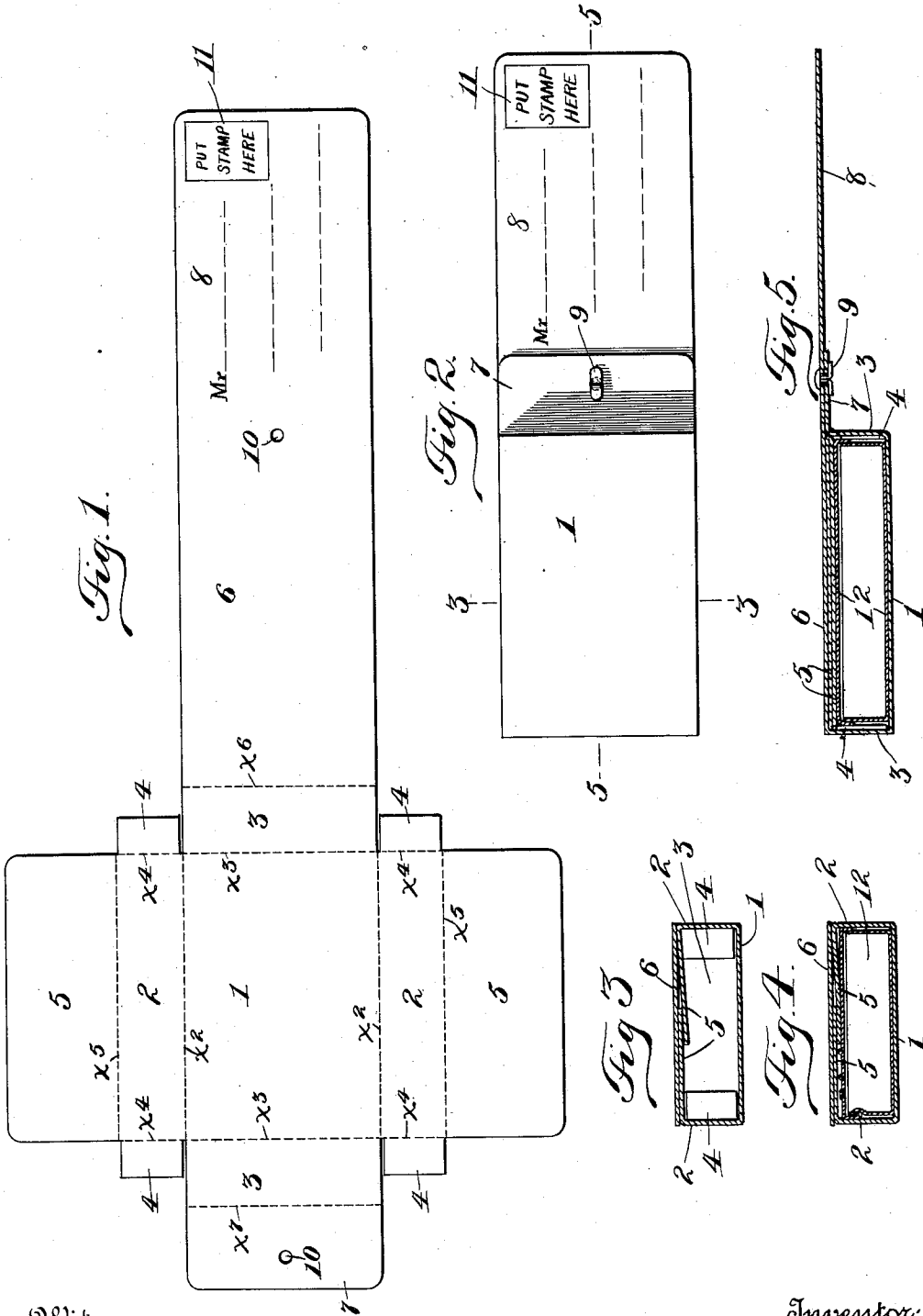


H. M. WILLIS.
 COMBINED PACKING CASE AND TAG.
 APPLICATION FILED JULY 31, 1905.

929,068.

Patented July 27, 1909.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY M. WILLIS, OF EAST WILLISTON, NEW YORK.

COMBINED PACKING-CASE AND TAG.

No. 929,068.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed July 31, 1905. Serial No. 271,991.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY M. WILLIS, a citizen of the United States, residing in East Williston, Nassau county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Combined Packing-Cases and Tags, of which the following is a description.

This invention relates to packing-cases or boxes and has special reference to that class of packing-cases used for the reception and transportation of small articles which are usually more or less frail or unsubstantial and, in consequence, which may be readily fractured and the contents broken, spilled or ruined by a blow caused by the canceling stamp in the post-office.

Among the objects of my invention may be noted the following: To provide a substantial and strong packing-case or box in which small and frail articles may be conveyed, without fear of injury, through the mail or otherwise; to provide a combination packing-case or box and tag upon which latter the address and stamp may be placed; to provide a complete packing-case or box made of a single piece of material, which requires no gum or similar substance to securely seal the same, and which may be either permanently sealed or temporarily fastened according to the necessities of the case or the desire of the user; and to provide a simple, cheap and practically universally utilizable box for holding, sealing and conveying articles of substantially every description.

With the above objects in view, and others which will appear during the course of this description, my invention consists in the parts, features and combinations of elements hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings forming part of this description: Figure 1 is a plan showing the form of the blank from which the combined box and tag is produced; Fig. 2 is a plan showing the box and tag in closed condition ready for mailing or conveyance; Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, showing the manner in which the parts are folded together; Fig. 4 is a similar section showing a receptacle for holding pills, capsules, tablets or other like articles inclosed by the box or case; and Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

It should be understood that, heretofore, it has been proposed to make wrappers of paper, etc., in which boxes and other pack-

ages could be infolded, and these wrappers have been made of a single sheet of material and given various forms according to the specific purposes or uses; and in some instances these wrappers have been large enough to enable flaps or extensions to be provided for the application of the address and mailing stamp. All these wrappers, or devices, however, are objectionable for both commercial and practical reasons, in that they are mere wrappers and not boxes or packing-cases capable of receiving articles to be transported; because they afford no substantial protection for the infolded articles, being mere covers and not receptacles; because they are cumbersome, unsubstantial, and must be used with a box or packing-case of some special construction; and because, in most instances, glue or mucilage is required to hold one or more parts closed. With regard to my invention, however, it should be understood that the single piece of material, when folded into shape, forms and constitutes the box or packing-case, and when set up as presently described, does not require mucilage to seal the same. And, furthermore, when the box is made or set up it becomes a receptacle for any given article and is, at the same time, ready for shipment without further or additional wrapper. Hence it should be understood that the illustration, given in the drawings, of this invention is merely suggestive and illustrative and is not definitive of this invention, for many modifications may be made in the form, proportions and particular parts of the blank from which the box, or packing-case, is made, without departing from the spirit of my invention, the latter including in its generic scope the idea of means of producing a box or packing-case, from a single piece of material, capable of being set up into proper form to be ready for shipment without the use of mucilage or similar substances; and also in combining an address-tag with a packing-case or box in such manner that the address and stamp may be applied to the tag without encroachment upon or bringing injury to the case or box.

In the instance of my invention, as I have chosen to illustrate it in the drawings, the blank is composed of a single sheet of material cut to form several distinct parts, as follows: the body-portion 1, which becomes the bottom of the case; the opposite longitudinal

portions 2, which become the sides of the case; the transverse portions 3 which become the ends of the case; the end or flap-portions 4, formed in extension of the portions 2 at opposite ends thereof, which become the braces or stays at each end of the case and to which the end portions 3 may be glued, or otherwise securely fastened, as desired; the extreme side-portions 5 adjacent the side-portions 2, which become the top flaps or in-folds of the case; the portion 6, extended from one of the end-portions 3, which becomes the top of the case and covers the in-folds or flaps 5; the portion 7, formed in extension of the other end 3 of the case, which becomes one of the fastening flaps of the case, cooperating with the extension 8 of the part 6 beyond the body of the box, which extension constitutes the tag for the address and stamp.

In order to clearly understand the manner in which the box is folded into the form of Fig. 2, dotted lines are applied to the plan of Fig. 1, showing the lines along which the material is creased and the box is folded into the form of Fig. 2; that is to say, each part 2 is folded on the line x^2 to stand at a right-angle to the part 1 and each part 3 is folded on the line x^3 to stand at a right angle to the part 1, while the brace-parts 4 are folded on the line x^4 at a right angle to the parts 2, so as to overlap the parts 3. The parts 5 are then folded on the lines x^5 , which turns them down upon the receptacle or article to be conveyed; then the part 6 is folded on the line x^6 to overlap the parts 5 and the part 7 is folded back on the line x^7 at a right angle to the end part 3 and into parallelism with the tag part 8. A fastening device 9, of any suitable form, either permanent or temporary, is then passed from one side to the other, as for instance through the apertures 10, in part 7 and the cooperating inner end part of the tag 8. Preferably, the tag part will be lined for the address and the corner at 11 will be blocked out and printed "Put stamp here" in order to prevent the stamp being applied to the body of the box. The sectional views of Figs. 4 and 5 show a receptacle 12 in the packing-case and indicate clearly the manner in which said receptacle will be snugly and securely held in the packing-case; but, it will be evident that the article, or articles, to be transported may be placed in the box or case directly instead of being first placed in said receptacle 12.

From the above description and the illustration of this invention it will be seen that a combined packing-case or box and tag has been constructed which is not only simple, but is quite effective for the purposes, and it will be readily understood that most any material suitable for the purpose may be employed, viz., light or heavy cardboard, stiff Manila paper, thin metal, etc. And it will also be understood that I have produced

a knock-down box in contradistinction to a set-up, or ready-made, box; and one which can be readily and quickly set up into form for packing and use. Moreover, the blanks from which the box is set up can be packed compactly and transported without injury, with little expense, and in very small space compared to ready made boxes.

Among the advantages of my invention the following may be noted: The entire structure may be made of a single piece of material stamped out singly or in stacks; the parts of the article are simple and the crease lines readily suggest the manner of folding the same to produce the article clearly illustrated in Figs. 2 and 5; by having the tag integral with the box or case, it is not liable to be lost by being torn off and time is not wasted in tying or pasting a separate tag to the box; by providing the fastening part 7 at the tag end of the box, the juncture of the tag with the box is very much strengthened and a stay is provided thereby; the end-portions 4, which fold within the box and cooperate with the end-portions 3 and hold the entire box in form, constitute braces for the corners and ends of the box which prevent the latter from being crushed even with very heavy pressure; the end-portion 7, being extensive as shown, provides means whereby a permanent fastening may be made either by the application of glue or mechanical fastening devices in place of the temporary fastener 9; by making the end-portions 4 extensive as shown, they help to keep the box in shape or form and prevent its several folded parts from sagging or spreading apart after the fastener is applied for sealing the box; and by forming the top of the box in extension of one end thereof and using the end of said top portion to aid in fastening the box, the latter is rigidly held closed, is strengthened, and its construction and setting up are materially simplified. However, although I have shown the case as made from a single piece of material, which is the preferred form and the most advantageous on account of strength, general appearance, economy and simplicity, I wish it distinctly understood that in claiming certain features, I do not intend to be limited to such construction, as my invention comprehends the broad idea of means set forth in the claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a knock-down box formed from a flexible flat-blank provided with flaps which are creased and folded to give the box a rectangular form with its ends braced to prevent it from being crushed, said box having two superimposed flaps projecting from the box in approximately the plane of one of its sides

through which a fastener may be passed to hold the box in proper form and seal the same.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a knock-down box formed from a flexible flat-blank provided with flaps which are creased and folded to give the box a rectangular form with its ends braced to prevent it from being crushed, and to produce two super-imposed flaps projecting from the box in approximately the plane of one of its sides through which a fastener may be passed to hold the box in proper form and seal the same, one of said latter flaps being extended beyond the end of the other to provide an address tag.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a knock-down box formed from a flexible flat-blank provided with flaps which are creased and folded to give the box a rectangular form with its ends braced to prevent it from being crushed, and with another flap which is creased and folded over one end of the box to close said end and then over one side of the box to hold its side-flaps down, and then extended beyond the box, and means cooperating with said extension to hold the same in position and enable the box to be sealed.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a knock-down box formed from a flexible flat-blank provided with flaps which are creased and folded to give the box a rectangular form with its ends braced to prevent it from

being crushed, and with another flap which is creased and folded over one end of the box to close said end and then bent at a right-angle to said end to form an extension, and means carried by the box and cooperating with said extension to hold the same in position and enable the box to be sealed.

5. As a new article of manufacture, a knock-down box formed from a flexible flat-blank provided with flaps which are creased and folded to give the box a rectangular form with its ends braced to prevent it from being crushed, and with another flap which is creased and folded over one end of the box to close the same and then over one side of the box to hold its side-flaps down, and then extended beyond the box, and with another flap which is creased and folded to extend over the other end of the box to close the same and then bent at a right-angle to said end so as to extend parallel with the extension of the other flap and so that a fastener may be passed through both said extensions to secure the same together, hold the box in proper form and seal the box.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY M. WILLIS

Witnesses:

CHAS. McC. CHAPMAN,
M. HERSKOVITZ.