

F. M. C. USHER.
TOOTHPICK HOLDER.
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1,291,282.

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Fig. 1

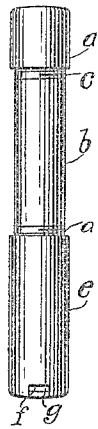


Fig. 2

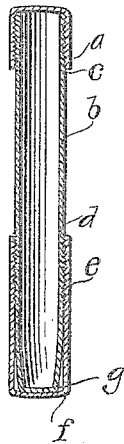


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

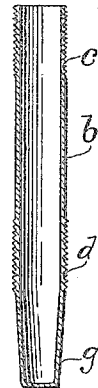


Fig. 5

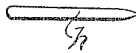


Fig. 7

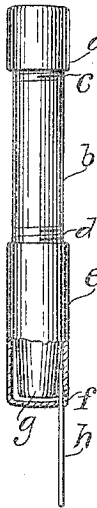


Fig. 6

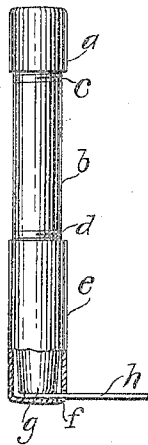
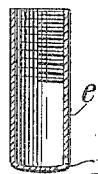


Fig. 8



Inventor
Francis M. C. Usher,
By *Edwin Guthrie,*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS M. C. USHER, OF FORT SLOCUM, NEW YORK.

TOOTHPICK-HOLDER.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS M. C. USHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Slocum, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toothpick-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to toothpick holders, and has for its object the production of a container for toothpicks of relatively small size, but which may have a variety of forms, the holder being usually of tubular shape, provided with a removable cap at one end and having a clamping screw cap at the other end. The removable cap covers the open end of the tubular body of the holder, and the other end of the holder is permanently closed, and may be made tapering for a distance. The clamping screw-cap is provided with an L-shaped slot in its side and end by means of which a toothpick may be clamped to the end of the body tube, either at right angles with the body or lengthwise parallel with the body tube, which, in either case, acts as the handle by means of which the toothpick may be used upon the teeth.

The accompanying drawings illustrate the construction and arrangement of the parts of this invention. Figure 1 is a side view with both end caps screwed up. In this condition the holder is carried in the pocket. Figure 2 is a vertical section through the slot in the clamping screw cap and also through the body tube and cap closure for the open upper end of the tube. Fig. 3 is a side view of the tap closure for the open end of the tubular body of the holder. Fig. 4 is a side view of the body tube by itself, showing the positions of the screw threads with which it is provided. Fig. 5 is a plan view of one form of toothpick. Fig. 6 is a side view of this invention, the lower portion being shown in section, and a toothpick being clamped in place and projecting at right angles with the body tube. Fig. 7 is a like side view of this invention with the lower portion of the clamping screw cap shown in section, and illustrating a toothpick clamped in position parallel with the axis of the body tube. Fig. 8 is a vertical section of the clamping screw cap.

Throughout the drawings and this description the same letter is used to refer to the same part.

Considering the drawings, the screw cap *a*, shown in vertical section in Fig. 3, covers the open end of the body tube *b*. The body tube constitutes the container for the toothpicks, as will be readily understood.

At the upper end the body tube *b* has the screw threads *c*, which engage the cap *a*. At a distance from the other end of the body tube it is encircled by the screw threads *d*, and these lower threads are engaged by the clamping screw cap *e*.

It will be noted, in Figs. 6, 7, and 8, that the clamping screw cap has an L-shaped slot *f* through its side and closed end, and this slot will be again mentioned.

Below the encircling threads *d*, the body tube *b* may be tapered, the tapering end portion being referred to by the letter *g*.

The toothpicks may be of any chosen form, one form being illustrated in Fig. 5, marked *h*. This invention is not limited to any form of toothpick, neither does it concern the material, whether wood, composition, or metal, of which the toothpicks may be composed. Fig. 5 sets out a convenient form for use with this invention.

In operation, the clamping screw cap *e* is unscrewed slightly, and the end of a toothpick *h* passed through the slot *f* between the end of the lower portion *g* of the tube *b*, and the inside of the closed end of the clamping screw cap *e*, which may now be screwed up holding the toothpick firmly projecting at right angles with the axis of the body tube.

To cause the projection of the toothpick lengthwise parallel with the axis of the body tube, the end of the toothpick is passed upwardly through the slot *f* between the tapering end *g* of the body tube and the inside of the clamping screw cap. The cap being screwed up, the toothpick is firmly held in position as illustrated in Fig. 7.

Having now explained this invention with regard to its construction and the mode of using it, I claim:—

1. In a toothpick holder, the combination with a body portion, of a clamping cap engaging one end of the said body, the said clamping cap having a closed end and a slot in its side whereby a toothpick may be

clamped upon the end of the said body and project at right angles with the axis of the body.

2. In a toothpick holder, the combination
5 with a body portion, of a clamping cap engaging one end of the body, the end of the body engaged by the said cap having a portion less in diameter than the interior of the cap, and the cap having a slot at its
10 end whereby a toothpick may be passed through the slot in the cap and clamped by the cap against the said end portion of the body of less diameter than the interior of the cap causing the toothpick to project
15 parallel with the axis of the said body.

3. In a toothpick holder, the combination with a body portion, of a clamping cap engaging the end of the body, the end of the body thus engaged by the cap having a
20 portion less in diameter than the interior of the said cap, the said cap having a slot through its end and side whereby a toothpick may be clamped to the said body at right angles or parallel with the axis of the
25 body.

4. In a toothpick holder, the combination with a body portion having a threaded portion near one end and an unthreaded portion lying between the said threaded portion and the extremity of the holder, a 30 screw cap engaging the said threaded portion and covering the end of the body, the said unthreaded portion of the end of the body having a portion less in diameter than the interior of the said screw cap, and the 35 said cap having a slot in its end and side whereby a toothpick may be clamped to the body at right angles or parallel with the axis of the body.

5. In a toothpick holder, the combination 40 with a body portion, of manually operated clamping means engaging one end of the said body portion and having an opening to receive a toothpick whereby the toothpick may be clamped to the end of the said body 45 portion at an angle with the axis of the body.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANCIS M. C. USHER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."