248-451

No. 883,433. PATENTED MAR. 31. 1908.

H. B. UTZ.

BOOK HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 31, 1908.

Fig. 1.

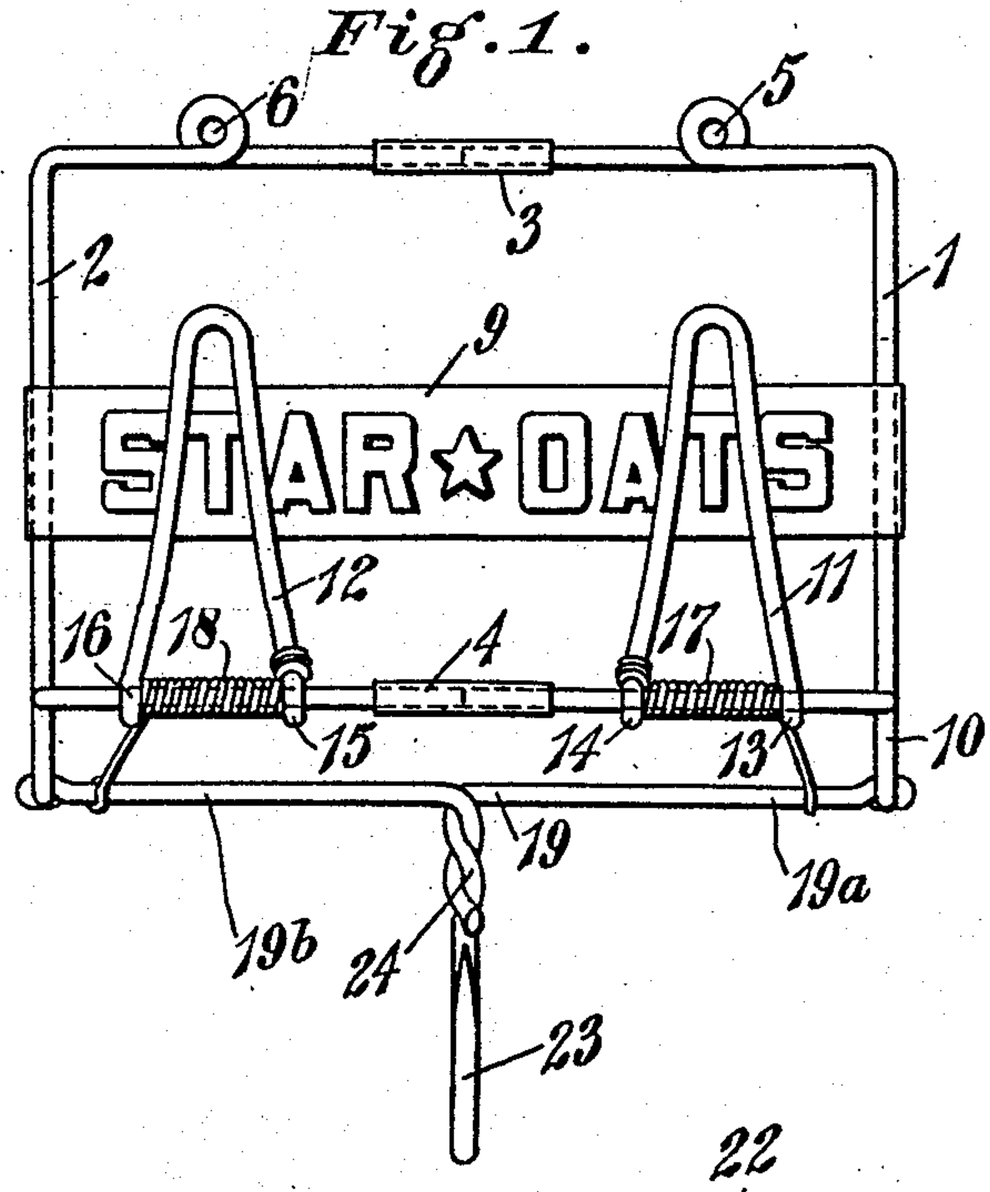


Fig. 2.

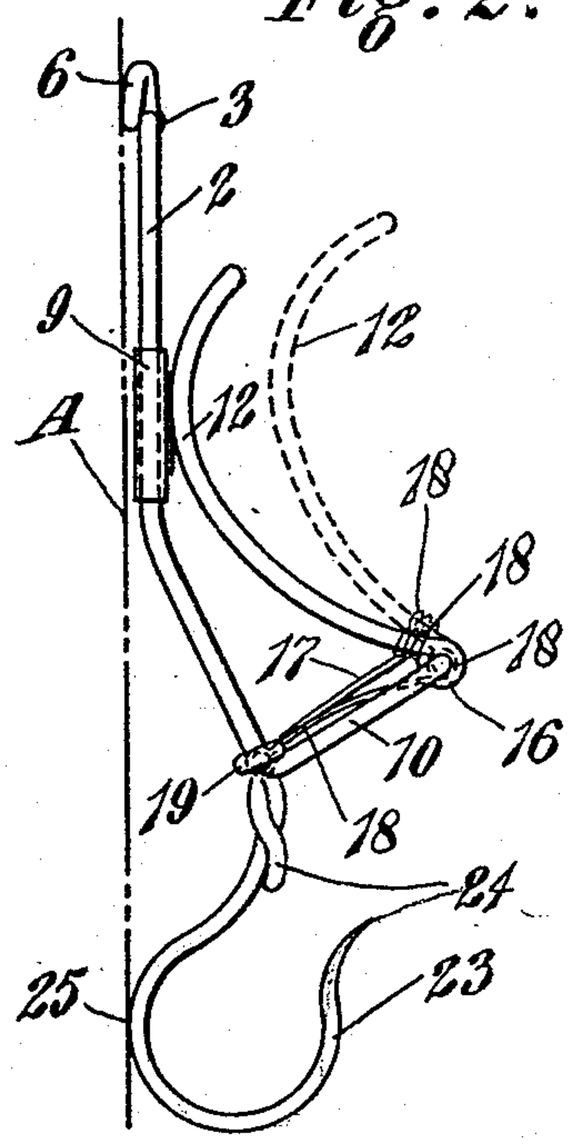
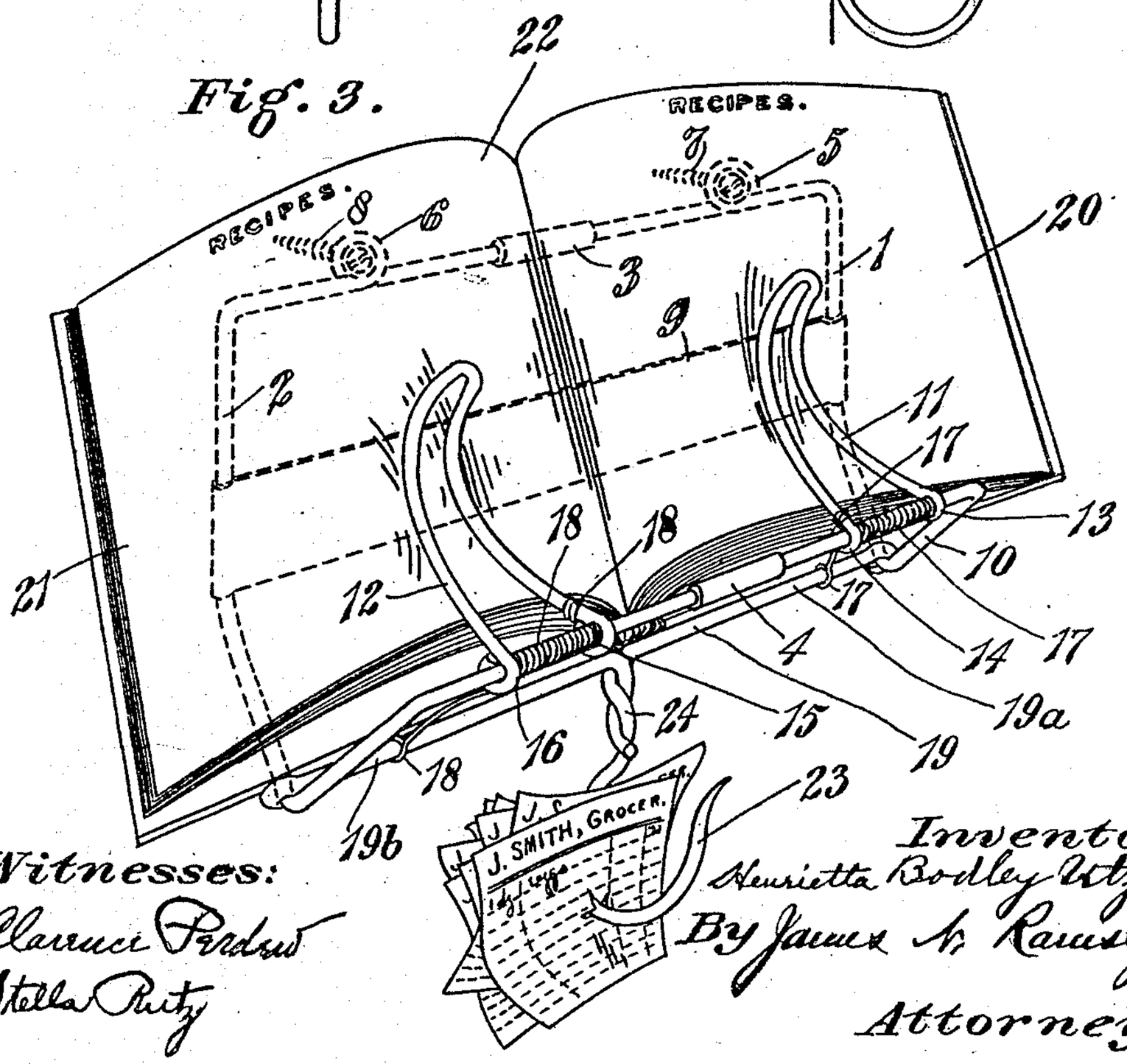


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BOOK-HOLDER.

No. 883,433. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 31, 1908.

Application filed January 31, 1908. Serial No. 413,501.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRIETTA BODLEY UTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at College Hill, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Book-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to book holders, and the object is to provide a simple and convenient device of this character, it being more especially designed for use in the kitchen for holding a cook book or other matter containing recipes, to which occasional reference must be made during the progress of the work, holding the leaves of the book stationary, and eliminating the necessity of repeatedly touching the book with the hands, thus avoiding interruption to the work and allowing the book to be kept clean.

My invention consists in a substantially rectangular frame provided with means for securing it to the wall and having its lower part divergent from the wall and provided with a ledge upon which the book is adapted to be supported, the ledge having clamping members pivoted thereon, and the clamping members being provided with springs to press them against the book or other article to be held, and being independent of each other to allow of equalization of pressure on the book or other article, and of independent release, as well as in the parts and the details of construction and arrangement of parts, as will hereinafter be more fully described and claimed.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a front elevation of a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of same, the straight broken line representing the surface of the wall or other object to which the device is adapted to be attached, and the dotted lines representing one of the clamping members in raised position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view illustrating the use of my invention, parts of the device being represented by dotted lines.

The rectangular frame is constructed of right and left parts 1 and 2, which are joined by upper and lower sleeves 3 and 4. However, it will be understood that this frame may be constructed of one piece of wire, in which case only one joint would be necessary instead of two joints where the sleeves 3 and 4 are provided; or any well known means of joining the ends of the wire or wires may be used. On the upper part of the frame composed of the members 1 and 2 are the loops 5 and 6 formed by properly bending the wires forming the members 1 and 2, and which loops are adapted to have screws 7 and 8 passed through them, as illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawing, for securing the device to the wall or any other vertical surface. Extending transversely of the frame near its middle is a broad, flat brace 9 which is secured to the side parts of the members 1 and 2 by bending it around them, while immediately below the junction of the base 9 with the side parts of the members 1 and 2, these members are bent in such a manner that when the device is attached to the wall, as above described, the lower parts of the members 1 and 2 diverge from the wall, so that the lower part of the frame is thrown outward from the wall or other vertical support, and the book or other article held in the holder is made to occupy a position most convenient for observation. Farther down the members 1 and 2 are given another bend which, however, is more acute than that immediately below the brace 9, so that the lower part of the frame extends outwardly from the wall, and upwardly, to form a ledge 10, the front part of which is constituted by the lower transverse parts of the members 1 and 2, which parts meet within the sleeve 4 and are secured together thereby.

At the sides of the sleeve 4 and about midway between it and the side members of the parts 1 and 2, the clamping members 11 and 12 are mounted on the transverse parts of the members 1 and 2 by being provided with loops 13 and 14, and 15 and 16, respectively, which take around the transverse parts of the members 1 and 2, respectively. These clamping members 11 and 12 extend upward and are curved so that they present convex sides toward the brace 9 and the main part of the frame, each of the members 11 and 12 being preferably formed of a single piece of wire bent at its middle to form two parts, which parts diverge from the bend toward their ends upon which the loops 13 and 14, and 15 and 16, respectively, are formed. To give these clamping members their convexity, they are then bent bodily at right angles to the above described middle bend. The curve which gives the convexity to the members is such that when a book or other article, the thickness of which may vary, is inserted between the clamping members 11 and 12 and the main part of the frame, these

members 11 and 12 will present a smooth, curved surface to the book or other article, regardless of its thickness. Surrounding the transverse parts of the frame, between the loops 13 and 14 of the clamping member 11, and between the loops 15 and 16 of the clamping member 12, are the coil springs 17 and 18, respectively. Each of the springs has the part adjacent its end nearest to the sleeve 4, or the inner end, coiled around the adjacent parts of its respective clamping member, while the other end of each spring extends backward and is fastened to a transverse lower brace 19 by being looped around it, this lower brace 19 being fastened to the side parts of the members 1 and 2, but being looped around them near their acute bends, as illustrated in the drawing. As shown, both of the spiral springs 17 and 18 are wound around the lower transverse parts of the members 1 and 2 in the same direction, and consequently, in order to give the same direction of action on their respective clamping members, the spring 17 passes from under the lower transverse part of the member 1, backward to the lower transverse brace 19, while the spring 18 passes from over the lower transverse part of the member 2, backward to the lower transverse brace 19. The springs 17 and 18 being thus secured, they tend to normally press the clamping members 11 and 12, respectively, back toward the broad flat brace 9, and when no article is placed in the holder, these clamping members will bear against said brace 9, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing.

When it is desired to insert an article, such as a cook book, in the holder, the clamping members 11 and 12 may be drawn forward by placing a finger on the upper end of each one, and drawing them away from the brace 9. Upon being released, being independent of each other, the clamping members 11 and 12 will then adjust themselves to the respective sides of the book, such as the sides 20 and 21, respectively, of the book 22, as illustrated in Fig. 3, and will hold both sides with equal firmness whether the book be opened in the middle so that the two sides are equal in thickness, or whether the book be opened near the front or back so that one side is considerably thicker than the other.

When it is desired to turn one or more pages of the book, it is not necessary to remove the book from the holder, but the clamping members 11 and 12 being independent, the one on the side of the book where the page or pages are to be turned may be raised, while the other clamping member holds the book firmly in place, and the page or pages may be turned so as to lie over the other clamping member which holds the book in place. The clamping member which was raised may then be allowed to resume its clamping position against the book to hold it in place, while the other clamping member which was holding the book in place may be raised and the page or pages allowed to come under it, after which it may be allowed to resume its clamping position. By presenting their convex sides to the book or other article to be held, the clamping members 11 and 12 afford firm holding pressure without damage to the surface of the article to be held, and by being curved throughout their length they present this convexity to the article to be held, regardless of its thickness, while the upper ends of the clamping members 11 and 12, due to this curvature, diverge from the article being held, so that they are conveniently engageable by the fingers for the operation of the device, and allow the fingers to be out of the way while holding the clamping members back to insert the book or other article to be held.

As illustrated, the frame of my improved book holder is adapted to bear against the wall or other surface upon which it is supported with its loops 5 and 6, and, in order to allow it to be firmly supported on any surface, whether uneven or not, I prefer to provide it with a three-point bearing, the third bearing being constituted by a hook 23, which may be formed as shown by constructing the transverse brace 19 of two parts 19^a and 19^b twisted together at 24 in the middle, the part 19^b being considerably longer than the part 19^a, so that it extends below the twist 24 and is bent to form the hook 23, the rear of which bears against the wall and forms the third point of support as indicated at 25 in Fig. 2. The end of the hook 23 is pointed, and the hook 23 is given such a shape that it forms a suitable filing hook, and in the use of my device in the kitchen as a cook book holder, this filing hook will be found convenient for filing sales slips or other papers which accumulate and which should be preserved in the regular order of their receipt and in position for ready reference.

As indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawing, my improved device may be made to serve the additional purpose of an advertising medium, the advertising matter being placed on the broad transverse brace 9, as shown.

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

1. In a book holder, a frame provided with means for attaching it to a vertical surface and having its lower part divergent from the lower surface when thus attached, and clamping members pivotally mounted on the lower part of the frame and movable independent of each other, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a book holder, a frame provided with means for attaching it to a vertical surface and having its lower part divergent

from the vertical surface when attached thereto, and bent to form a ledge, and clamping members pivotally mounted on the ledge and movable independent of each other, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

3. In a book holder, a frame provided with means for attaching it to a vertical surface and having its lower part divergent from the vertical surface when attached thereto, and bent to form a ledge, a lower transverse brace attached to the sides of the frame adjacent to the ledge, and a hook on the lower transverse brace adapted to bear against the vertical surface and form one of the points of support of said frame, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. In a book holder, a frame provided with means for attaching it to a vertical surface and having its lower part divergent from the vertical surface when attached thereto, a broad flat brace attached to the sides of the frame, and clamping members pivotally mounted on the lower part of the frame movable independent of each other and adapted to bear toward the broad flat brace, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

5. In a book holder, a frame provided with means for attaching it to a vertical surface and having its lower part divergent from the lower surface when attached thereto and provided with a ledge to form a book support, said ledge terminating forwardly in the lower transverse part of the frame, clamping members pivotally mounted on the lower transverse part of the frame, curved so that they present convex sides toward the vertical surface and being movable independently of each other, whereby they are, respectively, adapted to bear with equal facility regardless of the thickness of the book or of the relative thicknesses of the respective sides of the book to be held, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

6. In a book holder, a frame provided with loops for attaching it to a vertical surface, having its lower part diverging from the vertical surface when attached thereto and bent to form a ledge on its lower part, the forward part of which ledge terminates in the lower transverse part of the frame, a broad flat brace secured to the frame immediately above the divergent part thereof, a lower transverse brace secured to the frame, clamping members pivotally mounted on the lower transverse part of the frame movable independently of each other and each consisting in a single piece bent to form divergent parts which terminate in loops taking around the lower transverse part of the frame to form the pivotal connection therewith, a spiral spring surrounding the lower transverse part of the frame between the loops of each clamping member, each of said springs having the part near one of its ends wound around one of the parts of its respective clamping members and the part near its other end secured to the lower transverse brace, each of the clamping members being curved bodily to present a convex surface toward the broad flat brace, and the lower transverse brace being provided with a hook adapted to bear against the vertical surface and form a point of support for the frame, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

HENRIETTA BODLEY UTZ.

Witnesses:

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