S. WHITAKER & A. RUTH.

Improvement in Cases for Ribbons, Velvets, &c.

No. 127,722. Patented June 11, 1872.

Fig 1.

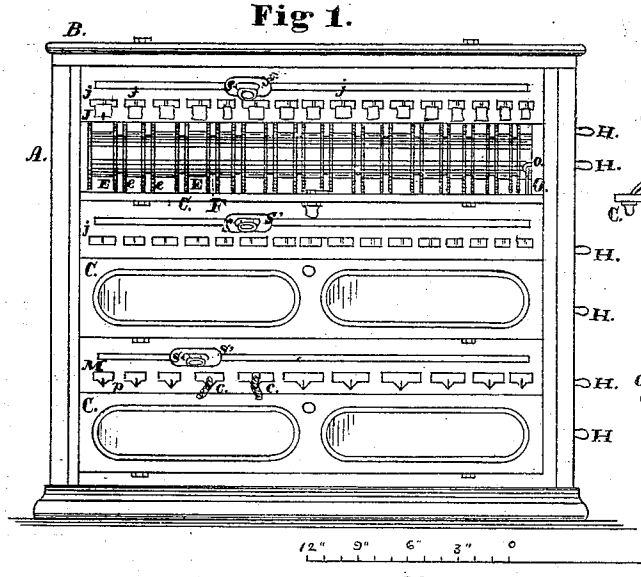
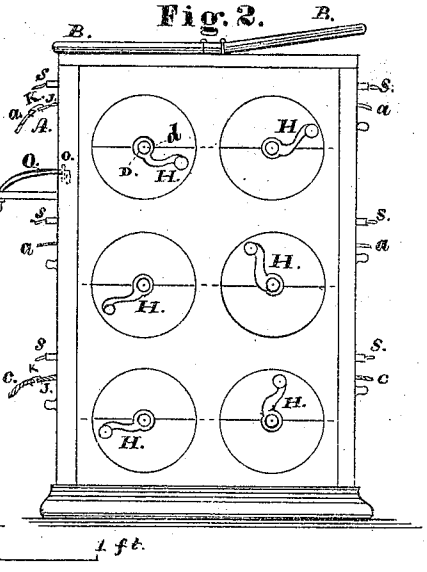


Fig. 2.



SCALE FOR FIG'S 1 & 2.

Fig. 3.

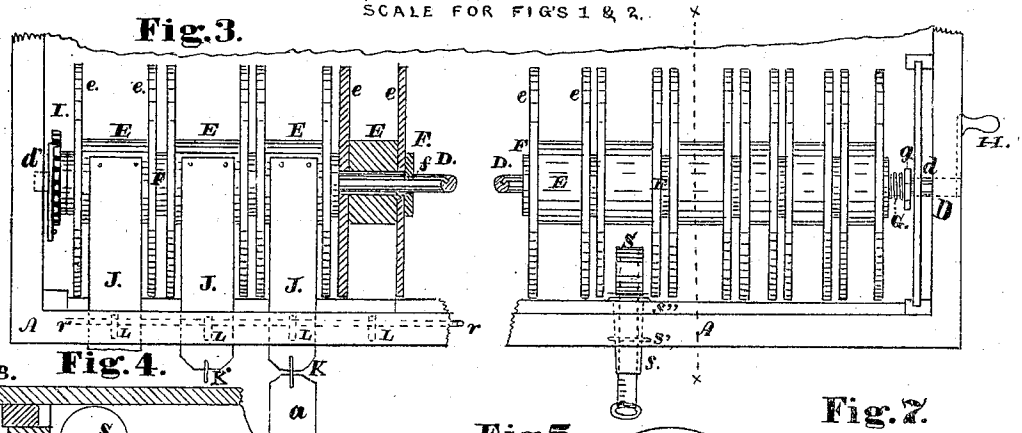


Fig. 4.

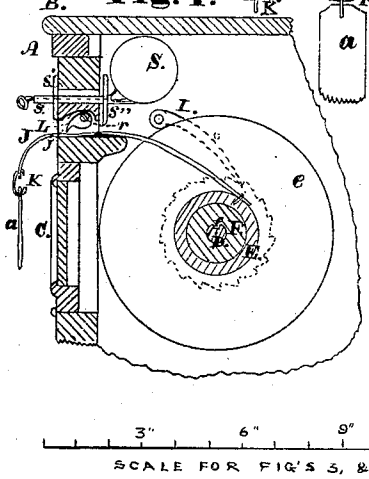


Fig. 5.

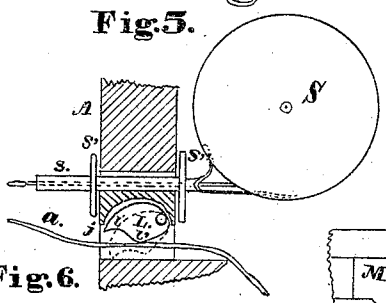


Fig. 6.

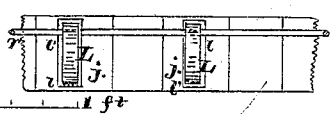


Fig. 7.

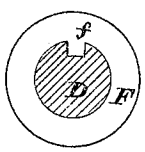
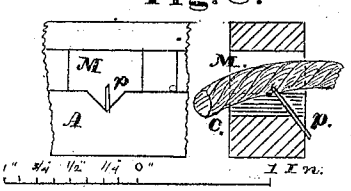


Fig. 8.



SCALE FOR FIG'S 5-6-7 & 8

SCALE FOR FIG'S 3, & 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL WHITAKER, OF MACON, AND AARON RUTH, OF DECATUR, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN CASES FOR RIBBONS, VELVETS, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,722, dated June 11, 1872.

Specification describing certain Improvements in Cases for Ribbons, Velvets, Laces, Cords, &c., invented by SAMUEL WHITAKER, of Macon, and AARON RUTH, of Decatur, in the county of Macon and State of Illinois.

Our invention relates to an improvement in cases for ribbons, laces, &c., for which Letters Patent were granted to SAMUEL WHITAKER, of Macon, assignor to himself and AARON RUTH, of Decatur, Illinois, dated April 18, 1871, No. 113,827, and reissued October 24, 1871, No. 4,611; and consists in the arrangement of the parts for operating the same, so that it is more simply and cheaply constructed, and reliable in operation; the improvements being, first, in the arrangement of the spools, washers, and spring on the shaft, and a "dog" to hold the ribbons, &c., from being drawn into the case when empty spools are being filled; second, the arrangement for fastening the ribbon, &c., to the spools; third, the arrangement of the spring tape-measure, so that the ribbons, &c., can be measured correctly; fourth, in the arrangement and form of the slot through which the material is drawn so that it is adapted for cording.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a case embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan; Figure 4, a vertical transverse section taken through the dotted lines *x x*, Fig. 3; Fig. 5, an enlarged view of the above, showing spring tape-measure and the "dog." Fig. 6 is a plan of top of openings, showing manner in which the "dogs" are secured; Fig. 7, a section, showing shaft and washer; and Fig. 8, a front and a sectional view of opening for cords.

A is the case; B B, lids; and C C, sash or doors hinged to the case and glazed. D is a shaft working in bearings at *d d'*. Upon this shaft are placed the spools E E, which revolve upon it. These spools have flanges *e e*, or the spools and flanges may be made in one piece. F is a washer, placed on the shaft and between the spools. This washer is provided with a projection, *f*, that fits in a groove in the shaft. At one end of the shaft is a spiral spring, G, and a nut, *g*. H is the crank by which motion is imparted to the shaft. I is a ratchet-wheel and pawl at the other end of the shaft, and is to prevent the same from a reverse movement when the ribbon, &c., is drawn from the case. A piece of ribbon, J, or other material of the right width is permanently attached to the spool, and long enough to reach out through the opening *j*, and to which a like width of ribbon, *a*, or other fabric is fastened with the hook K, or pinned thereto. L is a dog in the opening *j*, and hung or pivoted on a rod, *r*, in the strip above the openings. A slot is also in the strip in which the dog works, keeping the same in the center of the opening. Price-tags can be placed below the openings, on the strip between them and the door C.

The machine is operated as follows, viz.: To the end of the piece J is attached the ribbon, velvet, &c., and raising it up so that the point *l* of the dog L is clear of, and that the material will slide on the rounded part *l'* of, the dog, (see Fig. 5,) when the material can be wound into the case and on the spool. When the ribbon is about wound in drop the end of it, the dog will fall of its own weight, and the point *l* will prevent the end from being drawn into the case.

The shaft and the washers are the same as in the patent granted to us and above cited, except that only one or at the most two springs are required to give the requisite amount of pressure to cause the spools to revolve with the shaft. These springs may be rubber washers, if desired. When the spools refuse to turn with the shaft, more pressure can be obtained from the springs by the nut *g*. By the arrangement of the washers with the projections and holding the same to the shaft, ribbon from one or more of the spools can be withdrawn without disturbing the others, the washers remaining stationary on and the shaft held by the ratchet while the spool revolves. The dog L holds the ribbon from being drawn into the case, and, when an empty spool is being filled, prevents the ends of the ribbons on the other spools from being drawn in, so that one or more spools may be filled without disturbing the others. The spring tape-measure S is inclosed in a case, as usual, and to which case is attached a tube, *s*. This tube has two flanges, *s' s''*, that engage with the strips, and hold the tube in the slot, (which runs the full length of the case,) and the tape-measure can be slid from one opening to the other to measure the ribbons as they are drawn from the case. The tape passes through and out of the tube. M

is an opening, (shown in Fig. 8,) designed to be used for cords, with a V-shaped slot in the bottom, and a point, *p*, therein, that holds the cord from being drawn into the case; or a dog, like at L, may be used, with Λ-shaped slots or teeth in the point *l*, so that it will engage with and hold the cord *c*. The cord can be attached to the spool in the same manner as the ribbons, a sample piece, J, and a hook, K.

We also design to apply the same principle of the independent motion of each spool, as is above described, (and controlled by spring pressure,) to a frame-work made large enough to contain a series of spools or reels, each reel to contain one or more coils of rope. O is a bent and hooked wire fastened to the sash C, and passing through a staple, *o*, in the case A. This prevents the sash from falling down when opened, and holds the sash in a horizontal position, as shown in Fig. 2.

The case may be used for ribbons, velvets, laces, edgings, and other flat goods exclusively, or for them and cords together, or for cords alone.

We do not claim the independent motion of the spools, that having been claimed in the patent above cited; but

What we do claim as our invention is—

1. The dog L with the point *l* and rounded part *l'*, in combination with the spools E E, washers F F, spring G, and shaft D, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The piece J and hook K, in combination with the spool E, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. The tube *s* with the flanges *s' s''*, in combination with the spring tape-measure S, and the slot in the case A, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

4. The V-shaped opening M, in combination with the point *p*, and the dog L with teeth at the point *l*, spools E E, washers F F, spring G, and shaft D, substantially as shown and described.

SAMUEL WHITAKER.
AARON RUTH.

Witnesses:
CHARLES P. HOUSUM,
JOHN GROSS.