

(No Model.)

D. M. SMITH.

PAPER BOX.

No. 325,773.

Patented Sept. 8, 1885.

Fig. 1.

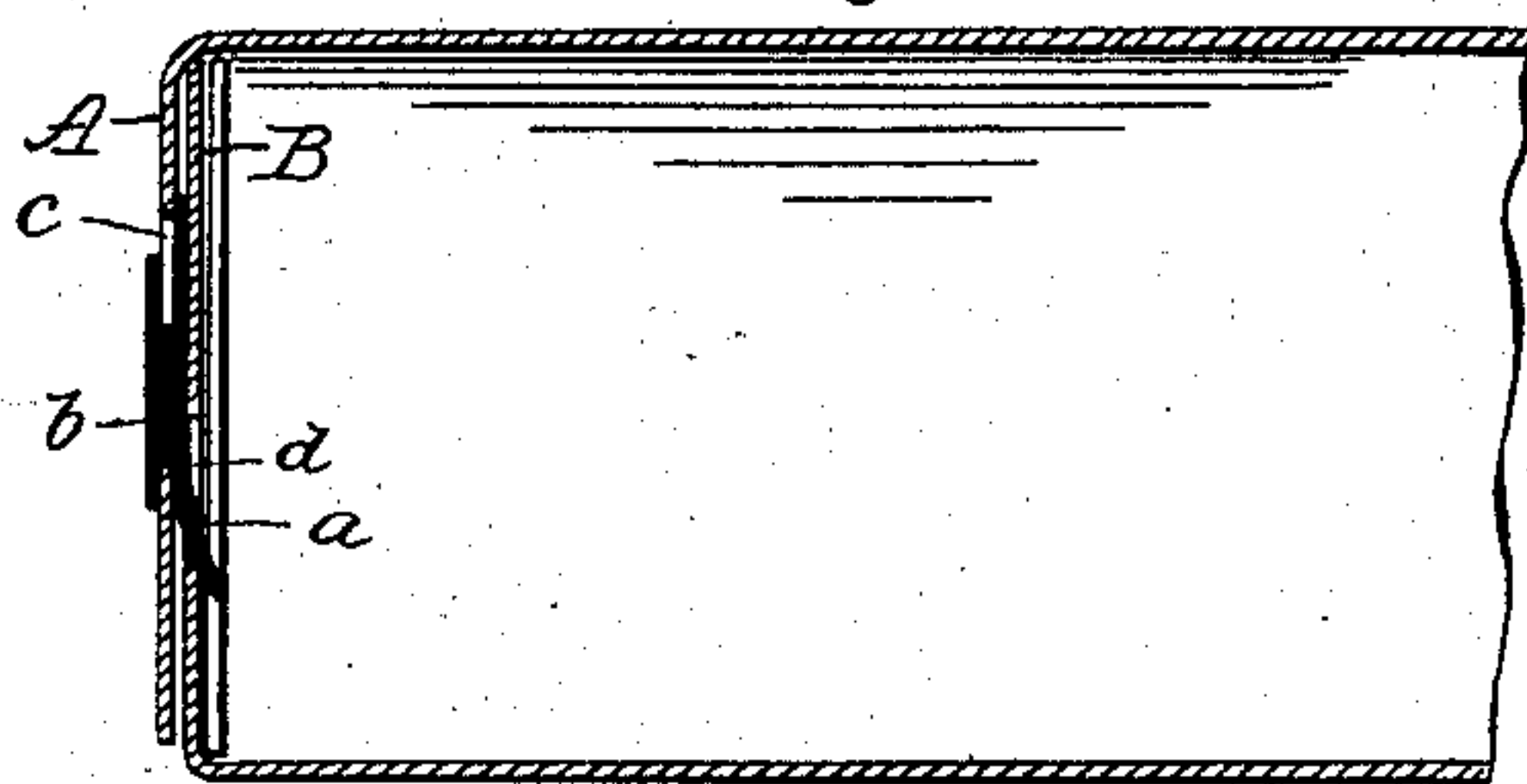


Fig. 2.

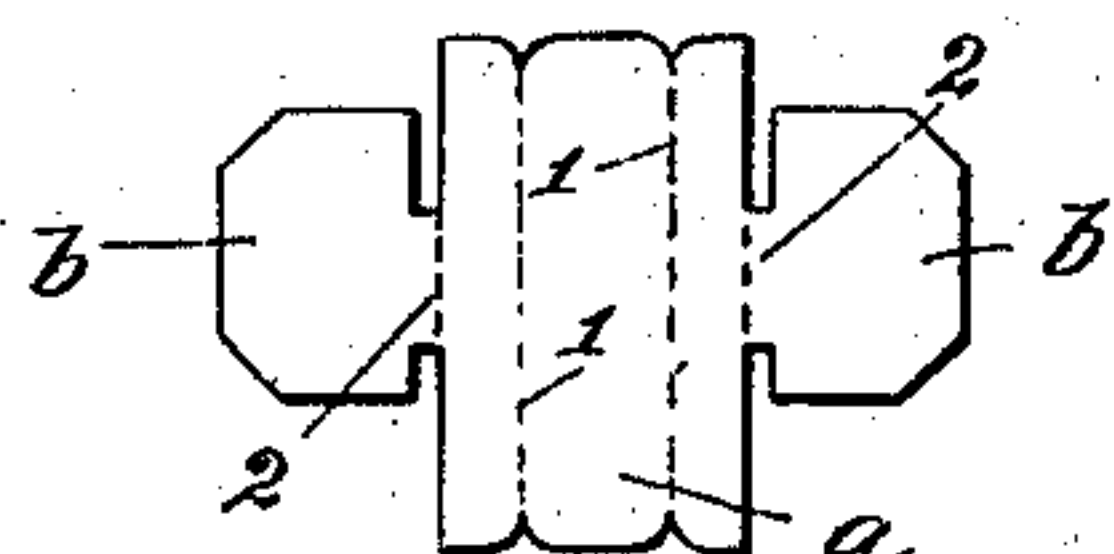


Fig. 3.

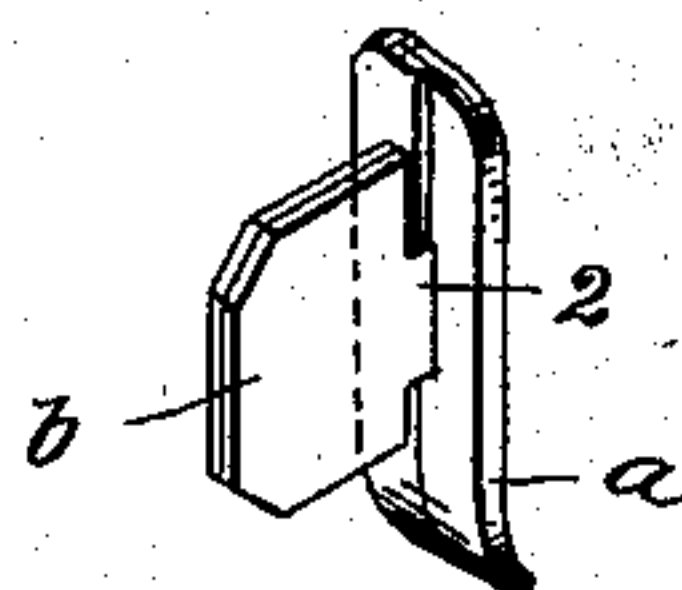


Fig. 4.

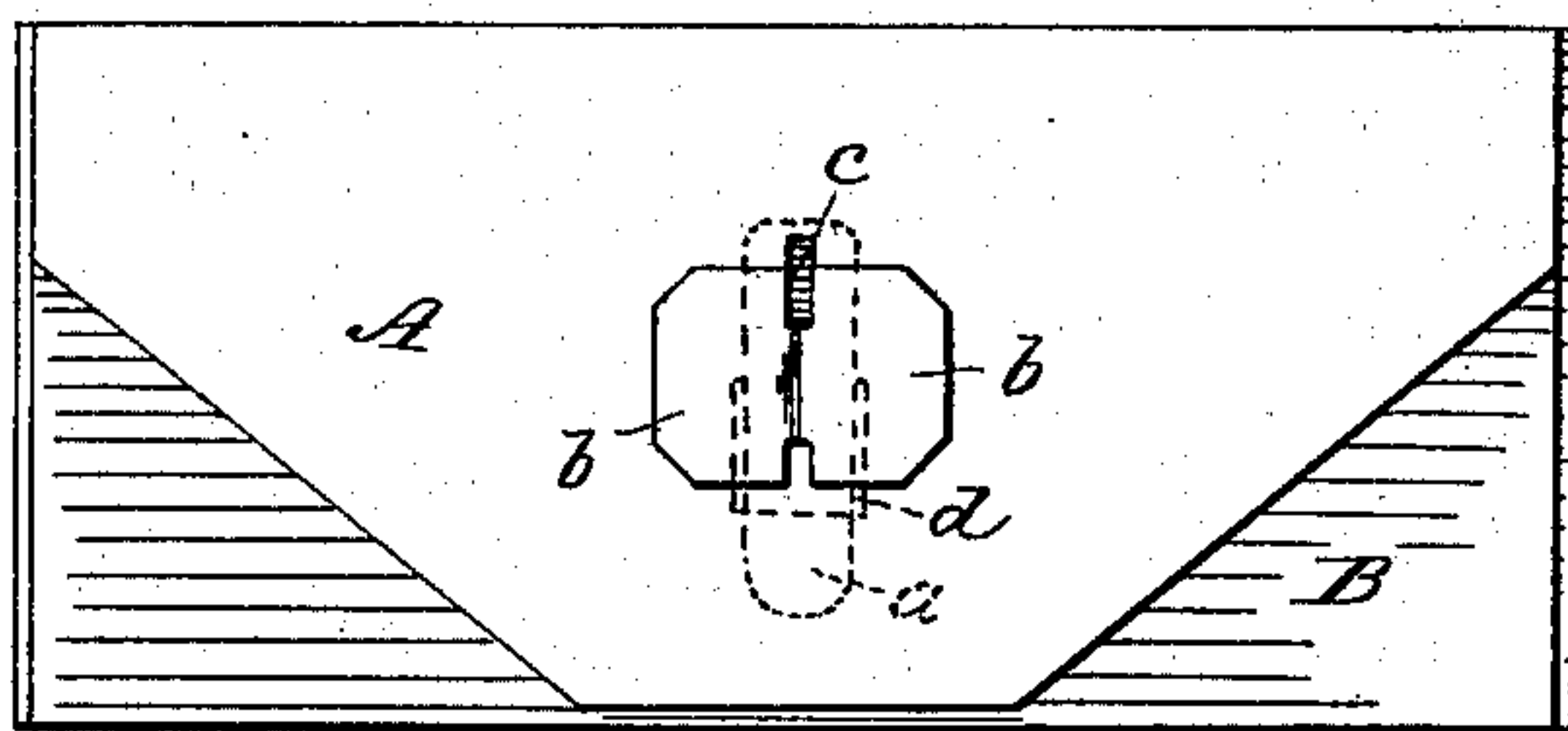
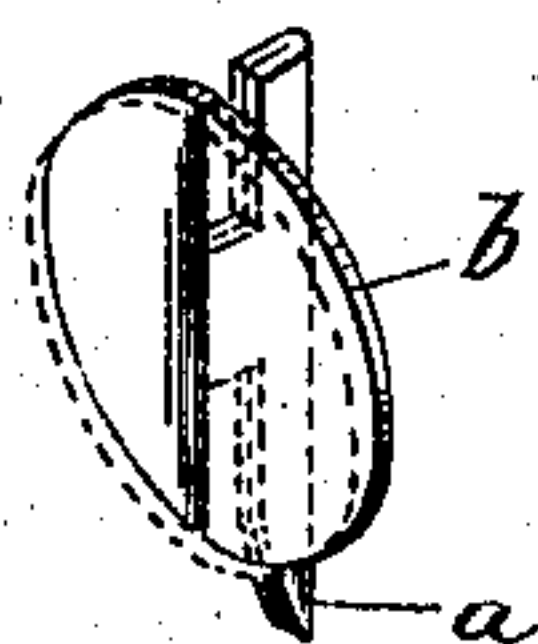


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

N. A. Low
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Inventor:

Dubrow Merrill Smith
by Marcus J. Bailey
his attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DESBROW MERRILL SMITH, OF HYDE PARK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
THE ACME PAPER BOX COMPANY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

PAPER BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 325,773, dated September 8, 1885.

Application filed February 6, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DESBROW MERRILL SMITH, of Hyde Park, Norfolk county, Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Paper Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement in paper boxes has reference to means for locking the hinged or folding flaps or other part or parts used for closing the opening through which the box is filled or emptied. The means I have devised for the purpose consist of a sliding tongue, which is formed and applied to one of the flaps or parts in the manner hereinafter described, and is adapted to enter and engage a slot formed in the part overlapped by said tongue-carrying flap or part. The tongue is made from a blank of thin sheet metal, stiff paper, or other material of proper stiffness, which is first bent into proper form to make the tongue and also two leaves. The tongue is applied to the under side of its flap. The leaves are inserted through a slot formed in said flap so that they shall project to the exterior, and they are then spread apart and bent down upon the flaps so as to secure the device thereto, and to form also a button or thumb-piece for operating the sliding tongue or a base to which such button or thumb-piece can be secured. The device can slide to and fro in the flap, and the length of the slot therein determines the range of movement of the device.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal central section of a paper box with end flaps provided with a locking device embodying my invention in its preferred form. Fig. 2 is a view of the blank from which the sliding tongue is made. Fig. 3 is a view of the device after it is bent up to form the tongue, and before the leaves which form the button are turned down. Fig. 4 is an end view of the box shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 5 represents a modified form of the device.

The paper box in respects other than those about to be mentioned is of ordinary or suitable construction.

A and B are the two outer end flaps, the

former being intended to overlap the latter. In the part A is the sliding tongue and button hereinbefore referred to.

The blank from which this device is made is of thin sheet metal, and is of the form indicated in Fig. 1. The central part of the blank is bent over and pressed down upon itself along lines 1 1 to form the tongue *a*, which at its front end is rounded and bent downward slightly to facilitate its engagement with the slotted flap B. The notched portions 2 of the blank form the shank of the device, and the blank is bent up along the inner line of these two notched portions, so as to stand in a plane at right angles to the plane of the tongue. This brings the notched portions together to form the shank, and also brings the leaves *b* together, as represented in Fig. 3. While the blank is in this condition it is applied to the flap A by passing the leaves and shank through the slot *c*, formed in the latter, so that they shall project to the outside, which brings the tongue upon the inner face of the flap. The leaves *b* are then spread apart and bent down upon the flap, as indicated in Fig. 4, thus forming a button for holding the tongue in place, and also for sliding the latter back and forth as far as permitted by the slot *c*. The slot *d*, which is formed in the flap C, is of a size to admit the end of the tongue.

In using the device the slotted flap B is first closed, and then the flap A, with the tongue drawn back, is folded down upon flap C, after which the tongue, by means of the button *b*, is shoved forward until it enters slot *d*, and thus locks the parts together, as indicated in Fig. 1.

The locking means just described are those which I prefer; but the form of the blank can be varied by making the tongue as shown in Fig. 4. When this device is made of paper, as it can readily be, the leaves, after having been spread apart and bent down, can be held in that position by a pasteboard button placed upon and united to them by glue or the like. Such a construction is indicated by dotted lines in the figure last referred to.

Having described my improvement and the

manner in which the same is to be carried into effect, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 A paper box in which the slotted part B is combined with a flap, A, overlapping the part B, and provided on the inner face of its overlapping part with a sliding tongue held in place by leaves *b*, passed through slot *c* in said flap, and spread apart and bent down upon

the outer face of the flap, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 30th day of January, 1885.

DESBROW MERRILL SMITH.

Witnesses:

RACHEL A. HYDE,
GEORGE C. ABBOTT.