(No Model.)

P. J. RIVERS.

LEAF HOLDER.

No. 358,072. Patented Feb. 22, 1887.

Fig. 1.

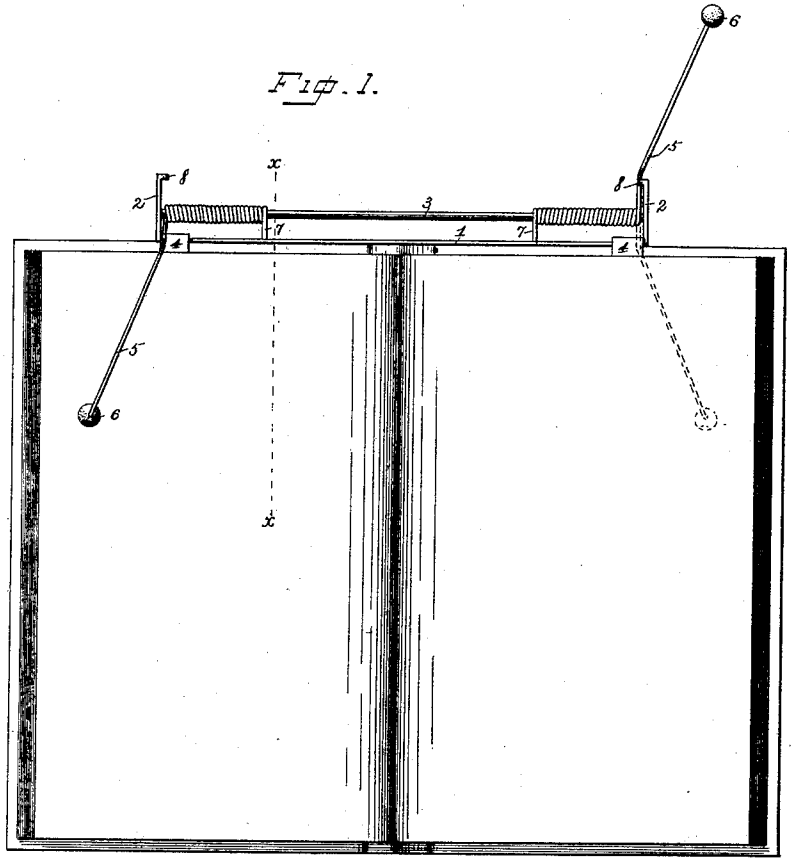
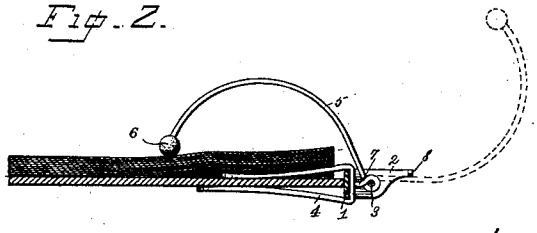


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILLIP J. RIVERS, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

LEAF-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 358,072, dated February 22, 1887.

Application filed September 18, 1886. Serial No. 213,861. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILLIP J. RIVERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Leaf-Holders; and I do 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.

My invention has for its object to produce a light, simple, and inexpensive device for holding the leaves of open books, it being essential in this class of devices that they shall be simple in construction, so that they may be produced at very slight expense, light and compact, so that they may be easily carried about, easy to apply and to operate, and not likely to break or to get out of repair.

With these ends in view I have devised the novel leaf-holder of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, numbers being used to indicate the several parts of the device.

Figure 1 is a plan view of an open book, illustrating my novel leaf-holder in use, and Fig. 2 a cross-section on the line *x x*.

My invention is comprised of six parts only, three being made of sheet metal and three of wire.

1 denotes a supporting-strip, the opposite ends of which are bent at right angles thereto, forming lugs or ears 2, and 3 is a cross-brace extending longitudinally of the device parallel with the supporting-strip, and riveted at both ends to the lugs or ears.

4 denotes spring-clamps, which are placed at each end of the supporting-strip. These clamps are made from a single piece of spring metal and embrace the supporting-strip, being placed close against the lugs and riveted to the strip, so as to be perfectly immovable in use.

5 denotes the spring-arms which hold the leaves. These arms are made of wire, and are curved over and outward from the lugs, as is clearly shown, and are preferably provided at their outer ends with pads 6, of rubber or leather, which rest upon the leaves of the book. In order to add to the elasticity of these arms, I provide pieces of wire considerably longer than the arms themselves, coiling the inner ends of the pieces around brace 3, the coil extending from just within the lugs sufficient distance inward to give the desired elasticity to the arms. The ends 7 of the wire are then passed through holes in the supporting-strip, and are riveted firmly thereto, thus holding the arms firmly in place, and also bracing and strengthening the entire device.

I have found in practice that my improved leaf-holder will work equally well upon large or small books, and although the pressure of the spring-arms is very light upon the leaves, they will hold them firmly in place. As it is quite often, however, more convenient to hold the leaves upon one side only of the book, I have provided inwardly-turned stumps or projections 8 upon each of the lugs, so that when it is desired to hold either of the spring-arms out of engagement with the leaves of the book the arm may be lifted back and caught behind the corresponding stump, as is clearly shown in Fig. 1, thus holding the arm entirely out of the way.

The device is applied in use by simply passing the clamps over the opposite covers of the book, as is clearly shown. When it is desired to use it upon books not having stiff covers, a number of leaves may be engaged by each clamp with precisely the same result. When it is desired to hold down the leaves upon both sides of the book, both of the spring-arms are released and the pads are allowed to rest on the leaves. If it is desired to hold the leaves upon one side only, the opposite arm is lifted up out of the way and placed in engagement with the corresponding stump or projection.

It will of course be apparent that the details of construction may be varied within reasonable limits without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim—

1. A leaf-holder consisting, essentially, of a supporting-strip having lugs turned at right angles thereto, a cross-brace riveted to said

lugs, clamps riveted at the end of the supporting-strip, and spring-arms whose inner ends are coiled around the brace and are riveted to the supporting-strip.

2. The supporting-strip having lugs turned at right angles thereto, and stumps 8 projecting inward from said lugs, in combination with clamps 4, cross-brace 3, and spring-arms 5, adapted to engage the stumps, whereby they may be held out of operative position.

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

PHILLIP J. RIVERS.

Witnesses:
A. M. WOOSTER,
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