(No Model.)

A. W. WARNOCK.

MATCH BOX.

No. 589,050. Patented Aug. 31, 1897.

Fig. 1.

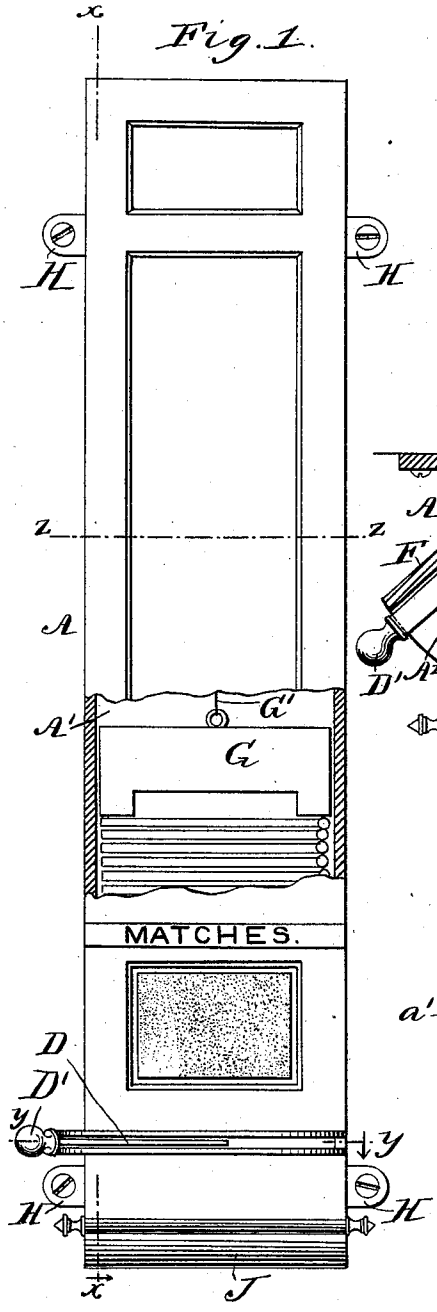


Fig. 2.

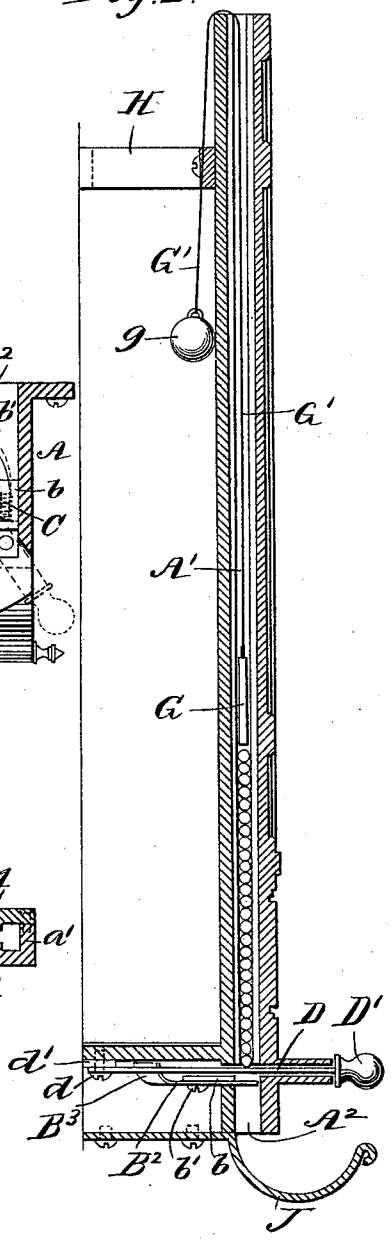


Fig. 3.

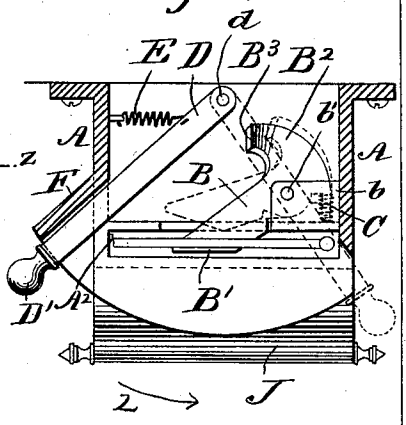
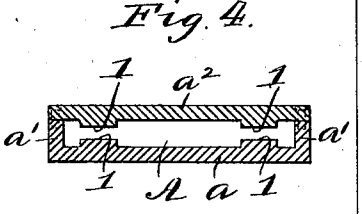


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MATCH-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,050, dated August 31, 1897.

Application filed January 2, 1897. Serial No. 617,762. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMOS WILLIAM WARNOCK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Dorchester, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to improvements in match-boxes, the object thereof being to supply an article of this character adapted for containing a quantity of matches stored in such a manner as to deliver but one match at a time by a mechanism operated by the consumer, whereby unscrupulous persons are prevented from appropriating quantities of matches from boxes located in public places without the necessity of expending considerable time and energy.

The device is simple in construction, durable, and inexpensive, and it is assembled in such a manner as to avoid danger of igniting surrounding objects by possible accidental combustion of the matches contained therein.

The invention will be hereinafter fully described, and specifically set forth in the annexed claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved match-box, showing a portion of the front wall thereof broken away. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional elevation taken on a line $x\ x$ of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view taken on a line $y\ y$ of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view taken on a line $z\ z$ of Fig. 1.

In the practice of my invention I provide a vertically-arranged casing A, comprising a front wall a, side walls a', and a rear wall a^2, whereby a vertical compartment A′ is formed.

Extended from the inner surface of the walls a and a^2 are guides l, adapted for preventing frictional contact of the matches against the walls a and a^2.

Normally arranged within the outlet A^2 is a swinging lever B, which is pivotally attached to the stud b by means of a spindle b'. This said lever comprises two arms B′ and B^2, and it is maintained in its normal position by means of a spiral spring C.

Projected upwardly from the arm B^2 is a finger B^3, which is adapted for engagement with a swinging lever D, which said lever is mounted upon a spindle or screw d, secured to a stud d', forming part of the framework of the device. This said lever is normally maintained in a position out of line with the discharge-opening A^2, whereby the lower match of the series will rest upon the arm B′ of the lever B, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawings.

The lever D is maintained in its normal position, as shown by full lines in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings, by means of a spiral spring E, and the motion thereof is limited by a stop F, forming part of the casing A. As a means for operating the lever D a handle D′ is connected to the outer end thereof.

As a means for feeding the matches downwardly within the compartment A′, I provide a weight G, which moves by gravity downwardly as the matches are discharged from the machine. This said weight is connected to a string G′, which has a ring g upon the end thereof for operating it, whereby when the matches are all exhausted the weight can be removed for the purpose of refilling the casing A.

The device is mounted upon brackets H, preferably upon the wall I, whereby the casing is at a considerable distance from the wall to prevent danger of setting fire to the same by accidental combustion of the matches.

Located beneath the discharge-opening A^2 of the casing is a receptacle J, adapted to receive the matches as they drop from the machine.

In the operation of the device in order to remove the match therefrom the lever D is pushed in the direction of the arrow 2 until it assumes the position indicated by dotted lines, Fig. 3 of the drawings, whereby the arm B′ of the lever D is swung rearwardly for a sufficient distance to discharge the lower match. The lever D is then allowed to spring back into its normal position, whereby the arm B will again close the discharge-opening of

the casing and receive the next descending match. This operation can be repeated until the matches are exhausted.

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

1. A match-box adapted for discharging one match at a time, comprising a vertical compartment adapted to receive a series of matches, a spring-pressed lever normally closing the outlet from the said compartment and a swinging lever adapted for separating the matches and throwing the said spring-pressed lever out of line with the discharge-opening, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a match-box for delivering but one match at a time, the combination of a vertically-arranged compartment adapted for receiving a series of matches and a two-armed spring-actuated lever located at the discharge-opening of the said compartment, and a spring-retained swinging lever for separating the matches and operating the said two-armed lever, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a match-box for delivering but one match at a time, the combination of the vertically-arranged compartment having projections upon the inner surface of the front and rear walls thereof and the weight for feeding the matches, and the two-armed lever for normally closing the outlet of the said compartment, said lever being normally maintained in position by means of a spring, and the swinging lever normally maintained out of line with the discharge-opening by means of a spring, and the receptacle for receiving the matches as they are discharged from the machine, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 29th day of December, 1896.

AMOS WILLIAM WARNOCK.

Witnesses:
GEORGE EDGAR GODFREY,
JAMES S. GIBSON.