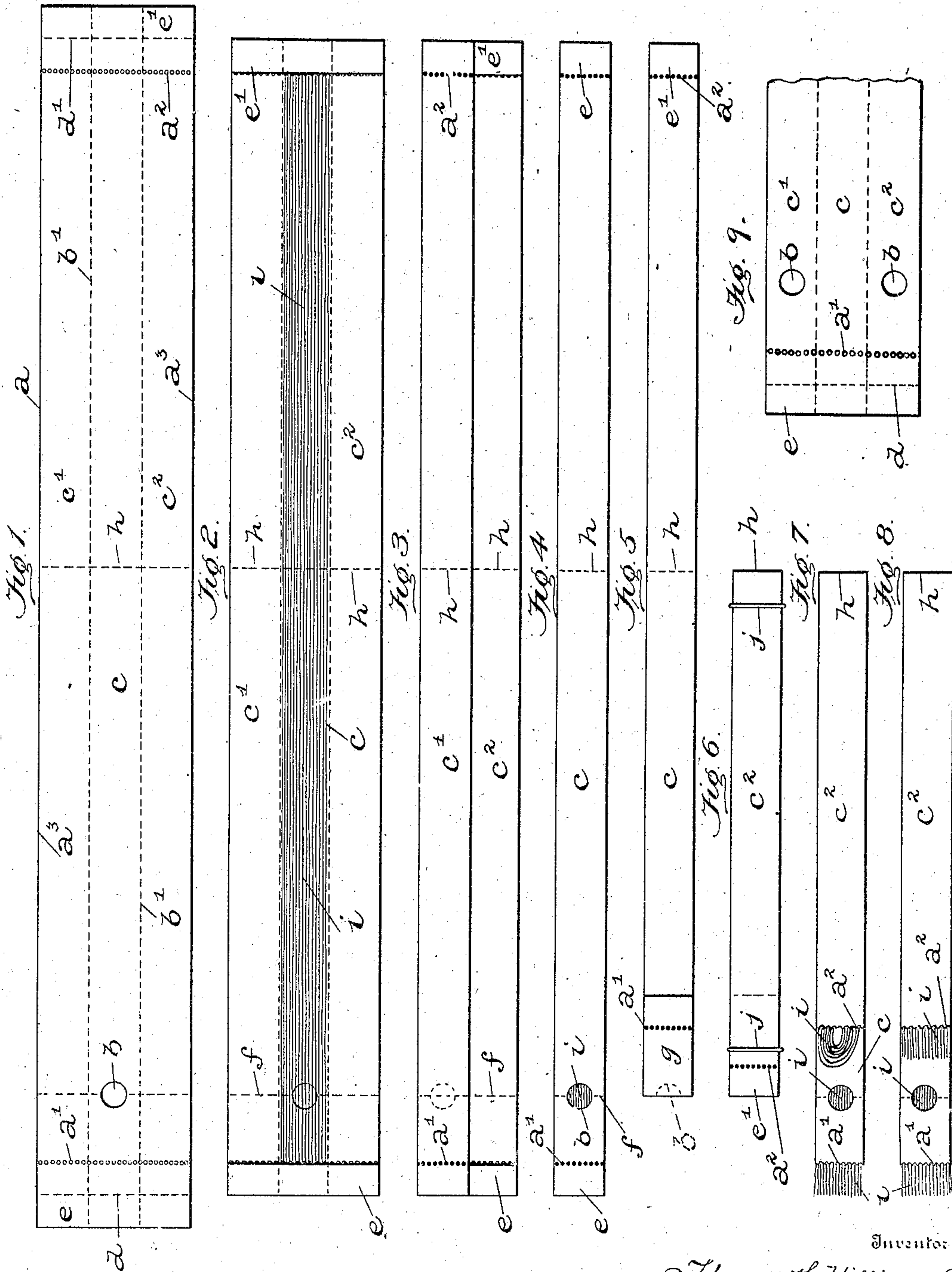


T. H. WILLIAMS.
THREAD PACKAGE.
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Inventor

Thomas H. Williams

Witnesses

Edwin L. Bradford
G. Ferdinand Vogt

By

Mann & Co.,
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS H. WILLIAMS, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR TO
BELDING BROS. & CO., OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF
CONNECTICUT.

THREAD-PACKAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,740, dated June 6, 1905.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thread-Packages, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in thread-packages, and is particularly adapted for the reception of skeins of silk or like material, whereby the same may be handled in the course of trade without liability of becoming soiled, tangled, or faded.

One object of the invention is to provide a construction or form of package which will entirely inclose and thoroughly protect the material and which may be constructed and folded so that access to the material may be gained as readily at one end as at the other, so that the skein may be exposed at either or both ends.

Another object of the invention is to provide a package or case with an inspection-opening and to so fold the said package or case that the opening and thread will be covered and be protected from light and dust.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be disclosed in the following specification.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 illustrates the blank or wrapper in the flat unfolded condition. Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 illustrate the various folding operations to which the blank is subjected in inclosing the thread. Fig. 6 shows the package folded and ready for sale. Fig. 7 illustrates the package after one end has been removed and one end of the skein of threads cut, so that the threads will be in their longest condition; and Fig. 8 illustrates the package after both ends have been removed and both ends of the skein cut to produce short threads. Fig. 9 shows openings in the side sections.

Referring to the drawings by letters, *a* designates a blank, which may be formed of any suitable material—such, for example, as paper—and which is provided near each end

with a series of perforations *a'* and *a''*. These perforations extend in a parallel crosswise direction. The blank is also provided with an opening *b*, which has position between said perforations and which is located centrally with respect to the longitudinal edges *a''* of said blank. Two parallel longitudinal fold-lines *b'* (indicated by dotted lines in the drawings) are provided in the blank, so as to form three parallel sections *c*, *c'*, and *c''*. At each end the blank is also designed to be folded in a crosswise direction on the dotted lines *d* and *d'*, which lines extend in a direction at right angles to the fold-lines *b'* and have position between the ends of the blank and the perforations *a'* and *a''*, respectively, thus forming flaps *e* and *e'*, one at each end of the blank. A fold-line *f* is also provided in the blank, which extends parallel with the perforations *a'* and extends across the blank. In the present instance this fold-line *f* passes centrally across the opening *b* and forms a flap *g*, as clearly seen in Fig. 5. A fold-line *h* is also indicated in the blank by the broken line, and this fold is provided midway between the flap *e'* and the fold-line *f*.

In the operation of the device the thread or material *i* to be wrapped is laid on the center section *c* of the blank over the opening *b*, and the loop ends of the thread extend over or beyond the perforated lines *a'* and *a''*. The two end flaps *e* and *e'* are then turned over toward each other and are folded down on top of the loop ends of the thread *i*, as clearly seen in Fig. 2. The section *c'* is now turned over on top of the thread and also on top of the section *c*, and a portion of the end flaps *e* and *e'* will confront each other, as shown in Fig. 3. The two sections *c'* and *c* are then together turned over on top of the section *c''*, so that the sections *c'* and *c''* will confront each other and the section *c* will be uppermost, with the opening *b* on top and the threads *i* visible through said opening, as seen in Fig. 4. The flap *g* is now turned over on the fold-line *f* over said opening *b* and on top of the section *c*, as illustrated in Fig. 5, so that the said opening will be covered. The end of the folded package opposite the flap *g* is

then folded over on the line *h*, so that the flap *e'* will lie on top of the flap *g* and the section *c²* will be uppermost, as in Fig. 6. Two elastic bands *j* are then preferably placed around the folded package to hold the same in the folded condition. It will thus be seen that when folded the package is less than one-half the length of the blank and that the opening *b* is covered and the thread entirely protected from light and dust.

If it is desired to inspect the thread, as when matching a color or shade, one of the bands *j* may be removed and the package partly unfolded, so that the flap *g* may be turned outwardly to uncover the opening *b* and the inspection made through said opening and without entirely unfolding the package.

It has been shown and described that the loop ends of the skein of thread project over and beyond the perforated lines *a'* and *a²* and that the end flaps *e* and *e'* are turned inwardly toward each other and are folded down on top of said loop ends. This is important and is a feature of the present invention, because the separation and removal of the end flaps take place on a crosswise line where the inturned flap terminates and leaves the loop ends of the thread projecting from the remaining portion of the package. By then cutting the exposed loop ends of thread at one end of the package, as seen in Fig. 7, the threads will all assume single strands and

be of the greatest possible length and may be withdrawn from the opposite or uncut end by pulling on one loop-thread at a time. If it is desired to use the threads in shorter lengths, both loop ends of the thread should be cut, as seen in Fig. 8, and the threads are then reduced in length to one-half of those shown in Fig. 7. The thread contents of the package must extend beyond the perforations *a'* and *a²* in order that the loop ends of the thread will be exposed after the end flaps are removed.

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

A skein-thread package consisting of a single paper casing having three folded longitudinal sections of equal lengths and provided with a peep-hole, *b*, and the opposite ends of the sheet each having inturned flaps, *e*, *e'*, which extend across the entire width of the sheet and across all the sections and both ends of the sheet being weakened across all the folded sections to permit all of said section ends to be removed, and a flap, *g*, formed of all the sections and extending inwardly over the peep-hole.

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

THOMAS H. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

CHARLES B. MANN, Jr.,
J. A. HILLEARY, Jr.