(No Model.)

A. E. SEINECKE.

CIGAR BOX SERVER.

No. 308,634. Patented Dec. 2, 1884.

FIG. 1.

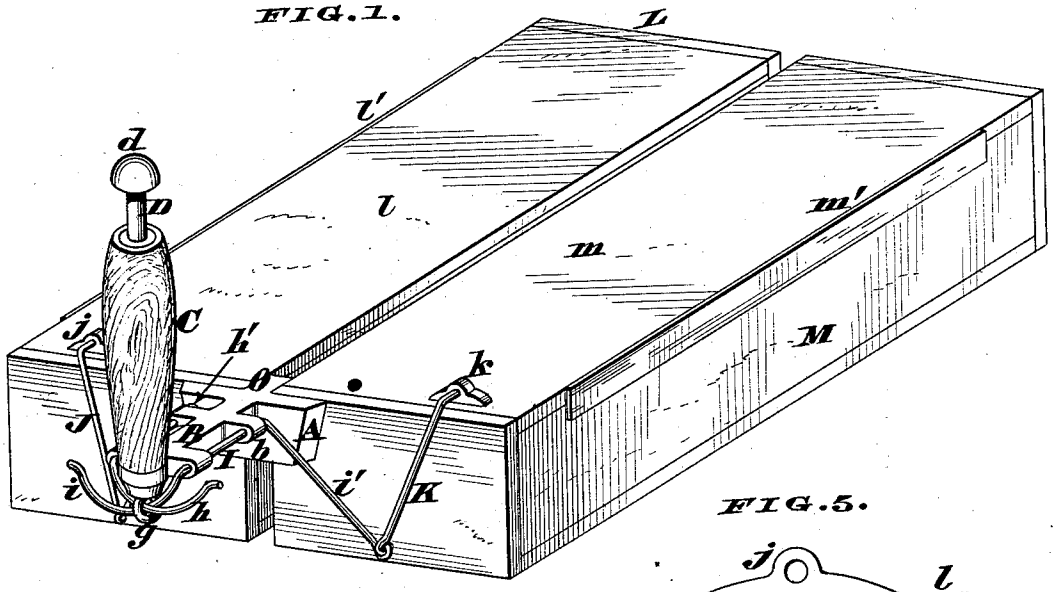


FIG. 5.

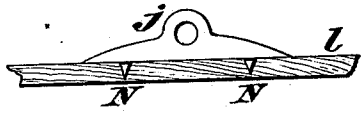


FIG. 2.

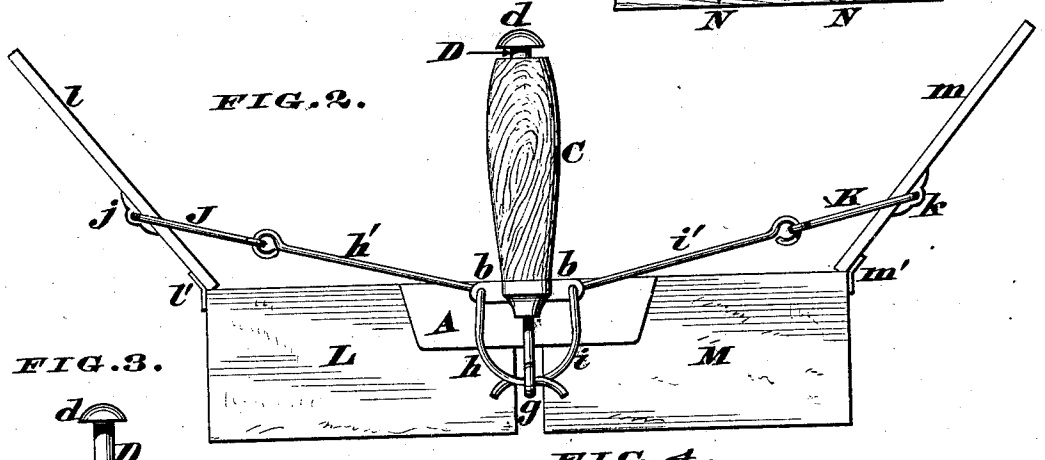


FIG. 3.

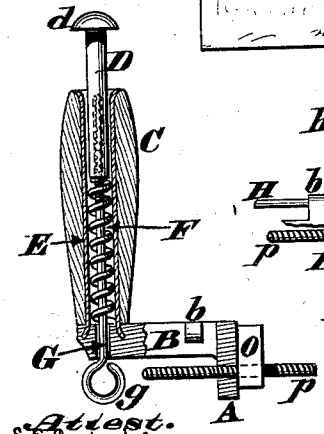
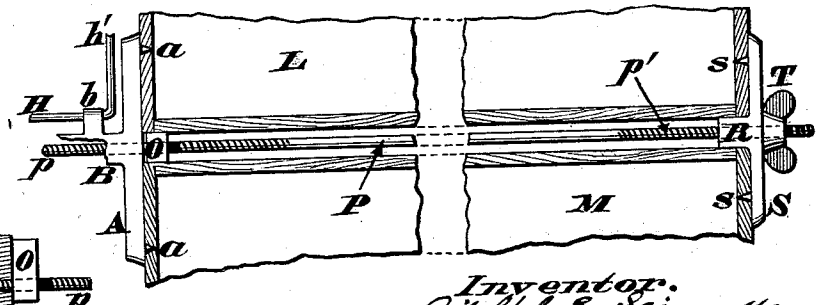


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPH E. SEINECKE, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO MARIA R. ROTH, OF SAME PLACE.

CIGAR-BOX SERVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 308,634, dated December 2, 1884.

Application filed January 28, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ADOLPH E. SEINECKE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Box Servers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to provide a light, cheap, and simple device wherewith a pair of cigar-boxes can be conveniently handled, and the hinged lids of said boxes be simultaneously opened by depressing a suitable push-piece. This push-piece preferably occupies an axial position within the handle of the implement, said handle being attached to a plate adapted to be clamped to the ends of the boxes and near the upper edges of the same, the opposite ends of said boxes having fastened to them another plate that is connected to the first one by a screw-threaded rod occupying an interval or space between the inner sides of the boxes. Furthermore, the plate to which the handle is attached carries a pair of rock-shafts whose inner ends are bent to form cranks that are jointed to links or lifters, the latter being coupled to the hinged lids of the boxes. The outer ends of these rock-shafts have curved arms that engage either with an eye at the bottom of the push-piece, or with an eye formed on a rod attached to said push-piece, the latter being maintained in its normal or elevated position by a coiled spring fitted within the handle.

The arrangement of the above-described devices is such as to cause the coiled spring or its equivalent to maintain the lids in their closed position, but the instant the push-piece is depressed said lids are simultaneously thrown wide open, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing my implement applied to a pair of cigar-boxes, the lids of the latter being closed. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of said boxes, the lids thereof being thrown wide open. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of a portion of the implement, taken in the plane of its handle. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section of portions of the cigar-boxes and implement. Fig. 5 shows the method of attaching the spurred plates to the cigar-box lids.

A represents a suitable plate, having a laterally-projecting lug, B, that carries the handle C, the latter being traversed by a push-piece, D, terminating at top with a knob or button, *d*. I prefer to attach this handle to the lug in the following manner: A sheet-metal tube, E, (seen in Fig. 3,) is first upset at its lower end, and is then placed in the mold, so as to allow the lug to be cast around this upset portion, thereby uniting the members B and E in the most secure and expeditious way. The handle proper, C, is then slipped down over this tube, and the upper end of the latter being bent outwardly, said handle is at once fastened in place. This tube has coiled within it a spring, F, that surrounds a a rod, G, the upper end of the latter being preferably screwed into the push-piece D, in order that the tension of the spring may be regulated by properly turning said push-piece. Rod G has at its lower end an eye or loop, *g*, through which passes freely the curved arms *h i* of a pair of rock-shafts, H I, whose inner ends take the shape of cranks *h' i'* of any suitable length, said shafts being journaled in ears *b*, that project from lug B. The free ends of cranks *h' i'* have coupled to them links or lifters J K, the latter being jointed to small plates *j k*, fastened to the upper surface of lids *l m* of the cigar-boxes L M. These lids are hinged to the respective boxes at *l' m'*. Plates *j k* have projecting from their under sides spurs N, adapted to enter the box-lids, as seen in Fig. 5. Similarly the plate A has inwardly-projecting spurs *a*, that penetrate the ends of the boxes, as seen in Fig. 4. Furthermore, the inner face of said plate has a rib, O, which plate and rib are traversed by the screw-threaded end *p* of a rod, P, whose other screw-threaded end, *p'*, passes through the rib R of a plate, S, that is secured to the ends of boxes L M by a thumb-nut, T. *s* are inwardly-projecting spurs of said plate.

The manner of applying this implement is clearly seen in Figs. 1 and 4, reference to which latter illustration shows that the ribs O R maintain the boxes L M at such a dis-

tance from each other as to prevent any contact of the free edges of the lids *l m*, and also to allow a passage for the threaded rod P *p p'*. Fig. 4 further shows that by tightening the thumb-nut T the plates A S will be securely clamped against the opposite ends of the boxes, and any lateral shifting of said plates will be prevented by their spurs *a s* penetrating said ends. It will also be seen that the threaded rod P *p p'* allows said plates to be adjusted to boxes of various lengths, and after these plates are clamped in position the smaller plates *j k* are fastened to the lids *l m* by simply forcing the spurs N into said lids, as seen in Fig. 5.

When the implement is in the above-described normal position, the spring F forces the rod G as far up within handle C as the eye *g* will permit, which stress of said spring keeps the lids snugly closed.

In serving cigars to his customers, the dealer grasps the handle C, lifts the united boxes L M from the counter, and then depresses the push-piece D *d* with his thumb, which movement of said push-piece causes the curved arms *h i* of the rock-shafts to assume the position seen in Fig. 2. Consequently said shafts H I turn in their bearings *b*, and in so doing the free ends of cranks *h' i'* swing upwardly and open simultaneously, but in opposite directions, the lids *l m* thereby affording unobstructed access to the boxes; but the instant the dealer removes his thumb from the push-piece D, the spring F exerts its force and automatically closes both of the lids. It will thus be seen that my server can be readily applied to cigar-boxes of any size, and that it can be manipulated with one hand, thereby leaving the other hand of the dealer at perfect liberty. When the boxes are nearly of the same length, either one of the screws *p* or *p'* may be omitted from the rod P.

I claim as my invention—

1. A cigar-box server consisting of a pair of plates adapted to be clamped to the opposite ends of two boxes, a push-piece and connected devices for opening the lids of said boxes, and a suitable spring for restoring said push-piece to its normal position and closing the lids, substantially as herein described.

2. A cigar-box server consisting of a pair of plates adapted to be clamped to the opposite ends of two boxes, a push-piece and connected devices for opening the lids of said boxes, a spring for restoring said push-piece to its normal position, and a rod between the boxes for adjusting said plates, substantially as herein described.

3. The combination, in a cigar-box server, of clamp-plates A S, adjusting-rod *p*, ribs O R, handle C, push-piece D, spring F, rock-shafts H I, curved arms *h i*, cranks *h' i'*, links J K, and lid-plates *j k*, provided with spurs N, for the purpose described.

4. The combination, in a cigar-box server, having the handle C, and tube E, inclosing spring F, of the rod G, secured in one end of push-piece D, and having at its lower end an eye, *g*, for the purpose set forth.

5. In combination with a cigar-box server, the tube E, having one end upset and secured in the lug B by casting the lug around it, and the other end upset to secure the handle C in place, the tube inclosing a rod and push-piece for operating the covers of the boxes, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ADOLPH E. SEINECKE.

Witnesses:
JAMES H. LAYMAN,
SAML. S. CARPENTER.