

No. 897,983.

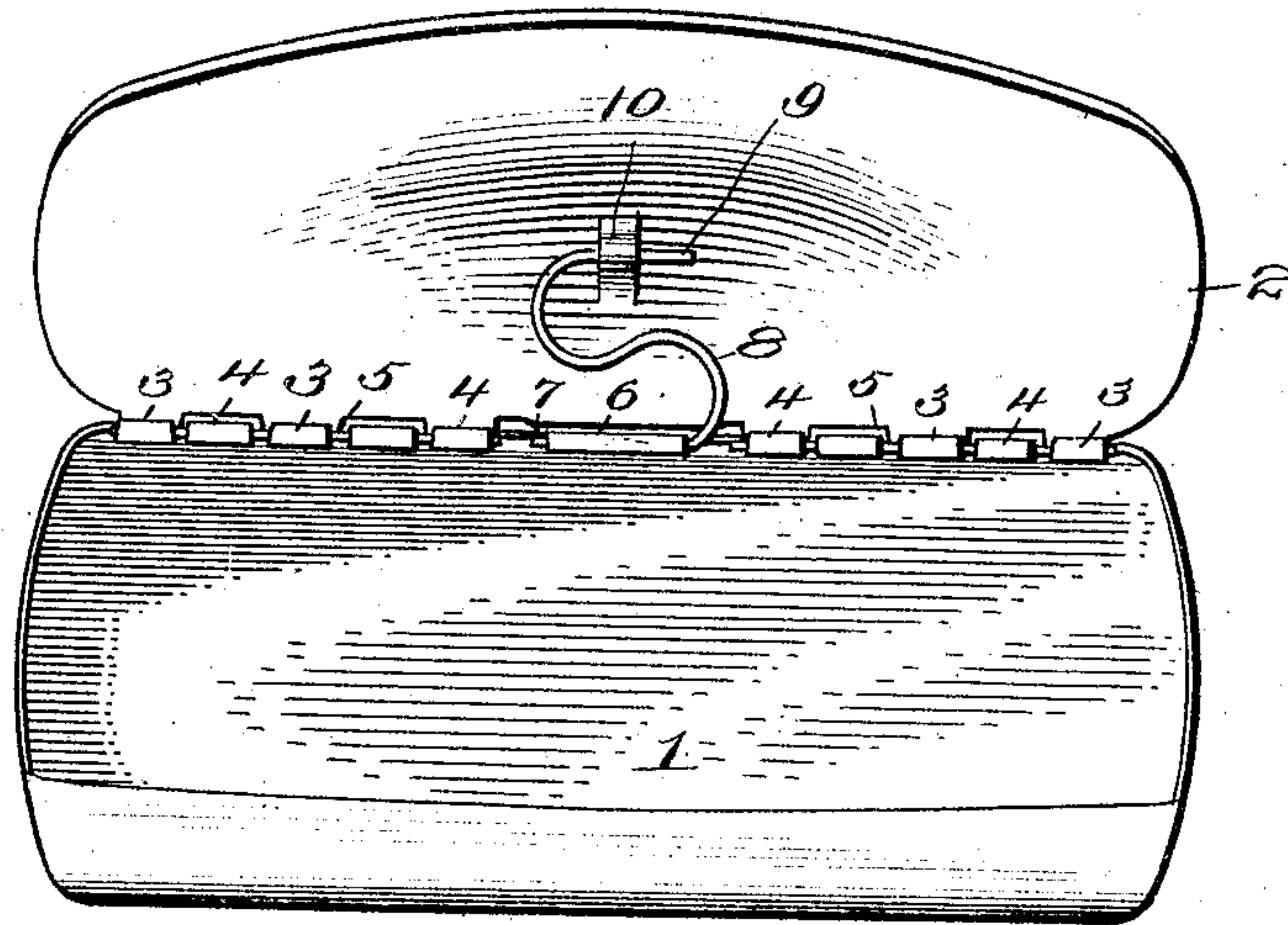
PATENTED SEPT. 8, 1908.

G. J. KIRBY.

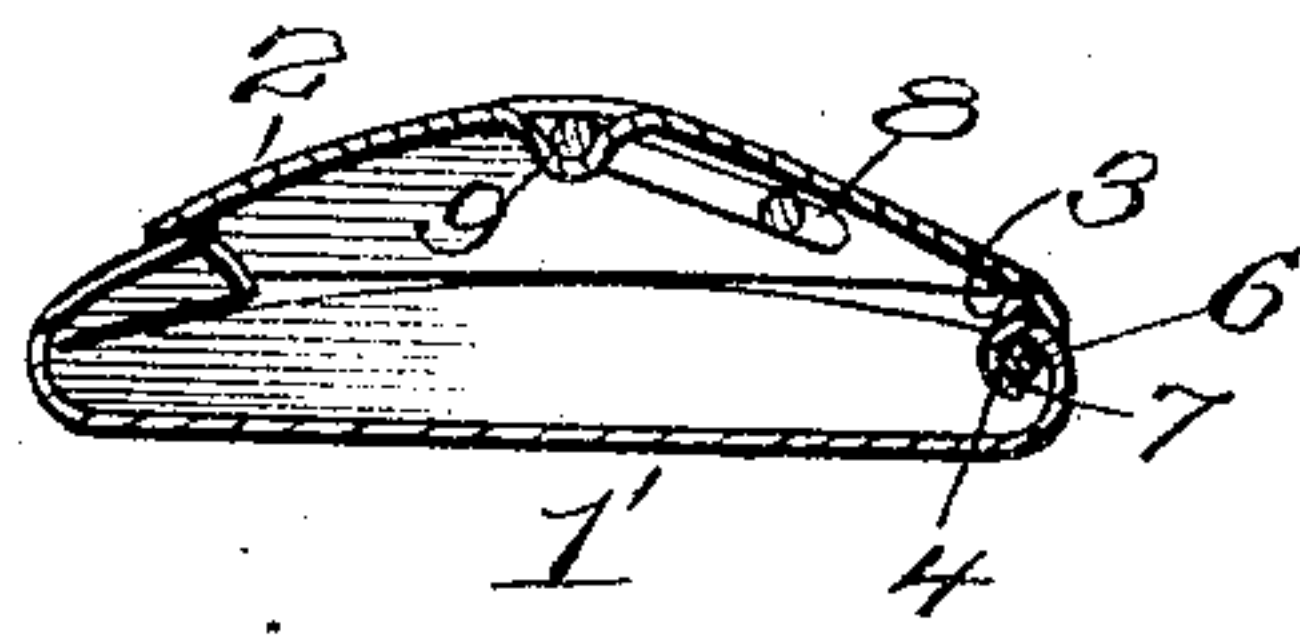
RECEPTACLE CLOSURE.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 22, 1905.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## RECEPTACLE-CLOSURE.

No. 897,983.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 8, 1908.

Application filed March 22, 1905. Serial No. 251,518.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE J. KIRBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Willimantic, in the county of Windham and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Receptacle-Closures; and I do hereby 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.

This invention relates to improvements in closures for receptacles and particularly to closures for eye-glass cases.

The object in view is the provision of means for maintaining a closure in a closed condition under a spring tension and, when opened, for maintaining said closure in an open condition. This and other objects are attained by the present invention which involves certain novel constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a top plan view of an eye-glass case provided with an embodiment of the present invention, the lid of the case being illustrated in an open condition. Fig. 2 represents a transverse, vertical, central section taken through the part seen in Fig. 1, the lid being illustrated as closed.

It has heretofore been proposed to retain the lid of an eye-glass case in either an open or closed condition by the use of a laterally acting spring, that is a spring whose expansion and contraction acts side-wise with respect to itself, but by the present invention I propose to utilize a longitudinally acting spring, or a spring whose contraction longitudinally acts directly upon the parts with which said spring contacts, this action obviating the frictional wear found to occur in connection with the laterally acting spring.

For an understanding of the present invention an embodiment of the same in detail is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which, 1 indicates the body portion of a receptacle provided with a lid or closure 2 pivoted to the edge of the receptacle by a series of eyes 3—3 formed from the body of the lid 2, eyes 4—4, formed from the body of the receptacle 1 and interposed between the eyes 3, and pintles 5—5 connecting said eyes. Of course, as far as the present invention is

concerned, the receptacle and lid may be of any type whatever and the hinge connection therebetween may be of any preferred type, but my invention is particularly well adapted for use in eye-glass cases and I have therefore illustrated an eye-glass case in connection with the invention.

The case or receptacle 1 is formed with a preferably relatively long eye 6 disposed below the plane of the eyes 3 and 4 and through said eye is projected the shank 7 of a spring 8 said spring being preferably made somewhat S-shaped and having its opposite shank 9 extended through a loop or eye 10 formed of the material of the lid or closure 2. Of course the spring 8 may be given any desired number of convolutions and may be made of any required size and is applied in such manner that the shanks 7 and 9 are at all times given an inclination toward approaching each other. In other words, the spring 8 is expanded, when applied, in order that the shanks 7 and 9 may be positioned as illustrated, and the contracting action of said spring 8 is longitudinally with respect to itself and transversely of and at right angles to the line of pivotal connection of the lid or closure 2 with the receptacle or case 1. The positioning of the shank 7 below the line of the pivotal connection of the lid and receptacle causes the spring 8 to be expanded in an effort either to close or open the lid 2, so that said lid will remain in either a closed or open condition under the action of the spring 8 after having been once positioned and said lid will further resist being opened or closed and if freed when in a semi-open condition will spring to a closed or opened condition according to whether the lid is passed the central line of the pivot.

In the embodiment of the invention illustrated, the employment of the longitudinally acting spring pivotally engaging the connected parts makes possible the fitting of the spring snugly against the inner face of the cover, only a very small portion of the spring extending into the body-portion or receptacle 1, said spring lying in contact with the inner face of the cover both in opened and closed position.

From the foregoing, and from the drawings, it will be observed that the spring employed is provided with straight end portions and intermediate portions bent for pro-



ducing a capacity for lateral separation of the end portions under spring tension, the said bent portions lying within the longitudinal plane of the spring occupied by the end portions.

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

1. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, and a lid therefor, of a spring having its end portions parallel and its intermediate portion bent longitudinally, the said intermediate portion lying within the longitudinal plane of the spring occupied by the end portions, one of said end portions being pivotally connected to said body portion and the other of said end portions being pivotally connected to the lid.

2. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion, of a lid pivotally connected therewith, an S-shaped spring elastic longitudinally of the body of the S, said spring being substantially flat and the ends thereof pivotally engaging the body portion and lid respectively, and the said spring being positioned for lying snugly against the contiguous parts of the lid when at the extreme of the movement of the lid.

3. In a receptacle, the combination with a body portion and a lid pivotally connected therewith, of a longitudinally acting spring pivotally engaging said body portion at a relatively short distance below the line of pivotal connection of the body portion with the lid, said spring also pivotally engaging said lid at a point a relatively great distance across the width of the lid and above the pivotal connection between the lid and body portion, substantially the entire spring lying in contact with the under surface of the lid.

4. A spring lid case comprising a main body, a lid, a hinge connecting said lid to said body, a fastening device connected to said body below the pintle of the hinge, another fastening device connected to the lid, and a spring one end of which is held by the said fastening device on the body, the other end held by the said fastening device on the lid, the said ends of the spring being integral with an intermediate member bent from the ends of the spring and disposed in a plane

therewith and held substantially parallel with hinge, substantially as described.

5. A spring lid case comprising a main body, a lid, a hinge connecting said lid to the body, and a spring having a plicated intermediate member and two outer members both of which are parallel with the intermediate member, a fastening device on said lid for holding one end of the spring and a fastening device on the body located below the pintle of the hinge for holding the opposite end of the spring, substantially as described.

6. The combination with a case comprising two members connected by a hinge, each member being provided with a single eye having an extended internal bearing, the eyes being parallel to the hinge and arranged to be intersected at corresponding points by a plane perpendicular to the hinge, of a spring having parallel portions journaled in said eyes, and an inclined connecting portion joining said parallel portions.

7. The combination with a case comprising two members connected by a hinge, each member provided with a single, integral eye at the same distance from an end of the case as the eye of the other member, of a spring consisting of a piece of wire bent into a sinuous form having end portions lying side by side in the same plane journaled in said eyes, and an inclined resilient intermediate portion joining the end portions by bends of relatively large radius.

8. The combination with a case comprising two members longitudinally hinged together, of a spring formed with end portions and an intermediate portion lying all in a single plane side by side and being substantially co-extensive in length, and an eye formed on each of the case members in the same plane perpendicular to the hinge, the end portions of the spring being loosely journaled in the eyes and arranged to produce a pull directly perpendicular to the hinge between the members.

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

GEORGE J. KIRBY.

Witnesses:

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