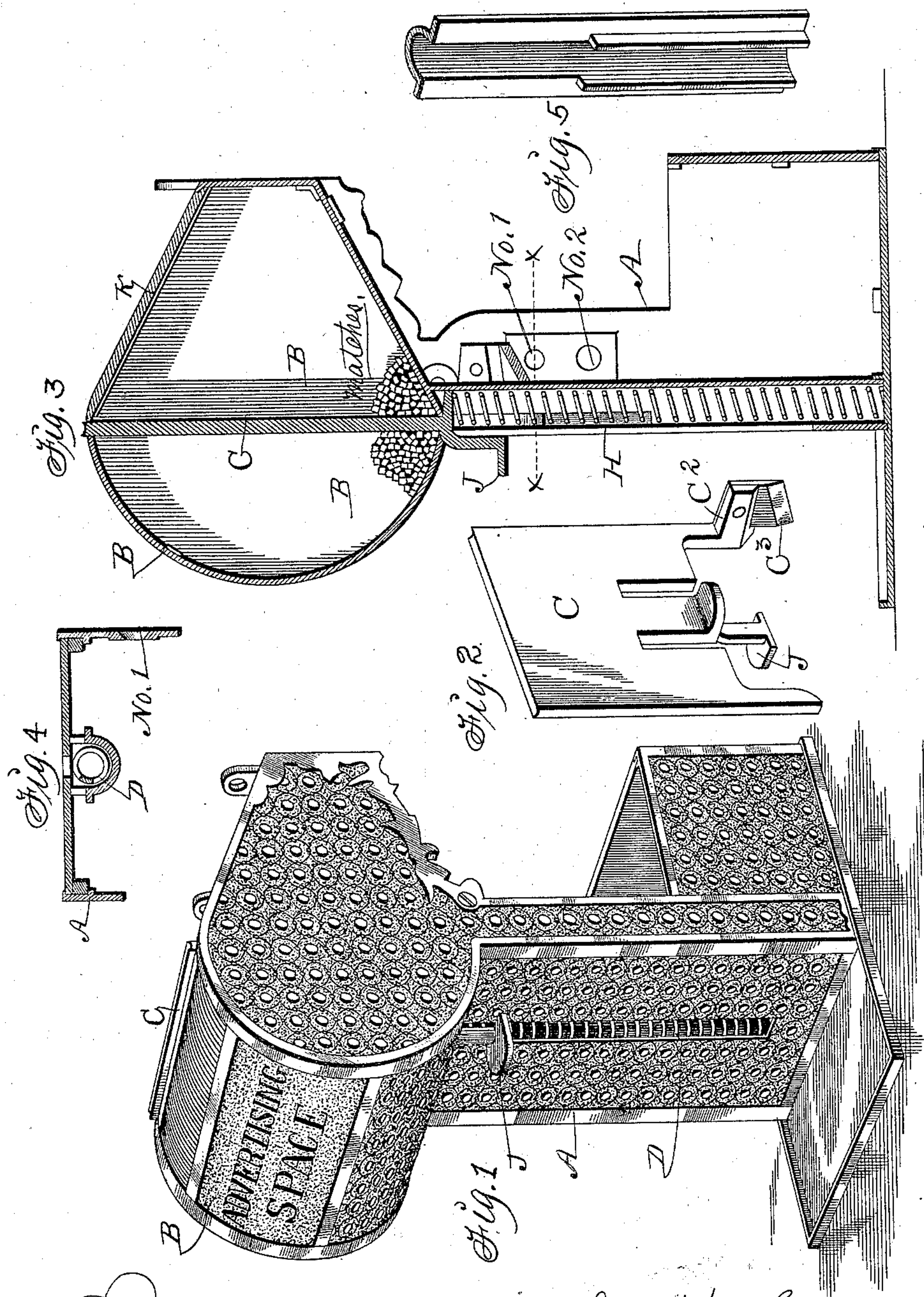


(No Model.)

J. HENRY.
MATCH SAFE AND SEPARATOR.

No. 540,220.

Patented May 28, 1895.



Witnesses: }
W. S. Sankey.
R. H. Orwig.

Inventor: Joseph Henry,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH HENRY, OF PERRY, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO A. H. JOHNSTON, OF SAME PLACE.

MATCH SAFE AND SEPARATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 540,220, dated May 28, 1895.

Application filed May 31, 1894. Serial No. 513,109. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH HENRY, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Perry, in the county of Dallas and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Match-Safe and Cigar-Tip Cutter, of which the following is a specification.

My object is to provide a match safe and cigar tip cutter in which there is a receptacle for matches having an inclined top surface and removable cover to allow a person to place a quantity of matches therein and also adapted to allow a person to reach in to remove any match or matter that cannot pass out through a narrow slot in the top of the receptacle when the cover is in a closed position and to combine a slide with the receptacle in such a manner that matches may be successively lifted therewith through the slot in the top and the slide normally retained in said slot as required to keep the slot closed, and also to combine a cutter with the slide and the receptacle in such a manner that when the slide is depressed for the purpose of picking up and lifting a match from the receptacle it will carry and operate a cutter as required to cut off the end of a cigar.

My invention consists in the arrangement and combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth, pointed out in my claim, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my device in ornamental form and constructed of metal. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the sliding match-separator, having a lateral extension at its lower end and a knife fixed thereto for cutting off cigar-tips. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the complete device shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line $x x$ of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the lower portion of the part that incloses a coiled spring and aids in guiding the vertical movements of the sliding match-separator that carries a knife for cutting off cigar-tips.

A represents a portable case provided with a suitable base so that it will stand in an upright position.

B is a chamber at the top of the case adapted to retain matches, tooth picks, and other similar articles that are to be taken therefrom suc-

cessively for use. The bottom of the chamber is inclined downward and the roof upward.

C is a slide and match separator and lifter fitted in grooves or bearings formed in or fixed to the parallel sides of the case to extend from the base up through the bottom and roof of the chamber B. A notch or concave groove extends across the top edge of this slide C and is adapted to admit a single match at a time as required to be separated from a collection in the chamber and carried to the apex of the roof to be seized by a person's fingers and used.

C² is a lateral extension at the bottom of the slide C to which a knife C³ is fixed, as shown in Fig. 2.

D represents a coiled spring connected with the lower end and cutter of the slide C and inclosed by means of a guide E in such a manner that the spring in its normal condition will retain the slide G elevated.

H is a slot in the wall of the case and J is a plate fixed to the lower end of the slide C and extended out through the slot in such a manner that the spring can be depressed and the top of the slide C brought down on a level with the lower part of the inclined bottom of the chamber B in such a manner that a single match will enter the groove in the top of the slide and when the down pressure upon the spring is relaxed the slide will be thereby lifted to its normal position and the single match in the grooved top will be separated from the collection in the chamber and brought to view and ready for use as shown in Fig. 1.

K, shown in Figs. 1 and 2, shows a section of the roof of the receptacle B fitted to bearings that retain it in a closed and fastened position when the top of the slide C is in its elevated position, and also allow it to be removed when the slide is depressed, as required to gain access to the chamber B.

In the practical use of my invention, I cut off the tip end of a cigar by inserting it in one of the holes Nos. 1 or 2 in the side of the case and then depress the sliding match separator as required to bring the grooved top into the bottom of the receptacle to pick up a match, and as the knife C³, carried by the slide C, passes the hole through which the cigar tip is extended inward the knife cuts it

off. Relaxing pressure upon the part J allows the spring to elevate the match separator and carrier C as required to present a match immediately after the tip end of a cigar has been
5 thus cut off.

It is obvious the case can be made of wood or metal and vary in size so that the complete device can be adapted for retaining cigars and lifting one at a time. It is also obvious that
10 a portion of the outside surface can be made rough or covered with sand paper, and adapted for lighting matches thereon, and that the roof and portions of the walls can be utilized for printing, painting or fixing cards
15 and advertising matter conspicuously thereon so that it will be readily observed by persons when they operate the invention as contemplated to get matches therefrom.

Having thus described the construction, operation, and utility of my invention, what I
20 desire to claim and protect by Letters Patent therefor is—

A match safe and separator, comprising a case, a chamber in the top portion of the case having an inclined floor, and an inclined roof, 25 a vertically moving slide having a groove in its top edge fitted in bearings to rise and descend through coinciding slots in the top and bottom, a removable cover on the inclined top, a base adapted to support the receptacle 30 and slide provided with holes at one of its upright sides to admit the ends of cigars, a cutter fixed to a horizontal extension at the bottom of the slide, a coil spring retained under the slide to normally retain the top of the 35 slide in the slot at the top of the receptacle and a lateral extension at the bottom of the slide for manually depressing the slide, all arranged and combined in the manner set forth for the purposes stated.

JOSEPH HENRY.

Witnesses:

R. M. HARVEY,
A. M. HARVEY.