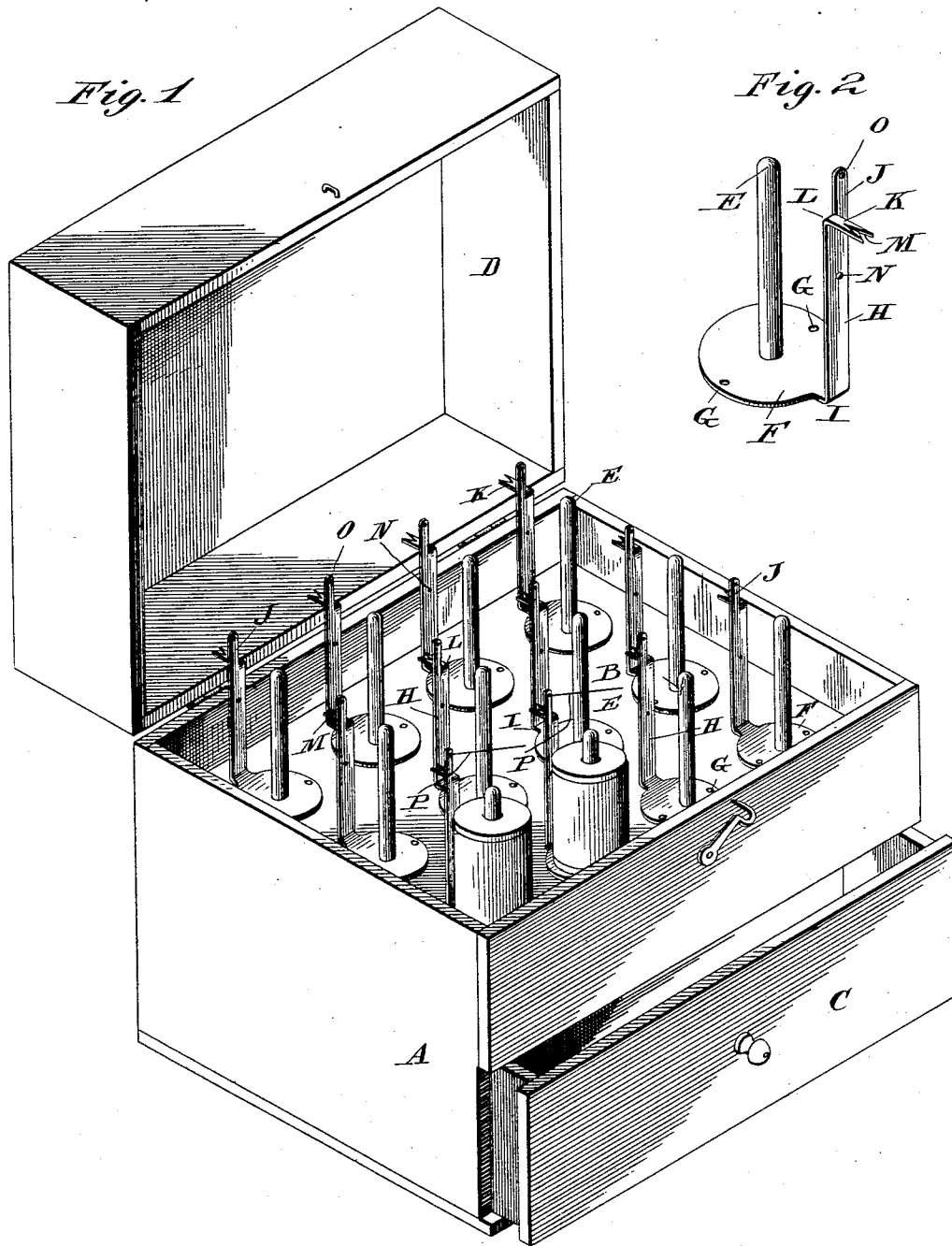


(No Model.)

A. E. CONETY.
LADY'S WORK BOX.

No. 587,708.

Patented Aug. 10, 1897.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNIS E. CONETY, OF GRACEDALE, PENNSYLVANIA.

LADY'S WORK-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 587,708, dated August 10, 1897.

Application filed February 15, 1897. Serial No. 623,534. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNIS E. CONETY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gracedale, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ladies' Work-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to ladies' sewing-boxes and to combined spool-holding, thread-guiding, and thread-cutting devices therefor, whereby an assortment of spools of thread may be contained within small compass and the end of each thread may be easily picked up and the required length drawn out and cut off in a very expeditious manner.

In carrying out my invention I arrange within a box provided with a suitable horizontal support therefor a series of devices each consisting of a spindle adapted to receive a spool of thread and having adjacent thereto and connected therewith an arm or standard provided with perforations to receive and hold the end of the thread, so that it may be easily picked up, and a cutting device for severing the thread when the proper length has been drawn out. These devices, consisting of but two parts, are simple and inexpensive to construct and form with the box a highly useful household article.

For a detailed description of the invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a sewing-box, showing the arrangement of thread holding and cutting devices; and Fig. 2 is a similar view of one of said devices.

In the drawings, A is a box of any suitable dimensions provided with a horizontal support or partition B, upon which the thread holding and cutting devices are arranged. Below the partition is a drawer C for the reception of the usual sewing paraphernalia, such as needles, buttons, scissors, &c. The partition or support is set into the box, so that the thread-holding devices will not interfere with the closing of the hinged box-lid D.

Referring to Fig. 2, E is a metal spindle of the proper diameter to pass easily through a spool. The spindle is mounted in the center of a base-plate F in the form of a disk, preferably made of sheet metal, the disk being

provided with screw-holes G, by which it may be attached to the support or partition B. This disk is provided with an integral extension or arm H, which is bent at a right angle at a point I near its connection with the base-plate F and extends upward parallel with the spindle E, the distance between the spindle and the arm being sufficient to allow an ordinary spool upon the spindle to turn freely between them. This arm H is longitudinally slit at its upper end, forming fingers J and K. The finger K is bent at the bottom of the slit, as shown at L, and extends in a direction away from the spindle E. The end of the finger K is V-shaped and as shown at M, and the edges of the V are sharpened to provide a cutting edge for the thread. A perforation N is made through the arm H at a point not quite equal to the height of an ordinary spool, and the finger J is also provided with a perforation O near its tip. These thread holding and cutting devices are arranged within the box upon the support B, the cutting-fingers K extending toward the back of the box and away from the operator, as shown in Fig. 1. Spools of thread of various kinds are placed upon the spindles E, the flat base-plates F forming smooth surfaces upon which the spools may turn. The end of the thread is passed through the perforation N, thence upward upon the outer side of the arm H, and through the perforation O, so that the end of the thread P will always extend toward the front of the box and may be easily picked up by the operator. When it is desired to use a thread, a sufficient length is drawn out by pulling upon the end P, the spool turning easily upon the spindle, and by inserting the thread in the cutter M and drawing upon it the thread will be severed at the desired point. I may of course have but one perforation in the arm H for holding the thread, but by having an upper and a lower perforation the thread will be drawn from the spool through the lower perforation without interfering with the top of the spool, and by then passing it through the upper perforation the end of the thread is always in front of the arm, where it may be easily seen and picked up, and the thread from spools in the rear can be drawn off with-

out interfering with spools in front, as would be the case if the thread was drawn directly from the lower openings.

5 It will be obvious that various modifications may be made in the form of my improved thread holder and cutter without departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

10 In a work-box a series of rows of spool-holders, each having a central spindle, an arm in the rear of and parallel with said spindle, a guide or perforation near the middle of the

arm through which the thread passes rearwardly from the spool, and a perforation or 15 guide at the upper end of the arm through which the thread may be drawn forward over the spool, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 20 in presence of two witnesses.

ANNIS E. CONETY.

Witnesses:

D. E. WELLS,
G. B. LEONARD.