

J. MITCHELL.  
 NAPKIN RECEPTACLE.  
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1,315,852.

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Fig. 1,

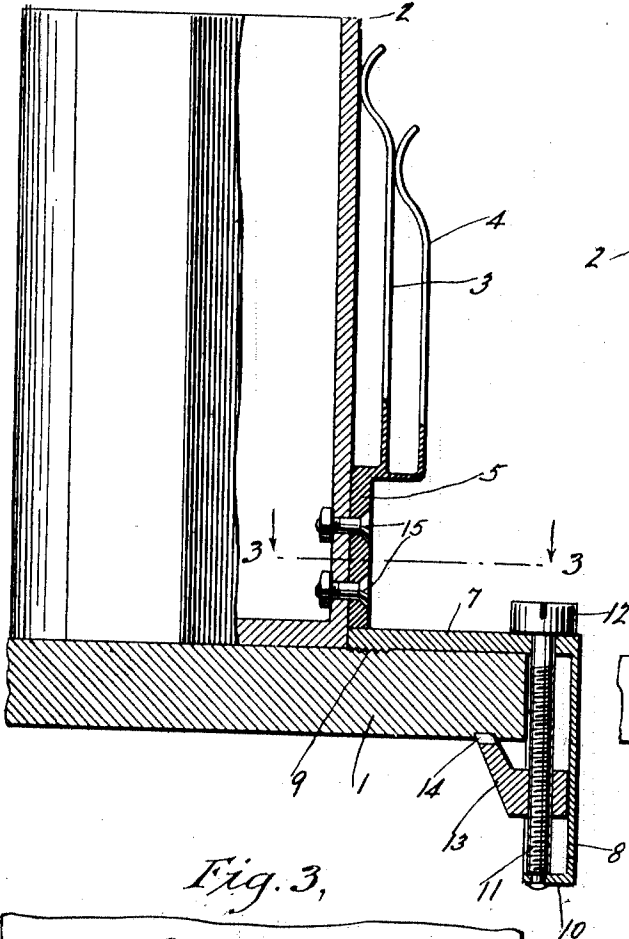


Fig. 2,

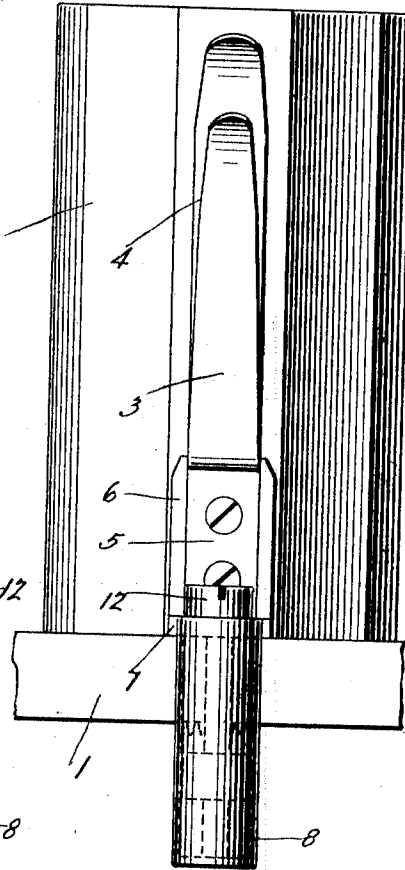
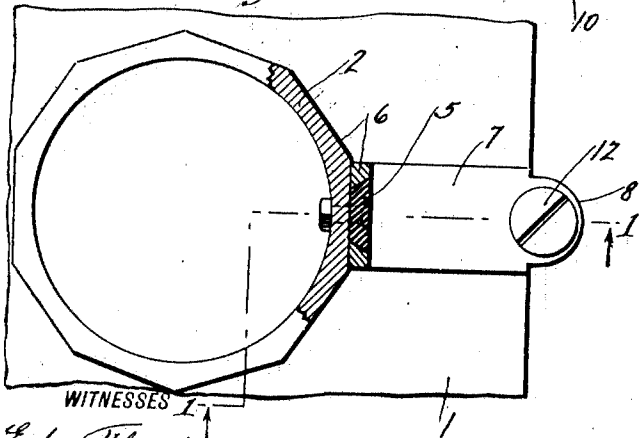
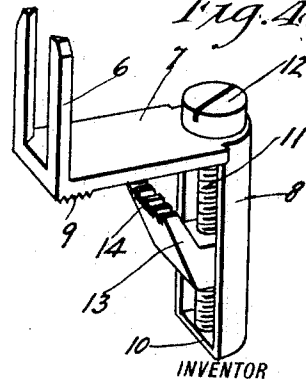


Fig. 3,



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Fig. 4,



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## NAPKIN-RECEPTACLE.

1,315,852.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 9, 1919.

Application filed January 30, 1918. Serial No. 214,466.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN MITCHELL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Pine Bluff, in the county of Jefferson and State of Arkansas, have invented a new and Improved Napkin-Receptacle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to receptacles for napkins, glasses, menu-cards and the like, and has for an object the provision of an improved construction whereby the receptacle is held in a permanent position at any place along the counter, table or support.

Another object in view is to provide an improved form of clamp adapted to be clamped to a counter or other support arranged with a slide connection between the clamp and the receptacle to be supported thereby whereby the receptacle may be removed without removing the clamp.

A still further object in view, more specifically, is the arrangement of clamp acting as a frame for holding in position a traveling member and a screw for operating the traveling member in connection with a clamping arm formed with a socket structure for receiving a tongue or projection from a support to be held in place by the clamping member.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a sectional view through Fig. 3 on line 1—1.

Fig. 2 is a side view of the structure shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the structure shown in Fig. 1 with certain parts shown in section, said section being taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the clamping member and the socket on one end thereof.

In restaurants and other places it is desirable to provide on the counter, or on tables, means for holding in place a container for napkins, menu-cards and the like, which container should be so fixed as not to be readily upset or removed. However, under some circumstances it may be desirable to remove the container and substitute a new one more or less quickly. To accomplish this purpose a clamp and associate parts, as shown in the accompanying drawing, has been provided which will firmly hold the container in place ordinarily, but will permit a quick and easy

removal thereof without removing the clamp or support.

Referring to the accompanying drawing by numerals, 1 indicates support of any desired kind, as for instance a counter, and 2 a receptacle for napkins, glasses or other article. Connected with the receptacle 2 are spring clips 3 and 4 for receiving menu-cards. These clips may be constructed independently and rigidly secured in any suitable manner to the bead or tongue 5, or may be formed integral therewith, said bead or tongue being beveled as shown in Fig. 3 so that the same, together with the socket member 6 forms a dove-tail construction, whereby the container 2 is normally held in position on the counter 1, but may be easily and quickly removed by an upward pull. The socket 6 is preferably formed integral with the clamping plate 7, which clamping plate is preferably formed integral with the downwardly extending frame 8. Plate 7 is also preferably formed with a roughened section 9 slightly projecting beyond the bottom of the plate so as to grip the counter as shown in Fig. 2. The frame 8 may be of any shape, but is preferably semi-circular and is provided with an end 10 in which the end of the screw 11 is journaled, the opposite end extending through plate 7 and formed with an operating head 12 which may be in the nature of an enlargement having a curve so as to be rotated by a screw driver. A traveling jaw 13 is mounted on the screw 11 and is held in proper position by loose contact with the frame 8 by the teeth 14 thereof which bite into the bottom of the counter 1 when the parts are clamped in position.

When the device is used on a counter a number of clamping structures as shown in Fig. 4, are positioned along the counter and then the receptacles 2 connected therewith by means of the tongue structure 5 and socket 6. As the containers get empty, or for any other purpose the same may be quickly and easily removed and new ones substituted. In case the device is to be used upon a nicely finished counter or table the roughened portion 9 will be eliminated so that a flat, smooth bottom surface of plate 7 will press against the top of the table and thereby properly actuate with the movable jaw 13 without injuring the table or counter while providing proper rigid support for

the receptacle 2 and articles carried thereby. To maintain the clips 3 and 4 properly in position in respect to the receptacle 2 any suitable securing means, as for instance, bolts 15 may be used as shown in Fig. 1.

What I claim is:

1. A clamp for containers comprising a plate having upstanding supporting members formed with a groove, a retaining member adapted to be secured to said container formed as a tongue fitting in said groove, said plate being formed at one end on the opposite side to said upstanding supporting member with a roughened portion for biting into a support, said end provided with the roughened portion being also provided with a depending substantially semi-tubular frame extending in an opposite direction to the supporting members, a rotatable screw arranged in said frame and journaled in the opposite ends thereof so as to rotate but not move longitudinally, a traveling jaw threaded on to said screw coacting with said plate for clamping said support.

2. A clamp for holding a container against a flat surface comprising a horizon-

tally positioned plate, supporting members forming a groove positioned at one end of said plate and a depending semi-tubular member at the opposite end, means engaging said tongue for connecting the tongue with said container, a screw having one end journaled in one end of said semi-tubular depending member and the opposite end extending through said plate, said opposite end being formed with an operating head, and a nut arranged on said screw guided by said semi-tubular member, said nut having a projection acting as a jaw and coacting with said plate for securing the clamp to a support.

3. A counter and table appliance for holding napkins and menu cards comprising means for holding a napkin, including a receptacle, resilient means for holding a card against the receptacle including a tongue carried by the receptacle and from which said resilient means extends, and means for attaching the appliance to a counter, including a top plate, and upwardly extending means at one end to receive said tongue.

JOHN MITCHELL.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."