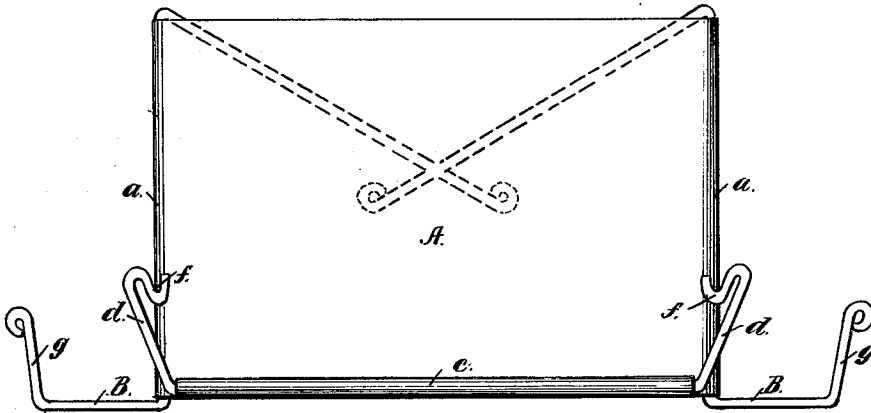


J. M. CLARK.  
Book-Rack.

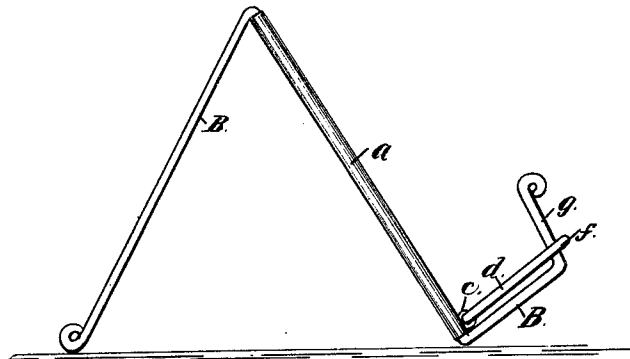
No. 202,790.

Patented April 23, 1878.

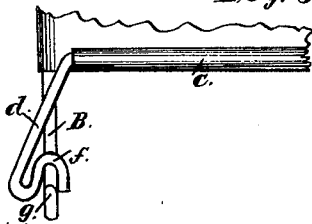
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses,  
Chas. M. Beck  
P. H. Gunkel

Inventor,  
John M. Clark  
by his Atty:  
Rock Ritchie

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. CLARK, OF DAYTON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT  
TO WILLIAM L. MAY, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOK-RACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 202,790, dated April 23, 1878; application filed  
September 24, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JNO. M. CLARK, of Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Book-Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

This invention relates to that class of portable book-racks which can be folded and carried between the leaves as a book-mark.

My improvement consists in the application of a hinged locking device, whereby the parts can be held interlocked when the rack is set up and ready for use, as will be herewith described and specifically claimed.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I would thus proceed to describe it, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front elevation of my improved book-rack folded and ready to be placed between the leaves of a book. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the same opened and ready for use. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the lower front corner of the device.

My rack consists of a rectangular or other shaped body, A, of sheet metal or sufficiently stiff paper, having its sides bent into loops *a*, which embrace and form bearings for the wire standards B, of the shape indicated. These latter are free to be turned in their bearings,

so as to occupy either of the positions represented in Figs. 1 and 2.

To hold the standards locked in the position indicated by Fig. 2, I turn up the bottom edge of the body A into a loop or bearing, *c*, in which is confined a piece of wire, whose bent ends *d* have the shape shown. When the rack is used as a book-mark these ends *d* occupy the position shown in Fig. 1; but when the standards are turned at right angles to the body, as in Fig. 2, the ends *d* are turned down, and the crooked portions *f* envelop the turned-up portions *g* of the standards, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, thus preventing the standards from being moved and effectually interlocking the parts. The book, when placed with its back against the body A, is held open by the turned-up portions *g* of the standards.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In a book-rack, the combination of a body, A, and hinged standards B with the hinged locking-wire *d*, pivoted to the lower portion of the body, as and for the purpose specified.

Witness my hand this 15th day of September, A. D. 1877.

JOHN M. CLARK.

Witnesses:

CHAS. M. PECK,  
P. H. GUNCKEL.