No. 782,439. PATENTED FEB. 14, 1905.

W. DOWNIE.

BAG HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 15, 1903.

Fig. 1.

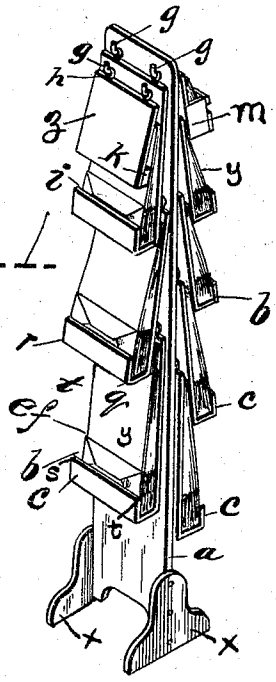


Fig. 2.

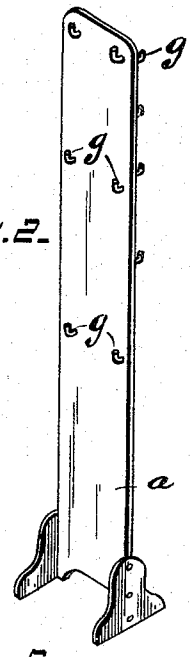


Fig. 3.

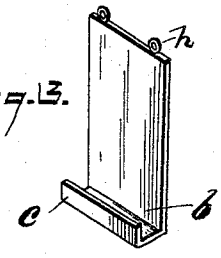


Fig. 4.

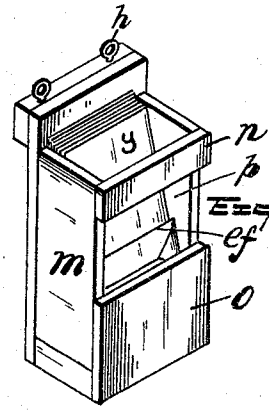


Fig. 5.

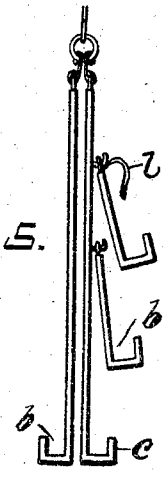


Fig. 6.

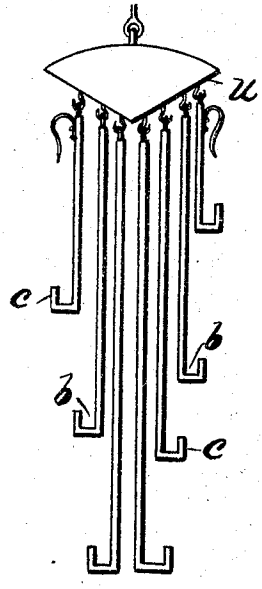


Fig. 7.

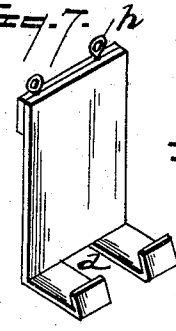
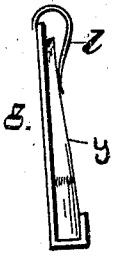


Fig. 8.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM DOWNIE, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

BAG-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 782,439, dated February 14, 1905.

Application filed December 15, 1903. Serial No. 185,327.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM DOWNIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Bag-Holder, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in a bag-holder for keeping displayed in the smallest amount of space an assortment of different sizes of bags whereby I do away with the labor of stringing the bags. I dispense with the mutilation of the bags caused from stringing them and also do away with a greater mutilation, the result of tearing the bags off to use them. Furthermore, with my invention I dispense almost entirely with the annoyance of two or more bags coming out at once; but even if this does happen occasionally my invention provides a simple and easy way of replacing the extra bag or bags back into the holder, thus doing away entirely with the wasting of bags. I accomplish these results by the use of the device of which the following is a specification and of which, in the annexed drawings—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the holder filled with bags. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the holder with the apartments detached. Fig. 3 is a view showing the construction of an apartment. Fig. 4 is a view showing the construction of the top apartment *m*. Figs. 5 and 6 are modified forms of holders, and Figs. 7 and 8 are modified forms of apartments.

My device may be made of wood or metal or a combination of both; and it consists of an upright *a*, Fig. 1, fastened to horizontal pieces *x*, which latter may be screwed to the counter, if desired. Attached to the upright *a* are a series of apartments *b*, which may be made in various shapes and sizes. I prefer to make them essentially in the shape of a capital letter **L**, as shown in Fig. 3; but any style of apartment will answer which will retain the bottom part of the bags. I prefer to construct my apartments with the front stop *c;* but this is not absolutely necessary. As shown in Fig. 7, a notch *d* may be cut into the front stop *c* and bottom of the apartment to allow the thumb to be inserted between the bags at the bottom for withdrawing same in cases where bags are used which have no outward folded bottom, as *e f*, Fig. 1, to grasp. In the same manner this notch *d* could be cut into the stop *o* and bottom of apartments *m*, Fig. 4. The apartments may be fixed or separable with regard to the upright *a* and may be attached thereto by springs, hinges, staples, wires, hooks and eyes, &c., in such a manner that they will be free to swing away from and toward the upright *a*. I prefer to use hooks and eyes, the former shown at *g* and the latter shown at *h*, Fig. 1. It is obvious that it is not necessary for the bottom apartments to swing.

Now it will be seen that the holder consists of a series of apartments *b*, one above the other, also that each apartment, except the two bottom ones, holds in place the bags in the apartment directly under by pressing against them. A great economy of space is gained by this construction, because each bundle of bags is a great deal thicker at the bottom than at the top, caused by the folded bottoms of the bags. Consequently the upper apartment being free to swing and press against the bags in the lower apartment, the latter are compressed so as to not take up any unnecessary room, assuming now a tapered shape toward the top of the bundle.

Coming now to the top apartments, Fig. 1, there are various ways of arranging means for retaining the top part of the bags in these two apartments. For example, a simple flap *z*, free to swing and weighted at *k*, if necessary, may be used, as shown in apartment *i*, or an apartment, as shown in Fig. 8, with a spring *l* to hold the top of the bags may be used instead of the apartment *i* in Fig. 1. It will be seen that the pressure from the weight *k* applied on the flap of the top apartment, Fig. 1, will be transmitted successively through each apartment and work in conjunction with the weight of the bags in each apartment, except the bottom one, to retain the bags in the apartment underneath. It is also evident that the same result can be procured in other ways—as, for example, by a spring fastened

directly to the support and pressing against the top apartment. Again, the top apartment may be simple box-shape, as shown by *m*, Figs. 1 and 4, on the front face of which is a stop *n* near the top and a stop *o* near the bottom, with an opening *p* between the stops for the withdrawal of the bags. The box is free to swing and press on the bags in the apartment underneath. The stops may be made of strips or wires.

The upright *a* may be a plain board or, in fact, anything that the apartments may be fastened to—as, for example, posts or rods.

It will be seen that a bag *y* may be withdrawn from the holder by grasping the folded bottom of the bag *e f*, Fig. 1, and pulling it through the opening formed between the bottom of the apartment *q r* and the top of the stop *s t*.

It will be readily seen that to fill an apartment one has only to swing the apartment directly above away from the upright *a*, put the bundle of bags into the apartment, and then allow the apartment above to swing back and press against the top part of the bags.

The upright *a* may be omitted entirely by making the back piece of each of the two bottom apartments long enough to meet at a point and to be suspended from above, as shown in Fig. 5, the other apartments to be fastened to the backs of these two apartments, or the backs of all the apartments could be fastened to a support above *u* and suspended, as shown in Fig. 6. The apartments of course are capable of swinging.

The peculiar manner of withdrawing the bags from the holder separates them when they are stuck together caused from the manufacture.

Skeleton apartments formed of wire may be used in any of the above cases, if desired.

It will be seen that the apartments may be placed on both or on only one side of the upright *a*, as may be desired.

It is evident that my device can be used for several purposes besides holding bags—as, for example, displaying papers of various styles, files, pamphlets, railway-guides, and for filing bills, receipts, accounts, memoranda, &c.

What I claim as new, and desire to obtain Letters Patent on, is therefore—

1. A bag-holder consisting of an upright piece, having secured thereto and adapted to swing a series of ⌊-shaped apartments, consisting of a back piece, bottom and front horizontal stop, the apartments arranged on the upright one above the other in such a manner that an opening shall be formed between the top of the stop in the bottom apartment and the bottom of the apartment directly above for the withdrawal of the bags, and the same in each apartment excepting the top apartment, which shall be provided with means for retaining the top parts of the bags; each apartment except the bottom one adapted to press against and retain the bags in the apartment directly under.

2. A bag-holder consisting of a series of ⌊-shaped apartments being free to swing, having a back piece, a bottom and front horizontal stop; the back pieces of the apartments fastened to a member adapted to be suspended from above; the apartments arranged one above the other in such a manner that an opening shall be formed between the top of the stop in the bottom apartment and the bottom of the apartment directly above for the withdrawal of the bags, and the same in each apartment excepting the top apartment which shall be provided with means for retaining the top part of the bags substantially as and for the purposes described.

3. The combination consisting of a series of swinging apartments adapted to hold bags; the apartments arranged one above the other in such a way that the top part of the bags in the lowest apartment shall be held in place by the apartment directly above pressing against them and the same in each apartment till the top apartment is reached which shall be provided with means for retaining the bags in that apartment; a support provided for fastening the apartments thereto and the apartments being fastened to said support in such a manner as to be capable of swinging substantially as described.

4. The combination consisting of a series of apartments adapted to hold bags, the apartments arranged one above the other and capable of swinging backward and forward, means provided adapted to retain the bags in the top apartment, each apartment except the bottom one adapted to press against the apartment directly under it, and a support provided for attaching the apartments thereto.

5. The combination consisting of a series of apartments adapted to hold bags; the apartments arranged one above the other in such a manner as to readily swing backward and forward; each apartment except the bottom one adapted to press against the apartment directly under it, a support provided for attaching the apartments thereto and proper means provided for attaching the apartments to said support in such a manner as to allow them to swing backward and forward, and means provided adapted to retain the top part of the bags in the upper apartment.

6. The combination consisting of two apartments adapted to hold bags, one apartment arranged above the other apartment and fastened in such a manner as to be free to swing and retain the bags in the lower apartment by pressing against them.

7. A bag-holder consisting of a series of apartments adapted to hold bags, the top apartment formed opposite the upper portion of the

next lower apartment, leaving an opening for the withdrawal of bags in the latter apartment under a line level with the bottom of the upper apartment; the second apartment from the top formed in the same manner with respect to the third highest apartment, and the same with each apartment except the bottom one.

8. A bag-holder consisting of two apartments adapted to hold bags; the top apartment formed opposite the upper portion of the lower apartment leaving an opening for the withdrawal of bags in the latter apartment under a line level with the bottom of the upper apartment.

9. The combination consisting of a series of apartments adapted to hold bags, a support provided for fastening the apartments thereto, and the apartments fastened to said support in such a manner as to be able to be swung away from one another to facilitate the placing of bags into the apartments.

10. The combination consisting of a series of apartments adapted to hold bags, the apartments arranged one above the other and secured to a support in such a manner as to be capable of swinging backward and forward; each apartment except the bottom one adapted to press against the apartment directly under it, means provided which while adapted to retain the bags in the top apartment will also transmit a pressure successively to the bags in each apartment.

11. A bag-holder consisting of a series of apartments adapted to hold bags, the apartments arranged one above the other in such a manner that the bags in each apartment will be held by the pressure from the apartment above, excepting the top apartment, means for retaining the bags in this apartment, and means provided for holding the apartments in their proper places, in such a manner that they can be moved away from one another to facilitate the placing of bags into the apartments.

12. A bag-holder consisting of a plurality of apartments, the top apartment arranged above the next lower apartment and adapted to retain the bags in the latter apartment by pressing against them, and the same with each apartment except the bottom one, and the apartments adapted to be moved away from one another to facilitate the placing of bags into the apartments.

WILLIAM DOWNIE.

Witnesses:
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IDA FLORENCE LAWSON.