

J. Q. STEPHENS.
 COMBINED SHIPPING AND DISPENSING PACKAGE.
 APPLICATION FILED NOV. 23, 1920.

1,429,701.

Patented Sept. 19, 1922.

Fig. 1.

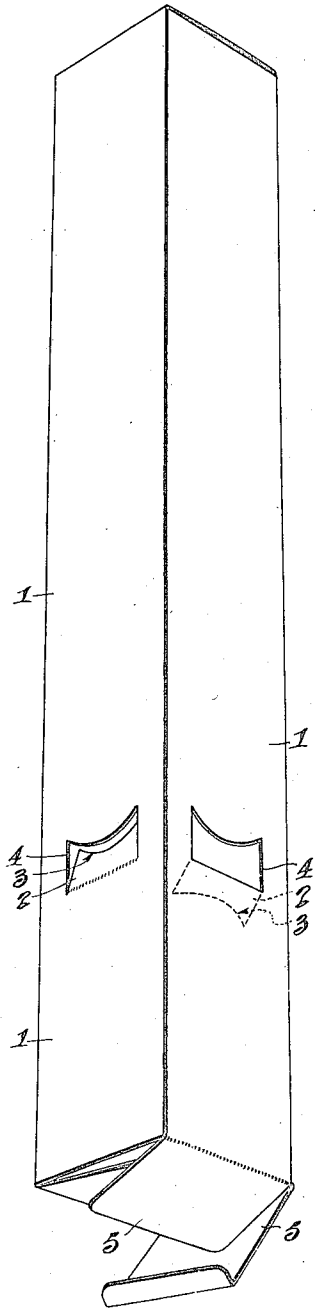
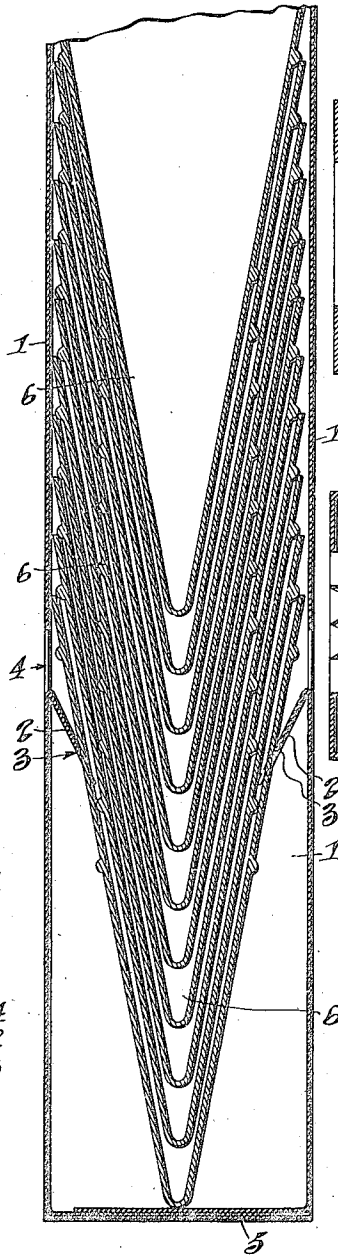


Fig. 3.

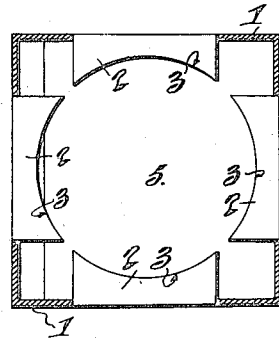


Fig. 4.

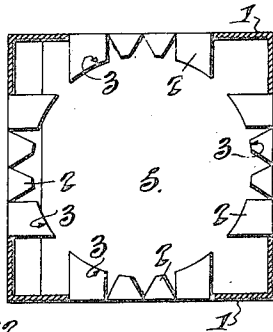


Fig. 2.

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COMBINED SHIPPING AND DISPENSING PACKAGE.

Original application filed November 28, 1919, Serial No. 340,988. Divided and this application filed November 23, 1920. Serial No. 426,004.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAY Q. STEPHENS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented a new and Improved Combined Shipping and Dispensing Package, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple, inexpensive and effective device for packing, shipping and dispensing cup-like articles, such as ice cream cones, cup pastry, etc., by the use of which the articles may be kept free from the necessity of handling the same from the time they are placed in the container until they are to be used, thus ensuring that the articles will be delivered from the original package in a clean and sanitary condition.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device which may be shipped from its place of manufacture to the place where the contents are supplied in a flat folded state, thereby reducing shipping charges and enabling the manufacturer of the cones or cup pastry to sell the same cheaper than would be the case were the cost of the tubes or packages and freight charges thereon higher as they would be were the tubes not capable of being shipped flat.

In its more specific nature, the present invention resides in providing a square tube with ends closable by flaps and provided intermediate the ends with inwardly bent resilient fingers or tongs to grip the contents with sufficient strength to retain the same against accidental discharge but not firmly enough to prevent the articles from being withdrawn, one at a time by the user, the tubes being adapted to be folded flat for shipment when empty.

In so far as this application contains matter divided out of my copending application, Serial No. 340,988, filed November 28, 1919, the same is a division thereof.

The invention also resides in those novel details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, all of which will be first fully described, then be specifically pointed out in the appended claims and

illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tube embodying the invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of a portion of a tube showing the contents in place before the lower end of the tube is opened to dispense the same.

Figure 3 is a cross section, the contents being removed.

Figure 4 is a cross section similar to Figure 3 of a modification.

In the drawing, 1 is the tubular container which is of angular form in cross section (preferably square) so that when the end closure flaps 5 are opened out the tube 1 may be folded flat for shipment.

The tube 1, at a predetermined distance above its bottom end, has tongs or fingers 2 stamped out to leave openings 4. The tongs 2 may be of one piece, (Figures 1-3) or in several sections (Figure 4) as found most desirable. The edge 3 of each tong is cut curved to conform substantially to the curvature of the cone or other article where the tong abuts the article in the holding position so that the edges 3 of all of the tongs form a circle (see Figure 3) in top plan, thus giving sufficient gripping engagement with the articles to retain them in the tube until they are pulled out, one by one, through the bottom of the tube.

In practice, the tube may be made of straw board, heavy paper or other suitable material, and in order to give added resiliency to the tongs 2 they may be treated with shellac or a solution of silicate of soda, or other suitable composition. In using the tube as a dispensing tube it may be placed in a suitable holder or it may be held in one hand while the articles are removed with the other hand and by squeezing the tube above the holes 4 additional restraining force may be applied to hold the articles against falling out while the lowermost one is being pulled out.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, it is thought the complete construction, the purposes of the invention and the advantages thereof are fully set forth.

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tages thereof will be readily understood by those skilled in the art.

What I claim is:

A combined shipping, packing and dis-
5 pensing device consisting of a tubular con-
tainer having a set of vertical slits and a
cross slit connecting the tops of the verti-

cal slits, thereby constituting tongs, said
tongs being bent inwardly and downwardly
and being located a sufficient distance above 10
one end of the container to hold the con-
tents against gravity discharge through the
bottom of the container.

JAY Q. STEPHENS.