(No Model.)

E. T. COVELL.

BOOK MARK AND PENCIL HOLDER.

No. 292,412. Patented Jan. 22, 1884.

Fig. 1.

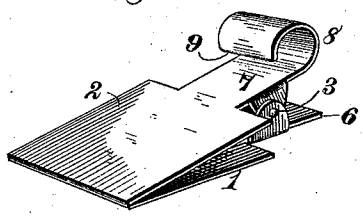
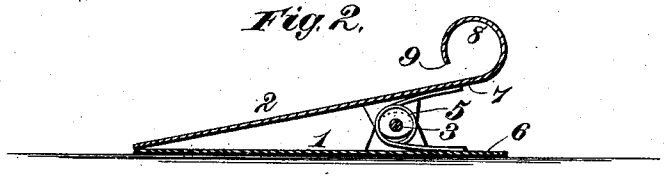


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD T. COVELL, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

BOOK-MARK AND PENCIL-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 292,412, dated January 22, 1884.

Application filed November 13, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD T. COVELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Bedford, in the county of Bristol and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in a Book-Mark and Pencil-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide an improved device which is capable of holding lead-pencils of varying sizes, and to be used as a book-mark or paper holder or clip.

The invention consists, essentially, in two pivoted jaws normally held together at one end by a spring, one jaw having a finger or tail piece projecting beyond the pivot-joint, and curved around into an elastic tubular receptacle, so that a lead-pencil can be inserted therein lengthwise, the tube or receptacle yielding to accommodate the diameter or thickness of the pencil, while the jaws can be utilized to grasp one or more leaves of a book to serve as a book-mark, or be used to hold between them one or more papers, the construction being such that the insertion or removal of the pencil does not change the position of the jaws, as is the case where a book-mark and pencil-holder is composed of a flat plate of spring metal doubled upon itself to form two jaws, and to receive a pencil between the jaws at the tubular bent portion.

The invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a perspective view of the combined pencil-holder and book-mark or paper-clip, and Fig. 2 a longitudinal central sectional view.

Referring to the drawings, the number 1 indicates the lower jaw, which is flat, and constitutes a base by which the device can rest upon a table or desk, 2 being the movable jaw, 3 the pivot-pin or journal, 4 the perforated ears on the respective jaws through which the pivot-pin passes to journal or hinge the jaws together, and 5 the spring which acts to throw the jaws together at their outer ends, all substantially in the manner as an ordinary paper-clip. The jaw 1 has a rearwardly-projecting finger or tail piece 6, and the jaw 2 has a like piece, 7, which is bent around into cylindrical or tubular form, as at 8, which portion is elastic, the longitudinal edge 9 of the bent end being free or terminating at a slight distance from the shank of the jaw. This shank has parallel sides, and the cylindrical or tubular end 8 serves to receive a lead-pencil or a pen-holder, which is inserted lengthwise therein, the elasticity of the tubular portion rendering it capable of receiving pencils or pen-holders of varying diameters or thicknesses. This finger-piece thus subserves two functions, in that it will receive and retain a pencil or pen-holder, and also be used for manipulating or swinging the movable jaw on the pivot, to open the same for receiving one or more leaves of a book, or for holding papers together in the same manner as an ordinary paper-clip.

The pencil-holder being on the finger or tail piece of the jaw, it will be obvious that a pencil or a pen holder can be inserted therein or removed therefrom without changing the position of the jaws—that is to say, if the jaws are grasping and holding one or more papers, their pressure will not be changed by inserting or removing the pencil or pen holder; whereas, in those combined pencil and paper holders composed of two jaws of spring metal joined at one end by a tubular bend, if a pencil of a larger diameter than that of the tubular holder be inserted, the jaws will to some extent be opened or separated, thereby relieving their pressure on the paper or papers between them, which results in the papers becoming disarranged or dropping out, so that such devices are objectionable and inefficient in use.

The device is very simple, and can be used as a book-mark by opening the jaws through the medium of the finger or tail pieces, to admit one or more leaves of the book, and then releasing such finger-pieces, when the jaws will seize and hold the leaf or leaves. It also provides a desirable clip for office use, in that it will securely hold sheets of legal-cap or other paper when writing or making notes and retain the pencil or pen in a convenient position when not being used.

I am well aware that paper-clips have been made of two jaws hinged together and provided with finger-pieces, and that such jaws have been held together at one end through the medium of a spring; and I am also aware that a combined pencil or pen holder and book-mark has been composed of two flat pieces of

spring metal, joined at one end by an elastic tubular receptacle to receive the pencil or pen holder; but such do not constitute my invention and are not claimed by me.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

A book-mark and pencil-holder consisting of two spring-impelled jaws hinged or pivoted together, and each provided with a finger-piece at one side of their hinge or pivot to swing said jaws on such hinge or pivot, one of the finger-pieces being bent into a tubular pencil-holder having a longitudinal free edge, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWARD T. COVELL.

Witnesses:
DANL. T. DEVOLL,
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