

J. C. LITZELLE.
Medicine-Case.

No. 207,360.

Patented Aug. 27, 1878.

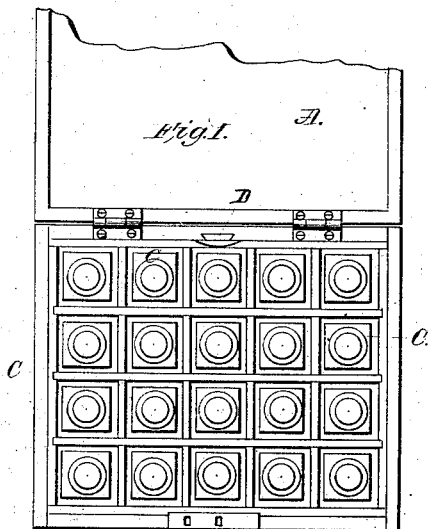


Fig. 2.

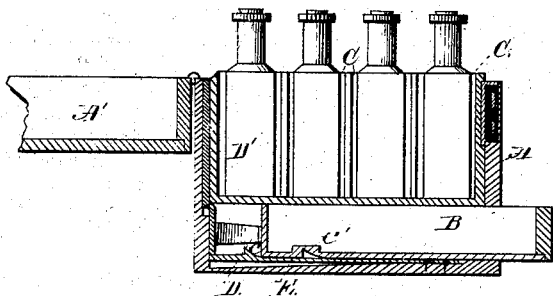
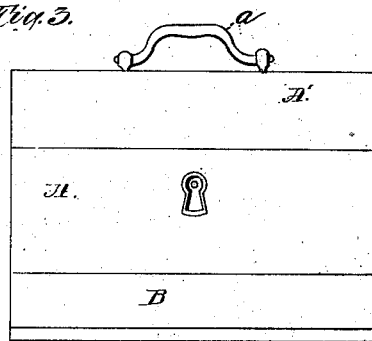


Fig. 3.



Attest:

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JOHN C. LITZELLE, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN MEDICINE-CASES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 207,360, dated August 27, 1878; application filed March 19, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. LITZELLE, of Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Medicine-Cases; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 is a top view of a medicine-case to which the drawer is applicable in its use. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view, showing the manner of fastening the drawer. Fig. 3 is a front view of the closed drawer as applied to a medicine-case.

Similar letters of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures.

The object of the invention is to provide a self-locking drawer adapted more especially for use in a closed receptacle, and herein shown in connection with a medicine-case, to which it is applicable, and in such connection it will be described in this application.

The drawer-locking device consists of a spring, secured to a suitable support beneath the bottom of the drawer, and, when locked, engages, by its free end, with the drawer bottom. When the drawer is to be unlocked, the spring is depressed by an upright tripping-rod, which releases the locking-spring, when the said drawer is thrown out or opened by a second spring acting against the back of the drawer, all of which will be hereinafter fully described.

In the drawing, A represents the body of the case or box, and A' the hinged cover to the same. a is a handle, secured to the top of the cover, and by which, when the cover is closed and secured to the body, the case can be carried or removed from place to place, as desired. B is the drawer, the operation of which will be hereinafter described. C are compartments for reception of bottles, boxes, or other articles which it is desired to keep in a separate condition. D is a spring, which can be either leaf or spiral, secured to the rear wall of the case, in the space between the back of the drawer and the said wall, which, when the drawer-retaining spring-catch is released, throws the drawer out by its recoil against the

back of the said drawer. D' is a tripping-rod, vertically dovetailed, in the rear wall of the case, and so made that it will freely play up and down. E is a transverse leaf-spring, secured at one end to the bottom of the case, in such manner that the free end will rise up against the bottom of the drawer. At a point near the free end of this spring is a spur, abrupt upon the rear side, and designated e, which, when the drawer is in a closed position, engages in a corresponding recess, e', made in the bottom portion of the drawer. This spring E extends back sufficiently far to allow the lower end of the rod D to rest upon the same, and by which the spur on the said spring is, by the downward pressure of the rod, released from contact with the groove made in the drawer bottom. To release this spring, the hand of the operator is placed upon the upper end of the vertical rod D', which is of easy access when the cover is raised, and a downward pressure given it, which will in turn press down the free end of the spring E, and thus disengage the said spring from contact with the recess in the bottom of the drawer, and allow the spring D to act, so as to push the drawer outward from the case sufficiently far for the entrance of the hands within the drawer.

When the drawer is closed, it will be automatically locked by the use of the spring E, which, by its abrupt spur, comes in contact with the notched recess in the bottom of the drawer, as will be readily understood without further description.

When two or more drawers, placed over each other, are used, additional rods and springs are used, so that each separate drawer has its own individual locking device.

The cover may also be made to open in any desired manner, it only being necessary that the rods be protected, so as to secure them from intruders having no right of access to the contents of the drawers.

I do not wish to confine myself to the use of the self-locking drawer in medicine-cases alone, as it is adapted for use in many other devices, as will be readily seen.

I am aware that drawers have been locked by a tripping-rod, which takes into a spring

secured to the drawer it *is*. This I do not claim; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In combination with a sliding drawer, the locking-spring *E*, the spur *e*, and the recess *e'*, arranged and operating substantially as described.

2. In combination with the spring *E*, having the spur *e*, the tripping-rod *D'*, arranged and operating substantially as described.

3. The combination of the drawer, the spring *E*, tripping-rod *D'*, and the spring *D*, all arranged and operating substantially as described.

This specification signed and witnessed this 17th day of January, 1877.

JOHN C. LITZELLE.

Witnesses:

G. W. FORD,

F. A. RINGBERG.