(No Model.)

J. Z. LE PAGE.

EYEGLASS CASE.

No. 590,043. Patented Sept. 14, 1897.

Fig. 1.

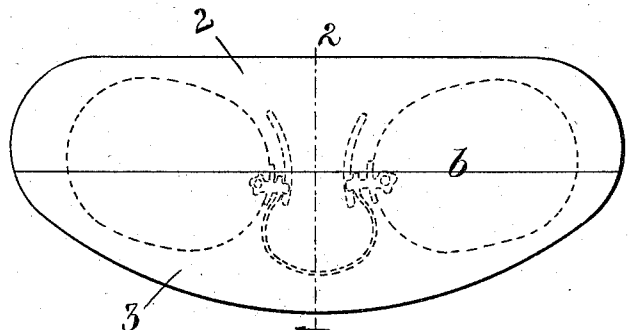


Fig. 2.

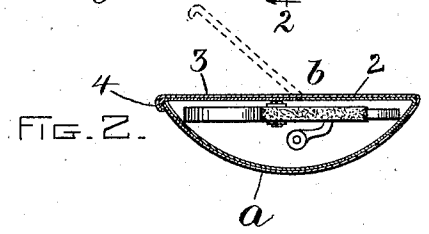
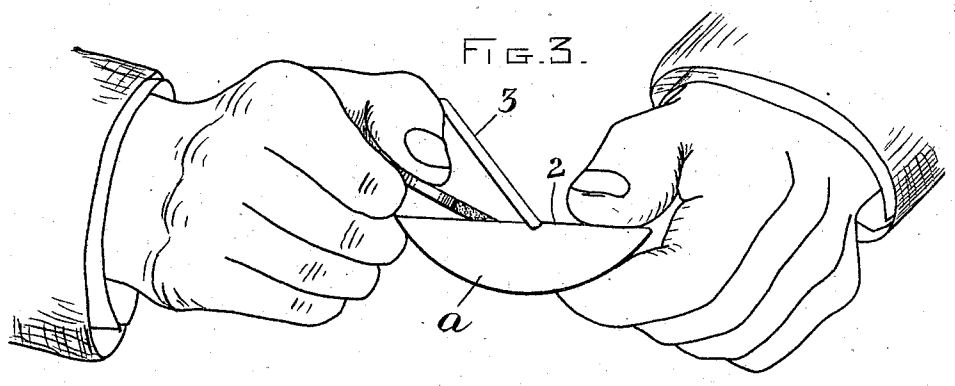


Fig. 3.



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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH Z. LE PAGE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE AMERICAN OPTICAL COMPANY, OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

EYEGLASS-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,043, dated September 14, 1897.

Application filed February 12, 1897. Serial No. 623,139. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH Z. LE PAGE, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Eyeglass-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a case for eyeglasses adapted to be more conveniently manipulated and opened and closed than the cases now in use.

My invention consists in the improved construction which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a side view of my improved eyeglass-holder. Fig. 2 represents a section on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents an end view illustrating the method of holding and opening the case. The same letters and numerals of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In carrying out my invention I provide an elongated eyeglass-holder which is composed of a dished side *a* and a flat side *b*, said sides being formed to inclose a space adapted to receive a pair of eyeglasses. The flat side *b* is composed of two sections 2 and 3, each of which extends from end to end of the case, the section 2 being rigidly secured along one edge and at its end portions to the corresponding portions of the dished side *a*, while the section 3 is hinged to the inner edge of the section 2, said hinge being lengthwise of the case. The section 3 is therefore a movable lid which is adapted to be opened to permit the sidewise removal and insertion of the eyeglasses while opened out as in use. The hinge connection between the sections 2 and 3 may be of any suitable character and may be composed of the usual leather covering which is secured to the parts or pieces which comprise the body of the flat side, the case being preferably constructed of inner plates of some suitably stiff material, such as aluminium, coated externally with leather and provided internally with a suitable lining of material, such as velvet. Owing to this construction of the joint extending lengthwise of flat sections 2 and 3 I am enabled to form a sufficiently strong hinge of the usual leather covering itself without necessitating the employment of metallic hinges.

It will be seen that the section 2, affixed to the dished or body portion of the case, constitutes a rest for the thumb of the hand which holds the case, so that the case is enabled to be firmly and securely grasped by one hand while the lid is being opened and the eyeglasses inserted or removed by the other hand.

In Fig. 3 I show a convenient manner of holding and manipulating the case, the thumb and fingers of the left hand grasping the portion of the case which includes the fixed section 2, while the thumb of the other hand is being used to raise the lid-section 3 and hold it open while the eyeglasses are being withdrawn. The lid-section 3 may be held in its closed position by any suitable means, such as a snap edge or flange 4, formed on the margin of said section and adapted to snap over the corresponding edge of the dished side or body *a*. Any other suitable fastening means may be employed. A spring may be used to hold the lid-section closed if desired.

My improved case of the type mentioned possesses the advantage by the provision of a rest which is affixed to the dished portion of the body of the case and is located beside the hinged portion or lid, so that one of the long edges of the case can be firmly held or grasped by the thumb and fingers of one hand, as illustrated in Fig. 3. This provision materially enhances the convenience of a case of this character.

It will be observed that although the lid-section when opened uncovers but about half the interior of the case the dished form of the side or body *a* enables the eyeglasses to be inserted and removed by an edgewise movement.

I claim—

An elongated eyeglass-case comprising a dished side or body, and a longitudinally-divided flat side, one section of the flat side being affixed to the dished side and forming a thumb-rest, while the other section constitutes a movable lid which is located beside

and is hinged to the said thumb-rest by the flexible covering of the case, the said lid when opened permitting a pair of eyeglasses to be moved edgewise and without folding into or out of the case.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, this 10th day of February, A. D. 1897.

JOSEPH Z. LE PAGE.

Witnesses:
RICHARD W. RYER,
OVIDE ROBILLARD.