In the merchandising of wall papers it is desirable that sample specimens of the different designs thereof be so exhibited that they may be viewed to the best advantage, and so that comparisons may be made, one to the other, of the several designs which may be under consideration.

In maturing the present invention I have departed from the old system of making available to the customer, a collection of samples, disposed one upon the other, and capable of being only viewed separately, one after the other; objections to said old system being that light effects on the samples are unsatisfactory, and that handling and rehandling of the samples is necessary; and also, that no opportunity is given for convenient or satisfactory making of comparisons between them.

To the end that the customer may be enabled to satisfactorily comprehend the design, quality and characteristics of the wall paper which is to be selected, the object of my invention, broadly stated, is to provide a holder device of unitary structure and of such formation and function, that samples of the variously designed wall papers may be exhibited each separately from the other, and that all may be in view at the same time. Also, whereby the said samples shall at all times be clean, un-marred, and devoid of creases, wrinkles or distortion.

Further and more specific aims of the invention are to provide a holder device of the kind described, which is of economical construction, easy to use, and which is durable and dependable. The objects and aims of my invention are accomplished by a holder device constituted as described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a front view of my improved holder device for a specimen sample of wall paper or the like.

Figure 2 is a side view of Figure 1, in the direction of arrow 2 in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a side view similar to Figure 2, the wall paper sample having been attached to the holder device.

Figure 4 is a front view, on reduced scale, showing a plurality of the holder devices as they appear when in stayed position upon an upright surface such as a wall.

Figure 5 is a side view taken in the direction of arrow 5 in Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a perspective view, showing a plurality of the holder devices as they appear when in stayed position upon an inclined support structure.

My new holder device consists of a resilient plate 1, preferably sheet steel of about number twenty two gauge, provided at its upper marginal portion with spaced perforations 2 and 3. The lower portion of the said plate is of formation turned aside from and thence toward the plane of the plate, in the form of a curl 3, there being a space 4 between the edge 5 of said curl, and the body portion of said plate. The said plate in the present instance is about eighteen inches in width, and its height is in suitable proportion.

The holder device constituted as above described, accommodates a severed portion or cut of wall paper of standard usual width. The sample may be attached thereto without the use of glue, tacks, or the like; and without the hands coming into contact with the paper except at its extreme ends. In turn, the said plate lends itself to easily being made fast to a wall, or to any other suitable supporting structure. It is light in weight, easy to handle and to adapt to its use, and is lends itself to being economically finished either by plating or by enameling, or by painting its surfaces.

Making use of the invention consists in taking the sample (a severed portion of the wall paper roll) in one hand, then while retaining the plate with the other hand, applying the rear side of the paper at the lower end portion thereof, to the inner face of the curl 3, and then folding the paper the length of the edge 5 of said curl (see Figure 3). Now while holding the curl in a status urged from the body of the plate (see broken lines in Figure 3), the body portion of the paper is brought about and into direct engagement with the frontal surface of the plate; and its top edge is folded over the upper end of the said plate. (See Figure 3).

Now upon relaxing the hold at the curl 3, the said curl springs inwardly and to its normal status, the paper having thus been drawn taut, and caused to lie smoothly upon the frontal surface of the plate. The coengaging of the paper at the edge 5 of the curl, and at the top edge of the plate, is sufficiently secure that the paper is retained in firmly fastened position. The holder device with its paper sample so fastened thereon may be handled easily and conveniently and without liability of the paper being displaced or disarranged. It lends itself to being retained on suitable studs, such as small screws or nails, provided therefor upon a wall W, or upon a conventional rack R, as shown in...
Figures 4 and 6, the said studs being obscured by the upper marginal portion of the paper sample retained on the plate.

My invention renders possible the utilization of large areas of exhibiting space afforded by walls, and by conventional easel-like support structures. Being available at relatively low cost, and affording, as it does, maximum facility for the making fast thereon of the wall paper sample, my new holder device contributes materially to convenience and efficiency in the arranging and exhibiting of the sample wall paper specimens, and also in making the samples available to the view of the customer.

It will be understood that modifications may be made in the shape and dimensions of the plate, and of the formation in cross-section of the lower portion of the plate, and of the degree of tension thereof, without departing from the principle of my invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A device of the kind described, consisting of a resilient light gauge metal plate having a marginal portion thereof turned aside, out of, and thence inwardly toward the plane of said plate, and a sheet of paper or the like arranged on and in close lying relation with said plate, said sheet at its one end being attached to the edge of said inturned marginal portion of said plate, the latter being strained outwardly away from the plane of said plate, and said sheet at its other end being attached to the edge of the opposite marginal portion of said plate.

2. A wall paper sample device consisting of a resilient light gauge metal plate having a marginal portion thereof turned aside, out of, and thence inwardly toward the plane of said plate, and a cut of wall paper arranged on and in close lying relation with said plate, said cut at its one end being folded upon the edge of said inturned marginal portion of said plate and the latter being strained outwardly, and the said cut at its other end being folded upon the edge of the opposite marginal portion of said plate.

3. A device of the kind described, consisting of a resilient rectangular metal plate having an end portion thereof turned aside, out of, and inwardly toward the reverse surface of and toward the plane of said plate, and a cut of paper slightly longer than said plate and which is arranged on and in close lying relation with the obverse surface of said plate, the said cut at one end thereof being folded upon the edge of the inturned end of said plate, the latter being strained outwardly away from the plane of said plate, and the said cut at the other end thereof being folded upon the edge of the other end of said plate.

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