

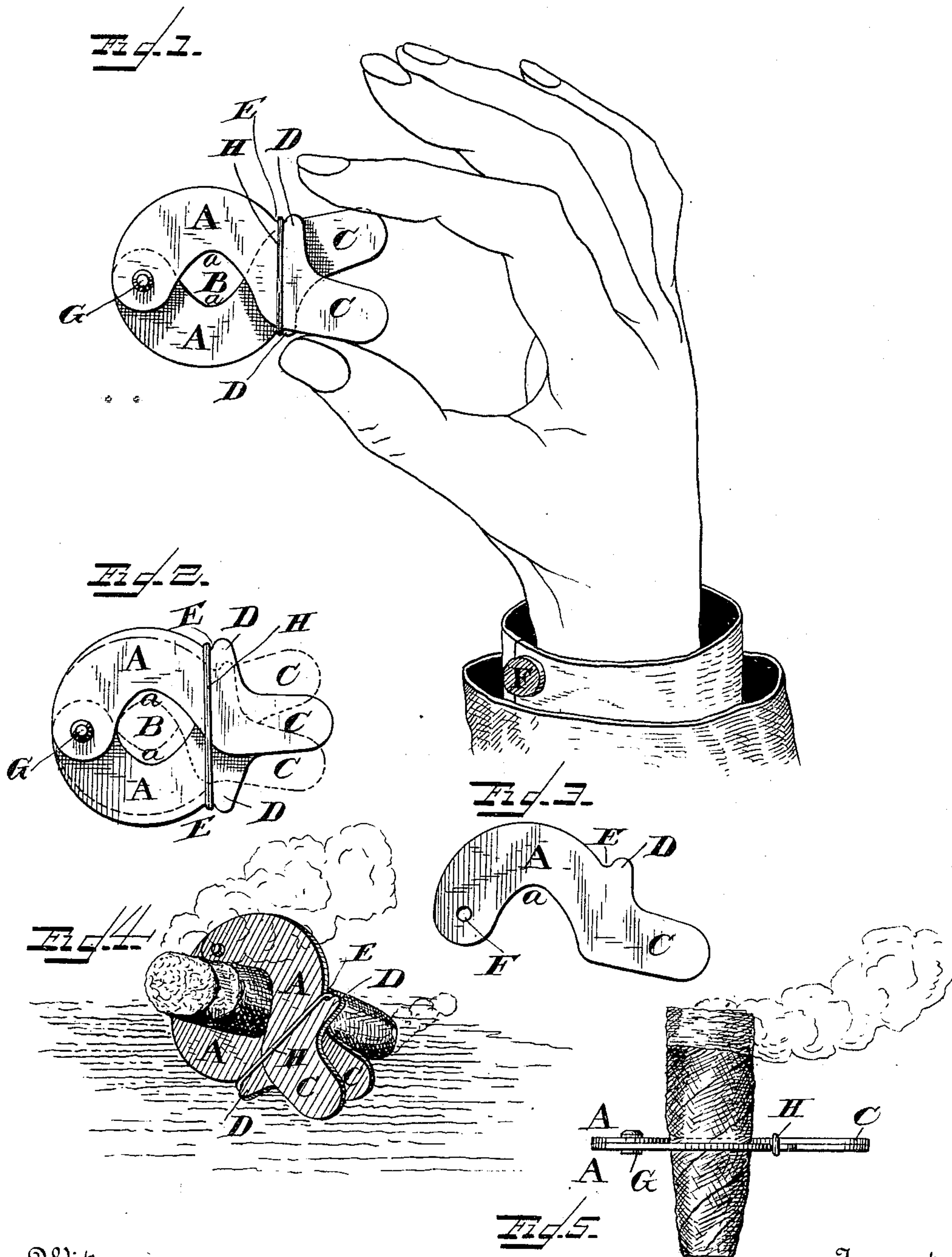
(No Model.)

F. A. FOUTS.

CIGAR HOLDER.

No. 368,467.

Patented Aug. 16, 1887.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK A. FOUTS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CIGAR-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 368,467, dated August 16, 1887.

Application filed July 9, 1887. Serial No. 243,853. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK A. FOUTS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented
5 certain new and useful Improvements in Cigar-Holders; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to
10 make and use the same.

My invention is a shield cigar-holder in the form of a clamp; and it consists in the parts which will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

15 My present invention is an improvement on the article shown and claimed in my Letters Patent of the United States, granted June 7, 1887, and numbered 364,504.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1
20 represents an elevation of my improved cigar-holder held between a thumb and finger, showing the two plates or sections pivotally united and the arms or handles lapped and secured together by a rubber band. Fig. 2 represents a
25 plan view of the holder with the handles lapped and lying together, (one handle immediately over the other,) whereby the central opening, which receives the cigar, is enlarged. The dotted lines in this view represent the parts contracted to their normal position, as shown in
30 Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a plan view of one of the two plates constituting the holder. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of the holder engaged to a partly-smoked cigar, the holder and cigar lying on a flat surface, the fire end
35 of the cigar being elevated above the surface. Fig. 5 represents an edge view of the holder having a partly-smoked cigar therein.

The object of this invention is a holder
40 which may be easily engaged to or disengaged from a cigar. By its use a cigar may be consumed to a small fragment without liability of burning the smoker's mustache or lips, and said fragment discharged from the holder by
45 compressing the handles. Like my other invention, referred to herein, the holder is a handle for a cigar, and by its use a lighted cigar may be laid down without liability of
50 burning the material on which it is laid. It also permits the smoker to put the cigar between his lips, whereby he may enjoy the full flavor of the tobacco.

Referring to the drawings by letter, like letters indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The body of the holder is formed of two
55 semicircular plates, A A, recessed out on their respective inner sides at *a*, so as to form an opening, B, for the reception of a cigar. Each plate is provided with an outwardly-extending
60 handle or arm, C, formed integral therewith; also provided on its outer side with a small projection, D, whereby a recess, E, is formed. Each plate is also provided with an opening, F,
65 for the reception of a pivotal pin or eyelet, G.

H represents an endless rubber band, which is engaged around the holder and seated and secured within the recesses E. This rubber
70 is prevented from displacement by the projections D.

The holder, as shown, is made in two parts, each part being the counterpart of the other. The two ends, having openings F, are lapped, as shown, and pivotally united by a pin or eyelet, G. The two parts of the body of the
75 holder opposite from the pivotal point (being the movable ends) and the handles projecting therefrom are lapped and crossed and held in position by the rubber band aforesaid. The
80 arrangement is such that when the two plates are contracted to their normal position by the rubber band the opening for the reception of a cigar is contracted to its minimum—that is to say, contracted so as to clamp and secure
85 a cigar of comparatively small diameter. Said opening may be enlarged, however, to admit and conform to cigars of larger diameter, or to discharge a cigar. This is effected by compressing the two crossed handles between the
90 thumb and finger—that is to say, by pressing the handles together one over the other. Such movement turns the plates on the eyelet or pivot and enlarges the opening B by moving the plates outward edgewise, and causes the
95 lapped ends of the plates to move one over the other. Said movement also expands the rubber band. When the opening is so enlarged, a cigar may be inserted therein to any desired extent, and when the cigar is suitably
100 adjusted and seated and the thumb and finger released from the handles, the spring, acting on the two parts of the holder, will contract the said parts and lessen the opening B and cause the edges of said opening to bind and

clamp a cigar therein. It will be observed that when the two parts are normally closed those portions lying immediately under the rubber band are completely lapped, so that the outer edges at those points are flush. By lapping the parts and uniting them by a band a strong, substantial, and effective article is produced. By giving each handle a greater inclination from the other, so that they shall be farther apart when the body portions A A are normally closed, the opening for the reception of a cigar may be enlarged to a greater extent.

The respective inner recesses, *a*, which form the opening B, are cut so as to conform to cigars of different diameters and angles. If each recess were semicircular, the opening for the reception of a cigar would be limited in one direction, (to wit, in a line with the handles) to the width of the opening formed by said recesses. By forming each recess irregular, as shown, with an outward cut in the direction of the handle—that is to say, an outward cut whose plane is nearly at an angle of forty-five degrees from the plane of the inner edge of its handle—the opening may be enlarged in all directions to any reasonably-desired extent, or contracted so as to conform to an exceedingly small cigar. By means of this outward or extended cut the opening formed thereby is pear-shaped when the same is enlarged to any considerable extent.

The rubber band performs a double function in that it contracts the plates and holds their lapped sides together, and also holds the handles in proper position. By means of the pivot and rubber band the lapped faces of the two plates are held together contiguously, whereby when said plates are actuated the clamping-edges will move in the same plane to and from each other less the thickness of a plate. By this arrangement a cigar may be firmly and securely clamped between the edges of the plates, or discharged therefrom when desired.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. As an article of manufacture, a cigar-holder consisting of two connected plates, each recessed on its inner edge, whereby an opening is formed between the edges of the plates for the reception of a cigar, and a spring for

actuating said plates so as to engage a cigar in the opening aforesaid, substantially as specified.

2. As an article of manufacture, a cigar-holder consisting of pivotally-connected plates, each recessed so as to form an opening for the reception of a cigar when the plates are closed, and a spring for contracting said plates so as to clamp a cigar, substantially as specified.

3. As an article of manufacture, a cigar-holder consisting of pivotally-connected plates provided with recesses which form an opening for the reception of a cigar, a spring for closing the plates, and handles for actuating said plates so as to enlarge and contract the opening aforesaid, substantially as specified.

4. As an article of manufacture, a cigar-holder consisting of two plates pivotally connected and recessed on their inner sides so as to form an opening when closed for the reception of a cigar, the end of each plate opposite from its pivotal end being provided with a handle, said handles being lapped and crossed, substantially as specified.

5. As an article of manufacture, a cigar-holder consisting of two plates, each provided with a handle and recessed on their inner sides so as to form an opening between their edges when closed for the reception of a cigar, the ends of said plates opposite from the handle ends being pivotally connected, the handles being lapped and crossed, and a spring for actuating the plates so as to contract the opening aforesaid, whereby when the handles are forced toward each other said opening is enlarged and when the handles are released the opening is contracted, substantially as specified.

6. The combination of the plates A A, pivotally connected and provided with inner recesses so as to form an opening, B, for the reception of a cigar, also provided with recesses E, for the reception of a rubber band, and the rubber band H, seated in the recesses E, each plate A being provided with a handle, C, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FRANK A. FOUTS.

Witnesses:

M. P. CALLAN,
WM. A. SMITH.