

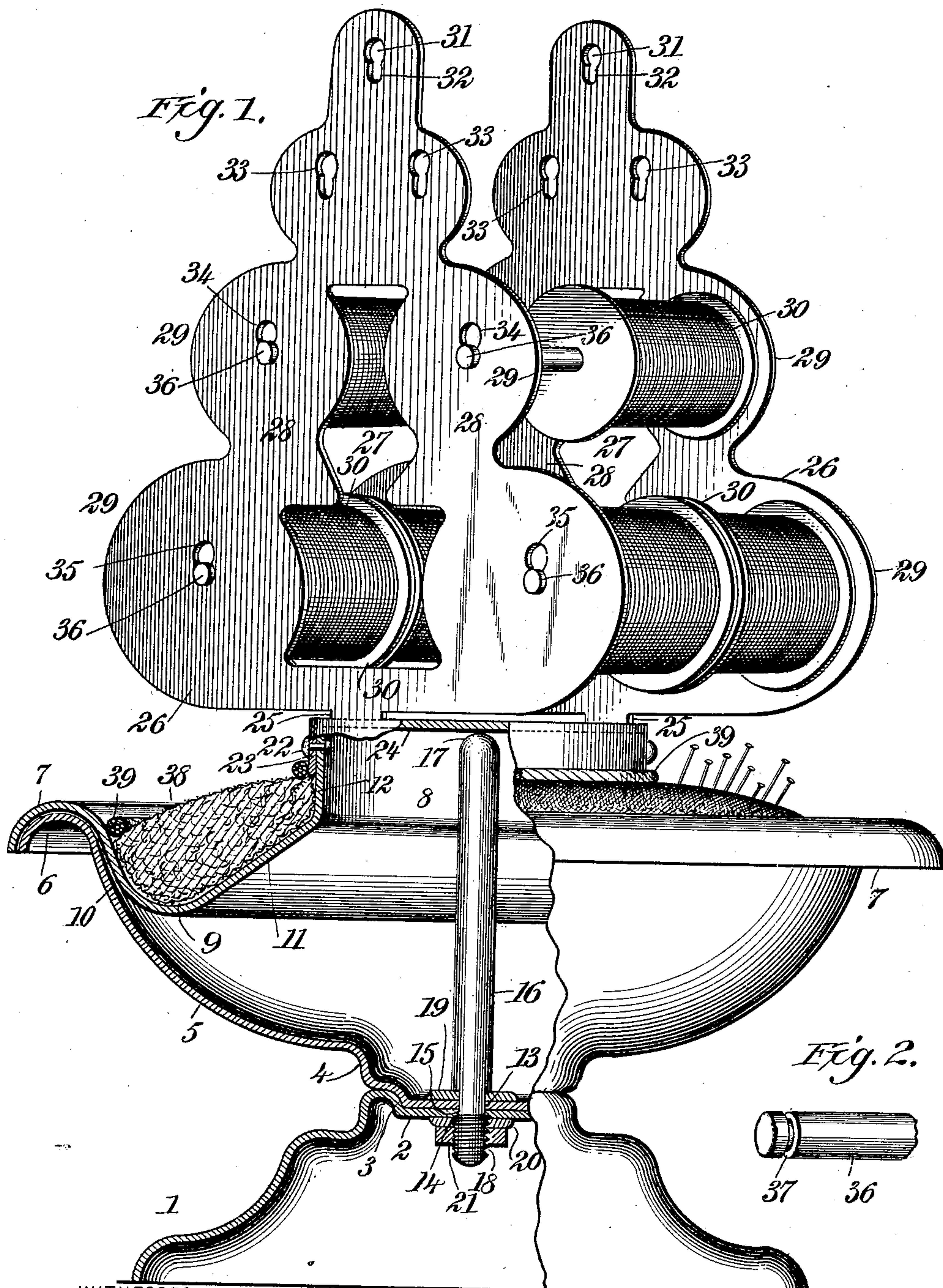
No. 742,719.

PATENTED OCT. 27, 1903..

R. G. McDOWELL.
WORK BOX.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 20, 1903.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:

INVENTOR

Paul Hunter
E. E. Ellis

Fig. 3.

Robert G. McDowell

B-Y

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT GEORGE McDOWELL, OF ANACONDA, MONTANA.

WORK-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 742,719, dated October 27, 1903.

Application filed April 20, 1903. Serial No. 153,447. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT GEORGE McDOWELL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Anaconda, in the county of Deer-
5 lodge and State of Montana, have invented a new and Improved Combined Receptacle and Support for Spools, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to combined recep-
10 tacles and spool-supports; and it consists substantially in the construction, organization, and combinations of parts hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Though applicable to the purposes of other
15 artisans or operatives, my improvements are intended more especially for use by seamstresses and others; and the principal object of my invention is to provide a device or structure of the kind referred to by which a
20 number of spools of sewing thread or silk may be detachably or removably supported within convenient reach of a seamstress or other similar operative while at work, there-
25 by overcoming many annoyances and the loss of considerable time and also enabling suitable lengths of different-colored threads or silks to be drawn from the spools accordingly as may be required.

A further object is to provide a device or
30 structure of this character which in part may also serve as a convenient receptacle for various articles and also in part as a support for a cushion for the reception of pins, needles, and similar devices, a still further
35 object of the invention being to provide a device or structure for the purposes named which is exceedingly simple in the construction and organization of the several elements or parts thereof, besides being convenient and
40 ornamental, as well as cheap to manufacture, and also possessing the capacity for long and repeated service.

The above and additional objects are at-
45 tained by means substantially such as are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device constructed and organized in accordance with
50 my improvements. Fig. 2 is a view in detail indicating more clearly the construction of the ends of the supporting-rods for the spools; and Fig. 3 is a part sectional view in detail,

representing more clearly the manner in which one of the spool-supporting rods is suspended
between the openings or slots formed there- 55
for in the side portions of the spool-support.

Before proceeding with a more detailed description it may be stated that in the embodiment of my improvements herein shown I
preferably employ a suitably-supported re- 60
ceptacle for various articles—such as bodkins, scissors, thimbles, hairpins, jewelry, and the like—and rotatably mounted upon said
receptacle is a lid or cover therefor, which is
of special construction, as will be explained, 65
while coöperatively united therewith is a support for spools for sewing thread or silk, which
support is also of special construction and
adapted to rotate with said lid or cover in the
manner and for the purpose hereinafter spe- 70
cifically set forth.

While I have herein illustrated a certain preferred embodiment of my improvements, it will be understood, of course, that I do not
limit myself to the precise details thereof in 75
practice, since immaterial changes therein may be resorted to coming within the scope of my invention.

Specific reference being had to the accom-
panying drawings, 1 represents a suitable 80
base, preferably hollow and constructed of sheet metal, which is bent or crimped to form any suitable ornamental design, as shown, said base being formed at the upper part
thereof with a sunken or recessed portion 2, 85
seated closely within which is a correspondingly-projected portion 3 of substantially a
circularly-contracted downward extension 4
of the main body of a suitable receptacle 5,
preferably substantially circular in form and 90
also preferably of considerably larger diameter than that of the said base 1. Preferably
the upper edge of the said receptacle 5 is
turned outwardly to form practically a con-
tinuous annular flange 6, which is of curved 95
form transversely, as shown. Seated upon said annular flange of the receptacle is a corresponding flange 7, formed integrally with
a lid or cover 8, which, as shown, is reversely
curved in such manner as to produce therein 100
an annular recess 9, the outer portion 10 of the base of which lies close to the adjacent
inner surface portion of the receptacle, while the inner portion 11 of the said cover is sub-

stantially inwardly and upwardly inclined all around the cover and terminates in a central vertical annular flange or ring 12. (See Fig. 1.) In order to secure the said receptacle 5 rigidly in position upon the base 1, I form in the corresponding portions 2 3 of the said elements suitable registering openings 13 14, through which passes the reduced end portion 15 of a rod 16, which extends upwardly for a suitable height and is preferably oval or rounded off at the upper end 17 thereof, the said lower reduced end portion of the rod being threaded, as shown at 18, while fitted to the rod on the inner surfaces of the said portions 2 3, respectively, are washers 19 20, a lock-nut 21 being employed by which to tightly secure the parts together in a manner quite apparent, and inasmuch as ready access may be had to both the base and the receptacle itself it follows that the parts referred to may be easily and quickly associated whenever desired. Fitted to the outer side of the said vertical annular flange or ring 12 by means of rivets 22 or in any other suitable way is a corresponding flange or ring 23, pendent from the edge of a disk or plate 24, the under surface of which rests at the center upon the said rounded upper end 17 of the rod 16; and rigidly connected with this disk or plate, preferably at diametrically opposite points 25 thereof, are duplicate vertically-disposed side plates 26 26, which in the carrying out of the intended functions thereof may be of any preferred configuration or shape, but which are preferably of substantially triangular form, having parts removed therefrom at 27 by which to economize in the material employed in their construction and also to give a certain amount of ornamentality thereto, it being noted that both the inner and outer edges of the members 28 of each plate are scalloped at 29, which also adds somewhat to the appearance of the structure. In addition to these features of construction of the said side plates it may be also stated that inasmuch as the outer edges of the members 28 thereof are of gradually-increasing distance from each other toward the lower extremity thereof provision is thereby afforded for the support between the plates of spools 30 of thread or silk of considerably larger diameter than is afforded by the capacity between the plates at the narrower portions thereof. As herein shown, the said supporting-plates are formed at corresponding parts of their upper extremities with openings 31, leading from the lower part of the edge of each of which is a notch 32, the opposite edges of which are vertically disposed, as shown, and at a suitable distance below the plate members are each correspondingly formed with duplicate openings and notches 33 of like construction, and, moreover, the members are likewise constructed lower down with other duplicate sets 34 35, respectively, of similarly-formed combined openings and notches. Seated upon the lower edge of each of the

said notches of the spool-supporting plates 26 is the end portion of a rod 36, which is formed for a suitable distance from each end with a circumferential groove 37, in which the said lower edge portion of the notch is received when the rods are supported in position between the plates, it being observed that the openings are of a diameter between the edges thereof to permit the endwise insertion there-through of the said rods and also that the diameter of the rods is such as to enable an ordinary spool 30 of silk or thread to be slipped over the same, substantially as shown.

From this construction and organization it will be seen that the spools are mounted in position by inserting an end of the rod through one of the openings 31 to 35 from the outer side of one of the supporting-plates, and then pushing the rod through said opening and likewise through the longitudinal opening in a spool, and then continuing to force the rod through until the grooves therein are in registry with the edges of the opposite combined openings and notches, whereupon by allowing the rod (with the spool thereon) to rest within the notches both the rod and spool are prevented from displacement (either accidentally or otherwise) until the reverse of the operation described has been effected or carried out. The said spool-supporting element of the structure is thus capable of being rotated with the lid or cover of the receptacle in such manner as to bring either one of the spools into position for withdrawing portions of the thread or silk therefrom, it being apparent that but little friction is encountered either between the disk 24 and rod 17 or between the correspondingly-flanged portions of the said cover and receptacle. At the same time it will also be noted that the lid or cover, together with the spool-supporting structure, may be readily detached or removed from the receptacle at any time for the purpose of access to the latter, and while the annular recess 9, formed in the said lid or cover, may be utilized for various purposes I preferably seat or locate therein a cushion 38 of any preferred construction or embodiment adapting the same for the reception of pins or needles in the ordinary way. As a means for retaining this cushion in place I may employ annular flexible cords or rings 39, but it is apparent other means may be employed.

If desired, the distance between the supporting-plates 26 may be such as to accommodate a plurality of spools on each rod, in which case said rods will of course be made of correspondingly-increased length, and, as hereinbefore mentioned, other changes may be made without departing from my invention. The parts may be constructed of any desired material, and the device or structure is readily portable, besides being very light and occupying but small space either in the uses thereof or in shipment or transmission.

I may dispense with the rod 16, if desired, and detachably connect the receptacle 5 to

its base 1 in any other suitable way, in which case the rotatable movements of the spool-support may take place entirely upon the said flange 6. Other forms of direct supports for the spools may also be employed.

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

1. A combined receptacle and spool-support, comprising a base having a central depression in the upper surface thereof, a receptacle having a projection fitting said depression, a pin with one end passing through corresponding openings in said elements and having washers and a nut thereon, and with the other end reaching to a point above the edge of the receptacle, a rotatable lid having a plate fitted thereto and resting on the upper end of the pin, and a spool-support rigidly connected to said plate, said lid being reversely curved diametrically, forming thereby an annular recess adapted for the reception of a pincushion.

2. A combined receptacle and spool-support, comprising a base having a central depression in the upper surface thereof, a receptacle having a projection fitting said depression, a pin with one end passing through corresponding openings in said elements and having washers and a nut thereon, and with

the other end reaching to a point above the edge of the receptacle, a rotatable lid having a plate fitted thereto and resting on the upper end of the pin, and a spool-support rigidly connected to said plate, this support being constructed of duplicate vertical plates formed with corresponding openings and notches, and having rods fitted in opposite notches and formed with circumferential grooves in which portions of the edges of the notches are received.

3. A combined receptacle and spool-support, comprising a base having a central depression in the upper surface thereof, a receptacle having a projection fitting said depression, a pin with one end passing through corresponding openings in said elements, and having washers and a nut thereon, and with the other end reaching to a point above the edge of the receptacle, a rotatable lid having a plate fitted thereto, and resting on the upper end of the pin, and a spool-support rigidly connected to said plate.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT GEORGE McDOWELL.

Witnesses:

FRANK BYRNE,
MALACHI SHEAHAN.