To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARKE S. GOULD, citizen of the United States, residing at Norwood, county of Norfolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Book Carriers and Covers, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like characters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention relates to improvements in book carriers and covers and comprises means for protecting the covers of books while they are being read and also means for conveniently supporting and carrying the book when traveling.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a detachable cover and carrier for a book whereby any book of ordinary size may be covered and carried, and another easily substituted therefor.

Another object of the invention is to provide a flexible cover and carrier of the character above described which may be conveniently folded and thereby adapted to be placed in a pocket or handbag.

Another object of the invention is to provide a book carrier and cover of the class described with a convenient pocket for the reception of a bookmark, railroad ticket, or similar articles.

Another object of the invention is to provide a book carrier and cover of the character above described with handle portions which are adapted to be folded within the covers of the book out of the way of the reader or to be folded between the pages to mark the spot at which the reader closed the book.

Other objects of the invention will more fully appear from the following description and accompanying drawings and will be more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a book carrier and cover embodying my invention applied to a book, and, Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of a book carrier and cover embodying my invention applied to an open book.

The preferred embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings comprises a book carrier and cover having a body portion 1, preferably of flexible material such as soft leather, canvas, or the like of a form substantially corresponding to the contour of the covers A. B. of an opened book, and having extensions 2 preferably integral with said body portion having apertures 3 adapted to form handles for supporting the book when the same is in closed position. The extensions 2 are preferably from opposite ends of the body portion whereby when the book is closed said extensions will be brought together to form a pair of handles which may be conveniently grasped to carry the book. It is to be understood however that a single handle may be utilized by providing suitable fastening means such as a strap and buckle or clasp for retaining the book in closed position. It is also to be understood that the handle members may extend from other edges of the body portion than those illustrated herein but in the preferred form of the invention two handle extensions are provided of the character indicated.

In order to retain the covers of the book in the carrier, pocket members 4 are provided which are preferably secured to the edges of the body portion by lines of stitching 5, 6, 7 but these members may, of course be secured thereto in any other suitable manner. The edge 8 of each pocket member is left free so that the book cover may be readily inserted into the pocket. In the preferred embodiment of the invention disclosed herein the pockets to receive the book covers are shown as extending across said body portion. It is however sufficient if the pockets inclose the corners of the covers of the book in any other manner. The pocket member 4 preferably is provided with an integral extension 9 corresponding to the form of the extension 2 from the body portion and is preferably secured thence by lines of stitching which may be arranged parallel to the edges of the extension and of the aperture or may be arranged in any desired ornamental manner.

It is frequently convenient for the reader of a book to have a bookmark to be inserted between the pages when the book is closed and it is desirable and also frequently happens that a reader who is traveling carries a ticket in his book, I have therefore provided the book carrier and cover with means adapted to receive a bookmark or ticket, such means comprising a supplementary receptacle or pocket 10. This receptacle 10 preferably comprises a piece of leather or canvas secured by lines of stitching, 11, 12, 13 to the side of the pocket member 4 within the
edge of the body member so that when the book is being carried the fingers of the hand which pass through the apertures 3 in the extension will form a closure and prevent the ticket from falling out. A creased line 36 is preferably provided at the junction of the body portion of the cover and the extension which forms the handle thus providing a hinge about which the handle portions may be folded.

When the book is in use the handle portions may be folded inwardly against the insides of the covers thereby giving the book the appearance of one having merely a protective cover thereupon, or one of the handles may be folded between the pages to mark the place at which the reader closed the book.

It is to be understood that the preferred embodiment of the invention disclosed here in is illustrative merely but is not restrictive and that the handles may be placed in other convenient positions, that there may be more than a single supplementary pocket, that the pockets for the covers of the book may be of different form or configuration or that other suitable means may be used for securing the covers of the book to the carrier. It is also to be understood that if desired the body portion may be made of rigid material such as cardboard connected by a flexible back in order that the same may suitably support books having flexible covers such as magazines, pamphlets, or the like, and that the carrier covers may be made of any desirable size and of any suitable material. Additional means may also if desired be supplied for retaining the book cover in the carrier.

While I have described my preferred form of invention as a detachable carrier and cover for a book it will be obvious that the same may be permanently attached to the book cover, or the cover itself may be provided with marginal apertured extensions adapted to be used as handles.

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

1. A book carrier and cover comprising a flexible body portion of a form substantially corresponding to the contour of the covers of an open book and having integral apertured extensions from opposite ends, and members secured to said body portion adjacent its opposite ends to form pockets adapted to receive the edges of the covers of a book and having integral apertured extensions corresponding to the extensions from said edge portion, and secured thereto to form handles for conveniently carrying said book.

2. A book carrier and cover comprising a flexible body portion of a form substantially corresponding to the contour of the covers of an open book and having integral apertured extensions from its opposite edges, and members secured to said body portion adjacent its opposite ends to form pockets adapted to receive the edges of the covers of a book, and having integral apertured extensions corresponding to the extensions from said edge portion, and secured thereto to form handles for conveniently carrying a book, and a crease at the base of each extension whereby said extensions are adapted to be folded inwardly when the book is in use or to mark the page at which a book is closed.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CLARKE S. GOULD.

Witnesses:

FREDERICK A. TENNANT,
THOMAS J. DRUMMOND.