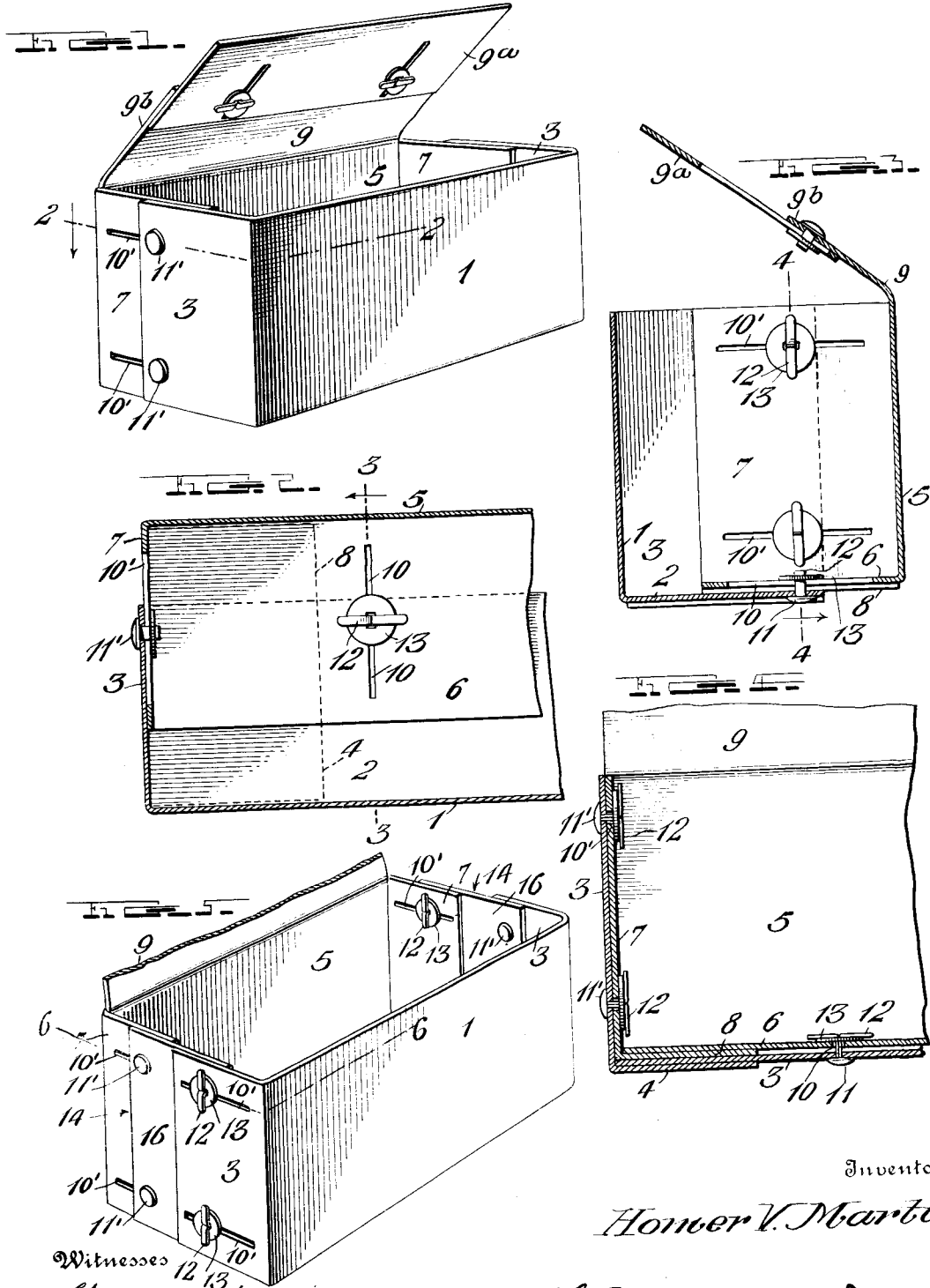


H. V. MARTIN.
 EXPANSIBLE BOX.
 APPLICATION FILED FEB. 9, 1914.

1,120,955.

Patented Dec. 15, 1914.
 3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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E. Clum

Inventor
Homer V. Martin

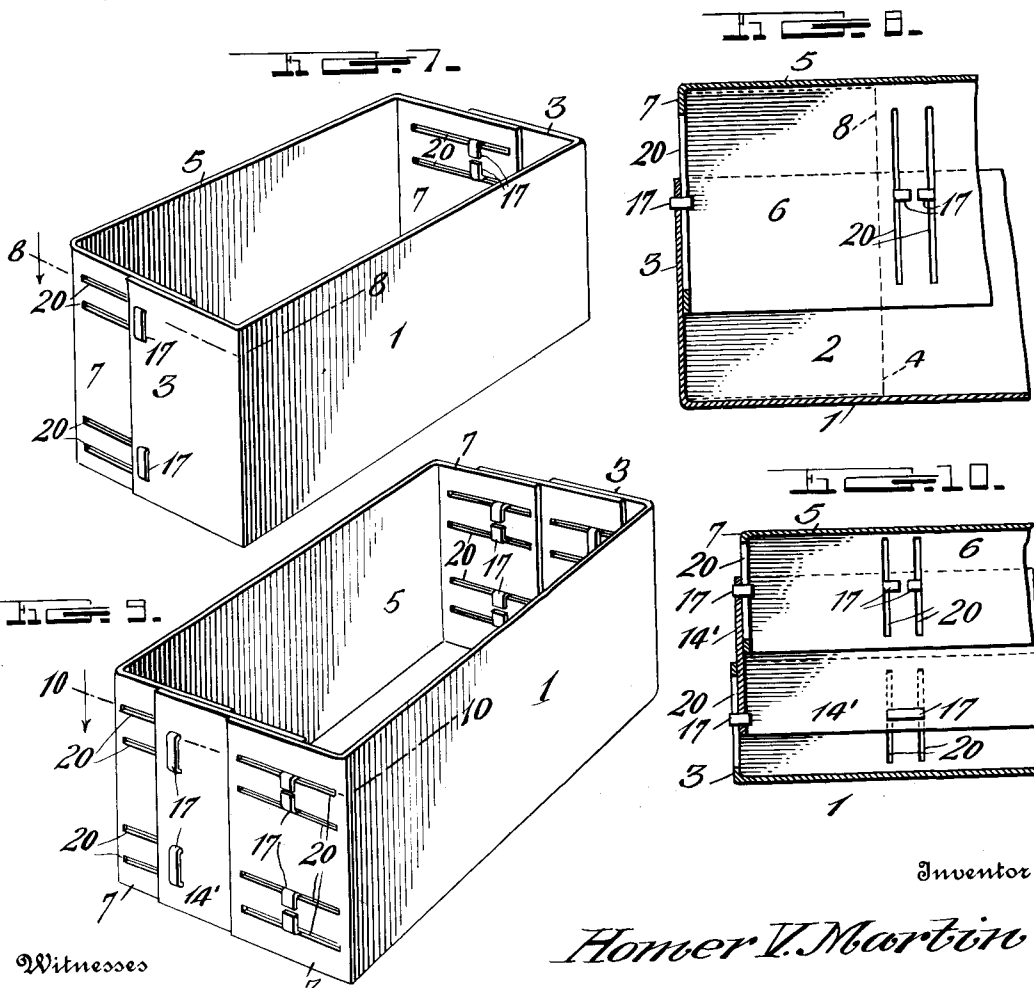
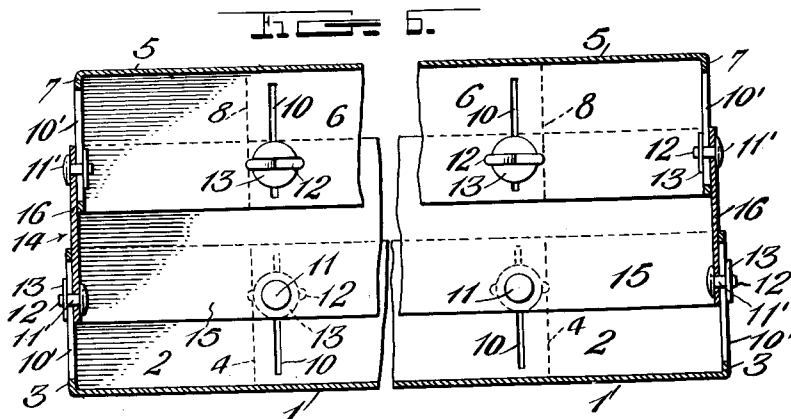
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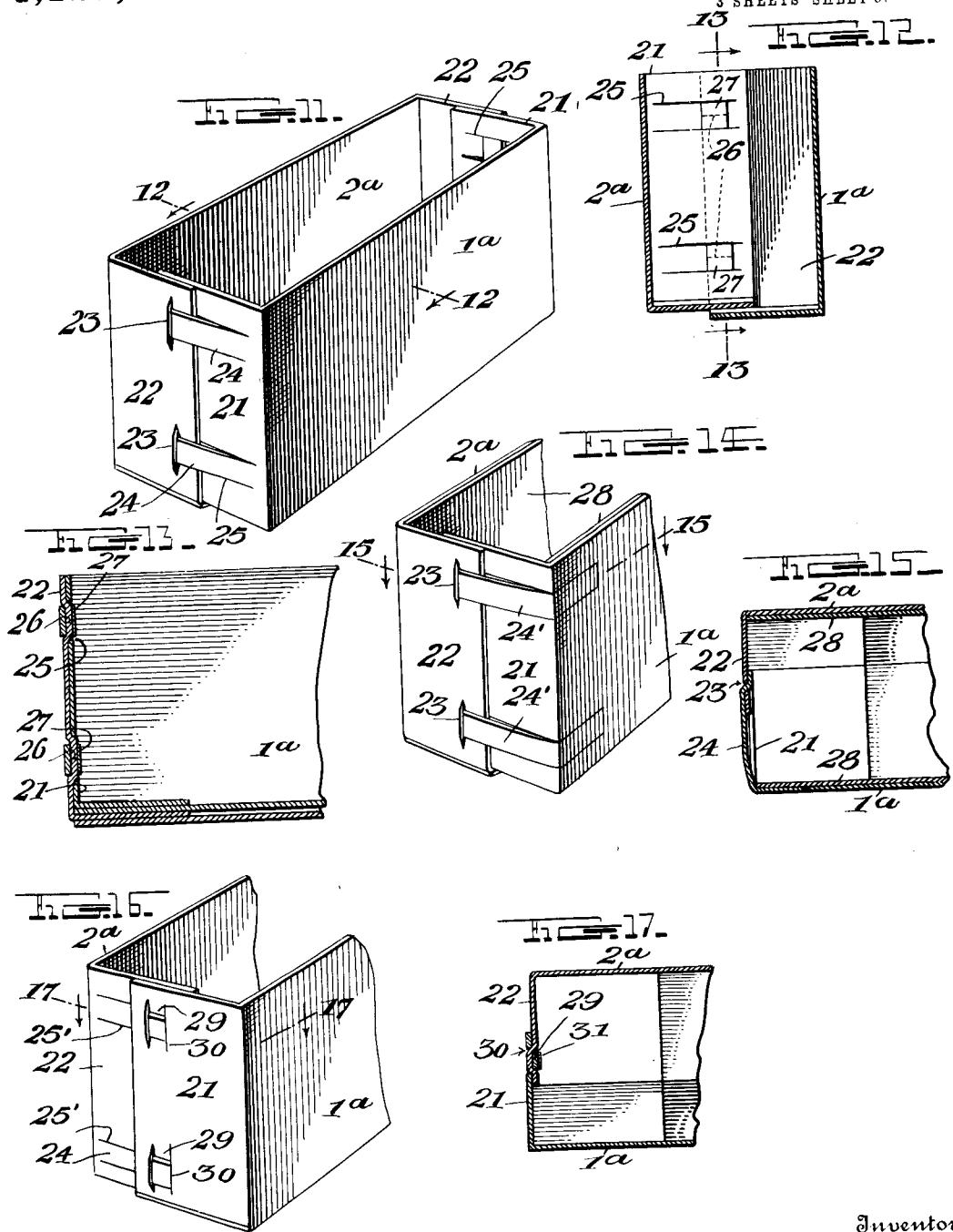
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3 SHEETS-SHEET 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOMER V. MARTIN, OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

EXPANSIBLE BOX.

1,120,955.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

Application filed February 9, 1914. Serial No. 817,596.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOMER V. MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lincoln, in the county of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Expansible Boxes; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to receptacles such as are usually made of paper and like stock and more particularly relates to such receptacles as are made from folded blanks.

The object of the invention is to produce a telescopic receptacle with or without a cover which latter is also capable of enlargement to fit the body when enlarged, the whole being especially adapted for use for containing material such as index cards which increase in bulk and therefore require a receptacle capable of being increased in size in at least one direction.

With this and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a box constructed in accordance with this invention with its parts distended; Fig. 2 is an enlarged horizontal section of one end of the box taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 is a detail longitudinal section taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3; Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing a slightly different form of the invention; Fig. 6 is a longitudinal section thereof taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5; Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing a modified form of fastening means; Fig. 8 is a detail horizontal section taken on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7; Fig. 9 is a perspective view showing an intermediate section in connection with the form of fastening illustrated in Figs. 7 and 8; and Fig. 10 is a detail horizontal section taken on the line 10—10 of Fig. 9. Fig. 11 represents a perspective view of a box equipped with another form of this invention; Fig. 12 is a transverse section thereof taken on the line 12—12 of Fig. 11; Fig. 13 is a detail vertical longitudinal section taken on the line 13—13 of Fig. 12;

Fig. 14 is a detail perspective view of a box showing still another form of the invention; Fig. 15 is a horizontal section taken on the line 15—15 of Fig. 14; Fig. 16 is a detail perspective view of a box end showing another form of the invention; Fig. 17 is a horizontal section thereof, taken on the line 17—17 of Fig. 16.

In the embodiment illustrated, a paper box is shown especially adapted for use as a filing device for legal papers or card indexes but the invention is not limited to such a form of box nor the material from which it is formed as the box is susceptible of wide modifications both as to dimensions and material.

The cover may be made to telescope as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 or it may be dispensed with if no cover is required. The front section of the box shown in the accompanying drawings comprises a panel 1 turned inward at its lower edge to form a bottom 2 and two ends 3 are turned inward from the extremity of the front panel and themselves have bottom flanges 4 turned under and secured beneath the bottom 2. In like manner the rear section comprises a rear panel 5, a bottom 6, two ends 7 and flanges 8 with the ends turned in under and secured to the bottom. The rear panel as illustrated also carries a cover 9 composed of two telescopically engaged sections 9^a and 9^b. The bottom portion 6 formed on the rear panel 5 and the bottom 2 of the front panel 1 may be made sufficiently long to overlap a sufficient distance to provide for a predetermined extension or expansibility of the box and the end members 3 of the front panel and 7 of the rear panel are correspondingly formed. These overlapping bottom and end sections are telescopically engaged and slidably connected by means to be described whereby the box may be enlarged as its contents are increased and the cover sections 9^a and 9^b are correspondingly formed.

In Figs. 1 to 5 the means for providing a slidable connection between the corresponding panels of the sections which constitutes the gist of this invention, comprises slits 10 formed in either the bottom 2 or 6 the slits being here shown formed in the bottom member 6 of the rear panel and extending transversely thereof at spaced intervals and being arranged in parallel relation. Secured to the bottom 2 of the front

panel 1 are members 11 which are fixed to the bottom 2 and in position to register with the slits 10 in the bottom 6 and are adapted to pass through said slits having heads 12 extending on opposite sides of the slits to provide for the sliding engagement of the two members 6 and 2. As shown these connecting elements 11 are in the form of T-shaped members and the heads 12 thereof have washers 13 arranged between them and the outer face of the bottom section 6 to permit the free movement of said section relatively to the section 2 but these washers may if desired, be dispensed with. Similar slits 10' are arranged in the end section 7 of the rear panel 5 and are adapted to slidably engage with similar connecting elements 11' carried by the end members 3 of the front panel 1. By these means, it will be observed that the front panel 1 and rear panel 5 may be adjusted relatively to each other by simply moving them toward or away from each other, the slits 10—10' and the connecting elements 11—11' serving to guide the sections and hold them against separation, sufficient friction being exerted between the heads of the connecting elements 11 and the slit members to hold said sections in adjusted position.

If desired, an intermediate section 14 may be arranged between the front and rear sections and as shown, this intermediate section comprises a bottom 15 overlying the rear edge of the bottom 2 of the front section and underlying the rear edge of the bottom 6 of the rear section and having upright ends 16 rising from the bottom 15, each standing inside one front end 3 and outside the adjacent rear end 7. It will be obvious that if the intermediate section were duplicated or multiplied, a much larger box than that shown would result. When this intermediate section 14 is employed the headed connecting elements 11 are carried by the bottom 15 and the ends 16 thereof, said elements being arranged in pairs those of each pair being in transverse alinement and adapted to engage correspondingly arranged slits formed in the bottom sections 2 and 6 and the end sections 3 and 7 as is clearly shown in Figs. 4, 5 and 6.

In the form shown in Figs. 7 to 10, pairs of parallel slits 20 are arranged in one of the members and the connecting elements carried by the other member are shown in the form of metal strips 17 substantially U-shaped in form and which pass through the member to which they are to be secured and have their free ends turned inwardly after being passed through the slits 20 to form guides and retaining members for holding the sections of the box together as is shown clearly in the drawings. While pairs of parallel slits 20 are shown in this form, it is obvious that one of the slits may be

omitted from each pair if desired and one end only of the connecting element 17 engaged with the remaining slit but it is preferred that both ends be connected and two slits employed to strengthen the connection between the sections.

In Figs. 9 and 10 the same form of fastening employed in Figs. 7 and 8 is used, the only difference between the structure shown in these figures and that shown in Figs. 9 and 10 is that an intermediate section 14' is shown.

In Figs. 11 to 13, another form of the invention is shown in which the overlapping ends 21 and 22 of the front and rear sections 1^a and 2^a of a box are slidably connected, one of said ends being provided with spaced slits 23 extending longitudinally of said end, the slits being alined with each other and disposed sufficiently near the edge of the ends 22 to provide ample room for the contraction of the sections, the extent of which is limited by the engagement of said edges with the ends of the straps 24 disposed nearest the front section 1^a. In this instance, the end 22 of the rear section 2^a is shown overlapping end 21 of the front section 1^a and provided with these slits, but it is obvious that the positions of these ends may be reversed if desired. The underlapping end, here shown as 21, is equipped with spaced straps 24 extending transversely of said end in planes at right angles to the slits 23 in the end 22 and positioned to register with said slits 23 and to be slidably engaged therewith for adjustably connecting said front and rear sections of the box. The straps 24 are produced by forming pairs of parallel slits 25 in the ends 21, said slits extending transversely of said ends and being spaced apart a distance equal to the width of the strap to be formed, preferably a distance slightly less than the length of the slits 23 and said slits 25 are of a length corresponding to the length of the strap.

To permit the assembling of the sections and their slidable connection, the portions of the ends 22 opposite the slits 23 therein are split transversely from said slits 23 to the edge of the ends as shown in dotted lines at 26 in Fig. 12, whereby these portions may be inserted under the straps 24, and after having been so inserted, the split or cut portions thereof are joined in any suitable manner, a strip of paper 27 being here shown glued over and connecting the split portions of the ends (see Fig. 13). When so assembled, the sections are slidably engaged and may be contracted or expanded as desired, the extent of outward movement or expansion being limited by the engagement of the outer walls of the slits 23 with the outer ends of the straps 24 as shown in Fig. 11. The extent of contraction is limited by the engagement of the edges of

the ends 22 with the inner ends of the straps 24.

In Figs. 14 and 15, a slightly different form of the invention is shown, the ends 5 22 of the box being shown slit similarly to the form shown in Figs. 11 to 13, but these ends are not split from their edges inward to these slits, the assembling of the sections being accomplished by severing the 10 inner ends of the straps 24' (which in this form are extended into the front section 1^a) and connecting them with the front section 1^a in any suitable manner, an inner lining 28 being here shown glued to the 15 inner face of the section 1^a and to the outer face of which lining, the severed ends of the straps are glued, whereby the box sections are held in sliding engagement similarly to those shown in Figs. 11 to 13.

In the form shown in Figs. 16 and 17, 20 the end 22 of the rear section 2^a underlaps the end 21 of the front section 1^a and is provided with pairs of parallel slits 25' extending transversely of said end 22 near 25 the top and bottom thereof to form straps 24 which are slidably engaged with straps 29 extending longitudinally of the end 21 of the front section 1^a near the outer edge of said end. The straps 29 of the end 21 30 are produced by forming longitudinally extending pairs of parallel slits 30 near the top and bottom of said end in position to register with the straps 24 of the end 22, said slits 30 extending in planes at right 35 angles to the slits 25' and the straps 29 also extend in planes at right angles to the straps 24. These straps 29 are split transversely intermediately of their ends to permit the assembling of the sections and 40 after they have been passed under the straps 24, the split ends of said straps are connected together in any suitable manner a strip 31 being here shown for this purpose

glued to the inner face of the split ends of said strap whereby said ends are connected 45 and the sections slidably engaged.

I claim as my invention:

1. A telescopic box composed of lapping sections, one of which has a pair of spaced slits extending in one direction and the 50 other a pair of slits extending in a plane at right angles to the first mentioned pair forming straps adaptable for slidable engagement with each other to provide for the adjustment of said sections toward or 55 away from each other.

2. A telescopic box composed of lapping sections, one of which has a pair of parallel slits extending transversely thereof forming a strap between them, the other section 60 having parallel slits extending longitudinally thereof to form a strap, said straps being slidably engaged to provide for the adjustment of said sections toward or away 65 from each other.

3. A telescopic box composed of lapping sections, one of which has a pair of parallel slits extending transversely thereof forming a strap between them, the other section 70 having parallel slits extending longitudinally thereof to form a strap, said straps being slidably engaged to provide for the adjustment of said sections toward and away from each other, one of said straps 75 being split transversely intermediate its ends to permit its engagement with the other strap and means for connecting said split ends together.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing 80 witnesses.

HOMER V. MARTIN.

Witnesses:

E. M. WARNER,
G. M. SEEMAN.