

(No Model.)

J. J. WEICHER.
HAT HOLDER.

No. 547,828.

Patented Oct. 15, 1895.

Fig. 1.

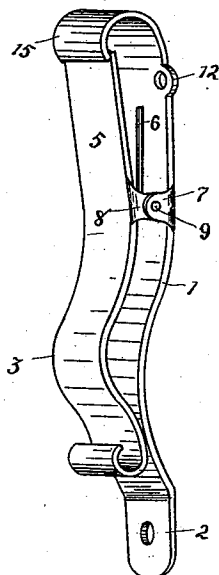


Fig. 2.

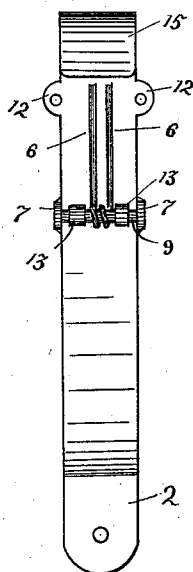
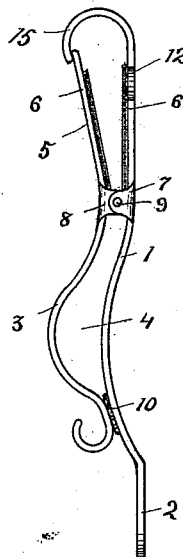


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

Walt. B. Burns

Arthur O. Smith

Jacob J. Weicher

INVENTOR

BY Chapin & Denny

his ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB J. WEICHER, OF FORT WAYNE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO PROSPER A. BALL AND JOHN A. MOLTER, OF PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

HAT-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 547,828, dated October 15, 1895.

Application filed February 28, 1894. Serial No. 501,752. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB J. WEICHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Wayne, in the county of Allen, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in hat-holders. In the seats for churches, theaters, and other public halls as at present arranged no suitable means is provided for placing or securing the hats of the male occupants, and it becomes necessary to hold the hat during the whole time of the services or entertainment, or else either place it upon a vacant seat or upon the floor, thereby subjecting it to the danger of soiling or other injury.

The object, therefore, of my invention is to provide a cheap, neat, durable, and convenient hat-holder so constructed as to be readily secured to the back of either a church seat or pew, or an opera-chair or other seat, and which is so arranged as to hold any style of men's hats securely and without injury, and also so arranged as to avoid all danger of catching the apparel of the occupants thereon in passing by the same.

My invention consists of a curved base-plate having suitable perforations for securing the same to the seat, and provided with vertical lugs to which the spring-clasp is pivotally secured, and a curved spring-clasp pivotally mounted upon said base-plate having a space for the roll of the hat-brim, and provided with a spring adapted to hold one end thereof in contact with the said base-plate.

The object of my invention is accomplished by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which similar figures of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a perspective of my invention, showing the relative arrangement of the different parts. Fig. 2 is a plan of the lower or

base plate, showing the arrangement of the spring and washers on both sides thereof, on which the spring-clasp is mounted. Fig. 3 is a side view of my improvement, showing the inclosed space for the roll of the hat-brim and the buffer-pad on the base-plate.

Referring now to the drawings, the base-plate 1, preferably made from a flat piece of sheet metal, is inwardly curved at its central portion, has its lower end fashioned into a vertical fastening-shank 2, having a perforation for a proper screw, and has its upper end 15 curved into a semicircular form for the purpose hereinafter described. The said base-plate 1 is also provided at its upper extremity with the lateral perforated lugs 12, Fig. 2, for proper fastening-screws, and also with the integral vertical perforated lugs 7, adapted to secure the spring-clasp 5 by means of the pivot 9, loosely mounted therein. The said spring-clasp 5 is provided with the integral vertical perforated lugs or ears 8, adapted to register with the said lugs 7 and are also mounted upon the pivot 9. The upper end of the said clasp 5 is adapted to impinge against the end or inner surface of the end 15 of said base-plate when in its normal position and not in use, under the tension of the spring 6. The said spring-clasp 5 has also an outwardly-curved portion 3, so arranged as to form a proper space 4 for the roll of the hat-brim when in position on my hat-holder, and the lower end thereof is adapted, under the pressure of the said spring 6, to firmly press against the buffer or pad 10, properly secured upon the inner face of the said base-plate adjacent thereto, as shown in Fig. 3. The pad 10 may be of felt, rubber, or other suitable material, and is adapted to prevent any sound when the plates come together upon releasing a hat-brim therefrom. The said spring 6 consists, preferably, of a single piece of wire, is wound about the pivot 9 at or near its center, preferably one and one-half times, with its two ends pointing upwardly, as seen in Figs. 2 and 3, and bears firmly against the inner surfaces of the said plate 1 and the clasp 5, and by its tension presses the lower end of the said clasp firmly against the pad or buffer 10. The said spring 6 is secured in position by the washers 13, of any suitable material,

preferably of metal, loosely mounted upon the pivot 9 on both sides of the said spring and adapted to fill out the space between the lugs 8 of the clasp 5 and the spring 6. It is obvious that the said washers may be, if desired, cast integral with the said lugs 8.

The manner of using and mode of operating my improved hat-holder thus briefly described is obvious.

When my invention is rigidly secured in position upon the back of a seat or chair, the lower end of the spring-clasp 5 will be firmly pressed against the buffer 10 by the tension of the spring 6, exerted against the inner surface of the said clasp, and when it is desired to suspend a hat therefrom the operator presses inward upon the upper end of the clasp 5 against the energy of the said spring 6, thereby freeing the lower end thereof from its contact with the buffer 10. One end of the hat-brim is then inserted between the said clasp and the base-plate with the roll of the brim in the space 4, the curvature of the said base-plate at the point where the buffer 10 is secured being sufficient to allow a stiff or derby hat to hang therein in a vertical position, notwithstanding the vertical curvature of the brim. The overlapping of the upper end of

the said clasp by the curved end 15 of the said base-plate conceals the only portion of my invention on which a passer-by would be likely to entangle his clothing.

Having thus described my invention and the manner in which the same is to be applied, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

A hat-holder consisting of a sheet-metal base plate 1 having its upper end forwardly curved to engage the upper free end of the surmounted clasp, and provided with the lateral perforated ears 7 for the pivot 9, a spring-metal clasp 3 having the perforated ears 8 by which it is pivotally mounted on the said pivot, and the spring 6 loosely coiled upon the said pivot 9 as shown, having its free ends bearing against the inner surface of the upper end of the said base-plate and the said clasp respectively, whereby the lower end of the said clasp will normally bear firmly against the adjacent face of the base plate under the tension of the said hinge substantially as described.

Signed by me, at Fort Wayne, State of Indiana, this 24th day of February, 1894.

JACOB J. WEICHER.

Witnesses:

WALTER G. BURNS,
ARTHUR E. SMITH.