

J. MATTHIAS.
Match-Boxes.

No. 144,404.

Patented Nov. 11, 1873.

Fig: 1.

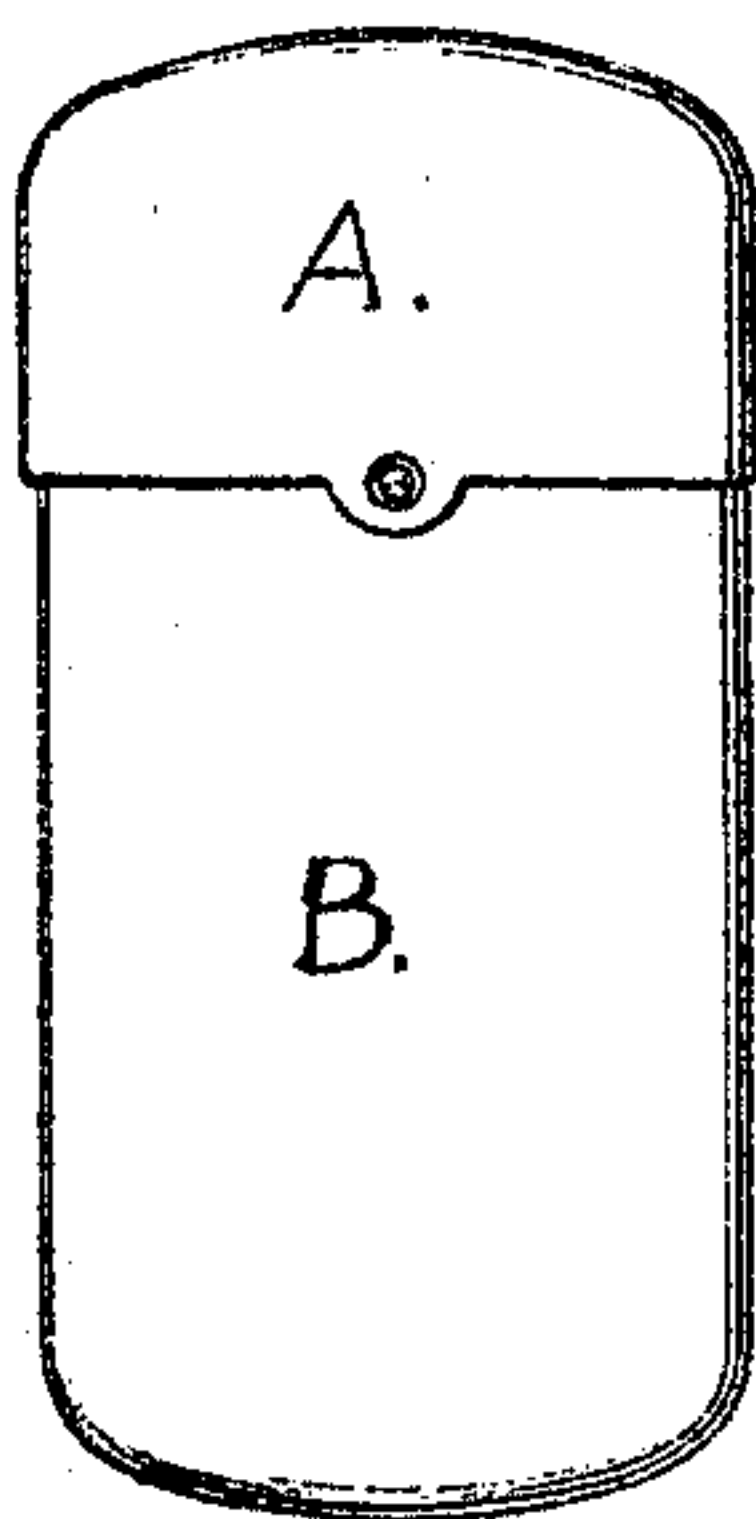


Fig: 2.

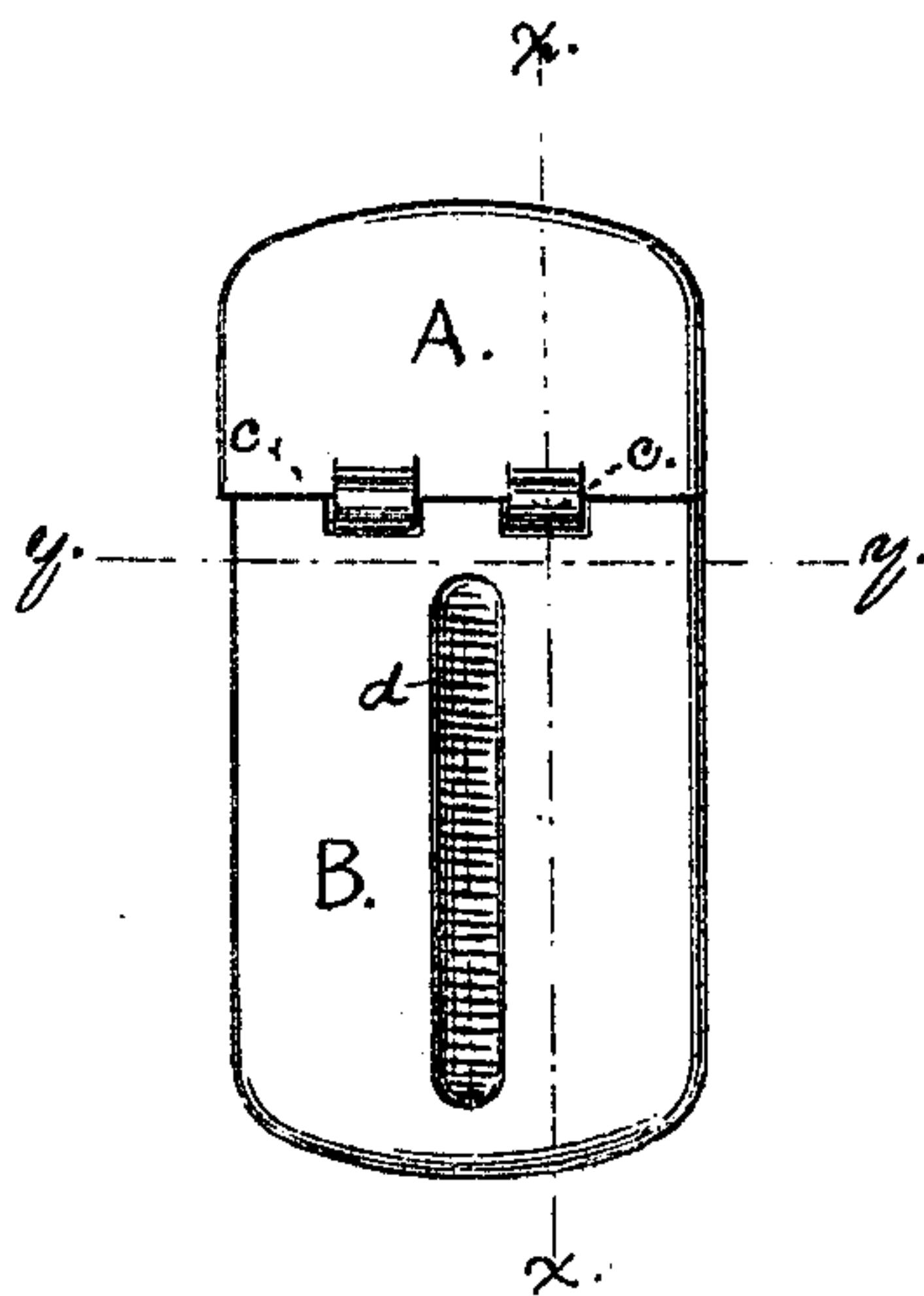


Fig: 3.

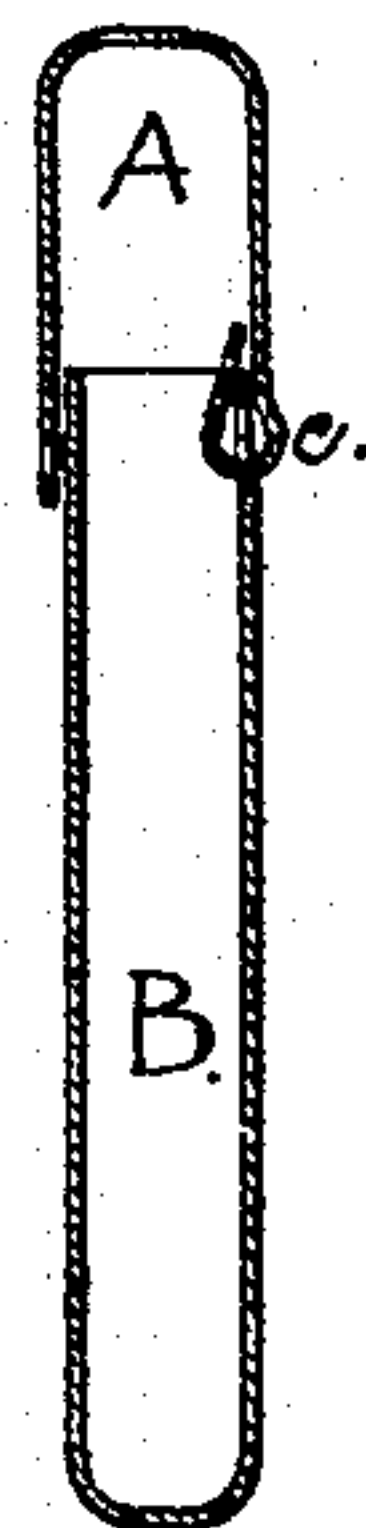


Fig: 4.



Fig: 5.

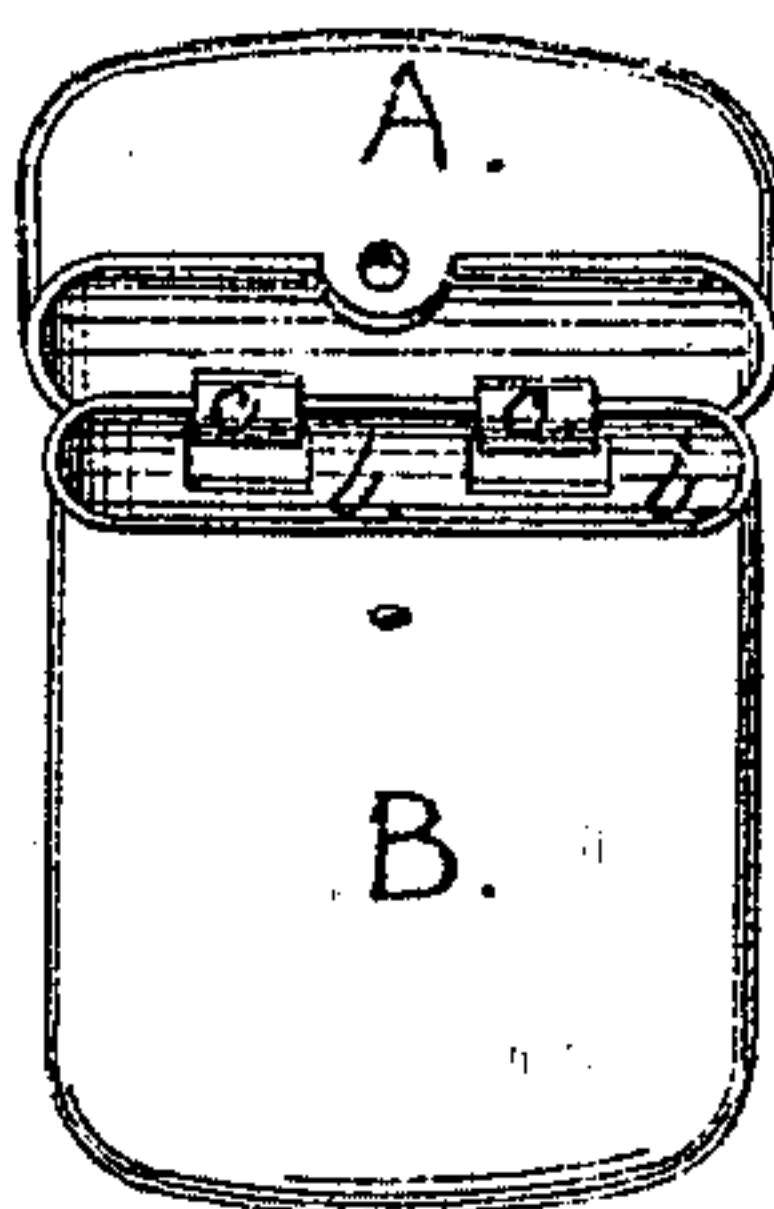


Fig: 6.

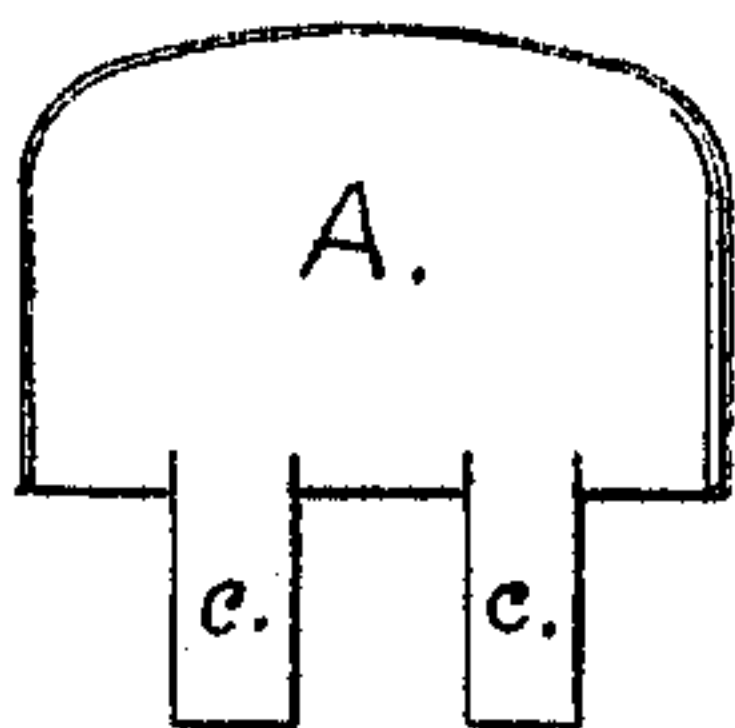
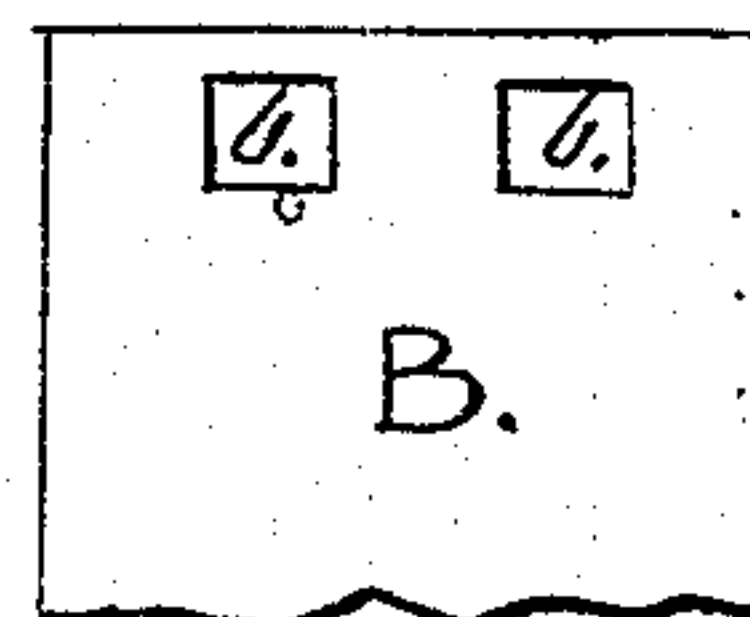


Fig: 7.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN MATCH-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 144,404, dated November 11, 1873; application filed October 18, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH MATTHIAS, of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improved Hinge-Connection, particularly adapted for use in Match-Boxes, Spectacle-Cases, and similar articles in which the cover shuts over the other portion; and that the following is a full and complete description of its construction and mode of operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, and which make a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to furnish a hinge-connection for match-boxes and other similar articles which shall securely connect the cover and body of the article together, and also permit the cover to shut over and move upon the body of the box, which is simple in arrangement, cheap of construction, durable, permits the box to be easily and quickly opened, and is neat and elegant in appearance.

The drawings show the application of my invention to a match-box designed for securely and conveniently carrying matches in the pocket.

Figure 1 is a plain face view of such a match-box. Fig. 2 is a back view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the line *x x*, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a cross-section through the line *y y*, Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a face view with the cover partly turned back. Fig. 6 is a view of part of the cover and the hinge-blanks. Fig. 7 is a view of the back part of the box, showing the hinge-slots or recesses.

Such a box may be made, if desired, in two parts only—the cover or top A, and the box or lower part B—struck or drawn from solid pieces of brass, zinc, or other soft metal; or each of such parts may be of two pieces, struck or swaged up, and soldered together along the sides *a a*; or such parts may be molded or shaped by dies, as when made of shell, hard rubber, *papier-maché*, &c.

Near the top of the body or lower part B of the box or case, where the hinge-connection is to be made, one or more slots or recesses, *b b*, are cut out, of a width to correspond with the

hinge portions to enter therein, and of a depth corresponding to the extent it is desired to have the cover of the box shut or slide down over such lower part. From the lower edge of one of the sides of the cover, and solid therewith when the box is made of metal, extend one or more parts or strips, *c c*, corresponding in number with the openings or recesses *b b* in the lower portion of the box, and of a width little less than that of such openings.

To make the hinge-connection, such strips or pieces *c c* are simply inserted from the outside of the box, into and through the openings *b b*, and then bent up against the inner side of the cover, as shown in Fig. 3, not tightly or closely, but in such a manner as to allow the upper part or top of the box B, when the cover is shut over the side of such box, to pass between the inner side of the cover and such bent part of the hinge. When the cover is in such position and the box shut, the bent hinge part *c* is against the lower edge of the opening *b*, as shown in Fig. 2.

When the box is to be opened, the cover A is raised from the lower part B, such motion being permitted by the height of the opening or recess *b* until the hinge part *c* comes against the upper edge of such slot opening, as shown in Fig. 5, when the cover can be easily turned back.

The bent pieces *c c* may be soldered or riveted to the cover A, instead of being cut out from one and the same piece of metal with the cover, though the latter mode of construction is preferable and cheaper.

When the box is made of other material than metal, such parts must be secured to the cover by rivets or in some firm manner.

The arrangement of such openings or recesses *b b* in one part of the box, in combination with the hinge-pieces *c c* fixed to the other part, and bent substantially as described, after being inserted in such recesses, produces, in fact, a sliding or movable hinge, which is especially convenient and applicable to such articles as match-boxes, spectacle-cases, &c., in which, for any reason, it is desirable to have the cover shut down over the other part of the box or case.

For convenience in carrying in the pocket, match-boxes and similar articles should be formed with rounded ends and sides, and without corners, substantially as shown in Figs. 1 to 5.

In match-boxes a roughened place, *d*, enables a match to be more easily ignited.

What is claimed as new is—

The sliding or adjustable hinge *b b c c*, constructed substantially as described, and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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