

(No Model.)

S. B. MOODY.
BOOK HOLDER.

No. 553,289.

Patented Jan. 21, 1896.

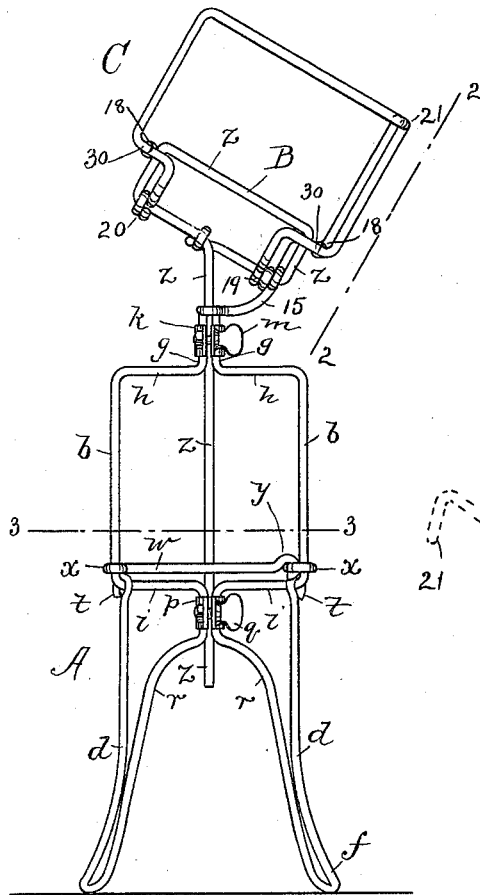


Fig. 1.

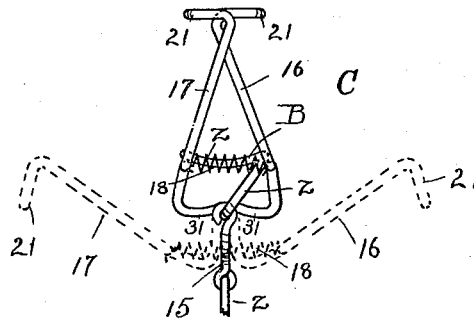


Fig. 2.

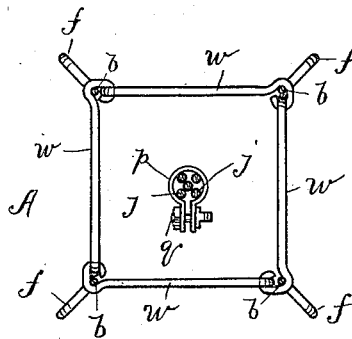


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES.
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BOOK-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 553,289, dated January 21, 1896.

Application filed May 6, 1895. Serial No. 548,244. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIDNEY B. MOODY, of Harwich, in the county of Barnstable, State of Massachusetts, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Book Holders or Stands, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable persons skilled in the art or science to which said invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved book-stand; Fig. 2, an end elevation of the stand top viewed from line 2 2 in Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 a horizontal section taken on line 3 3 in Fig. 1.

Like letters and figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different views of the drawings.

My invention relates especially to a stand for holding large books, as dictionaries, &c., when opened and clamping them against accidental opening when closed; and it consists in certain novel features hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, the object being to produce a simple, cheap, and effective device of this kind.

The construction and operation are described in the following explanation.

In the drawings, A represents the body of the stand, B the binding-rest of the holder, and C the holder proper.

The body A comprises four standards constructed each of a single strand of wire *b*. The four wire ends are assembled at *g*, and pivotally confined by a strap-clamp *k*, tensioned by an ordinary thumb-screw *m*. From the clamp the wires are radiated horizontally at *h*, then bent vertically downward, thence inwardly at *i*, and vertically downward at *j*, where they are again assembled in the vertical line of the ends *g*, and held by a strap *p*, adjustable by a thumb-screw *q*. The wires are then curved downwardly and outwardly at *r*, and upwardly again, forming feet *f* and legs *d*. The ends of the wires are looped around the portions *i* at *t*. Four legs and laterally-swinging standards are thus formed. These standards are locked when the device is in use by a series of bars *w*, looped at *x* around consecutive standards, their opposite

ends being provided with hooks *y*, which are adapted to engage in adjacent loops and prevent the standards closing accidentally. A vertical rod *z* is inclosed within the clamps between the ends *g* and portions *j* of the standards. This rod is extended above the body and is bent diagonally and laterally to form the inclined rest B for the binding of the book. A brace-bar 15 connects the vertical portion of the rod *z* with the lower end of the rest B. This brace also acts as a stop for the jaws 16 and 17 of the holder proper, C. These jaws are rectangular in side elevation and have the lower ends of their free edges offset at 21, said jaws being pivoted at 19 and 20 to the inclined portion of the rod *z*, forming the binding-rest. Said jaws are offset inwardly and longitudinally of the holder, as shown at 30 in Fig. 1, and the offset portions of the companion jaws are connected by pull-springs 18 slightly below the face of the rest. Thence these jaws flare downwardly and are offset laterally and inwardly at 31 to their pivots. (See Fig. 2.) When the jaws are thrown open the offset portions move downward until the springs 18 are below the pivots 19 and 20, when said springs acting contractively, draw the offsets 31 against the stop-rod 15 and hold the jaws open. (See dotted lines in Fig. 2.) The book is now disposed with its binding or back upon the rest B, and, when opened, with the free edges of its covers projecting into the offsets 21. The rod *z* can be rotated to turn the book in any desired direction without moving the body of the stand.

When the book is not in use the jaws can be elevated until the springs 18 are above their pivots, which will close said jaws and with them the book, said book being retained permanently in the jaws, if desired.

The body of the stand can be folded, if necessary, by unhooking the rods *w* and swinging the legs and standards *b* on their pivot-clamps, in a manner which will be readily understood by those conversant with such matters without a more explicit explanation. The device as thus constructed is very simple of operation, cheap, and readily folded to occupy small space.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a book holder the body comprising

the standards, *b*, and legs, *d*; the clamp pivots; the locking rods; the holder-proper comprising the back-rest and spring tensioned jaws; a stop for said jaws; and the rod, *z*, supporting said holder-proper all being combined and arranged to operate substantially as specified.

2. A book-holder comprising a series of combined legs and standards formed severally from single strands of wire, the legs and upper ends of the standards being respectively assembled in pivot-clamps in alignment locking-bars for said legs; a vertical rod fitted to rotate in said clamps; and spring tensioned jaws supported in inclined position on said

rod and adapted to contain the book substantially as described.

3. In a book-holder the combination of the legs, *d*, and standards, *b*, pivoted in clamps, *k*, *p*, with the locking rods; the rod, *z*; the back rest, *B*, and stops, 15; the pivoted jaws 16 and 17; and the spring, 18, so arranged that when the jaws are opened said spring will drop below their pivots substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:

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