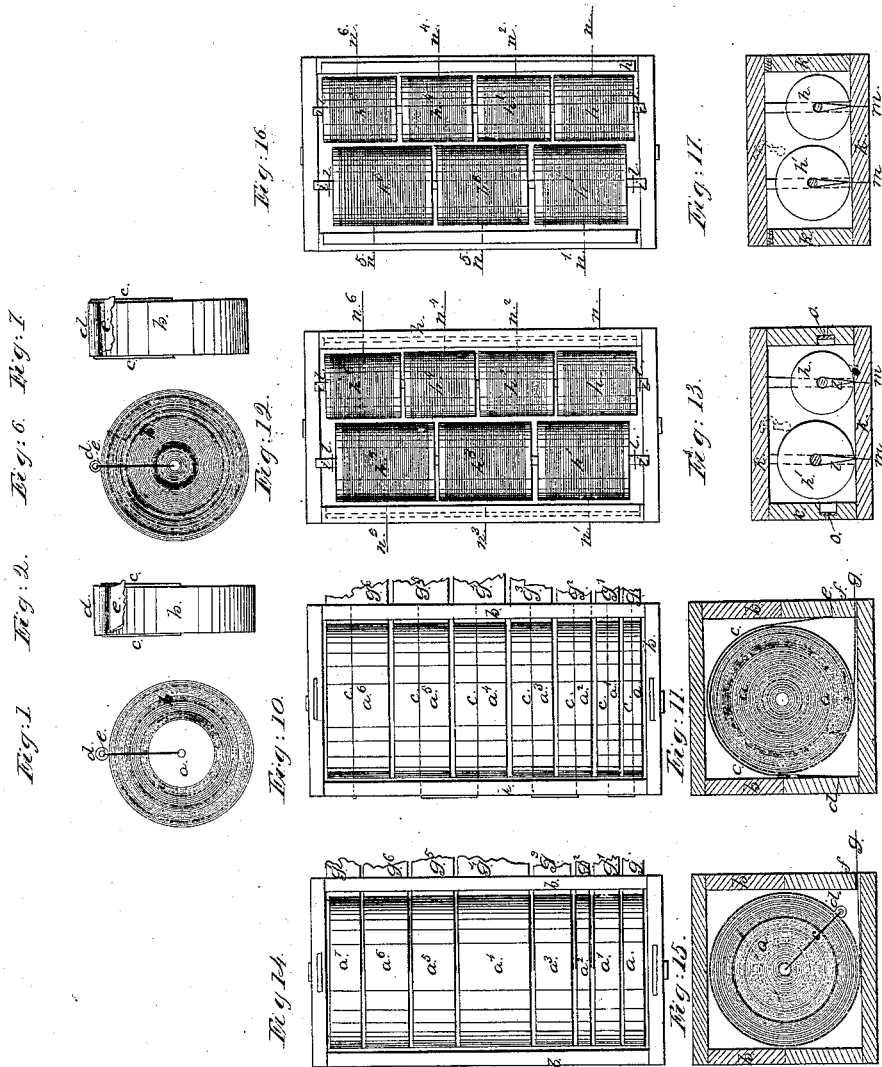


M. B. Westhead,

Show Case,

N^o 50,318.

Patented Oct. 3, 1865.



Witnesses:
Ed. Spuff
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Inventor:
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By [Signature]
att'y/s

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARCUS BROWN WESTHEAD, OF MANCHESTER, GREAT BRITAIN.

DEVICES FOR ARRANGING TAPES, RIBBONS, AND THREADS FOR USE.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,318, dated October 3, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARCUS BROWN WESTHEAD, of Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, Great Britain, have invented Improvements in Adapting or Arranging Tapes, Ribbons, or other such narrow Fabrics and Threads for Use; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to make up tapes, ribbons, and other such narrow fabrics or thread in such manner that the consumer may be able to unwind or rewind them and retain the coils in a compact form.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown two methods by which my invention may be carried into effect.

Figures 1 and 2 represent in two views a coil of tape or ribbon with my improvements applied.

At *a* is a block of wood or other suitable material, upon which the tape or ribbon *b* is wound in the usual manner. Through a central hole in this block is passed a strip of india-rubber, *c*, which is threaded through a roller, *d*, the ends of the said strip being then united. The roller *d* I construct of glass, but it may be of other material. The elastic band *c* therefore draws the roller *d* downward upon the coils of tape or ribbon, and thus acts as a clip to bind the one upon the other. Suppose a length of the material to be required, the coil may be held in one hand and the end *e* drawn with the other until the desired quantity is unwound; but as the clip above described acts as a drag, this is effected without a disturbance of the coils—a result which is assisted by the elastic band *c*, constituting side guides for keeping them in their places laterally.

If a greater length be drawn off than is required it is readily wound again in a compact form by holding the roller *a* in one hand and turning round the coils of tape or ribbon with the other.

The above-described arrangement refers to the use of single coils of tape, ribbon, or other such narrow fabrics and threads; but another part of my invention consists in a method of

combining several of such coils, which may be of different widths or otherwise varying in character, each of which may be drawn off at pleasure without disturbance of the complete coils. This portion of my invention I have shown under two modifications, which I will now describe.

Figs. 10 and 11 exhibit, in horizontal and cross sections, one method I adopt. At *a a' a²*, &c., are separate coils of tape, ribbon, or other such narrow fabric placed within a box, *b*. Across the upper surfaces of these coils are bands of india-rubber *c*, made fast to the box at their ends *d e*. These bands, therefore, press the coils downward, and act as a drag or brake to prevent an unwinding. In the horizontal view, Fig. 10, I have represented the drag or brake as consisting of one elastic band, threaded backward and forward, passing each time through the box *b*; but there may be a separate band for each coil, if desired. At the bottom of the box is formed a slit, *f*, and through this slit the ends *g g' g² g³*, &c., pass, which are to be drawn when any given length is required for use. It will thus be seen that the coils are preserved as under the first part of my invention, and that, in addition to this, a receptacle is provided from which lengths may be drawn of fabrics in variety of widths, qualities, colors, or other characters.

Figs. 12 and 13 represent another method of carrying this part of my invention into effect. In this instance I have shown a series of bobbins of sewing-threads, *h h' h²*, &c., each of which may be of a different quality or color. These bobbins *h* are mounted upon axles *i*, situate within grooves formed in the end of box *k*. At each end of the axles *i* are bands of india-rubber *l*, which, after passing around them, are secured at the bottom of the box at *m*, and thus the bobbins are drawn downward with an elastic force, so as to have a drag or brake put upon them. The ends from which the threads are drawn are shown at *n n' n²*, &c., passing from the bobbins *h h' h²*, &c., and thence through a strip of india-rubber, *o*, and apertures in the box *k*. When it is desired to draw an end, *n*, forward, the bobbin on which it is wound is prevented from turning unduly by the elastic bands *l*.

Figs. 14 and 15 represent the arrangement shown at Figs. 6 and 7 adapted to a box, and Figs. 16 and 17 show a modification of Figs. 12 and 13, the ends being drawn from the top of the box through strips of india-rubber *o*, as in the former case, and thus a retrograde motion of the thread is prevented.

Having thus particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and the manner of carrying the same into effect, I desire it to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise arrangements above shown

and described, as other methods may be adapted which will substantially effect the purpose in view.

What I claim is—

The application of an elastic clip or drag for the purposes above set forth.

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