



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GERHARD WEMPE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN NEEDLE-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 134,829, dated January 14, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GERHARD WEMPE, of San Francisco city and county, State of California, have invented an Improved Needle-Case; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawing are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvement without further invention or experiment.

My invention relates to a cheap and convenient needle-case, which is designed more particularly for holding sewing-machine needles, but which can also be used, if desired, for holding the ordinary sewing-needle. My improved needle-case consists of two parts—an inner needle-holder and an outside case into which the needle-holder is slipped.

The needle-holder is provided with a number of pockets, in which the needles are kept, and a hinged extension can be folded back to allow the end of the needles to project when it is desired to remove them from the case, and which serves, when in line with the back of the holder, to retain the needles in the pockets.

In order to more fully illustrate and explain my invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my needle-holder, and Fig. 2 is the case.

My needle-holder is made of pasteboard or other stiff material. I first take a strip of pasteboard, of the desired length and width to serve as a back for the needle-holder, and secure lengthwise upon it, by means of paste, glue, or other adhesive substance, narrow pasteboard or other strips *b b*, parallel with each other, leaving sufficient space between them to receive one, two, or three needles, as may be desired. I then take a piece of pasteboard, C, or other suitable material, which is of the proper width to cover the front side of the strips *b* the entire width of the back A, and which will extend upward to a height equal to about two-thirds of the length of the needles

which it is to contain, thus converting the spaces between the strips on the lower half of the pasteboard A into pockets, the bottoms of which are closed, as shown. I then make a cut transversely through the strips *b*, and deep enough to score the back A just above and in a line parallel with the upper edge of the front piece C, so that the upper half or portion can be turned back sufficiently to allow the upper ends of the needles to stand out from the channels in which they lie between the strips *b* when the upper portion is in line with the lower portion of the case. A narrow strip, *e*, is then pasted or otherwise secured across the upper end of the strips *b*, so as to close the upper end of the channels and extend downward a short distance toward the front piece C. The front of the strip C can be lined off to correspond with the pockets beneath and the numbers or sizes of the needles in each pocket, and other necessary information indicated in the spaces thus formed. When not in use the upper portion of the needle-holder is straightened into line with the lower portion so as to cause the upper ends of the needles to lie in the channels between the strips, so that they cannot come out. The holder is then slipped into a case, F, in which it is kept.

I thus provide a simple, cheap, and convenient needle-holder, which is neat and substantial.

I am aware of the English patent to Reuben Young, of May 1, 1867, and consequently do not claim, broadly, a needle-case with a hinged back to expose the needle-heads; but

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The needle-holder, consisting of the hinged back A, subdivided into pockets by the strips *b b*, and with the cover C for the points arranged to slide within the case F, as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

GERHARD WEMPE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

J. L. BOONE,

C. M. RICHARDSON.