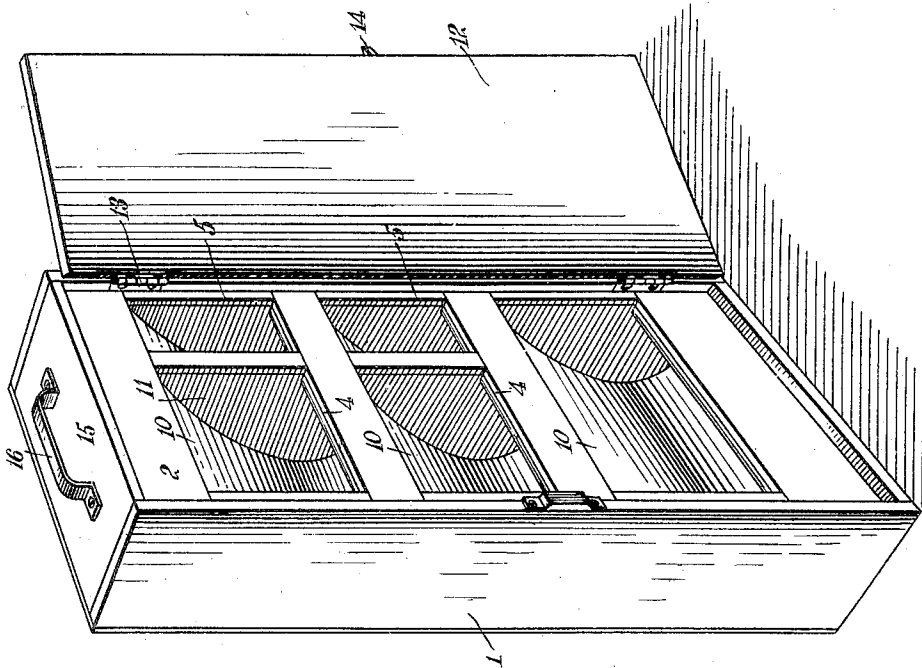
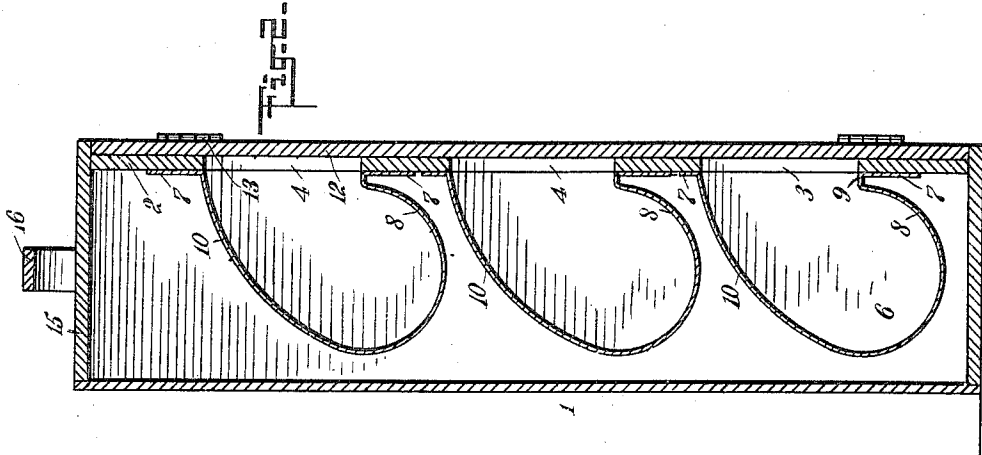


F. A. BILLSTONE.  
NAIL OR SCREW CASE.  
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 29, 1909.

971,965.

Patented Oct. 4, 1910.



WITNESSES

*J. G. Hahmberg*  
*J. R. Cullen*

INVENTOR  
*Frank A. Billstone*  
BY *Mum & Co*  
ATTORNEYS

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK ALBERT BILLSTONE, OF FINDLAY, OHIO.

## NAIL OR SCREW CASE.

971,965.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 4, 1910.

Application filed October 29, 1909. Serial No. 525,350.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK ALBERT BILLSTONE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Findlay, in the county of Hancock and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Nail or Screw Case, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to a case for holding nails, screws, and similar small articles.

The object of the invention is to provide a case for holding different sizes or different kinds of nails, screws, or similar fastening devices, and the construction is such as to facilitate the convenient removal of the nails or screws when they are to be used.

The case is intended particularly to be used for holding small quantities of the nails or screws.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts to be more fully described hereinafter and particularly set forth in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective showing the case with the door open; and Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken through the case in a front and rear plane, the door of the case being represented as closed.

Referring more particularly to the parts, 1 represents the body of the case which is formed of wood, or similar material. The front wall 2 of this case, in the lower portion thereof, is provided with an opening 3 which may extend substantially across the entire width of the case. Above this opening 3, similar openings 4, 4, are provided, disposed one above the other, and these openings extend more than half-way across the width of the case, and at the side of these openings 4, 4, similar openings 5, 5, are formed which are of smaller dimensions than the openings 4, 4, as indicated. In the interior of the case I provide a plurality of pockets 6 which are preferably formed of sheet metal bent to the form shown. These pockets are provided with flanges 7 at their forward sides, which are attached to the inner face of the forward wall 2. Each pocket has a length corresponding to the length of the opening to which it is at-

tached. The form of these pockets is most clearly shown in Fig. 2. Each pocket is formed at its lower portion into a curved bowl or basin 8, which is substantially cylindrical in form so that the bowl may be considered as consisting of the lower half of the cylinder disposed upon a horizontal axis. The forward edge of the bowl 8 is connected by a short horizontal sill 9 with the flange 7 at the lower side of the opening. The upper portion of the pocket is formed by a curved wall or dome 10 which constitutes a continuation or extension of the rear wall of the basin 8. The forward end of this dome wall 10 is attached at the upper edge of the openings and is formed with one of the flanges 7, referred to above. From this arrangement it will be seen that the edges of the pockets coincide with the upper and lower edges of the openings. The pockets which are disposed at the openings 4 and 5, respectively, are separated by dividing walls or partitions 11, as indicated in Fig. 1. The forward wall 2 is indicated in Fig. 2 as countersunk.

In the forward face of the case, and at its vertical edge, the case is provided with a swinging door 12 attached by hinges 13. When this door is open, as indicated in Fig. 1, all the pockets are exposed so that the nails or screws can readily be withdrawn. The door is provided with a suitable latch 14 by means of which it may be held shut. The upper wall or cover 15 of the case is provided with a handle 16 for carrying the case about.

The different pockets constitute separate compartments for holding different kinds or different sizes of nails or screws. On account of the shape of the bottoms of the pockets it will be evident that the nails or screws can be quickly removed, as the nail or screw which is seized in the hand can be slid upwardly on the basin or bowl until it reaches the sill 9, whereupon it can be withdrawn.

Special attention is called also to the form of the upper portions of the pockets, inclining upwardly and gradually as they do from the rear portions of the basins or bowls. This form is advantageous for the reason that if it should be desired to empty the case quickly this can be accomplished simply by inverting it. In order to prevent mixing the nails or screws which come from the dif-

ferent compartments when inverted in this manner, certain compartments may be temporarily covered by a plate or door.

Attention is called to the fact that the walls of the pockets when formed as described, do not present angles or corners in which the nails or screws may lodge, and which would tend to make their removal more difficult. With a case constructed as described, whether the pocket is full of nails or not, the nails may be removed with equal facility. In other words, even the last nail can be removed with the same facility as the others.

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

1. A case of the class described having a plurality of openings and provided with a plurality of curved pockets, said pockets being secured to the case with their edges coinciding with the upper and lower edges of the said openings.

2. A case of the class described having a plurality of openings and provided with a plurality of curved pockets, said pockets being provided at their edges with flanges by which they are secured to the case at the openings thereof.

3. A case of the class described comprising a casing having its front wall counter-

sunk and provided with a plurality of openings, a plurality of pockets secured to the front wall at the openings thereof, said pockets having bowl-shaped bottoms and forwardly curved upper portions, and a hinged door for said casing.

4. A case of the class described, having a forward wall with openings therein, and a plurality of pockets attached at said openings and presenting faces flush with the edges thereof, said pockets having bowl-shaped bottoms with upwardly curved forward walls.

5. A case of the class described, having a forward wall with a plurality of openings therein, and a plurality of pockets formed of sheet metal attached at the edges of said openings, said pockets presenting faces constituting extensions of said edges, said pockets having bowl-shaped bottoms and upwardly and forwardly inclined upper portions constituting extensions of said bottoms.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK ALBERT BILLSTONE.

Witnesses:

FREDERICK S. BATES,  
JOHN PRESTON SUTTON.