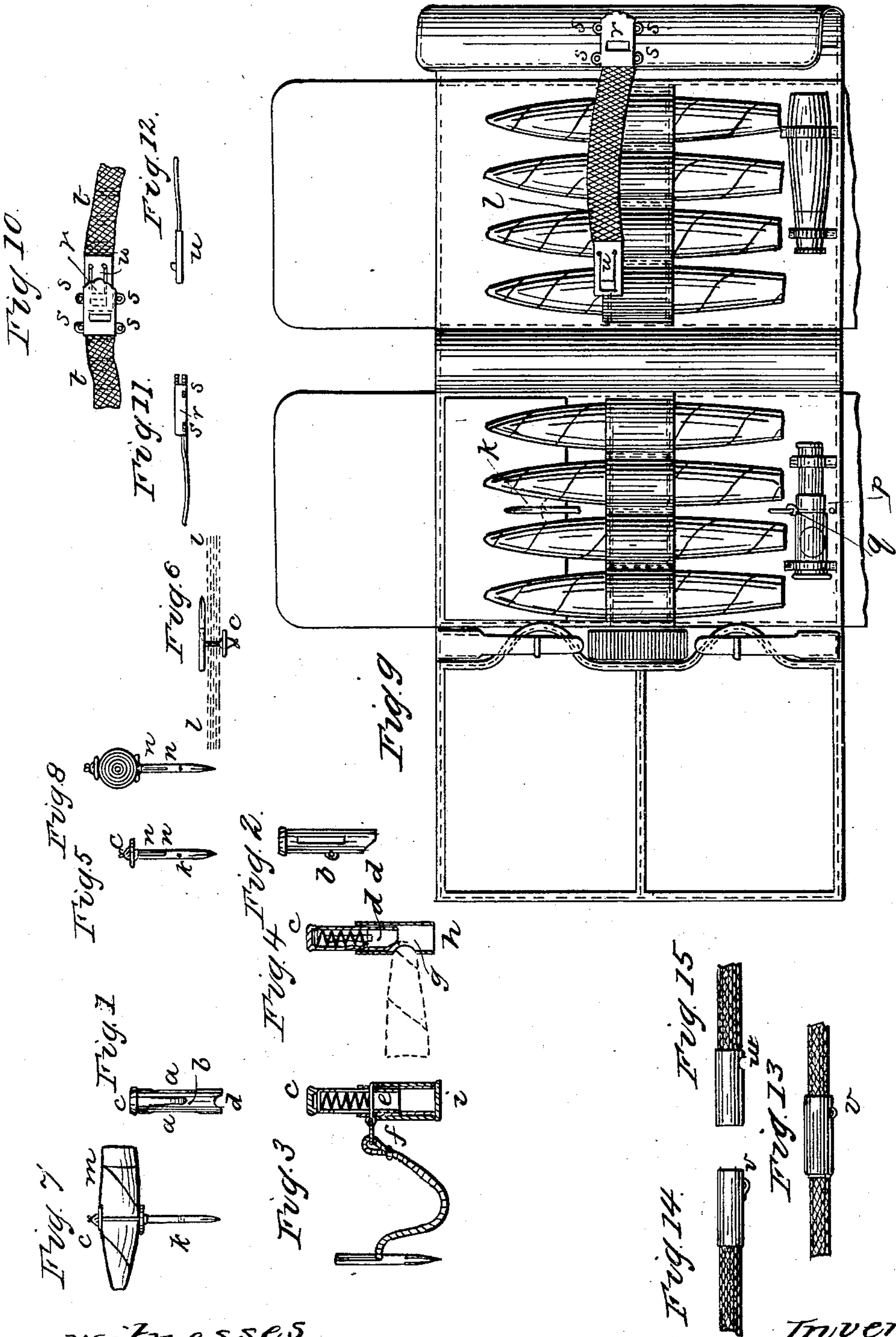


M. & M. MYERS & W. HILL.

Cigar Case.

No. 61,234.

Patented Jan. 15, 1867.



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United States Patent Office.

MYER MYERS, MAURICE MYERS, AND WILLIAM HILL, OF BIRMINGHAM,
ENGLAND.

Letters Patent No. 61,234, dated January 15, 1867.

APPARATUS FOR THE USE OF SMOKERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Be it known that we, MYER MYERS and MAURICE MYERS, trading under the style or firm of MYERS & SON, steel-pen manufacturers, of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, England, and WILLIAM HILL, manager to the said firm, also of Birmingham aforesaid, have invented "new or improved Apparatus and Appliances for the Use of Smokers in general, parts of which may be used for other useful purposes," and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the principle or character which distinguishes it from all other things before known, and of the usual manner of making, modifying, and using the same.

Our invention consists of an improved cutter for cutting off the draught ends of cigars, and in combining (when required) with the said cutting appliances a combined stiletto and cigar-holder, the whole forming one combined instrument.

We form the cutter of two short pieces of circular, oval, or rectangular tubing, partially sliding one over the other, made by preference of thin sheet steel, gilt, electro-plated, or otherwise finished. The said pieces may be held by a spring joint on each side, the cutting-edges being between them, or the two tubular parts may be elongated and held on telescopic extension by an elastic band, spring, or other like appliances for extending the tube, thereby presenting an orifice formed through both tubes in suitable position for receiving the end of the cigar, when, by pressing the ends of the pieces of tubing together, the cutting-edges will be brought together, and the end of the cigar severed, the tubes expanding again by the means used, and removal of the pressure of the thumb and finger of the user; but the two parts may be held together by a spring detent formed out of the same, or by the addition of a spring for that purpose. The tubular cutter thus formed provides a receptacle for the combined stiletto or probe and cigar-holder, which we purpose forming of a small piece of tube, with a solid point, or otherwise, applied to the same; and by forming a slot in the tubular portion of the shank of the stiletto for receiving an elastic connection for connecting it to a button or end piece, it will have the quality, by the contracting force of the elastic material, of holding the stiletto perpendicularly on the button or end, or at right angles. Thus, in the former position, it may be used as a probe for probing or clearing out the hole in the bowl of a pipe, or probing a cigar, or by extending the end of the elastic connection, (which we prefer being of double material,) it will form a loop, and thereby provide a neat holder for holding the short end of a cigar, by being clipped and held on the end or base of the stiletto. The stiletto, with its attendant part, (the button,) may be used for other purposes, such as for holding together in a cigar or tobacco pouch, cigarette papers, and in like manner may be used for holding together a few letters or other papers, in which case the stiletto has only to be passed through the papers, and turned at right angles to the base of the button (easily effected by the expanding and contracting force of the connection,) when the said papers may be held, changed, or again applied with great convenience and security. The tubular cutters we purpose also using with the detent as a portable connection for bands and straps.

But in order to be more fully understood as to the nature and object of our said invention, we will proceed to describe the same by aid of the drawings hereunto annexed, reference being made to the figures and letters marked thereon.

Description of Drawings.

Figures 1 and 2 represent, in front and side view, the top or expanding part of our improved cigar-cutter. *a a* are side slots for controlling its range of action by means of a pin hereafter to be referred to. *b* is a spring for retaining the cutter in a compressed state when out of use, as will be also hereafter referred to. *c* is a metal end or cap, which may be used or not, as desired.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view of a cigar-cutter, with the internal expanding tubular part exhibited separate at fig. 1, applied, that is to say connected, to the lower or outer tubular part by means of the pin *e*, which, passing through the outer tube and through the slots *a a* of the inner one, connects the two together. We have represented the pin with a little knob at one end and a loop or hole at the other, for receiving, when desired, the ring *f*, here shown, with the stiletto *k* attached by an elastic cord. In the upper part of the inner tube we place a small helical spring for the purpose of keeping the inner and outer tube in a state of expansion.

Figure 4 is a longitudinal section of our improved cigar-cutter drawn in a position at right angles with fig.

3. In this view the cutting-edge *d* of the top tube and the cutting-edge of the lower tube *g* are exhibited sufficiently apart to permit the insertion of the end of a cigar, as here represented in dotted lines, and then a slight pressure of the finger and thumb applied at *e h* will be sufficient to press down the inner tube, and thereby bring the cutting-edges together for effecting this object; and when it is desired, for the sake of compactness, that the two tubes shall be held in a compressed position, the free end of the spring *b* catches into an aperture in the lower tube, and holds the two in that position until freed by the application of the thumb-nail of the user, when required. In the section, fig. 3, corresponding with the metal cap *c*, we have applied a metal base, marked *i*, but omitted at fig. 4, as its use is entirely capricious. Sometimes we prefer attaching or connecting a stiletto to the cigar-cutter, as before referred to and exhibited at fig. 3, in order that the same may be used for probing a cigar or clearing out the hole of a pipe, in which case the stiletto may be attached by a small bit of elastic, or otherwise, to the ring *f*, or fitted to the cap *c* by passing down concentrically through it and the helical spring. This stiletto we purpose making, for lightness and simplicity, of thin sheet steel, with small gores removed from it, that the points may be brought together, as exhibited at Figure 5. The advantage derived from the stiletto being made hollow or tubular is, that it permits of a small single or double elastic cord being inserted for connecting the stiletto *k* to the top *c* or ring *f*, as exhibited. This permits the stiletto to be passed through cigarette or other papers, and then placed at right angles, as exhibited at Figure 6, the cigarette papers being represented in dotted lines marked *l l*; and at Figure 7 we have represented the stiletto forming a cigar-holder, the latter being shown in position, marked *m*, and retained by the contracting force of the elastic material connecting the stiletto *k* with the cap *c*; and this adaptation we have shown at Figure 8, in which view the slot, as exhibited at fig. 5, marked *n n*, (for permitting the stiletto to be placed at right angles to the cap *c*, as exhibited at fig. 6,) is shown. At Figure 9 we have exhibited a general cigar and tobacco pouch, showing the cigarette papers retained in the case by the stiletto passing first through an eyeleted hole in the case, then through the papers, and afterwards placed at right angles for retaining them in that position, but permitting the papers to be readily removed as required; and thus, in like manner, the same mode of holding together cigarette papers may be applied for the holding together of a few letters or other papers that may be desired to be connected. At the other end of this department of the case we have exhibited our cigar-cutter, with an additional outer and lower metallic case applied, which, by means of small stops formed at *p p*, permits the additional tube *g* to be turned half round, thereby covering over or exposing the aperture and cutting-edges, as exhibited at fig. 4; but the use of this additional tube is not essential to our invention. The same principle of retention described in figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4 may also be applied for the fastening of cigars and tobacco pouches, or other like cases, or straps, as exhibited at *r*, fig. 9, which represents a short rectangular piece of tube, with an open or unsoldered joint or otherwise at the back, with small semicircular free parts, from the same metal, bent out and pierced for receiving rivets by which the same may be united to the case, as exhibited at *s*, to which an elastic strap is attached; to the free end of which we attach a smaller rectangular tube, with a spring, *u*, equivalent to the spring *b*, figs. 1 and 2, by which means the smaller rectangular tube *u* is connected to the larger one fixed to the case marked *r*. We have exhibited this mode of connection partly attached at Figure 10 and in detached edge views at Figures 11 and 12. The rectangular form of such fastenings is necessary when used as here represented; but for connecting round thong or other straps, such as are used for ladies' or gentlemen's satchels, we prefer adopting the same as exhibited at figs. 1 and 3, notwithstanding they may be of an octagonal, polygonal, or other form in their transverse section, but have exhibited the circular form for this kind of fastenings at Figure 13, and separately at Figures 14 and 15; the connection in this case being formed by the spring *b* engaging itself at *w*.

Having thus described the nature and purpose of our invention, and the manner in which the same may be carried into effect, we wish it understood that while we recommend the tubular or sliding portion of our invention to be made of thin sheet or pen steel, which will admit of being gilt or otherwise ornamented, nevertheless other metals may be used in their manufacture; nor do we purpose confining ourselves to any particular shape or form of the sliding parts in their transverse section, but we believe the circular form to be the simplest and the best, both for economy and production.

But what we claim, and wish to protect under United States Letters Patent, is—

The sliding cutting-edges, defined as *d* and *g*, and the connecting of the same with a stiletto and means for expanding and holding the parts in position, substantially in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

Witnesses:

JAMES S. COCKINGS,
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MYER MYERS,
MAURICE MYERS,
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