2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. G. KELLY.

SHOW-CASE FOR SPOOL-SILK.

No. 182,761. Patented Oct. 3, 1876.

Fig. 2.

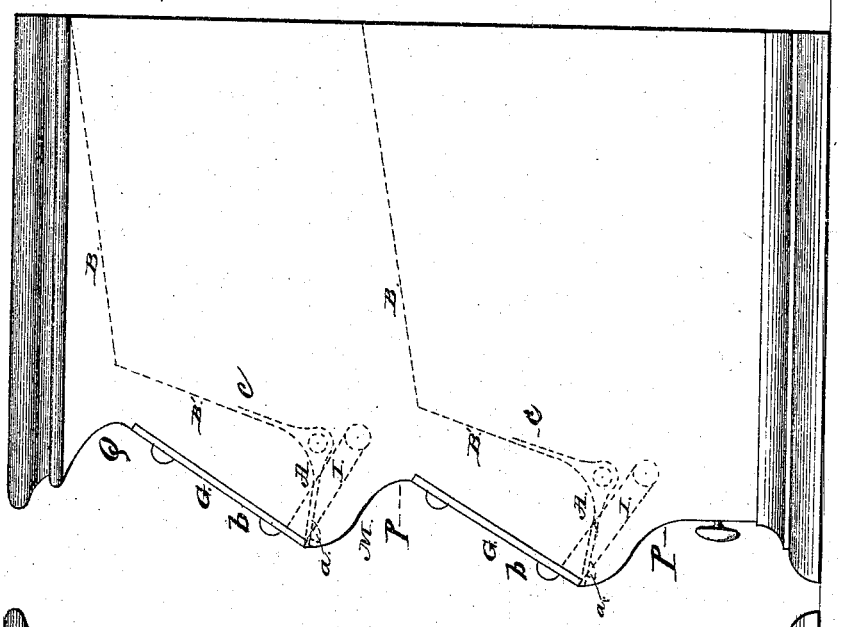
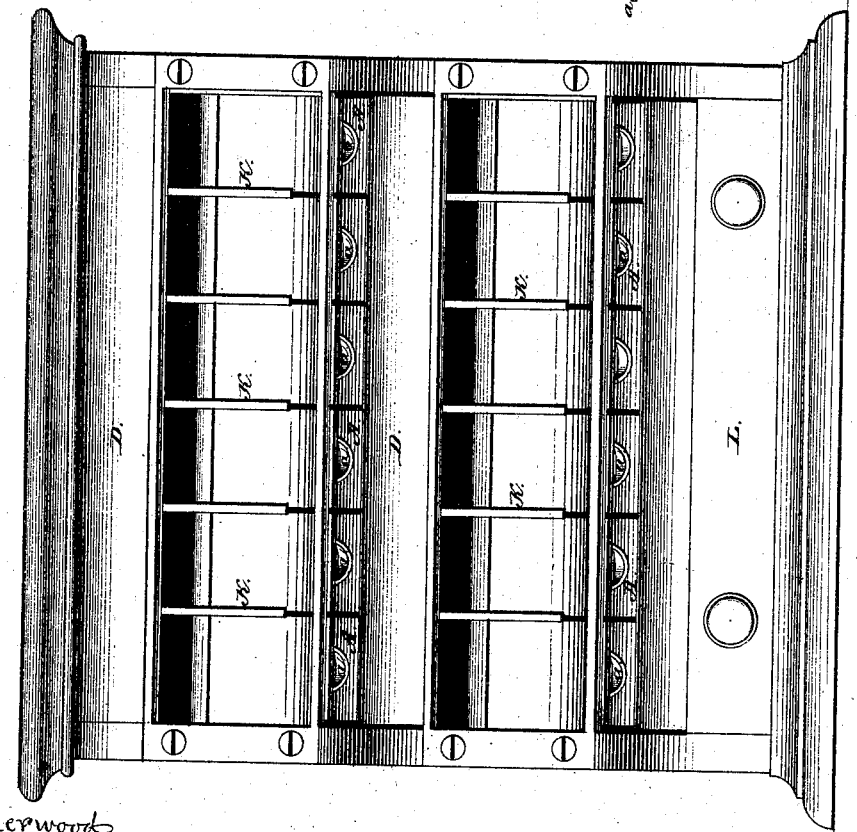


Fig. 1.



Attest:
C. W. Underwood
C. R. Marks

Inventor:
W. G. Kelly.
Per C. S. Fosbyn.
Atty.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

W. G. KELLY.

SHOW-CASE FOR SPOOL-SILK.

No. 182,761. Patented Oct. 3, 1876.

Fig. 5.

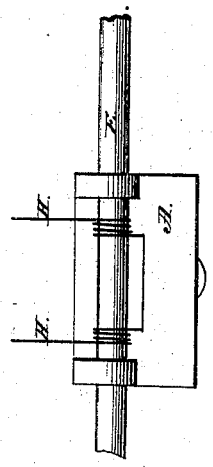


Fig. 3.

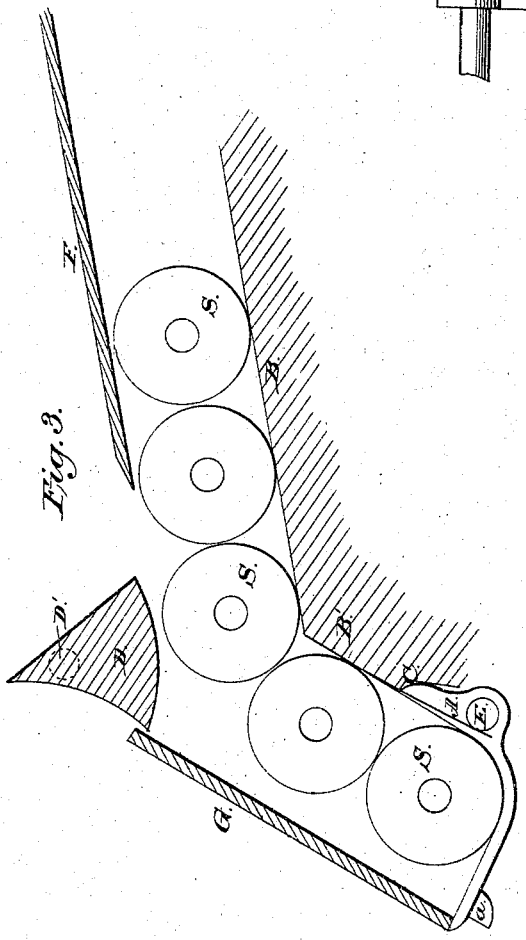
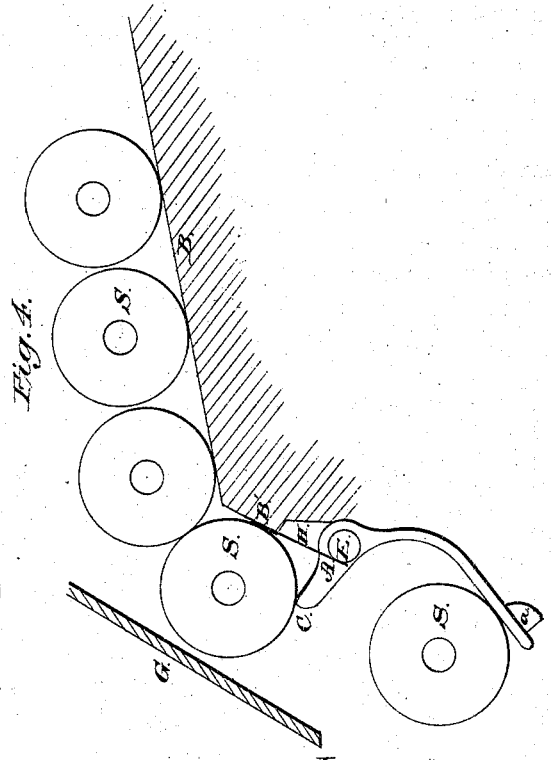


Fig. 4.



Attest:
C. W. Underwood,
C. R. Marks

Inventor:
W. G. Kelly
Per C. S. Joslyn, Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM G. KELLY, OF LENOX, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOW-CASES FOR SPOOL-SILK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **182,761**, dated October 3, 1876; application filed April 24, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM G. KELLY, of the town of Lenox, county of Madison, State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in a Case or Cabinet for the Exhibition of Spooled Silk and Thread, and for the convenience of merchants in retailing the same; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

Figures 1 and 2, in Sheet 1 of the drawing, are the front and side views of the cabinet. Fig. 3, in Sheet 2 of the drawing, is a cross-section of a portion of the cabinet, showing the spools as they are when the drop or valve is closed. Fig. 4 shows the same cross-section when a spool is being removed. Fig. 5 shows the drop A and rod E, with the spring H attached.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved show-case or cabinet, which shall be so constructed as to present a front view of two or more spools of every color or kind of silk or thread, making thereby a display of the goods which will advertise them in an effective way, while it is also convenient for putting in and taking out the spools; and consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of various parts of the case, hereinafter more fully described.

A represents the valve, by means of which the spools may be removed from the cabinet. It consists of a piece of flat metal, of angular form, having a perforation formed on its back at the vertex of the angle. This perforation is to receive a rod, upon which the valve may turn. This rod, which is marked E in third figure of the drawing, extends from end to end of the cabinet, and supports each valve throughout the series. It is so placed that the front edge of the valves, when closed, will rest against the lower edge of the glass plates *b b*, Fig. 2, which cover the front of the case.

B B′ represent two inclined shelves, placed within the cabinet, and intended to support the spools. The shelf or incline B is inclined but slightly toward the front, while B′ is placed at an angle of about ten degrees from the vertical. The part *c* of the valves A rests against and coincides with the lower part of the surface of the shelf B′, and the valves are retained in that position by a spiral spring, H, Figs. 4 and 5, which is attached at one end to the shelf, and at the other to the valve. The space between the face of the incline B′ and the glass front *b* is a little more than sufficient to allow the spools to pass freely.

The side standards of the cabinet are formed with projections G M, which alternate with depressions P Q, thus bringing the tiers of spools prominently in view, and allowing the sloping of the glass fronts and the inclines B′. Partitions K K are placed at regular distances along the front of the cabinet, dividing the space occupied by the spools into equal parts, each wide enough to allow the free passage of the spools. A separate valve, A, closes the outlet of each one of the spaces inclosed by these partitions.

The spools are inserted through apertures formed near the top of the inclines B′. These apertures are opened and closed by means of a drop, D, Fig. 3, which shuts automatically, turning, by their own gravity, upon the rods D′, to which they are pivoted. The rods D′, like the rods E, extend from end to end of the case, being supported at their extremities by the end standards of the cabinet. Both rods are inserted after the cabinet is put together, by means of a dovetailed groove, I, the rod E being forced into an opening or slot leading out of and above the groove I, while the rod D′ rests in the bottom of the groove, which is afterward closed by driving in a piece of wood.

The operation of the device is as follows: The several spaces being filled with spools passed in separately through the drop D, when it is desired to remove them the valve A is opened by inserting the finger into the catch *a* and pressing downward. The lower spool, which rests against the valve, will thus fall into the hand, while the part *c* of said valve, having passed between said lower spool and the one next above it, the remaining spools in that space are prevented from following, as is clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The valve being released is restored to a closed position by the spring H, when the spools in the cabi-

net immediately roll down from the inclines B B′ and fill the space, as before. The operation may be repeated until all are removed.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a spool-cabinet, the drop-valve A, in combination with the spring H, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a spool-cabinet, the shelves B B′, inclined at different angles, as described, and for the purpose set forth.

3. A spool-cabinet having end standards, the front edges of which are formed with projections G M, alternating with depressions P Q, as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination, in a spool-case, of the shelves B B′, the drop D, the valve A, and glass plates *b*, as and for the purpose set forth.

WM. G. KELLY.

Witnesses:
C. W. UNDERWOOD,
C. R. MARKS.