

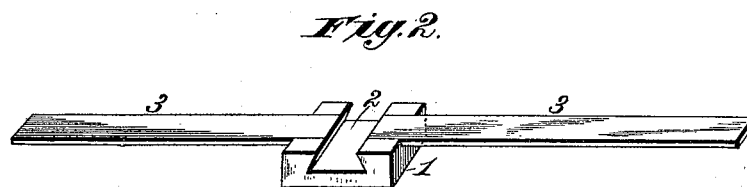
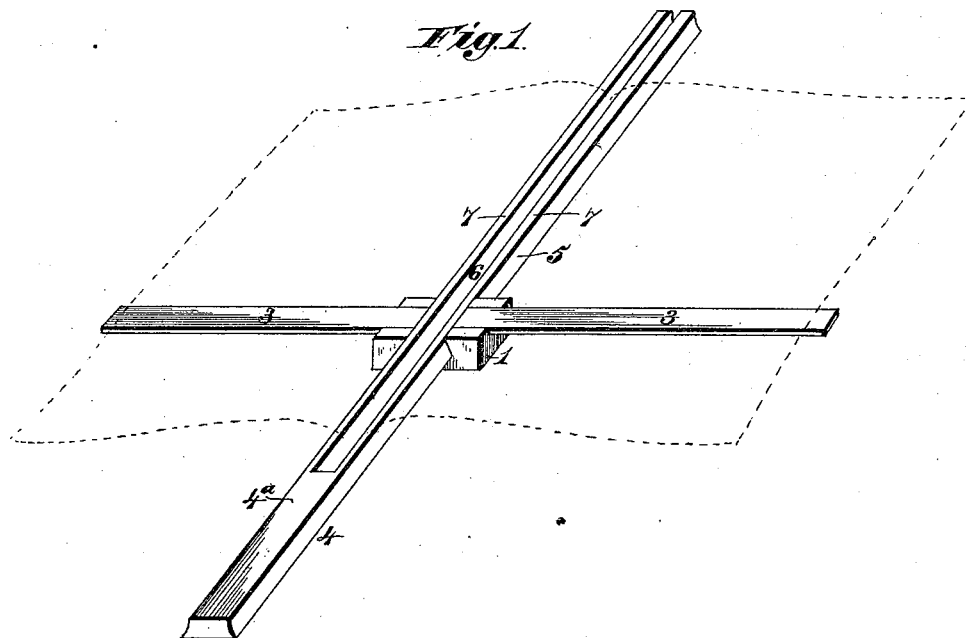
(No Model.)

F. P. DURANDO.

HOLDER FOR PAPERS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES.

No. 346,845.

Patented Aug. 3, 1886.



Witnesses.

Robert Emmett.

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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS P. DURANDO, OF WEST CHESTER, NEW YORK.

HOLDER FOR PAPERS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,845, dated August 3, 1886.

Application filed October 31, 1885. Serial No. 181,520. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS P. DURANDO, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Chester, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Holders for Papers and Similar Articles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of devices used for holding papers, pamphlets, and magazines and keeping their pages spread open while being read, and the purpose thereof is to provide a simple, cheap, and convenient device for this purpose, which is capable of being used also as a rack or inclined rest.

My invention consists in the several novel features of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully set forth, and definitely pointed out in the claims annexed to this specification.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device illustrating my invention when in use, the outlines of the paper or book being shown by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the base-piece. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the fastener.

In the said drawings, the reference-numeral 1 designates a block, of any suitable material, having a transverse slot, 2, formed therein, the side walls of said slot being undercut, as shown. Upon each end of the block are attached laterally-extending arms 3, of a length suitable for supporting the opened leaves of a paper or pamphlet.

The numeral 4 denotes a bar, formed of wood or other material, and having a width about equal to that of the slot 2, said bar having in cross-section substantially the same form as the slot, save that its outer edges, 5, are slightly concaved. The bar 4 is divided by a slit, 6, extending from one end to a point not far removed from the other end, said slit increasing in width as it approaches the latter point, and dividing the bar 4 into two prongs, 7, each diminishing in thickness as it approaches the solid portion 4^a of the bar.

The manner of using this device is as follows: The prongs of the bar 4, being inserted in the notch 2 of the block, are pushed forward until the solid portion or handle 4^a reaches the slot. The paper, pamphlet, or magazine is then placed between the prongs 7 in such manner that its back is grasped by them, whereupon the block 1 is pushed forward, causing the prongs to close with considerable force upon the object between them. The leaves may then be opened and sustained upon the laterally-extending arms 3.

It will be seen that by making the device of wood or other inexpensive material it may be produced very cheaply. It is, moreover, exceedingly convenient in use, as it may be attached and detached easily and quickly.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A holder for papers, pamphlets, and magazines, consisting of a pronged bar engaging with a dovetailed or undercut groove in a block which is movable upon said bar, substantially as described.

2. A holder for papers and other articles, consisting of a pronged bar having a handle, in combination with a block having a dovetailed or undercut groove in which said bar fits, and provided with laterally-extending arms, substantially as described.

3. A holder for papers and similar articles, consisting of a bar having prongs which decrease in size from their open ends toward the handle, in combination with a block having a dovetailed or undercut groove in which said prongs are movable, and provided with laterally-extending arms, substantially as described.

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

FRANCIS P. DURANDO.

Witnesses:

JAMES L. BISHOP,
ROBERT MAITLAND.