

L. O. SMITH.
SPOOL-SILK CABINETS.

No. 185,409.

Patented Dec. 19, 1876.

FIG. 1

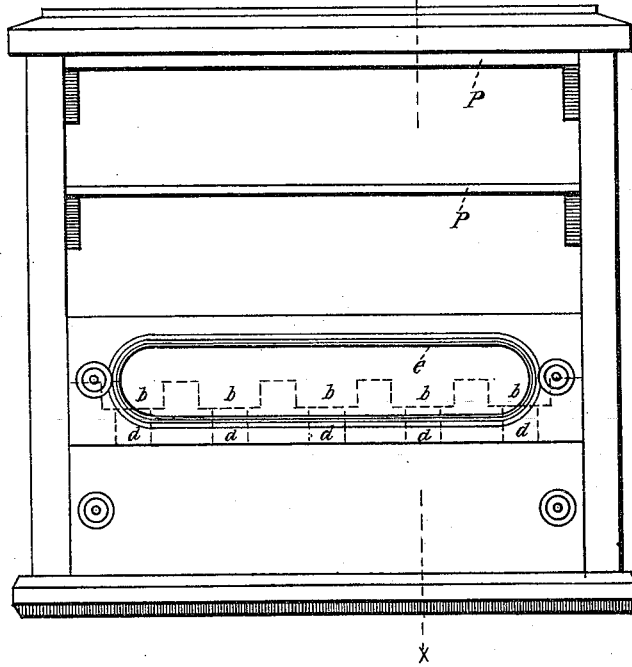
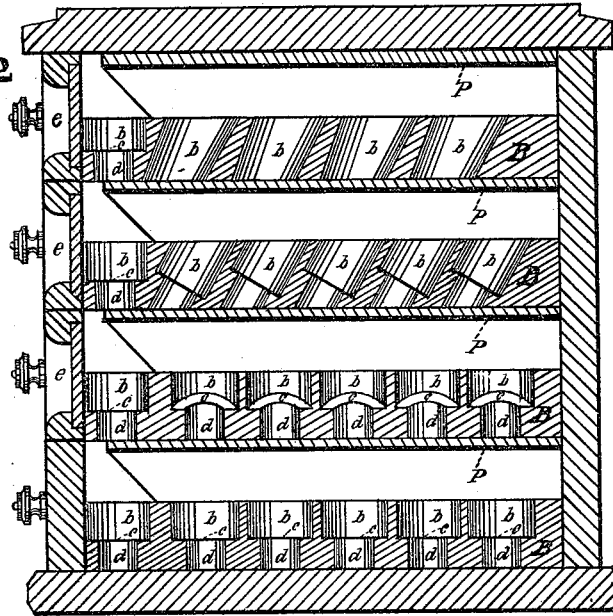


FIG. 2



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LEONARD O. SMITH, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPOOL-SILK CABINETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 185,409, dated December 19, 1876; application filed September 18, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONARD O. SMITH, of the city and county of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Cabinets for Holding and Displaying Spool-Silk and other similar goods, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to the following particulars: In the place of drawers constructed with sides and division-strips, forming spaces to contain the spools, as is usual, I use simply boards having holes or sockets of suitable size to hold the spools, by which means both simplicity and economy in the construction are obtained. The holes are formed either cylindrical, with a flat bottom, or bored tapering—tunnel-shaped—so as to form a resting-place, upon which the spool stands securely. When formed with a flat bottom, a central hole of smaller diameter is bored entirely through the wood, thus forming a shoulder for the spool to rest on, and permitting the escape of dust and dirt. Those drawers designed to exhibit colors are provided with holes or sockets, bored at any suitable angle best calculated to display the various shades of each color. The drawers designed to contain the different sizes of black silk may have perpendicular holes or sockets, the better to display the size printed or labeled on the end of the spool.

My invention further consists of an improved partition between the drawers. This partition is formed upon the inside of the drawer, and lies close down upon the top of the spools. This improvement keeps the spools firmly in place during transit or shipment, and permits a larger opening for the front of the drawers, through which to exhibit the goods.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of the cabinet, with the two upper drawers removed for the purpose of showing the partitions P, which do not extend en-

tirely to the front of the case. Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken at the line *xx* of Fig. 1.

Like letters of reference in both figures indicate the same parts.

Instead of making the drawers with upwardly-projecting sides and division-strips, to separate the spools of silk or other similar goods, I form them from plain boards B, with any desirable number of holes or sockets, *b*, of suitable size for the reception of the lower ends of the spools, the main portion of the spools projecting above the upper surface of the board, at such an angle as to display the different shades of silk. These angles I do not confine to any particular degree or degrees, but make them greater or less, as may be found most suitable; and the position of the angles is optional, as they may decline from a perpendicular position either right or left from the front of the cabinet, or toward or from the front, or in any other direction, the object of the invention being a better display of the goods by having them on an angle.

The holes or sockets to contain black silk or similar goods are made perpendicular, as seen in the lower drawer.

I usually construct the holes or sockets *b* of equal diameter from top to bottom, in which case the bottom flange of the spool rests upon the flat surface *c*, there being a central hole, *d*, of smaller diameter, in the bottom, for the escape of dust and dirt; but the holes may be made tapering, with their lower portion contracted to a suitable size, to form a support for the spools.

It will be seen that holes or sockets for the support of the spools are equally applicable to spools having a paper label or a printed head.

A drawer to contain black silk may have a solid front, as shown in the bottom drawer; but the fronts of the drawers to exhibit colored silk are provided with openings *e*, in which glass is inserted.

The partitions P are formed upon the inside of the space allowed for the drawer, and lie

close down upon the top of the spools, thus keeping them firmly in place during transit or shipment, and also giving the entire front of the cabinet for the construction of the drawer-fronts and glass openings.

I claim as my invention—

1. The drawers B, having the sockets or holes *b* bored upon an oblique angle, substantially as shown and described.

2. The drawers B, having the sockets or holes *b*, provided with the central holes *d*, substantially as shown and described.

3. The sunken partitions P, formed as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The combination of the drawers B, provided with the sockets *b*, with the partitions P, substantially as and for the purpose described.

LEONARD O. SMITH.

Witnesses:

THOMAS J. BEWLEY,
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