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HOLDER FOR TOWELS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES

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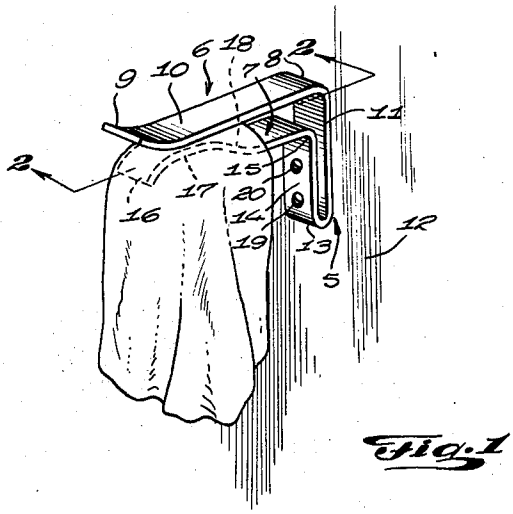


Fig. 1

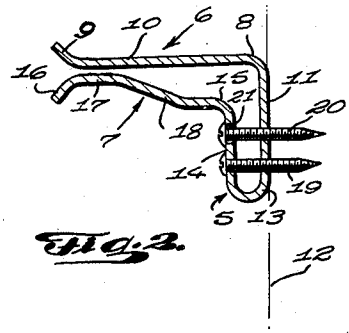


Fig. 2.

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HOLDER FOR TOWELS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES

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The present invention relates to a multiple purpose holding clip which is expressly adapted for accommodating and suspending towels, but is equally well adapted to be used as a holder for handkerchiefs, stockings and various and miscellaneous articles of apparel, and for such other purposes as may be found appropriate by users.

An object of the invention, interpreted in general terms, is to structurally, functionally and otherwise improve upon and reduce the number of elemental parts entering into the completed adaptation, thereby not only increasing the efficiency of the structure as a whole, but rendering same less costly to the manufacturer, and consequently acceptably adaptable in supplying the needs and requirements of retailers and users alike.

In addition to the above, and considering the precise form of the invention adopted as a preferred embodiment, it will be found that the chosen structure lends itself adaptably to commercially satisfactory and efficient use under practically all conditions and circumstances and therefore fulfills a long felt need for the production and provision of a clip which is aptly fitted to attain the ends sought.

Considered more specifically and from a structural point of view, novelty is predicated upon a miscellaneous article accommodation and retaining clip, said clip fashioned from a single length of appropriate steel and being bent intermediate its ends to provide an attaching fixture and an associated bend forming a spring, the free ends of the limb portions being shaped and inter-related to provide spring gripping jaws such as fulfill the requirements of their purposes in providing secure grips, and, at the same time, allowing ready application and removal of the articles to be gripped and suspended.

In carrying out the principles of the invention, I have evolved and produced a unique spring metal clip which is possessed of requisite simplicity, durability, efficiency and such other attending factors which make said clip a novel contribution to this line of endeavor.

Other objects, features and advantages will become more readily apparent from the following description and the accompanying illustrative drawings.

In the drawings, wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a holder for towels and similar articles constructed in accordance with the present invention showing the

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manner in which it is used to grip and suspend a towel or the like; and,

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken approximately on the plane of the line 2—2 of Figure 1, this looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now to the figures of the drawings by reference numerals distinguishing the variable portions of the device, and by way of introduction, it will be noted that said device is in the nature of a spring steel clip. As before intimated, it is fashioned from a single band of steel, said band being of a predetermined length and bent between its opposite end portions to define various co-acting features. In general make-up the clip is to be visualized as embodying a central fixture or attaching portion 5 and complemental horizontally disposable outstanding article accommodating and gripping jaws 6 and 7. The jaw 6 occupies the distance from the bend 8 to the outwardly flared extremity 9, the limb portion of said jaw being rectilinearly straight, as at 10. The intermediate portion of the band extends downward and at right angles from the jaw 6 by the way of the bend 8 and provides the principal attaching leg 11 which is connectible to a wall or the like 12.

The attaching leg 11 joins the jaw 7 by way of an outstanding bend 13 and an upright portion 14, said portions 11, 13 and 14 providing a U-shaped fixture with one leg constituting the attaching means and the other leg constituting the spring which provides the principal source of resiliency and renders said jaw 7 capable of adequate and proper co-action with the jaw 6. The jaw 7 is laterally disposed of the U-shaped part and joins the upright 14 by way of a bend 15. The outer end of said jaw 7 is flared outwardly as at 16 in divergent relation to the flared end 9. The portion just inward of the terminal is flat as at 17 and opposed to the flat or straight portion 10 of the jaw 6. This makes the remainder 18 of the jaw a resilient adaptor which contributes to the spring means generally and which provides the necessary range of adjustment and co-action of said jaws, collectively speaking. There is a screw fastener 19 passing through the spring and attaching limb 11 and into the wall or other support 12. This constitutes the principal ways and means of securing the clip, as a unit, to the wall. A second fastening screw 20 is also employed and has its headed end passing through an enlarged opening 21 in the spring element 14 and then through a plain hole in the limb 11 and into the wall. It will

be noticed that the hole 21 is a little larger than the shank of the screw so as to allow the necessary play between parts and the accommodation of the jaws one for the other.

Needless to say, I am sufficiently conversant with holding clips and equivalent brackets and fixtures to full well appreciate that the art to which the invention relates is highly well developed. By the same token, I am not unmindful that the invention which we are here concerned, being a single-piece article, is highly simple. Nevertheless, and despite the recognized activity of the prior art, I feel that no one prior to me has produced a clip which is quite as adaptable and advantageous as that herein illustrated and explicitly described. The clips already in use include adaptable jaw members and are sufficiently resilient and pliant to handle most situations. Also, clips are on the market and use including attaching brackets with jaws at various angular positions contrasted to the attaching portions. In the instant situation, it is to be noted that I take a strip of metal and bend same intermediate its ends to provide a U-shaped portion. One limb of the U is long as contrasted to the other limb, the first named limb being attached to the wall or other support and the first named limb being movable toward and from it. Thus, we have a U-shaped spring embodied in an article gripping clip which spring has the additional function of an attaching bracket and which, provided with the screw 20 and enlarged screw hole 21 makes for adjustment of the tension of the jaws to put same either close together or farther apart. Due to this adaptability and versatile nature it is believed that the clip herein under advisement is ingenious and more aptly fulfills the requirements of an article in this category. I shall not, however, attempt to enumerate the various commercial aspects.

A careful consideration of the foregoing description in conjunction with the invention as illustrated in the drawings will enable the reader to obtain a clear understanding and impression of the alleged features of merit and novelty sufficient to clarify the construction of the invention as hereinafter claimed.

Minor changes in shape, size, materials and rearrangement of parts may be resorted to in actual practice so long as no departure is made from the invention as claimed.

I claim:

1. A holder for towels and similar articles comprising a suspending clip embodying a pair of horizontally disposable opposed jaws with outwardly flared and oppositely directed free terminals to facilitate the insertion and placement of articles between the jaws, said jaws being in substantially spaced parallelism and having inner end portions connected with a vertically disposed U-shaped part, said U-shaped part including a relatively long limb adjacent to the wall or other support, said long limb being at right angles and connected to the inner end of one of said jaws and adapted to lie in direct contact with a stationary support, and further including an outer shorter limb, the latter limb being bendable toward and from the first-named limb for jaw adjustment purposes.

2. In a multiple purpose miscellaneous article holding clip of the class described, a resilient strip having a rectilinearly straight top jaw with an outwardly flared extremity, a bottom jaw opposed to the top jaw and having an outwardly flared extremity, and a vertical U-shaped portion, the latter including spaced, parallel long and short limbs, the inner end of the top jaw being connected to the long limb and the inner end of the lower jaw being connected to the short limb, and screws passing through said limbs for adjusting the tension of the jaws and for securing said U-shaped portion to a wall or the like, whereby to dispose said jaws at right angles to said wall.

ALBERT WILLIAM WELLINGTON.

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