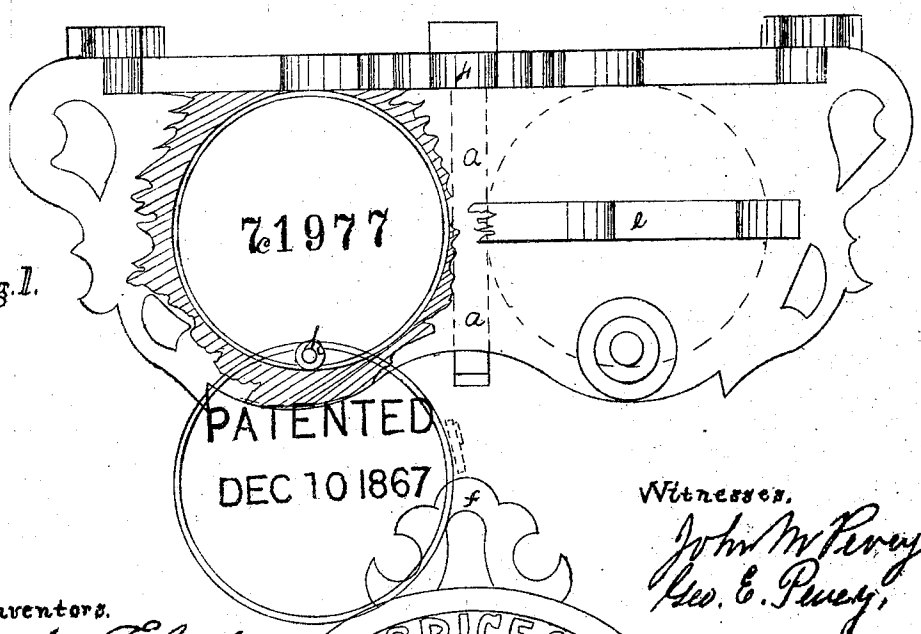
JOHN. T. CARTER. & JOHN. PARK'S.

IMPROVED SPICE CASE

Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

John W. Pevey

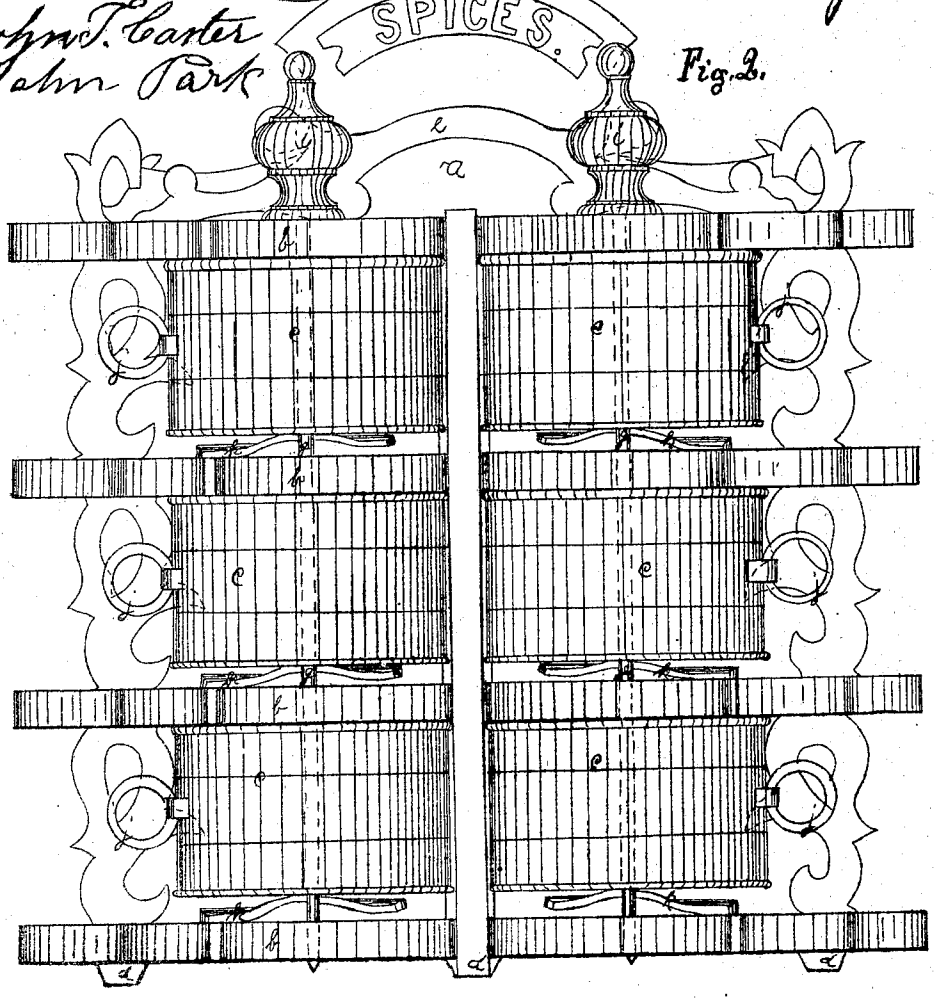
Geo. E. Pevey.

Inventors.

John T. Carter

John Park

Fig. 2.



United States Patent Office.

JOHN T. CARTER AND JOHN PARK, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 71,977, *dated December* 10, 1867.

IMPROVED SPICE-CASE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, JOHN T. CARTER and JOHN PARK, both of Lowell, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Spice-Cases; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of our invention consists in providing a spice-case with a suitable number of boxes or cups, they being held in position by springs, and operated on pivots or shafts, giving them an eccentric motion; the object being to provide and furnish a spice-case that will enable the user to see at first sight the required material to be used; one that will retain the entire strength of spices, easy kept in order and clean, and also to keep the different spices from mixing one's flavor with another.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

Figure 1 represents a plan of our improved spice-case with parts broken out, showing the operation of the boxes or cups.

Figure 2 represents a side elevation of our improved spice-case.

Similar letters in the different figures indicate corresponding parts.

a represents the case, which we construct plain or ornamental, and in various sizes, with the required number of shelves, *b b b b*, these shelves being divided off into the desired number of parts, for the reception of the boxes or cups *c c*. The case *a* is also provided with feet *d d d*, handle *e*, for removing the same from place to place, and a loop, *f*, to hang the case *a* up, when desired. *g g*, the pivots or shafts, which pass through the front of the shelves *b b b b*, and the eccentric bearings, *h*, of the cups or boxes *c c*, these pivots, *g g*, being provided with suitable knobs, *i i*, or similar devices, to aid in removing the same, when the case *a* and cups *c c* are to be cleaned. The bearings, *h h*, are formed of tubes, their length corresponding with the depth of the boxes or cups *c c*, and are located between the axis and periphery of the cups *c c*, giving them an eccentric movement when used; the cups or boxes *c c* being lettered to indicate the different kinds of spices, and are also furnished with rings, *j j*, or their equivalents, to aid in operating the same. *k k* are springs, one or both ends of which are fastened to the top of the shelves *b b b b*, their bearing-surface coming directly in under the centre of the cups *c c*, thus keeping the tops of the cups *c c* snug and close to the bottom of the shelves *b b b b*, the shelves forming covers for the same.

The case *a* being thus prepared, with its feet *d d d*, handle *e*, and loop *f*, the cups or boxes *c c* placed in their required position, the operator at a single glance finds the required article desired, and, by aid of the ring *j*, swings the cup *c* from the shelf *b*, as seen in red lines in fig. 1, which brings its contents exposed to view. When not wanted, the operator swings the cup *c* back in its place, and by the aid of the springs *k k*, pressing against the bottom, keeps the cups *c c* close up to the bottom of the shelves *b b b b*. The cups *c c* being thus covered, the whole strength of the different spices is retained.

Thus it will be seen, by our improved device, the operator is enabled to keep her spices compact, and safe from being exposed to the air, and by so doing retaining the entire strength of the different spices therein contained, easily removed from place to place, and can be hung up if required.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The cups or boxes *c c*, when arranged to operate substantially as described, and for the purposes fully set forth.

2. We claim the springs *k k*, in combination with the cups or boxes *c c*, for the purpose described and set forth.

3. We claim the combination and arrangement of the case *a* with its feet *d d d*, handle *e*, loop *f*, and shelves *b b b b*, cups or boxes *c c*, and springs *k k*, all for the purposes substantially as described and set forth.

JOHN T. CARTER,
JOHN PARK.

Witnesses:
JOHN M. PEVEY,
GEO. E. PEVEY.