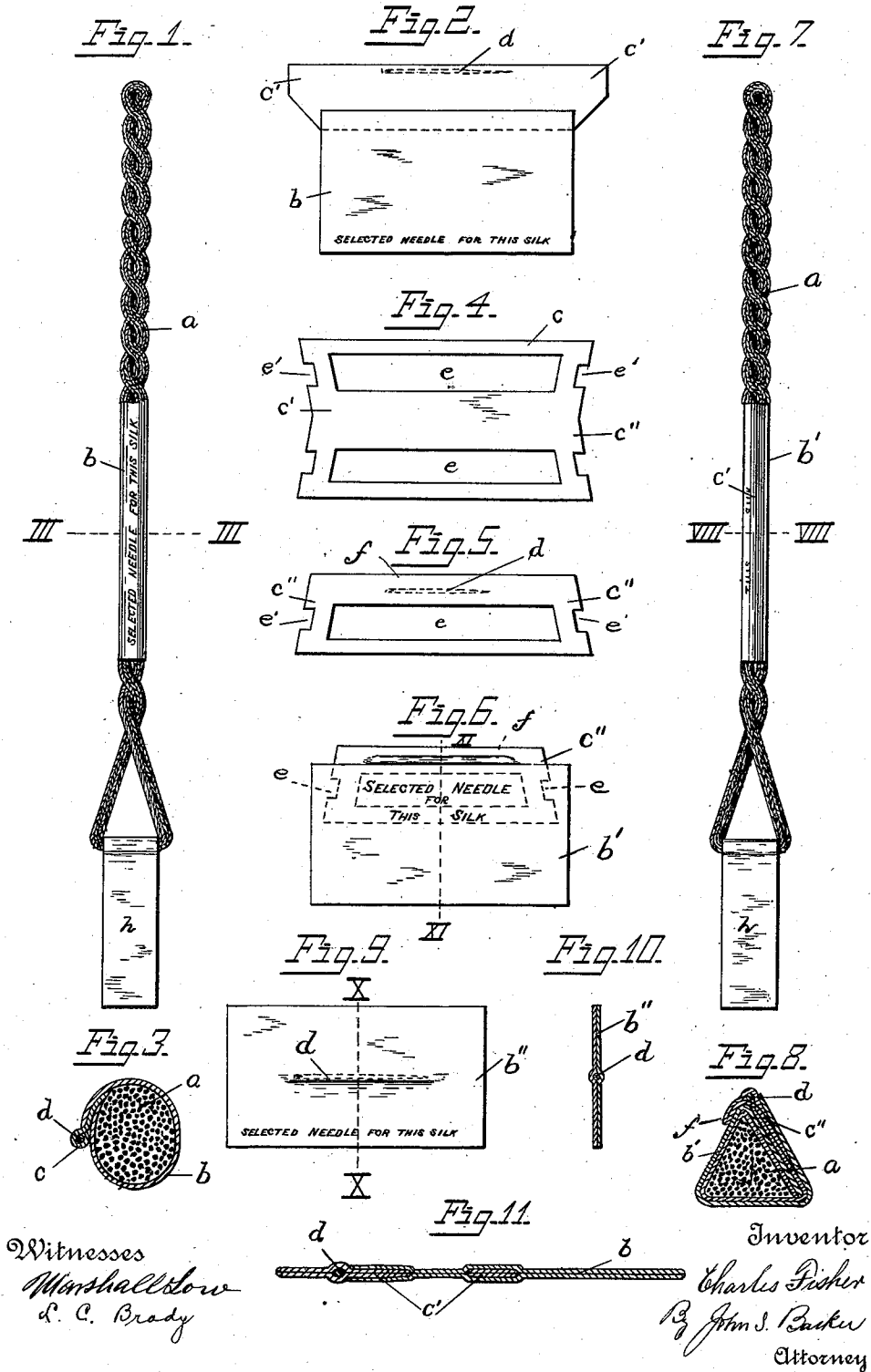


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WRAPPER FOR SKEINS OF THREAD AND NEEDLES.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 28, 1911.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES FISHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wrappers for Skeins of Thread and Needles, of which the following is a specification.

In the art of embroidering by hand, threads of different sizes, between the extreme of a very fine gossamer-like thread on the one hand, and that of a very coarse one on the other hand, are employed to produce the desired effects; and it is by the taste and judgment of the embroiderer in the selection of the size of the thread employed, as well as of the color thereof, that skill is displayed and artistic effects secured.

It is recognized that the quality of the work produced in embroidering, while primarily depending upon the selection of the thread employed, is also dependent to a degree upon the size and style of the needle used, as with each particular quality and size of thread should be used a needle best adapted for use with that particular thread, one neither too large nor too small. If the needle be too small, the fibers or strands of the thread are raveled and stripped and its smoothness impaired; while on the other hand, if the needle be too large, the holes produced thereby are too large for the thread, and the work does not look well and is not satisfactory.

It requires considerable skill on the part of the embroiderer to properly select exactly the right needle to be employed with the particular silk or other thread to be used, and it frequently happens that the stock of needles from which selection may be made is without the desired size or sizes, with the result that a compromise has to be adopted, and a needle that is either too large or too small accepted.

It is the object of the present invention to produce means whereby a purchaser of embroidery silk, or indeed of any thread to which the invention may be applied, shall have furnished him, simultaneously with the delivery of the thread, a needle which is not only approximately, but is accurately, adapted for use with the thread which it accompanies, and which needle is carefully protected from moisture, and the handling to which the thread may be subjected.

To these ends the invention consists in a

wrapper adapted both to inclose and protect a needle and also to encircle between its ends a skein of silk or other thread.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is a view of a single skein of silk wrapped according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of one form of wrapper. Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view of the wrapper applied taken on the line III—III of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a plan view of a needle wrapper of a different form from that illustrated in Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a view of the wrapper shown in Fig. 4 folded upon itself and inclosing a needle. Fig. 6 is a view of the needle wrapper illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 applied to and associated with a wrapper for a skein of silk. Fig. 7 is a view illustrating the wrapper shown in Fig. 6 applied to a skein of silk. Fig. 8 is a cross sectional view on the line VIII—VIII of Fig. 7. Fig. 9 is a plan view of a wrapper containing still another embodiment of my invention. Fig. 10 is a cross sectional view taken on the line X—X of Fig. 9. Fig. 11 is a cross sectional view taken on the line XI—XI of Fig. 6, enlarged.

In the drawings *a*. designates a skein of silk or other thread and *b* a wrapper encircling the skein between its ends. The wrapper is preferably formed of paper and may have printed thereon any desired matter, as for instance, a statement that it contains a needle specially selected for use with the silk or thread in the skein to which the wrapper is applied. To this wrapper, preferably to one of the longer edges thereof, when the invention is as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3, is secured a wrapper *c* especially devised for inclosing and protecting a needle. I have found that a thin metal foil is especially well adapted for the needle wrapper *c* as it is easily folded or rolled around the needle, does not tend to unwrap when once folded or coiled, and constitutes a practically air and moisture proof covering and closure for the needle, all of which are features of advantage. The ends *c'* of the wrapper *c* preferably extend a little beyond the edges of the thread wrapper *b* in order that they may be turned in to close the needle wrapper at its ends after the needle has been wrapped.

Fig. 3 illustrates the position of the needle, its inclosing wrapper, the skein, and its wrapper, when these several parts have been assembled. The metal foil, tending

as it does to retain the shape to which it may be bent, serves to hold down in close engagement with the skein that edge of the wrapper *b* to which the wrapper *c* is secured, this being the outer end of the skein or thread wrapper, and thus tends to prevent the wrapper, if its outer edge becomes free, from springing away from the skein and becoming separated therefrom. Of course the outer or free edge of the wrapper *b* may be secured in place by adhesive, if this is found desirable.

As it is sometimes difficult to secure good adhesion between the faces of the paper and foil wrappers, *b* and *c*, I have illustrated in Figs. 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 a form of my invention that has peculiar advantages not possessed by the other forms illustrated in this case. In these views *c''* indicates the needle wrapper which is preferably of metal foil. It is adapted to be folded upon itself, as indicated in Fig. 5, to enclose the needle, the needle preferably being placed some distance inside the folded edge. Elongated apertures *e* are formed in the material of the wrapper *c''*, these being so located that they register with each other when the wrapper is folded, as indicated in Fig. 5. The edges of the piece *c''* may be notched as represented at *e'*, if desired. The wrapper *c''* containing the needle is partly inclosed by a wrapper *b'* adapted to incircle a skein of silk, such wrapper being formed of two pieces of superposed paper united by adhesive, as indicated in Figs. 6 and 11. The perforated and notched portions of the needle wrapper lie between the two layers of the skein wrapper *b'*, as clearly indicated in Fig. 6, and a secure union between the two wrappers is thus insured, even though the adhesive should not serve to securely unite the paper and metal foil directly to each other, because the opposite pieces of paper come into contact through the openings *e* and notches *e'* and are held together by the adhesive in such manner as to preclude the possibility of any separation between the needle wrapper and the thread wrapper.

The paper employed in making the wrapper *b'* is of such quality that when two sheets thereof are united by an adhesive, as described, the wrapper formed shall have sufficient inherent body or stiffness to maintain its shape when folded. In applying this wrapper to a skein, as indicated in Fig. 7, it is folded to have a triangular shape in cross section, as indicated in Fig. 8. This shape greatly facilitates the packing of the skeins which though wrapped as shown, occupy but little more space than do skeins entirely unwrapped. They have the advantage, however, of being stiffened throughout their central portions so that they may be more easily handled than loose unwrapped

skeins, and are less liable to become tangled when a number are together in loose condition, as upon a sales counter. When the wrapper is applied, as indicated in Fig. 8, the wrapped needle lies at one of the apexes of the triangle and the folded edge *f* of the foil needle wrapper *c''* lying beyond the needle *d*, is folded over the adjacent edge of the wrapper *b'* and thus serves to hold such wrapper closed upon the skein.

In Figs. 9 and 10 I have illustrated another embodiment of my invention in which the wrapper *b''* that incloses the skein is formed of two sheets of paper superposed and preferably united by adhesive after having had placed between them the selected needle *d*. The latter lies parallel with the longer edges of the wrapper so that, as in the other embodiments of my invention, when the wrapper is applied to the skein the needle is parallel with the encircled portion of the skein and thus serves to stiffen the limp skein at its middle portion.

The wrapper last described protects the needle from air and moisture, but is not considered by me to be so advantageous an arrangement as those before described.

h indicates a tag, such as is commonly applied to skeins of silk, and bearing printed instruction for the use of the silk, the number of the thread, the designation of the shade of the silk, and other information which commonly appears upon tags of this character. This tag, however, forms no part of my invention.

The advantages of the wrapper and thread package which I have described and illustrated will be apparent to dealers in, as well as users of, embroidery threads, as the thread thus wrapped or packaged is more easily handled and less liable to become snarled or entangled than is thread when put up for sale in skeins in the manner now commonly followed, besides always giving to the user exactly the needle required for use with the thread sold.

What I claim is:—

1. A new article of manufacture comprising a skein of thread, a flexible wrapper adapted to be applied to and encircle the skein, comprising a plurality of layers of material sealed together, and a needle lying between the said layers and by them protected and inclosed practically air and water tight, and lying lengthwise of the skein when the wrapper is applied thereto.

2. A wrapper for thread and a needle to be used therewith, comprising a flexible wrapper arranged to encircle the thread and a metal foil wrapper for the needle, the foil being arranged in a plurality of superposed layers between which is located the needle whereby it is sealed against air and moisture, the metal foil needle wrapper being secured to and held closed by the thread wrapper.

3. The combination with a skein of thread and a needle selected for use with the thread of the skein, of a paper wrapper adapted to encircle the skein, a metal foil wrapper secured to one edge of the paper wrapper and adapted to be folded over and protect the needle, the needle and its foil wrapper being arranged to lie lengthwise of the skein and be inclosed by the paper wrapper when the latter is applied to the skein.

4. A needle wrapper of metal foil arranged to be folded upon itself to inclose a needle, and a thread wrapper of two parts superposed and united by adhesive, the foil

needle wrapper being partly inserted between the parts of the thread wrapper and held thereby.

5. A foil wrapper adapted to be folded and inclose a needle, the foil being perforated, and a thread wrapper formed of two parts superposed and united by adhesive, the perforated part of the foil needle wrapper being inserted between the two parts of the thread wrapper, and held thereby.

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Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."