

C. TÖLLNER.
Box.

No. 205,772.

Patented July 9, 1878.

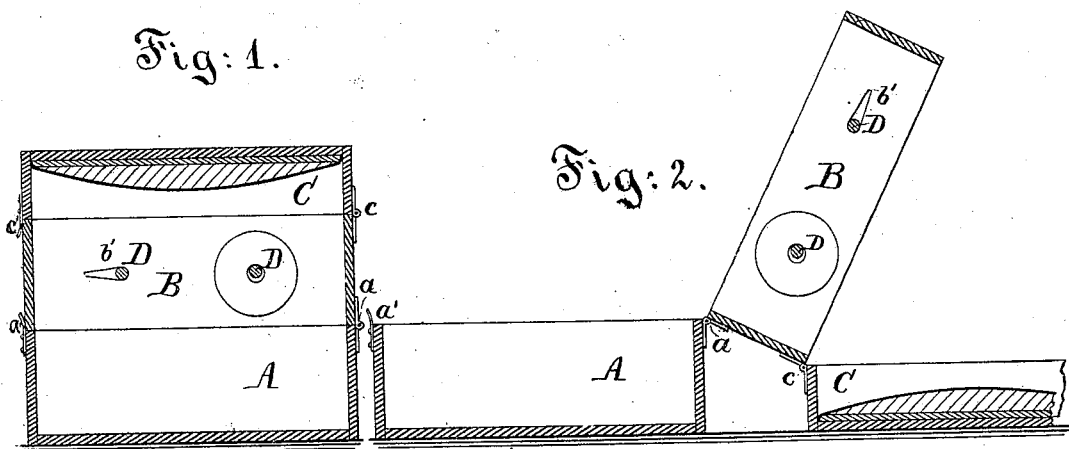
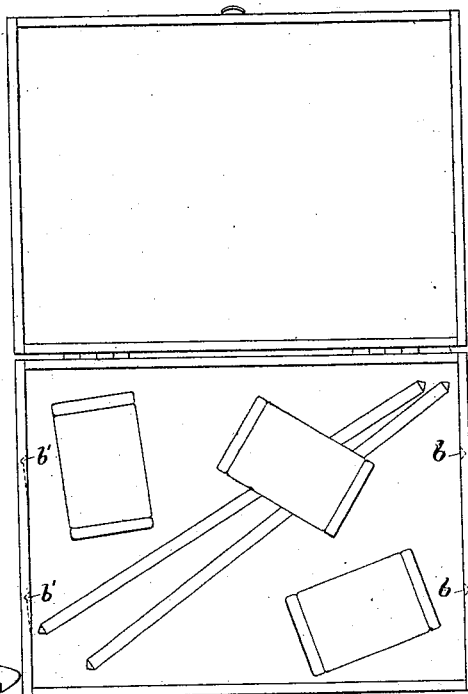


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

A. Henry Gentry
H. A. Johnstone.

Inventor:
C. Tollner

by his attorney
J. S. Watson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES TÖLLNER, OF PULASKI, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 205,772, dated July 9, 1878; application filed December 12, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES TÖLLNER, of Pulaski, Oswego county, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements relating to Boxes, of which the following is a specification:

I form a hinged box adapted for conveniently opening and closing, with an intermediate part between the top and the bottom, hinged to each, and constituting a material and substantial part of the body of the box, so arranged that when the box is open and the cover is thrown quite back the central part may stand up distinct from either, and may sustain spools or other articles which may be mounted within.

I adapt the interior of the central part to receive and sustain rods which serve as axes for spools.

The middle part is not only hinged to the bottom part on the one hand and to the top or lid on the other, but is also provided with catches, which firmly engage it with the said parts to hold it firmly in a closed condition.

The following is a description of what I consider the best means of carrying out the invention.

The accompanying drawings form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a central vertical section, showing the box closed. Fig. 2 is a corresponding section, showing the box with both joints open. Both these figures show the rods mounted in the central part in position for use, one of the rods having one or more spools on it. Fig. 3 is a plan view, showing the box with the lid alone opened and thrown back, and with the rods and a few spools lying loosely in the body.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures.

A is the lower part of the box, formed with a bottom and with sides and ends glued or otherwise strongly secured together. B is the central part, of corresponding size and form, but without top or bottom. It is permanently connected to the lower part A by hinges *a* along one edge, and is provided with a spring-catch, *a'*, on the opposite side, which unites the parts A and B strongly when closed together. The parts A and B together corre-

spond to the body of an ordinary box. C is the lid. It is connected to the central part B by hinges *c* on one edge and by a spring-catch *c'* on the other. When the lid C is closed and engaged by the catch *c'* the box is in a closed condition.

The opening of the box in the ordinary manner by disengaging the catch *c'* and turning the lid C alone back on the hinge *c* causes the box to open in all respects like an ordinary box of corresponding depth. The construction may be used in this manner, if desired; but such use will not render available its peculiar qualities.

When, in addition to opening the lid, as described, the catch *a'* is disengaged, the central part B is free to be raised. On doing this and allowing both the base A and the lid C to lie flat on the table, the central part B stands up. If the lid is of the same depth as the base A, the central part will stand perpendicularly. If, as I prefer, the lid is of somewhat less depth than the base A, the central part B will stand correspondingly inclined. In this condition the central part performs a novel function. It may serve as an open frame to contain any article which may be required to be held up therein.

On the interior of the central part B, I produce recesses adapted to receive the ends of rods D. The recesses at one side are plain conical recesses, indicated by *b*. The recesses *b'* on the other side are grooves gradually increasing in depth from one end to the other, and having their deepest point serve as a recess standing opposite to the recess *b*. I provide corresponding rods D, having their ends formed conical by machinery or otherwise, which are easily sprung into their places when required. These rods are of suitable size to apply loosely through the interiors of ordinary spools of cotton and silk.

In preparing the box for sale I provide the sticks D, and can fit them in their places or allow them to lie loosely in the bottom of the box, as may be preferred. It is easy to remove them and insert them, either by bending the rods D, which their elasticity will readily allow, and thereby contracting their length to allow them to be inserted or removed, or by

springing the box out, thereby bulging the ends temporarily to allow the same action; or both these parts may be sprung.

The box, with the rods D removed, is entirely clear in its interior, and may be used to contain any desired goods, or for miscellaneous purposes of a work-box or the like. I propose especially to make my box of a suitable size and character to contain ten paper or linen collars in each box. My experiments indicate that the boxes may be made sufficiently cheap to allow a large use in this way, the boxes being employed by the manufacturers of collars to pack the collars in for sale, and the rods D being laid loosely in the bottom, ready for use after the collars are removed.

Various modifications may be made. There may be two or more spring-catches or other catches on the front face. There may be three or other increased number of hinges at the back. There may be a lining for some or all the parts. I propose especially to insert as a lining for the lid C a stiff piece of wood or pasteboard, E, carrying a suitable soft face, e, to serve as a pin-cushion. A looking-glass

may be inserted behind or independently of this pin-cushion.

I can carry the subdivisions still further, and, instead of one central piece, connected, as shown, to the top C and bottom A, I can employ two or more intermediate pieces, all hinged together.

I claim as my invention—

1. In combination with the base A and lid C, the intermediate piece B, forming a part of the body of the box, connected to the lid and base, and adapted to serve therewith, as herein specified.

2. The rods D, in combination with a three-part box, A B C, having the parts connected, as shown, and provided with the recesses *b b'*, as herein specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES TÖLLNER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

H. A. JOHNSTONE,
CHAS. C. STETSON.