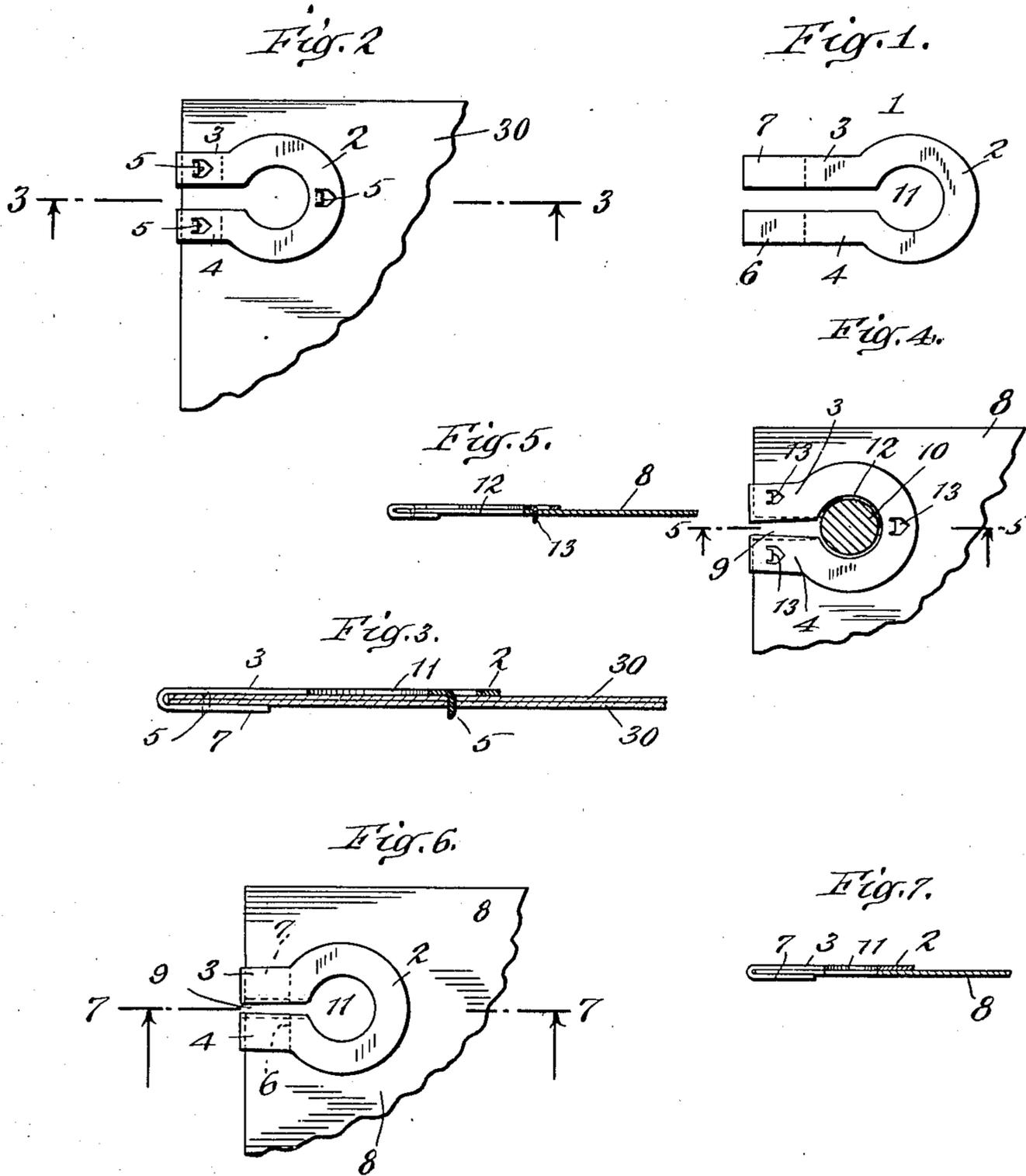


J. S. McCOMB.  
 PAPER CLIP OR FASTENER.  
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919,620.

Patented Apr. 27, 1909.



Witnesses:  
 St. Crocheon  
 Olee B. Francke

Jennings Scott McComb  
 By his Attorney  
 Alan M. Johnson

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JENNINGS SCOTT McCOMB, OF DOBBS FERRY, NEW YORK.

## PAPER CLIP OR FASTENER.

No. 919,620.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 27, 1909.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JENNINGS SCOTT McCOMB, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Dobbs Ferry, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper Clips or Fasteners, of which the following is a specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of the same.

This invention relates to paper clips or fasteners which may be used to detachably secure several sheets of paper together or it may be used as a reinforcement and lock for the loose leaves of a loose leaf binder.

In the accompanying drawing showing illustrative embodiments of this invention and in which the same reference numerals refer to similar parts in the several figures, Figure 1 is a plan view of a blank from which the fastener or clip is made. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the fastener showing it connecting several sheets of paper together. Fig. 3 is a vertical cross section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the fastener or clip applied to a loose leaf of a binder and adapted to act as a lock to hold the sheet to the pillar or post of the binder which is shown in cross section. Fig. 5 is a section on line 5—5 of Fig. 4, the pillar or post of the binder being omitted. Fig. 6 is a plan view of a modified form of clip or fastener applied to a loose leaf of a binder. Fig. 7 is a vertical cross section on line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

In the illustrative embodiments of this invention shown in the drawing 1 is the blank from which the clip or fastener is made and is preferably formed of thin sheet metal. The body portion of the blank consists of a split ring 2 having arms 3 and 4. I preferably form one or more teeth on the blank by punching down a portion of the blank forming teeth 5, 5, three such teeth being shown in Fig. 2, one in the split ring portion 2 and one in each of the arms 3 and 4.

In fastening sheets of paper together by means of my clip or fastener I bend the ends 6 of arm 4 and end 7 of arm 3 back upon the arms, the sheets of paper being held between the arms 3 and 4 and their turned under portions 7 and 6. To more securely hold the papers together the teeth 5 are used, though these may be omitted as shown in Figs. 6 and 7. The sheets of paper may be disconnected from each other and from the fastener by merely bending the ends 6 and 7, which will

immediately loosen the sheets of paper, and if teeth are used will permit the sheets being readily disconnected from them. The clip or fastener may be again used to fasten the same or other sheets together. My clip is also adapted as a reinforcement and lock for the leaves of a loose leaf binder. In Fig. 4 I have shown a loose leaf 8 having a filing slot 9 for the reception of the ordinary pillar or post 10 of a loose leaf binder upon which the leaves are mounted. The clip may be either used simply as a reinforcement for the walls of the slot or I may preferably arrange them so that in addition to performing this function, they securely lock the sheet to the pillar or post preventing accidental or surreptitious removal of the loose leaves from the binder.

To have the clip merely strengthen the walls of the slot it may be placed over the loose leaf 8 so that the opening 11 of the ring 2 will register with the filing slot 12 in the loose leaf 8, the arms 3 and 4 lying parallel with the walls of the slot 9, Fig. 4. The clip may be fastened in this position by bending under the ends 6 and 7 so as to firmly grip the sheet 8. I preferably, however, form short teeth 13, 13, by striking down a portion of the clip and form these teeth of just sufficient length to preferably puncture merely one sheet of the binder. To permit the clip to also perform the function of locking the sheet to the post 10 and hence in the binder, I may draw or bend the arms 3 and 4 toward each other, Fig. 4, so that they partially close the slot 9 and prevent the withdrawal of the sheet from the binder by preventing movement of the pillar or post 10 down the slot 9. The clip may be applied to the loose leaf 8 leaving one of the arms, for example, arm 4, free so that when the post 10 is forced through the slot 9 it will cause the arm 4 to give when it may be afterward fastened to the leaf to partially close the slot 9 and thereby prevent the withdrawal of the sheet from the binder. In some cases I may fasten both arms 3 and 4 to the sheet 8 and bend one of the arms down and the other up so as to permit the insertion of the pillar or post 10 in the slot 12, subsequently bringing the arms 3 and 4 into substantially the same horizontal plane.

Instead of using teeth, I may simply rely upon the friction or grip of the ends 6 and 7 when they are bent back upon the arms 4 and 3 respectively. In Figs. 6 and 7 the clip

1 is so secured to a sheet of a loose leaf ledger, the arms 3 and 4 being shown in a position to partially close the filing slot 9 preventing the withdrawal of a loose leaf so equipped from the binder.

In a loose leaf binder having leaves provided with my fastener or clip it will be impossible to tamper with an account by withdrawing surreptitiously one or more of the leaves without leaving evidence in the binder of such withdrawal.

Having thus described this invention in connection with the several illustrative embodiments thereof to the details of which I do not desire to be limited, what is claimed as new and what it is desired to secure by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims.

1. A lock for a sheet of a loose leaf binder comprising a clip having a split ring portion, arms extending out from the split ring, the ends of the arms being adapted to be bent back on themselves to securely hold the clip to the loose leaf.

2. A lock for a sheet of a loose leaf binder comprising a clip having a split ring portion, spaced arms extending out from the split ring portion, teeth carried by the arms and split ring portion, the ends of the arms being adapted to be bent back on themselves and the two arms being adapted to be secured to the sheet of a loose leaf binder to partially

close the ordinary filing slot in the leaf after the leaf has been inserted in the binder.

3. The combination with a loose leaf binder sheet having the ordinary filing slots, of a clip having a split ring portion and spaced arms, the openings in the clip adapted to register with the slots in the sheet, and means for securing the arms to the sheet so that they partially close one of the filing slots and prevent the withdrawal of the sheet from the binder without leaving evidence in the binder of its removal.

4. The combination with a loose leaf binder sheet having the ordinary filing slot of a metal clip having a split ring portion, arms extending from the split ring portion, the openings in the clip registering with the slots in the sheet, punched teeth in the ring and arm to secure the clip to the sheet, the ends of the arms being adapted to be bent back on themselves to assist in securing the clip to the sheet, and one or both of said arms being adapted to be adjusted after the insertion of the sheet in the binder to partially close one of the filing slots and prevent the surreptitious removal of the sheet from the binder.

JENNINGS SCOTT McCOMB.

Witnesses:

H. D. W. WILDE,  
HOWARD S. JAFFRAY.