

(No Model.)

E. L. FITCH.
THREAD CASE.

No. 265,400.

Patented Oct. 3, 1882.

Fig. 1.

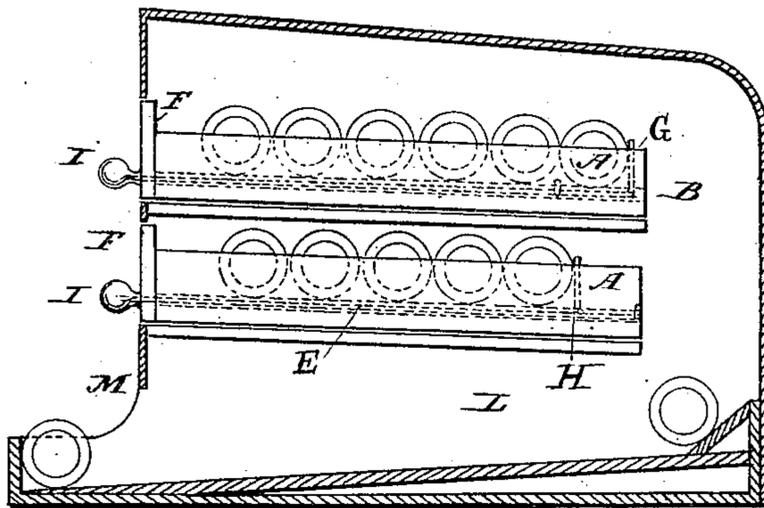


Fig. 2.

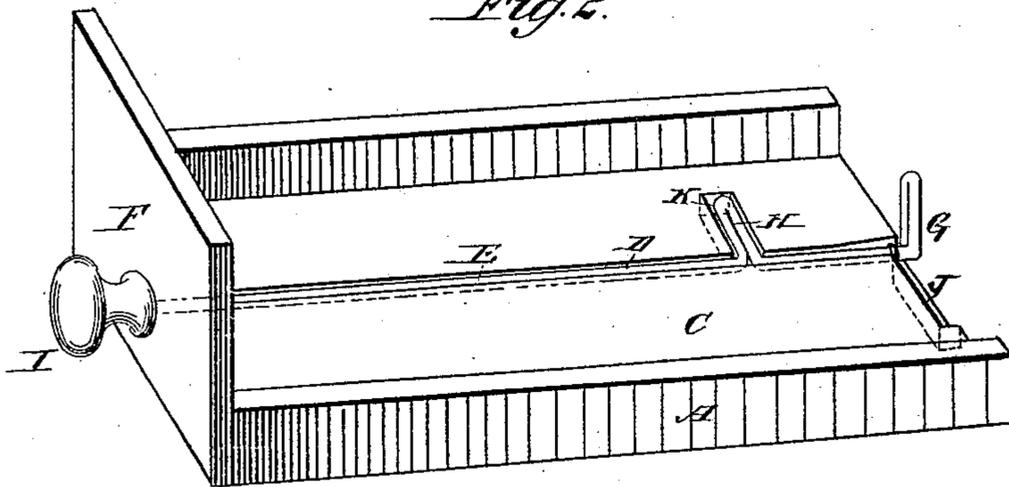
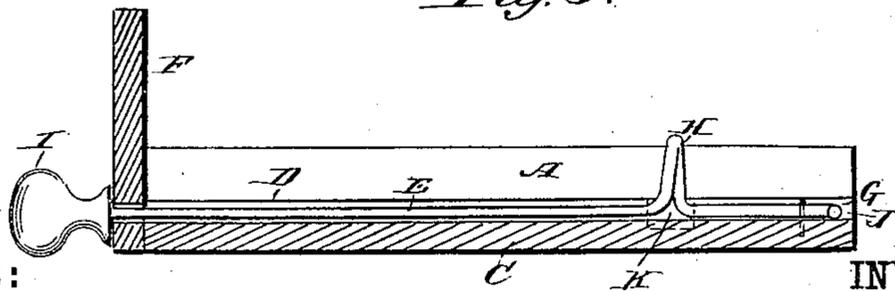


Fig. 3.



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EUGENE L. FITCH, OF DES MOINES, IOWA.

THREAD-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 265,400, dated October 3, 1882.

Application filed February 14, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE L. FITCH, of Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thread-Cases, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to that class of thread-cases in which a number of spools placed transversely are held in a row in a drawer in such a manner that the spool at the outer or open end of the drawer can be released to drop from the drawer by pulling a wire upon which the spool rolls to that end of the case at the inner edge of the counter, and can then be seized conveniently by the seller or clerk.

The object of this invention is to facilitate releasing the outer-end spool of a row of spools in a drawer.

The invention, which is an improvement on the thread-case for which Letters Patent of the United States No. 231,027 were issued to me on the 10th day of August, 1880, consists in a spool-drawer provided in its bottom with a longitudinal wire provided at one end with a bend and at a distance about equal to the diameter of a spool from this end with a rectangular projection, which wire is provided at the opposite end with a knob for turning it, whereby the end spool only will be released to roll from the end of the drawer and the rest of the spools will be held in the drawer, as will be fully described hereinafter.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional elevation of one of my improved thread-cases, showing the drawers provided with my improved device for holding and releasing the spools. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one of the spool-drawers provided with my improved device for holding and releasing the spools. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional elevation of the same.

The spool-drawers A, into which the spools are placed transversely, the drawer having the same width as the length of a spool, fit in openings and guides in the inner or rear wall of a glass show-case, B, and are inserted into this show-case from the rear. The drawers are slightly inclined downward toward the front

of the case B and their outer or front ends—that is, the ends toward the front of the case B—are open, as shown. The bottom C of the drawer is provided with a longitudinal groove, D, in its upper surface, and in this groove D a wire, E, is placed, which passes through an aperture in the inner end piece, F, of the drawer, and has the drawer-knob I attached rigidly to its projecting end. The opposite end of the wire E—that is, the end at the front of the case B—is provided with a rectangular bend, G, at the end of the drawer. At a distance equal to the diameter of a spool from the bend G the wire E is provided with a projection, H, formed by doubling the wire E, or in any other suitable manner, which projection H is at right angles to the wire E and at right angles to the bend G, so that when the bend G is vertical the projection H will be horizontal, and vice versa. The bottom C of the drawer is provided with the two recesses J and K, at right angles to the groove D, for receiving the bend G and the projection H, respectively, when they are in a horizontal position or rest on the bottom of the drawer.

The operation is as follows: The wire E is turned by means of the knob I, so that the right-angle bend G at the end of the drawer projects upward and the right-angle projection H is in its recess K, as shown in Fig. 2. The spools in the drawer will roll down the same until the end spool rests against the bend G, which prevents it from rolling off of the drawer. If a spool of thread is to be removed from the case, the knob I is turned from left to right, so that the bend G will enter its recess J and be in a horizontal position, thus permitting the spool to roll and drop from the end of the drawer upon the inclined bottom L of the case B, down which bottom it rolls to the opening M, from whence it can be taken by the seller or clerk; but at the same time that the bend G is turned down the projection H is raised, and passes in between the end spool and the one next to it, thus preventing all the other spools but the end spool from rolling off of the drawer. Then the wire E is turned back to its original position—that is, with the bend G raised, and the projection H in a horizontal position—and all the spools will roll down the drawer until the end spool—that is, the one that was previously

next to the end—rests against the raised bend G; or, in other words, the spools all roll down the drawer a distance equal to the diameter of one spool.

5 The knob I can also be used to withdraw the drawer A to fill it. A spool can thus be removed from the drawer without pulling out the drawer or opening the case.

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

15 1. A spool-drawer for a thread-case, constructed, substantially as herein shown and described, with a longitudinal wire having a right-angle bend at the end and a right angle projection to the wire and bend a distance from the end about equal to the diameter of one spool, as set forth.

20 2. In a thread-case, the combination, with the spool-drawer, of a wire on the bottom of the drawer, which wire is provided at the end with a right-angle bend and with a projection at right angles to the wire and to the bend a distance from the end of the wire about equal
25 to the diameter of a spool, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a thread-case, the combination, with the spool-drawer A, of the wire E on the bottom of the drawer, the knob I on one end of the wire, the right-angle bend G at the opposite end
30 of the wire, and the projection H at right angles to the wire and bend a distance about equal to the diameter of a spool from this end of the wire, substantially as herein shown and
35 described, and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a thread-case, the combination, with the spool-drawer A, provided in its bottom with the groove D, and the recesses J and K at right angles to this groove, and of the wire E
40 contained in this groove and provided with a right-angular bend, G, at one end and a projection, H, at right angles to the wire and bend a distance about equal to the diameter of a
45 spool from this end, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

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