(No Model.)

F. SHAW.

DISPLAY TRAY.

No. 577,827. Patented Feb. 23, 1897.

Fig. 1.

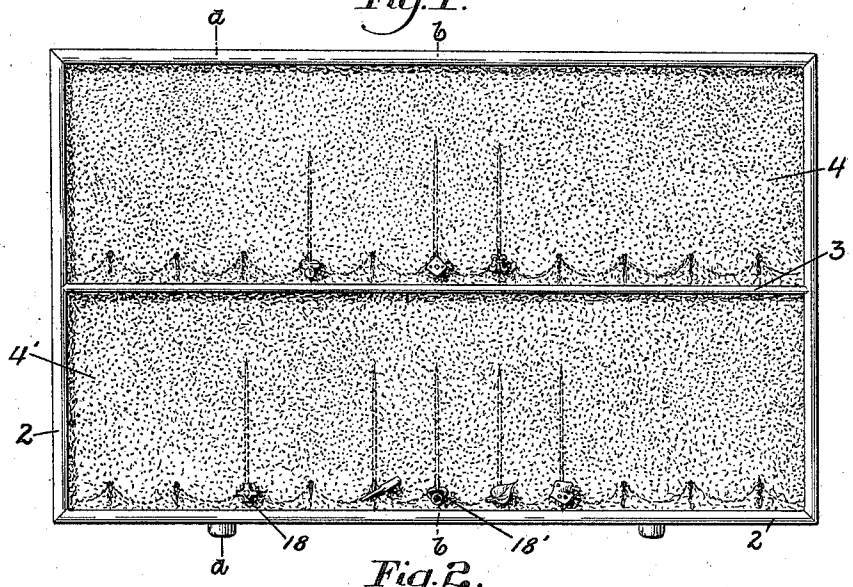


Fig. 2.

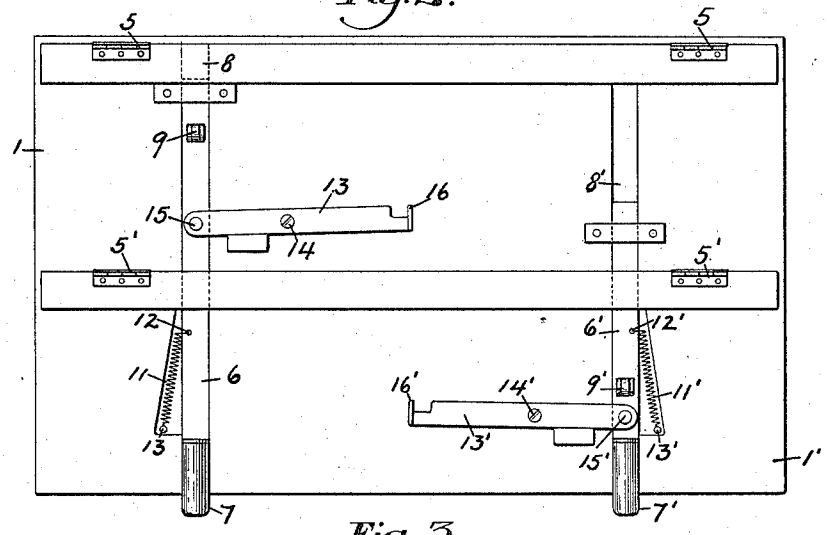


Fig. 3.

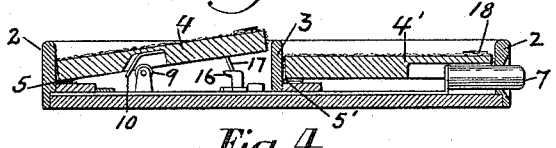
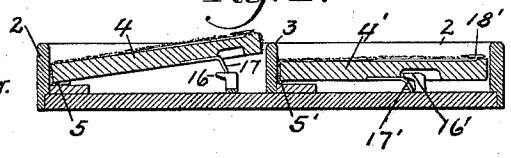


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERIC SHAW, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM R. EISENHOWER, OF SAME PLACE.

DISPLAY-TRAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 577,827, dated February 23, 1897.

Application filed July 31, 1896. Serial No. 601,169. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERIC SHAW, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Display-Trays for Scarf-Pins and Similar Articles, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a display-tray for scarf-pins and similar articles which will, while securely holding and advantageously displaying them, prevent their surreptitious or undesired removal and loss. This object is attained by forming a tray with the cushions for holding the pins so hinged within a frame that the cushions may be automatically dropped and locked in such position that the frame prevents the removal of pins, the pins being removed by unlocking and tilting the cushions.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of the tray, illustrating the manner in which the pins are placed in the cushions. Fig. 2 is a top view of the operating mechanism, the cushions and frame being removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line *a a* of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view on the line *b b* of Fig. 1.

The base 1 of the tray is surrounded by a frame 2, which extends above the base, and where two cushions, as 4 4′, are used, they are separated by a partition 3, which may be joined with the frame and rise to the same height. The cushions 4 4′ are respectively hinged to the base 1 by hinges 5 5′, which may be so attached that the movement of the cushion may be limited to any desired arc. Push-rods 6 6′, having push-buttons 7 7′ extending through the frame 2, are adapted to reciprocate in ways 8 8′, formed in the base 1, and are provided with rollers 9 9′, which when the push-buttons 7 7′ are thrust in strike inclined ways 10 10′ on the bottoms of the cushions 4 4′, thus tilting them to the position of the cushion 4. (Illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.) When the buttons 7 7′ are released, coiled springs 11 11′, secured, respectively, to the push-rods 6 6′ at 12 12′ and to the base 1 at 13 13′, throw these push-rods back, thus withdrawing the rollers 9 9′ and permitting the cushions 4 4′ to fall to the position of the cushion 4′. (Illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.)

Latches 13 13′ are respectively pivoted to the base at the points 14 14′ and to the push-rods at 15 15′, these latches being provided with beaks 16 16′, which are adapted to engage the catches 17 17′, secured on the bottoms of the cushions.

When the push-rods 6 6′ are thrust in, the beaks 16 16′ will be withdrawn from their engagements with the catches 17 17′, and hence when the rollers 9 9′ strike the ways 10 10′ the cushions 4 4′ are free to rise. When the push-rods are released and thrown back by the springs 11 11′, the cushions fall and the beaks 16 16′ are thrown in and engage the catches 17 17′, secured upon the bottoms of the cushions, thus locking them in the position occupied by the cushion 4′, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4.

It will now be evident that a pin, as 18 or 18′, placed in the cushion in the manner illustrated in Fig. 1 may readily be withdrawn when the cushion is tilted to the position occupied by cushion 4, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4; but when the position occupied is that of cushion 4′, as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, the withdrawal of the pins is obstructed by the frame 2 or by the partition 3.

It will be understood that the tray may comprise one or more cushions, as may be found expedient, and that each cushion is provided with and operated by its own independent mechanism.

It will be evident to those skilled in the art that various modifications may be made in the mechanism without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I wish to be understood as not limiting myself to the specific construction shown and described.

I claim—

1. In a display-tray, a frame, a tilting cushion located within the said frame, a reciprocating rod connected with the said cushion and adapted to tilt the same, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a display-tray, a frame, a tilting cushion located within the said frame, a reciprocating rod connected with the said cushion and adapted to lock the same, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a display-tray, a frame, a tilting cushion located within the said frame, a reciprocating rod and a roller carried thereby which is adapted to engage and tilt the said cushion, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a display-tray, a frame, a tilting cushion located within the said frame, a reciprocating rod and a latch operated thereby which is adapted to engage and lock the said cushion, substantially as shown and described.

5. In a display-tray, a tilting cushion, a reciprocating rod, a roller carried by the said reciprocating rod adapted to engage and tilt the said cushion, a latch operated by the said reciprocating rod and adapted to engage and lock the said cushion, and a spring adapted to control the said reciprocating rod, substantially as shown and described.

Signed this 29th day of July, 1896, in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

FREDERIC SHAW.

Witnesses:

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C. N. BUTLER.