

(No Model.)

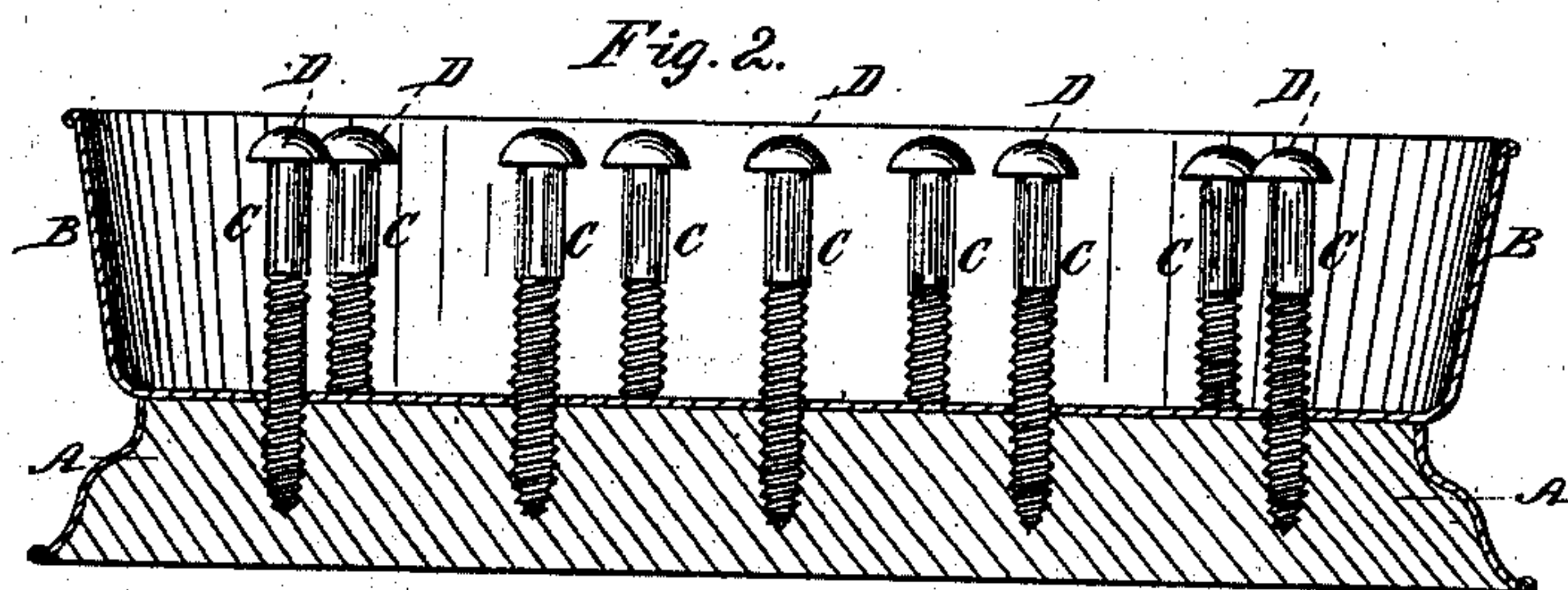
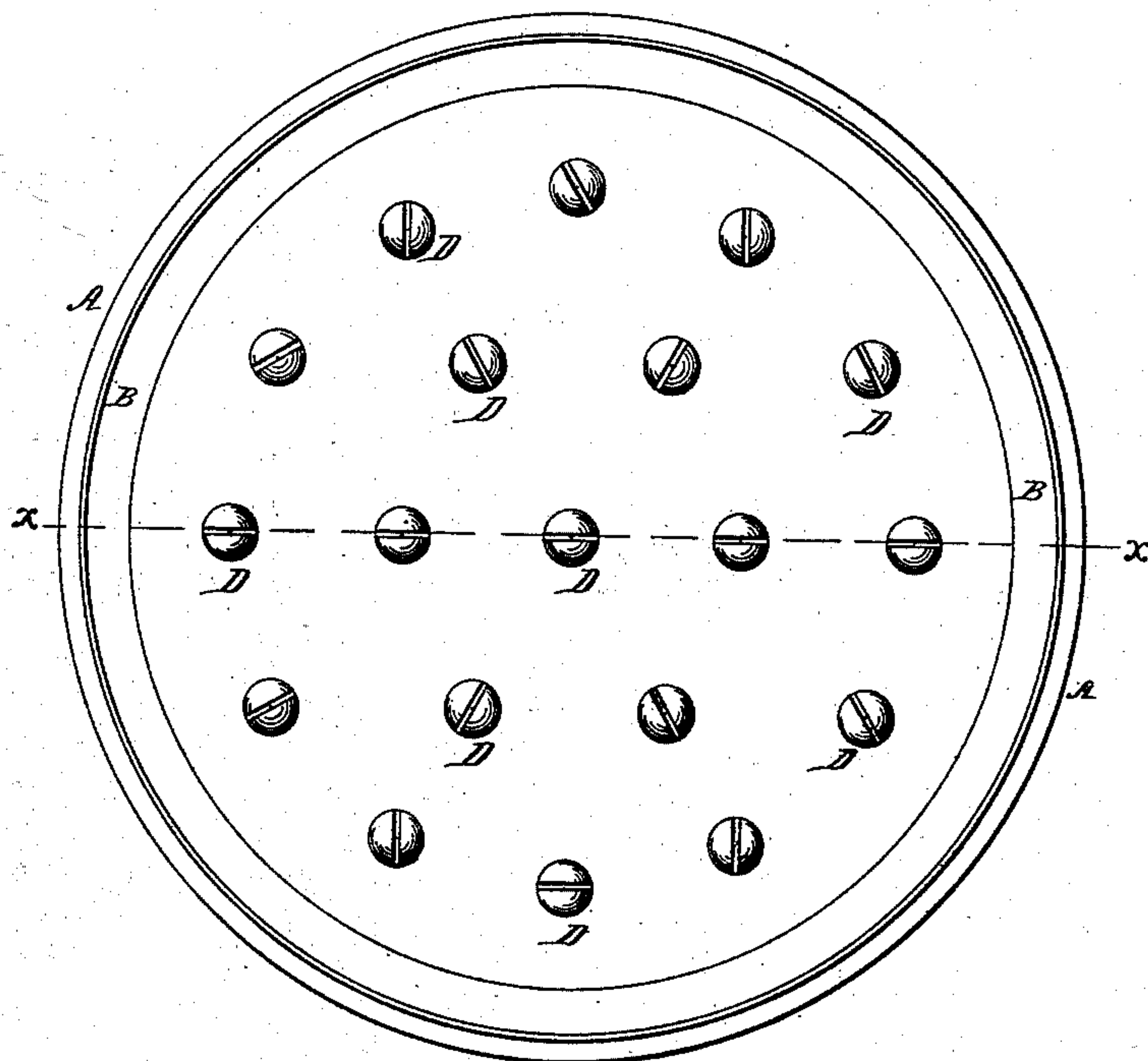
J. SHEEHY,

BOX OR CASE.

No. 274,038.

Patented Mar. 13, 1883.

*Fig. 1.*



Witnesses:  
W. C. Jindinston  
H. J. England.

Inventor:  
James Sheehy  
by *W. C. Jindinston*  
his Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES SHEEHEY, OF ST. ALBANS, VERMONT.

## BOX OR CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 274,038, dated March 13, 1883.

Application filed September 5, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES SHEEHEY, of St. Albans, in the county of Franklin and State of Vermont, have invented a new and Improved Match-Safe; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in match-safes which are ordinarily exposed in halls, restaurants, and tobacco-shops, where matches, tooth-picks, or other similar articles are provided gratuitously, although it may not be limited to this special use. In these public places custom and the demands of business require that matches, (particularly,) and occasionally other similar articles, should be so exposed as to readily afford a person opportunity to obtain one or a limited number without difficulty. With the ordinary appliances the proprietors are subjected to the depredations of petty peculators. Heretofore receptacles have been invented, and to a limited extent used, designed to protect the proprietors from this unnecessary loss; but they have proved objectionable because of the difficulty with which they were replenished, as well as withdrawing the match, and in not presenting but one match to view, and in some instances but a portion of one match, so that the whole affair is apt to be overlooked, the matches being so thoroughly guarded as not to fulfill the actual requirements.

The object of my invention is to supply a match-safe containing a large number of visible matches, easily replenished, but from which but one article can be conveniently taken at a time, although one may be readily withdrawn, and several persons may use the same at nearly the same time.

My invention consists of a tray constructed

of any suitable material, (non-combustible, if desired,) and of any convenient shape, so that its side stands at an angle with the base, open at the top and provided with rows of perpendicular pegs, which may be flanged at the top, secured to the bottom of the tray at convenient distances from each other and the side of the tray.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my device. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on line *xx* of Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A represents the base; B, the side of the tray; C, the perpendicular pegs, flanged at D. Practically I find that the most convenient form of construction is with an opening in the top of six inches, the distance between the perpendicular pegs being one inch. The flange at the top of the pegs is not decidedly material. It will be readily seen that this safe can be quickly and easily replenished; that the matches lying within it are crossed in many directions by those superimposed, and that all will lightly impinge upon the side of the pegs, rendering difficult the withdrawal of more than one article at a time, although one may be readily withdrawn, many may use it at nearly the same time, and the matches are all visible.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In match-safes, a tray constructed of any convenient material and desired shape, whose side stands at an angle with the base, provided with straight or flanged perpendicular pegs secured to the base in such a manner that matches or other similar articles may be placed therein and lightly impinge upon the side of the pegs, substantially and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

JAMES SHEEHEY.

In presence of—

GEORGE T. MOONEY,  
WILBORN P. DAVIS.