(No Model.)

# E. C. GIPE.

## PAPER WEIGHT.

No. 592,968. Patented Nov. 2, 1897.

Fig. 1.

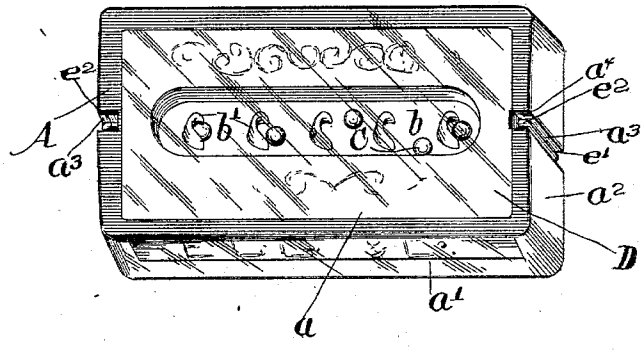



Fig. 2.

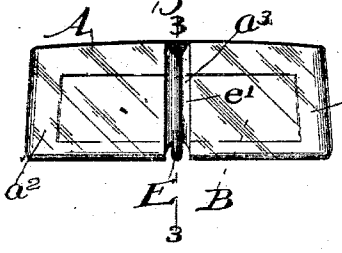



Fig. 3.

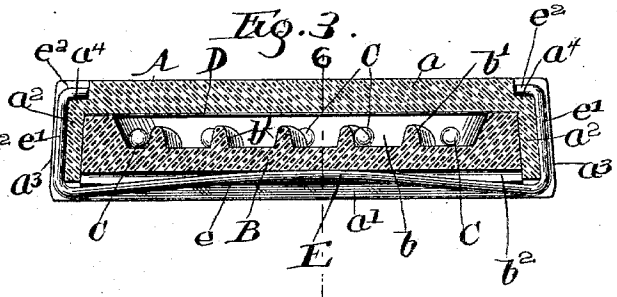



Fig. 4.

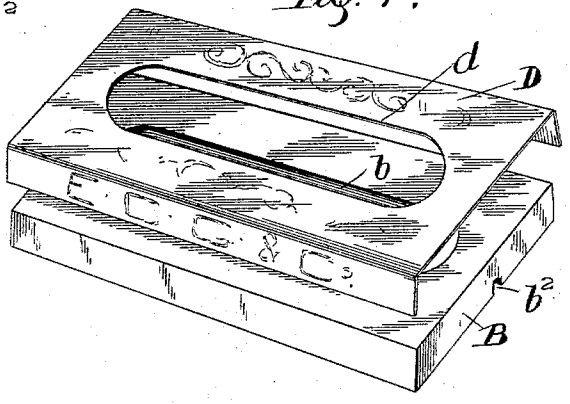



Fig. 5.

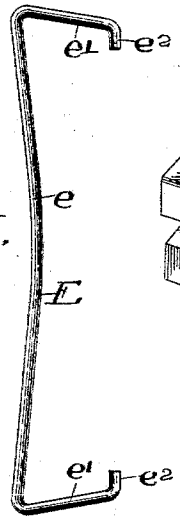
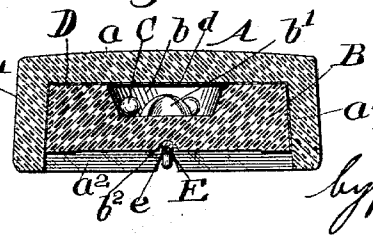



Fig. 6




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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMANUEL C. GIPE, OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS.

## PAPER-WEIGHT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 592,968, dated November 2, 1897.

Application filed November 27, 1896. Serial No. 613,559. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EMANUEL C. GIPE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Freeport, in the county of Stephenson and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper-Weights, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in paper-weights, and more particularly to a paper-weight comprising a transparent shell, a block within the shell, and preferably detachable means for clamping the parts together. The block may, if desired, have its surface ornamented, or a suitably-ornamented card may be interposed between the block and shell, or the upper face of the block may be formed into a puzzle or other interesting feature designed to make the paper-weight more attractive and valuable.

The invention is fully described in this specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved paper-weight. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same. Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal section in line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a card and block. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of a clasp used to connect the parts together; and Fig. 6 is a cross-section in line 6 6, Fig. 3.

In the views, A represents a transparent shell, $a$ being the face thereof, $a'$ the sides, and $a^2$ the ends. In the ends of the shell are formed vertical external grooves $a^3$ $a^3$, having at their upper ends short horizontal extensions $a^4$ $a^4$ in the upper surface of the shell and at their lower ends extensions across the end walls $a^2$ $a^2$. These grooves are adapted and intended to receive the ends of a spring-clasp, which is hereinafter more fully described.

The block B is preferably of some semi-transparent material—such as china, porcelain, &c.—and is of such size as to conveniently fit in the shell, and has in its upper face an elongated recess or ball-race $b$, raised semicircular stalls $b'$ being formed in this recess. These stalls open in one direction and are preferably located along the center line of the ball-race, and a series of balls C, of equal number to the stalls, are placed in the ball-race and are free to roll therein. This forms a puzzle the solution of which is to get all of the balls seated in the stalls.

Between the block and shell I have interposed a card D, formed with a central opening $d$, corresponding with the ball-race $b$, and folded into the shape shown in Fig. 4 in order that it may cover the upper face of the block and the two sides thereof. This card may be suitably ornamented or advertising matter may be printed thereon, its surface affording a very good space for such purpose. The card may, however, be dispensed with and the block itself be printed or chased in any suitable manner to give it a pleasing appearance, and the puzzle above described may, if desired, be left out or any different style of puzzle used in its place.

The block and shell may be secured together by various means, but the one which I have shown in the drawings, especially in Fig. 5, and which I consider the most practical and suitable one for this purpose, consists of a spring-clasp E, formed of a single piece of spring-wire bent to form a central arch $e$, having ends bent into the converging end portions $e'$, which terminate in the hooks $e^2$. In applying the clasp to the device one end of the same is placed in the groove $a^3$ on one side and the opposite end sprung outward slightly and forced upward along the opposite groove $a^3$ until the hooked end springs into the horizontal portion $a^4$ of the groove. When the different parts of the device are thus assembled, the ends of the clasp are seated in the grooves in the end of the shell and the arch $e$ in a longitudinally-extending groove $b^2$, formed in the under side of the block B, the hooked ends of the clasp engaging the shoulders $a^4$. From the above it will readily be seen that the arch $e$ will force the block B tightly against the shell A, the spring being given such tension as to perform its function properly. This spring-clasp is very advantageous for the reason that in molding the different parts of this device considerable variation of thickness of the same is unavoidable, and the use of a yielding clasp like the one above described overcomes any difficulty which might arise from such variation.

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

1. The combination of the shell, A, having the upright grooves, $a^3$, in the edges, depressions, $a^4$, to form shoulders in the grooves, the block, B, lying within said shell, and the flexible clasp, E, having a middle portion, $e$, bearing upward against the bottom of the block, the upturned portions, $e'$, resting in the grooves, $a^3$, and the hooked ends, $e^2$, engaging the shoulders in said grooves; substantially as described.

2. The combination with the shell, A, having the upright grooves, $a^3$, in its edges said grooves being extended horizontally at the top to form shoulders and at the bottom across the lower margin of the shell, of the block, B, within said shell and the flexible clasp having the upwardly-convex middle portion, $e$, bearing upward against the bottom, the upturned portions, $e'$, resting in the grooves, $a^3$, and held therein against lateral movement, and the hooked ends, $e^2$, engaging the upper horizontal extensions of the grooves and holding the parts together; substantially as described.

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