the preservation thereof by the purchaser, and they also frequently become lost before reaching the purchaser.

The object of the present invention is to provide an improved form of bill or loose-leaf holder which may be kept by the purchaser and which is constructed to contain the bills in their proper sequence, whereby the owner of the bill-holder may readily ascertain the condition of his account without recourse to the books of the mercantile establishment.

It is furthermore proposed to so construct the bill-holder as to enable the convenient placing of the bills or loose slips therein, to maintain the last bill in a position to be readily referred to, and to enable the convenient removal of the bills when the account has been paid.

A still further object of the invention is to prevent displacement of the bills from the holder and to avoid rumpling and injuring the bills when the holder is carried in a pocket of the clothing or a satchel and the like.

Another object of the invention is to enable the employment of the device as an advertising medium in addition to its capacity as a bill-holder.

With these and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts, as will be herein-after more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claim, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be made within the scope of the claim without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the present bill-holder with the front or cover open to expose the last of the series of bills. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the

holder closed. Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view on the line $x x$ of Fig. 2.

Like characters of reference designate corresponding parts in each and every figure of the drawings.

The present holder includes a back or body B and a front or cover A. The back or body B is in the nature of a flat plate of any suitable stiff material and of any approved dimensions, said back or body being surrounded by a marginal flange H, which extends entirely around the body and produces a shallow tray or case. The front or cover A is of a size to fit easily within the flange H of the body or case and is provided upon opposite edges midway of its ends with segmental ears or projections F and F', which project beyond the flange H and constitute finger-pieces for opening the front or cover. To accommodate these finger-pieces, the flange H and the back of the body B are cut away, as indicated at E and E', in order that the finger-pieces or projections may lie in the openings produced in the flange and be exposed by the openings or notches formed in the back of the body to permit of a finger being engaged with the under side of either finger-piece to swing the lid or cover to either side of the back or body.

The front or cover A is hinged to the back or body by means of pairs of tapes or straps C and D disposed between said front and back. The straps or tapes C have corresponding ends suitably connected to one edge portion of the back and their other ends connected to the opposite edge portion of the front or cover, while the straps or tapes D are arranged reversely with respect to the straps C. By this arrangement the front or cover A may be swung to either side of the back or body, and in either position of the front or cover there will be a pair of straps lying across the open side of the back or body.

In practice the salesman makes out an original and a duplicate bill in the usual manner upon any approved form of transfer-pad having a carbon element for producing a duplicate bill. The original bill is first torn off and retained by the house, the duplicate bill being placed in the bill-holder and handed to the customer. To place the bill in the bill-holder, the front or cover A is swung to the left and the bill is placed in the body or case across the straps C, whereupon the front or cover is closed and then swung over to the right-hand side of the case or body, which operation draws the straps C from beneath

the bill and folds the strap D across the front of the bill. When the front or cover is closed, the two sets of straps lie across the bill in the case or body, and one set of straps always extends across the bill to hold the same in the body or case when the front or cover is open at either side of the body.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that the present bill-holder is designed to be retained by the purchaser, who can readily ascertain the condition of his account by referring to the uppermost bill in the holder, it of course being necessary for the purchaser to carry the holder with him for the reception of the bills whenever purchases are made. By providing the back or body B in the nature of a tray or receptacle edgewise displacement of the bills from the holder is prevented, and as the front or cover A normally rests flat against the uppermost bill the series of bills is maintained in a flat snug condition within the body or case, and are thereby prevented from becoming rumpled and damaged by handling of the case and when the latter is carried in a pocket of the clothing, satchel, or the like.

In addition to serving as a holder for bills or other loose leaves, the present device may serve as an advertising medium by placing advertisements upon the rear exposed face of

the body and upon the opposite faces of the front or cover A.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is—

A holder for loose leaves comprising a back having a peripheral flange extending entirely around the same, the opposite edges of the back being provided with finger-notches which also intersect the flanges intermediate of the ends of the back, a front or cover of a size to fit within the flanged portion of the back and provided at its opposite edges with projecting finger-pieces to lie within the respective notched portions of the flange and be exposed by the notched portions of the back or body, and two pairs of straps, one pair of straps having corresponding ends connected to the front of the body adjacent one edge thereof with their other ends connected to the cover adjacent its opposite edge, and the other pair of straps having corresponding ends connected to the opposite side of the body with their other corresponding ends connected to the opposite edge of the cover.

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

ANDREW J. TICE.

Witnesses:

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J. W. STINE.