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A.D. 1871, 12th MAY. N° 1287.

Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

LETTERS PATENT to Joseph Welch, of Redditch, in the County of Worcester, Watchmaker, and Charles Laight, of Redditch, aforesaid, Needle Manufacturer, for the Invention of "**IMPROVEMENTS IN CASES FOR HOLDING NEEDLES, PINS, AND OTHER ARTICLES.**"

Sealed the 31st October 1871, and dated the 12th May 1871.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with their Petition, on the 12th May 1871.

We, **JOSEPH WELCH**, of Redditch, in the County of Worcester, Watchmaker, and **CHARLES LAIGHT**, of Redditch aforesaid, Needle Manufacturer, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN CASES FOR HOLDING NEEDLES, PINS, AND OTHER ARTICLES,**" to be as follows :—

Our Invention consists in constructing and combining in the manner herein-after described the parts of cases for holding needles, pins, and other articles.

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

In making a needle case according to one of the arrangements of our Invention we form the body of the case of two rectangular metallic plates or flaps jointed together at their inner longer edges by a hinge joint, the said plates or flaps opening from and closing upon one another after the manner of the cover of a book, the jointed plates or flaps 5 being held together when closed by a jointed or other catch. The edges of the three unjointed sides of each metallic plate or flap are serrated or made into teeth, the said teeth being situated in the same plane as the said plates or flaps.

We place on the inside of the plates or flaps a piece or pieces of 10 leather or fabric, or other tissue, and by turning over the serrated edges of the plates or flaps upon the edges of the piece or pieces of leather, fabric, or tissue, we fix it or them to the inside of the case. The metallic case is thus lined internally with leather, fabric, or other tissue. In the said leather or fabric we make pockets to receive a series of 15 packets of needles, or we make incisions in the said leather or fabric to receive a pair of scissors or crotchet needles or other articles; or the leather or other lining of the case may serve to attach a hussif or flap of soft fabric to, in which hussif or flap loose pins or needles may be stuck. 20

Although we prefer to make the edges of the jointed plates or flaps serrated, yet the edges of the plates to be turned upon the leather or fabric may be plain instead of serrated.

According to another of our arrangements, in place of fixing inside the jointed plates or flaps of the case leather or fabric in which the 25 needles are held, we combine with one or with each of the flaps or plates a slide, within which slide the packets of needles are secured. The said slide consists of a trough-shaped plate of metal, its edges working in the turned down, serrated, or plain edges of the flap or plate of the case. The upper part or top of the slide is jointed to the other part, so that 30 the said top part can be turned at right angles to the other part. At the jointed top of the slide the heads and upper parts of the needles are situated. When the slide is pushed into its flap or plate the jointed top is prevented from being turned down by the edges of the said flap or plate. When it is wished to gain access to the needles in the slide 35 the said slide is raised in its flap until its jointed top is clear of the edges of the flap. The jointed top can now be turned down so as to uncover the upper parts of the packets of needles held in the slide.

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

The jointed top may be used with flat needle cases of various kinds ; or each jointed metallic flap may constitute a case, in which the packets of needles are placed, the top of the cases being open to expose the upper parts of the said packets. The open end of each case is covered and
5 uncovered by a jointed top piece. These top pieces when turned outwards open the case, and when turned inwards embrace one another, and close the case.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent,
filed by the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight in the Great
10 Seal Patent Office on the 7th November 1871.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, we, **JOSEPH WELCH**, of Redditch, in the County of Worcester, Watchmaker, and **CHARLES LAIGHT**, of Redditch, aforesaid, Needle Manufacturer, send greeting.

15 **WHEREAS** Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Twelfth day of May, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, in the thirty-fourth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto us, the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight,
20 Her special licence that we, the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight, our executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as we, the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight, our executors, administrators, and assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein
25 expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for "**IMPROVEMENTS IN CASES FOR HOLDING NEEDLES, PINS, AND OTHER ARTICLES**," upon the condition (amongst others) that we, the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight, our exe-
30 cutors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under our, or their hands and seals, or under the hand and seal of one of us or them, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six
35 calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent.

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

NOW KNOW YE, that we, the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof, that is to say :—

5.

Our Invention consists in constructing and combining in the manner herein-after described the parts of cases for holding needles, pins, and other articles.

In making a needle case according to one of the arrangements of our Invention, we form the body of the case of two rectangular metallic 10 plates or flaps jointed together at their inner longer edges by a hinge joint, the said plates or flaps opening from and closing upon one another after the manner of the cover of a book, the jointed plates or flaps being held together when closed by a jointed or other catch. The edges of the three unjointed sides of each metallic plate or flap are serrated or 15 made into teeth, the said teeth being situated in the same plane as the said plates or flaps. We place on the inside of the plates or flaps a piece or pieces of leather or fabric or other tissue, and by turning over the serrated edges of the plates or flaps upon the edges of the piece or pieces of leather fabric or tissue, we fix it or them to the inside 20 of the case; the metallic case is thus lined internally with leather, fabric, or other tissue. In the said leather or fabric we make pockets to receive a series of packets of needles, or we make incisions in the said leather or fabric to receive a pair of scissors or crochet needles or other articles; or the leather or other lining of the case may serve 25 to attach a hussif or flap of soft fabric to, in which hussif or flap loose pins or needles may be stuck. The edges of the jointed plates or flaps to be turned upon the leather or fabric may be plain instead of serrated.

According to another of our arrangements, in place of fixing inside 30 the jointed plates or flaps of the case leather or fabric in which the needles are held, we combine with one or with each of the flaps or plates a slide, within which slide the packets of needles are secured. The said slide consists of a trough-shaped plate of metal, its edges working in the turned down, serrated, or plain edges of the flap or plate of the 35 case. The upper part or top of the slide is jointed to the other part, so that the said top part can be turned down at right angles to the other part of the slide. At the jointed top of the slide the heads and upper

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

parts of the needles are situated. When the slide is pushed into its flap or plate the jointed top is prevented from being turned down by the edges of the said flap or plate. When it is wished to gain access to the needles in the slide, the said slide is raised in its flap until its jointed
5 top is clear of the edges of the flap. The jointed top can now be turned down so as to uncover the upper parts of the packets of needles held in the slide. The jointed top may be used with flat needles cases of various kinds.

Having explained the nature of our Invention, we will proceed to
10 describe, with reference to the accompanying Drawings, the manner in which the same is to be performed.

Figure 1 represents in elevation and edge view an open needle case, constructed according to our Invention; Figure 2 represents in cross section; and Figure 3, in elevation and edge view, the said needle case
15 closed or folded up. The said needle case consists of two rectangular metallic plates or flaps *a, a*, jointed together at their inner edges by a hinge joint *b*, the said plates or flaps opening from and closing upon one another after the manner of the cover of a book. When closed the jointed plaps *a, a*, are held together by the jointed catch *c*. To the inner
20 side of each of the jointed flaps *a, a*, a lining *d* of leather or fabric or thin sheet metal is fixed. In the said lining *d* pockets marked *d², d²*, (see Figures 1 and 2) are made to receive packets of needles *e, e*; or incisions or pockets may be made in the linings *d, d*, to receive a pair of scissors or crochet needles or other small articles. By means of the
25 lining *d* a flap or hussif *f* of soft material may be fixed to the case, the said flap or hussif being pasted or otherwise secured to the lining *d* before the latter is fixed to the metallic plate or flap of the case. The linings *d, d*, in which the needle pockets are made are secured to the metallic plates or flaps *a, a*, by means of the serrated edges *a², a²*;
30 of the said flaps or plates, the said serrated edges being turned over the edges of the linings, as will be understood by an examination of the Drawing.

Figure 4 represents in elevation and edge view an open needle case, in which the turned-over edges *a², a²*, by which the linings *d, d*, are fixed
35 to the inside of the metallic plates or flaps *a, a*, are plain instead of serrated; and in addition to the pockets in the linings for receiving packets of needles supplementary flaps or pockets *g, g*, for receiving packets of needles are combined with the case, the inner edges of the

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

said flaps or pockets *g, g*, being secured to the inner side of the linings *d, d*, before they are fixed to the jointed metallic plates *a, a*, by the turning over of the edges *a², a²*. The turned-over edges *a², a²*, of the case may have any desired ornamental shape.

Instead of using jointed flaps or plates of continuous metal, as 5 represented in Figures 1, 2, 3, and 4, the central portions of the said plates may be pierced out so as to form frames, the flaps being completed by the insertion in the frames of paper, gelatine, ornamented sheet metal, or other substance which will give to the outside of the case an ornamental appearance, the paper, gelatine, or sheet metal being held as 10 well as the inner lining between the two turned-over edges of the frame.

Figure 5 represents in elevation a folded needle case, the jointed flaps of which are made as last described, the said case being provided with the additional flaps *g, g*, shown in Figure 4.

Figure 6 represents a cross section of Figure 5. *a², a²*, are the 15 turned-over edges of the metallic frame of the case; *d, d*, are the linings inside the case in which the needle pockets are made; and *h, h*, are the paper, gelatine, or metal panels forming the outer sides of the flaps of the case. The manner in which the edges of the pannels *h, h*, and linings *d, d*, are held between the two turned-over edges of each of the 20 metallic frames of the flaps will be readily understood by referring to the section, Figure 6.

Figure 7 represents in front elevation and Figure 8 in cross section a jointed metallic needle case, in which the covering flap is provided with 25 pockets for holding needles according to our Invention. *i, i*, is the metallic case for holding the packets of needles *k*, the said case being formed by the folding of the bottom of the case upon the body. The jointed metallic flap or cover *l* is provided with a lining *m* fixed thereto by the turned-over edges or ears *l², l²*, of the said flap or cover. In the lining of the flap *l* pockets *m², m²*, are made to receive a packet 30 of needles, and a large or a series of large needles or bodkins.

Figure 9 represents in elevation and Figure 10 in cross section another needle case made of three jointed metallic plates or flaps *n, o, p*, provided with linings *q, r, s*, in which pockets are made for receiving 35 packets of needles and loose sewing machine or other large needles or bodkins. The said linings are fixed to the inside of the metallic flaps *n, o, p*, of the case by the turning of the edges or ears *t, t*, of the case upon the said linings. The outer flaps *q, s*, fold upon the middle

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

plate or flap *r*, and thereby cover the whole of the needles contained in the case. Our method of combining a lining for holding needles with the flaps or sides of the metallic case may be applied to needle cases of various kinds.

- 5 Figure 11 represents in front elevation and edge view an open needle case in which one of the jointed plates or flaps is provided with a slide, within which the packets of needles are placed; both flaps may, however, be provided with slides of the kind represented.

Figure 12 is a side elevation of the needle case and Figure 13 is a
10 section of the same. *a, a*, are the jointed metallic flaps, and *b* is the joint of the same. *c* is the slide consisting of a trough-shaped plate of metal, its edges working in the turned-over edges *a², a²*, of one of the flaps *a*. To the upper end of the slide *c* a top part *c²* is jointed, the said top part being capable of being turned down, and placed at right
15 angles to the slide. The heads and upper parts of the needles of the packets *d, d*, are situated within the jointed top part *c²*, and the bottoms of the packets are supported on the bottom or ledge of the slide. When the slide *c* occupies the position represented in Figures 11 and 12 the jointed top *c²* is prevented from being turned down by the edges *a², a²*,
20 of the flap or plate in which the edges of the jointed top *c²* work.

To gain access to the needles in the slide *c* the said slide is raised on its flap until the edges of the jointed top *c²* are clear of the edges of the said flap.

The jointed top *c²* can now be turned down, as illustrated in
25 Figure 13, so as to uncover the upper parts of the packets of needles held in the slide.

To close the slide and to permit of its motion into the flap *a* the jointed top *c²* is raised, so that its bottom edges are opposite the turned-over edges of the flap, when the slide may be pushed home into its flap
30 and the slide closed.

Instead of combining the slide *c, c²*, Figures 11, 12, and 13, with a jointed flap or plate, the said slide may be combined with an unjointed plate, that is to say, the needle case may consist of a rectangular trough-shaped body and a slide with a jointed top, the said slide working in
35 the turned over or trough edges of the body.

Figure 14 represents in side elevation, front and end elevation, and section, a needle case of this kind fitted to hold a single packet of

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

needles, and Figure 15 represents the parts of which the case is made. *a* is the trough-shaped body of the case, in the edges of which body the edges of the trough-shaped slide *c* work. The slide *c* has a size and shape proper to hold a single packet of needles; *c*² is the jointed top of the slide, by the turning down of which, when the slide has been raised 5 in the body *a*, the heads and upper parts of the needles in the packet *d* are exposed, as illustrated in the section of Figure 14. The rising motion of the slide *c*, *c*², is limited by the stops *e* on either side, the body *a* working in the cut-away parts *f*, *f*, in the edges of the said slide. 10

The stop arrangement is best seen in the detached parts, Figure 15.

Figure 16 represents in front elevation a compound needle case of the construction last described. The parts of this compound case are marked with the same letters as corresponding parts in Figures 14 and 15. 15

Figure 17 represents a needle case of this kind fitted to hold sewing machine needles, the slides *c* being provided with depressions or grooves in which the shanks of the needles fit.

Figure 18 represents in front elevation and Figure 19 in vertical section a needle case with a double-slide constructed according to our 20 Invention. In this case a rectangular trough frame *a* is used, on either side of which a slide *c* with a jointed top *c*² works, the fixed plate or division *d* separating the two slides. The jointed tops *c*², *c*², of the slides open in opposite directions; a chain or handle may be connected to the top of this case. 25

Figure 20 represents in front elevation and Figure 21 in side elevation an open flat needle case provided with a modification of the jointed top herein-before described.

Figure 22 and Figure 23 represent the said case closed. *a* is the flat metallic body of the case, having a series of semicircular openings 30 at top, at which openings the packets of needles are introduced into the case. These openings are covered and uncovered by means of a plate *c* jointed at *c*² to the back of the case, and by a flap *d* jointed to the top edge of the said plate *c*. When the jointed plate *c* is raised parallel with the back of the case it closes the semicircular openings at one side 35 of the case, and by then turning the jointed flap *d* over the top of the case the semicircular openings at the other side of the case are also

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

closed, as illustrated in Figures 22 and 23. The flap *d* is fixed down by a catch.

To gain access to the packets of needles in the case the flap *d* is first raised and the jointed plate *c* turned back from the case, as illustrated in Figures 20 and 21. The tops of the needles are thus exposed, and can be removed from the case.

Although our improved cases with jointed tops are specially applicable for holding needles, yet they may also be used for holding reserve black-leads, and for holding other small articles.

10 Having now described the nature of our Invention, and the manner in which the same is to be performed, we wish it to be understood that we do not limit ourselves to the precise details herein described and illustrated, as the same may be varied without departing from the nature of our Invention; but we claim as our Invention,—

15 Firstly. The improvements in cases for holding needles, pins, and other small articles herein-before described and illustrated in Figures 1 to 10, both inclusive, of the accompanying Drawings, that is to say, combining with the metallic flaps, or plates, or frames of the case linings of leather, fabric, or other material, in which linings pockets are made for receiving packets of needles and other small articles, the said linings being fixed to the metallic flaps or frames, substantially as described and illustrated. Also the method described with reference to Figures 5 and 6 of forming the flaps of the case of panels inserted and fixed in the metallic frame by the turned-over edges of the same.

25 Secondly. The improvements in cases for holding needles, pins, and other small articles herein-before described and illustrated in Figures 11, 12, and 13 of the accompanying Drawings, that is to say, the combination with one or with each of the jointed plates or flaps of the case of a slide containing the packets of needles, the said slide being furnished with a jointed top, and working in the turned-over edges of the flap or plate, substantially as described and illustrated.

35 Thirdly. The improvements in cases for holding needles, pins, and other small articles herein-before described and illustrated in Figures 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the accompanying Drawings, that is to say, the combination with the body or plate of the case of a single or double slide in which the packet or packets of needles are held, the said slide being provided with a jointed top, substantially as described and illustrated.

Welch & Laight's Improvements in Cases for Needles, Pins, &c.

Lastly. The combination with flat metallic needles cases of a jointed top, as herein-before described and illustrated in Figures 20, 21, 22, and 23 of the accompanying Drawings.

In witness whereof, we, the said Joseph Welch and Charles Laight, have hereunto set our hands and seals, this Third day 5 of November, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

JOSEPH WELCH. (L.S.)

CHARLES LAIGHT. (L.S.)

Witness,

JAMES ASTON,
Beoley Road,
Redditch.

10

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE EDWARD EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty. 1871.

FIG. 1.

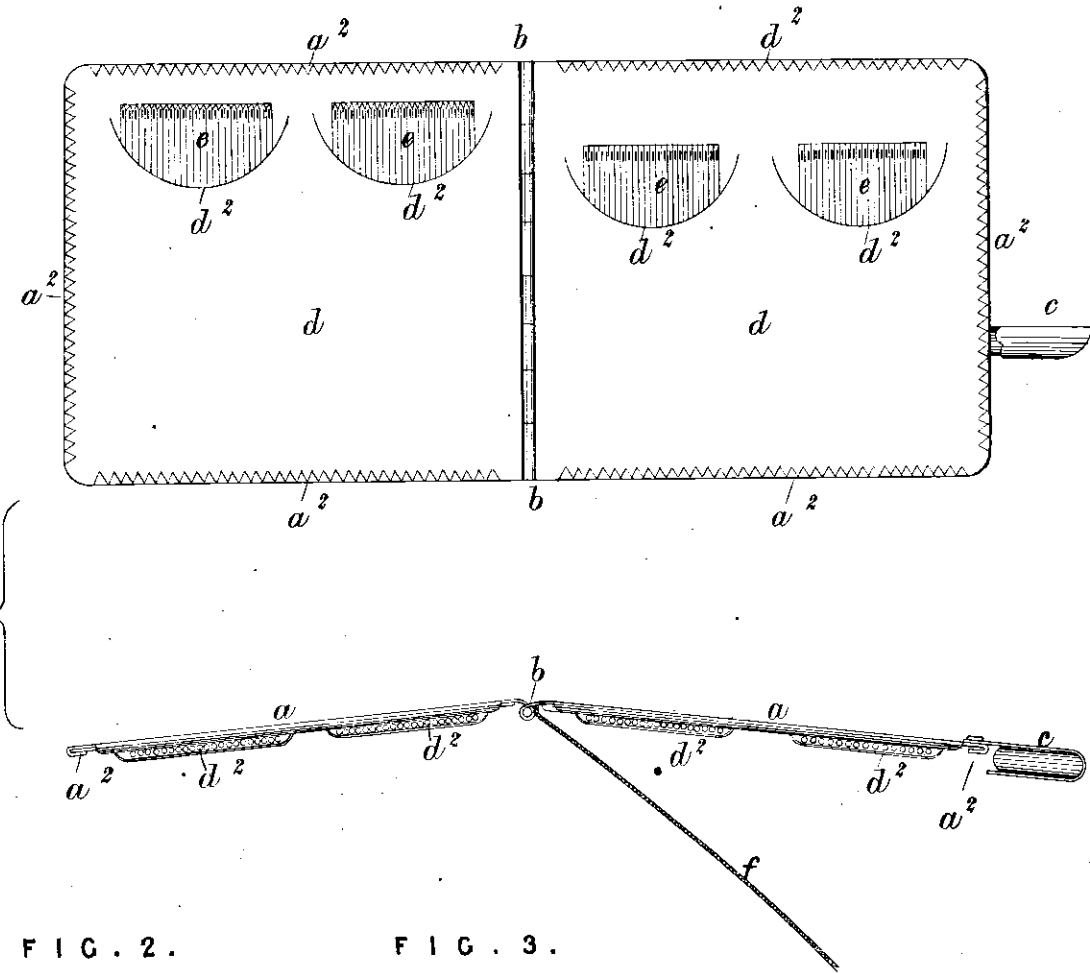


FIG. 4.

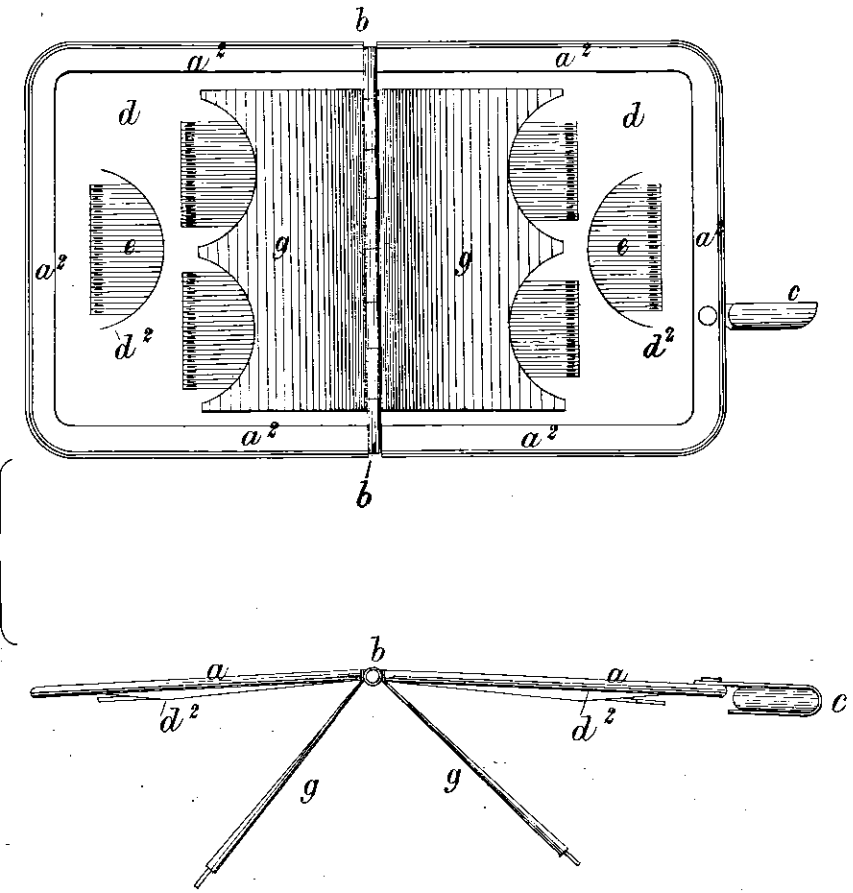


FIG. 7.

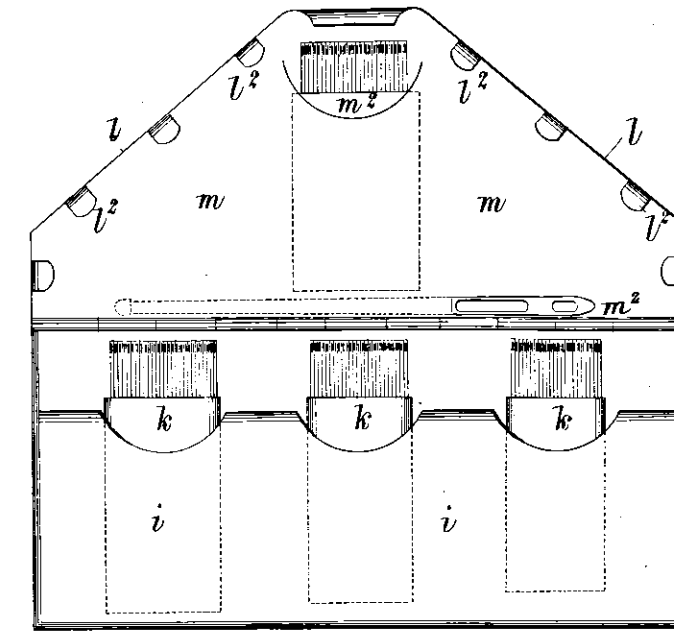


FIG. 8.

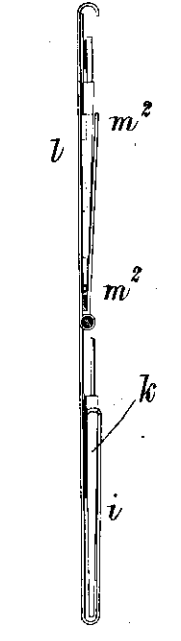


FIG. 2.

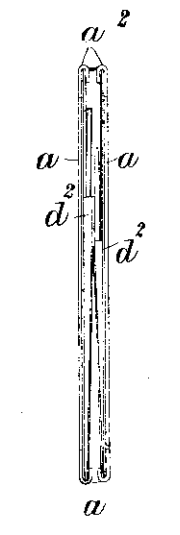


FIG. 3.

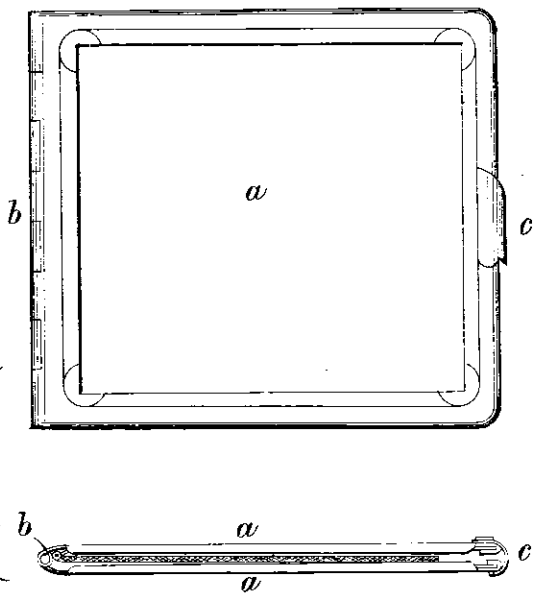


FIG. 5.

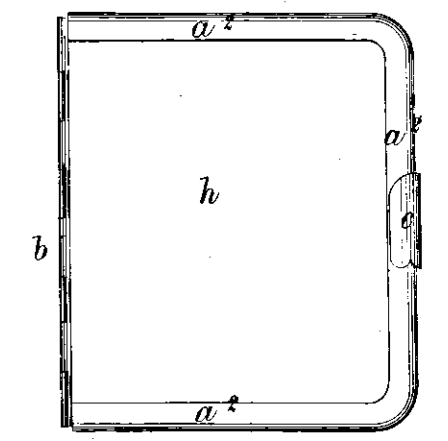


FIG. 6.

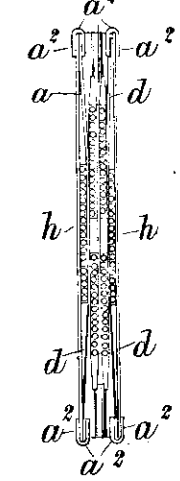


FIG. 9.

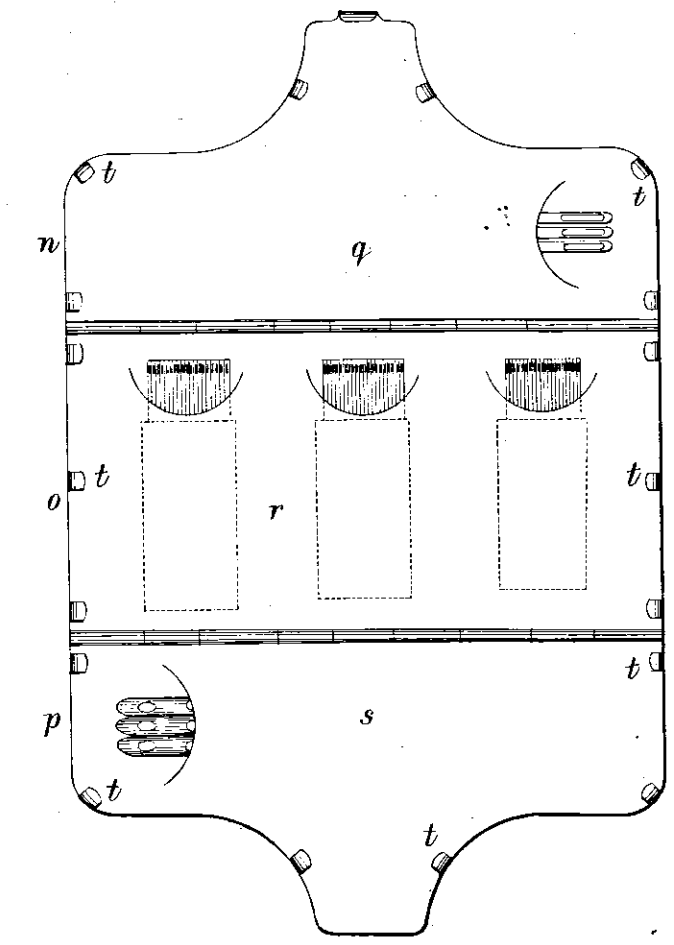
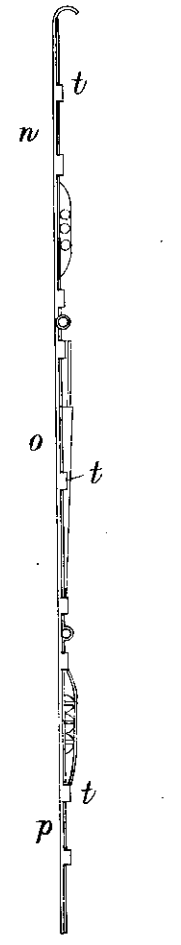


FIG. 10.



The filed drawing is partly colored

Drawn on Stone by Malby & Sons.

FIG. 11.

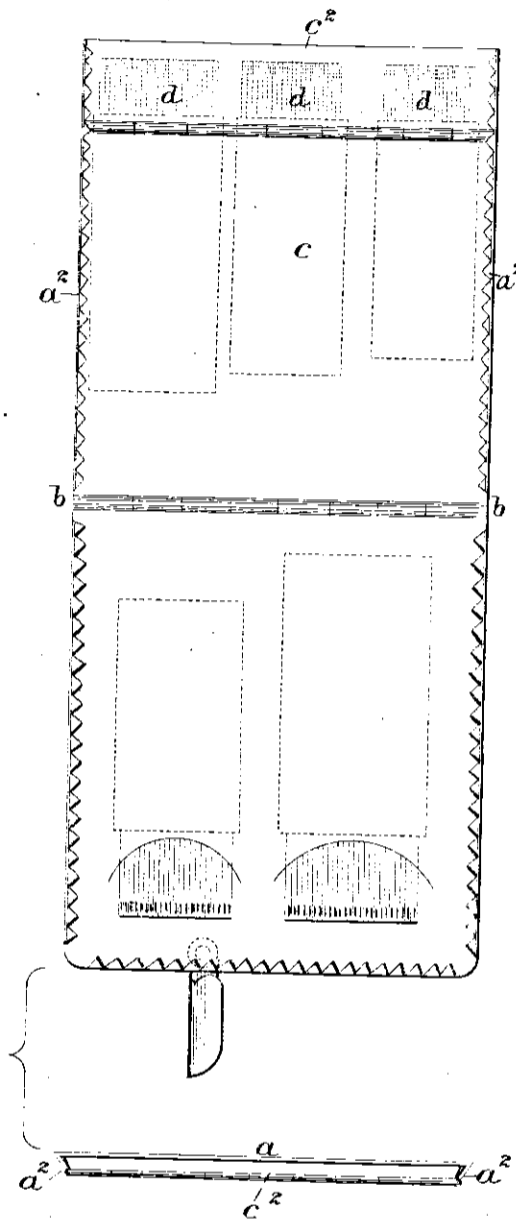


FIG. 12. FIG. 13.

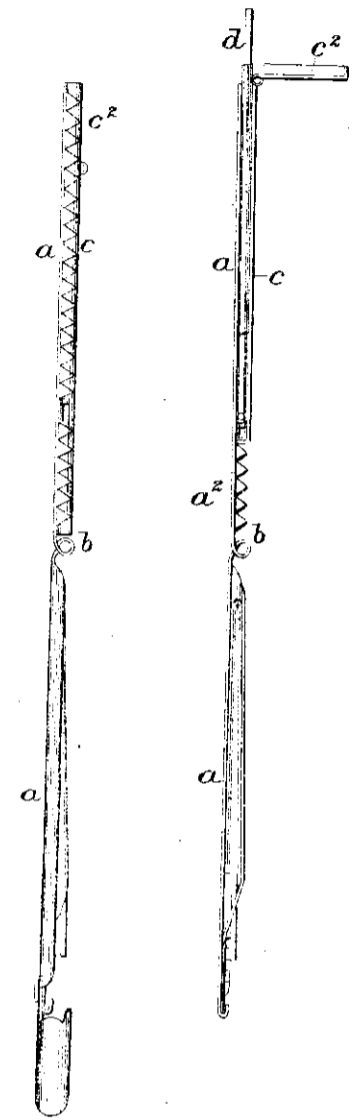


FIG. 17.

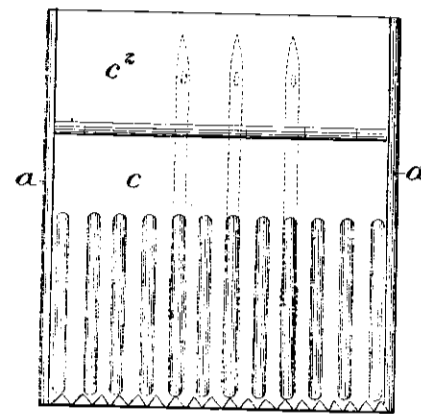


FIG. 18.

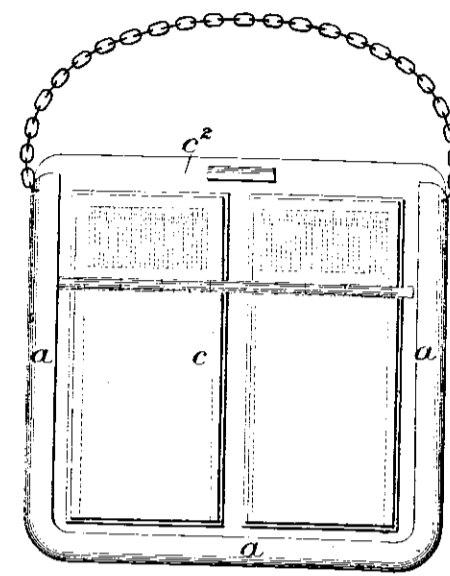


FIG. 19.

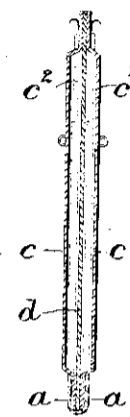


FIG. 20.

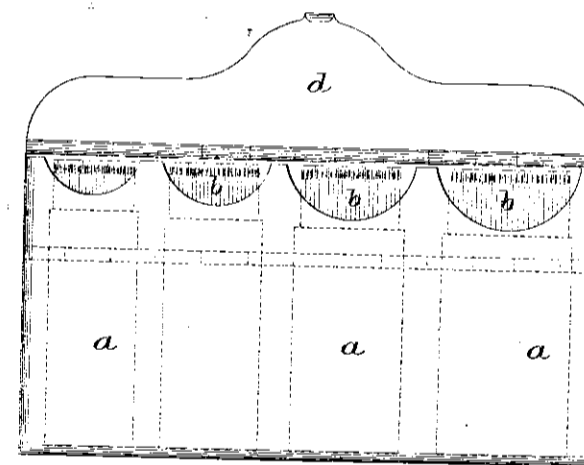


FIG. 21.

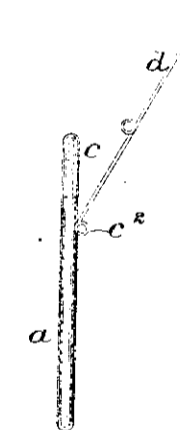


FIG. 14.

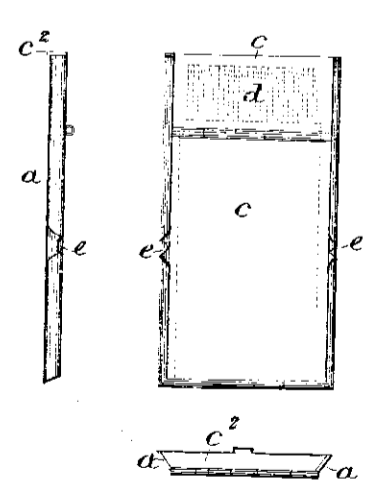


FIG. 15.

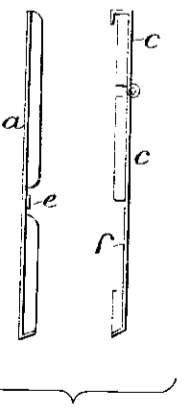


FIG. 16.

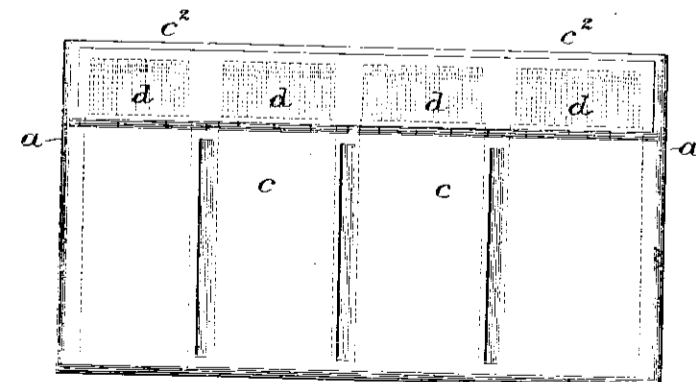


FIG. 22.

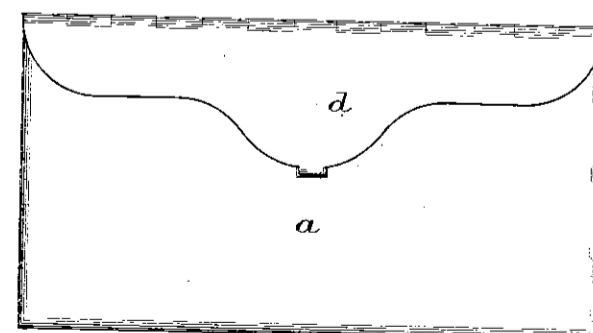
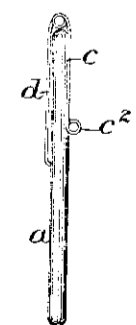


FIG. 23.



The filed drawing is partly colored.