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Witnesses
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EDWIN H. MAYO, OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

HAT-HOLDER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN H. MAYO, citizen of the United States, residing at Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to hat holders and particularly to a device designed to be attached to church pews or benches for the purpose of supporting a plurality of hats beneath the pew or bench.

The object of the invention is to provide a very simple and effective device of this character which may be economically made from a single piece of wire, and which is readily attached to or detached from the pew or bench to which it is applied, the device being rotatable so as to carry an inserted hat in position beneath the pew or to allow it to project out therefrom so that the hat may be easily removed.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein:

Figure 1 is a sectional view of a number of church pews with my hat holder in place thereon, the holder being shown both in an open and a closed position. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the holder detached. Fig. 3 is a detail view enlarged of the interengaging loops formed at the junction of the hat supporting loops of my holder.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the accompanying drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to these figures, 2 designates a bearing plate which is attached to the back of the pew A in Fig. 1 or to the seat B of a pew in Fig. 1. This plate has screw holes 3 in it whereby it may be held to the back of the pew or to the edge of the seat thereof. Passing vertically through the plate 2 is a perforation 4 for the passage of a shank 5 forming part of the hat holder; this shank 5 being provided on its end with a knurled finger piece 6 or handle whereby the shank may be rotated in the bearing plate.

The hat support is made in one continuous piece of wire. At one end the wire is straightened for a certain distance to form the shank 5 previously referred to, the length of this shank being greater than the depth of the plate 2 so as to permit the shank to be shifted vertically relative to the plate 2. At its lower end the wire forming the

holder is bent at right angles to the shank as at 7. This portion 7 extends for a short distance from the shank and is then looped upon itself and extended angularly to the shank to form the eye 8. The wire is then looped to form the eye or loop 9 which is disposed in a plane at right angles to the plane of the loop 8. The wire after forming the loop 9 is carried through the loop 8 and curved to form the enlarged hat supporting loop 10. The wire after it forms the loop 10 is carried back to the loop 9, extends under the loop, is passed up through the loop 9 and then bent back parallel to the wire forming the loop 10 so as to form a hat supporting loop 11.

The end of the wire forming the loop 11 is bent into a hook as at 12, this hook passing through the loop 9 and engaging with the wire at the base of the loop 11. I have found that by bending the wire in this manner that I can form both the loops 10 and 11 of one piece of wire and that both the loops will be held in rigid engagement with each other and so supported that a weight placed upon these loops will not tend to twist the wire. Thus any twisting strain placed upon the loop 11 will be counteracted by the fact that that portion of the wire, which I have designated in the drawings 13, passes over the wire forming the loop 9 and that thus the loop is supported by means of the wire forming the loop 9, and by the wire forming the loop 10 passing beneath the loop 8.

The wire forming the beginning of the loop 10 is also supported at three points. It is supported by the bend at the inner end of the portion 7, it is supported against downward movement by the portion 13 of the wire forming the loop 11 and is supported against the loop 8. These inter-twists given to the wire at the bases of the loops 10 and 11 give particular rigidity to the loops and, as before stated, prevent the loops from being deflected or twisted.

By reason of the provision made for the vertical shifting of the shank 5 relative to the supporting member 2, it will be seen that where the device is applied to the front edge of a pew seat it will support the hats a sufficient distance beneath the pew seat to accommodate the brims of the hats, while permitting the shank to be pulled upward slightly so that the fingers of the operator may more readily grasp the handle 6 and

draw the handle slightly above the upper face of the seat. In its normal position, this handle will be disposed below the upper face of the seat and thus will not catch upon the clothing of persons sitting in the pew. Where the device is applied to the back A of a pew, as in Fig. 1, the sliding engagement between the shank 5 and the supporting member 2 permits the holder to be pushed up against the bottom of the seat when cleaning is to be done beneath the pew. If such provision were not made, the device would be very liable to become damaged when the space beneath the pew is being swept and it would interfere with the proper dusting of the pew. Furthermore, it permits the holder to be lifted where hassocks or kneeling benches are placed beneath the seat of the pew. My invention is simple, readily constructed, easily applied to all forms of pews or benches and entirely effective in practice.

What I claim is:

1. A hat holder of the character described, including a supporting plate adapted to be attached to a pew or bench, said plate having a thickened middle portion provided with a vertically disposed passage through it, and a plurality of supporting loops formed of a continuous piece of wire, the wire forming the loops being intertwined at the bases of the loops and the wire being then extended at right angles to the plane of the loops to form a shank longer than the depth of the supporting plate and slidable and rotatable in the vertical passage of the supporting plate, the upper end of the shank being provided with a handle constituting a

stop for limiting the downward movement of the shank with relation to the supporting plate. 40

2. A hat holder of the character described, comprising a supporting plate having a thickened middle portion formed with a vertical passage therethrough, a pair of loops formed of a continuous piece of wire, the wire forming said loops being bent to form a shank portion of greater length than the depth of the supporting plate whereby the shank may vertically slide, in the supporting plate said shank passing loosely through the passage in the plate, the end of the shank being bent at right angles, then bent upon itself to form a pair of eyes, one disposed in a plane at right angles to the other, the wire of one eye being passed through the other eye and bent into an approximate circle to form one hat supporting loop, then passed through the other eye and bent into an approximate circle to form the other hat supporting loop, the extremity of the wire being passed through one of said first named loops and engaging the wire at the point where it is bent to form the second hat supporting loop, the upper end of the shank being provided with a handle constituting a stop and limiting the downward movement of the shank relative to the supporting plate. 50 55 60 65

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses. 70

EDWIN H. MAYO. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

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