

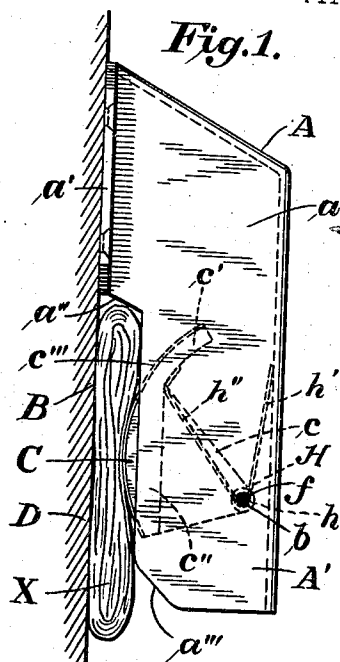
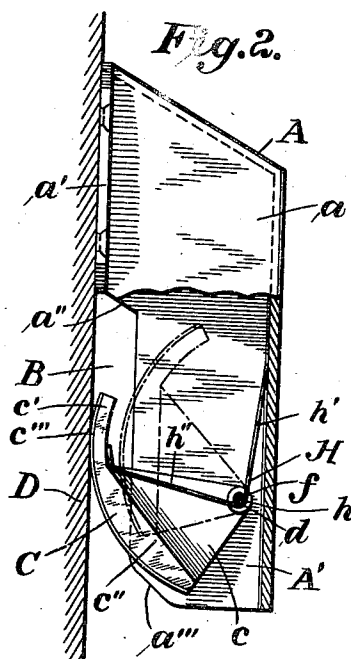
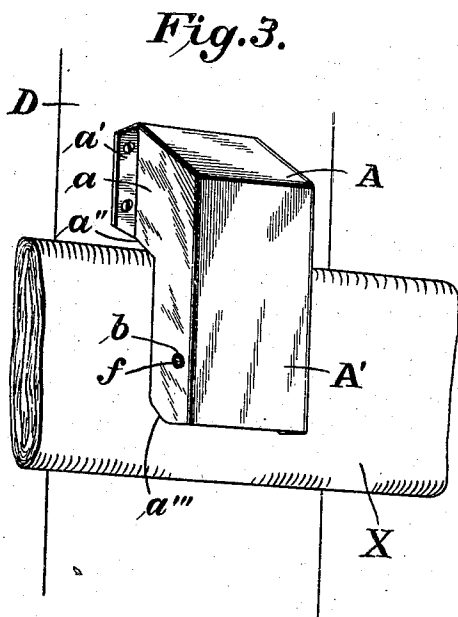
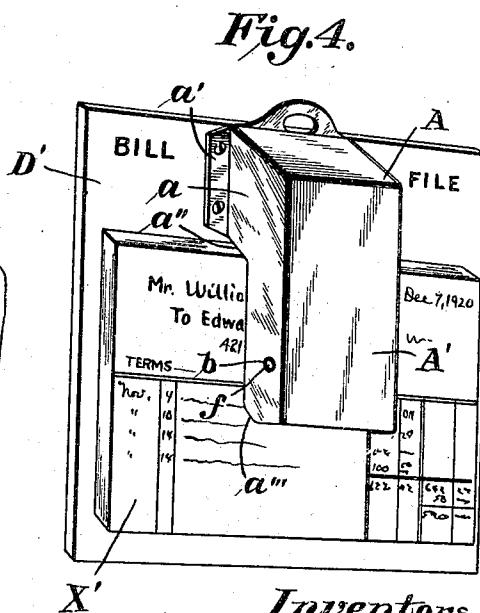
Sept. 23, 1924.

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1,509,303

PAPER CLAMP AND HOLDER

Filed Dec. 17, 1920



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Patented Sept. 23, 1924.

1,509,303

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW A. LEYARE AND ALPHONSE MARTIN, OF OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK.

PAPER CLAMP AND HOLDER.

Application filed December 17, 1920. Serial No. 431,458.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANDREW A. LEYARE and ALPHONSE MARTIN, citizens of the United States, residing at Ogdensburg, in the county of St. Lawrence and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper Clamps and Holders; and we 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 a device for automatically clamping and holding a folded paper or a sheaf of separate sheet papers.

The object of our invention is to provide a device of simple construction adapted for instantly and automatically gripping and holding a folded paper, such as a newspaper, or a sheaf of separate sheets, such as letters or bills, and for readily releasing the same.

A more especial object is to provide an automatic clamping and holding device in the nature of a weighted and pivoted eccentric or cam, mounted in a housing or casing adapted to be secured to an outside door casing or veranda-post for instantly gripping a newspaper.

Newspapers, as ordinarily delivered, are apt to be blown away or to be carried off if found on the ground, and office letters and bills are apt to be mislaid and scattered for lack of a holder in which they may be quickly and conveniently placed. Our invention overcomes these difficulties, and it is so convenient and automatic in action that a newsboy will unhesitatingly use it in delivering a paper.

The matter constituting our invention will be defined in the claim. We will now describe the details of construction of our device by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation illustrating the invention.

Fig. 2 represents a similar view with part of the casing broken away and showing the pivoted automatic clamp.

Fig. 3 represents a perspective view showing the device as a newspaper holder.

Fig. 4 represents a similar view showing the device adapted for use as a letter or bill file.

Our automatic paper clamp is mounted in a casing A which is adapted to be secured to

any suitable back, as a door frame, a veranda post, or a detached board or metal plate. The casing A is made with a head and an extended or pendant portion A¹, having sides *a*. The head has side flanges *a'* provided with holes through which may be passed fastening screws to attach the casing to a door frame or post D, or a back D¹, Fig. 4. The side walls *a*, at the lower end of the head, are cut away to form shoulders *a''* and to offset the pendant portion A¹, so that the latter forms with the back D a long receiving slot or opening B for a folded paper X or a sheaf of papers X¹. The extended or pendant portion A¹ is open at the lower end and the inner corners of the walls are preferably beveled or rounded at *a'''* to form a flaring mouth and guideway to facilitate insertion of papers. The casing may be made of wood or metal and may be cast or stamped-up sheet metal.

Our automatic clamping device C is pivotally mounted in the lower end of portion A¹, so that its rear end will be accessible from the open end of A¹, and may be pressed upon by a thumb or finger to raise it and thus release a paper. The clamp C is of approximately segmental form, but the curved face *c'''* is cam shaped or eccentric to its axle or pivot *f*; it has thickened and weighted sides *c''*, an extension *c'* and a triangular rib or web *c* having a pivot opening *d*, through which is passed a pivotal pin or axle *f* which is supported in holes *b* in the side walls *a*. The curved face of the clamp C may be faced with rubber or corrugated or otherwise roughened as indicated at *c'''* to give better frictional contact with a folded paper or several layers of loose sheets.

When the casing is placed in a horizontal position the clamp will assume approximately the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2, and when the casing is in a vertical position the clamp will tilt so that its curved face will bear against the back D as shown by full lines in Fig. 2.

When a folded paper is thrust up into the slot or opening B the clamp will readily turn on its pivot, and then, owing to its weighted sides and its eccentrically placed pivot, will automatically press backward and grip the paper so as to hold it in the casing. When the paper is to be removed the clamp may be pushed by a thumb or finger at its lower end to lift its curved face sufficiently to re-

lease the paper when it may be withdrawn, without mutilation.

In case of bulky, heavy articles, such as Sunday newspapers, magazines, etc., we preferably use an open and shut spring H, having a coiled portion h applied to the axle f , an arm h' bearing on the front wall of the casing and a second arm h'' bearing on the inner face of the weighted side c'' of the clamp. This spring increases the pressure on the clamp as it is further opened by a bulky article and thus serves for more firmly gripping and holding the same. When the device is in a horizontal position the spring exerts the desired pressure on the eccentric C to clamp and hold only a few sheets of paper, or any desired number of sheets.

What we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A device of the character described com-

prising a casing having front and side walls, the rear lower portion of said side walls being cut away to form an opening for the reception of papers or the like, the front wall of said casing extending downwardly in a single plane, the bottom of said casing being entirely open, and an arcuate clamp eccentrically mounted in the front portions of said side walls adjacent the cutaway portions, a portion of the clamp being arranged in proximity to the bottom opening of the casing whereby said clamp will be accessible through the bottom opening so as to be lifted and turned about its pivot.

In testimony whereof, we affix our signatures.

ANDREW A. LEYARE.
ALPHONSE MARTIN.

Witnesses:

CLARENCE SKELLY,
EDWARD MULLADY.