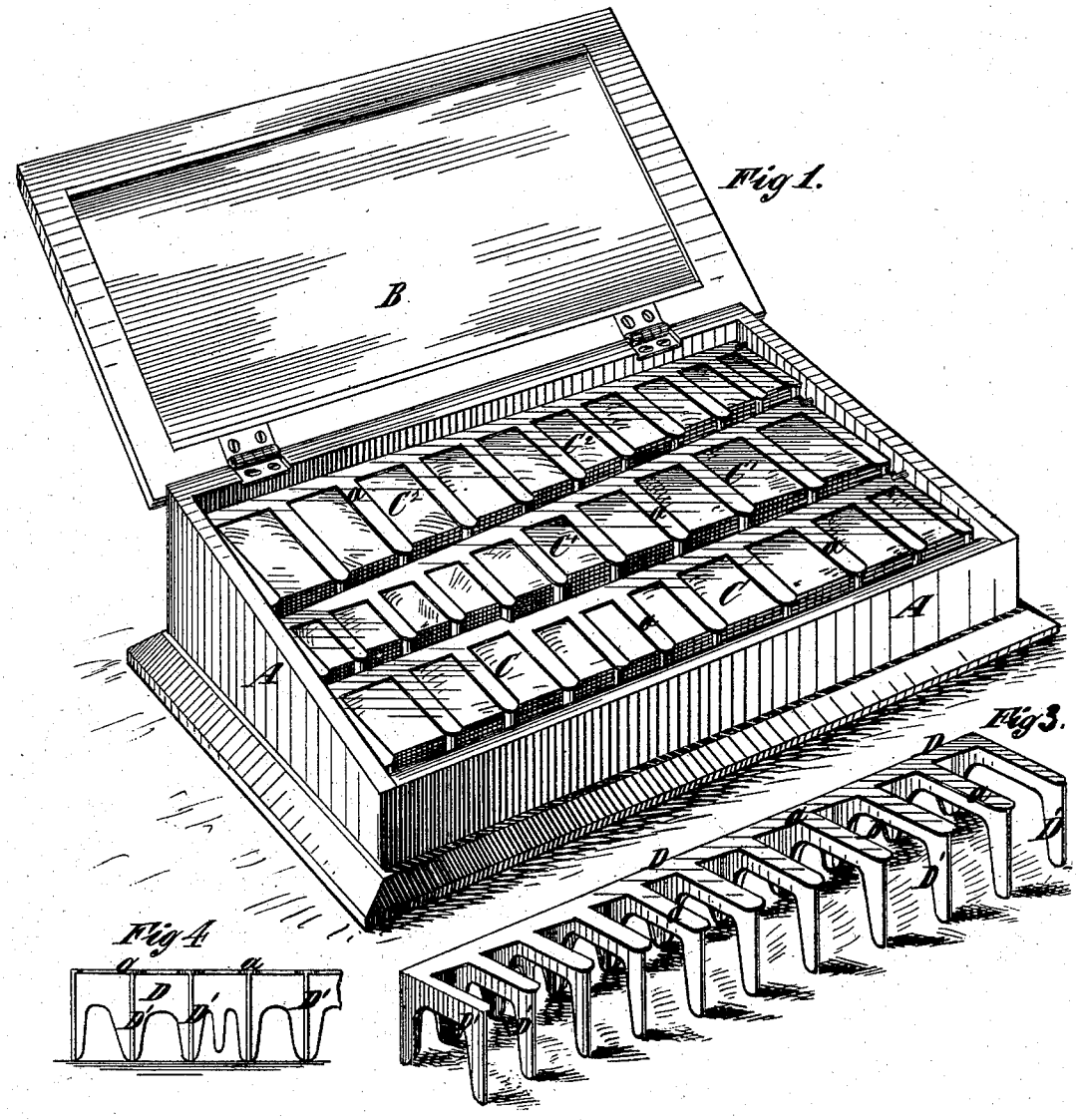
H. G. DORR, Jr.
Show-Case.

No. 221,913. Patented Nov. 25, 1879.

Fig 1.


B
A
A
C
C
C

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY G. DORR, JR., OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM MILLS & SON, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOW-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,913**, dated November 25, 1879; application filed October 9, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY G. DORR, JR., of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Show-Cases for Needles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to show-cases for exhibiting needles in papers, which are provided with a series of cells or compartments for containing papers of needles of different sizes; and its object is to provide a simple and inexpensive method of dividing the interior of said case into the cells or compartments.

To this end my invention consists in a skeleton frame forming the cells or compartments of a needle-exhibiting case, consisting of a single casting composed of a longitudinal web having branches extending at right angles thereto, and provided with lips or flanges at the top. The said branches are preferably arranged at different distances apart, and gradually increased in length from one end of the web toward the other, so as to form compartments or cells of different sizes.

It also consists in the combination, with a needle-case, of two or more such skeleton frames arranged therein and forming cells or compartments.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a show-case embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 represents a transverse section thereof. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of a casting forming the cells or compartments detached from the case, and Fig. 4 a side view of a portion of said casting.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A designates the body of the show-case, which is a plain box formed of wood, and provided upon its exterior with suitable moldings for enhancing its appearance. It is furnished with a hinged cover, B, which is preferably glazed, so that the papers of needles may be inspected without raising it.

C C′ C² designate rows of cells or compartments, into which the case is divided, and which are of sizes to receive papers of needles of different sizes. Each row of cells or compartments consists of a skeleton frame formed of a single casting, and composed of a longitudinal web, D, having extending from it at right angles, and preferably at different distances apart, a series of branches, D′, which form a series of cells or compartments open on one side.

At the top of the cells or compartments is represented an inwardly-extending lip or flange, *a*, extending around three sides of the cell or compartment.

The web D and the branches D′, together with the lip *a*, are all made in one piece of metal or other material, such as rubber or celluloid, by casting or molding, and to reduce the weight the web and branches are cut away on the bottom, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 3, so as to leave but a skeleton frame-work.

Although the web D is here represented as long enough to extend from side to side of the case A, it might be made in two pieces of half of the length, properly joined at the middle of the case.

In each of the cells or compartments is a spring, E, of spiral form, and above the spring, and adapted to move vertically in the cell or compartment, is a follower or plate, F, between which and the lugs or flanges *a* the papers of needles are clamped by the upward pressure of the spring, and as fast as the papers of needles are withdrawn from the cell or compartment others rise to take their place.

In order to provide for the convenient withdrawal of papers from any of the cells or compartments, the tops of the cells of each series are on a higher level than the preceding series. As here represented, the cells or compartments C′ are on a higher level than the cells or compartments C, and the cells or compartments C² are on a higher level than C′. This may be effected by making the web and branches D′ of each frame deeper than those of the preceding frame.

In order to fill the rectangular show-case A with the different cells or compartments without loss of space, I have represented the branches D′ in the lower frame as about equal in length, while the two other series increase gradually in length from one end toward the

other, and are arranged in reverse positions, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, so as to be adapted to a rectangular show-case.

As the cells or compartments are made by placing the frames forming them in a plain wooden box and securing them properly in position, it is evident that by my invention I provide for making such needle-cases in an inexpensive manner.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A skeleton frame forming the cells or compartments of a needle-exhibiting case, consisting of a single casting composed of a longitudinal web having branches extending at right angles thereto, and provided with lips or flanges at the top, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with a needle-case, of one or more skeleton frames, each consisting of a single casting composed of a longitudinal web having branches extending at right angles thereto, and provided with lips or flanges at the top, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with a needle-case, of two or more skeleton frames, each consisting of a single casting composed of a longitudinal web having branches extending at right angles thereto at different distances apart, the said branches increasing in length from one end of said web toward the other, and arranged in said case so that the skeleton frames adjacent to each other taper in opposite directions, substantially as specified.

H. G. DORR, JR.

Witnesses:
FREDK. HAYNES,
E. P. JESSUP.