(No Model.)

E. J. TOOF.

NEEDLE CASE.

No. 337,893. Patented Mar. 16, 1886.

Fig. 1.

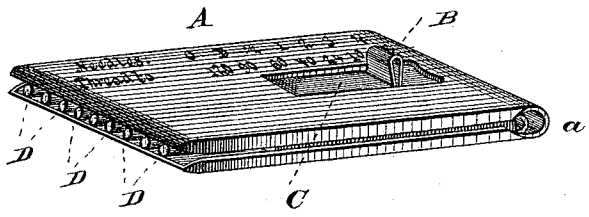
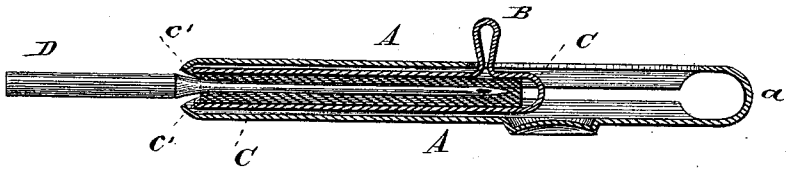


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN J. TOOF, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

NEEDLE-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 337,893, dated March 16, 1886.

Application filed February 2, 1882. Serial No. 51,726. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN J. TOOF, a resident of the city of New Haven, in the State of Connecticut, and a citizen of the United States, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Needle-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of a needle-case provided with a sheath or an exterior shell, within which is arranged a sliding holder or cushion adapted to receive, hold, and present the needle to view, or to withdraw them for protection, or both, as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved needle-case. Fig. 2 represents a sectional view through the center longitudinally.

A represents the shell or sheath proper, in this instance formed of thin metal in one piece by bending at *a*, as shown, in such a manner as to form a slight hinge or yield to the two sides which form the shell. The sides are formed by a slight overlap of the metal, sufficient to aid in retaining the slide within and to form the requisite protection of its contents. Another overlap is also formed at the mouth where the needles are to be secured and delivered, but not to the same extent as the sides. As the drawings very plainly illustrate the plan, a more detailed explanation would seem superfluous. Within this shell or sheath is arranged a sliding cushion or holder, represented at C in the drawings, formed of any suitable material; but in this instance I have formed them from sheet metal for convenience, and provided it with a lining of felt, although it is obvious that cork and various other substances may be substituted in lieu of felt. The chief object is to provide a suitable substance that may hold and retain the needles or pins in position without injury to their points. This sliding cushion or holder is provided with a suitable projection (shown at B) acting through a slot in the shell, as shown, for operating and presenting the contents to view and withdrawing them for protection. I have represented it as forming a part of the slide proper, yet I propose to form and attach them differently at times, either by riveting, soldering, screws, or otherwise.

The material to be contained within the slide forming the cushion or holder to receive and hold the needle when desired may be held in position by the clasp of the sides of the slide or by a rivet through the rear part of the same, or, if cork, thick felt, or other soft or flexible material is to be employed, the ear or projection may be attached directly to the material adopted, uniting it with the fibers by clasps, rivets, or otherwise.

To operate my improved needle-case, the slide is advanced toward the opening or mouth of the shell or sheath by the thumb or finger, where the needles or pins may be readily placed into position by sticking them points foremost; then by like means the cushion or receiver is withdrawn into position from view and for protection.

I sometimes mark the exterior surface of the sheath with the numbers or sizes of the needles, and the thread also, which also appears in the drawings, which forms a ready and valuable index for the operator in selecting the proper or desirable numbers for use, &c.

I sometimes depress or roughen a portion of the surface of the shell or sheath opposite the slot, for a greater convenience in holding and operating the slide when the case is held between the thumb and finger for that purpose.

Having thus set forth my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States of America, is—

1. A case for pins and needles, consisting of an exterior slotted case, forming a sheath provided with an adjustable sliding holder containing felted or an elastic substance, serving as a cushion, all combined and operating substantially as set forth.

2. A case for needles and pins, consisting of an exterior case, an adjustable internal sliding cushion provided with a projection for operating the latter, and an index, substantially such as described and shown and for the purpose set forth.

EDWIN J. TOOF.

Witnesses:
JOHN DANE, Jr.,
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