No. 697,532. Patented Apr. 15, 1902.

A. H. PEAL.

EXHIBITING CASE FOR THIMBLES.

(Application filed Aug. 1, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

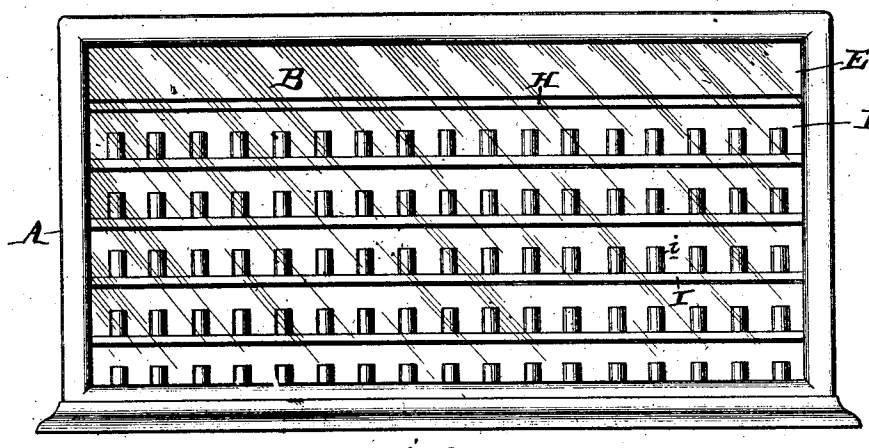


Fig. 2.

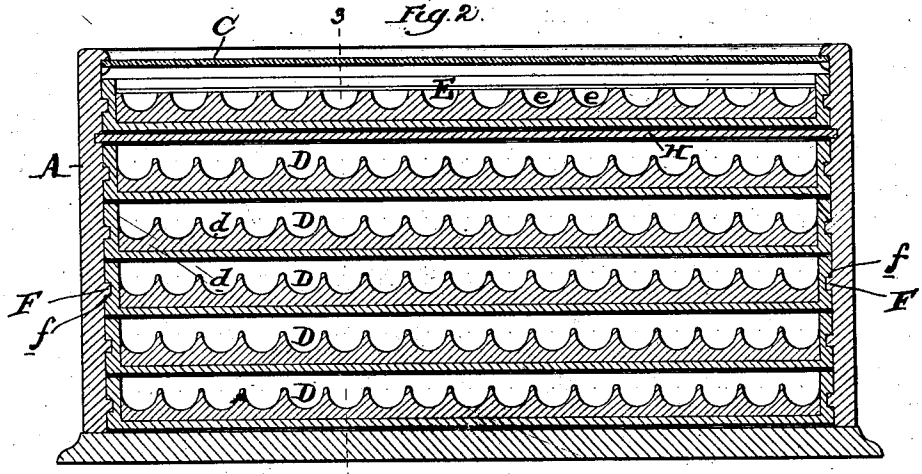
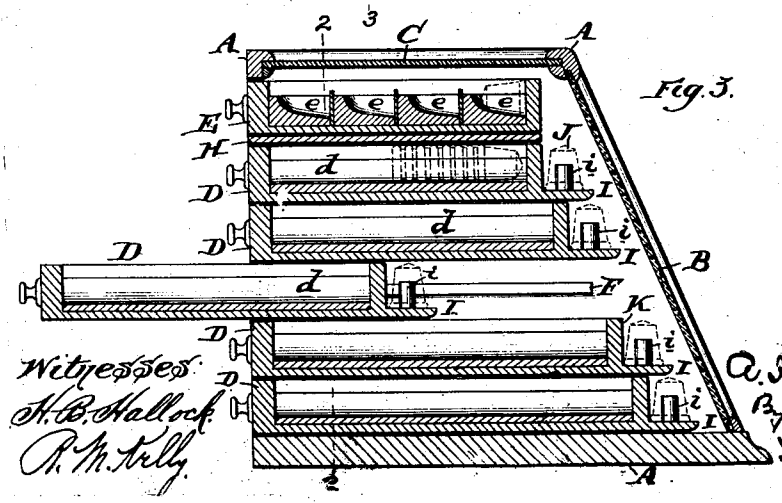


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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EXHIBITING-CASE FOR THIMBLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,532, dated April 15, 1902.

Application filed August 1, 1900. Serial No. 25,519. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT H. PEAL, of Newark, county of Essex, State of New Jersey, have invented an Improvement in Exhibiting-Cases for Thimbles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to exhibiting-cases for thimbles; and it consists of certain improvements, which are fully set forth in the following specification and shown in the accompanying drawings, which form a part thereof.

The object of my invention is to provide a suitable construction of case for use upon a counter in which thimbles may be artistically exhibited and attention of shoppers directed to them.

Moreover, my object is to provide a case in which the different varieties of thimbles can be fully exhibited and from which selection can be quickly made.

In addition to the exhibiting feature my improved case provides suitable drawers or receptacles in which quantities of the thimbles may be stored and from which the sales may be made, thus placing upon the counter means for exhibiting and storing thimbles for sale and giving them a prominency which is not usual in the stores where articles of this class are sold.

In carrying out my invention I provide a box-frame having a glass front and top, the front being preferably arranged at a slight obliquity. The ends of this frame are connected by a horizontal frame slightly below the top glass. Within the case I arrange below the horizontal frame a series of trays or drawers which have projecting shelves facing the oblique glass and provided with a series of supports for the thimbles to be exhibited. In this manner the thimbles are supported in rows one above the other, and the rows being slightly in advance of each other passing from the upper tray to the lower one. Above the horizontal frame I provide a single exhibiting-drawer. The trays or drawers are provided with a series of grooves in which thimbles for sale are placed, said thimbles corresponding to the design of the thimble on exhibition upon the supporting-shelf immediately at the front. It will thus be seen that the trays or drawers are of gradually-increasing length as we descend. The upper drawer need not be provided with a shelf or support for exhibiting the thimbles, as it contains recesses in which the various thimbles are placed and from which they may be viewed from the upper glass portion of the case.

My invention will be better understood by reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a thimble-exhibiting case embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of same on line 2 2 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section of same on line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

A is the main case, and may be formed of wood or metal, as desired. It is open at the rear, at which place the drawers are entered. Its top may be provided with a glass window C and its front with an oblique glass window B. The upper part of the case is provided with a short drawer E, having a series of thimble-recesses *e* into which the thimbles may be placed and so that they may be clearly viewed from the top of the case through the window C. The remaining part of the case is provided with a series of drawers or trays D of gradually-increasing length, said drawers being inserted through the open rear of the case. The sides of the several drawers are provided with horizontal grooves *f*, which receive horizontal ribs F on the inner side walls of the case A, so that each of the trays is supported independently and no strain comes upon any tray or drawer from the weight of those above. The ends of the drawers or trays adjacent to the oblique glass B are extended in the form of shelves I, which project like series of steps, and each of these shelves is provided with a series of upright studs or supports *i*, over which the thimbles are placed, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3. The height of the drawers is a little greater than the height of the thimbles, so that the drawers may be withdrawn without the thimbles on the shelves striking the upper drawers. Each of the drawers D is also provided with a series of parallel grooved re-

cesses *d* in which the nested thimbles for sale may be placed, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3. It will be observed that there is a groove *d*, corresponding to each one of the studs *i*, so that any design of thimble shown upon the stud and its shelf will be found in quantity in the groove *d* in the drawer immediately at the rear. In this manner the different styles of thimbles are fully exhibited and the salesman can instantly find the same thimbles in stock from which he may make sales by simply withdrawing the drawer, as indicated in Fig. 3. The upper drawer E is more for ornament or exhibition purpose, and therefore, if desired, it and the glass top C may be omitted. I prefer, however, to employ the said drawer E and also to place a transverse partition H in the case immediately above the upper drawer D and below the drawer E, for the purpose of more positively stiffening the main case. If the upper drawer E and the glass C were omitted, then the partition H would in effect be the top of the case. The end wall K of each of the trays or drawers D forms a solid background for the thimbles J, and thereby more clearly exposes them. Furthermore, said rear walls fit snugly to the under part of the shelf I and the drawer immediately above and prevent ready access of dust into the said drawers from within the case. Ordinarily the drawers are lined with velvet for finish and to prevent scratching of the thimbles, and the interior is preferably black, though it may be of any color.

While I have shown the studs *i* as simply vertical studs, I do not limit myself to their shape, as they may be of any suitable shape adapted to receive and hold the thimbles in position. Generically considered it is immaterial what means of support are employed upon the shelves I, so long as the thimbles are maintained in a proper position for exhibition. I have found, however, that in practice the simple studs are the most satisfactory.

While I prefer that the drawers shall be of definite lengths and that the several shelves shall project one beyond the other as steps, I do not confine myself to this feature, as the drawers may be all of the same length and the shelves may project one above the other, though the said construction would not be as effective or desirable as the construction in the one shown.

While I prefer the construction shown, the minor details thereof may be modified without departing from the invention.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a thimble exhibiting and sales case, the main frame open at the rear and consisting of side frames connected at the bottom by a bottom frame and near the top by a flat horizontal board H extending from the back to a short distance of the front and further having a horizontal glass window parallel to the board H and connecting the top portions of the side frames and a front oblique glass window also connecting the said side frames, in combination with an upper drawer arranged immediately below the horizontal glass window and above the board H and having its upper surface provided with means for holding a number of thimbles permanently separated and in position under the top glass window for exhibition, and a series of independent drawers of gradually-increasing length arranged below the upper drawer and one above the other and each of said drawers having on its end adjacent to the oblique front window a projecting shelf provided with a row or series of upright thimble-supports for holding a series of thimbles and also having its upper surface provided with a series of parallel grooves *d* in line with each of the upright thimble-supports in which the thimbles for sale may be nested.

In testimony of which invention I have hereunto set my hand.

ALBERT H. PEAL.

Witnesses:
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