

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT THALHEIMER, OF READING, PENNSYLVANIA.

CLAMP FOR CIGAR-MOLDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,419, dated September 8, 1896.

Application filed April 24, 1895. Serial No. 547,016. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT THALHEIMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Reading, county of Berks, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Cigar-Mold Clamps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates more particularly to cigar-molds; and it consists, mainly, in a simple and efficient mechanism for conveniently clamping together and releasing the two sections.

The invention is fully described in connection with the accompanying drawings, and is specifically pointed out in the claim.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a cigar-mold embodying my invention, the upper section being hinged to the lower and represented in partially-closed position with the clamping mechanism in engagement with it. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same, showing the clamping mechanism in engagement with the raised top section and indicating in dotted lines its normal disengaged position. Fig. 3 is a similar end view showing the two sections tightly drawn together and locked by the movement of the clamping-lever to its lowered position while the link is in engagement with the upper section.

A represents the lower section of a cigar-mold, and B the upper section, each of which is provided with a suitable number of cigar-forming recesses, as usual. These two sections are preferably hinged together at one end, as indicated at C, so that the upper section may be readily unhinged, if desired, during the filling of the mold.

The ends of the sections opposite the hinges are arranged to form a flush surface when they are closed together, and they are provided with my improved clamping mechanism whereby this closing is effected, as also the locking of the closed sections and their reopening when desired. This clamping and releasing mechanism consists, mainly, of a lever D, which is pivoted at a point *d* to one section of the mold, preferably the lower, and a hooked link E, which is in turn pivoted to the lever at a point *e* a short distance from *d*, around which it is swung by the movement of the lever in an arc *f*, (indicated by dotted lines.) The free end of the link is hook-

shaped, open, or recessed, as indicated at *e'*, so that it may be conveniently moved into engagement with a catch or projection *b* on the upper section B. The outer end of the lever is so shaped as to form a convenient handle *d'*, and its movement is limited by a stop *a*, which also serves to support it and the link E when they are disengaged from the upper section. This stop *a* is preferably formed on a punched plate A', which is secured by screws to the lower section, and a similar plate B' is secured to the upper section to give rigidity to the catch or projection *b*.

The operation is as follows: The upper section is thrown back to permit the filling of the molds in the lower section with cigar-bunches. It is then lowered and pressed down by the hands of the operator until the hooked end of the link, which is raised with the lever to the position indicated in Fig. 2, can be pushed into engagement with the catch or projection *b*. The operator then seizes the handle *d'* and presses the lever D downward, thus moving the end of the link E around the pivot *d* in the arc *f*, with constantly-increasing leverage, until it has reached and moved slightly to the rear of the extended line *g*, which passes through the centers of the catch or projection *b* and pivot *d*. Here the lever comes in contact with the stop *a* and the tightly-closed sections are securely held until after a suitable interval the lever motion is reversed, when the upper section is forcibly raised in the same manner that it was previously closed.

It will be noticed that my improved clamping mechanism is exceedingly simple and inexpensive in construction and at the same time simple and easy in operation. It also provides for forcibly raising the upper section, which is important, as it is frequently difficult to separate them when desired.

Instead of hinging the sections together at one end, as shown and described, my clamping mechanism may be employed at both ends, but I prefer the former. The parts may also be somewhat varied in shape and arrangement to adapt them to different requirements.

What I claim is—

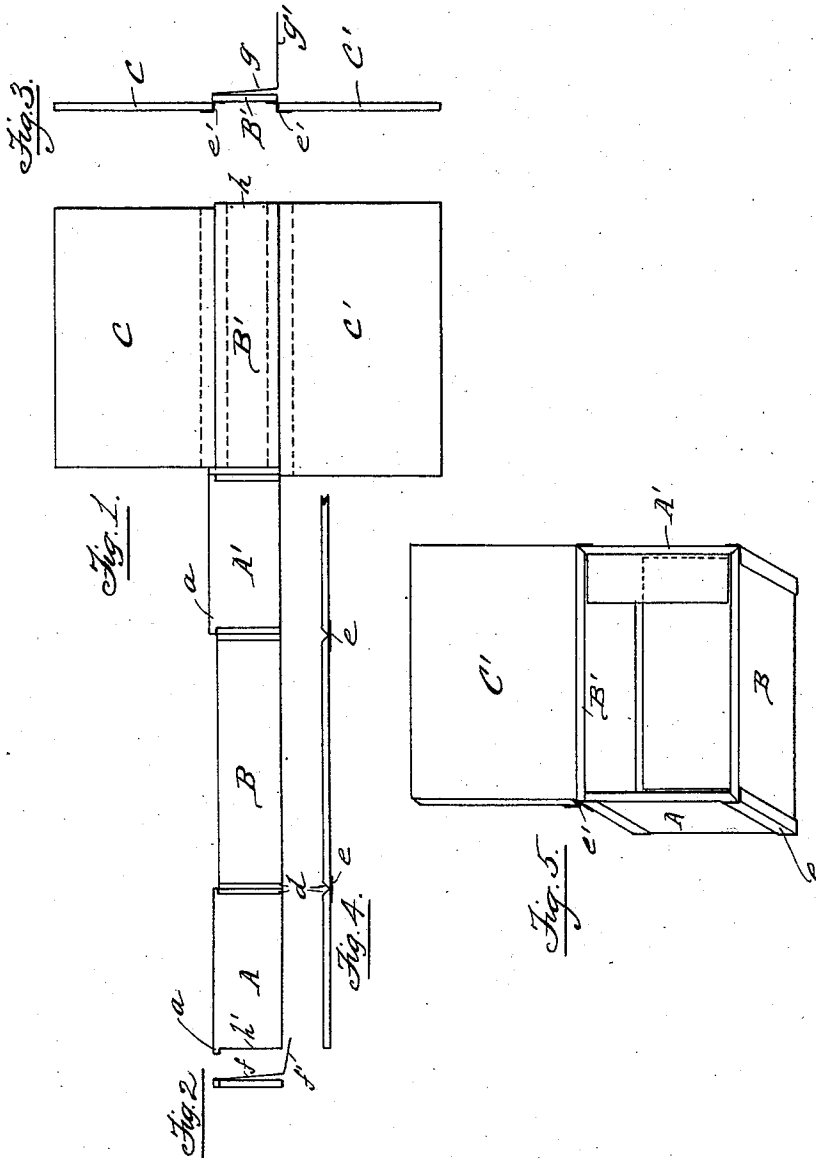
The herein-described cigar-mold, compris-

(No Model.)

A. THALHEIMER.
CIGAR BOX.

No. 567,420.

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Witnesses:

W. M. Stewart
Caleb J. Pieber

Albert Thalheimer

Inventor.

W. M. Stewart

Attorney.

