(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. C. THOMPSON.

SHOW BOX.

No. 327,838. Patented Oct. 6, 1885.

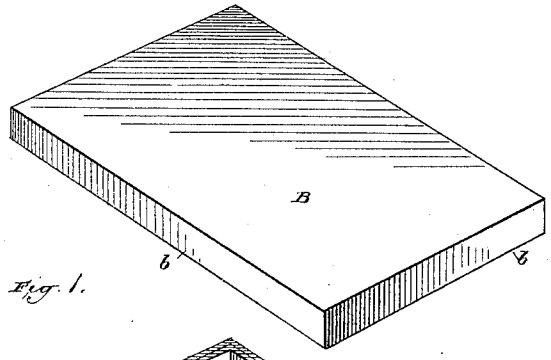


Fig. 1.

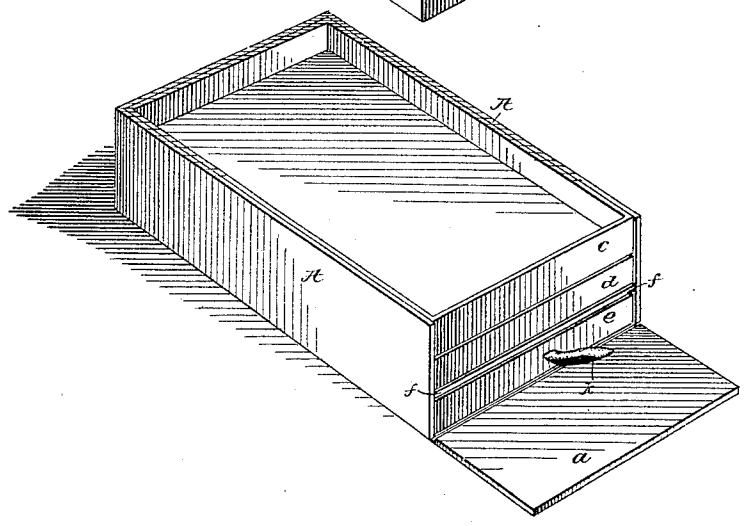
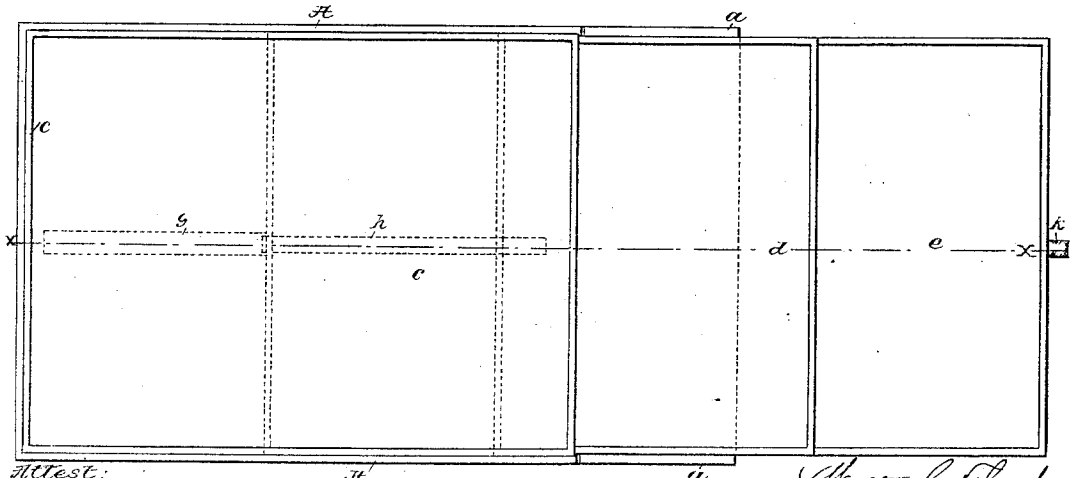


Fig. 2.



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Attys.

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. C. THOMPSON.

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Fig. 5.

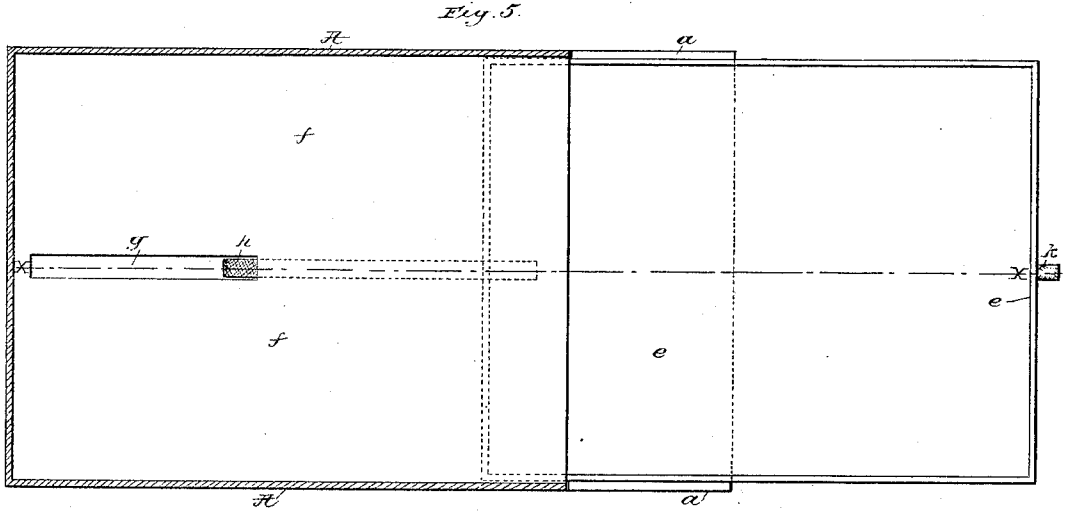


Fig. 4.

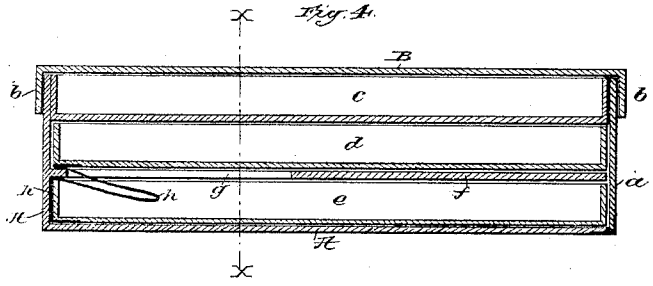


Fig. 3.

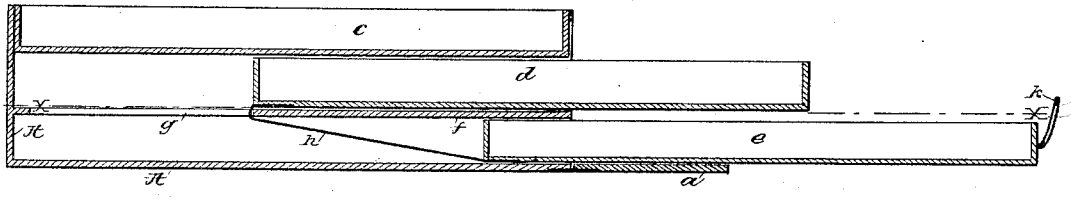
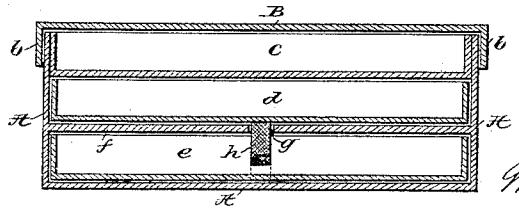


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER C. THOMPSON, OF BROOKLYN, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM C. HOWARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SHOW-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,838, dated October 6, 1885.

Application filed April 28, 1885. Serial No. 163,692. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER C. THOMPSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Show-Boxes, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

This invention relates to a box which is designed and adapted for the storage and exhibition of gloves, laces, ruching, embroidery, edging, cards of buttons, and a great variety of other classes of goods which it is desirable should be put up in such form for the retail trade that they will be protected from dust and prevented from becoming soiled by handling and yet be in convenient form for exhibition to customers.

It is the object of the invention to provide a box of this character which can be easily and cheaply produced, and in which a variety of different articles or a number of varieties of the same class of goods can be stored in such manner that the whole can be exposed for the inspection of a customer with very little trouble and without the necessity of handling the goods, and thus necessarily soiling them to a greater or less extent.

To that end the invention consists in a box having the peculiarities of construction which will now be fully explained, and particularly pointed out in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the box with the cover removed. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, showing the cover removed and the trays drawn out so as to expose all of the contents. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the same, taken upon the line *x x* of Figs. 2 and 5. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the trays slid back into the body and the cover on. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section taken upon the line *x x* of Fig. 3, and Fig. 6 is a cross-section taken upon the line *x x* of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, it is to be understood that the box therein shown consists of a rectangular body, A, the bottom, sides, and one end of which are rigidly united at the corners in the usual manner, the other end, *a*, being disconnected from the sides and hinged to the bottom so as to be capable of turning down to the position shown in Fig. 1, or up to the position shown in Fig. 4. This body is provided with an ordinary cover, B, the flange *b* of which fits over the sides and ends of the body in the usual manner, so as to hold the end *a* in its raised position, as shown in Fig. 4.

The body thus constructed is provided with a number of trays, *c d e*, of sufficient depth to receive the articles which the box is intended to contain. The upper one of these trays, *c*, may fit loosely into the body A, so as to be capable of removal, but it will preferably be permanently secured to the body—as by pasting its sides and end to the sides and end of the body—and, if preferred, this upper tray may consist simply of a bottom and one end, the bottom being secured to the sides and end of the body. The space beneath the upper tray, *c*, is divided by a horizontal partition, *f*, thereby forming two compartments for the reception of the trays *d e*. These trays fit loosely into the body, and are arranged so as to be moved in and out.

The horizontal partition *f* is provided with a slot or opening, *g*, through which passes a tape or cord, *h*, one end of which is secured to the inner end of the tray *d*, while its other end is secured to the inner end of the tray *e*, as best shown in Fig. 3. The cord or tape *h* is of such length, and the slot *g* is so arranged, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, that the lower tray, *e*, can be withdrawn a short distance from the body without moving the tray *d*, but that any further movement of the tray *e* will operate to also withdraw the tray *d*.

The manner of using the box thus constructed is as follows: When it is desired to close the box, so as to protect the contents, the trays *d e* will be slid into the body, as shown in Fig. 1, and the end *a* turned up against the ends of the trays and the cover B placed on the body, as shown in Fig. 4. When it is desired to exhibit the contents of the box, the cover B will be removed, which will expose the contents of the upper tray, *c*. By then turning down the end *a*, as shown in Fig. 1, and pulling upon the lower tray, *e*, for which purpose it will be provided with a loop, as *k*, it can readily be withdrawn from the body until the tape or cord *h* is taut, and this will

expose the contents of the lower tray, *e*. By then continuing to draw upon the loop *k* the tape *h* will cause the tray *d* to follow the tray *e* until both are arrested by the arrival of the tape *h* at the end of the slot *g*, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. When the parts are in this position, the contents of all the trays will be exposed and brought into close relation, so as to be examined and compared without the necessity of handling, and this, as will readily be seen, is effected with very little trouble or loss of time.

In conclusion, it is to be remarked that, although the box shown in the present case is provided with but three of the trays, it will readily be seen that the number of trays may be increased without departing from the invention, it being only necessary to provide the body with one or more additional partitions, *f*, and connect the tray *d* to the one above it in the same manner that it is connected to the tray *e*. In some cases, also, the tray *c* and the hinged end *a* may be omitted, and in such case the body A may be a simple tubular sheath, closed at one end and open at the other, or, if preferred, open at both ends.

The various parts of the box herein described will usually be made of pasteboard; but they may be made of any other suitable material.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with the body A, provided with the partition *f*, having the slot or opening *g*, of the trays *d e*, connected by the cord or tape *h*, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the body A, provided with the tray *c*, cover B, and the partition *f*, having the slot or opening *g*, of the trays *d e*, connected by the cord or tape *h*, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WALTER C. THOMPSON.

Witnesses:
JAMES A. HOVEY,
T. H. PALMER.