

J. H. Simmons.

Spool-stand

Patented Apr. 7, 1868

N<sup>o</sup> 76533

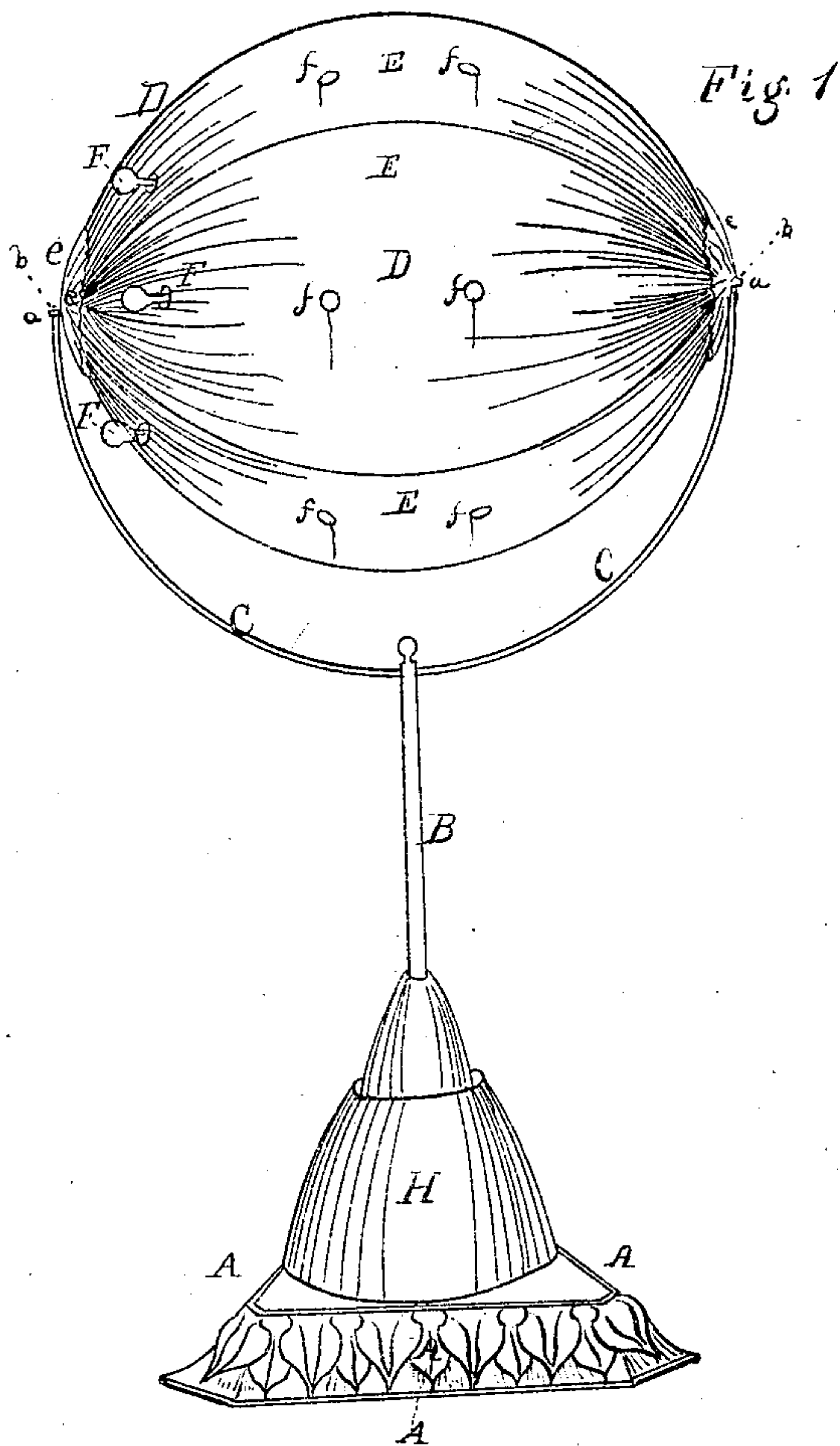
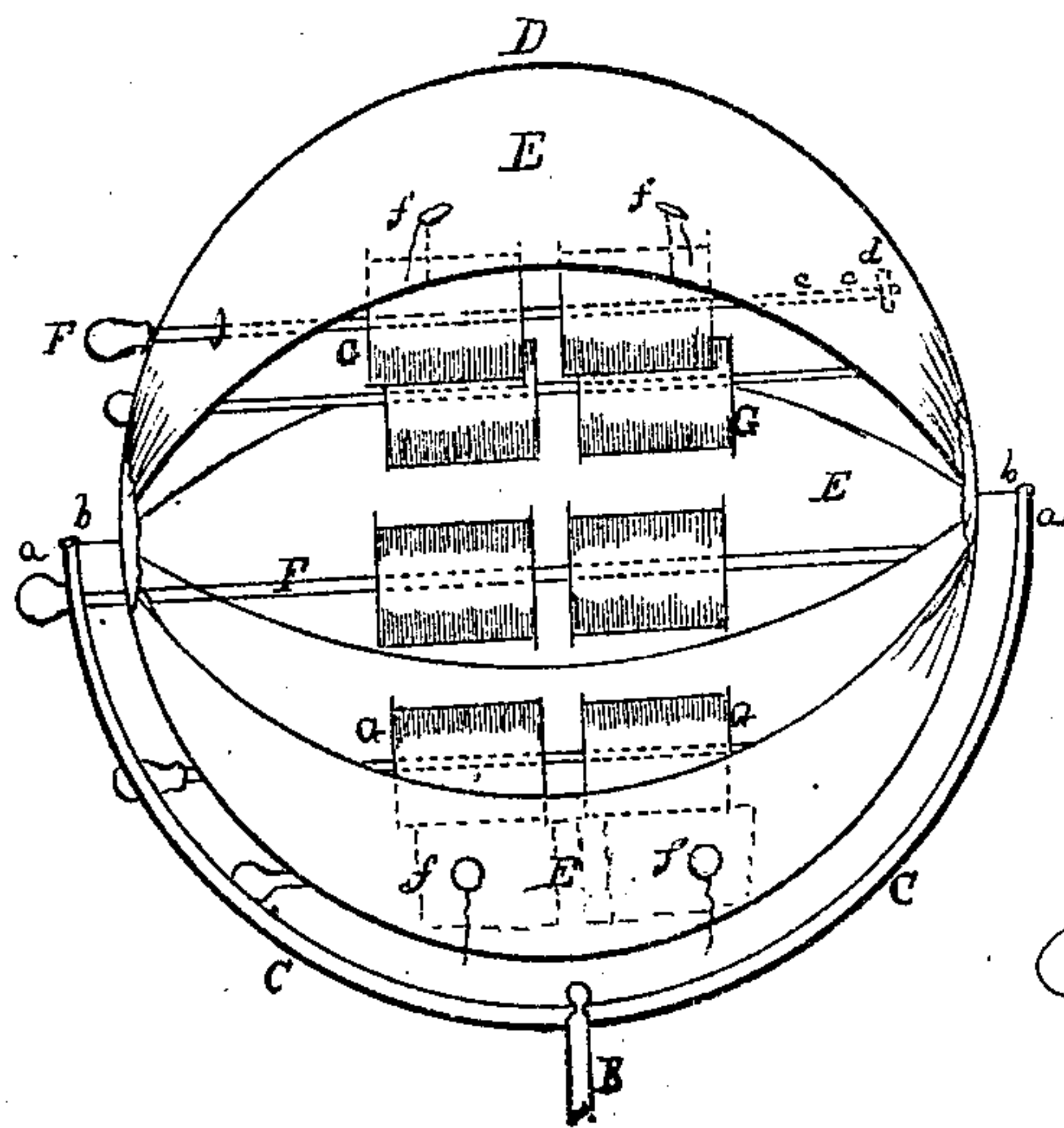


Fig. 2.



Witnesses,

Wm. Wiedersheim

H. Hyman

Inventor

Joseph H. Simmons

by

Wiedersheim & Co.

attys

# United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH H. SIMMONS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

*Letters Patent No. 76,533, dated April 7, 1868.*

## IMPROVED SPOOL-STAND.

*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, JOSEPH H. SIMMONS, of the city and county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improved Spool-Stand; and I do hereby declare the following to be a clear and exact description of the nature thereof, sufficient to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to fully understand and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device illustrating my invention.

Figure 2 is a detached view, showing the operation thereof, and exposing the spools.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

My invention is a novel stand for supporting or holding spools on which thread of any kind is wound; and it consists in a closed chamber or case for concealing the spools, so constructed that it may be opened by merely pressing its sides, and thereby allow access to its interior, for viewing, replenishing, or removing the spools.

This case is mounted on spring-arms, secured to a standard rising from a suitable base, which arms follow the motion of sides of the case, as they are compressed and expand again, and thus support the case at all times.

The spools are hung or held on rods arranged within the case, but operated on the outside thereof, all as will be hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawings, A represents a base or rest, of proper form, and of weight suitable to support the stand, and prevent its overturning.

From the centre of the base there rises a standard, B, having its lower end screwed into the base, A, and its upper end supporting a curved strip, C, of steel or other elastic material. This strip is bent into semicircular or arched form, resting, at its middle point or crown, on the standard B, and having its two free ends, *a*, facing upwards. Each of these ends has secured to it a pin, *b*, which pins point toward each other.

D represents the spool-case or chamber. It is constructed of a series of strips, E, of elliptical form, and of pasteboard, sheet metal, or other suitable material. These strips are sewed or united to each other from end to end, so as to close up and form a hollow elliptical-shaped body, with many sides.

The first and last strips will each have one side free; but these two sides meet when the series is sewed or united together, as stated, and cause the body to present the appearance of an entirely-closed chamber, without an entrance or outlet, but, so soon as the sides of the case are compressed, the strips yield to a certain extent, and force the free ends of the first and last strips to recede from each other, and thus form a mouth or opening, by which access is had to the interior of the case or chamber D.

The sides of the case are formed by the junction of the pointed ends of the elliptical-shaped strips E.

F represents a series of rods or pintles, which pass, through the strips E, into the body, D. These rods or pintles are about as long as the width of the case D, and have their free ends project beyond the case, and terminate in a small knob or handle, to facilitate the operation of screwing the pintle into place.

G represents ordinary spools, for holding silk, thread, or cord of any description. They are merely passed over the pintles F, and freely rotate thereon.

One end of each rod is supported by the strips E, and the other end is cut with screw-threads, *c*, which enter corresponding threads of a nut, *d*, secured to the inner face of the case D.

In order to insert the spools, the case is opened by compressing the sides, as previously described, and the spools introduced and slipped over the rods F, whose inner ends are then screwed into place, thereby retaining the spools within the case, but allowing their free rotation.

On withdrawing the pressure from the sides of the case, the latter will close up at once, and completely enclose the spools.

A series of apertures, *f*, is made in the strips, and eyeleted in the usual manner. The ends of the silk or thread are passed through these apertures, which are the means by which the thread is withdrawn or fed from the spools.

A sufficient quantity of the thread is cut off when needed, and the end left hanging ready for the next supply.



It will be seen that the free or outer ends of the rods or pintles allow the corresponding side of the case D to slide freely over them when the case is compressed, and to return likewise when pressure is withdrawn.

The case is mounted upon the spring C by means of the pins *b*, which enter or pierce the middle of the sides of the case, and form the journals or bearings for the case; and it is allowed to rotate on its bearings, in order to bring the ends of the various threads respectively before the eyes of the person desiring them.

The junctions of the pointed ends of the pieces E, which form the sides of the case D, are covered by rosettes or equivalent devices, *e*, so as to afford a stronger bearing for the case, and to conceal the stitches at said ends.

The strips or sheets may be covered with various-colored cloth, or be otherwise ornamented, as desired.

When the case is to be opened, the fingers are applied, and the pressure exerted against the ends of the spring C and the sides of the case. Consequently the spring will keep the journals or pins *b* in place, and prevent the case or chamber from becoming detached from its bearings. So soon as the fingers are withdrawn, the body expands laterally, and bears against the spring, and returns it to its first position.

It will be noticed that the spools are not exposed, and do not interfere with each other. Each thread is run off through the aperture selected for it, and is independent in its motion. When the threads are no longer needed, the spools remain on the pintles, and are not in the way, as is the case with those thrown loosely in the work-basket. The threads do not become entangled, and are not liable to fade from exposure.

A pin-cushion, H, may be placed around the standard B, to rest on the base, A, and this will add to the usefulness of my invention.

I thus produce an ornamental, simple, and practical device, which can be cheaply and quickly constructed.

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

1. The combination of the body D, spool-spindles F, arms C, and support A B, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.
2. The spring C, supporting the closed body A, when constructed and operating substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

To the above, I have signed my name, this twenty-eighth day of February, 1868.

J. H. SIMMONS.

Witnesses:

C. W. SHOWAKER,

WM. A. WIEDERSHEIM.