

C. FOLSOM.
Sample-Case.

No. 217,933.

Patented July 29, 1879.

Fig 1.

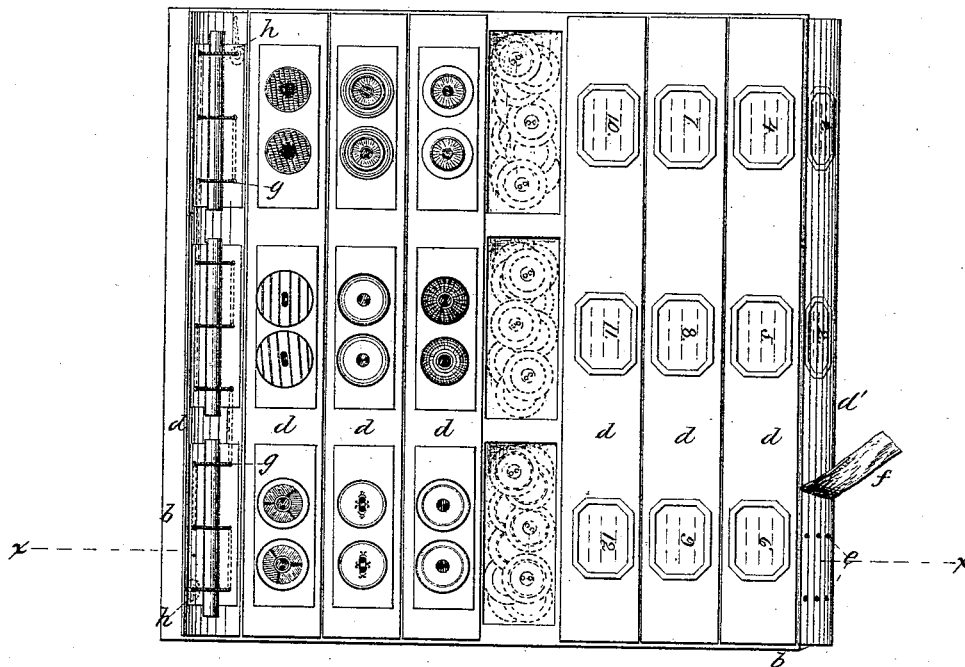
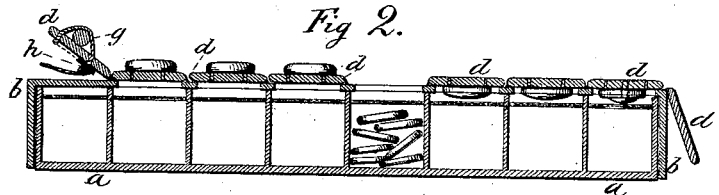


Fig 2.



Witnesses:
Chas. M. Higgins
John B. Gavin

Inventor:
Charles Folsom
by S. H. Wales & Son
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CHARLES FOLSOM, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SAMPLE-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,933**, dated July 29, 1879; application filed May 27, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES FOLSOM, of New York city, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Show, Packing, or Sample Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention aims to provide a case more particularly adapted for the package, display, and sale of such small varied goods as pocket-cutlery, buttons, fancy goods, &c., in which the manufacturer or wholesale dealer may put up the same for sale to the small dealer in such manner that the advantage of a variety of goods without much quantity in the same case or package shall be obtained, and which will at the same time present the goods, with their prices and samples, in an attractive and convenient manner.

To this end the main feature of my invention may be stated to consist in a show, packing, or sample case having its interior formed in a series of compartments adapted for different goods, and having its lid or cover formed in a number of segmental parallel lids or covers corresponding to the compartments or lines of compartments, the said segmental lids being so hinged and arranged as to fold down on its own compartment or fold back over the next compartment, so that, samples being attached to the under side of the lid, and price-marks to the top of the lid of the next compartment, by turning over any lid, the goods contained in the compartment, the samples, and the price-marks thereof are displayed at a glance in contiguous parallel positions.

The invention also embodies minor features of construction, as hereinafter set forth.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 presents a plan view of my improved packing-case, and Fig. 2 a section thereof on *x x*.

The case is made, preferably, of strong paper-board; but other suitable material may be adopted.

a indicates the containing-body of the case, and *b* the top or cover. This containing-body I prefer to form as a shallow tray or box-body, and the cover as an ordinary box-cover, with pendent sides or rim to fit over the same like a common box-lid; but the cover or lid of the case may be fixed rigidly to the containing-body. The interior of the body *a* is divided

by transverse and longitudinal partitions into a number of cells or compartments, preferably of rectangular form, and preferably arranged in transverse parallel lines, as shown, preferably two or more cells being in the same line, as shown.

Now, the top or cover of the case *b* has openings or lines of openings formed through it corresponding to the compartments or lines of compartments in the body, so as to render the same accessible, and the said top is also fitted with a series of small or segmental lids, *d d*, arranged parallel with each other, and corresponding to the lines of compartments, as shown. These lids are each hinged to the top or cover, about midway of the narrow partition-strip separating the lines of compartments, as shown best in Fig. 2, in such manner as to fold down and cover their own compartment, or to fold back over the next compartment, as shown, respectively, on the right and left of the figures.

The several qualities or varieties of goods which are to be packed in the case are deposited thereon, each in its own distinct compartment, the samples thereof are attached to the under side of the lid of the compartment containing like kind, while the top of the lid of the next compartment receives a ticket or mark containing the price of the goods or other remarks concerning them, as illustrated.

To carry out this arrangement over the whole case, it will be seen that an extra lid or flap, *d'*, at one end of the case receives the price-mark for the compartment at that end, while the last compartment at the opposite end of the case forms a dead space, which is permanently covered by a fixed part of the top, as shown best in Fig. 2.

It will now be readily seen that manufacturers or wholesale dealers may pack or put up their goods, in the manner described, in packages or cases of this kind with considerable advantage, for a small package may thus contain quite a variety without much quantity, and be thus better suited to the small dealer, while the goods are, at the same time, presented in the most convenient, attractive, and salable manner. Thus when the compartmental lids of the case are thrown back the samples of a variety of goods are thus exposed

at once, presenting an attractive appearance, while the goods are protected from undue exposure, and when the case or package is placed on the counter or in the glass show-case the purchaser can readily select or indicate the quality or variety of goods desired, when by turning down the lid next to the samples selected the prices of goods on the top side of the said lid are exposed, and the goods in the compartments are rendered accessible and may be removed as required, while the samples yet remain in view for comparison, the prices, goods, and samples being thus displayed at once in contiguous parallel lines, as seen at the center of Figs. 1 and 2.

To facilitate the attachment of the samples to the under sides of the lids, a minor feature of my invention consists in forming the lids with a series of holes or openings punched through the same, and continued at uniform intervals of about half an inch over the whole extent of the lid, or on the lines where the samples are attached, as shown at *e* in Fig. 1, these holes being concealed by a thin covering of ornamental cloth or paper, *f*, to give a finished appearance to the lid. It will thus be easy to puncture the thin covering at the proper holes through the lid, so as to admit the passage of a small fastening or string to secure the samples in place without mutilating or seriously injuring the appearance of the lid.

Another feature consists in an adjustable elastic cord for securing the samples in position, as shown at *g*, which is passed in a series of loops through the punctures of the lid, as shown, the loops holding the sample, while the ends of the cords are, preferably, knotted and held by the washers *h h*, so that the ends of the cords may thus be let in or out to tighten or loosen the same, and be thus adjusted to properly hold the sample, or may be passed

through the holes of the lid in loops of more or less number, according to the number and size of the samples, as will be understood.

It will be readily seen that the divided box-body *a* may sometimes be substituted by a series of small separate boxes fitting together and forming compartments, the cover being arranged to fit down over and inclose the same, which forms a simple equivalent for the single divided box; and it will be seen that the main novelty of my invention lies in the described form of box-cover, with its several compartmental lids, adapted for use with a compartmental box-body or cluster of small boxes, in the manner described.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A packing or show case formed of a containing box-body divided into a series of compartments, or its equivalent, with a top or cover formed with openings corresponding to said compartments, and with a series of lids hinged at the partition-line of the said compartments, and arranged to fold down on its own compartment or back over the next compartment, whereby samples attached to the under side of the lids and price-marks on the tops of the next lids, together with the goods in the compartment, may be exposed at once in contiguous parallel lines when one of the lids is turned over or down, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. A packing, sample, or show case lid formed with a continued series of perforations extending through the same, and covered or concealed by a thin penetrable surface, covering, or fabric, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

CHARLES FOLSOM.

Witnesses:

CHAS. M. HIGGINS,
S. H. WALES.