To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SILAS J. SAWYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Reference or Page Markers for Books, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention pertains to improvements in reference or page markers for books, the construction and advantages of which will be hereinafter set forth, reference being made to the annexed drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a book partly opened, showing the marker attached thereto; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the device alone; Fig. 3, a longitudinal sectional view of the marker and the back of a book to which it is attached; Fig. 4, a transverse sectional view on the line 1 1 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 5 a side elevation of a modified form of the device.

The object of the invention is to provide a marker for books which may be used to afford a ready and certain means for marking a number or series of pages or references in the book in any desired order and to mark them in such manner that they may be readily turned or referred to in succession with certainty and ease.

The invention comprises in its broadest sense a long flexible belt or band and means for holding said band in its proper relation to the book and between a number or series of leaves.

Referring to the drawings, Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, A indicates a bar or member, preferably formed of light sheet metal and slightly curved in the direction of its width. It is formed or provided with ears or fingers B at or near its lower end, which are bent around and embrace a bar or member C similar in form to member A. Said member C is also provided with fingers or arms B, which are similar to those upon the bar A and are bent around the edges of said bar A, as shown. It will thus be seen that though the members are held in close contact with each other, yet they may, nevertheless, be moved lengthwise or longitudinally relative to each other. The arms B also prevent the complete separation of the members A and C when they are moved endwise, as said arms will come into contact with each other and act as stops when the members A and C are extended as far as possible.

Near the outer end of each of the bars or members A and C there is formed a hook or tongue D, which in the preferred form of the device is shown as being struck up out of the body of the bars. (See Fig. 2.) The tongues stand out slightly from the body portion of the bar, but are parallel thereto throughout the major portion of their length.

The outer end of each bar is made in the form of a curved hook or arm E, which stands at approximately right angles to the body of the bar. To one of said hooks, either the upper or lower, though preferably the upper, is attached a band or cord F, which is of a length many times that of the book. In practice a narrow silk ribbon has been used, one end being simply tied about the book.

In practice the members A and C are slid upon each other in such a direction as to carry the tongues D apart and far enough to permit the tongues D to pass over the upper and lower edges of a book-back G, Figs. 1, 3, and 4, after which members A and C are slid back upon each other, drawing tongues D together until they engage with the back of the book, as indicated in Fig. 3. When in this relation, the parts will be securely held upon the back of the book, with the hooks E extending slightly over the body portion or leaves thereof. The band or cord may then be passed down between the leaves of the book, around the lower hook E, back, up, through another place in the book, over the upper hook E, and again down at another desired place in the book, and so on. The relation of the band to the hooks and leaves of the book is clearly illustrated in Figs. 1, 3, and 4.

It is of course essential that the last page or paragraph to which it is desired to refer be marked first, as it will readily be seen that the page nearest the free end of the band will be the first to be opened thereby.

In Fig. 5 I have shown a slightly-modified form of the clamp or band holder, wherein it will be seen that instead of forming tongues D out of the body of the device the sliding members are bent back upon themselves, forming tongues D', which serve to engage...
the back of the book and hold the device in place. In this form, as well as in that illustrated in the other views, the slight cross curvature or dishing of the members A and C allows or permits the device to lie close to the back of the book, and consequently takes up but little space.

It is manifest that means other than those illustrated may be employed for holding the band or ribbon in its proper relation to the book, and I do not therefore desire to limit myself to the exact arrangement shown.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a page, leaf, or reference marker for books, the combination of a flexible band of a length several times greater than the length of the book and adapted to be passed back and forth between a series of leaves; means for securing the band to the back of the book at one end thereof; and means carried at the opposite end of the back adapted and designed to receive and hold loops of the band as it is passed back and forth between the leaves, substantially as described.

2. In a page, leaf or reference marker for books, the combination of a clamp adapted to be secured to the back of a book; hooks extending out over the book from said clamp; and a long flexible band secured at one end to one of said hooks.

3. In a page, leaf or reference marker for books, the combination of a longitudinally-extensible clamp adapted to be secured to the back of a book; hooks extending out over the book from said clamp; and a long flexible band secured at one end to one of said hooks.

4. In a page, leaf or reference marker for books, the combination of a longitudinally-extensible clamp provided with tongues adapted to pass behind the back of a book, substantially as described; hooks extending out from each end of said clamp; and a long flexible band secured at one end to one of said hooks.

5. In a page, leaf or reference marker for books, the combination of members A and C slidably connected to each other; ears D extending out from said members; hooks E formed at the outer ends of the members A and C; and a band F connected to one of said hooks.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

SILAS J. SAWYER.

Witnesses:

FANNY F. JENNINGS,
CARL F. JOHNSON.