F. H. LENNARDS.

EYEGLASS CLEANER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 14, 1914.

1,172,718. Patented Feb. 22, 1916.

Fig. 1.

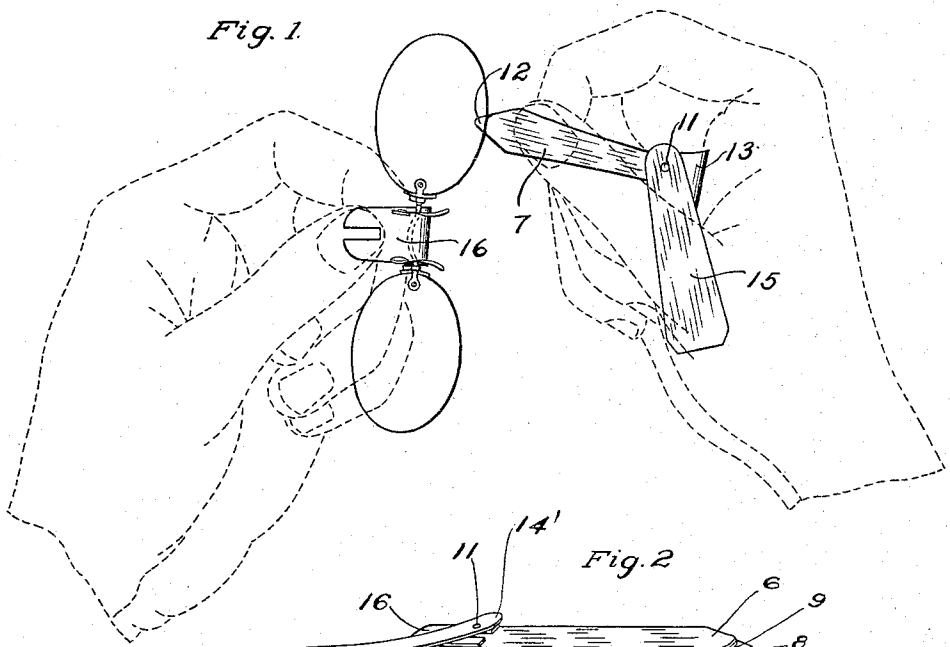


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

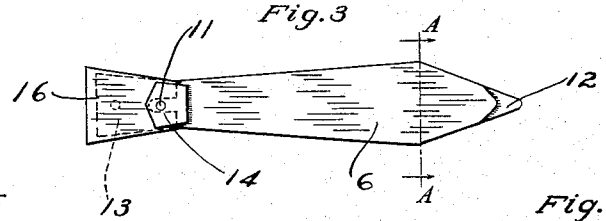


Fig. 5

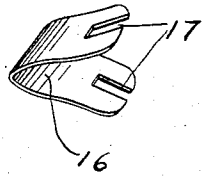
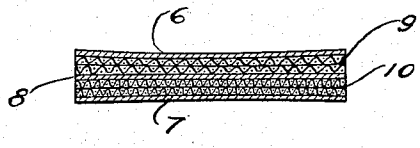


Fig. 4.
A–A



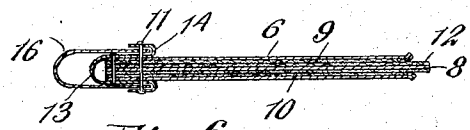


Fig. 6.

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EYEGLASS-CLEANER.

1,172,718. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Feb. 22, 1916.**

Application filed October 14, 1914. Serial No. 866,647.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK H. LENNARDS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Chicago, county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Eyeglass-Cleaners, of which the following is a specification.

The main objects of this invention are to provide an improved novelty eye-glass cleaner, constructed in a neat and compact form, whereby it is ready for instant use and is protected from becoming readily soiled through its being carried about in a pocket or purse; to provide improved means for facilitating the insertion of the lens between the layers of cleaning material forming the cleaner; to provide improved means carried by said cleaner and readily detachable therefrom, for use as a holder for the eye-glasses while they are being cleaned; and to provide a device of this kind which is very simple and inexpensive to manufacture, and which, in addition to its value as a cleaner, is suitable for use as an advertising novelty.

An illustrative embodiment of this invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view illustrating the manner in which the cleaner and holder are used. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the cleaner ready for use. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the cleaner somewhat modified, in that it is not provided with a handle of the kind shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional detail taken on the line A—A of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the clip or holder used for holding the glasses during the cleaning operation. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view of the cleaner shown in Fig. 3.

In the construction shown in the drawings, the device comprises two outer layers or leaves 6 and 7, and an intermediate layer or leaf 8, formed of a thin flexible material, such as celluloid or fiber, and having layers of cleaning materials 9 and 10 secured to the opposed faces thereof. It may sometimes be advisable to use fiber for the outer layers 6 and 7, and celluloid for the intermediate layer. The celluloid being more resilient than the fiber gives the necessary resiliency to the intermediate strip, so that it yields more readily to allow the separation of the leaves. The several layers are secured together at one end by means of a pin or binding post 11. The intermediate layer 8 is extended beyond the outer layers 6 and 7 so as to provide a projection or extension 12, which is adapted to be engaged by the lens or other article to be cleaned, for the purpose of flexing the intermediate layer so as to separate it from one or the other of the outer layers, and thereby facilitate the insertion of the lens between said layers. The outer layers 6 and 7 are shaped convexly toward the intermediate layer, as shown in Fig. 4, so as to more readily conform to the shape of the thumb and finger and insure a contact of the layers upon the lens throughout a greater area than would be obtained otherwise.

The cleaning materials 9 and 10 may be of any suitable kind, such as cloth or chamois. If desired, the layers 9 and 10 may be of different kinds of material, one being a readily absorbent material and intended for use principally for cleaning, the other being less absorbent and being used more for polishing the lens. This idea has been represented in the cross section shown in Fig. 4, where the layers 9 are shown as being of a coarser material than the layers 10.

A binding member 13 is secured over the ends of the layers by the binding post 11 and has coacting therewith projections 14 which may be formed by doubling back upon itself the ends of binding member 13, as shown in Fig. 3, in which case the projections 14 are rearwardly disposed permanently, or they may be formed by the upturned ends of the handle 15 in which case the projections 14′ are rearwardly disposed when the cleaner is shifted into the handle. The projections 14 or 14′ are provided for the purpose of permitting the clip 16 to be detachably supported on the cleaner as shown in both Figs. 2 and 3.

The clip 16 is substantially V-shaped and has the arms thereof bifurcated, as shown at 17 in Fig. 5, so as to allow the arms to embrace the binding post 11 when they are inserted between the projections 14 and the binding-member 13, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. This arrangement allows the clip to be supported on the cleaner in a more or less obscure position, but so that it can be readily detached when desired for use. The clip

16 is provided so that in case persons desire to have auxiliary means for holding the glasses, rather than rely upon the bridge connecting the lens, it may be removed from the cleaner and inserted over the bridge so as to be grasped between the thumb and fore-finger, as shown in Fig. 1. The handle 15 is formed of a strip of flexible material, such as celluloid, folded upon itself and having the ends secured to the cleaner by means of the pin or binding post 11, thereby serving as a case or sheath into which the cleaner may be swung so as to be protected when being carried about. The modification shown in Fig. 3 is constructed with a view of its being inserted into a separate case or sheath by means of which it is protected from becoming readily soiled. When used as an advertising novelty, an advertisement may be placed upon the handle 15 or upon the outer faces of the outer layers 6 and 7.

The cleaner herein shown is used in the following manner: If the clip 16 is to be used, it is first removed from the cleaner and inserted over the bridge and grasped between the thumb and fore-finger of the left hand, as shown in Fig. 1. The cleaner is then gripped in the right hand between the thumb and fore-finger, and one of the lenses is drawn along the outer layer, at the same time, exerting a little pressure against it, so that as the lens moves off from the outer layer and strikes the projection 12, the intermediate layer is flexed so as to separate it and the outer layer and allow the lens to be readily shifted back between them. The cleaner is then moved about over the lens so as to clean the same. In view of the fact that it is likely that the operator may sometimes grip the cleaner nearer the end of the leaves than illustrated in Fig. 1, so as to make it practically impossible to flex the intermediate layer, the outer layers 6 and 7 are turned up slightly at their ends, as shown in Fig. 2. If then the cleaner is gripped as just explained, it will be possible for the operator to rest the lens on the shoulder and still be able to easily insert it between the leaves without striking the end of one of the outer leaves. It is thus obvious that the lens can be more readily inserted between the layers of the cleaner by virtue of the extension, than would be possible if the layers were all of the same length and it were necessary to separate them in some other manner.

Although but one specific embodiment of this invention has been herein shown and described, it will be understood that some details of the construction shown may be altered or omitted without departing from the spirit of this invention as defined by the following claims.

I claim:—

1. An eye-glass cleaner, comprising a plurality of parallel stiff flexible leaves of cleaning material superimposed one upon the other with their opposed faces normally in contact and secured together at one end, and a projection at the other end of one of said leaves adapted to be engaged by the article to be cleaned, for flexing said leaves so as to separate two of them and thereby facilitate the insertion of the article between them.

2. A device of the class described, comprising a plurality of leaves of stiff flexible material faced with cleaning material, said leaves being superimposed one upon the other with said cleaning material normally in contact and secured together at one end, one of the outer leaves having its other end turned upwardly and another of said leaves being extended beyond said upturned end so as to provide a projection adapted to be engaged by the article to be cleaned for facilitating the insertion of the article between said leaves.

3. A device of the class described, comprising two outer leaves and an intermediate leaf of stiff flexible material faced with cleaning material, said leaves being superimposed one upon the other and secured together at one end, said outer leaves having their ends turned upwardly and said intermediate leaf being extended beyond said outer leaves so as to provide a projection adapted to be engaged by the article to be cleaned for facilitating the insertion of the article between said leaves.

4. A device of the class described, comprising a plurality of superimposed leaves of cleaning material, a binding post securing said leaves together at one end, a part secured by said binding pots upon the outer faces of the outer leaves and providing projections extending rearwardly therefrom, and a V-shaped clip adapted for use in holding the article to be cleaned having the arms thereof bifurcated so as to embrace said binding post when said arms are inserted under said projections.

Signed at Chicago this 10th day of October, 1914.

FRANK H. LENNARDS.

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MARY R. HOPKINS.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."