(No Model.)

B. L. ARMSTRONG.

THREAD PACKAGE.

No. 546,127. Patented Sept. 10, 1895.

FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

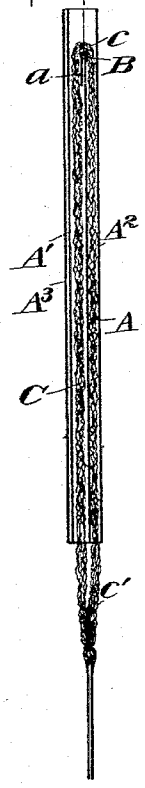


FIG. 3.

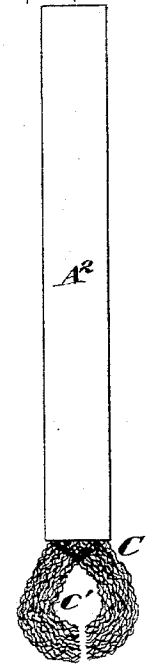


FIG. 4.

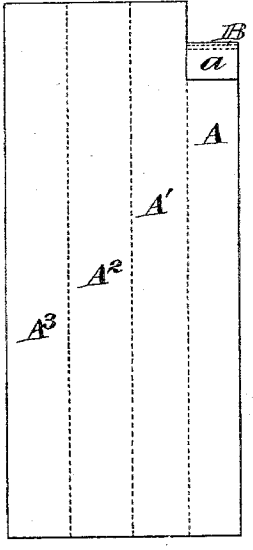


FIG. 5.

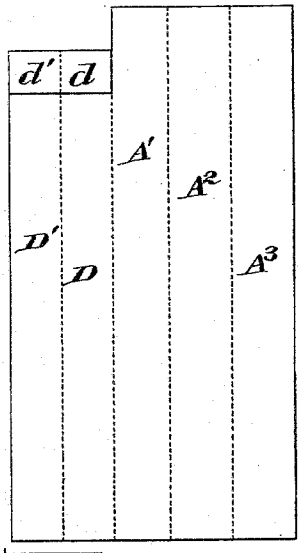


FIG. 6.

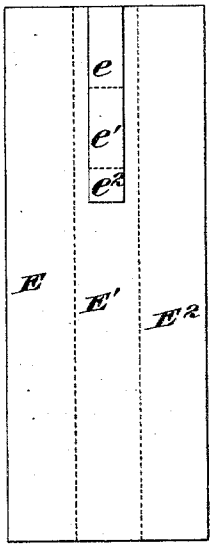
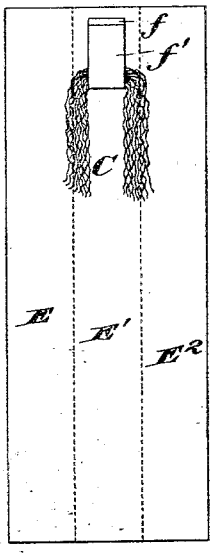


FIG. 7.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN L. ARMSTRONG, OF NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT.

THREAD-PACKAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 546,127, dated September 10, 1895.

Application filed August 4, 1894. Serial No. 519,502. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN L. ARMSTRONG, of New London, in the county of New London and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Thread-Packages, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in thread-packages in which provision is made for retaining a skein of thread or yarn in convenient form for handling, a sufficient portion of the skein being exposed to view to determine its color and coarseness or fineness of the thread, while the greater portion of the skein is protected from dust and from becoming soiled by handling, the package at the same time furnishing a bearing over which the single threads of the cut skein may be drawn from the package for use without disarranging the remaining threads of the package or unfolding the package.

A practical embodiment of my invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents the package as it appears when folded and placed upon the market. Fig. 2 is a view in longitudinal central section from front to back. Fig. 3 represents the exposed end of the skein, cut as for use. Fig. 4 represents the blank which forms the package unfolded with the exception of the fold which forms the bearing. Fig. 5 represents a modified form of blank, showing a different form of fold for the bearing. Fig. 6 represents still another form of blank and fold for the bearing, and Fig. 7 represents a fourth form of blank and bearing-fold.

The particular thread which I have selected to illustrate my invention is silk—such, for example, as is commonly used for embroidery—and the package is particularly well adapted to skeins of silk of this character, although I do not wish to limit myself to its special use in connection with this particular kind of thread.

Referring to the package represented in Figs. 1 to 4, inclusive, it may consist of a suitable paper folded along the dotted lines, making four folded parts, represented, respectively, by the letters A, A′, A^2, and A^3. One of these parts—as, for example, A—is separated for a short distance from its end from the adjacent part A′, and the separated portion *a* is folded over onto the part A and glued in position, the bight of the fold being reinforced by the insertion of a small rounded stick or stem B of some suitable light material.

In placing the skein of thread, denoted by C, in the package, the part A of the blank is inserted between the opposite sides of the skein and the skein drawn so that the bight *c* at one end shall rest on the bearing formed by the folded-over end *a*, the bight *c′* at the opposite end of the skein projecting outwardly from the opposite end of the part or wing A. The wing A is then folded over onto the part A′, inclosing one of the sides of the skein of silk between the parts A and A′, then the two parts A and A′, together with the skein, are folded over again onto the part A^2, inclosing the opposite side of the skein between the part A and the part A^2, and, finally the wing A^3 is folded over the already-folded portion and glued to the back of the part A′, completing the package. In use the projected bight *c′* of the skein may be cut, as shown in Fig. 3, and the skein will thereby be separated into a number of independent threads, which may be drawn from the package, one at a time, as needed for use. In drawing them from the package they will slide smoothly along over the bearing formed by the folded end *a*, while the remaining threads will be retained in their position by the folded members of the package without any tendency to become snarled. Suitable instructions for washing or for use may either be attached in the form of a tag to the projected bight *c′* or they may be printed on the front or back of the package, or both, as found desirable.

In the form shown in Fig. 5, the blank consists of five parts to be folded, instead of four, as shown in the form already described. In this form the parts A′ A^2 A^3 are quite similar in their arrangement to the corresponding parts already described, while the single wing A of Figs. 1 and 4 is in the present form made in two folded parts, denoted by D D′. The bearing is here reinforced by first partially separating the part D from the part A′

at one end, then folding over the ends d and d' of the parts D D', and then folding the part D' over onto the part D, making four thicknesses of material at the folded-over ends of the parts where the skein is to bear as its individual threads are drawn from the package. The package is then completed, in the same manner as already described in respect to the form shown in Figs. 1 to 4, by inserting the double fold, consisting of the parts D D', between the sides of the skein, then folding the whole over onto the part A^2, and finally folding the part A^3 over and gluing it to the already-folded portions.

In the form shown in Fig. 6 the blank consists of three parts to be folded, represented by E E' E^2. The bearing is here formed by means of a separate strip, having one of its ends e glued to the middle part E', an adjacent portion e' of the strip being arranged to fold over onto the part e, holding the bight at one end of the skein between the two, and the extreme end e^2 of the strip being adapted to fold over the end of one of the parts of the completed package. In assembling the skein within this package the free end of the bearing-strip is inserted through the skein and the strip then folded with its extreme end projecting from the end of the package, and the two wings E and E^2 are then folded, the one over onto the skein and the other over onto the folded wing, the extreme end e^2 of the bearing-strip being either folded down between the ends of the wings E E^2 or outside of both of them, as may be desired.

In the form shown in Fig. 7 the package consists of three parts to be folded, quite similar to those already described in reference to the form shown in Fig. 6 and denoted by the same letters E E' E^2. The bearing-strip in this form has one of its ends f secured to the middle part E' and, after the other end f' of the bearing-strip has been passed through the bight at one end of the skein, it is folded back onto and secured to the end f. After the skein is so adjusted within the bearing-piece, the two wings E E^2 are folded and secured.

In each of the several forms which I have chosen from many forms to illustrate my invention it will be observed that the individual threads of the skein are drawn over bearings formed by folds within the package.

What I claim is—

A thread package consisting of a folded casing for embracing the skein, a portion of one of the folded parts being further folded in the longitudinal direction of the skein and provided with a reinforcing rod or stem at the bight of such additional fold, said additional fold forming a partition between the sides of the skein, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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