

L. BURNELL.

Match Safe.

No. 26,648.

Patented Jan'y 3, 1860.

Fig. 2.

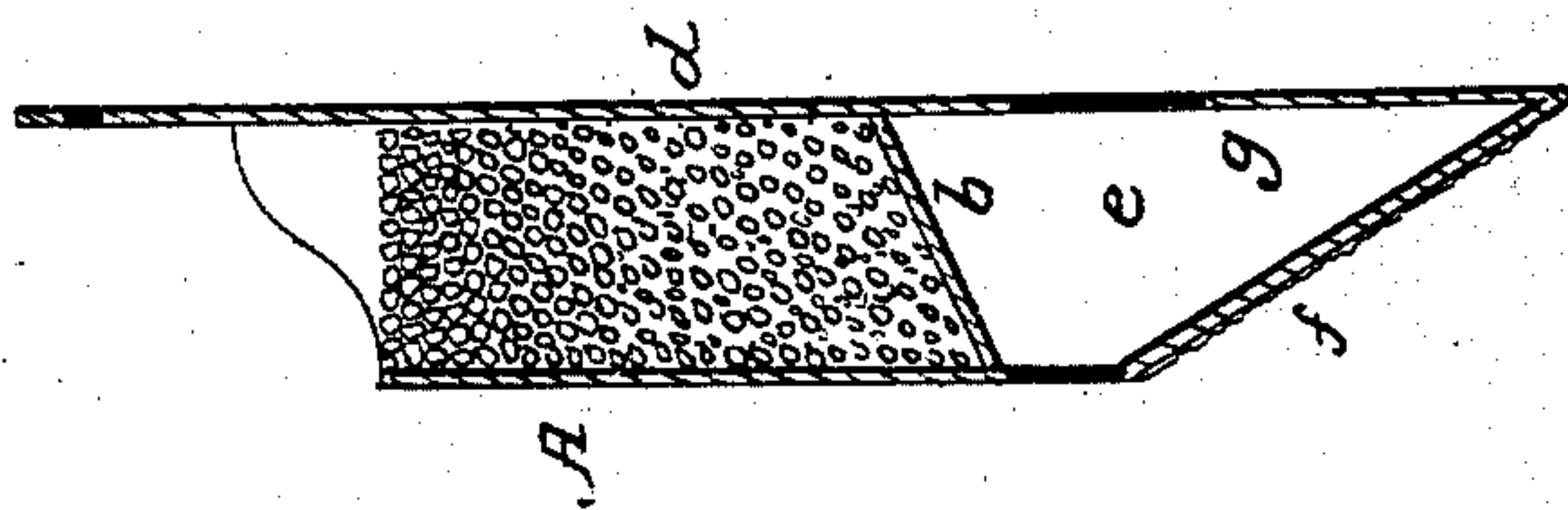
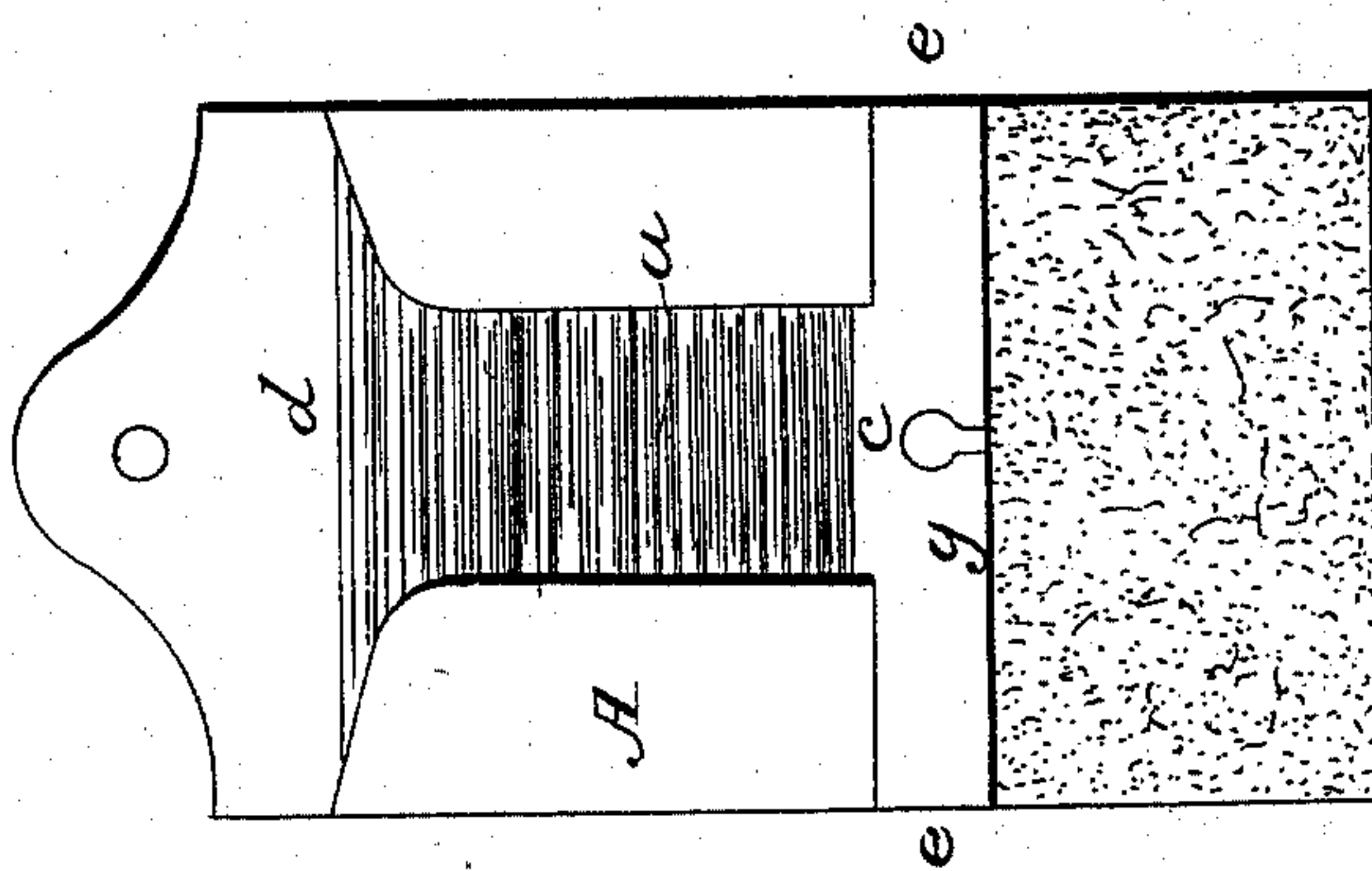


Fig. 1.



Witnesses:

*John P. Pugh*  
*Chas. W. Hughes*

Inventor:

*Levi Burnell*



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI BURNELL, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## MATCH-SAFE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 26,648, dated January 3, 1860.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEVI BURNELL, of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Match-Safes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1, is a front view of a match-safe constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2, is a side sectional view of ditto.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

The object of this invention is to facilitate the removing of the matches from the safe by the fingers, as the matches are required for use.

The invention consists in constructing the safe-box or match receptacle, with an opening or slot extending the whole height of the box or receptacle, and a slot extending the whole width of its bottom, so arranged as to expose the matches and render them very accessible.

The invention also consists in using in connection with the slot or opening of the box or match receptacle, an inclined bottom for the same, so as to facilitate the removal of the matches when a few only remain on the bottom.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention I will proceed to describe it.

A, represents a match receptacle or box which may be of rectangular form and upright, that is to say, its height exceeding in dimensions that of its width and breadth; this would probably be the most desirable shape or form. The front of the box A, is slotted vertically and centrally from top to bottom as shown clearly at *a*, in Fig. 1, said slot being sufficiently wide to allow the thumb and finger to pass through into the box. The bottom *b*, of the box is also slotted as shown at *c*, said slot extending the whole width of the bottom, and being a continuation of the slot *a*. The bottom *b*, is inclined as shown clearly in Fig. 2, its front part be-

ing lower than its back part. The back *d*, of the box extends down some distance below the bottom *b*, as also do the sides *e*, *e*, and an inclined friction plate *f* is attached to the front of the lower part of the sides *e*, *e*, in order to form a convenient place to ignite the matches, and the chamber *g*, formed by said plate, back and sides, is a convenient receptacle for the sticks of used matches. The matches are indicated in red, and it will be seen by referring to Fig. 1, that they are laid horizontally in the box A, their ends resting on the bottom *b*, and their central parts fully exposed both at the front and bottom of the box.

From the above description it will be seen that the matches may be withdrawn from the box as required for use with the greatest facility, and the fingers need not be brought in contact with the igniting compound at one end of them. The embarrassment attending the removal of matches from ordinary boxes in consequence of the wedging or binding of the matches in the box, when full, is obviated, and when the box is nearly empty the few remaining ones may be readily taken out as they will, in consequence of the inclined bottom *b*, pass down to the front part of the box.

I do not confine myself to any particular form of box, nor to any particular dimensions of the same; for the form of the box may be varied in various ways. Neither do I confine myself to any particular material for manufacturing the boxes, although sheet metal will be probably used.

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

1. A match box or receptacle provided with a slot or opening at one side and at its bottom, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. I also claim the inclined bottom *b*, with the slots in the side and bottom, of the box, for the purpose specified.

LEVI BURNELL.

Witnesses:

THOS. PETINGALE,  
CHS. M. HUGHES.