Oct. 20, 1925.

1,557,950

S. WASSERMANN

LETTER AND LIKE RACK

Filed Jan. 24, 1925

Fig. 1.

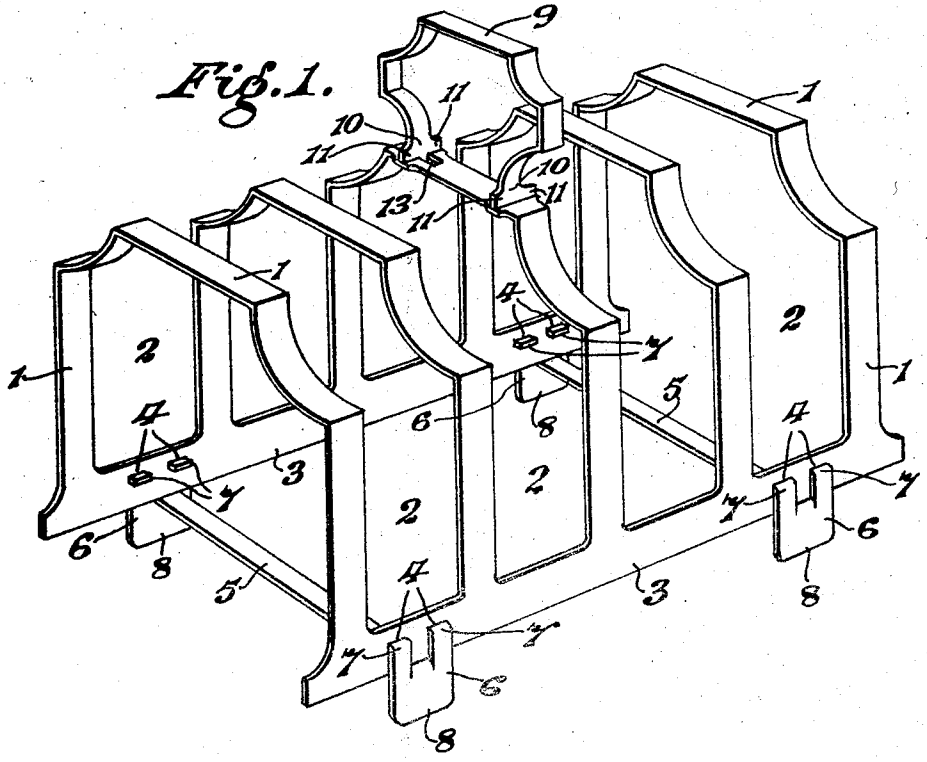


Fig. 3.

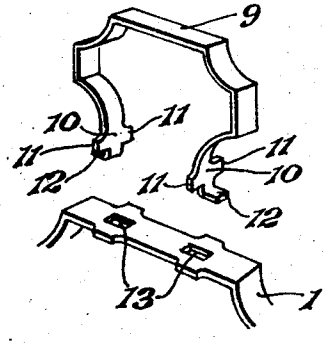
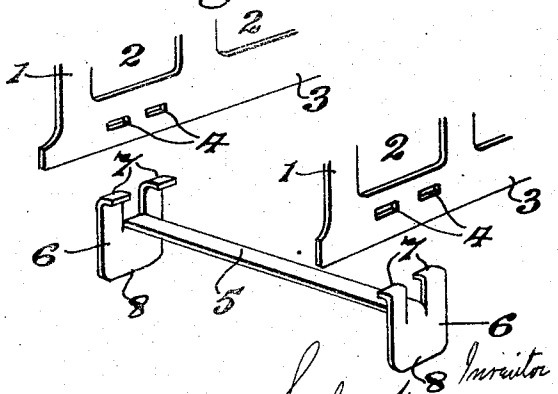


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SIEGFRIED WASSERMANN, OF BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

LETTER AND LIKE RACK.

Application filed January 24, 1925. Serial No. 4,470.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIEGFRIED WASSERMANN, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Lion Works, Summer Hill, Birmingham, England, have invented certain Improvements in Letter and like Racks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprises certain improvements in letter and like racks, and more particularly relates to racks such as are designed to stand upon a table or the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a rack of this character which shall be simple and economical in construction, efficient and durable in use, and in which the component parts are capable of being readily disassembled for cleaning or other purposes, and as readily reassembled, without the use of screw connections.

The present invention comprises a letter or like rack which includes, in combination, a flexible body part of inverted U formation, slots provided in opposite side edges of the U-shaped body, a base part transversely connecting said edges, and projections provided at opposite ends of the base part engageable within said slots, whereby the body and base parts are held in engagement by the spring character of the body and are readily separable by contraction of said body.

The invention further comprises a letter or like rack as set forth in the preceding paragraph, and which includes a flexible handle part of open loop formation, projections provided at opposite extremities of the handle, and slots provided in the upper part of the body in which slots said handle projections are engageable, whereby the handle and body parts are likewise held in engagement by the spring character of the handle and are readily separable by contraction of said handle.

The invention further comprises a letter or like rack as set forth in the said paragraph, and wherein the base part is of strip formation and includes opposite terminal enlargments bent at right angles, said enlargements having at their upper extremities inwardly turned projections engageable with said slots, and being adapted at their lower extremities to constitute feet for the rack.

In order that this invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into practice, reference may be had to the appended explanatory sheet of drawings, upon which:—

Figure 1 is an elevation in perspective of a letter or like rack constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating the method of attachment of the rack body to a base strip, the parts being shown in their disassembled relation.

Figure 3 is a similar view illustrating the method of attachment of the handle to the body.

In a convenient embodiment of the invention, the body 1 of the letter or like rack is stamped up or formed from a blank of sheet metal having a number of parallel slots cut therein to constitute transverse recesses 2 for the letters or the like when the blank is bent or curved to an inverted U configuration as shown, and provided in the opposite longitudinal edges 3 of this body are spaced pairs of slots 4 formed in the stamping operation. The base of the rack consists of transverse strips 5 of metal adapted to unite the limbs of the U-shaped body 1, which strips 5 may be formed from the metal removed from the body 1 in the slotting operation. Two strips 5 are preferably provided, and each strip is formed at its opposite extremities with terminal enlargements 6 longitudinally slit and bent at right angles, each enlargement 6 having a bifurcated upper extremity provided with a pair of inwardly turned projections 7 adapted for engagement within a pair of the slots 4, and having the lower extremity 8 adapted to constitute a supporting foot. The body 1 as aforesaid is of a spring or flexible character tending to open slightly from its U configuration, and in order to locate and assemble the base strips 5 it is necessary to press the limbs of the body 1 slightly inward, then engage the inwardly turned projections 7 of the base strips 5 within their respective pairs of slots 4 in the body 1, and then allow the body 1 to expand outwardly into close engagement with the opposite terminal enlargements 6 of the base strips 5, in which relation the body 1 and base strips 5 are securely but detachably connected.

The handle is attached to the body 1 in a manner similar to that described with reference to the body and base strip con-

nections. In forming the handle 9 a strip of metal is bent into an open loop formation, with its extremities 10 disposed in spaced-apart parallel relation. These extremities 10 are each provided with lateral shoulders 11, and with a projection 12 outwardly turned at right angles, the pair of projections 12 being disposed in a common plane. A pair of slots 13 is cut in the upper central part of the body 1, at a transverse spacing corresponding substantially to that of the extremities 10 of the handle 9, which slots 13 are adapted to accommodate the outwardly turned projections 12 of the handle. In order to locate and assemble the handle 9, its extremities 10 are pressed slightly inward against their spring or flexible action, and the projections 12 are then passed through the slots 13 of the body 1, the handle 9 being then allowed to expand outwardly within the limits of these slots 13, with its lateral projections 11 bearing upon the upper surface of the body 1, and with its projections 12 bearing upon the under surface of said body, in which relation the handle 9 and body 1 are securely but detachably connected.

By the foregoing construction it will be seen that no screw or like connections are employed, and that the rack may be readily disassembled by simply applying a withdrawing pressure to the various spring or flexible members.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A letter or like rack comprising, in combination, a flexible body part of inverted U formation, slots provided in opposite side edges of the U-shaped body, a base part transversely connecting said edges, and inward projections provided at opposite ends of the base part engageable within said slots, whereby the body and base parts are held in engagement by the outward flexible expansive tendency of the body and are readily separable by contraction of said body.

2. A letter or like rack as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base part is of strip formation and includes opposite terminal enlargements bent at right angles, said enlargements having at their upper extremities inwardly turned projections engageable with said slots, and being adapted at their lower extremities to constitute feet for the rack.

3. A letter or like rack comprising a flexible body part of inverted U formation, slots provided in opposite side edges of the U-shaped body, a base part transversely connecting said edges, and projections provided at opposite ends of the base part engageable within said slots, whereby the body and base parts are held in engagement by the spring character of the body and are readily separable by contraction of said body, in combination with a flexible handle part of open loop formation, projections provided at opposite extremities of the handle, and slots provided in the upper part of the body in which slots said handle projections are engageable, whereby the handle and body parts are likewise held in engagement by the spring character of the handle and are readily separable by contraction of said handle.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

SIEGFRIED WASSERMANN.