

(No Model.)

J. H. DURHAM.

SHIPPING CASE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC DRY PLATES.

No. 331,385.

Patented Dec. 1, 1885.

Fig. 1.

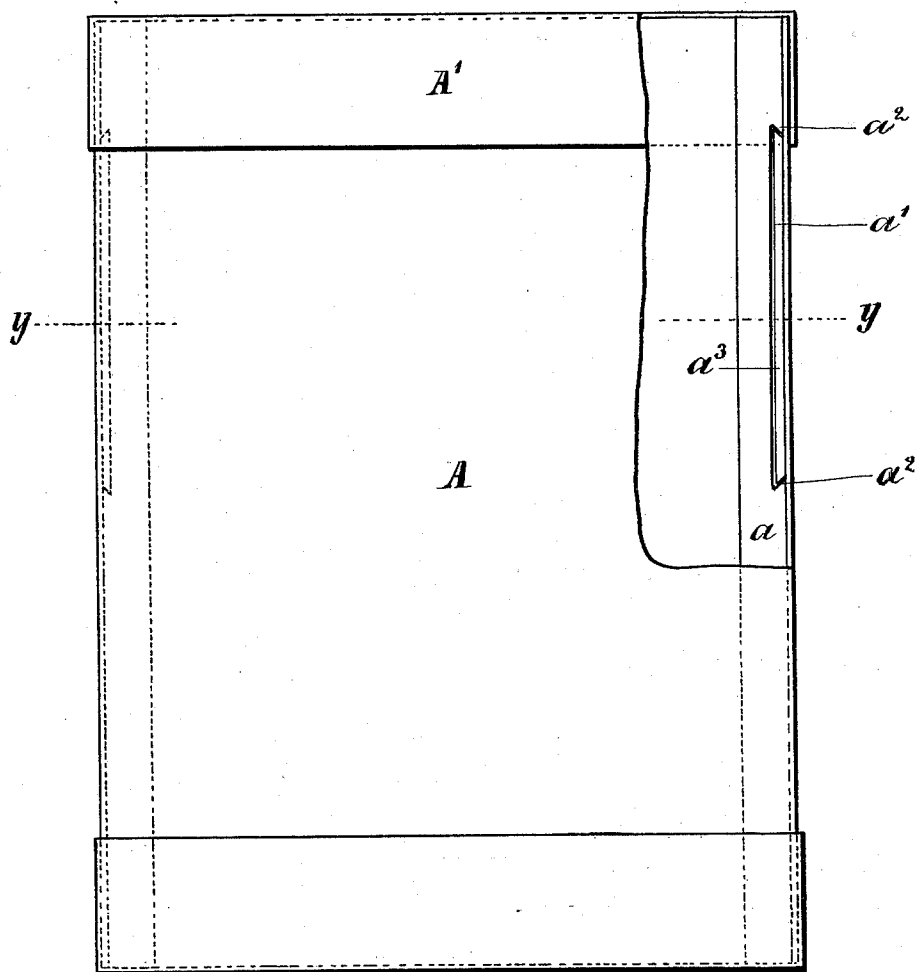
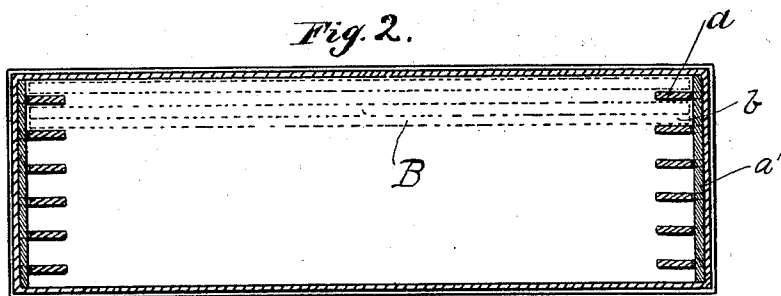


Fig. 2.



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SHIPPING-CASE FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC DRY-PLATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 331,325, dated December 1, 1885.

Application filed May 29, 1885. Serial No. 167,081. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. DURHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Shipping-Cases for Photographic Dry-Plates, which is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a box or case embodying my invention, a portion of the same being broken away to show the internal construction; and Fig. 2, a transverse sectional view of the same, taken on the line *yy* of Fig. 1.

Like letters refer to like parts in both the figures of the drawings.

My invention relates to shipping boxes or cases constructed for containing dry-plates for photographers' use, its object being to produce a box which can be constructed at a small cost, and will protect the plates from injury during transportation, either by contact with each other or with the portions of the box which support the plates; and to these ends my invention consists in certain novel features, which I will now proceed to describe, and will then specifically point out in the claims.

In the drawings, A represents a box suitably constructed of pasteboard, straw-board, or any other suitable material, and provided with a cover, A'. This box is of a height and breadth substantially equal to the corresponding dimensions of the plates which it is intended to contain, and of a thickness proportionate to the number of plates which the box is adapted to contain, it being shown in the present instance as adapted to contain a dozen plates, although it is obvious that it may be constructed to contain a greater or less number. The box is open at one end to receive the plates, which are slipped into it endwise, and is provided with permanent internal separators attached to the box. These separators are constructed substantially as shown in the drawings, and consist of flanges or strips *a*, attached to back pieces, *a'*, as hereinafter described, the back pieces being in turn secured to the edges of the box. The strips project inward, as shown, extending from the top to the bottom of the box, and forming grooves or spaces *b*

between each pair of strips, in which the plates B are placed, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2.

Since the thickness of the plates of glass is frequently unequal, I find it desirable to make provision for this inequality, and for this purpose I so construct the separator-strips that, while they are permanent as regards their connection with the interior of the box, they are, however, adjustable or self-adjusting as regards their distance from one another. In order to effect this, each back piece, *a'*, only extends a portion of the entire length of the edge of the box, being undercut at its ends, as shown at *a''*. The strips *a* are each provided with a recess, *a''*, corresponding in length to the length of the back piece, *a'*, and undercut at its ends in the same manner as the ends of the back piece are undercut. In this construction it will be seen that each strip is permanently retained in place by means of the back piece, which fits within the undercut recess in the strip, while at the same time the strip may be moved transversely upon the back piece, so as to approach nearer to either of the neighboring strips. The dry-plates are grouped in pairs back to back, or with their uncoated surfaces adjacent to each other, and are, while in this position, placed within the grooves *b* between the strips *a'*, the strips readily yielding to assume their proper position, thus accommodating themselves to any variation of thickness in the several plates. The strips will serve to hold the plates firmly in position without any rattling, and prevent any contact of the chemically-coated surfaces of the plates with one another or with any other injurious object.

The strips *a*, which form the separators, and the back piece, *a'*, upon which they are mounted, may be constructed of any suitable material, but are preferably constructed of wood, although metal or pasteboard may be employed for this purpose. The strip may be applied to the back pieces and box-blank before the latter is formed into a complete box; or the box may first be completed and the strips then slipped upon the back pieces, and these latter subsequently secured within the box.

I am aware that heretofore separators consisting of rectangular strips of pasteboard

loosely laid between the dry-plates have been employed. I am also aware that permanent separator-strips rigidly attached to the edges of the box have been employed. I therefore
5 do not wish to be understood as claiming either of these constructions.

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

10 1. A shipping case or box for photographic dry-plates provided with a series of adjustable separators permanently supported within the box, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

15 2. The combination, with the box or case,

of back pieces attached to its edges, and separator-strips adjustably mounted on the back pieces, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

3. The combination, with the box A, of the 20 back pieces, *a'*, undercut at their ends, and the separating-strips *a*, having recesses *a'* to receive the back pieces, *a'*, upon which the strips are adjustably mounted, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

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Witnesses:

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