(No Model.)

E. J. JOHANSON.

WORK BOX.

No. 590,704. Patented Sept. 28, 1897.

Fig. 2.

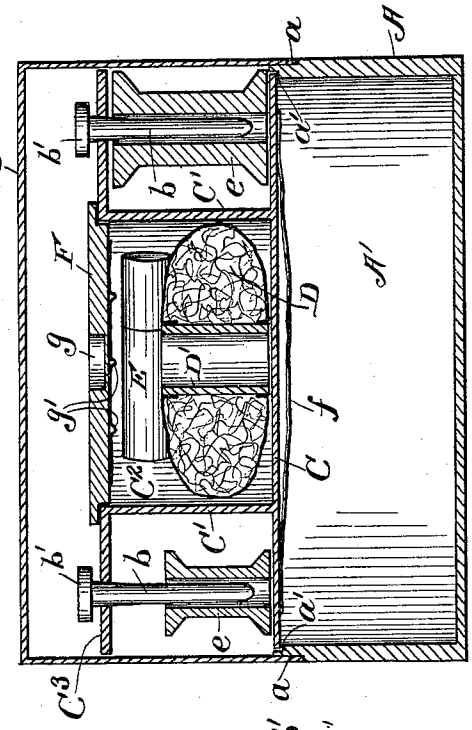


Fig. 4.

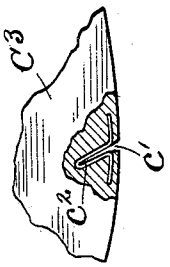


Fig. 3

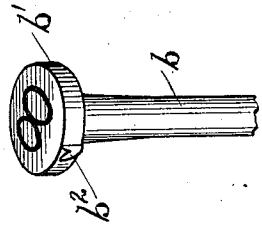
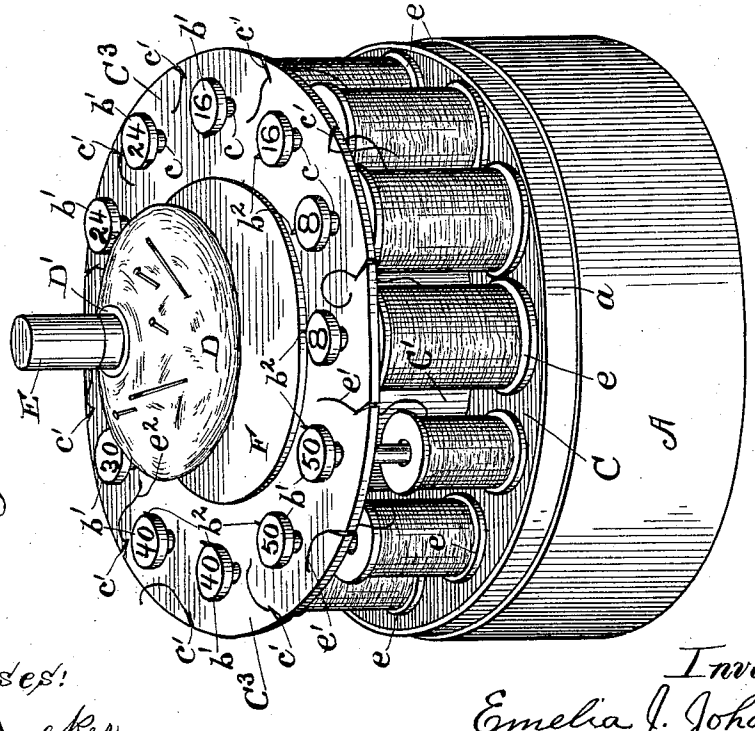


Fig. 1.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMELIA J. JOHANSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

WORK-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,704, dated September 28, 1897.

Application filed July 5, 1895. Renewed August 16, 1897. Serial No. 648,449. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMELIA J. JOHANSON, a subject of the King of Sweden and Norway, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Work-Box and Spool-Rack, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in a box or receptacle to be used by ladies for their sewing utensils, such as spools, needles, thimbles, scissors, tape-measures, and the like; and it consists in certain peculiarities of the construction, novel arrangement, and operation of the various parts thereof, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide a combined work-box and spool-rack which shall be simple and inexpensive in construction, convenient and handy for use, and attractive and ornamental in appearance; second, such a work-box in which the spools are so retained that the thread may be readily unwound therefrom in such a manner as to prevent it becoming tangled or wasted and may be clipped or cut off at the desired point, leaving a portion exposed to be taken hold of when again required, and, third, a work-box in which the sizes of the thread are indicated in such a manner that no mistake can be made in selecting the same.

Still another object of my invention is to provide various compartments for the reception and deposit of different articles frequently required by ladies engaged in the occupation of sewing or dressmaking.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention pertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe it, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my work-box and spool-rack, showing the cover thereof removed and the pincushion and spools in position for use. Fig. 2 is a central sectional view showing the cover in position and the pincushion removed from its normal position and deposited in one of the compartments of the box. Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view of a portion of one of spindles for the spools, showing the knife or clipping arrangement thereof for the thread; and Fig. 4 is a plan view, partly in section, of a portion of the upper disk or flange of the spool-rack, showing the catch therein for securing the thread.

Similar letters refer to like parts throughout the different views of the drawings.

A represents a base formed of a box, which may be made of any suitable size, form, and material, but preferably cylindrical in shape. The upper part of the box A is provided with an annular external recess *a* for the reception of the cup-shaped cover B and with an internal recess *a'* for the reception of the bottom disk C of the spool-rack, which disk and cover rest in their respective recesses, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The disk or plate C is formed or provided near its central upper portion with a tubular upright wall or partition C', which forms a chamber or compartment C^2 for the reception of buttons, thimbles, &c., as well as for the removable pincushion D and the needle-case E.

The top of the wall C', forming the compartment C^2, is formed or provided with an annular flange C^3, which has a number of openings *c* for the reception and retention of the spindles *b*, used for securing the spools *e* in position. As shown in the drawings, the spindles *b* are formed with heads or enlargements *b'*, upon which is indicated numbers to correspond with the number of the thread on the spool, thus affording a convenient means for ascertaining the required size of thread at a glance. Around its periphery the flange C^3 is formed with a number of slots or openings *c'*, which are usually formed tangentially therein and are for the reception and retention of the threads of the various spools. These slots or openings are preferably provided each with a wear-piece c^2, which is of substantially the same shape as the slot and may be embedded in the material of which the flange C^3 is made, or otherwise secured thereto, and is for the purpose of preventing the thread *e'* from cutting the disk and enlarging the slots or openings therein, so as to render them useless. The heads or enlargements *b'* of the spindles *b* are provided with clips or knives b^2, which may be forked in their upper portion, as shown in Fig. 3 of the

drawings, and secured to the sides of the heads or on top thereof, if preferred. These knives or clips are designed to be used for cutting the thread after it shall have been drawn through the slots c' in the flange therefor. The lower surface of the bottom of the disk C is provided with one or more strips f, which may be secured at its ends and loose in its central portion, so that scissors and like articles may be passed between said strip and disk and there retained. The upper part of the compartment C^2, formed by the wall or partition C', is open and is closed by means of the cover F, which is provided with a socket g in its center for the reception of the needle-case E, which holds the pincushion D in position, as will be presently explained. The lower surface of the cover F is provided with pockets g' for the reception of darning, crochet, and like needles. The pincushion D is formed with an opening in its central portion in which is inserted a tube D', through which is passed the needle-case E, which will engage the recess or opening g in the top F and hold the cushion in position thereon, as is shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. When it is desired to place the cover B on the box, the cushion D and needle-case E may be removed from the cover F and placed within the compartment C^2, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The compartments A' and C^2 may be used for the deposit of any desired articles which are usually required by ladies in their handiwork.

It is obvious that my work-box and spool-rack may be made of cardboard, papier-mâché, or wood, and that the same can be suitably ornamented by being covered with plush or otherwise decorated.

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

In a work-box, the combination with a base, a disk carried thereby, a tubular wall rising from the disk and forming a central compartment, spool-holding devices around the latter, and a cup-shaped cover adapted to entirely surround the spool-holding devices and fit upon the base; of a flat cover for the compartment having a socket in its upper face, a pincushion of a size to fit within said compartment and having a tube through its center, and a needle-case also of a size to fit within said compartment and adapted to pass down through the tube in the pincushion and fit into said socket, as and for the purpose set forth.

EMELIA J. JOHANSON.

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