(No Model.)

M. L. DIXON.

COMBINED MATCH BOX AND CIGAR CUTTER.

No. 317,980. Patented May 19, 1885.

Fig. 1.

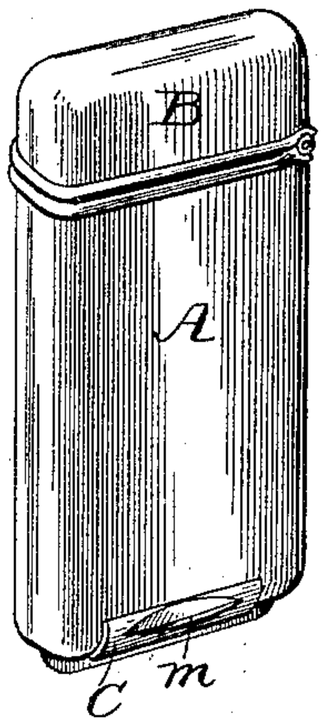


Fig. 2.

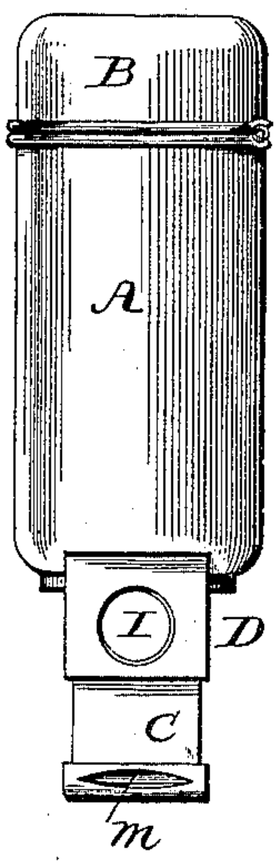


Fig. 3.

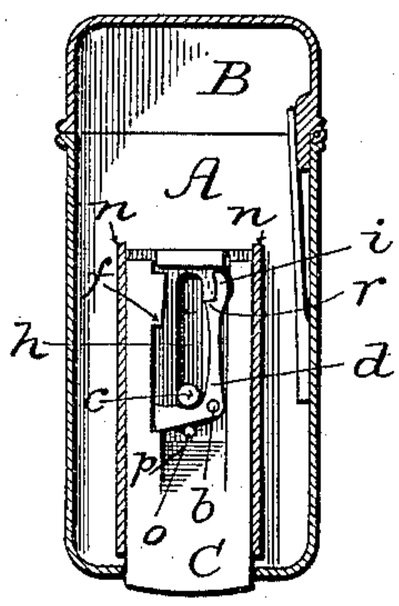
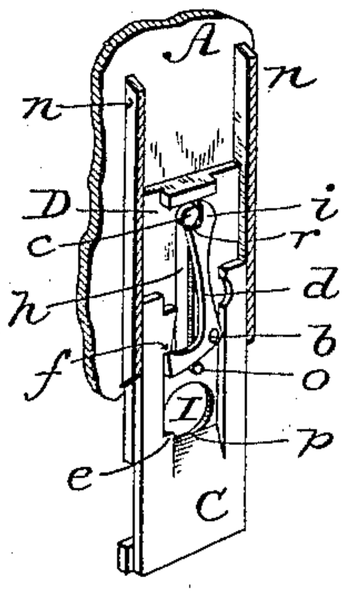


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED MATCH-BOX AND CIGAR-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 317,980, dated May 19, 1885.

Application filed November 19, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAYNARD L. DIXON, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Match-Boxes and Cigar-Cutters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists in a novel construction of a device for cutting off the tip ends of cigars, and in the combination of the same with a match-box, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the box with the parts closed. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, showing the cutter extended ready for use. Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views showing the mechanism of the cigar-cutter.

In the drawings, A represents a match-box having a spring-lid, B, made in the usual manner. At the lower end of the box A a small slot or opening is made along one side to permit the cutting device to slide out and in, it being protected by a plate secured to the inner wall of the box on one side, said plate having its side edges turned down to form flanges *n*, which are soldered to the wall of the box, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, thus forming a shallow space or sheath at one side of the box for the sliding cutter and holder with its locking device. I then provide a plate, D, of the proper width to fit between the flanges *n n* and slide freely in and out through the slot at the bottom of the box, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4, this plate D having a hole, I, near its outer end, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, to receive the end of the cigar and hold the same while it is being cut off. I then provide a cutting-blade, C, which is of the same width as the plate D, and which is placed flat against the latter, so that the two may be moved in or out together, and yet permit each to be moved at certain times independently of the other, as hereinafter explained, the movement of the holding-plate D being limited by a pin, *c*, which fits through a slot, *h*, made in the center of said plate D, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, this pin *c* of course being held in position by being attached rigidly to the side of the box or to the plate which covers and forms a sheath for the sliding plates.

The cutter-plate C is made of about the same length as the holding-plate D, but has its central portion cut out for about two-thirds of its length, and of a width equal to the diameter of the hole I in plate D, the transverse portion at the end of the slot or cut-away part being beveled to form a cutting-edge, as shown at *p*, Figs. 3 and 4, this cutting-edge being so located in reference to the hole I in plate D that when the plate C is drawn out this cutting-edge *p* will pass out just beyond the outer edge of the hole I, as shown in Figs. 2 and 4, and so that when the plate C is shoved inward its edge *p* will slide past the hole I and cut off the tip end of the cigar protruding through the same.

In order to lock the holding-plate D in position when drawn out, and while the cigar is being cut, and still permit both plates C and D to be shoved in by one and the same movement of the hand, I pivot to the plate D, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, an elbow-lever, *d*, which has on its inner side near its free end a shoulder, *r*, which is so located that when the two plates are drawn out to their full extent and the free end of the lever is swung inward this shoulder *r* will engage against the pin *c*, thereby locking the plate D in its extended position, as shown in Fig. 4. To operate this lever *d* two shoulders, *e* and *f*, are formed on the inner edge of one of the arms or side extensions of the plate C, the shoulder *f* being so located in relation to the short arm of the lever *d* that just as the cutting-edge *p* has passed the hole I in being drawn out it will hit said short arm, and thereby swing the long arm inward, causing it to engage with the pin *c*, and thus lock the plate D fast, so it cannot be shoved in until unlocked. The shoulder *e*, as shown, is located in such relation to the short arm of the lever *d* that as soon as the cutting-edge *p* has been shoved inward far enough to pass the hole I and cut off the end of the cigar it will strike the short arm of the lever on the opposite side, and thereby cause its lower end to swing outward away from the pin *c*, thereby unlocking the plate D, when, of course, by continuing to press on the outer end of plate C both that and the plate D will then move together as pressure is continued on the outer end of plate C.

The outer end of plate C has a small bar or projection on its outer face, which comes flush with the plate C, and has a groove, *m*, in it for the insertion of the thumb-nail to draw the plates out, as shown clearly in Figs. 1 and 2, the outer edge being rounded or beveled off to give a neat finish and prevent any sharp corner or edge that would be objectionable in handling it or carrying it in the pocket.

In the drawings, Figs. 3 and 4, I have shown a stop-pin, *o*, for the short arm of the lever *d* to strike against when the parts are drawn out, and which will so limit the movement of the lever as to prevent its long arm from swinging to the opposite side of the slot and pin *c*, and which, if done, would prevent the parts from being closed by the sliding of the plates inward, as described, because if the long arm of the lever were to be swung across the slot, and get on the opposite side of the pin *c*, it is obvious that when an attempt should be made to shove the two plates in, the long arm of the lever resting diagonally across the slot would come in contact with the pin *c* and prevent the further movement of the plates. If, however, the long arm of the lever at its extremity is made with a projection, *i*, as shown, to strike against the side of the pin, and thus limit the movement of the lever so as to prevent it from swinging past the pin *c*, then the stop-pin *o* may be omitted.

While I prefer to make the device with the locking-lever *d*, it is obvious that it may be dispensed with, as the cigar itself when inserted in the hole I would prevent the plate D from being pushed in while the tip was being cut off by the cutter C; but in that case the device would not be as complete. I do not therefore limit myself to the use of the lever, as I may make a cheaper class of article without it.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In combination with a match-box, A, a cigar-cutter composed of the perforated holding-plate D and the cutting-plate C, both being arranged to slide to and fro through a slot or opening at one side or end of the box, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the sliding plate D, provided with a hole for the reception of the cigar, the locking-lever *d*, pivoted to said plate and arranged to engage with the stationary pin *c*, and the sliding cutter C, provided with the shoulders *e* and *f* for operating said lever, all arranged to operate substantially as shown and described.

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