W. SHOCKLEY.

SHOW-CASE.

No. 192,717. Patented July 3. 1877.

Fig. 1.

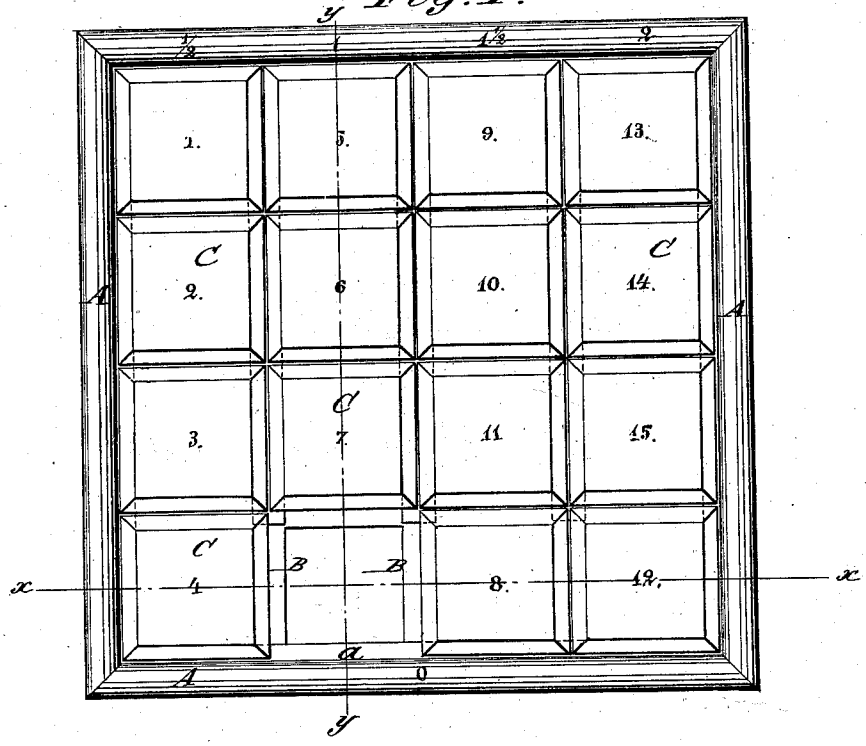


Fig. 2.

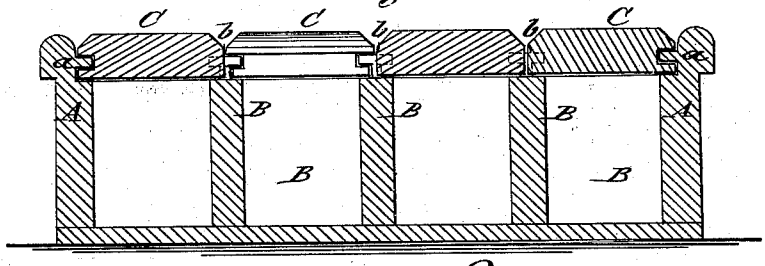
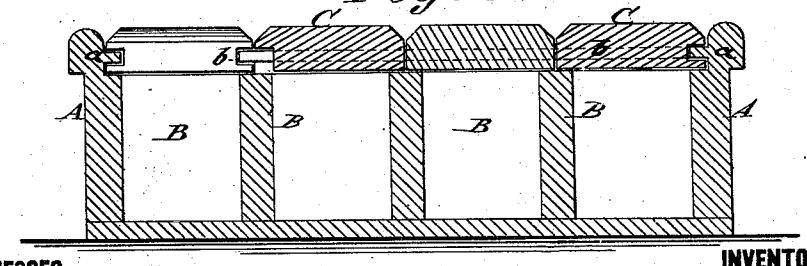


Fig. 3.



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IMPROVEMENT IN SHOW-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,717**, dated July 3, 1877; application filed April 16, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SHOCKLEY, of Allerton, in the county of Wayne and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Screw-Case, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a top view, and Figs. 2 and 3 vertical, longitudinal, and transverse sections, respectively, on lines *x x* and *y y*, of my improved case or box for holding screws.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The invention relates to a case or box for storing screws, screw-eyes, or other articles of hardware, of different sizes, to be used in retail hardware stores, for the purpose of preventing any intermixing of different sizes of screws, which forms a source of annoyance in the present open boxes; and the invention consists of a case having a number of boxes for the different sizes of screws, each box, except one, being covered by a separate sliding lid, that is guided by side grooves along T-rails of one set of partitions. The T-rails extend over the greater part of the partitions, with the exception of one end tier of boxes, along which the lids slide laterally, so as to remove the lid from any one of the boxes by sliding first the lateral lids, and then those at right angles to the open box.

In the drawing, A represents the outer case, which is divided by lateral and longitudinal partitions B into any desired number of boxes, of suitable sizes, as required for the different sizes of screws or other articles of hardware to be stored therein. Each box, with the exception of one, is covered with a sliding lid, C, which is grooved at the sides, and guided by a tongue, *a*, running along band of the outer case A, and by T-shaped rails *b*, secured to the top of one set of partitions running in one direction. These T-shaped rails *b* extend from the tongues *a* at one side of case A across the partitions to the lids C of the end tier of boxes, leaving a distance between the ends of the T-rails and the opposite tongue *a* of a size equal to the width of the lids, so that the lids of the end tier of boxes may slide laterally to the guide-rails *b*, the same being guided by the ends of the T-rails and by tongue *a*, which enter end grooves of these lids.

The laterally-sliding lids C require no side grooves, as they do not slide along the T-rails.

One of the boxes of the end tier is without lid, which enables the opening of the lid of any other box by first sliding the lower lids laterally, and then the lids of that tier in which the end box is open toward the lateral tier of boxes.

Thus, any individual box may be opened with great facility, while all the remaining boxes are closed. If, for instance, box 8 of the lower tier is open, any one of the boxes 5, 6, and 7 being in line therewith may be instantly opened by pushing the lids in the direction of the open box 8, any other box being opened by first sliding the lids of the end tier laterally, and then the lids of the connecting tier over to the open box of the lateral tier.

Screws of any desired size may thereby be readily taken out from any box, and have to be replaced into the same box, as all the rest are closed, so as to prevent the mixing of the screws, and keep each size strictly separated from the other.

The case forms a cheap, durable, and convenient storage-receptacle for screws and similar articles, which, by little practice, may be quickly handled for taking out screws without mixing different sizes.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An improved screw-case, in which the compartments are severally provided with lids that slide laterally and longitudinally, as and for the purpose specified.

2. A screw-case having a number of boxes having all lids, except one, which are guided along the side tongues of the case and T-shaped top rails of the partitions, the T-rails being cut out at one end tier to admit the lat-

eral sliding of the lids of the end tier, and the sliding of the lids of the remaining boxes in line therewith over the open box, substantially as specified.

3. The combination of the laterally-sliding lids of the end tier of boxes, having end grooves, with the guiding ends of the T-rails arranged at right angles thereto, and with an end tongue of the case, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:
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