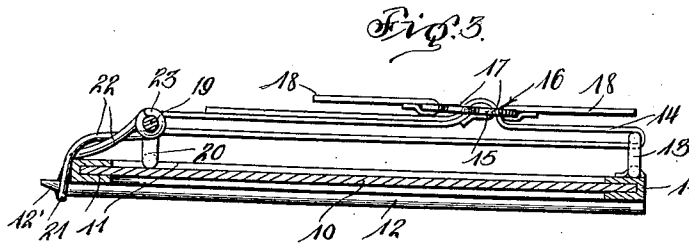
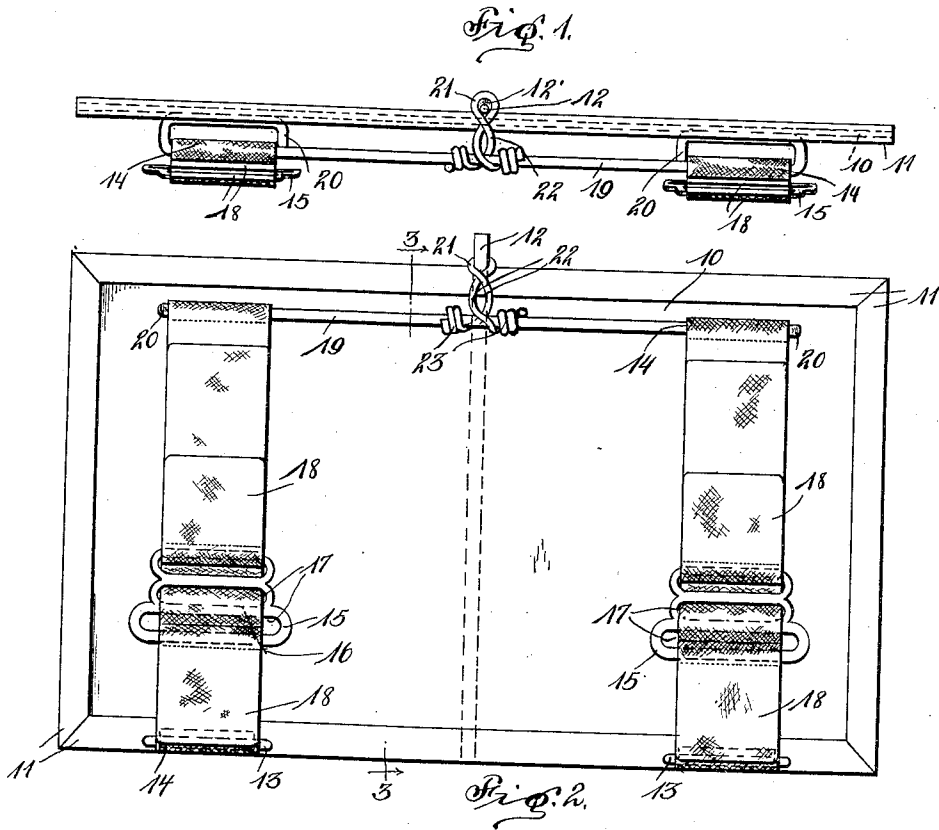


W. L. WEST.
LETTER HOLDER.
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1,041,930.

Patented Oct. 22, 1912.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER L. WEST, OF HOOKER, OKLAHOMA.

LETTER-HOLDER.

1,041,930.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 22, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER L. WEST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hooker, in the county of Texas, State of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Holders; and I 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 an improved letter-holder and to provide a simple and novel device of this character which will avoid the necessity of employing twine to tie up packages of letters, the device being adapted for continuous use thereby providing a great saving in expense in such use.

The invention is particularly adapted for use by mail carriers and heretofore the letters have been tied in packages while in the present invention the letters may be withdrawn at will and when packed or held by my improved holder, will be retained against mutilation.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain other combinations and arrangements of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed, it being a still further object to provide a device which will not be likely to get out of working order.

In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved holder. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings in detail, there is shown the plate member 10 to which the letters or papers are adapted to be secured, said plate being preferably constructed of metal in sheet form and having a surrounding binding comprising four sections of metal bent upon themselves as shown at 11 and secured to the plate thereby rigidly strengthening the said plate and avoiding sharp projections as would tend to cause injury. Secured to one side of the plate is a metallic keeper 12 which serves to strengthen the plate as well as to prevent the same from lying in a flat position which would tend to hinder the grasping thereof when the letters are mounted thereon and prevent mutilation of the letters in lifting the holder, and the upper end of the keeper 12 projects beyond one edge of the plate and is formed with a tapered end 12'.

Secured to the opposite face or side of the plate 10 and at its lower edge are a pair of rigid links 13 which are disposed adjacent each end of the plate at right angles thereto for receiving elastic bands 14 one end of which is secured to a buckle member 15 as shown at 16 and the other end of which is disposed for adjustment through two loops of the buckle as shown at 17 whereby the bands may be adjusted to different sizes according to the number of letters to be carried by the holder. Other sections of elastic fabric similar to that of which the loops are formed as shown at 18 in the drawings are secured to the ends of the buckle members so as to form handles or tabs to be grasped in shortening or lengthening the loops or bands, it being understood that both the bands are similarly formed.

A bar 19 having loops 20 formed at each end receive the fabric forming the bands for adjustment and centrally of the bar is disposed a clasp eye 21 having a twisted shank portion 22 and having its end portions coiled around the bar upon each side of its shank portion as shown at 23 serving to frictionally engage the bar for holding the eye against movement. The eye is adapted to be engaged over the extension 12' of the keeper 12 by stretching the fabric forming the bands and as the eye portion 21 is disposed at right angles to its shank portion 22, the said eye will properly engage the keeper and the bar will be properly retained in position.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that I provide a simple construction for tying letters or the like which by avoiding the expensive use of twine and being capable of being continuously used affords an economical means of tying the packages and holding the same in the manner set forth.

I claim:—

1. A letter holder comprising a plate, a keeper secured to one side of the plate and projecting beyond one edge thereof, said keeper serving to support the plate in a tilted position, loops secured to the other side of the plate and opposite edge, a bar having an eye adapted to engage the keeper and adjustable bands connecting the loops and ends of the bar, said eye having oppositely coiled portions upon each side thereof to frictionally engage the bar.

2. A holder comprising a metallic plate, a

keeper in the form of a bar rigidly secured to one side of the plate to support the same from positive contact with a surface and projecting beyond one edge of the plate, 5 loop members secured to the opposite edge of the plate adjacent each end thereof, a pair of flexible bands engaged in the loops, a bar having a loop at each end through which the bands are movable and a clamping eye slidably carried by the bar on the 10 opposite side of the plate for engagement with the keeper.

3. A holder of the class described comprising a plate, a keeper bar secured transversely to one side and projecting from one 15 edge of the plate and having a tapered portion, rigid loops secured to the face of the

plate adjacent the opposite edge and side thereof at right angles thereto, a bar having loops at its ends, an eye having a twisted shank and end portions coiled around the 20 bar to hold the same in position thereon, said eye being adapted to engage the tapered keeper, buckle members and flexible bands engaged in the loops at the ends of the bar, through the first mentioned loops and adjustable in the buckles. 25

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

WALTER L. WEST.

Witnesses:

W. W. HAYWARD,
R. O. WEST.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."