(No Model.)

M. STEDWELL.

CLIP FOR HOLDING BOOKS OPEN.

No. 255,545. Patented Mar. 28, 1882.

Fig. 2.

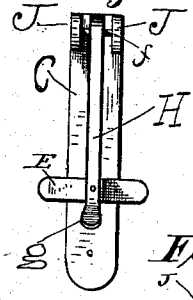


Fig. 3

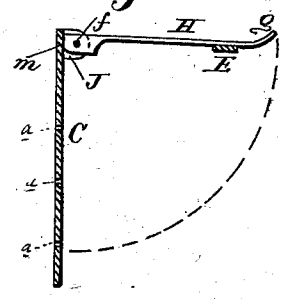
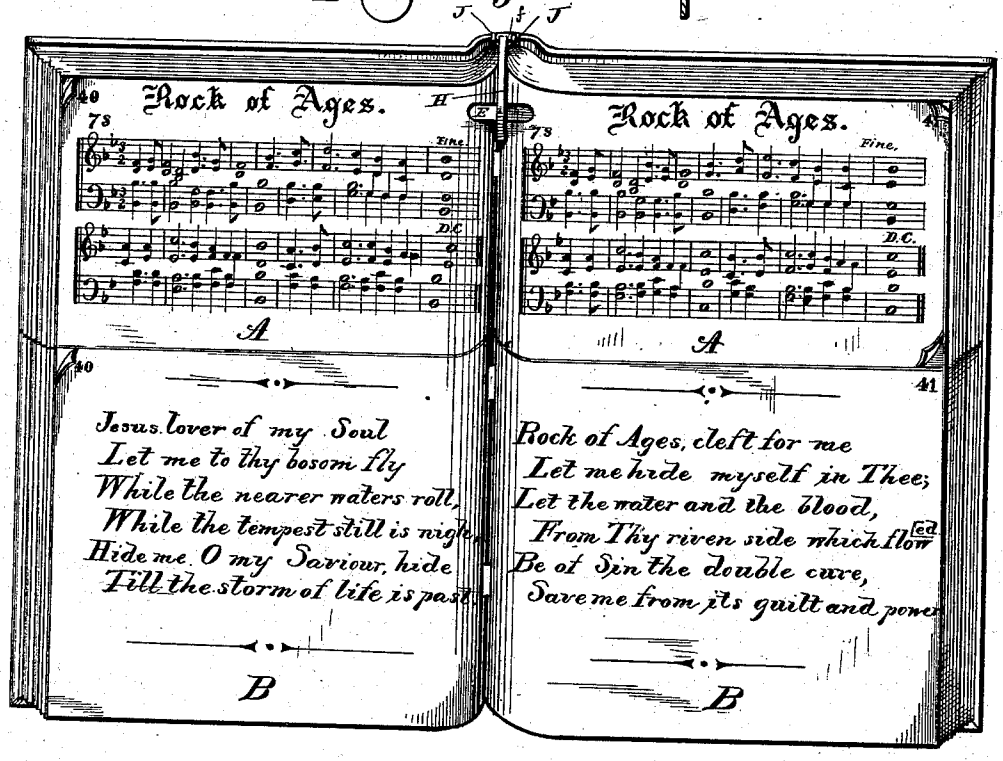


Fig 1.



Witnesses:
Franck L. Ourand,
Geo. H. Thomas

Milan Stedwell Inventor:

Frank A. Fouts,
Att'y.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MILAN STEDWELL, OF WATERTOWN, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

CLIP FOR HOLDING BOOKS OPEN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,545, dated March 28, 1882.

Application filed November 28, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILAN STEDWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Watertown, in the county of Codington, Territory of Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hymn and Tune Books; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a leaf-holding clip for books, and is designed for use in a hymn and tune book in which the leaves are cut transversely, leaving the music on the top section of the page and the words on the lower part, so that the different sets of words in a book suited to a particular tune can be placed immediately under said tune, thereby bringing the words and music together to suit the convenience of the singer.

The device consists in a thin strip of sheet metal with perforations. Said strip is provided at its top with two slotted lugs for the reception of a rivet that connects an arm to which is attached a cross-bar. The rear end of the arm is flat, with rounded under corner, and fits squarely against the back strip, so that said arm, strip, rivet, and lugs combine to produce a knife-spring joint.

It is obvious that a book of the character described, when open, presents four separate and distinct leaves. It must therefore be apparent that a single person, employing both thumbs, would be unable to hold all four leaves down. The upper leaves would flare out and render it inconvenient, if not unserviceable, when the bottom ones were being held. My clip obviates these defects by securing the two upper leaves, all of which will be more fully hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents my clip securing the upper leaves in a hymn and tune book in which the leaves are cut transversely. Fig. 2 is a plan of the clip in a folded position. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section of the same, showing its position when the book is closed, the dotted lines indicating the segment of a circle described by the end of the arm.

A represents the leaf containing the music.

B is the lower leaf, containing the words. The leaves A and B, as well as the other leaves in the book, are separated before binding by cutting a transverse line through them, as shown in the drawings.

C is the back of the clip.

E is a cross-bar.

H is the rod, secured by rivet *f*.

J J are the lugs or ears, formed of and projecting from the back piece, C.

f represents the rivet, fixed to the ears J J and passing through a slot in the rod H, said rod moving freely on the rivet from a horizontal to a vertical position.

g is the turned-up end of the rod H, by means of which the bar E is raised from or placed against the pages A A, containing the music, the lower pages, B B, being held in position by the thumbs of the holder of the book.

The rod C and arm H of my invention are constructed of thin sheet metal. Said rod C is inserted between the rear ends of the leaves and the back cover, and is secured to the cover by means of thread passing through its perforations. It is obvious that it can be secured by inserting it between the layers of leather forming the cover and then either stitching or pasting the same.

It must be apparent that my clip can be used on ordinary books.

The book as shown and described is simply set forth to illustrate the application of my improvement.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

As an improved article of manufacture, the plate C, having slotted ears J J, rivet *f*, rod H, having a flat rear end with rounded under corner, and a thumb-piece, *g*, and the cross-bar E, all adapted to be applied to a book, in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

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

MILAN STEDWELL.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. THOMAS,

L. L. GODDARD.