(No Model.)

R. KRUEGER.

JEWELER'S RING TRAY.

No. 504,167. Patented Aug. 29, 1893.

Fig: 1.

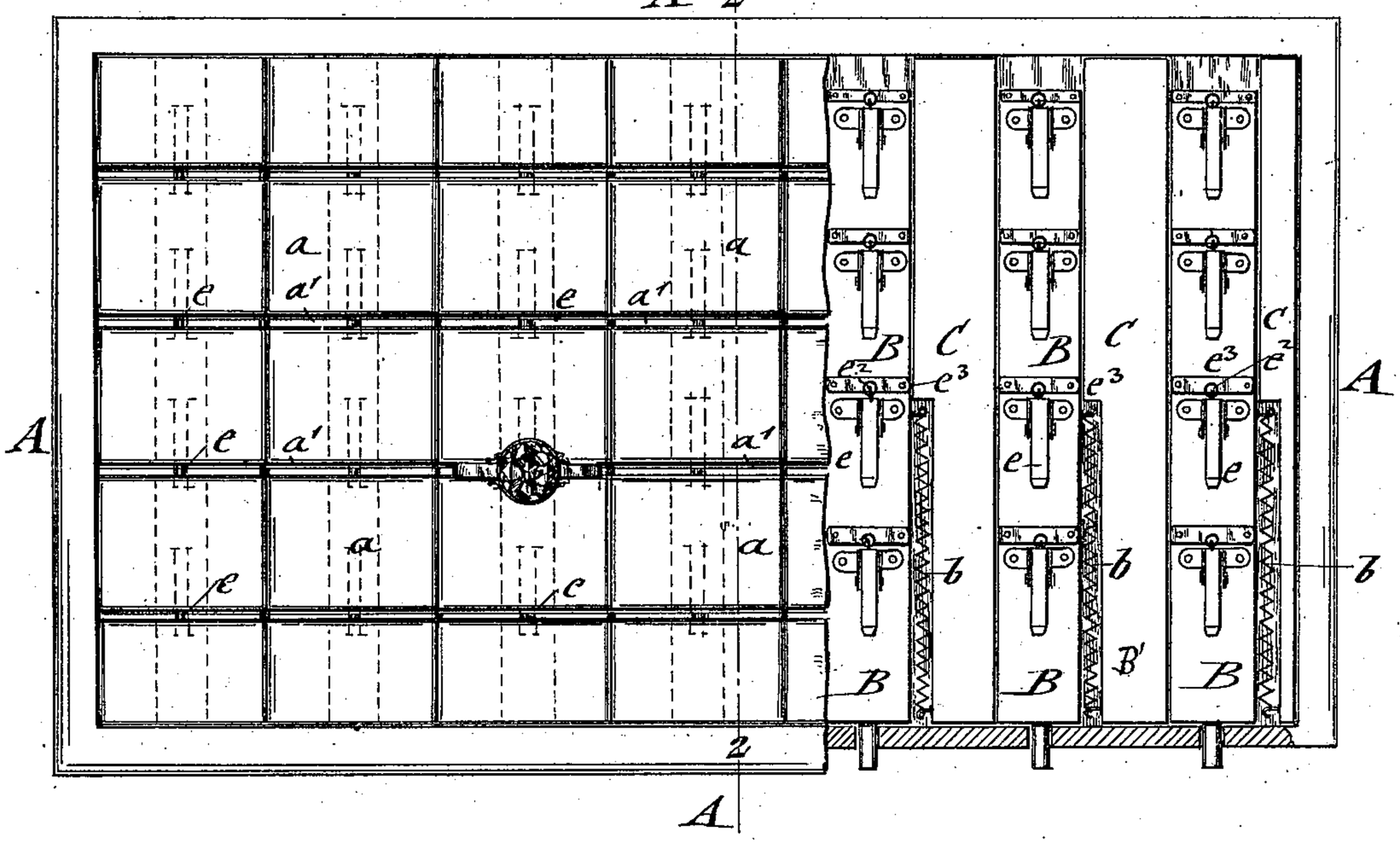


Fig: 2.

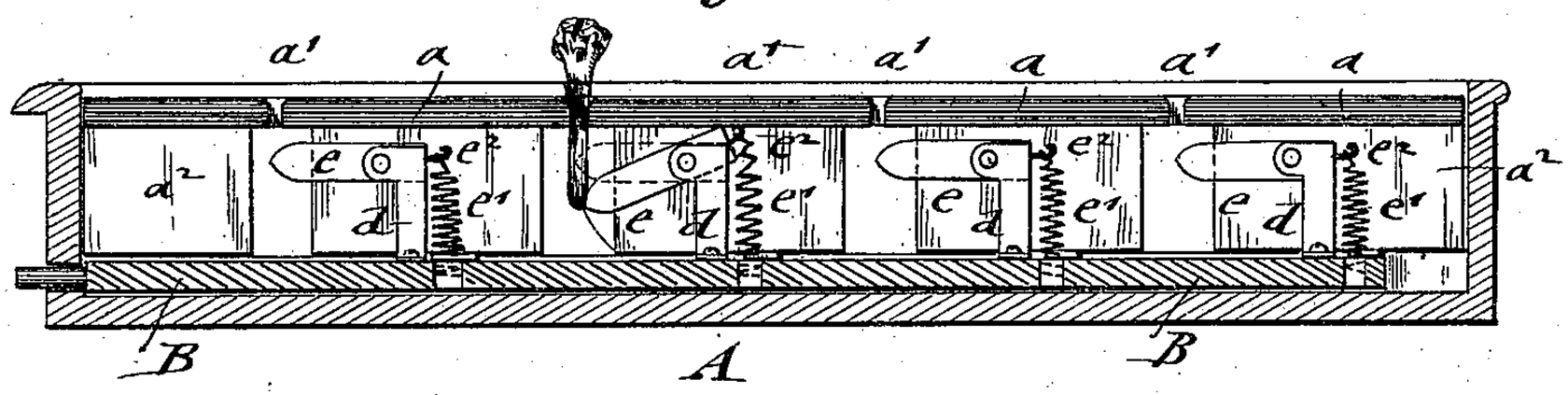


Fig: 3.

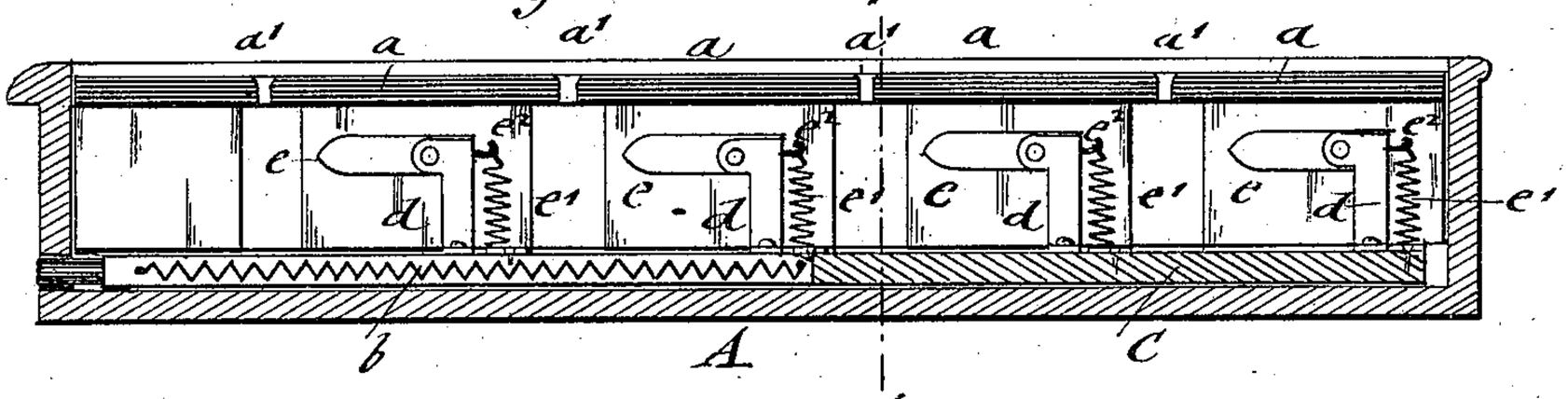
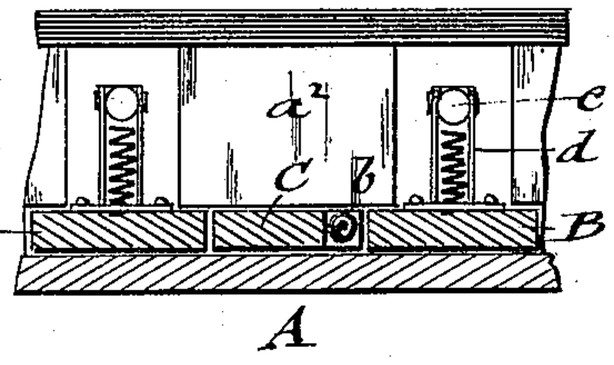


Fig: 4.



WITNESSES:

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JEWELER'S RING-TRAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 504,167, dated August 29, 1893.

Application filed June 3, 1892. Serial No. 435,385. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REINHOLD KRUEGER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Jewelers' Ring-Trays, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to an improved ring-tray for jewelers' use, by which rings of any kind can be readily inserted into the slots of the tray and retained in the same, so that they cannot be removed from the tray, except by the attendant, whereby not only the accidental or intentional detaching of the rings from the tray is prevented, but a certain security against the theft of the same by dishonest customers obtained: and the invention consists of a ring-tray for jewelers, the frame of which is provided with transversely guided and spring-actuated slide-pieces which are pushed by means of knobs toward the inside of the frame, said slide-pieces being provided with upright posts on which are mounted fulcrumed and spring-actuated fingers that pass through the rings when the same are forced down through the longitudinal slots of the tray, so that the removal of the rings from the tray is prevented, but which may be readily removed from the tray by pushing the required slide-piece with the fingers in inward direction, so as to clear the rings.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top-view of my improved ring-tray for jewelers, in which a part is broken off, so as to show the construction of the same. Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse-section on line 2 2, Fig. 1, drawn on a larger scale. Fig. 3 is also a vertical transverse-section, showing one of the locking slide-pieces of the tray in inwardly pushed position; and Fig. 4 is a detail vertical longitudinal section on line 4 4, Fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the wooden frame of my improved jewelers' ring-tray. On the frame A are supported in the usual manner by upright stays a^2 longitudinal velvet-covered strips which are separated by slots a' through which the finger-rings are inserted. On the bottom of the frame A are arranged transverse slide-pieces B which are guided by fixed intermediate strips B′ and acted upon by helical springs b which are attached at one end to the slide-pieces B, while the other ends are attached to the fixed strips B′, as shown clearly in Fig. 1. The slide-pieces B are provided with as many fixed upright standards d as there are longitudinal slots a, the upper ends of the standards being provided with fingers e that are fulcrumed to the standards d and extended below the longitudinal slots a' of the tray, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The rear end of each finger e is connected by a helical spring e' with a hook or catch e^2 at the rear end of the finger and with transverse metallic straps e^3 on the slide-pieces B, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4. When a ring is inserted in one of the slots of the tray, it presses down the end of the finger until the finger can spring into the ring and lock thereby the ring firmly to the tray. The ring can then only be removed from the tray by pushing the slide-piece inwardly by pressure on its projecting front end or pin, so that the fingers clear the shanks of the rings and permit thereby the ready removal of any ring in line with the fingers of the inwardly pushed slide-piece. Any desired ring can thus be readily removed from the tray by simply shifting the slide-piece until the rings desired to be inspected are cleared by the fingers. The remaining rings are all retained in locked position by the unshifted slide-pieces. When a ring is to be replaced, the shank of the ring is pushed into the slot a at the required position on the tray, so as to depress its corresponding finger, it being then relocked by the same automatically and without any special effort by the action of its spring e^2. The fingers of the different slide-pieces hold the rings securely in position in the tray and prevent their removal from the same, except by the attendant, who pushes inwardly the corresponding slide-piece, so that any one of the rings can be detached from the tray for inspection. The tray forms thereby a safety-device for jewelers against the theft of valuable rings, while it also holds the rings securely in place and prevents the accidental detaching of the same from the tray.

Having thus described my invention, what

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

1. A ring-tray for jewelers, the frame of which is provided with longitudinal strips and slots, and with transversely guided and spring-actuated slide-pieces below said strips, said slide-pieces being provided with fulcrumed and spring-actuated fingers transversely to the slots, so as to automatically lock the rings to the tray on inserting the same into the slots, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in a jeweler's ring-tray, of a supporting-frame having longitudinal strips and slots between said strips, transverse spring-actuated slide-pieces guided along the bottom of the frame, and fulcrumed and spring-actuated fingers supported on said slide-pieces and located transversely to the longitudinal slots, so as to lock the rings when inserted into the slots, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the supporting-frame, of a jeweler's ring-tray, of transverse spring-actuated slide-pieces, fixed guide-strips for said slide-pieces, upright standards on said slide-pieces, fingers fulcrumed to the upper ends of said standards and helical springs connecting the rear-ends of the fingers with the slide-pieces, so that the front-end of the same is adapted to yield sufficiently, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

REINHOLD KRUEGER.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,

CHARLES SCHROEDER.