(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. J. HOSKINS.

CIGAR VENDING MACHINE.

No. 589,471. Patented Sept. 7, 1897.

Fig. I.

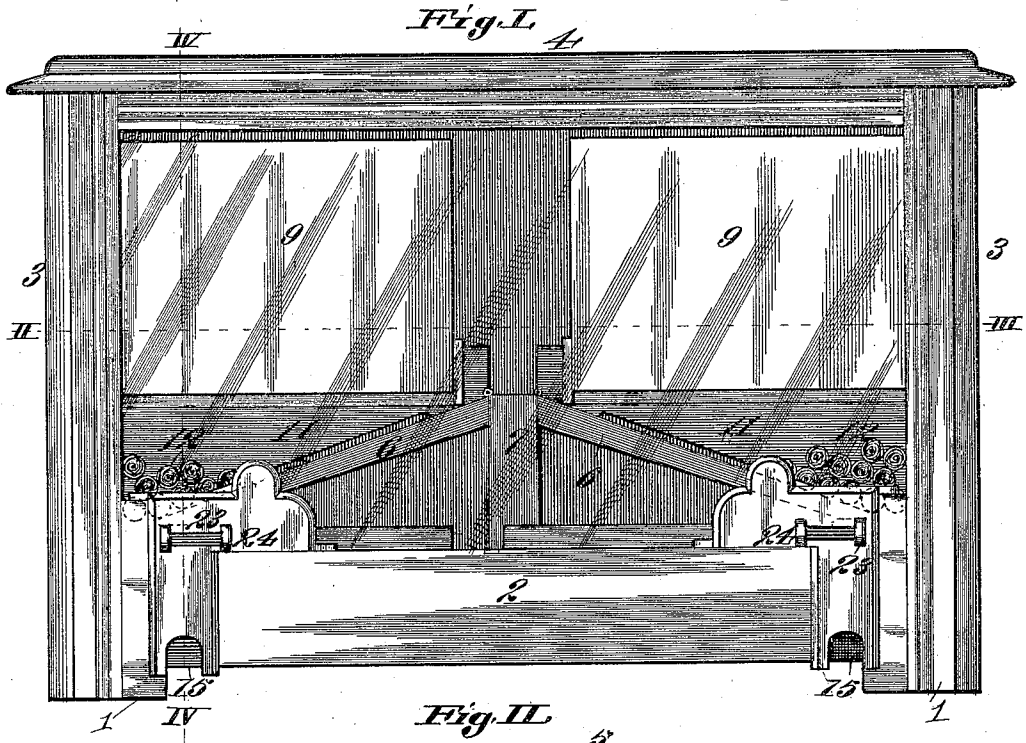
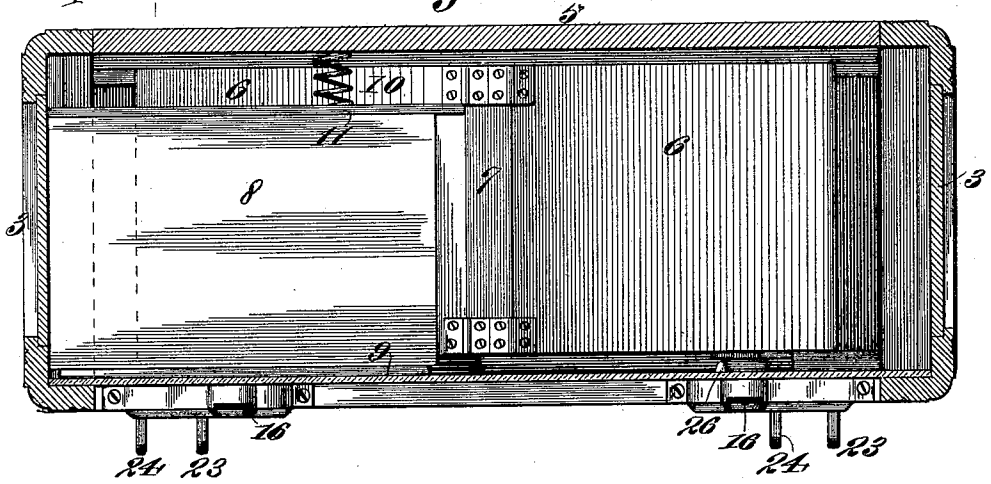


Fig. II.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. III.

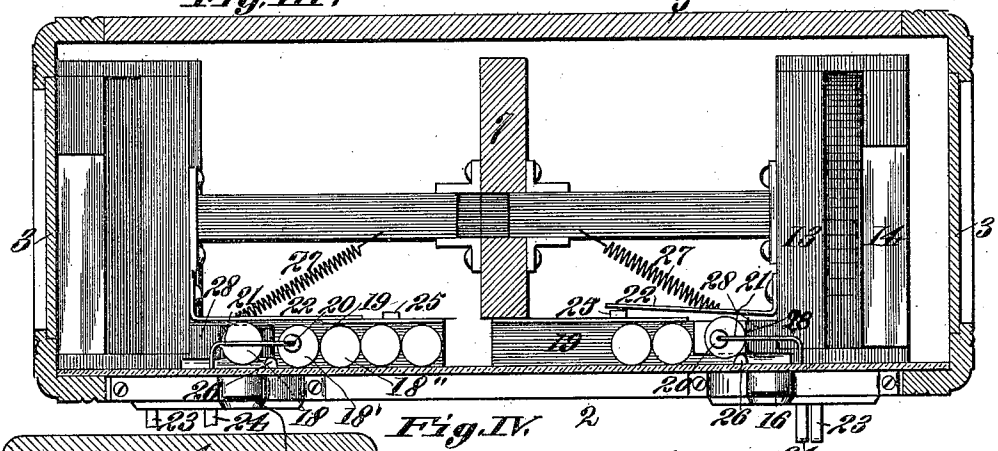


Fig. IV.

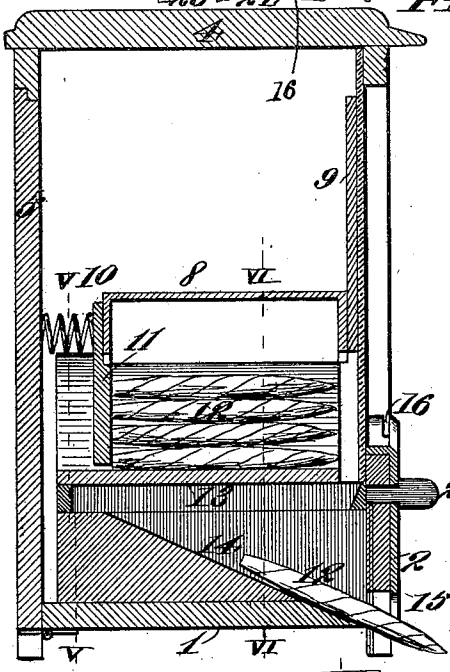


Fig. V.

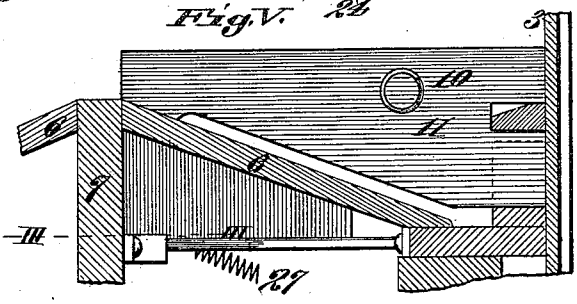


Fig VI.

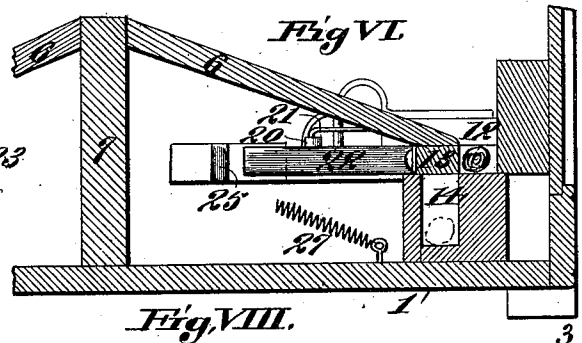


Fig. VII.

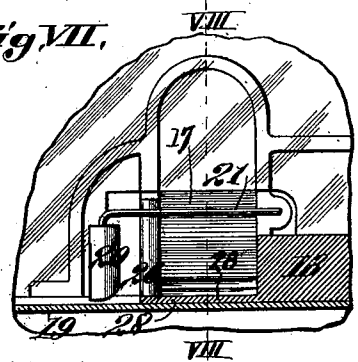
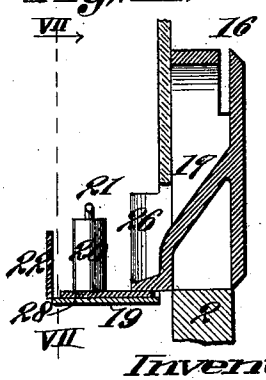


Fig. VIII.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALVIS J. HOSKINS, OF ALTON, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO FRANK N. SCHAFER AND HARRY C. BELK, OF SAME PLACE.

CIGAR-VENDING MACHINE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 589,471, dated September 7, 1897.

Application filed September 26, 1896. Serial No. 607,023. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVIS J. HOSKINS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Alton, Madison county, in the State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Cigar-Vending Machines, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of vending-machines which are operated by mechanism controlled by a coin inserted into the device, the said mechanism being released and made operative through the medium of the inserted coin. It possesses features of novelty hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, Figure I illustrates a front elevation of the device. Fig. II illustrates a longitudinal horizontal section taken along the line II III of Fig. I, looking from above. Fig. III illustrates a view similar to that shown in Fig. II, but the hoppers are removed. Fig. IV is a vertical cross-section taken along the line IV IV of Fig. I. Fig. V is a vertical longitudinal detail view taken along the line V V of Fig. IV, looking toward the right. Fig. VI illustrates a similar view to that shown in Fig. V, but taken along the line VI VI of Fig. IV. Fig. VII is a detail view of the coin-chute, taken along the line VII VII of Fig. VIII. Fig. VIII is a vertical cross-section of the said coin-chute, taken along the line VIII VIII of Fig. VII.

1 designates the base of the machine-casing; 2, the front; 3, the ends; 4, the top, and 5 the removable back or door. The upper portion of the front is constructed of glass in order to permit a view of the interior of the machine.

The machine as I have shown it is provided with a medial partition dividing it into duplicate compartments provided with hoppers and discharging mechanism. The object of providing a duplicate device in one casing is to enable two different grades or brands of cigars or other articles of merchandise to be disbursed. It is evident, however, that the device may be employed with equal facility for the vending of one grade or kind of article. It is further designed to dispose of cigars or other articles from the original package, the said package being opened and inverted when placed in the machine.

6 6 are the inclined sides of the two hoppers, hinged to a central partition 7.

8 designates a package which in this instance is a cigar-box. This box being opened and inverted, the cigars fall down into the hopper and rest in plain view upon the sides 6. The lid or cover 9 of the box is vertical and rests against the glass front, exposing thereby the label usually attached, thus affording the purchaser a means of knowing the kind or brand of articles that are contained in the package. The box rests on cleats provided for the purpose on the inner sides of the ends 3. It is kept pressed to the front by means of a coil-spring 10, which bears against a spacing-block 11, which block serves the purpose of not only keeping the box 8 in position, but, also of keeping the cigars 12 properly placed to prevent their binding.

An advantage of putting the box and contents into the machine in the manner described is that it permits the sale of the articles direct from the original package.

13 are blocks seated beneath the lower and outer ends of the sides 6, below which are inclined grooves 14, that form slideways through which the cigars or other articles are discharged from the machine through the exit-openings 15.

16 are entrance-openings for the insertion of a coin.

17 is an inclined guideway through which the coin drops.

18 18′ 18″ are the coins.

19 is a passage-plate of a width approximately that of the diameter of the coin admitted.

20 is a weighted foot having its bottom inclined toward the coin-entrance and held in place by a spring-arm 21.

22 is a spring side to the passage-plate 19.

23 is an outside push-piece, and it, with the part 13, the side 22, and a shoulder 28, adapted to strike an inserted coin, are all movable, but rigid with each other.

24 is a piece similar to 23, but stationary. The piece 23 also controls the movement of the block 13, which carries in its opening the cigar 12, so that when moved far enough

the opening is brought coincident with the slide 14.

25 are projections which bear against the end of the side 22, and thus limit the movement of the spring side 22. 26 are also projections, narrowing the space between the side 22 and the front to less than the diameter of the coin. The side 22 being a spring and its end bearing against projection 25 the block 13 cannot normally be moved by push-piece 23 to enable one to obtain a cigar. This is further aided by the coil-spring 27, the tension of which keeps the block 13 to the position shown in Fig. VI and the left hand of Fig. III.

The coin-slot 16 is placed in a face-plate, which is provided with a track or guideway 17, over which the coin is adapted to pass. When it reaches the bottom of this guideway, it is in the position of 18 on the left-hand side of Fig. III. Its left edge will then bear against the part 28, rigid with block 13 and push-piece 23. By drawing the movable piece 23 toward the fixed piece 24 the coin will be forced around projection 26 under the incline of weight 20. Being thus forced around projection 26 the side 22 is pushed outward by the coin and its end is forced beyond or out of line with the stop-piece 25. The block 13 is thus moved to a position in which its opening, carrying a cigar, is coincident with the slideway 14. Consequently the cigar is deposited thereon and allowed to drop out the exit 15. When the coin passes the projection 26, the tension of the spring side 22 forces it to the position shown by 18', and the coil-spring 27 draws the block 13 back into its original position, as shown on the left side of Fig. III, the right of said figure showing the device in position adapted to drop a cigar into the slide 14.

The passage of the coin is through the slot 16, down the inclined guide 17, onto the plate 19. The form of the face-plate is such as to cause the coin to face on its side. It then passes under weight 20, being forced around projection 26 and down the guideway 19 into a suitable receptacle.

The purpose of the weighted arm 20 is to hold the coin in place after the slide on which said coin rests is returned from the position shown on the right-hand side of Fig. III. The bottom of this weighted arm 20 is preferably of rubber, which binds the coin and prevents it from riding back when the spring draws the slide into the normal position shown on the left-hand side of Fig. III. Thus it will be seen that this weighted arm 20 performs a valuable function.

The purpose of the spacing-block or distance-board 11 is to regulate the depth of the hopper in accord with the length of the cigar or other article in the hopper, so that the articles may be confined in a depth approximately equal to their length, thereby preventing the liability of their becoming crossed in the hopper and not feeding properly.

The sides 6 of the hopper are hinged to the partition 7, which allows vibration and permits their upward movement when the cigar is being ejected, thereby preventing it from being bruised, as might be the case were the sides rigid.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a vending-machine, the combination of a casing, a hopper in said casing, a slide located beneath said hopper, a slide over which a coin is adapted to fall on its insertion into the machine, a track over which said coin passes, a spring side to said track, a projection on one side of said track, but rigid with the side of the box, and free from the moving portion said projection being adapted to be struck by an inserted coin in its movement upon the track for the purpose of displacing the spring side from the line of travel of said track, substantially as set forth.

2. In a vending-machine, the combination of a casing, a hopper in said casing, a slide located beneath said hopper, a pull by means of which said slide is actuated, a weighted keeper adapted to retain a coin on said slide, a spring adapted to return said slide to its normal position, and a keeper arranged to control the movement of said slide until displaced by the intervention of an inserted coin, substantially as set forth.

3. In a vending-machine, the combination of a coin-chute provided with a coin-receiving slot, a guideway for said coin, and a weighted keeper adapted to keep said coin in position, substantially as described.

4. A vending-machine comprising a passage-plate having a stop-piece, a block having a shoulder, and spring side moving therewith, and the projection on the passage-plate for forcing the coin and the spring side outward from the stop-piece; substantially as described.

ALVIS J. HOSKINS.

In presence of—
J. HARRY G. SCHEER,
J. M. GAISER.