No. 750,216. PATENTED JAN. 19, 1904.

H. F. H. NEWINGTON.

PLAYING CARD SHUFFLER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 10, 1903.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

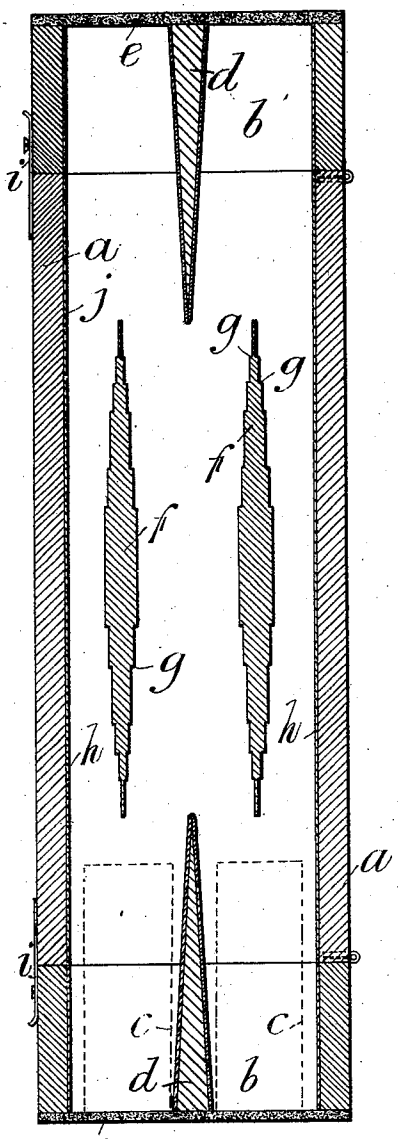


Fig. 1.

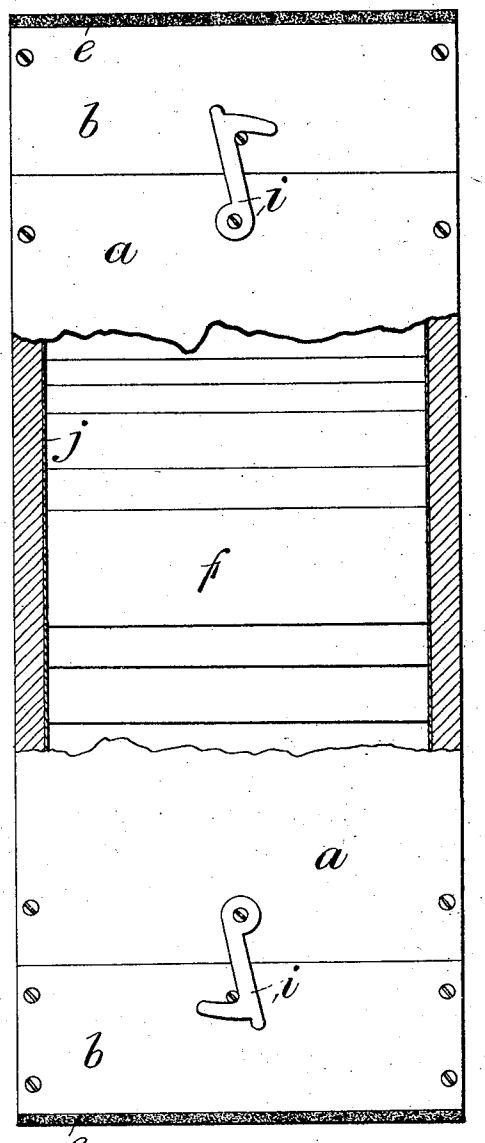


Fig. 2.

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

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NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

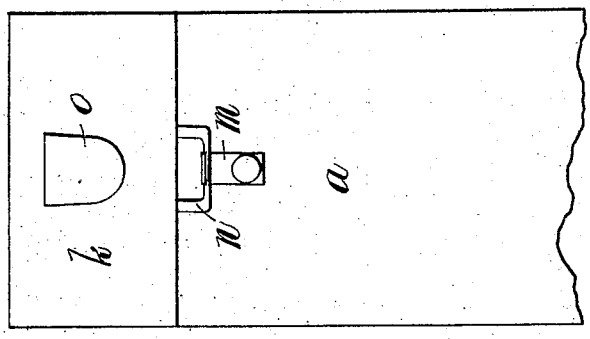


Fig. 4.

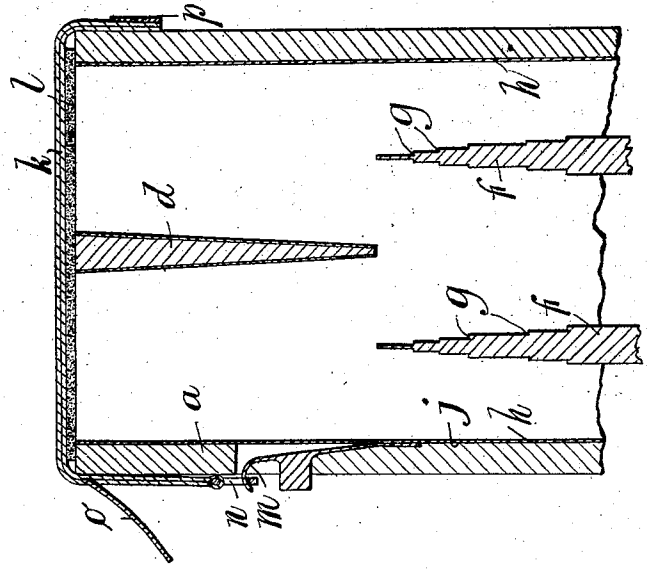


Fig. 3.

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No. 750,216. Patented January 19, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT FRANCIS HAYES NEWINGTON, OF TICEHURST, ENGLAND.

PLAYING-CARD SHUFFLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 750,216, dated January 19, 1904.

Application filed September 10, 1903. Serial No. 172,619. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT FRANCIS HAYES NEWINGTON, a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, residing at The Gables, Ticehurst, Sussex, England, have invented a new and useful Playing-Card Shuffler, (for which I have made application for Letters Patent in Great Britain, No. 12,470, bearing date June 2, 1903,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices employed for shuffling one or more packs of playing-cards, the object being to provide a simple device by which the cards may be expeditiously and effectively shuffled without the exercise of skill on the part of the operator.

The invention, briefly, consists in fitting a suitable box or casing with one or more partitions and inclined planes so adapted that by the latter the pack or packs of cards is or are broken up and change their relative order when the casing is inverted, and the cards fall from one end to the other and pass during their passage in contact with the partitions and planes. The arrangement is such that while the relative position of the individual cards is changed the faces of all the cards are maintained in the same direction throughout the operation of shuffling, and the cards of the complete pack or packs are at the end thereof on opening the box in a form convenient for removal and ready for subsequent use.

The accompanying drawings illustrate, by way of example, two forms of the improved shuffler, Figure 1 being a sectional front elevation, and Fig. 2 a side elevation, partly in section, of one form, and Figs. 3 and 4 detail views of a slightly-modified form.

In carrying out the invention according to one form, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, a box or casing *a* is provided at the top and the bottom with a hinged lid *b*. The lids are of sufficient depth to conveniently hold one or more packs of cards on edge, as indicated by dotted lines at *c c*. The parts *e* of the lids are made of some soft material, such as felt, or if made of hard material they are lined with soft material in order to obviate noise and damage to the cards. The box is also preferably lined, as at *j*, for the above reasons. Within the box or casing one or more longitudinal partitions *f f* and one or more planes *d d* are fitted. The former are made tapered toward both ends and the latter toward the internal end. The surfaces of the partitions *f f* are provided with successively-rising steps or ridges *g g*, adapted to temporarily detain some of the cards in their passage between the partitions. The whole of the cards on the box being completely inverted fall down to the bottom of the box and form a pack or packs again, but with the relative order or formation of the cards considerably changed. Instead of steps or ridges, as shown, any equivalent projections may be employed. The sides *h* of the box or casing may also be provided with steps or ridges, if desired.

In operation the pack or packs to be shuffled are placed in one end of the box, and the respective lid is then shut and secured by any suitable catch, such as *i*. The upper lid being also closed, the box is sharply inverted and reinverted as often as may be considered necessary. One lid is then opened and the shuffled cards removed. The operation of shuffling is facilitated by occasional rotation of the box on its own axis.

Instead of two lids one only need be provided, if desired, in which case, however, the box must be always reinverted to the same position.

Instead of lids being used, as above described, the ends of the box may be closed by flexible strips, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The strips preferably consist of cloth *k*, faced with felt *l*. The strips are each permanently connected to the box at one side *p*, but detachably secured at the other side by a suitable fastener. The latter may comprise an eye *n* on the strip and a spring-catch *m* on the box, the catch being provided with a finger-piece or button to facilitate unfastening.

The lids are preferable for use with one pack of cards and the strips with two; but either form of closure can be used with one or two packs. Any suitable material may be used in the construction of the box—such, for instance, as wood, cardboard, papier-mâché, or metal.

Having thus described my invention, what

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

1. A card-shuffler comprising a box having a wedge-shaped plane piece disposed at one end thereof, and a plurality of wedge-shaped partitions disposed between and spaced from its ends and also spaced from the sides of the box and from each other.

2. A card-shuffler comprising a box, provided with wedge-shaped plane pieces at its ends, spaced from opposite sides, and wedge-shaped partitions disposed longitudinally in the box between and spaced from the ends thereof, and spaced from opposite sides of the box and from each other.

3. A card-shuffler comprising a box, provided with wedge-shaped plane pieces at its ends spaced from opposite sides, and wedge-shaped partitions disposed longitudinally in the box between and spaced from the ends thereof, and spaced from opposite sides of the box and from each other, said partitions having projections on their sides.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two witnesses.

HERBERT FRANCIS HAYES NEWINGTON.

Witnesses:
H. A. H. NEWINGTON,
H. D. JAMESON.