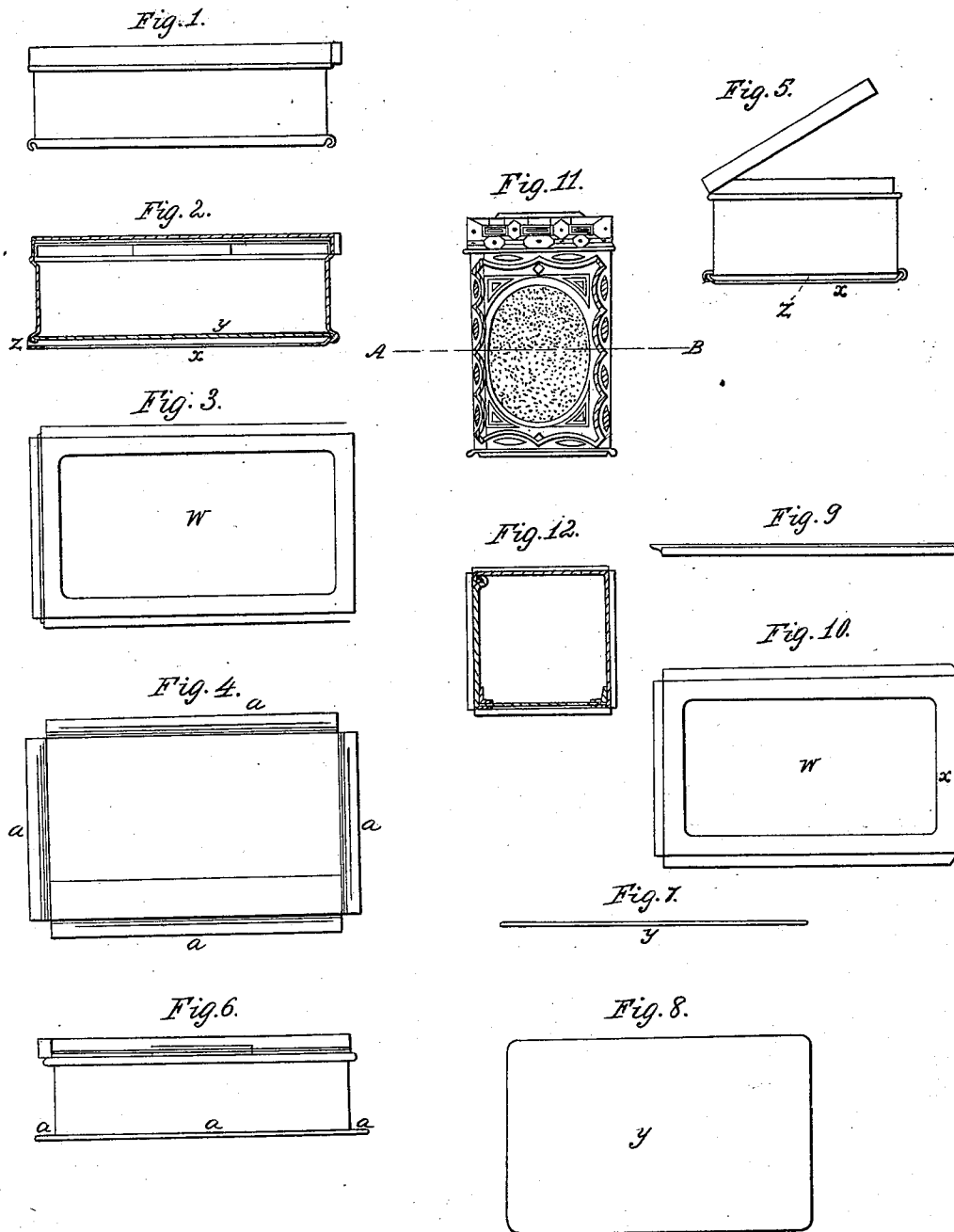


G. DOWLER.

Match Box.

No. 41,976.

Patented March 22, 1864.



Witnesses

Geo. Pitt
Th. Wood

Inventor:

George Dowler

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE DOWLER, OF BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN MATCH-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **41,976**, dated March 22, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE DOWLER, of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, England, manufacturer, am in possession of or have invented an invention of Improvement in the Manufacture of Match-Boxes; and I, the said GEORGE DOWLER, do hereby declare the nature of the said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement thereof—that is to say—

My invention consists in making match-boxes with a double bottom or case to contain a supply of strikers or sheets of material upon which the matches are to be rubbed for the purpose of being ignited. This double bottom or case may be formed as an open cap to fit on the bottom of the match-box.

My invention also consists in forming the said case on the bottom of a match-box so as to allow the striker to be slipped in and out, in order that when one side of the striker may become worn, so as to be useless, the striker may be withdrawn from the case and reversed and replaced therein. This frame or case may be constructed to hold more than one striker. It will be best formed by bending up the lower edges of the sides and ends of the box to form grooves, into which grooves a thin metal open frame (shown in Figure 10) is fitted, which will hold the striker and allow nearly all its surface to be exposed for use. For other forms of boxes this part will be best formed by making a flanged ring or cap to fit the bottom of the box, and which may fit over the false bottom already named.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a front elevation of one form of my improved match-box; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section of it; Fig. 3, a plan of the second bottom or case, which is represented in Fig. 2 at *x*, the primary bottom of the box being shown at *y*; Fig. 4, a plan of the bottom *y*, showing the side and end edges of the box extended. Fig. 5 is an end view showing the opening *z* for the insertion or withdrawal of the striker; Fig. 6, a back elevation of the box with its bottom edges extended and marked *a a a*. Figs. 7 and 8 show a plan and edge view of that part which forms the first or real bottom *y* of the

box; Figs. 9 and 10, a plan and side view of the second bottom or case, such bottom being made with an opening, *w*, to exhibit or uncover part of the surface of one of the strikers; and by this it will be seen that by placing the bottom plate, Fig. 8, on the part of the box seen at Fig. 4, and then the second bottom or case for the strikers before referred to, (seen at Figs. 9 and 10,) and having the extended edges of the box *a a a* down around the edges of the two bottoms before mentioned, the box will be complete and ready to receive the strikers, as seen by the opening in the end view at Fig. 5. Fig. 11 is a front view of another form of my improved match-box, and Fig. 12 a transverse section, taken through the dotted lines A B of Fig. 11. The striking-plate in this instance is inserted at the top and pushed down against the inside front of the box.

The striker is indicated by the oval form seen in Fig. 11. When one surface of the striker becomes worn out the striker can be readily withdrawn and turned or a new one substituted in its place. These cases for the striker may, if preferred, be formed upon the sides or ends or top of the box, and they may be made sufficiently large to contain several thicknesses of strikers, if requisite.

Boxes of circular or curvilinear section may be fitted with the receptacle for the strikers by forming a false bottom or top cut out to expose the striker, and fitting over the real bottom or top as a cap, and either with or without screwing.

Having thus described the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I claim as my invention—

The improved match-box hereinbefore described—that is to say, as made with or having applied to it the striker case or plate *x*, provided with the opening *w*, the same being as and for the purpose as hereinbefore more fully set forth.

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Witnesses:

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