W. H. EDWARDS.

BOOK BACK.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 4, 1912.

1,202,979.

Patented Oct. 31, 1916.

Fig. 1.

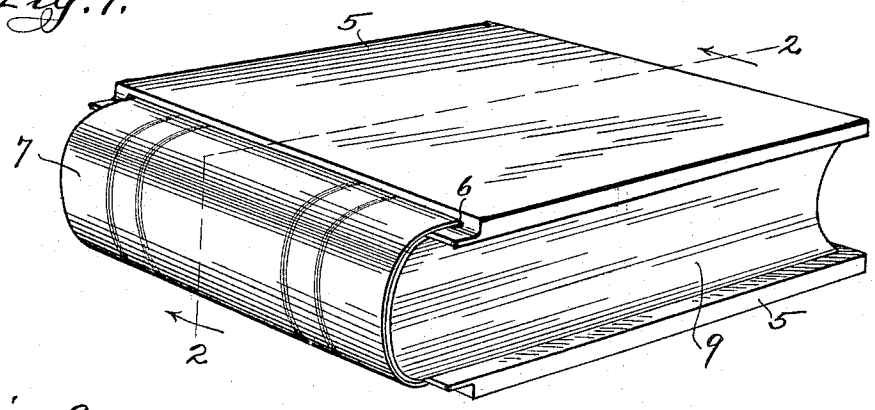


Fig. 2.

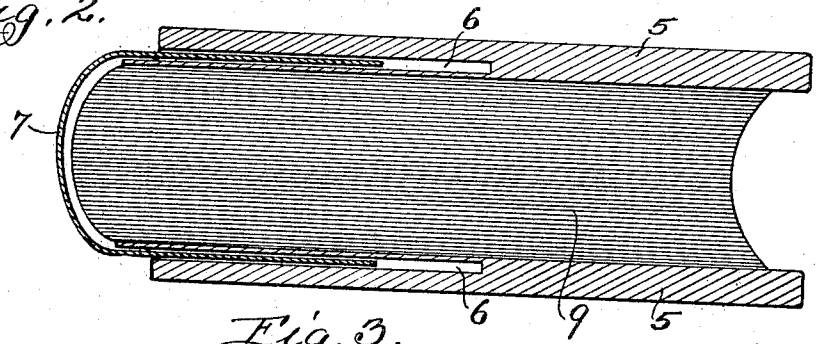


Fig. 3.

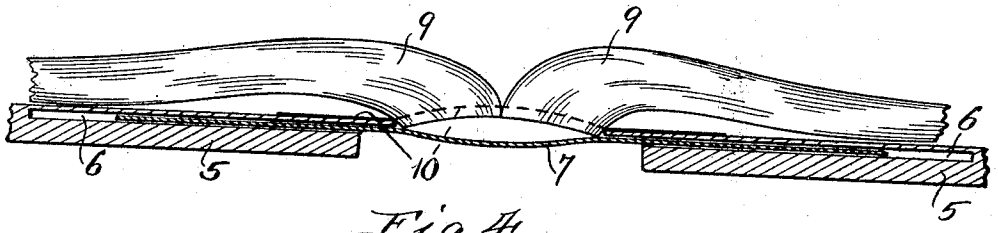
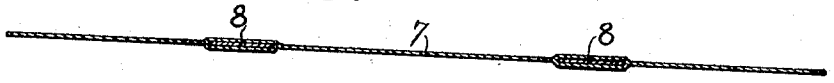


Fig. 4.



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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BOOK-BACK.

1,202,979. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 31, 1916.

Application filed March 4, 1912. Serial No. 681,579.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. EDWARDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Book-Back, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to book backs employed on loose leaf binders in particular but may be used on any style of book and the objects of my improvements are first, to form a protection for the back edges of the leaves and present a finished appearance to the book; second, to make a back which will automatically adjust itself to the size of the book; third, to provide a resilient back which will automatically slide along the covers when the covers are opened and closed; fourth, to form pockets in the covers into which the resilient back slides; fifth, to make the back resilient by means of attaching resilient spring strips thereto; sixth, to make a cheap, efficient and durable book back and other features to become apparent from the description to follow.

This back while it may be used in connection with solidly bound books is especially designed for use on loose leaf books in which flexible leaf holding strips 10 are employed. The back is made of flexible material and has its ends loosely extending into pockets or cavities formed in the covers, always retaining its position close to the back edges of the leaves.

To describe my invention so that others versed in the art to which it pertains can make and use the same I have illustrated it on the accompanying sheet of drawing forming a part of this specification in which:

Figure 1, is a perspective view of a book provided with a back embodying my invention; Fig. 2, is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, is a similar view with the book in an open position and showing the flexible leaf-holding strips 10; and Fig. 4, is a cross section through the back removed from the book at right angles to the section in Fig. 3.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

This invention comprises a back which is resilient and may be made of any desirable material. If it is made of flexible material it must be reinforced by some resilient material such as thin metallic springs or wires, running transversely across it substantially parallel to the top and bottom edges of the covers. These may be embedded in the material of which the back is made so as to be entirely hidden from view. I preferably have pockets provided in the covers into which the ends of the back freely slide, so that the ends of the back within the pockets are entirely hidden from view, but any other suitable receiving device may be constructed to have the ends of the back slide into without departing from the scope of my invention. If preferred one end of the resilient back may be secured to one cover or the one end of the back may form one of the covers. The back being resilient cannot be bent easily and as the covers are moved from a closed position to an open position the ends of the back will slide into the pockets in the covers without the assistance of any other mechanism whatsoever. Thus a very cheap and simple construction is afforded.

The covers 5 are preferably made of stiff material and are provided with the pockets or internal recesses 6 which are open on the binding edge of the covers and into which the ends of the back 7 freely slide. The back 7 may be made of fancy leather and be rendered resilient in one direction by the introduction of flat preferably metallic spring bands 8 clearly seen in Fig. 4.

When the book is complete with the binding edges of the covers 5 secured in any desired manner to the binding edges of the leaves 9, it is closed as seen in Figs. 1 and 2 and the back 7 is bent by hand over the back of the book and its ends are slipped into the pockets 6. When the covers are opened to the position shown in Fig. 3 the distance between the binding edges of the covers is slightly decreased and the ends of the back 7, contained in the pockets 6 moving with the covers, are brought into substantially the same plane, and the said back 7 being resilient will tend to lie in a flat position and thus push its ends into the pockets 6. Of course, the back 7 is free to be pulled out from the pockets 6 whenever the covers 5 are substantially in a closed or parallel position as seen in Figs. 1 and 2.

Having thus fully described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. In a device of the class described, a pair of covers and a flexible back reinforced by resilient strips running transversely across it and slidable on the covers.

2. In a device of the class described, a pair of covers and a flexible back having resilient strips embedded in it substantially parallel to its top and bottom edges and slidable on the covers.

3. In a book, a cover and a flexible back having resilient strips running transversely across it, arranged to slide along on said cover.

4. In a book, a cover provided with a pocket, and a flexible back reinforced by resilient strips running transversely across it, arranged to slide freely in said pocket.

5. In a book, a cover provided with a guide, and a flexible back reinforced by resilient strips running transversely across it, arranged to extend into and be guided by said guide on the cover so that the back will adjust itself automatically to the thickness of the book without the connection of any other means thereto.

6. In a book, covers provided with guides and a flexible back reinforced by resilient strips running transversely across it, extending into and guided by said guides on the covers so that the back will adjust itself automatically to the thickness of the book without connection of any other means thereto.

7. In a book a pair of covers each provided with a pocket and a flexible back reinforced by resilient strips running transversely across it, the ends of the said back arranged to slide back and forth freely in said pockets.

8. In a book, swinging covers one of which has a guide, and a flexible back having a transverse resilient strip carried by one cover and adapted to be slid into and out of the guide in the other cover in the closed position of the book.

9. In a device of the class described, a flexible back having a transverse resilient strip tending to straighten the back into a plane.

10. In a book, swinging covers one of which has a guide, and a resilient back carried by one cover and slidably held in the guide in the other cover.

11. In a book, swinging covers one of which has a guide, and a resilient back carried by one cover and slidably held in the guide in the other cover, and in the closed position of the covers, frictionally engaging said guide by the resilient pressure of the back thereon to prevent accidental detachment of the back.

12. In a loose-leaf binder having flexible leaf-holding strips, swinging covers one of which has a guide, and a resilient back carried by one cover and slidably held in the guide in the other cover.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in presence of two subscribing witnesses this 6th day of June, 1911, at Grand Rapids, Michigan.

WILLIAM H. EDWARDS.

Witnesses:
G. W. De Lano,
Henry A. Schnil.

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