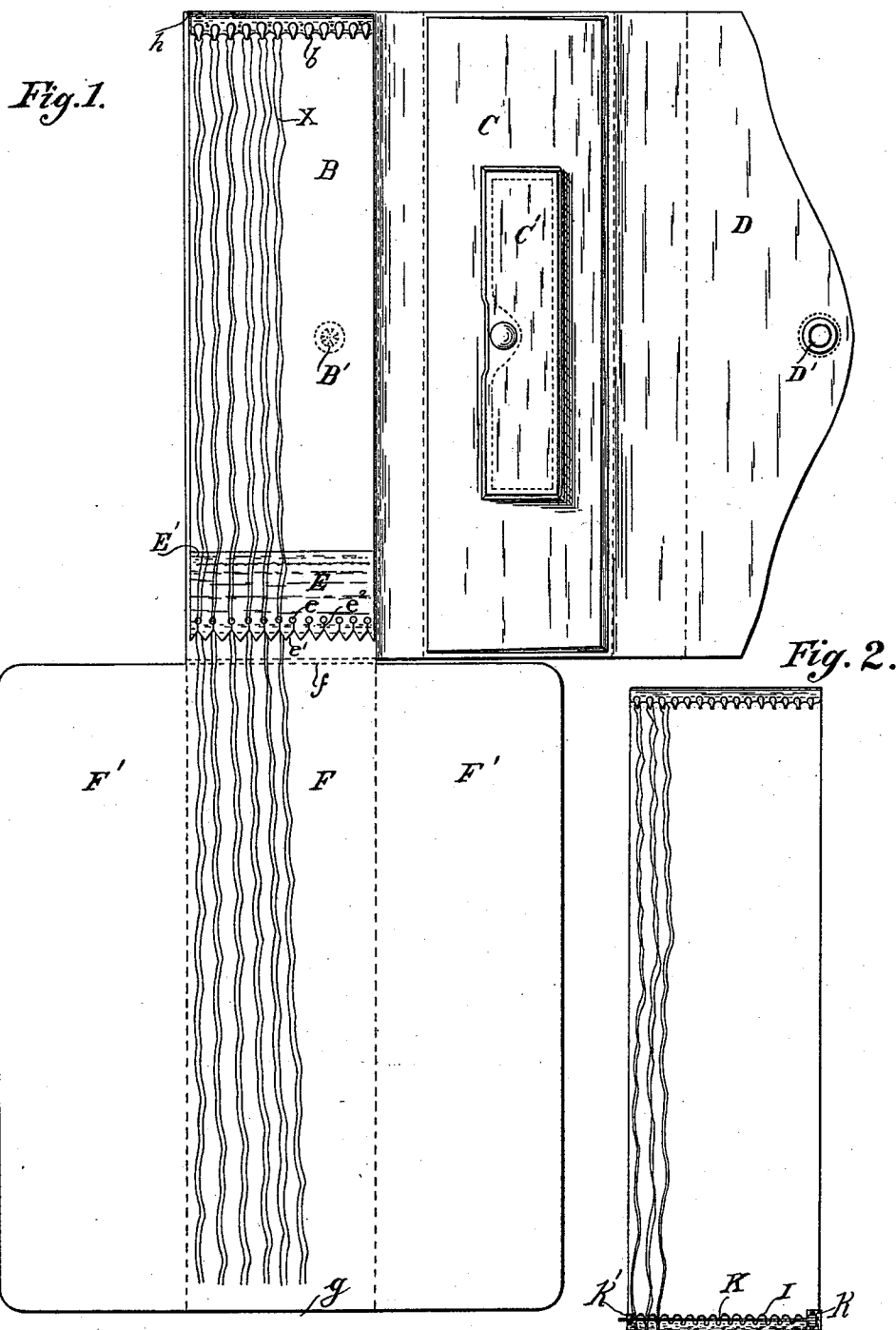


(No Model.)

T. J. GLEASON.
SKEIN SILK HOLDER.

No. 568,439.

Patented Sept. 29, 1896.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS JAY GLEASON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SKEIN-SILK HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 568,439, dated September 29, 1896.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS JAY GLEASON, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skein-Silk Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a folding closing case or portfolio in which a number of skeins of embroidery-silk or like material may be held properly separated, so as to prevent liability of tangling, and readily accessible, so that the threads may be drawn from the skeins without displacing or interfering with the threads of the same or other skeins. To this end I provide a series of eyes, hooks, or supports, over or in which the double or looped ends of the skeins are held. At another point properly distant from the eyes, hooks, or supports each skein passes through and is retained in a suitable aperture. The free ends of the skeins beyond such eyes or apertures are held in a subsidiary portfolio that has one or more projecting flaps that fold down on the ends of the skeins, and this subsidiary portfolio, when closed, may be folded up against the main portfolio or case, which may be closed by a flap similar to that used for ordinary pocket-books.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate my invention, Figure 1 is a plan view of the entire portfolio open with several skeins of silk arranged therein. The dotted lines in the drawing indicate the lines on which the portfolio is folded. Fig. 2 is a detail view showing a modification in construction of the retaining-apertures.

The main part A of the portfolio is shown as composed of three flaps or sections B, C, and D. The flap C may have a pocket like an ordinary card-case or pocket-book and is provided with a receptacle (indicated at C') fastened with a button-catch and adapted to hold needles, &c. The part D is the ordinary closing-flap and may be provided, as indicated, with a socket-catch D', that engages a stud or button on the back of the part B and indicated by dotted lines B'. At the upper edge of the part B are a series of hooks, eyes, or supports *b*, on or within which the central parts of the doubled skeins X are held. Near the bottom of the part B are arranged a se-

ries of apertures *e*, one for each hook, eye, or support *b*. The skeins are threaded or otherwise slipped into these apertures, and the free ends lie upon the flat face of the subsidiary part F of the portfolio and are protected and held in proper position by the folding covers or sides F' F'. When the parts or flaps F' F' are folded over upon the part F, this portion of the portfolio may be folded up on the line *f* against the part B and serves to hold the skeins in position. The portfolio is then closed on the line *g* and then by closing the flap which folds on the line *h*. In Fig. 1 the apertures *e* are formed in a plate or strip of material E, that is stitched or otherwise attached at its upper edge, as at E', to the part E. The apertures *e* are formed in a line near the opposite edge of the strip or plate E, and the ends of the skeins may be threaded through them, but to afford a more convenient means of introducing the skeins into the apertures I make the plate or strip E as follows: Opposite each aperture a notch *e'* is formed in the edge of the plate, and the apex of each notch is connected with the corresponding aperture by a slit *e²*. The strip or plate E may be therefore raised slightly and the skeins pressed through the slits into the apertures. The plate E might be made of very light sheet metal or of celluloid or of any other material adapted to the purpose intended.

In Fig. 2 the retaining-apertures are formed as follows: A plate or strip I, attached to the part B, has its upper edge formed with spurs or projections, preferably rounded on the ends, with suitable spaces between them to receive the skeins. The skeins held by the supports *b* are laid between the spurs and are held therein by a retaining-rod K, pivoted on the plate I at one end *k* and engaging a hook or lip *k'* at the other end.

Any suitable style of retaining edges, slots, or apertures may be used.

I claim as my invention—

1. A skein-silk holder consisting of a flat plate or part as B, having at or near its upper end a series of hooks or supports to receive and retain the loops formed by the doubling of the skeins, and at a suitable distance from said supports and above the lower edge of the plate a corresponding series of recesses

or apertures, one for each support, each adapted to receive and retain both sides of one of the skeins, and beyond which the lower end of the skein extends, and a folding part folding upon the part B and protecting the free ends of the skeins as well as the portions thereof between the hooks and recesses, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A skein-silk holder consisting of a part as B, provided with a series of supports to receive and retain the loops formed by the doubling of the skeins, a strip or plate attached to the part B at a distance from the supports and provided with a series of slots or apertures each adapted to receive and retain a skein, and a pivoted retaining-bar to hold the skeins in the slots, substantially as set forth.

3. A skein-silk holder consisting of the part B provided with a series of supports to receive the loops formed by the doubling of the skeins, and having at a suitable distance from said supports a strip or plate with a se-

ries of apertures to receive and retain the skein, in combination with a folding part F' adapted to hold the free ends of the skeins and to fold up against the part B, substantially as set forth.

4. A skein-silk holder consisting of the part B provided with a series of supports to receive the loops formed by the doubling of the skeins, and having at a suitable distance from said supports a strip or plate with a series of apertures to receive and retain the skein, in combination with a folding part F' adapted to hold the free ends of the skeins and to fold up against the part B, and the part C adapted to fold over upon the part F' when the latter is folded up against the part B, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

THOS. JAY GLEASON.

Witnesses:

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