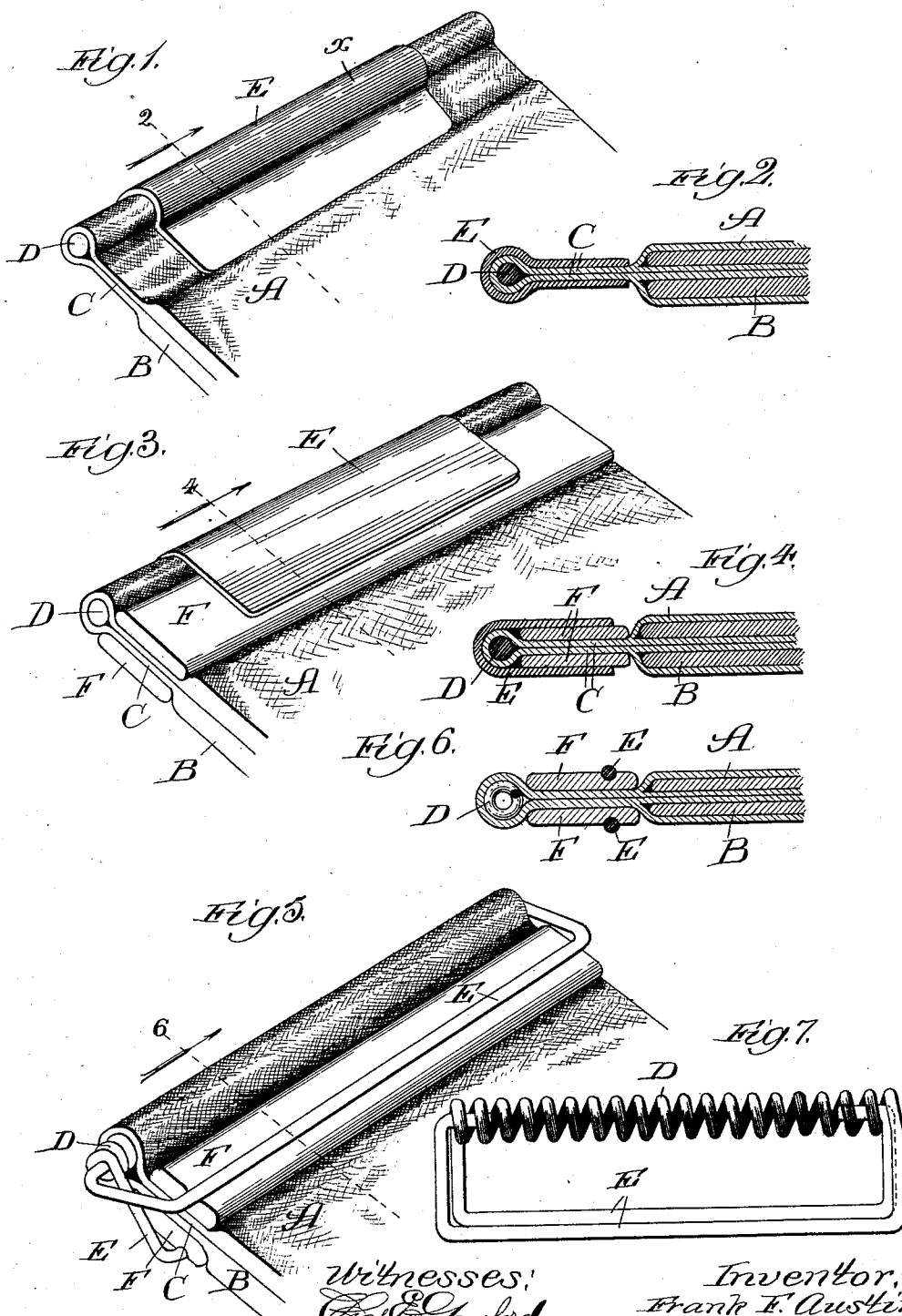


(No Model.)

F. F. AUSTIN.
ORDER HOLDER.

No. 484,625.

Patented Oct. 18, 1892.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK F. AUSTIN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO
H. B. LYFORD, OF SAME PLACE.

ORDER-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 484,625, dated October 13, 1892.

Application filed December 21, 1891. Serial No. 415,720. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK F. AUSTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Order-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in the class of binders used for temporarily holding sheets of paper conveniently for writing upon and protecting and saving them, such as order-blanks and the like; and it relates to an improvement in the particular form of order-holder involving stiff backs connected at one end by a flexible hinge at which the paper is fastened by a spring-clamp.

The object of my improvement is to provide a simplified and especially-effective and convenient construction of the particular form of order-holder or temporary binder referred to, and to this end I provide as the leading feature of my improvement a rod or the like confined to extend inside and along the apex of the flexible hinge connecting the stiff backs and serving to enhance the binding effect of the spring-clamp and to prevent separation or withdrawal therefrom of the hinged backs.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a broken perspective view of my improved order-holder in its simplest form. Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line 2 of Fig. 1 and viewed in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 3 is a broken perspective view of the order-holder, involving my improvement in its preferred form. Fig. 4 is a section taken on the line 4 of Fig. 3 and viewed in the direction of the arrow. Fig. 5 is a broken perspective view of the order-holder, involving my improvement in a modified form over that presented in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a section taken on the line 6 of Fig. 5 and viewed in the direction of the arrow; and Fig. 7 is a view in elevation, slightly perspective, of the combined spring-clamp and hinge-rod employed in the form of the device presented in Fig. 5.

As already stated, the simplest form of my improvement is that illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2. It comprises the more or less stiff backs A and B, connected from adjacent ends by a hinge C of flexible material, such as leather or canvas, and which may be a continuation

of a covering of like material on the backs. Inside the hinge and extending along the apex thereof is a rod D, over which and the opposite sides of the hinge is adjusted a spring-clamp E, the jaws of which embrace the hinge, while the back of the clamp is beaded, as shown at *x*, to conform to the cylindrical or other shape of the rod. To insert the paper to be held, the backs and hinge are separated sufficiently to permit the insertion in the usual manner, after which they are released and the spring-clamp holds them at their inserted edge between the sides of the hinge.

The function subserved by the rod D is, as will be appreciated, an important one, since if it were omitted with the simple form of flexible hinge employed the spring-clamp would not be adequately secured in its operative position.

To avoid beading the spring-clamp E in the manner described, I employ the construction illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, but which I do not claim, specifically, in this specification, wherein the clamp is plain, and there are interposed along the sides of the flexible hinge, between the rod D and adjacent shoulders afforded by the edges of the backs A and B, bars F F, embraced by the jaws of the spring-clamp, and which may be permanently connected with the jaws.

The rod in the construction last described, as in that presented in Fig. 1, affords a stop against separating the hinged backs from the clamp, and also tends to enhance the binding effect of the spring-clamp.

The spring-clamp E, presented in Figs. 5 to 7, inclusive, is a combined spring-clamp and hinge-rod and performs the functions of the two corresponding features in the preceding figures. I do not, however, claim herein the specific construction hereinafter described of this form of my improvement. I prefer to form it of a continuous length of spring wire bent to form a jaw *r*, one side of which is formed into a spiral rod D, whence it is bent into the jaw *q*, terminating at the initial end *v* of the spiral rod. With this construction the spiral form of the rod D occupies the same position and performs its function like that employed in the other forms of my improved

device, and the jaws *r* and *q* embrace the sides of the flexible hinge at the interposed stops or bars *F*, which should be grooved longitudinally, as illustrated, to be the better engaged
5 and held in place by the jaws of the combined spring-clamp and stop-rod.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

10 In an order-holder, the combination of the backs *A* and *B*, connected by a flexible hinge

C, a stop-rod *D* inside the hinge, and a spring-clamp *E*, embracing the hinge and rod, the said rod and clamp co-operating to retain each other in place on the hinge, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

FRANK F. AUSTIN.

In presence of—

A. P. COBB,

J. H. HANSON.