June 24, 1930. M. HARTWELL 1,767,177

COMBINED READING GUIDE AND BOOKMARK

Filed Aug. 26, 1929

Fig. 1.

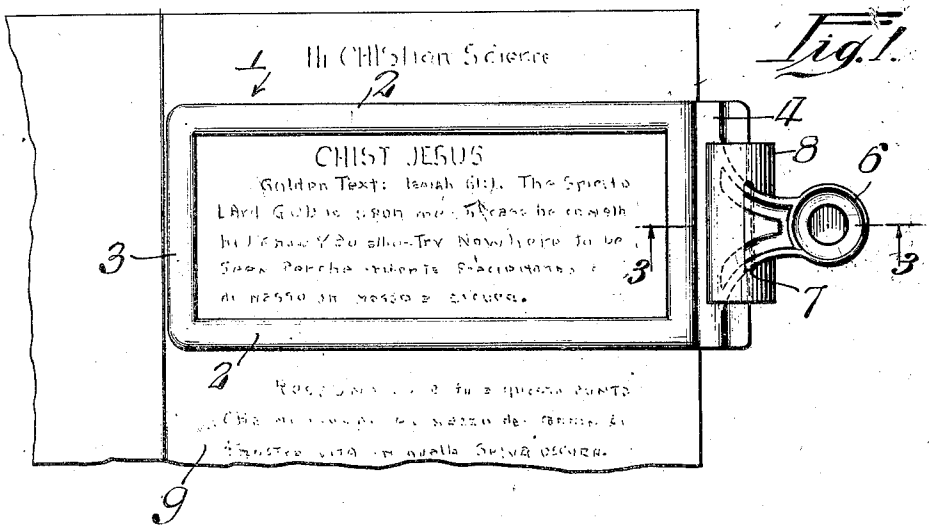


Fig. 2.

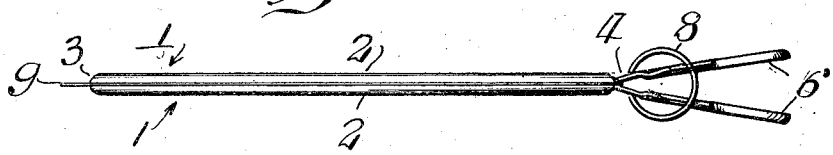
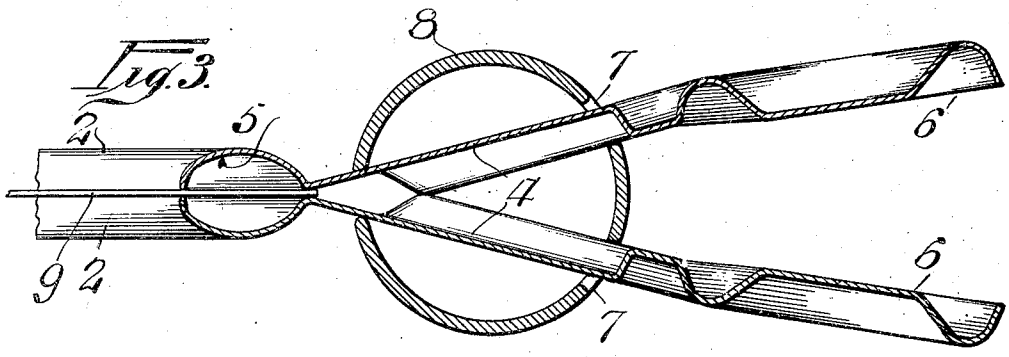


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED READING GUIDE AND BOOKMARK

Application filed August 26, 1929. Serial No. 388,344.

This invention relates to improvements in combined reading guide and book mark and it consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

The primary object of the device is to provide a simple and efficient device which may be removably attached to a page of a book or like publication for isolating a certain portion of the reading matter thereof whereby said portion may be more easily read and studied and more efficiently concentrated upon without detraction naturally caused by other portions of the reading matter.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind, which may be easily applied and removed from the desired page or shifted into different desired positions thereon, and one which is light in weight and may be readily manufactured in large numbers at a low cost.

These objects of the invention, as well as others together with the many advantages thereof, will more fully appear as I proceed with my specification.

In the drawing:—

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the device as when positioned on a page to isolate a portion of the reading matter thereon.

Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation thereof.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal detail vertical sectional view on an enlarged scale as taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Generally, that embodiment of the invention illustrated herein comprises a pair of elongated, rectangular, open frames preferably made of a thin, light-weight metal, which frames are connected together at one end by a convenient spring hinge joint, the frames having finger pieces extending beyond said hinge joint whereby the frames may be manipulated for their intended purpose.

Referring now in detail to said embodiment as above mentioned, my improved combined reading guide and book mark comprises a pair of rectangular elongated frames 1—1 each including top and bottom parallel bars 2—2, an end bar 3 and a head bar or member 4, the end and head bars or members being parallel and disposed at a right angle to the top and bottom bars. As each frame is made of a thin, light gauge sheet metal the top and bottom bars and the end bar thereof are transversely arched as best shown at 5 in Fig. 3 to give them strength and rigidity.

Each head bar or member 4 is formed to provide a lever like extension 6 disposed about midway between the top and bottom bars. Said lever like extensions are each offset away from the plane of the front arched face of the associated frame and extend through longitudinal slots 7—7 in a split spring tube 8 and those portions of said tube defining the split are engaged with the head members 4—4 adjacent the arched parts 5 thereon as best shown in Fig. 3. Thus, when the two frames and said spring tube are assembled together, the said tube holds the head bars together in a manner providing a spring hinge joint between said frames which normally urges said frames together with a clamping action.

In use, assume that it is desired to isolate or block off certain lines or a paragraph of the reading matter of a book for the purpose of study and concentration, such as is ofttimes desired. The extensions 6 are grasped between the thumb and forefinger of the hand and when a pinching action is imposed upon said extensions they will approach each other and cause said frames to swing away from each other against the action of the spring tube 8. Said open frames are then moved toward the free lateral margin of the chosen page 9 of the book when the frames may be moved along said page so that the top and bottom bars are disposed above and below the desired lines or paragraph of reading matter. The thumb and forefinger are then removed from the extensions and the spring tube 8 will cause said frames 1—1 to close together with a clamping action upon said page.

Thus said frames effectively block off the reading matter within the frame, disposed upon the desired side of the page so that the reading matter above and below the same

does not detract the attention of the reader from the matter within said frame which can now be studied and concentrated upon without detraction by other portions of the page. Should a certain line of said matter require deeper thought in the study thereof, the frames can be readily shifted along the page to bring the desired bar 2 under said line so as to provide a reading guide therefor.

The device is indeed advantageous in studying and concentrating upon desired passages or paragraph in books of a religious character wherein the print is relatively fine and the lines are somewhat close together. Ofttimes elderly people who are sincere in their belief and who desire to study and concentrate upon certain passages in such books and whose sight or vision is failing, meet with difficulty in returning their vision to such passage, should the same be removed therefrom as when closing their eyes in deep and intensive thinking or consideration. With my improved device, such passage or paragraph is isolated or blocked off from the other matter on the page so that said paragraph is immediately found when the vision is again turned toward said page.

The device herein shown is indeed advantageous for use in reading and may be left, clamped upon the page whereby said page and the desired passage or paragraph therein may be easily turned to or found upon opening the book. The device is indeed light in weight and consists of but a few parts which may be readily made and assembled. It, therefore, may be produced in large numbers at a small cost.

While in describing the invention, I have referred in detail to the form, arrangement and construction of the parts thereof, the same is to be considered merely as illustrative so that I do not wish to be limited thereto except as may be pointed out in the appended claim.

I claim as my invention:—

A device of the kind described embodying therein a pair of elongated open rectangular frames each including top and bottom bars, an end bar member and an end plate member, means providing a spring hinge connection for said end plate member of both frames, each of which end plate members has an extension thereon for opening said frames against the action of said means providing said spring joint.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, this 20th day of August, 1929.

MABEL HARTWELL.