V. M. Griswold,

Paper Holder.

No. 97,081. Patented Nov. 23, 1869.

Fig. 1.

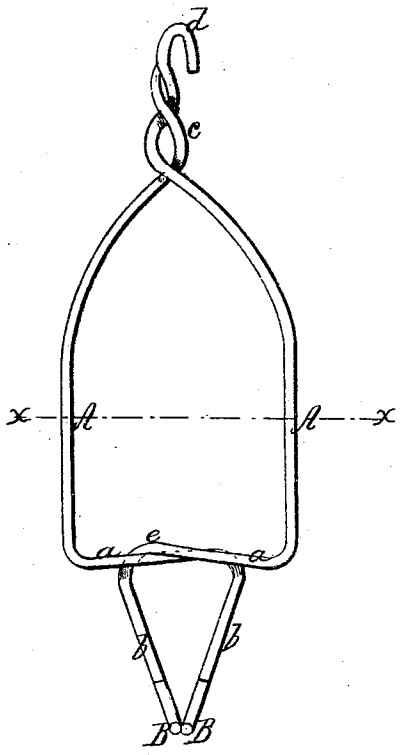
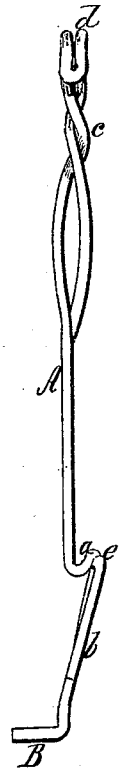


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.



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Letters Patent No. 97,081, *dated November* 23, 1869.

CLIP OR PAPER-HOLDER FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VICTOR M. GRISWOLD, of Peekskill, in the county of Westchester, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Clip or Clamp; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is, primarily, to provide a certain, cheap, and simple means to be used by photographers and others for suspending albumenized or silvered paper or other light material to dry, though my invention may be used for many other purposes.

It consists of a wire or thin strip of metal, bent in a peculiar manner, hereinafter explained and illustrated in the drawings, by which a spring-clip or clamp is formed from the said thin strip of metal or piece of wire, the said clip having a hook formed at one end, by which it may be suspended from a nail or line, and at the other end the jaws bent up at or nearly at right angles for clasping the article to be suspended or held.

The legs or prongs between the said ends are bent so as to act as springs to retain the article in place, and at the same time so that they are held in the proper relative position to each other, without any ring or other device, apart from the form of the legs themselves.

The jaws are coated or covered with India rubber, wood, varnish, or other suitable substance which will not excite chemical action in the silver-bath or other liquid into which it may be necessary to dip the said jaws.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a clip or clamp embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is an edge view of the same.

Figure 3 is a horizontal section, showing the parts below the line *x x*, fig. 1.

A A are the legs or prongs of the clip, which also act as springs, to keep the jaws B B pressed tightly together.

A short distance above the jaws B B, the legs are bent inward at an angle approximating to a right angle, and the said legs, or that portion of them marked *a a*, are crossed obliquely, as seen in fig. 3.

By this crossing, and the upward direction which the corners *e e* take when the jaws are forced apart, the two legs are kept in their proper relative positions without the use of a ring or other contrivance to hold them together.

The portions *b b* are then brought together at the bottom, and the jaws B B are formed by bending the ends of the wire nearly or quite at right angles with the portions *b b*, and parallel with each other. They may be flattened so as to give a broader bearing-surface, or formed in any other shape desired.

The upper ends of the legs A A are twisted together, as seen at *c*, to give stiffness and strength to the clip, and a hook, *d*, is then formed by bending the upper part of the clip to one side, and then downward.

The jaws B B, and a part of the portions *b b*, are coated or covered with India rubber, gutta-percha, wood, horn, varnish, or other suitable substance, to keep the metal of which the clip is formed from being acted upon by and exciting chemical action in the solutions or mixtures into which it may be necessary to dip it.

In suspending albumenized or silvered paper, for which my clip or clamp is particularly applicable, the method generally employed is to use the "American clip," which is merely the well-known clothes-pin, made of two pieces of wood, hinged together and kept closed by a spiral spring.

The paper is taken from the bath in the fingers, and carried to a line on which a number of these clothes-pins are strung, when it is held by one corner, and that corner is inserted between the jaws of a clothes-pin.

Then the other corner is brought up and fastened in a similar manner, the paper meanwhile becoming more or less soiled with impurities at the upper edge, whence they are very liable to drain or run down into the middle portions.

The springs in the clothes-pins become weak, and allow the paper to fall, and sometimes, when one corner only is released, the other becomes torn.

My clamp or clip obviates all these difficulties and defects, and in its operation it is much more expeditious, safe, and cleanly.

The operator takes a clip in each hand, presses the legs together, which opens the jaws, fastens the clip upon the edge of the paper while the latter floats on the bath, and then raises the sheet by means of the clip, carries it to the line, and hooks the clip upon the line by means of the hooks *d*, where it hangs and dries without danger of falling.

Whenever the power of the springs becomes decreased, they may be strengthened by unhooking the parts *a a*, and bending the legs outward.

Having thus fully described my invention,

I claim—

1. The clamp or clip, formed of the two parts or legs A A, twisted together at the top, crossed obliquely at *a a*, for the purpose specified, and brought together to form jaws at the bottom, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination with the said clip, formed as described, of the hook *d*, substantially as set forth.

3. The coating or covering of the jaws B B, to protect them from the action of corrosive substances, substantially as hereinabove set forth.

4. The combination, with the legs A A, portions *a a*, and portions *b b*, of the jaws B B, bent up nearly at right angles with the portions *b b*, to prevent the said jaws from passing each other, and to obtain a better and larger bearing-surface, substantially as specified.

V. M. GRISWOLD.

Witnesses:
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