

Improvements in eye glass or spectacle cases / [William Edward Birmingham].

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Publication/Creation

Redhill : Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office by Love & Malcomson, Ltd, 1904.

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N^o 1376



A.D. 1904

Date of Application, 19th Jan., 1904—Accepted, 12th May, 1904

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

“Improvements in Eyeglass or Spectacle Cases”

I, WILLIAM EDWARD BIRMINGHAM, of No. 4054 Haverford Avenue, in the City and County of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, United States of America, Manufacturer, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

My invention consists of a novel construction of an eyeglass or spectacle case, having a single spring of novel construction employed to effect the holding of the lid or cover of the case in opened or closed position, the construction and manner of application of the spring being such that the lining of the case is enabled to completely cover or enclose said spring and its adjuncts, whereby the same is concealed, and special provision is thus made against the lining interfering in any way with the action of the spring hinge or *vice versa*.

To the above ends, my invention consists of a concealed spring hinge composed of a resilient element secured to the body portion of the case and adapted to engage a cam secured to the lid, the manner of assembling said cam and spring and the lining being such that while the lining retains its predetermined position, the cam is free to work up and down back of or below the same as the lid is opened and closed.

The invention further consists of novel features of construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of an eyeglass or spectacle case embodying my invention, a portion of the lining thereof being drawn away or removed for the purpose of illustration.

Figure 2 represents a rear elevation of said case, showing the lid thereof in closed position, and a portion of the outer covering broken away.

Figure 3 represents a fragmentary section of the case on line *x—x* Figure 2 and,

Figure 4 represents a transverse section on line *y—y* Figure 2.

Referring now to the drawings in which like numerals designate like parts in the several views;

1 designates an eyeglass or spectacle case, the same consisting of a body portion 2 having the base 3, provided with the upwardly-extending rim 4, which has the inwardly-extending plate 5 at its front portion, while the rear or opposite portion has the lid or cover 6 hinged thereto.

7 designates a cam on the lid projecting inwardly and having its extremity 8 doubled upon itself substantially as seen in Figure 4, said extremity being adapted to contact with the central portion 9 of the spring 10, which latter has the resilient portions or members 11 extending in opposite directions from said portion 9, said members being deflected at 12, and bent reversely to form the portions or members 13, which are bent at 14 and passed through the rim 4, after which the ends 15 are clinched upon the back of the rim 4, as will be understood from Figures 2 and 3, said clinched ends being con-

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cealed by the leather or other covering 16, which is usually employed in devices of this character

17 designates the lining of the case, which is shown in Figure 1, as being partly torn away, for the purpose of illustrating the location and operation of the spring 10, it being of course understood that in the completed case the lining completely conceals the spring, so that the latter and its method of operation in retaining the lid in open or closed position is invisible. 5

The operation is as follows:

When the lid is in open position the parts appear substantially as seen in full lines in Figure 1 and in dotted lines in Figure 4, it being apparent that the contact of the portion of the spring 10 with the cam 7 serves to hold the lid in open position, and yet the operation of the spring and cam will not be interfered with by the lining 17. 10

When the lid is in closed position, the parts assume the position seen in full lines as in Figure 4, whereby the lid is held in said position. 15

I desire to call special attention to the novel spring 10 since by the construction of the same substantially as seen in Figures 1 and 3, it will be apparent that a spring of great sensitiveness is produced, and yet one which will effectively perform the function of holding the cover 6 in open or closed position. 20

It will be apparent that changes may be made by those skilled in the art, which will come within the scope of my invention, and I do not therefore desire to be limited in every instance to the exact construction herein shown and described.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:— 25

1st. In an eyeglass or spectacle case, a body, a spring consisting of a central portion, resilient portions extending in opposite directions therefrom, fastening devices for said spring located at the rear of said intermediate portion and secured to said body, a lid hinged to said body and a cam, on said lid engaging the intermediate portion of said spring. 30

2nd. In an eyeglass or spectacle case, a body, a spring consisting of a central portion, resilient portions extending in opposite directions therefrom, fastening devices for said spring located in the rear of said intermediate portion and clinching ends upon said body, a lid hinged to said body, and a cam on said lid engaging the central portion of said spring, in combination with a lining for the interior of said case concealing said spring, and a cover for the exterior of said case concealing the point of attachment of said spring. 35

3rd. In an eyeglass or spectacle case, a body, a spring secured thereto and consisting of a central portion, resilient portions extending in opposite directions therefrom, said last-mentioned portions being bent reversely and extending towards each other, and having their ends secured upon said body, a lid hinged to said body, and a cam on said lid engaging the central portion of said spring. 40

4th. In an eyeglass or spectacle case, a body, a spring secured thereto and consisting of a central portion, resilient portions extending in opposite directions therefrom, said portions being bent reversely and extending towards each other, and having their ends clinched upon said body portion and a lid hinged to said body portion, and a cam on said lid engaging the central portion of said spring, in combination with a lining for the interior of said case concealing said spring, and a covering for the exterior of said case concealing the points of attachment of said spring to said body portion. 45 50

5th. An eyeglass or spectacle case having a spring secured thereto, said spring comprising a central portion 9, portions 11 extending in opposite directions therefrom, and bent reversely to form the portions 13 which extend 55

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toward each other, the extremities of said members 13 being bent at 14 and passing through the case and suitably secured to the wall thereof, a lid hinged to said case and a cam on said lid engaging the central portion of said spring.

Dated this 19th day of January 1904.

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Redhill: Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office, by Love & Malcomson, Ltd.—1904.



No. 1878 - A. D. 1891

Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Received of the undersigned the sum of \$100.00 for the purchase of the following described land, to-wit:

Section 10, Township 10 N., Range 10 E., 1891

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WASHINGTON, D. C.



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Fig. 1.

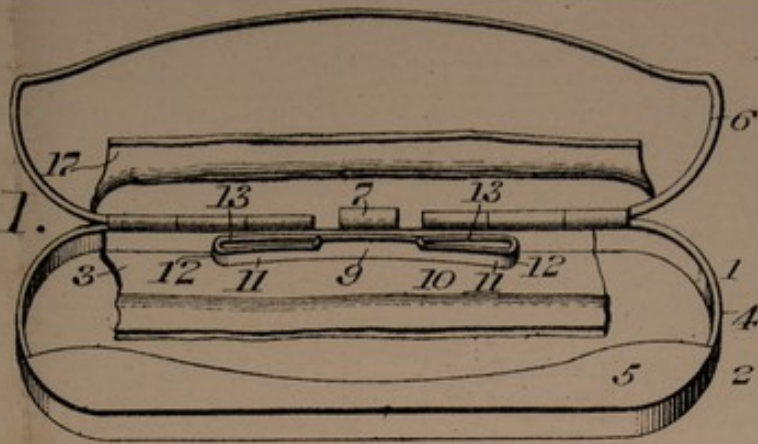


Fig. 3.

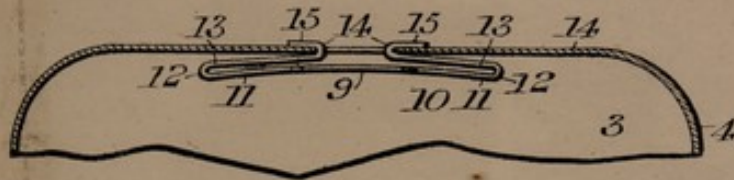


Fig. 2.

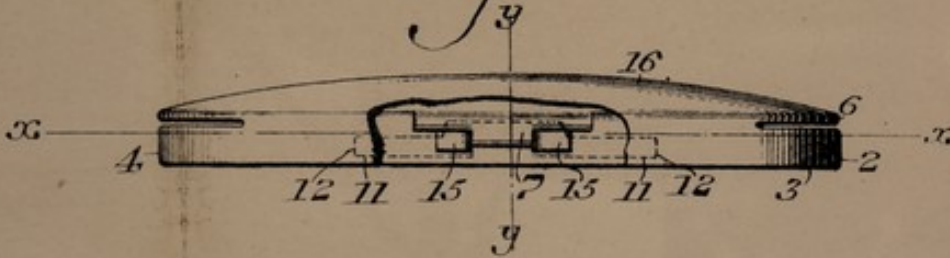
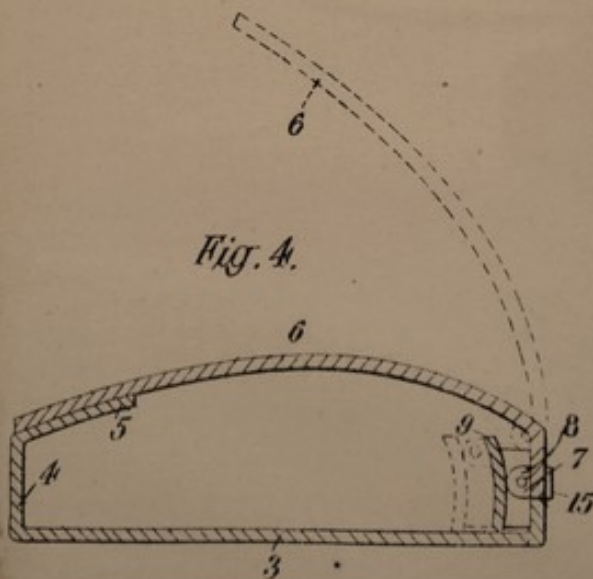


Fig. 4.



[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

