(No Model.)

W. H. BUTLER.

CIGARETTE CASE.

No. 311,642. Patented Feb. 3, 1885.

Fig. 1.

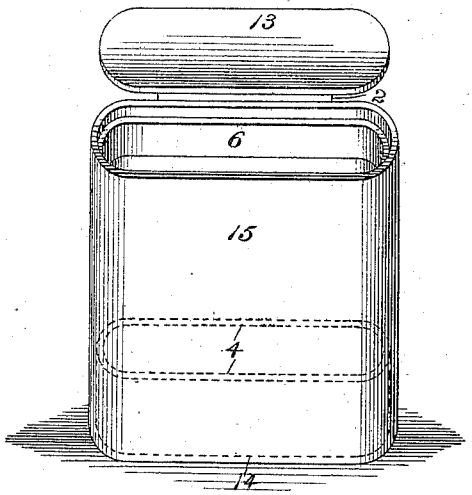


Fig. 2.

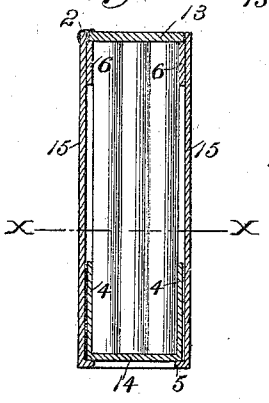


Fig. 3.

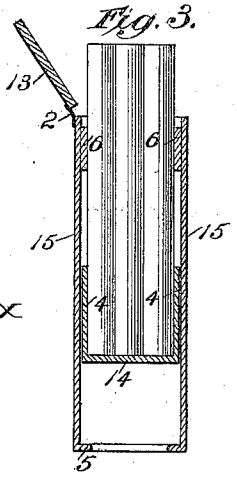


Fig. 4.

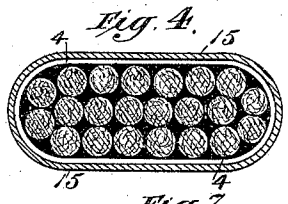


Fig. 5.

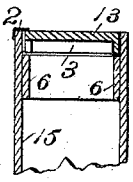


Fig. 6.

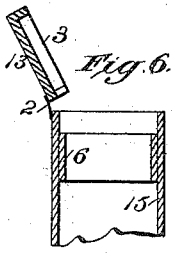


Fig. 7.

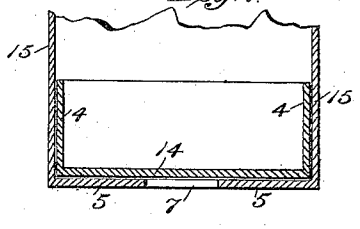


Fig. 8.

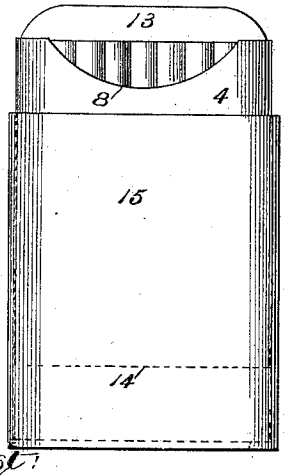


Fig. 9.

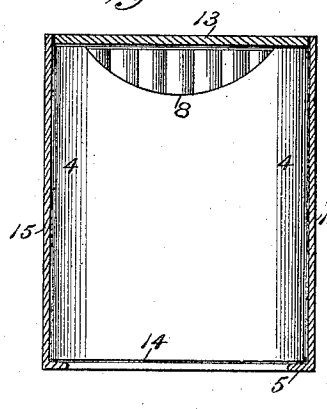


Fig. 10.

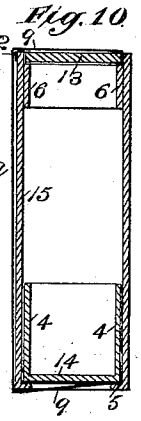
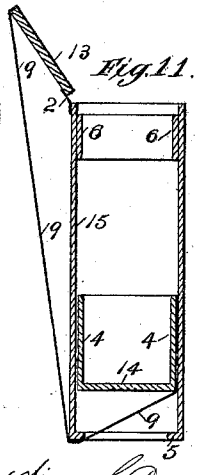


Fig. 11.



Attest:
Geo. H. Botts.
J. A. Hoover

Inventor:
William H. Butler
by Munson & Philipp
Attys.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. BUTLER, OF BROOKLYN, ASSIGNOR TO THE KINNEY TOBACCO COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CIGARETTE-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 311,642, dated February 3, 1885.

Application filed October 29, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. BUTLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigarette-Cases, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings forming a part of the same.

This invention relates to a case or package which is especially adapted for use in putting up cigarettes in small lots suitable for the retail trade, and which is also designed to afford a convenient pocket-receptacle for the cigarettes until the lot is consumed.

The details in the construction of the case, and also the manner of using the same, will be hereinafter so fully described and explained as to render a further preliminary description unnecessary to a proper understanding of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a case constructed according to the present invention, the cover being opened and the contents removed. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of the same, showing the case filled and the cover closed. Fig. 3 is a similar view, showing the cover opened. Fig. 4 is a cross-section taken upon the line *x x* of Fig. 2; and Figs. 5 to 11, inclusive, illustrate modifications which will be hereinafter explained.

Referring to said figures, it is to be understood that the case therein shown consists, essentially, of a tubular body, 15, one end of which is closed by a sliding bottom, 14, and the other end of which is provided with a hinged cover, 13. The several parts of the case may be made of paper, card-board, leather, or of any other suitable material which is sufficiently rigid to cause the case to maintain the proper shape. The tubular body 15 will preferable be of the form shown, but it may be round, oval, rectangular, polygonal, or of any other desired form in cross-section. The cover 13 is of suitable size and shape to just fit into and close the end of the body 15, and is provided at one side with a flexible hinge, 2, of cloth or other suitable material, by which it is connected to the body in such manner that it can be turned up to the position shown in Figs. 1 and 3, or down to the position shown in Fig. 2. The cover 13 may consist of a simple disk arranged to fit into the end of the tubular body, as shown in Fig. 2, or it may be provided with a rim or flange, 3, which is arranged to fit into the end of the body, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. The sliding bottom 14 is shaped so as to conform to the interior of the body 15, but is made to fit loosely therein, so as to slide freely up and down, and is provided around its edge with an inwardly or upwardly extending rim or flange, 4, which is of such width as to prevent the bottom from turning and thus wedging or becoming displaced. The body 15 is provided at its bottom end with a stop, 5, which serves to prevent the bottom 14 from falling out of or being withdrawn from the body, and at a point near its top with a similar stop, 6, which engages with the rim or flange 4, so as to prevent the bottom from being pushed out at the top end of the body. The stop 5 may consist of an inwardly-projecting bead or rib extending around a part or the whole of the circumference of the body, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, or it may be formed by partly closing the end of the body, as shown in Fig. 7, an opening, 7, being provided, through which the user can pass one or more of his fingers to move the bottom 14.

The manner of using the case just described is as follows: When it is desired to open the case to take out a cigarette, pressure will be applied to the bottom 14, so as to slide it and the cigarettes resting upon it upward in the body. As the cigarettes are moved upward they will abut against the cover 13, so as to raise it and open the case, and the upward movement of the bottom being continued the ends of the cigarettes will be projected beyond the body, as shown in Fig. 3, so that they can be readily withdrawn. To close the case the bottom 14 will be restored to its original position, as shown in Fig. 2, which may be done by simply removing the pressure from the bottom and allowing it to drop, or, if it should stick in the body, by pressing upon the ends of the cigarettes, after which the cover 13 can be readily closed down into the end of the body.

It will be observed that the case just described is very simple in its construction, and can be produced at a very trifling cost, and

also that by reason of its peculiarities of construction the act of opening the case also brings the cigarettes into position to be readily withdrawn, which is a feature of great advantage and importance in a case of this character.

In conclusion, it is to be remarked that the construction hereinbefore described may be varied considerably without departing from the essential features of the invention. The flange or rim 4 of the bottom 14 may be considerably wider than shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, if preferred. In fact, it may, if desired, be extended so as to be equal in width to the length of the cigarettes, as shown in Figs. 8 and 9, and so that when the bottom 14 is raised the rim 4, instead of the cigarettes, will come into contact with and raise the cover. When the rim 4 is made of such width as this, the stop 6 will be omitted, and one or both sides of the rim will preferably be cut away, as shown at 8, so as to leave the ends of the cigarettes exposed and enable them to be readily withdrawn when the bottom is raised. When the cover is provided with a flange, as 3, which fits inside the end of the body 15, the rim 4 will engage with this flange, instead of with the cover, and consequently may be made somewhat shorter. When the raising of the cover is not effected by the rim 4, and it is desired to have it opened without depending upon the pressure of the cigarettes against it for that purpose, the case may be provided with a tape, cord, or ribbon, 9, which is attached to the front edge of the cover, passes around the back of the body 15, and has its other end attached to the bottom 14, as shown in Figs. 10 and 11. When the cover is closed, the tape 9 will be drawn tightly against the back of the body, as shown in Fig. 10; but as soon as the bottom 14 is moved upward the strain upon the tape will draw the cover open and throw it back to the position shown in Fig. 11. As soon as the bottom drops or is pushed back to its original position the tape 9 will become slack, so as to permit the cover to be closed.

Although the case hereinbefore described is especially adapted for cigarettes, yet it will be found well fitted for use as a receptacle for various other articles which it is desirable to put up in cases or packages of this character.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with the tubular body 15, having the stops 5 6, of the hinged cover 13, and the sliding bottom 14, having the rim 4, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the tubular body 15, of the hinged cover 13, arranged to close into the ends of the body, and the sliding bottom 14, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the tubular body 15, of the hinged cover 13, sliding bottom 14, and the opening-tape 9, substantially as described.

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

WM. H. BUTLER.

Witnesses:

ROBT. WISEMAN,

T. H. PALMER.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 311,642.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 311,642, granted February 3, 1885, upon the application of William H. Butler, of Brooklyn, New York, for an improvement in "Cigarette-Cases," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction as follows: In line 58, page 2, the word "ends" should read *end;* and that the Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein to make it conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 10th day of February, A. D. 1885.

[SEAL.]

M. L. JOSLYN,
Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Countersigned:

BENJ. BUTTERWORTH,
Commissioner of Patents.