

(No Model.)

E. H. KETCHUM.
BAG HOLDER.

No. 482,641.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BAG-HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EVERETT HENRY KETCHUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jamestown, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bag-Holders; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to improvements in bag-holders, and more particularly to bag-holders of that class in which the ends of the bags are doubled or folded upon themselves while they remain in the holder; and the objects of my improvements are to enable the bags to be individually withdrawn from the holder without displacing or disturbing the remaining bags or in any wise injuring the bag so removed, which can be operated to permit the easy introduction of the folded bags, which will indicate the number or size of the bags contained therein, is simple, strong, and durable in construction and cheap of manufacture, and finally to provide a novel form of stand or rack adapted to sustain a multiplicity of holders in such manner that they cannot be accidentally detached, and at the same time enable the holders to be readily removed by hand.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the novel construction of holder and in the combination and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

To enable others to understand my invention, I have illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved bag-holder, and Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of the same on the plane indicated by the dotted line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a transverse section through one of the members on the plane indicated by the line *yy* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a view in side elevation of a stand or rack from which a number of the holders can be suspended. Fig. 5 is an edge view of the device shown in Fig. 4, illustrating a couple of holders hung thereon. Fig. 6 is a view of a modified form of bag-holder. Fig. 7 is a detail view of

a modified form of standard and base. Fig. 8 is a detail view of the label removed from its pocket.

Like letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The bag-holder consists, essentially, of the two members or jaws *A B*, which are pivotally connected by a transverse bolt or pintal *C* and normally forced or closed together by a coiled spring *D*. The jaws are preferably made of sheet metal and are each stamped or cut out of a single piece of metal, and at the same time are given the proper longitudinal curvature. As hereinbefore stated, the holder is designed and constructed with special reference to suspending the folded or doubled end of a bunch of bags, and in order to properly sustain the bunch without allowing the bags to be displaced by their own weight, or when the bags are individually withdrawn, it is necessary to give to the members or jaws *A B* the bulged or curved form shown in Figs. 1 and 2. Below the pintle *C* the jaws are bulged outward from each other, as at *a a*, and they then approach each other by the inclines *b b*, the lower ends of the jaws having the parallel contact or bearing faces *cc*. Each jaw has the integral lugs *d d*, which extend inward toward and overlap each other, and through said lugs passes the pintle *C*, headed at its ends, and which receives the thimble *c'*, around which is coiled the spring *D*, having its arms *d' d'* deflected in opposite directions and bearing against the two jaws or members, so as to normally force them together. The inner opposing surfaces of the jaws or members are roughened by rasp-like projections or teeth *e*, and against the roughened surfaces of the jaws impinges the outer bag of the series or bunch of bags contained within the holder. It will be seen by reference to Fig. 2 that the outer bag and its folded or doubled end bears against the roughened parts of the two jaws and that the inner bags are inclosed within said bag and out of contact with the same, although the pressure of the spring-jaws is sufficient to hold the bunch, whereby the innermost bag can be easily withdrawn without disturbing or displacing the other bags of the bunch, which are held securely in place in the holder. By

constructing the holder to contain the bags in their folded condition it is not necessary to manipulate the jaws or members every time a bag is to be used, as it is obvious that the innermost bag can be slipped down out of the bunch and the holder.

To enable the salesman to ascertain at a glance the number or size of the bag and without subtracting one of the bags from the holder for inspection, I provide one of the jaws or members with a pocket E, adapted to receive and contain a label e' , having the number or size of the bag inscribed thereon. This pocket is formed by bending or folding the end of the jaw over upon itself, and the middle of the bent metal strip is bulged or forced laterally of the jaw or member to provide said pocket, the front of which has an observation slot or opening e^2 . (See Figs. 1, 2, and 3.)

This improved holder may be suspended or hung at any convenient place around a store or apartment, and if it is desired to have a number of bags of different sizes grouped or arranged in one place to permit salesmen to obtain any desired size of bag I provide a stand or rack adapted to hold a number of the bag-holders.

Reference is now to be had to Figs. 4, 5, and 7, in which F designates the rack or stand, which consists of a base f and a vertical upright or standard at a suitable distance above the base. The base f may have a socket for the reception of the post or upright, or the post may be secured to the base, as indicated in Fig. 7, or in any other desirable manner, and the cross-bar h is secured in any way to the post. Through the post and cross-bar are passed a number of double-hooked pins G, each having a horizontal bar or arm i , that passes through the post, and the inclined or vertical prongs i' extend upward from the horizontal bar. It is evident that two of the bag-holders can be suspended back to back from the prongs of the suspending-hooks, and when the holders are placed on the hooks on the upright or post they bear against said post; but when the holders are hung from hooks on the cross-bar it is desirable to secure back-plates I on the lower side of the cross-bar in position between the holders hung from the same hook, so that the holders can bear on said backing-plate.

The upper ends of the members A B of the holder are provided with aligned holes or perforations j , or only one member need have the perforation j when it is to be hung from a nail, hook, or the like. By providing both members with the perforations a series of bag-holders can be strung on a suspending-wire in the common form of suspended bag-racks. I may, however, provide the upper parts of the jaws or members with inclined slots k , which are in alignment with each and open through the edges of said jaws or members. A bag-holder of this construction can be read-

ily placed on and connected to the suspending-wire of an ordinary bag-rack.

I prefer to provide each of the sheet-metal jaws or members A B with longitudinal ribs l , which lie close to the edges thereof and which serve to reinforce and strengthen the jaws or members.

I am aware that changes in the form and proportion of parts and details of construction can be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages of my invention, and I therefore reserve the right to make such modifications as fall within the scope of my invention.

For readily changing the number on the label e' to indicate the size of the bags contained within the holder I resort to the use of a novel form of label, (indicated in Fig. 8 of the drawings,) which label consists of a series of folds adapted to be compressed laterally upon each other, each fold having on its faces numeral or other characters indicating different sizes of bags. It is evident that the label can be easily folded to expose any one of the numerals thereon, after which it is thrust into the pocket, so that the numeral or character can be seen at a glance through the opening in the pocket, and as the folded label has a tendency to expand somewhat it binds against the walls of the pocket and is not easily displaced therefrom.

What I claim is—

1. A bag-holder, substantially as described, comprising the pivoted jaws or members having the curved or bulged portions between their meeting ends and the pivot, as set forth.

2. A bag-holder, substantially as described, comprising the spring-pressed jaws or members having the curved or bulged portions and the roughened opposing faces, as set forth.

3. A bag-holder, substantially as described, comprising the spring-pressed jaws pivoted together and having the bulged or curved portions and the longitudinal reinforcing-ribs, as set forth.

4. A bag-holder comprising the pivoted jaws or members having the bulged or curved portions adapted to receive and hold the folded edge of paper, one of the jaws having on its outer face a label-receiving pocket located at or near one end of said jaw, substantially as described.

5. A bag-holder comprising the jaws or members, one of which has a slotted label-holder on its outer face, as set forth.

6. A bag-holder comprising the jaws or members provided with the curved or bulged portions, one of said jaws having one end doubled or folded upon itself and forming an open pocket adapted to receive a label, substantially as described.

7. In a bag holder or rack, the standard and cross-arm having the hooks which have the upright prongs on opposite sides of the standard and arm, as described.

8. In a bag holder or rack, the upright post

and cross-arm, the double hooks thereon, and the backing-plates rigid with the cross-arm below the hooks thereof and between the vertical prongs of the same, substantially as described.

5 9. A bag-holder having a pocket on its outer side and a folded label having numerals or characters on its folds and adapted to fit within said pocket to expose the numeral or
10 character on its outer face, as and for the purpose described.

10. A bag-holder having the slotted pocket on its outer side and the foldable label con-

sisting of a series of members connected together and designed to fold upon transverse 15 creases or lines, so as to lie flat upon each other, each fold having on its faces numerals or characters indicating the sizes of bags, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EVERETT HENRY KETCHUM.

Witnesses:

JOHN GELM,
AARON WILBUR.