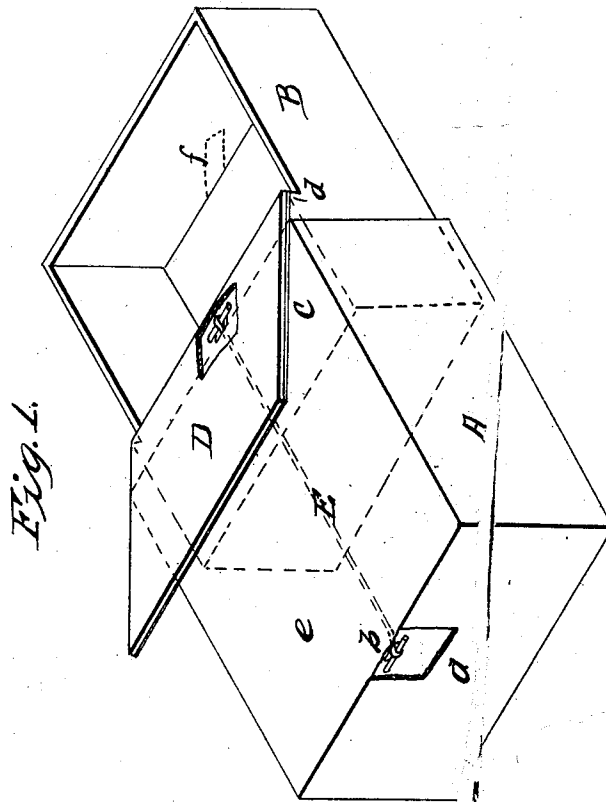


L. SCHOERKEN.
MATCH BOX.

No. 63,104.

Patented Mar. 19, 1867.



Witnesses:

Alex. A. C. Klauetz
Wm. McKim

Inventor

Lou Schoerken

United States Patent Office

LOUIS SCHOERKEN, OF KOLN, PRUSSIA.

Letters Patent No. 63,104, dated March 19, 1867.

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 I, LOUIS SCHOERKEN, of the city of Köln, in the Kingdom of Prussia, have invented a new and useful improvement in Match Boxes and Safes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, making part of this specification, which is a perspective view of my invention.

The nature of my invention consists in so attaching an elastic band or strap to the upper end of an outer box and to the hinged part of the lid of an inner box, sliding in the outer one, that when the inner box is drawn out from the outer one, the lid of the former shall, as soon as it has passed beyond the upper side of the outer box, be elevated by means of the stretching of the elastic band, and thus open the inner box.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to fully understand and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the drawing, A represents an outer box of paper, wood, metal, or any suitable material, having one side open, and into which fits the sliding-box B, made of any suitable material. This box B has a cover, C, the part D of which is hinged, or otherwise made to elevate, at *d*. An elastic band or strap, E, is attached at one end to the back *a* of the outer box A, passing through the same and being held by a pin, as shown at *b*, or otherwise attached by glue, mucilage, or any suitable way. The other end passing under the upper side *e* of the box A and over the cover C of the box B, is similarly attached to the part D of the cover C, a little forward of the place D, where the part D is hinged. The box B is provided with a knob or loop, as shown in dotted lines at *f*. It will readily be seen that the tendency of the elastic band E is to raise the hinged part D of the cover C, which is only kept down by means of the upper side *e* of the outer box A. When the box B is pulled out from the outer one, the elastic band E is stretched, and as soon as the box has been pulled out beyond the point of the hinge *d*, the cover D is raised and the box kept open, the band E acting, as it were, on a lever near its pivot. On pressing the lid or cover D down, the action of the elastic band E will again be brought to bear in line with and on the whole box B, thus drawing it back into its normal position in the outer box A. For match boxes or match safes my invention is peculiarly adapted, as the box is kept firmly closed at all times, and cannot be left open without leaving the cover D open, the slightest pressure on which will close the box. But I do not confine myself to the use of my invention to match boxes or safes alone, as my improvement can be applied to pill and powder boxes in drug stores, to ribbon and glove boxes in dry-goods stores, and many other uses. I propose to make my improved boxes of a square, oblong, round, or any other suitable form.

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

Connecting the hinged part D of the cover C of an inner sliding box with the back *a* of an outer case by means of an elastic band or strap, substantially as and for the purposes described.

LOUIS SCHOERKEN.

Witnesses:

ALEX. A. C. KLAUCKE,
W. McKENNEY.