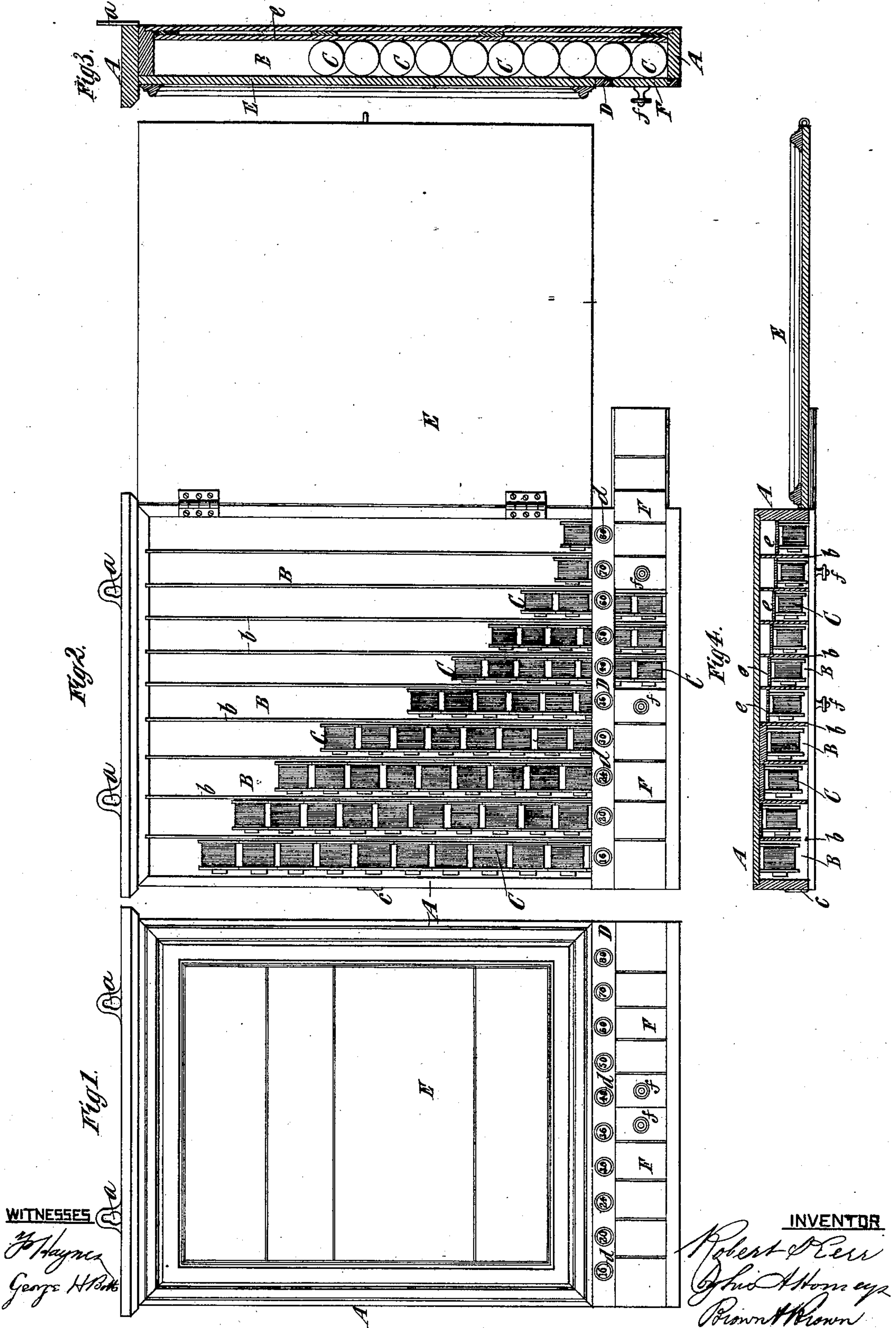


(No Model.)

R. KERR.  
SHOW BOX FOR SPOOLS.

No. 254,024.

Patented Feb. 21, 1882.



WITNESSES

*J. H. Haynes*  
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*John A. Horn*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT KERR, OF PAISLEY, COUNTY OF RENFREW, SCOTLAND.

## SHOW-BOX FOR SPOOLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 254,024, dated February 21, 1882.

Application filed October 29, 1881. (No model.) Patented in England April 6, 1881.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT KERR, of Paisley, in the county of Renfrew, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, have  
5 invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Cabinets for Spools and other Articles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cabinets or cases for spools of thread, sewing-silk, and analogous  
10 articles, in which a supply of different qualities or kinds is retained and from which single spools or articles can be taken out conveniently for sale. Such cabinets or cases are largely used by retail store-keepers.

15 My invention consists in a cabinet or case divided by partitions into cells or compartments extending to the bottom of the cabinet or case; a bar extending across the front thereof, near the bottom; a hinged door or doors for  
20 closing the front of the cabinet or case above said bar, and adapted to be opened to permit of filling the cabinet or case; and a sliding door or doors for closing the front of the cabinet or case below said bar, and affording provision for the withdrawal of the spools one by  
25 one, as hereinafter particularly described and claimed. This cabinet or case may be hung against the wall or stand in an upright position; or it may be supported in an inclined position on a counter, stand, or table, it being  
30 arranged in all cases so that as soon as the bottom spool in any cell or compartment is withdrawn the other spools in that row will descend by gravity, so that the lower one will  
35 again rest upon the bottom of the cell or compartment.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front elevation of the cabinet or case. Fig. 2 represents a similar view with the upper door opened so as to expose the contents,  
40 and one of the lower doors opened so as to permit of the withdrawal of a spool. Fig. 3 represents a vertical section of the cabinet or case; and Fig. 4 represents a horizontal section thereof, with the upper door through which the cabinet or case is filled open.

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

45 A designates the body of the cabinet or case, which is composed of wood, and the exterior

of which may be finished and decorated in any tasteful manner. This cabinet or case is here shown as provided at the upper end with eyes  
a, whereby it may be suspended against the wall, where it will not be in the way; but it  
55 might be constructed so as to stand upon a counter or table, or so as to rest in an inclined position on a stand, table, or counter. The case A is divided at suitable distances apart by vertical or upright partitions b, forming separate  
60 cells or compartments B, which are wide enough to receive the spools C, and which extend to the bottom of the cabinet or case. The cabinet or case A has a bar or rail, D, extending  
65 across its front, and the portion of its front above said bar or rail is formed by a hinged door, E, which is held closed by a hook, c, or other suitable device, and which, when opened,  
affords facility for filling the several cells or compartments with spools. The several cells  
70 or compartments are intended to receive spools of thread or silk of different qualities, kinds, or degrees of fineness, and the numbers of the thread or silk may be indicated by figures placed  
75 at d on the bar or rail D opposite each cell or compartment, the latter then forming an indicator bar or rail. The spools which are placed in the cabinet or case will of course move  
80 downward by gravity when the cabinet or case is in an upright or inclined position, and the lower spools will rest on the bottom of the cabinet or case, and when the lower spool in any row is removed the ones above it will move  
downward.

Below the bar D are doors F, which are  
85 adapted to slide horizontally to expose the lower portion of the several cells or compartments and permit the withdrawal of a spool from any one of them, and in order that the  
90 lowermost spools shall be near the front of the cabinet or case, where they may be readily reached, I fix false backs e in such cells or compartments as are to receive spools of small diameter, as seen in Fig. 4.

The doors F may be provided with knobs f,  
95 which may be grasped to open them.

The outer surface of the door E may have printed or otherwise delineated upon it an advertisement and trade-mark of the manufacturer whose goods it contains, and such an ad-  
100



vertisement, if displayed in attractive manner, may enhance the appearance of the cabinet or case.

5 In lieu of the large door E, two doors may be used.

Although I have only represented my cabinet or case as employed for spools, it is useful for holding rolls of tape or ribbon and similar small articles.

10 I do not claim a spool cabinet or case divided by vertical partitions into cells or compartments which are closed at the bottom by a slide, in combination with a drawer fitting in the cabinet or case below the cells or compartments,  
15 and adapted to move the slide to allow the spools to drop into the drawer, and to move it to prevent the spools from dropping down behind the drawer when the latter is drawn out, such a cabinet or case having already been  
20 made.

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

The cabinet or case A, divided by partitions into cells or compartments B, extending to the bottom thereof, the indicator bar or rail D, extending across the front of the cabinet or case, 25 near the bottom thereof, the hinged door or doors E for closing the front above said bar or rail, and which may be opened to fill the cabinet or case, and the sliding door or doors F 30 for closing the front below said bar or rail, and which may be opened to withdraw the spools one by one, substantially as herein described.

ROBERT KERR.

Witnesses:

FREDK. HAYNES,  
EDWARD GLATZMAYER.