(No Model.)

H. STERN.

SHOW CASE.

No. 381,961. Patented May 1, 1888.

Fig. 1.

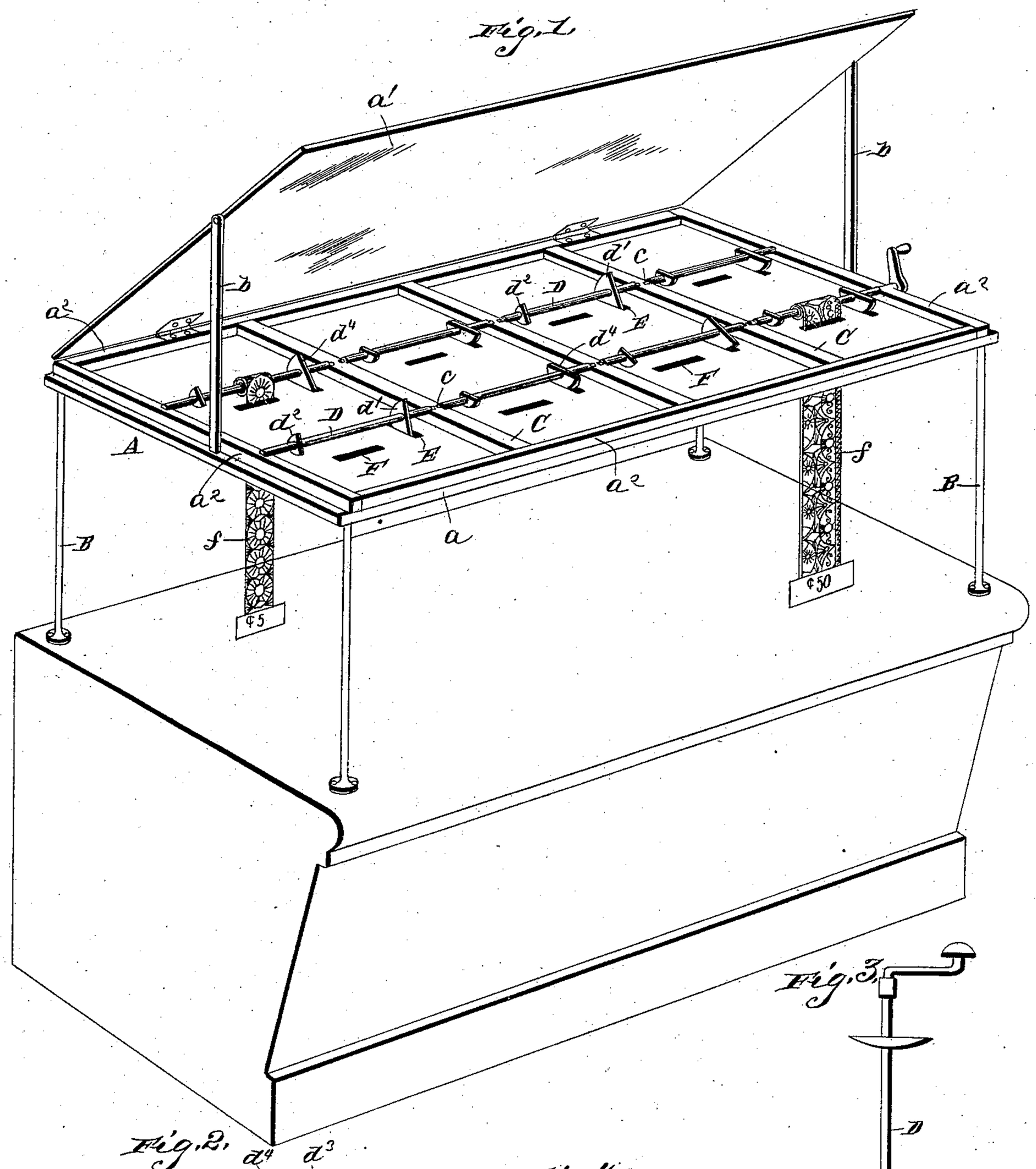

Fig. 2.

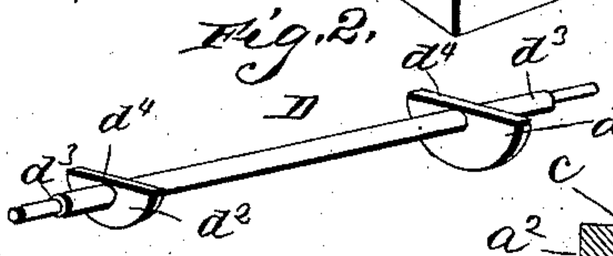

Fig. 4.

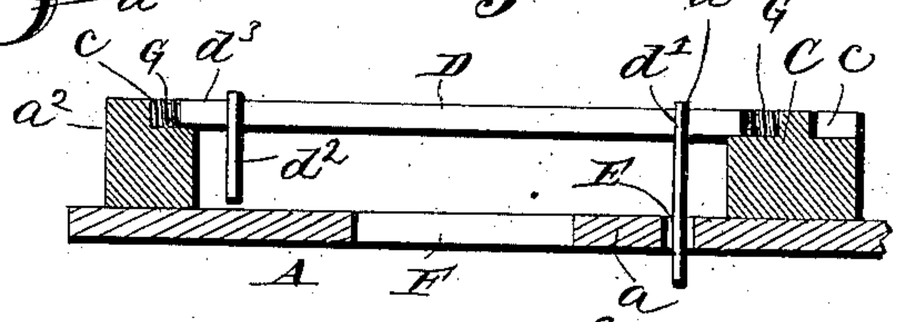

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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Inventor.
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By his Attorneys.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY STERN, OF SHELBYVILLE, KENTUCKY.

SHOW-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,961, dated May 1, 1888.

Application filed January 3, 1888. Serial No. 259,609. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY STERN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Shelbyville, in the county of Shelby and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Show-Cases, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to an improvement in show-cases, the object being to provide a case whereby ribbons, laces, fringes, and similar goods that are wound on spools can be shown to the greatest advantage and at the same time be protected from dust and dirt; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a show-case embodying the invention. Fig. 2 represents an enlarged detail view of one of the spools. Fig. 3 represents a side view of another form of spool adapted to exhibit fringes. Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal section of a portion of the case.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A designates a hollow box composed of the board-bottom *a* and the plate-glass hinged cover *a'*, the vertical glass flanges a^2 a^2 of the bottom forming four sides of the box. The box A is supported on and above the counter by the vertical rods B, preferably of metal, and having their lower ends screwed or otherwise suitably secured to a proper or convenient part of the counter, the upper ends of the rods being similarly secured to the bottom *a* of the box.

b b are swinging bars hinged at their upper ends to the lid *a'*, and which, when the lid is raised, have their free ends resting on the bottom *a* to support the lid.

C C are transverse bearing-strips secured at suitable intervals apart to the bottom of the casing or box and extending from the front to the back thereof. The said strips are provided on their sides with the bearing-recesses *c c*, of which those of the facing sides of adjacent strips C are opposite each other.

D D are spools, the journals of which rest in the bearing-recesses between adjacent strips. Each spool is composed of the segmental end pieces, d' d^2, and the journals d^3, which are the end portions of the spindle extended beyond the end pieces. Each end piece has a straight or flat portion d^4 on its periphery, which is turned upward when the end is closed, so that the casing can be made that much shallower. The end pieces d' are of larger diameter than the end pieces d^2, and pass into the slats E made in the bottom *a*. By means of the larger end pieces the lace *f*, hanging from the spools through the slots F in the bottom, can easily be rolled on and unrolled from the spindles by operating the spools by the fingers. Should the spools turn too easily, small coiled-wire springs G can be inserted in the bearing-recesses to impinge on the flattened ends of their journals; and, if desired, one journal may be extended and the spool wound by a small crank-handle fitting on its squared end.

In showing fringes the spools are set upright in proper bearings in the strips C, as the points of the fringe should hang vertically. The manner of attaching it to the case and exhibiting it is shown in Fig. 1.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. The herein-described show-case for laces, ribbons, and fringes, and other goods that are wound on spools, which case comprises a shallow box having a bottom provided with suitable slots for the passage of the goods therethrough, narrow glass sides rising from the edge of the bottom, and a hinged glass lid, spools journaled in bearings made in the bottom, and suitable legs or rods secured to the bottom to support the box a proper distance above the counter or other rest, substantially as specified.

2. In a show-case for laces, fringes, &c., the combination, with the shallow box or casing A, provided with the bottom *a*, having the slots E F, the narrow sides a^2, the legs B B, the strips C C, having the bearing-recesses *c c*, and the spools D, consisting of the spindles *d*, journals a^3, and end pieces, d' d^2, each having the straight portion d^4 on its periphery, substantially as specified.

3. In a show-case for laces, fringes, &c., the combination, with the legs B B and the shallow box provided with the wooden bottom *d*,

having the slots E F, the narrow glass sides a^2, and the hinged glass lid a', of the parallel transverse bearing-strips C, having the bearing-recesses c, the coiled bearing-springs G in said recesses, and the spools D, each composed of the spindle d, the journals d^3, and the end pieces, d' d^2, each having the straight part d^4 on the periphery, substantially as specified.

4. A show-case comprising a shallow box provided with longitudinal and transverse slots in its bottom, and a spool journaled in the sides of the box and extending over said slots and provided with enlarged end pieces working in the transverse slots, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY STERN.

Witnesses:
B. ENGLE,
M. GREENER.