

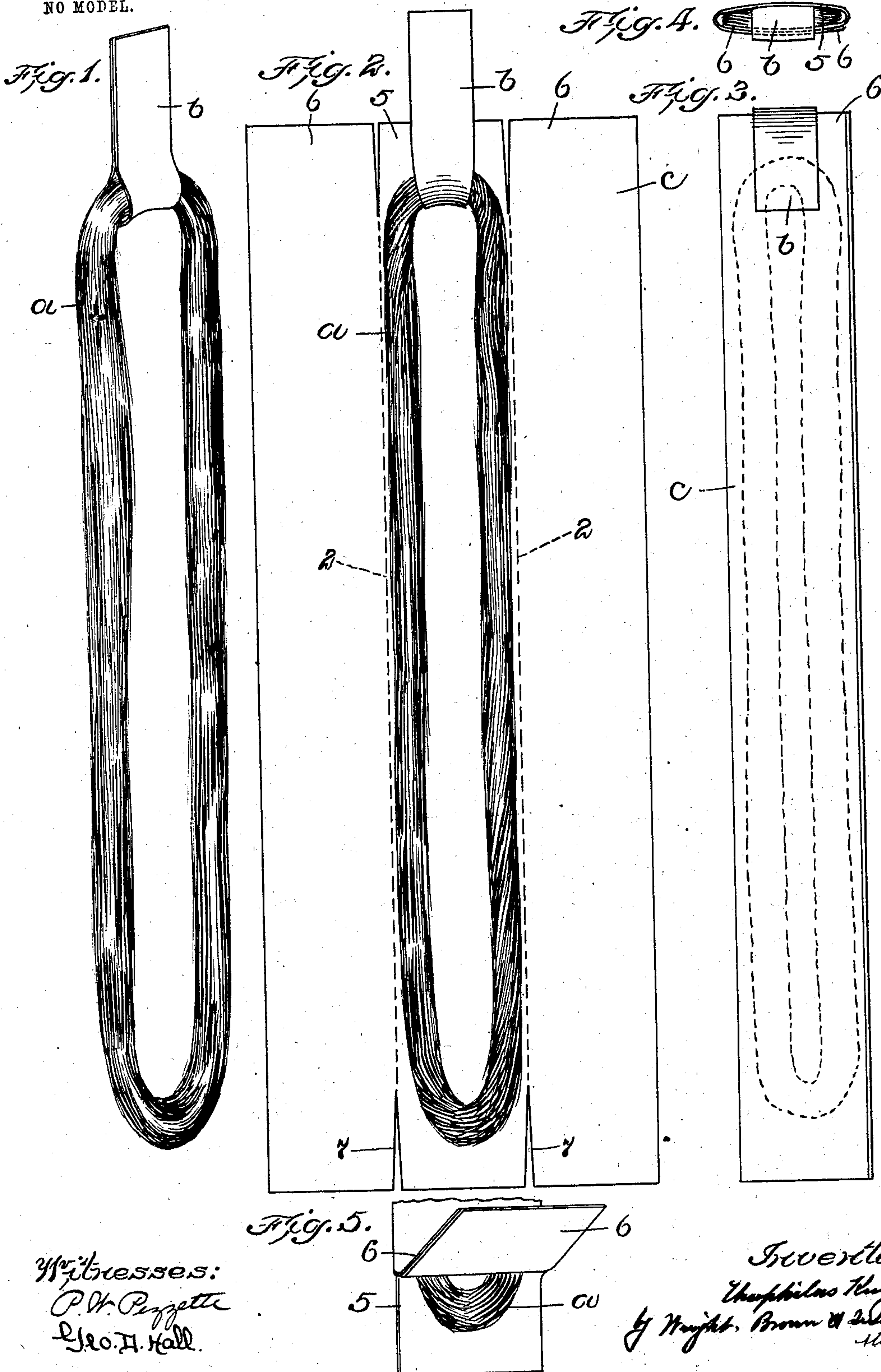
No. 721,375.

PATENTED FEB. 24, 1903.

T. KING.
SKEIN HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 17, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:
P. W. Pezzette
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEOPHILUS KING, OF QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO EUREKA SILK MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF PORTLAND, MAINE, A CORPORATION OF MAINE.

SKEIN-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 721,375, dated February 24, 1903.

Application filed November 17, 1902. Serial No. 131,624. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEOPHILUS KING, of Quincy, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skein-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to methods of putting up skeins of thread, and particularly embroidery-silk, in such manner that the thread is protected while in the dealer's stock and while being used by the purchaser, the thread being adapted at the same time to be conveniently used in needle lengths.

The invention has for its object to provide improved means for holding, protecting, and permitting the convenient use of a thread-skein; and it consists in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a thread-skein provided at one end with a looped tag. Fig. 2 represents a similar view showing the tag and the wrapper for the same before the wrapper is folded and secured to the tag. Fig. 3 represents a view showing the completed holder or package. Fig. 4 represents an end view of the same. Fig. 5 represents a side view of the lower end portion, showing the displacement of one of the parts thereof to expose the lower end of the skein.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the drawings, *a* represents a skein of thread, which may be embroidery-silk, and *b* represents a looped strip, which may be of paper, interlocked with the bight at one end of the skein, as shown in Fig. 1, the said strip *b* being adapted to serve as the tag with which skeins of embroidery-silk are usually provided, said tag containing directions for use and other printed matter.

c represents a flexible wrapper, preferably of paper, the wrapper being of greater length than the skein and adapted to be folded along the dotted lines 2 2. When thus folded, the

wrapper comprises a central portion 5 and two flaps 6 6, one of which overlaps the other, the skein being interposed between the central portion 5 and the inner flap 6. The outer portion of the looped strip or tag *b*, which originally projected beyond the wrapper, as indicated in Fig. 2, is next folded over the folded wrapper, as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4, and secured thereto by glue or cement. The looped strip *b* therefore constitutes a bearing which supports the strain exerted on an individual member of the skein when the latter has been cut through its lower bight to convert it into a series of distinct members or threads each constituting a needleful.

As before stated, the wrapper *c* is longer than the skein, so that its lower end, as viewed in Figs. 2 and 3, projects below the lower end of the skein and entirely covers the skein. This end portion of the wrapper is provided with slits 7 7, extending along the lines of fold to points above the lower end of the skein, as shown in Fig. 2. These slits permit the convenient displacement of the lower end portions of the central part 5 or of the flaps 6 6 to expose the unattached or cut end of the skein and permit the lengths of thread to be conveniently drawn one at a time through the looped strip *b*. Moreover, this slitting of the lower end portions of the wrapper enables the texture and coloring of the skein to be examined easily at any time and facilitates access to the skein for cutting it or for removing lengths of thread after cutting. At the same time it provides a protective covering for the lower end of the skein at all times.

It will be seen that the extension of the wrapper below the lower end of the skein enables the entire length of the skein to be protected, so that there is no liability of soiling the skein.

I claim—

A thread-holder comprising a flexible wrapper longitudinally folded to form a central portion and two flaps, one overlapping the other, and a loop engaged with one end of the

skein and secured to one end portion of the wrapper, the opposite end portion of the wrapper being extended to cover the opposite end of the skein and slitted along the lines of
5 fold to permit the displacement of the end portions of the wrapper to expose the unattached end of the skein.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

THEOPHILUS KING.

Witnesses:

W. H. HASTINGS,
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