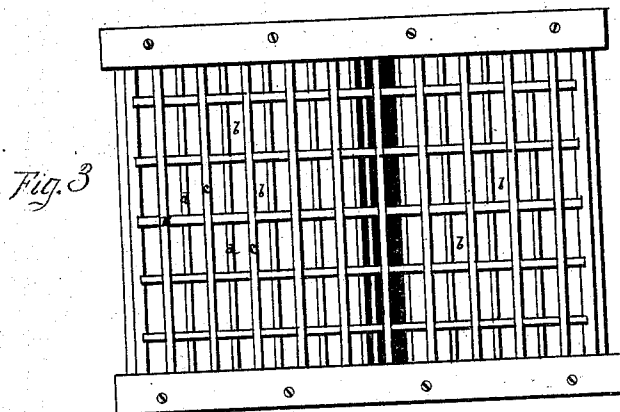
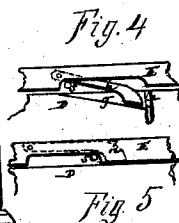
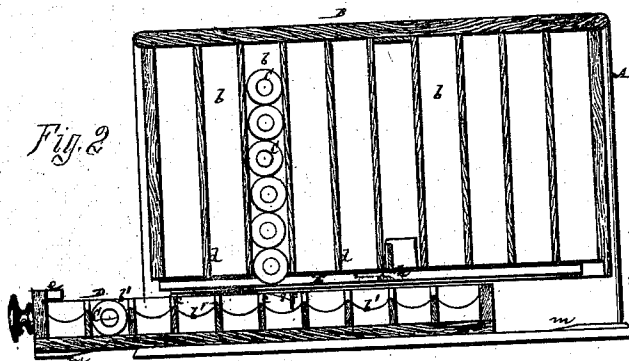
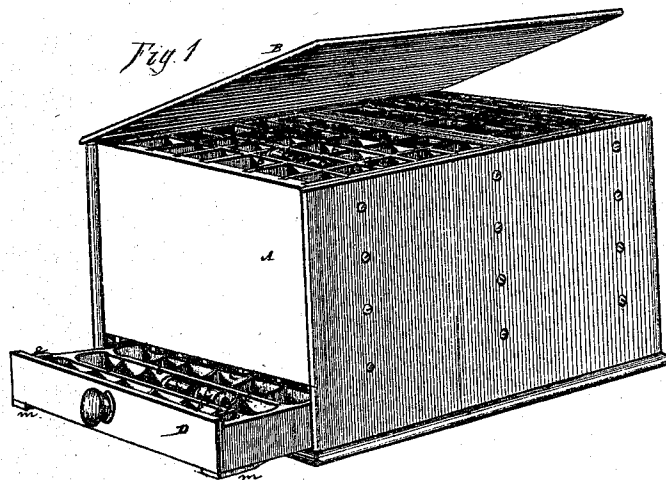


J. D. Cutter,
Shool Case.
No. 106128. Patented Aug. 9. 1870.



WITNESSES
Geo. Haynes
R. E. Nabors

John D. Cutter

United States Patent Office.

JOHN D. CUTTER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 106,128, dated August 9, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPOOL-THREAD CASES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN D. CUTTER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Spool-Cases, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of a spool-case constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2, a sectional elevation of the same in direction of the length of the drawer in the case; and

Figure 3, an inverted plan, with the drawer removed.

Figures 4 and 5 are views of certain parts or details for effecting the operation of the case by the sliding of the drawer in and out.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention is mainly designed for the distribution of silk, cotton, or other material put up on spools, and varying in color, grade, or quality, to facilitate selection or sale of the goods; and

The invention, generally, consists in a case divided into a series of vertical compartments, each of which is capable of containing a number of spools, mounted the one upon the other, in combination with a similarly or suitably-divided lower drawer and interposed cut-off frame or slide, operated by the drawer in such manner that, when the drawer is closed, the slide is adjusted to allow of the drawer being supplied with spools from the compartments in the upper portion of the case; but when the drawer is removed, or as it is commenced to be drawn out from the case, the cut-off frame or slide is adjusted to shut off the discharge of spools from the upper or hopper-like portion of the case. In this way the drawer is kept automatically supplied with assorted spools, any vacancy in the drawer, arising from the removal of a spool, being replenished on shutting to the drawer within the case, of which it forms a part.

Referring to the accompanying drawing—

A represents the upper portion of the case, which is of hose-like form, and may be fitted with a lid, B, for packing it with spools.

This portion A of the case is divided into any number of vertical compartments or chambers, *b*, open top and bottom, and each of suitable area to contain, in a free or loose manner, a spool, C, within it, and of a sufficient depth to allow of a number of spools being mounted therein, one upon the other. The case is thus made to contain a varied assortment of spools in piles or series, each pile representing or containing a silk or thread of different grade or color.

Arranged in the bottom of the case is a drawer or tray, D, extending the length and breadth of the case, and divided into compartments, *b'*, corresponding with

the chambers *b*, in the upper portion of the case, but their depth, or that of the drawer, need only be sufficient for said compartments to accommodate a single spool each. These spool-compartments *b'* come in line with the chambers in the upper portion of the case when the drawer is closed, so that a spool may drop from each upper compartment into a corresponding lower one in the drawer.

The drawer D, being thus automatically packed with spools of different grades or qualities of material, may be drawn out from the case for inspection or sale of the contents, as required, but in opening or removing the drawer it is necessary that there should be no escape of spools from the chambers in the upper portion of the case to or in rear of the drawer. To secure this, and to provide for the automatic replenishment of any vacancies that may occur in the drawer by extraction of spools therefrom, the drawer, in opening, is made to operate a cut-off slide, E, or other suitable device, in such manner as to choke or close the lower ends of the upper compartments *b*, and, after the drawer is removed, to leave the same closed, so that no spools can pass from the upper portion of the case, and, as said drawer is completing the finishing portion of its closing movement within the case, such slide or device is operated by the drawer to open or re-establish discharge from the compartments *b*, which allows of spools passing into the vacant chambers or spaces in the drawer.

To these ends, the cut-off slide E, which lies between the drawer and lower ends of the compartments *b*, may be of a grate-like construction, and be limited, as regards its operation, by the drawer, so that, when the latter is closed, the bars *c* of said grate lie under the partitions *d* of the upper portion of the case, and so that, in the opening or removing of the drawer, said bars *c* lie across or choke, as it were, the compartments *b*.

The back or open adjustment of the slide E is effected by lips or projections, *e*, on the front end of the drawer, striking, when the drawer is being closed, the front end of the slide, and the throttling position of the slide, relatively to the compartments *b*, secured, in or during the opening of the drawer, by the rear end *f* of a recess, *g*, in either side of the drawer, acting against a dog, *h*, pivoted to the sliding frame E and resting on a stop, *s*, fast to the stationary portion of the case, and serving, as the drawer D and slide E move in concert forward, to lift the dog out of the recess *g*, so that the drawer, after it has adjusted the slide into its throttling position relatively to the compartments *b*, is at liberty to be moved further out, or be entirely removed from the case, without moving the slide. In shutting to the drawer again, and slide with it, the dog drops into the recess *g*, to secure a

repetition of the slide's throttling action when next opening the drawer.

Figs. 4 and 5 represent the dog or dogs in their two hereinbefore-described positions during the opening and closing of the drawer.

To prevent rub on the spools in the drawer when moving the drawer in or out, said drawer is lowered so as to travel clear of the slide, and is only elevated toward its closing stroke, by means of inclines, *m*, on the under side of the drawer, in front and rear portion of the surface on which the drawer slides, or either; but I do not restrict my invention to such devices, nor yet to the precise devices by which the drawer is made to operate the cut-off slide or device to secure an automatic discharge from the upper portion of the case when the drawer is closed, and a closing of such discharge after the drawer has been partially opened.

All mechanism, strictly so speaking, such as dogs or other like attachments, may, in fact, be dispensed with, and the drawer only be made, when closing, to

open the cut-off slide, while a spring operates said slide to make it throttle the discharge from the upper portion of the case when the drawer is opened.

What is here claimed, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the cut-off slide *E* with the chambered upper portion *A* of the case and chambered drawer *D*, for operation together, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the dog or dogs *h* on the cut-off slide *E*, the recess or recesses *g* in the drawer *D*, and the stop or stops *s*, in the stationary portion *A* of the case, essentially as described.

3. The incline or inclines *m*, in combination with the drawer *D*, the cut-off slide *E*, and upper portion *A* of the case, substantially as specified.

JOHN D. CUTTER.

Witnesses:

FRED. HAYNES,
R. E. RABEAU.