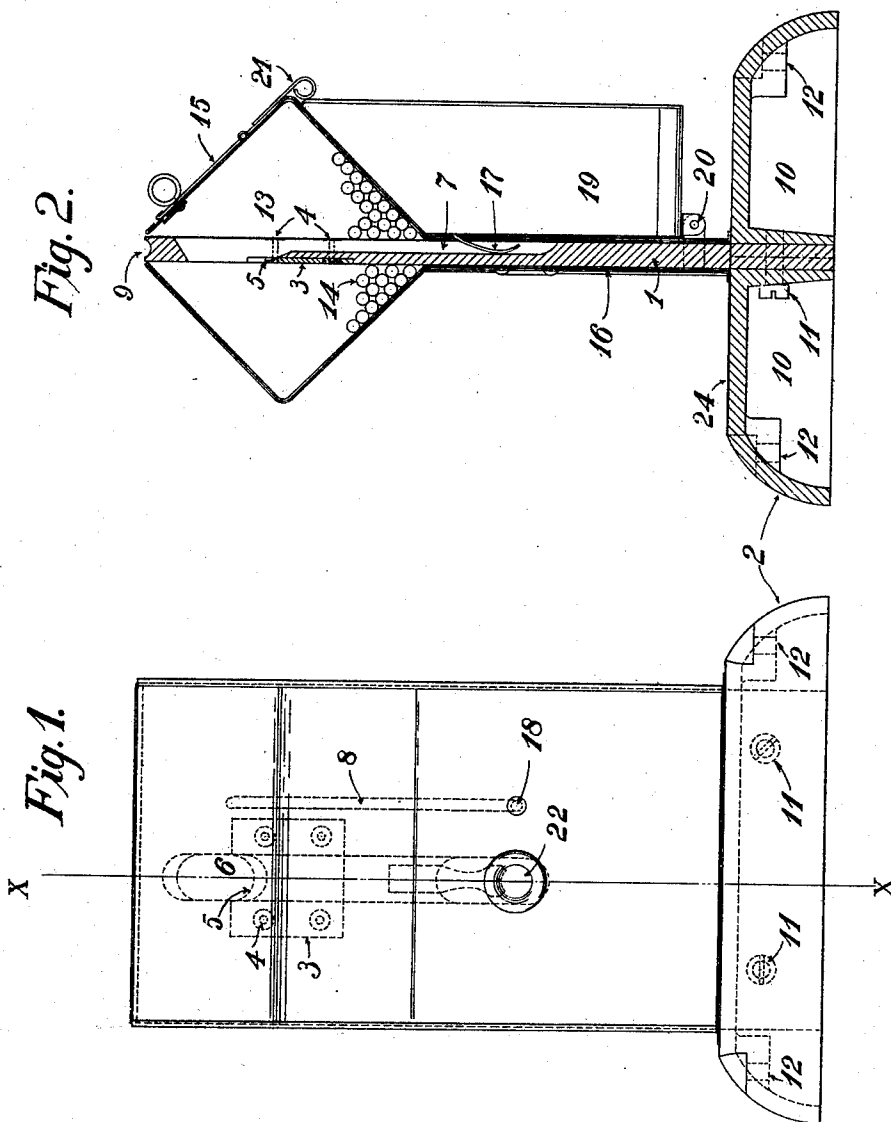


(No Model.)

U. PORSTENDORFER.
COMBINED MATCH SAFE AND CIGAR CUTTER.

No. 509,942.

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Witnesses:

John Darby
C. E. Buckland.

Inventor,

Urbanus Porstendorfer
per Willard Eddy,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

URBANUS PORSTENDORFER, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT.

COMBINED MATCH-SAFE AND CIGAR-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 509,942, dated December 5, 1893.

Application filed July 5, 1893. Serial No. 479,566. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, URBANUS PORSTENDORFER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Hartford, in the State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Match-Safe and Cigar-Cutter, which improvements are described in the following specification and are illustrated by the accompanying drawings.

This invention belongs to that class of mechanical contrivances, which are used in saloons, drug stores and other places of public or private resort, for the purpose of affording convenient means whereby the user of a cigar may cut off the closed tip of the cigar, preparatory to lighting, and may at the same time be presented with a match, with which to light the cigar so cut.

It is the object of my invention to combine a match-safe with a cigar-cutter in such simple and superior manner that a match shall be delivered at the mouth of the safe by the same movement by which the cigar is cut for lighting. To accomplish this object I use a stationary knife-holder, which is provided at the top with a rest for a single match, in combination with the hopper-like match-safe, which is provided with guiding mechanism, which reciprocates vertically upon such knife-holder.

The best manner in which I have contemplated applying the principles of my invention, is illustrated by said drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a combined match-safe and cigar-cutter, which is constructed in accordance with those principles; and Fig. 2 is a cross-section on the broken line *xx* of Fig. 1.

In the views the numeral 1 denotes the knife-holder, which is a wooden or metallic plate, of general rectangular form, supported in a vertical position by the base 2. In the front side of holder 1, the knife-plate 3, whose front surface is flush with that of said holder, is fastened by screws, or pins, 4. The knife, which is the cutting edge of plate 3, is curved, as shown at 5 in Fig. 1, to roughly fit the rounded surface of the cigar tip, where the latter is to be cut. Just back of knife 5 and above it, holder 1 is perforated by a hole 6. In the back side of holder 1 is a central chan-

nel 7, running downward from hole 6, for the accommodation of finger 17, which is hereinafter described. Holder 1 is also provided with a vertical slot 8, for the accommodation of the stop-pin 18, which is hereinafter described. In the top of holder 1 is a horizontal groove 9, which is of proper size and shape to hold a single match, lying lengthwise therein. Holder 1 is rigidly secured in the vertical position shown, by means of said base 2, consisting preferably of duplicate iron castings 10 and 10, between which the lower part of holder 1 is clamped by screws 11. This base, being provided with screw-holes 12, may advantageously be secured to the top of a bar, desk or other immovable support. The top of the front segment 10 is covered with sand-paper 24.

On holder 1 is mounted the sliding safe 13, containing matches 14. This safe is a tin box, provided with a latching door 15, where matches may be inserted. The safe is open from end to end along the top, where two slanting sides of the safe approach each other, and is open at the bottom in the same manner. These two openings are diagonally opposite each other, and are of such dimensions as readily to admit the upper portion of holder 1, as shown in Fig. 2. Safe 13 is provided with a guiding case 16, which is continuous with the described body of the safe, and extends downward on both sides and edges of holder 1. The front side of case 16 has a hole 22 for the admission of the cigar tip, while the back side of the same carries said finger 17. This finger is elastic, and is inclined inward toward the bottom of groove 7, in which it is adapted to travel. From front to rear of case 16 runs the stop-pin 18, which is adapted to travel in said slot 8. On the back side of case 16 and safe 13, is formed a box 19 for the reception of the tips which are cut from cigars. Box 19 is pivoted at 20, and is ordinarily held closed by a catch 21.

Such being the construction of my improved match-safe and cigar-cutter, the mode of its operation requires but little separate elucidation. In the absence of all manipulation, the safe occupies the position which is shown in the drawings, being carried to that position by its own weight, and being stopped there by the contact of pin 18 with the bottom of

slot 8, or by the contact of case 16 with base 2. At the same time holder 1 extends upward through the middle of the safe diagonally, and groove 9 is presented empty at the top of the safe, as shown in Fig. 2. In order to use the device as a cutter, it is necessary to raise the safe, and the connected case 16, slidingly upward by hand until stopped by the contact of pin 18 with the top of slot 8. Groove 9 is thus brought down among the matches 14. One of the latter at once proceeds to fall or roll into groove 9, and occupies the whole of it. By the described lifting of case 16, hole 22 is brought just opposite hole 6, and just above the level of knife 5. A cigar tip is now inserted through both said holes, and is so brought into contact with the knife below and finger 17 above. When now the safe is pressed downward, the cigar point is pressed down upon the knife by the joint action of finger 17 and of that portion of case 16 which is the upper limit of hole 22; and being thereby cut off, falls into box 19, where it is preserved until the box is opened and emptied. As the safe then returns to its first described position, which is shown in the drawings, the beforementioned match, which took exclusive possession of groove 9, is presented singly and alone at the upper orifice of the safe, ready and convenient to be taken away by the fin-

gers of the operator, and used for the purpose of lighting the cigar, so cut for lighting.

Such being the construction and operation of my improved match-safe and cigar-cutter, I claim as my invention—

In a combined match-safe and cigar-cutter, a stationary knife-holding plate, which is provided with a terminal top groove for a match, and with a round hole to admit the point of a cigar, and a knife plate, which is set in such knife-holding plate, and has its cutting edge at the edge of such hole, in combination with a reciprocating hopper match-safe, mounted upon such stationary knife-holding plate by means of a sliding case, which is continuous with such match-safe, is fitted to work upon such knife-holding plate, and is provided at one side of such knife-holding plate with a hole to admit the point of a cigar, and at the other side of the same with an inwardly inclined elastic finger, which is adapted to press the cigar against the knife, when the safe is depressed by the hand of the operator, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my name in the presence of two witnesses.

URBANUS PORSTENDORFER.

Witnesses:

WILLARD EDDY,

PAUL A. GREBEL.