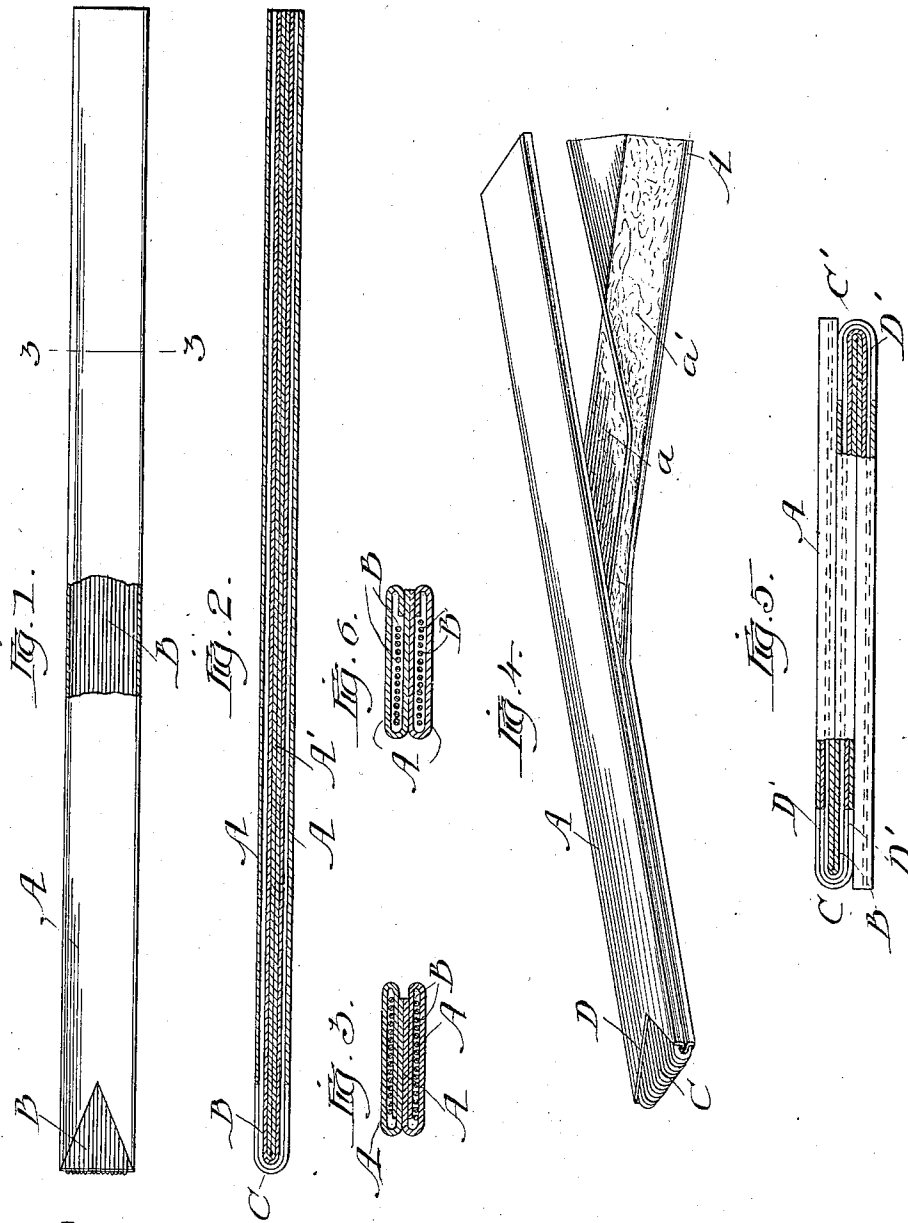


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SKEIN AND HOLDER THEREFOR.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 21, 1908.

963,084.

Patented July 5, 1910.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SKEIN AND HOLDER THEREFOR.

963,084.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 5, 1910.

Original application filed November 19, 1906, Serial No. 343,984. Divided and this application filed November 21, 1908. Serial No. 463,855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JUNIUS GARNETT SMITH, a citizen of the United States, formerly residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, and now residing at Monticello, in the county of White and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skeins and Holders Therefor, of which the following is a specification.

Heretofore skeins of embroidery, silk, yarn, and other threads, have been arranged in casings or holders intended to protect the thread and prevent it from becoming tangled as the individual strands, resulting from severing the skein at its loop or bight, are drawn out for use, but all such articles as heretofore made, so far as I am aware, are open to the objection that the skein is not fully protected and is not so disposed in the holder as to prevent it from becoming tangled in the effort to withdraw the individual strands one at a time.

The object of the present invention is to provide a skein and a holder therefor both of which are so made and so disposed with relation to each other that the skein is fully protected by the holder and its individual strands may be separately withdrawn one at a time without tangling or otherwise disturbing the remaining strands.

To these ends the invention consists in the features of novelty that are hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a face view of a skein and its holder embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse section thereof on the line 3-3, Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view thereof with some portions torn asunder. Fig. 5 is a view partly in longitudinal section and partly in elevation of a modification. Fig. 6 is a transverse section of another modification.

In form shown in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, the holder consists of a flat tube A, one side of which is two-ply, the tube being folded transversely at its middle so as to bring the two-ply sides of the portions on opposite sides of the fold into contact with each other, the contacting surfaces being preferably united by a suitable adhesive substance as shown at *a*. The tubular holder is made by folding the strip or ribbon of paper, or

other suitable material, upon two parallel, longitudinal lines which divide the ribbon into three substantially equal longitudinal wings or divisions, the outer wings or divisions being folded toward each other, one overlapping the other, and the overlapping wings being secured together by a suitable adhesive substance as shown at *a'*. When the tube thus formed is folded transversely as described the result will be a holder comprising parallel tubular portions of the "bores" of which are separated by a four-ply wall or partition A', the fold or bend, C, of which affords a firm, smooth bearing from the strands of the skein, B. The outer single-ply side of the tube is cut away at the fold C, as shown at D in order to give access to the doubled portions of the strands of the skein for grasping and withdrawing them one at a time, as required for use.

The so-called "skein" comprises a plurality of individual strands of thread which are parallel with each other or substantially so and are preferably arranged side by side in a single course or layer, as distinguished from a mass or bundle of more or less twisted strands. Furthermore, the individual strands and the tube are of equal length and each of the strands extends from end to end of the tube so that the opposite ends of each strand terminate at the opposite ends of the tube, respectively, as distinguished from a skein consisting of a single continuous strand made into a loop doubled upon itself and a tubular holder in which both sides or parts of the doubled loop are contained.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 5, the tube is of the same construction as in the above described form, but it is folded transversely twice, in opposite directions, dividing it into three, instead of two, equal parallel tubular portions. The tube is provided at one or both of its bends with the opening, D, D', through either of which the individual strands may be withdrawn. If the threads are withdrawn through the opening D' at the bend C' the four-ply wall or partition at the bend C will afford a firm support over which the threads are drawn. It may, in practice, be found desirable to provide this form of the holder with an opening at the bend C' only.

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 6, both sides of the tube are single ply. The improved skeins and holders there-

for which form the subject of this application are simultaneously made by a machine which forms the subject of my application, filed January 15, 1907, Serial No. 352,456.

5 This application is a division of my application filed November 19, 1906, Serial No. 343,984, in which the invention of the present application is claimed generically.

10 The object of the present application is to cover specifically the forms of the invention herein shown and described in which the tubular holder is provided at a point intermediate of its extremities, with an opening through which the strands of the skein
15 are grasped and drawn out.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A new article of manufacture consisting of a skein and holder, the holder consisting of a tube and the skein consisting of a number of individual strands of thread
20 contained within the tube, the tube being folded transversely and provided at a point intermediate of its length with an opening
25 through which the strands may be grasped and withdrawn.

2. A new article of manufacture consisting of a skein and holder, the holder consisting of a tube and the skein consisting of
30 a number of individual strands of thread

contained within the tube, the tube and strands being folded transversely and the tube being provided, at the fold, with an opening through which the strands may be grasped and withdrawn.

3. A new article of manufacture consisting of a skein and holder, the holder consisting of a tube open at both ends and the skein consisting of a number of individual strands of thread contained within the tube,
40 the tube and strands being of equal length, the opposite ends of the strands terminating at the opposite ends of the tube respectively, the tube being folded transversely so as to bring the portions on opposite sides of the
45 fold together, and the tube being cut away at the fold to give access to the strands.

4. A new article of manufacture consisting of a skein and holder, the holder consisting of a tube, and the skein consisting
50 of a number of individual strands of thread contained within the tube, the tube being folded transversely twice in opposite direction and the tube being provided at one of the folds with an opening through which
55 the strands may be grasped and withdrawn.

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