

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

No. 464,148.

Patented Dec. 1, 1891.



W. H. Randall,

INVENTOR

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Hoy Wilkins and Partners
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(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

M. A. CAMPBELL.
SHOW CASE.

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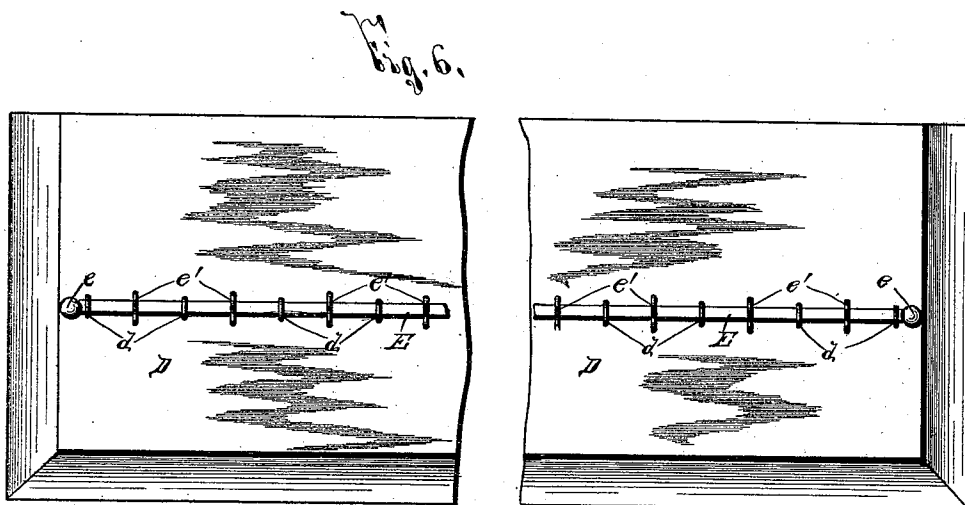
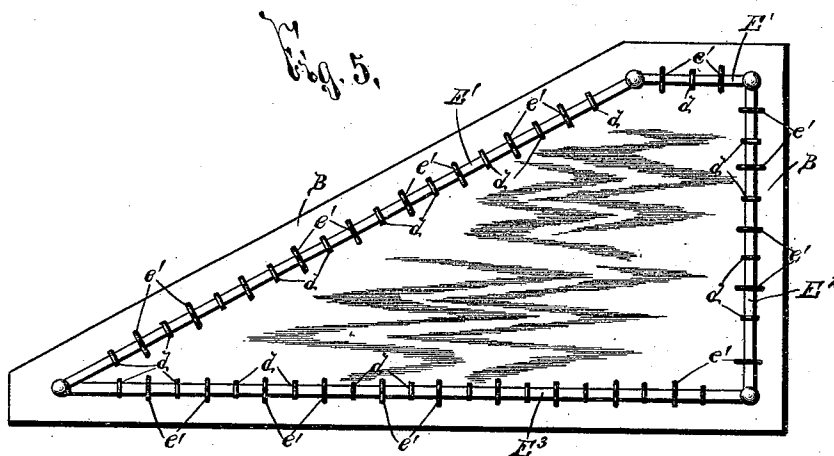


Fig. 7.

e 2

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MYRON A. CAMPBELL, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

SHOW-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 464,148, dated December 1, 1891.

Application filed April 6, 1891. Serial No. 387,791. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MYRON A. CAMPBELL, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Display-Cases, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improved display-case, and has for its object the production of a simple and effective device for enabling the articles displayed to be readily mounted in and removed from position and for displaying the greatest possible number of the articles by utilizing the entire upper face and the greater portion of the sides or ends of the case as a support upon which each of the articles may be arranged in its proper position instead of in a commingled and untidy position, as is frequently the case in ordinary display or show cases.

To this end the invention consists, essentially, in an outer shell having one or more transparent sides, inclining stop-bars within the shell, guide or supporting ribs projecting rearwardly from the stop-bars, display-trays movable along the guide-ribs, a series of loops upon the trays, an elastic band or cord passed through the loops and secured at its opposite extremities, and a series of rings or other hand-engaging device secured to the band between the loops, whereby any portion of the same may be readily elevated to facilitate insertion and removal of the article to be displayed.

The invention furthermore consists in compartment-trays also movable on said supports, in a groove on the inclined stop-ribs and loops arranged at intervals along the groove, in a series of loops at the side or end of the case, and an elastic band passed through said loops; and it still furthermore consists in the detail construction and arrangement of the parts, all as hereinafter more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In describing this invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which like letters indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figures 1 and 2 represent, respectively, front elevation and top plan views of my im-

proved invention. Figs. 3 and 4 represent transverse vertical sectional views taken, respectively, on lines xx and yy . Fig. 5 is an end or side view of the supporting-wall within the outer case. Fig. 6 is a top plan view of an enlarged portion of one of the trays, and Fig. 7 is a top plan view of the preferable form of hand-engaging means adapted to be mounted upon the elastic band.

The prime necessity of exhibiting articles of sale in a pleasing and taking manner, it is well known, is paramount to a successful sale. My invention is designed to carry out this object to a marked extent, and when looking down upon the case all of the displayed articles are seen arranged each in its proper place upon the respective trays arranged in steps within the outer case, and the whole top face of the case is utilized, since each tray projects in front of the superimposed one. It is also necessary that the articles displayed may be readily removed and replaced without material wear upon the parts, and this very desirable object is effected by the elastic band which passes through a series of loops at its central portions and is secured at its extremities. When a single article is handled, the entire band is stretched, and the wear thereupon is far less than would be the case were the band composed of a series of small sections, as if the same were secured in position by a series of nails.

A represents my improved case, composed of the outer shell a , having the rear wall a' formed with any suitable movable door, as a sliding panel a^2 , the base a^3 , and the front, top, and end or side glass walls a^4 , a^5 , a^6 , and a^7 .

B represents supporting side walls extending transversely with the outer shell a and B' , diagonally-extending stop-ribs also arranged transversely within the case a , and preferably upon the side walls B and the central partition B^2 , and formed on their top face with a groove b , and staples or loops b' for receiving articles to be displayed. Extending rearwardly from the ribs B' , with their forward extremities projecting one in advance of the other, is a series of supporting or guide ribs C, consisting, preferably, of cleats secured to the end walls B and the central partition B^2 . Movable on the ribs C are the display-trays

D, having their forward end adapted to encounter the guide-rib B' for preventing undue forward movement of the trays and their top face covered with plush or other suitable facing (not illustrated) for presenting a neat and finished appearance. Arranged at intervals on the display-trays D is a series of loops *d*, formed by a series of staples, and passed through the loops *d* is an elastic band E, secured at its opposite ends by a nail or other suitable support *e*.

e' represents a series of rings or other suitable hand-engaging device mounted on the elastic band between the separate loops, whereby the said band may be stretched at any point to facilitate the ready removal and replacement of any article adapted to be supported between two of the adjacent loops.

I am aware that in certain display-trays an elastic band has been used, which has been formed into a series of loops or sections by means of nails or tacks driven through said band at intervals; but in this case the rubber of the band is severed, and the elasticity is therefore limited, as each separate small section has its independent movement, and the band consequently endures but a very short time.

It is evident upon reference to the drawings and foregoing description that when an article is placed in position or afterward removed the entire band may be stretched, and consequently the same is rendered practically indestructible. Moreover, when the band is divided into series of loops, as previously stated, each loop supports its respective article, whereas by my invention the tension of the band is adjustable—that is, if a larger article is supported between one pair of loops through which the band passes than between another pair one portion of the band is not stretched more than the other, since the tension is from end to end throughout the entire band and is equal upon each of the articles. This latter feature is an item of importance and contributes greatly to the desirability and efficiency of my invention.

At Fig. 7 I have shown the preferable form of hand-engaging piece, which consists of a wire having its opposite extremities bent into a scroll form for producing a larger engaging surface than possessed by the ring illustrated at the preceding figures.

On one side of my case I have shown the trays as provided with a series of compartments D' instead of securing-bands E; but it is evident that, if desired, these may be replaced with trays provided with the bands E previously described.

As best seen at Fig. 5, the side walls B of the case are provided on their outer face with elastic bands E', E², and E³, which pass through similar loops *d* and are held in position by securing means *e*.

The operation of my invention will be readily perceived from the foregoing description and upon reference to the drawings, and it is evident that the entire surface of the

case is utilized for the display of the articles to be sold; that by removing the sliding panel at the rear of the case any particular tray may be withdrawn along its respective supporting or guide rib, and any desired article may be readily placed in or removed from position by engaging the ring or other hand-engaging portion directly above the same, and that during this operation the entire band is stretched for obviating wear and causing each article to be held with the same degree of tension.

It is evident that the detail construction and arrangement of the parts of my case may be somewhat changed from those shown and described without departing from the spirit thereof.

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

1. The herein-described display-case, the same consisting of an outer shell having a series of guides projecting one beyond the other, a series of trays movable on said guides, a series of loops on the trays, and an elastic band passed consecutively through said loops and arranged in said loops so as to slide there-through, whereby the entire band is stretched when an article is passed between two of the loops, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The herein-described display-case, the same consisting of an outer shell having a series of guides projecting one beyond the other, a series of trays movable on said guides, a series of loops on the trays, an elastic band passed consecutively through said loops, and hand-engaging rings or handles secured to the band between the loops and arranged in said loops so as to slide therethrough, whereby the entire band is stretched when an article is passed between two of the loops, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The herein-described display-case, the same consisting of an outer shell having concaved ribs formed with projecting loops, guide-ribs at the rear of the former ribs, having their extremities projecting one beyond the other, trays movable on said guides, a series of loops on the trays, and an elastic band passed through said loops, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The herein-described display-case, the same consisting of an outer shell having concaved ribs formed with projecting loops, guide-ribs at the rear of the former ribs, having their extremities projecting one beyond the other, and trays movable on said guides and formed with a series of receiving display-compartments, substantially as set forth.

5. The herein-described display-case, the same consisting of an outer shell having a series of guides projecting one beyond the other, a series of trays movable on said guides, a series of loops on the trays, an elastic band passed consecutively through said loops, loops on the end of said case, and an elastic band

movable in said loops and arranged in said loops so as to slide therethrough, whereby the entire band is stretched when an article is passed between two of the loops, substantially as described.

5 In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name, in the presence of two at-

testing witnesses, at Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, this 1st day of April, 1891.

MYRON A. CAMPBELL.

Witnesses:

CLARK H. NORTON,
L. M. BAXTER.