

W. WOHLTMANN.
Revenue Guards for Cigar-Boxes.

No. 148,159

Patented March 3, 1874.

Fig. 1.

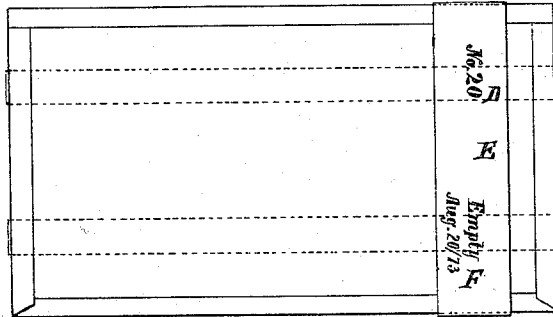


Fig. 2.

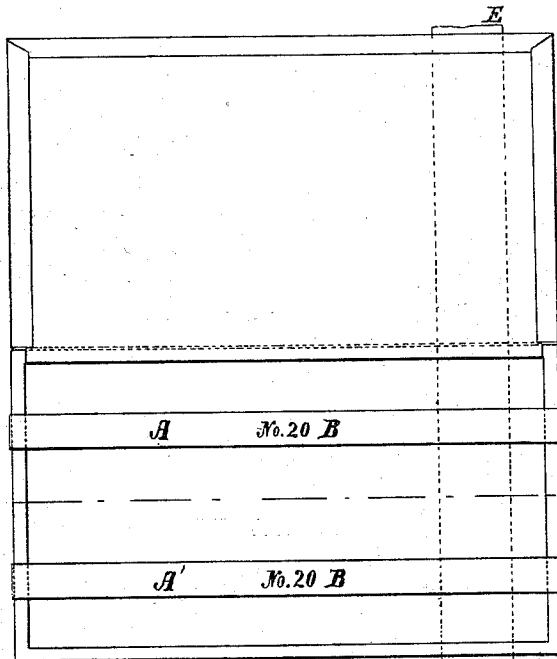


Fig. 4.

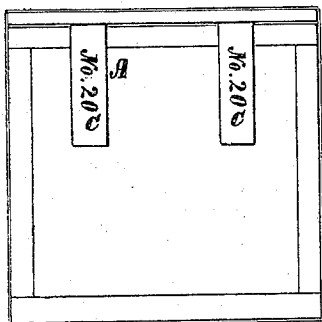
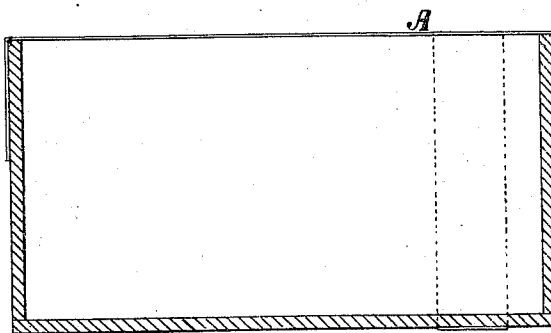


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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WILHELM WOHLTMANN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN REVENUE-GUARDS FOR CIGAR-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **148,159**, dated March 3, 1874; application filed August 30, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILHELM WOHLTMANN, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Revenue-Guard for Cigar-Boxes, of which the following is a specification:

I propose to have finely-engraved paper strips, to be issued by the Revenue Department with the stamps, and corresponding with them in numbers, one or more of which strips shall be extended across the box from end to end, after it is filled, but before the cover is closed down, and pasted on the outside of the ends, so that they will be broken when the cigars are taken out by the retailer or consumer. I also propose to have the word "empty," or any other equivalent word, printed on the stamp, and to require the seller to add thereto the date when the box becomes empty, which, I believe, will effectually prevent manufacturers from committing frauds in the matter of revenue by buying up empty boxes, and filling them again without putting on a new stamp, which they can now do, because, as there can be no rule to prevent them from opening the boxes and breaking the stamps, boxes with broken stamps, filled again, may be represented to the inspectors as original boxes, and there is no evidence to the contrary; whereas, if the paper strips which I propose to apply—which need not be broken to show the cigars after opening the box—are broken, it will be evidence to the inspectors that the box has been filled again without applying a new stamp, for with each new stamp issued there will be the accompanying paper strips. The paper strips are to be finely engraved, so that they cannot well be counterfeited to enable the manufacturer to provide them with numbers to match the numbers of the broken stamp. Moreover, the date which I propose it shall be obligatory upon the dealers who empty the boxes to mark on

the stamps will show if an attempt be made to pass a filled box with an old stamp.

Figure 1 is a top view of a box with my improved revenue-guard applied to it. Fig. 2 is a plan of the same with the cover raised. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section taken on the line *x* of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is an end elevation.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the said paper strips, which I propose to paste over the top of the filled box, under the cover, said strips to be numbered both inside of the box and outside, as at B C, to correspond with the number D of the stamp E. F represents the record of the date when the box was emptied, which I propose to have the seller required to enter legibly and permanently on the stamp.

This rule being established, with a penalty for neglecting it, there would be no difficulty in securing compliance with it, because a dealer would be reluctant to have empty boxes without it in his store, subject to the call of the inspector, and both the wholesale and retail dealer would be equally reluctant to have filled boxes with the paper strips broken, which would prove the second use of the boxes, so that they would be a check on the manufacturer by refusing to buy his boxes with broken strips.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In combination with a cigar-box stamp, E, having printed thereon a number and date, the strips A and A', correspondingly marked, all applied and arranged substantially as described, for the purpose set forth.

WILHELM WOHLTMANN.

Witnesses:

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