

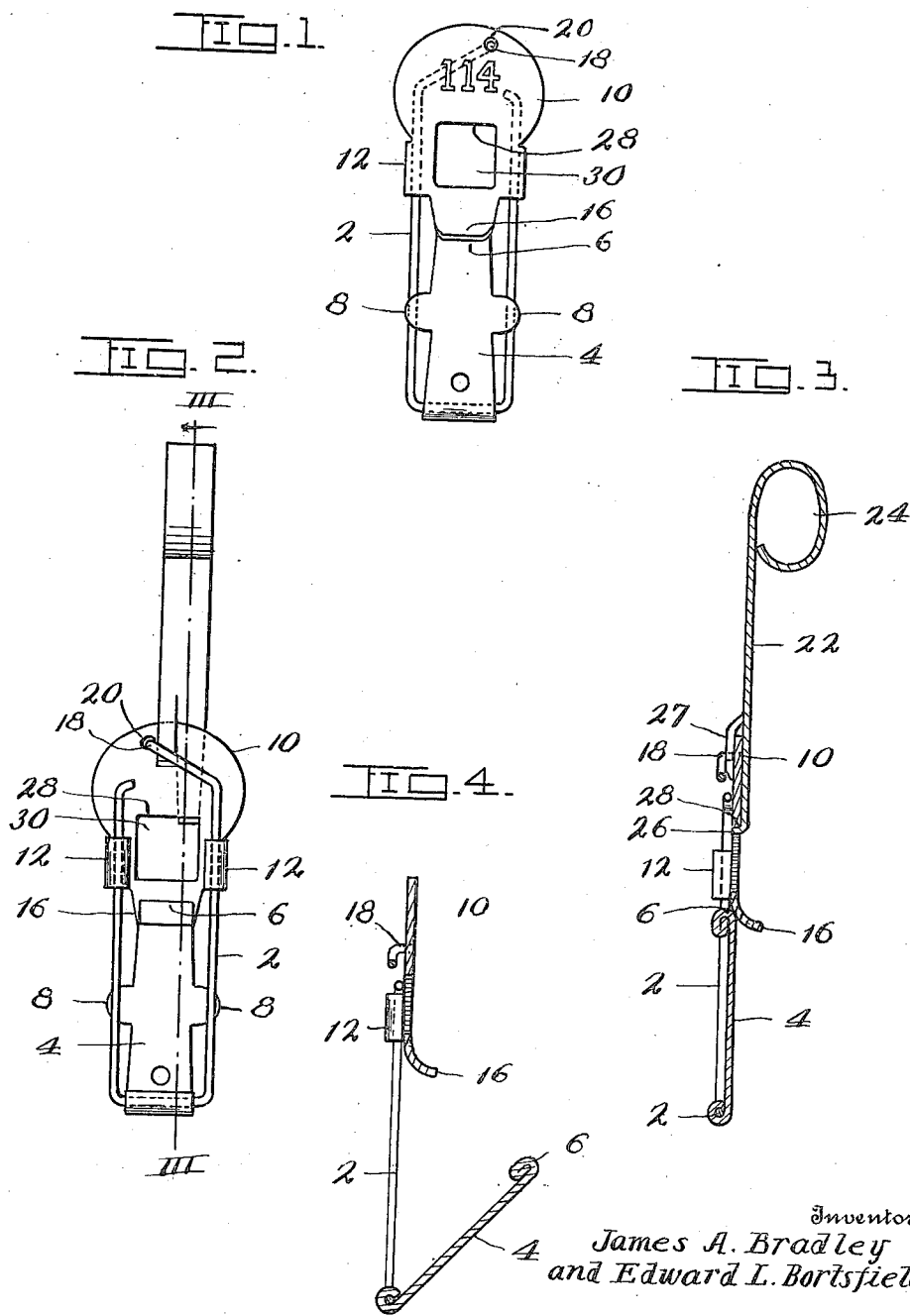
J. A. BRADLEY AND E. L. BORTSFIELD.

MARKING TAG.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MARKING TAG.

Application filed September 1, 1922. Serial No. 585,697.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES A. BRADLEY and EDWARD L. BORTSFIELD, citizens of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Marking Tags, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to marking tags for use in laundries, cleaning and dyeing establishments, or wherever it is desirable to employ devices whereby articles belonging to different customers can be readily identified.

The device among other features embodies a plurality of gripping elements for reliably securing the article thereto. It also embodies a letter, number, or other identifying symbol, or a combination thereof, whereby it can be readily determined to whom the article belongs.

Other features will hereinafter appear, and in order that the invention may be fully understood, reference will now be had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of the device.

Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the device with its key applied thereto.

Fig. 3 is a section on line III—III of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a section on the same plane as line III—III, with the key removed and the device in open position to receive an article or a portion thereof.

In carrying out the invention, we employ a frame 2 consisting, preferably, of a piece of spring wire bent in substantially U-shape.

4 designates an element swingably mounted at its lower end upon the frame 2 and provided at its free end with a jaw 6 and intermediate its end with two laterally projecting jaws 8, which latter bear against the opposite sides of the frame 2.

10 designates a member provided with sleeves 12 slidably engaging the opposite sides of the frame 2. The upper portion of the member 10 bears a suitable identifying symbol 14, while its lower end has a jaw 16 to secure the swingable element 4 against the frame 2 and coact with the jaw 6 in holding articles. The slidable member 10 is held in its lowermost position by the upper end of the frame 2 which is bent forward at 18 and passes through a hole 20 in the upper portion of the element 10.

22 designates a key for disengaging the upper end 18 of the frame 2 from the hole 20, so that the member 10 may be slid upwardly to the position disclosed by Fig. 4, to release the upper end of the element 4, and permit the same to swing outwardly and downwardly as shown. The upper end of the key 22 has a finger loop 24, while its lower end 26 is bent rearwardly to engage the upper margin 28 of an aperture 30 in the member 10. The lower portion of the key 22 is also provided with a wedge member 27 adapted to pass between the rear surface of the slidable member 10 and the upper portion of the frame 2 to pry the end 18 thereof out of the hole 20.

In practice the member 10 is raised and the element 4 is swung open as shown by Fig. 4, so that the margin of a handkerchief or other article may be placed between said element 4 and the frame 2. The element 4 is then swung against the frame and secured firmly in position by sliding the member 10 downwardly until its jaw 16 overlaps the jaw 6 as shown by Fig. 4. As the member 10 reaches the end of its downward movement the upper end 18 of the frame 2 springs into the hole 20 and thus secures said member 10 from upward movement. The article will now be firmly held at four points, i. e., between the lower portion of the element 4 and the frame 2, between the jaws 8 and the frame 2, and between the jaws 6 and 16. When it is desired to release the article from the device the key 22 is placed in position over the upper portion of the slidable member 10, that portion of said key 22 containing the bent end 26 passing downwardly in front of the member 10, while the wedge member 27 passes between the rear side of the member 10 and the upper portion of the frame 2 thereby prying the forward end 18 from the hole 20. The member 10 is then slid upwardly to release the element 4 by pulling upwardly on the key 22, the lower bent end of which engaging the margin 28, pulls said member 10 upwardly therewith.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that we have provided a simple device embodying the advantages above pointed out, and while we have shown and described the preferred construction, combination and arrangement of parts, we reserve the right to make such changes as

properly fall within the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A device of the character described consisting of a frame, an element swingable on said frame, jaws on the sides of said element to coact with the frame in holding articles, a jaw at the upper end of said element, and a member slidable on the frame and provided with a jaw to secure the element from swingable movement and coact with the jaw on the upper end of the element in holding the articles.

2. A device of the character described consisting of a frame, an element pivoted

on said frame and provided at its free end with a jaw, a member slidable on the frame and adapted to be secured in active position by the frame, a jaw at one end of said member to hold the element from pivotal movement and coact with the jaw thereof in holding articles, and a key for releasing the member so that the same may be slid to active position.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures, in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES A. BRADLEY.
EDWARD L. BORTSFIELD.

Witnesses:

F. C. FISCHER,
L. J. FISCHER.