

J. E. STARK.

PAPER CLIP.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 12, 1920.

1,369,717.

Patented Feb. 22, 1921.

FIG. 1.

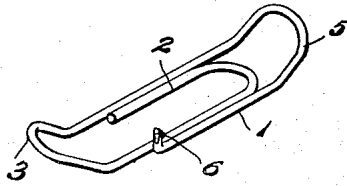


FIG. 2.

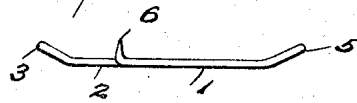


FIG. 3.

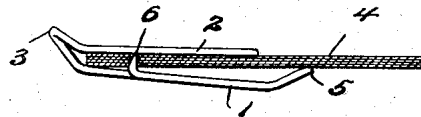
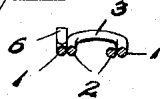


FIG. 4.

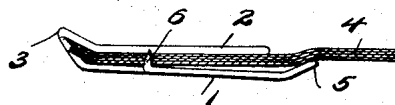


FIG. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN EDWIN STARK, OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

## PAPER-CLIP.

1,369,717.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 22, 1921.

Application filed April 12, 1920. Serial No. 373,426.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN EDWIN STARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlanta, in the county of Fulton and State of Georgia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Paper-Clips, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to a paper clip.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of a type of paper clip composed of two substantially U-shaped clamping members and a connecting band or loop and to provide a simple, practical and efficient means for securely maintaining the clip in engagement with papers when applied to the same and also to construct the clip so that papers other than those clamped or held by the clip will be prevented from accidentally catching in the clip.

A further object of the invention is to provide a paper clip and fastener of this character which will not injure the papers and which may be easily and quickly removed from the same when desired.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combined paper clip and fastener having means for securely fastening papers together without interfering with the use of the device in the mails.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings in which like characters of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a paper clip constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the clip; Fig. 4 is a side elevation showing the clip applied to a plurality of sheets of paper, the latter being in section; and Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the clip as it appears in use.

In the accompanying drawing in which is

illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention the paper clip is constructed of a single piece of elastic or spring wire or other resilient material 1, convoluted to form two substantially U-shaped clamping members 1 and 2 and a connecting loop or bend 3 of substantially U-shape. The paper clip is substantially oblong and is of the type of paper clip in common use. The clamping member 2 is of a width less than the clamping member 1 so as to lie within or between the sides of the same forming inner and outer clamping members. The paper 4 to be clipped is inserted between the clamping members 1 and 2 which are sprung apart in the usual manner for this purpose and in order to prevent other papers from catching into the clip the end portion 5 of the outer or wider clamping member is bent inwardly at an obtuse angle as shown to cause this end of the clip to firmly contact with or abut against the clipped paper as clearly illustrated in Fig. 4 of the drawing whereby sheets or pieces of paper other than those clamped by the clip will be prevented from catching under or beneath the end portion 5 of the clip. In practice the inner clamping member lies close to the clipped paper and with the ordinary clip the outer or wider clamping member is forced to a position at an angle to the adjacent face of the paper with its bent or end portion in slightly spaced relation to the same so that papers will readily catch in the clip and interfere with the use of the several sets of clipped papers in a file or other place. By bending the inner terminal portion of the clip inwardly as shown this spacing of the end of the clamping member from the clipped papers is eliminated and a more secure engagement and clamping action is effected. It is also preferable to bend the other end of the clip at the loop or connecting bend 3 inwardly at an angle similar to the bent portion 5 of the clamping member 1 as this contributes to the clamping action and firm engagement of the clip with the paper.

In order to provide a combined clip and fastener the terminal of the wire or other material at the member 1 is bent at an angle to form a spur or projection 6 which extends inwardly when the clip is in use and which is sharpened or pointed to enable it to pierce the paper and positively fasten the clip to the said paper and prevent the clip

from being accidentally pulled or slipped off the papers to which the clip is applied. The spur or projection is preferably of a length to terminate short of or substantially at the outer face of the adjacent side of the clamping member 2 when the clip is applied to the papers so that the spur or projection will lie substantially within the contour of the device and not project therefrom and interfere with the use of the device in the mails or be liable to scratch or otherwise injure persons handling papers held together by the clip. The spur or projection may, of course, be made of any desired length as may be readily understood and it will be seen that by lifting the spur or projection out of contact with the clipped papers the device may be readily removed from the same.

The inwardly bent terminal portions of the paper clip not only provide for the abutting of the clip against the paper for preventing other papers from catching under the clip, but the inwardly bent terminals also form exterior inclined surfaces which are adapted to cause other papers to slide readily over the clip without catching therein.

The spur or projection while being shown oppositely beveled for piercing the paper, may be of any desired shape and may either pierce the paper or engage the surface for holding the clip in place.

What is claimed is.

1. A paper clip of substantially oblong shape constructed of resilient material convoluted to form two clamping members and a connecting loop or bend, one of the clamping members being extended beyond the other and bent inwardly at an angle to cause it to firmly contact with papers inserted in the clip substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A paper clip of substantially oblong

shape constructed of resilient material convoluted to form two clamping members and a connecting loop or bend, said clip having its terminal portions bent inwardly at an angle to cause it to firmly contact with and abut against papers inserted in the clip substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. A paper clip comprising two connected resilient clamping members, one of said members having one end extended beyond the other member and bent at an angle thereto, whereby papers inserted in the clip are held more securely and extraneous papers are prevented from becoming caught.

4. A paper clip comprising two resilient clamping members having a common connecting end, said members being of unequal length, the end of the longer and the end common to both being bent in the same direction out of the plane of the central portion of the clip.

5. A paper clip of substantially oblong shape constructed of resilient material convoluted to form two clamping members and a connecting bend, one of the clamping members having the terminal portion of the material bent to form a spur or projection arranged to pierce papers inserted in the clip, said clip having its terminal portions bent inwardly at an angle to cause the clip to contact firmly with the paper at the inner end for preventing other papers from catching under the clip.

6. A paper clip of substantially oblong shape composed of two substantially U-shaped clamping members and a connecting bend, the terminal of one of the clamping members being provided with a projection extending inwardly for engaging the paper to hold the clip thereon, and the ends of the clip being bent inwardly.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

JOHN EDWIN STARK.