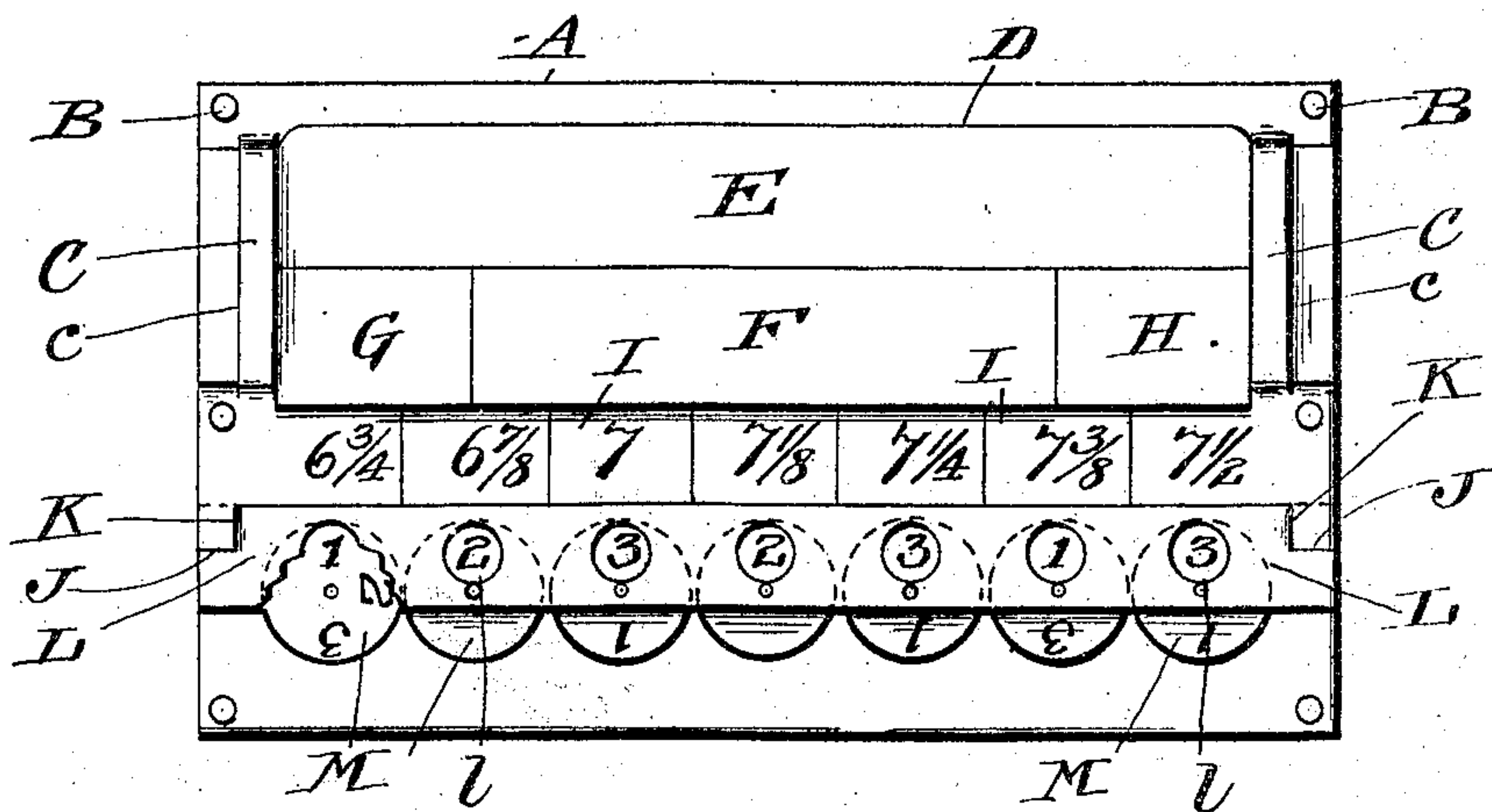


No. 798,262.

PATENTED AUG. 29, 1905.

J. E. BUIE.
STOCK INDICATOR FOR HAT BOXES.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1905.



Witnesses

Joseph H. Blackwood
A. Rudolph, Jr.

Joseph E. Buie, ^{Inventor}
By James K. Poell
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH E. BUIE, OF KAUFMAN, TEXAS.

STOCK-INDICATOR FOR HAT-BOXES.

No. 798,262.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 29, 1905.

Application filed January 17, 1905. Serial No. 241,469.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH E. BUIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kaufman, in the county of Kaufman and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stock-Indicators for Hat-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices to be applied to hat-boxes, and has for its object the provision of an indicator to show the number of hats of each grade, color, and size in a box, so that a salesman can without removing the boxes from the shelves tell whether or not they contain hats to fit the customer, thus saving the salesman the time and labor necessary to pull down and open the boxes, the customer the time required to do this, and also the boxes the wear and tear incident to taking down and opening them unnecessarily. My invention is also of great assistance in taking stock inventories and also in giving filling-in orders to replace sizes that have become exhausted.

The construction, operation, and advantages of my invention will be more fully explained hereinafter and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which is a front view of my invention, showing it partly broken away.

I make my device of flexible cardboard or any other suitable material having a foundation or base piece A with eyelets or strengthened places, with perforations on each end (indicated by B) to receive the paper fasteners of any suitable character to secure the indicator on the box, or the device may be permanently secured to the box, or, in fact, the box itself may be the base or foundation piece, if desired.

Near the upper end of the base-piece A and adjacent to the sides thereof I form loops C by making slits *c* in the said base-piece A to receive a strip D, having a space E thereon to receive the name or style of the hat, and other space F to receive the name of the color of the hat, and spaces G and H to receive the cost and selling price thereof. Below the space occupied by strip D, I provide any number of rectangular spaces I desired, the usual number being seven, though this may be increased or diminished, as desired, and print in said spaces the different sizes of hats usually worn, those for men being "6 $\frac{3}{8}$," "6 $\frac{1}{2}$," "7," "7 $\frac{1}{8}$," "7 $\frac{1}{4}$," "7 $\frac{3}{8}$," and "7 $\frac{1}{2}$," while for

boys the sizes are usually "6," "6 $\frac{1}{8}$," "6 $\frac{1}{4}$," "6 $\frac{3}{8}$," "6 $\frac{1}{2}$," "6 $\frac{5}{8}$," and "6 $\frac{3}{4}$."

Below the series of spaces I and adjacent to the sides of the base plate or piece A are provided slits J to receive tongues K on the ends of a strip L, having holes *l* therein beneath each said space I and a disk M revolvably secured to the strip beneath each said hole *l*, each disk having a series of numerals thereon, beginning with the numeral "1," and a blank space and so positioned on the disk that only one such numeral or the blank space can be seen through the holes *l* at a time.

In operation my invention is, as stated above, applied to a hat-box, and when the stock is placed in the box a strip D is inserted in the loops C, having written or printed thereon the name of the style of the hat, its color, cost, and selling price in the spaces E, F, G, and H, respectively, and the disks M are adjusted so as to indicate the number of each size of hat of the description stated on strip D that are contained in the box. Then as the hats are sold from the box the disks are adjusted so as to indicate the number of each size still remaining in the box.

It will be readily understood that my invention will enable the use of decorated and permanently-useful boxes instead of the unsightly stock-boxes now in general use, thus adding to the sightliness of the interior of hat-stores.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a stock-indicator for hat-boxes, a base-piece adapted to be secured to a box and having thereon a series of spaces containing numerals to indicate the usual sizes of hats worn, a strip removably secured to the base-piece to receive the description of hats contained in the box, a second strip removably secured to said base-piece and adjustable indicators secured to said second strip and arranged adjacent to the spaces containing the size-numerals to indicate the number of each size of hats contained in the box, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a stock-indicator for hat-boxes, a base-piece adapted to be secured to a box and having thereon a series of spaces containing numerals indicating sizes of hats, a strip removably secured to the base-piece to receive the description of the hats contained in the box, a second strip removably secured to said

base-piece, and disks revolubly mounted on said second strip and arranged adjacent to said spaces containing the size-numerals, each of said disks having thereon a series of numerals, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a stock-indicator for hat-boxes, a base-piece adapted to be secured to a box and having thereon spaces containing numerals indicating sizes of hats, a strip removably secured to the base-piece to receive the description of hats contained in the box, a strip removably secured to the base-piece adjacent to the spaces containing the size-numerals and having holes therein arranged adjacent to said spaces, and disks revolubly mounted on said strips and having a series of numerals and blank spaces to interchangeably show through said holes, substantially as shown and described.

4. An indicator for hat-boxes comprising a base-piece adapted to be secured to a box

and having centrally located thereon a series of spaces containing size-numerals, said base-piece having slits at each end thereof above and below said size-numeral spaces, a strip to receive the description of hats contained in the box and secured in the slits above said spaces, a strip secured in the slits below said spaces having a series of holes therein, one of which is beneath each of said spaces, a series of disks revolubly mounted on said strip and having a series of numerals and blank spaces thereon to interchangeably show through said holes, substantially as shown and described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH E. BUIE.

In presence of—

HOMER B. HICKS,
GEO. G. SHAW.