

United States Patent Office.

JOHN H. GOODFELLOW AND MARTIN RUSSELL, JR., OF TROY, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 102,807, dated May 10, 1870.

MATCH-BOX.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN H. GOODFELLOW and MARTIN RUSSELL, Jr., both of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Match-Box, of which the following is a full and clear description, which will enable others to understand, make, and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents an oblique vertical view of our invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical central section of the same, taken in plane through the line $x x$, fig. 1.

Like characters refer to corresponding parts in both figures.

Our invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the various parts of a match-box, as hereinafter more fully described.

A is the upper compartment or reservoir, forming a receptacle, in which the matches are placed, and which are prevented from falling into the lower compartment B by the back part of lid or cover C.

The lid C is held in its place by the trunnions a , upon which it hinges with the body of the box.

Longitudinally with the trunnions a the back part of the lid C is formed, in a semi-cylinder, b , in which is made a small recess or groove, c , of sufficient size to contain but one match at a time.

When the lid C is down, the recess c is in such a position that one of the matches in the upper compartment A will fall into it.

By raising the lid C, as indicated by the red dotted outlines of the same, as shown in fig. 2, the match in the recess or groove c will fall into the backward and upper part of the compartment B, at d .

Owing to the nearness of the back edge of the lid C, at e , to the back wall of the compartment B while

the lid C is raised, the match at d is prevented from passing into the bottom of the box. But when the lid C is down, or nearly so, the distance between the edge e of the back of the lid C and the back wall of the compartment B is so increased that the match at d is allowed to pass to the bottom of the box, as at f .

On the same circular part of the cover C are formed the cams g , which, as the lid C is raised or let fall, move the matches in the compartment A, so as to prevent their wedging together in such a manner as to obstruct their falling readily into the groove c .

It is obvious, from the above description, that but one match can pass into the lower compartment B at each time the lid is closed, thus enhancing the novelty of the device, at the same time preventing, in a great measure, the extravagant use and waste of matches in such places as bar-rooms, saloons, &c.

Having thus described our invention,

What we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of upper and lower compartments A and B, substantially as herein described and for the purpose specified.

2. The formation of the recess, notch, or groove c , in the back part of the cover or lid C, substantially as herein shown and described and for the purpose set forth.

3. The formation of the cams g on the semi-cylindrical portion of the cover C, substantially as and for the purpose herein shown and set forth.

The above specification signed by us this 23d day of August, 1869.

JOHN H. GOODFELLOW.
MARTIN RUSSELL, JR.

Witnesses:

JNO. H. O'BRIEN,
HARVEY M. GEER.