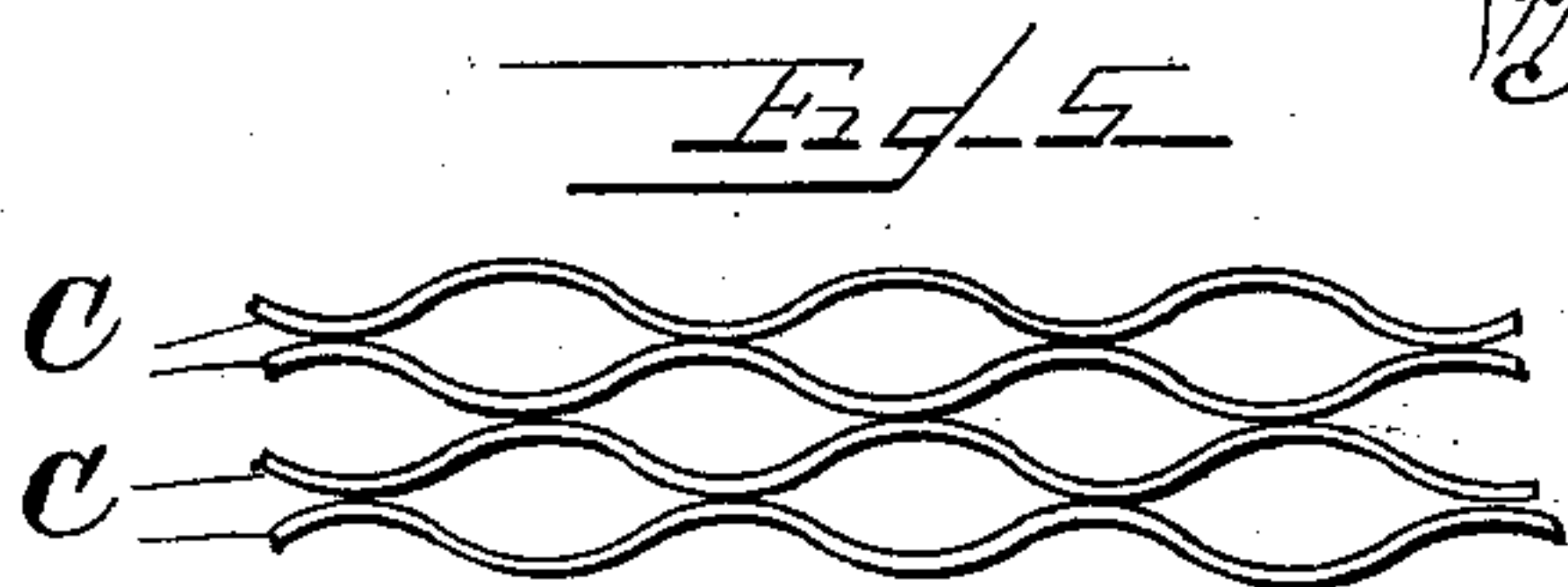
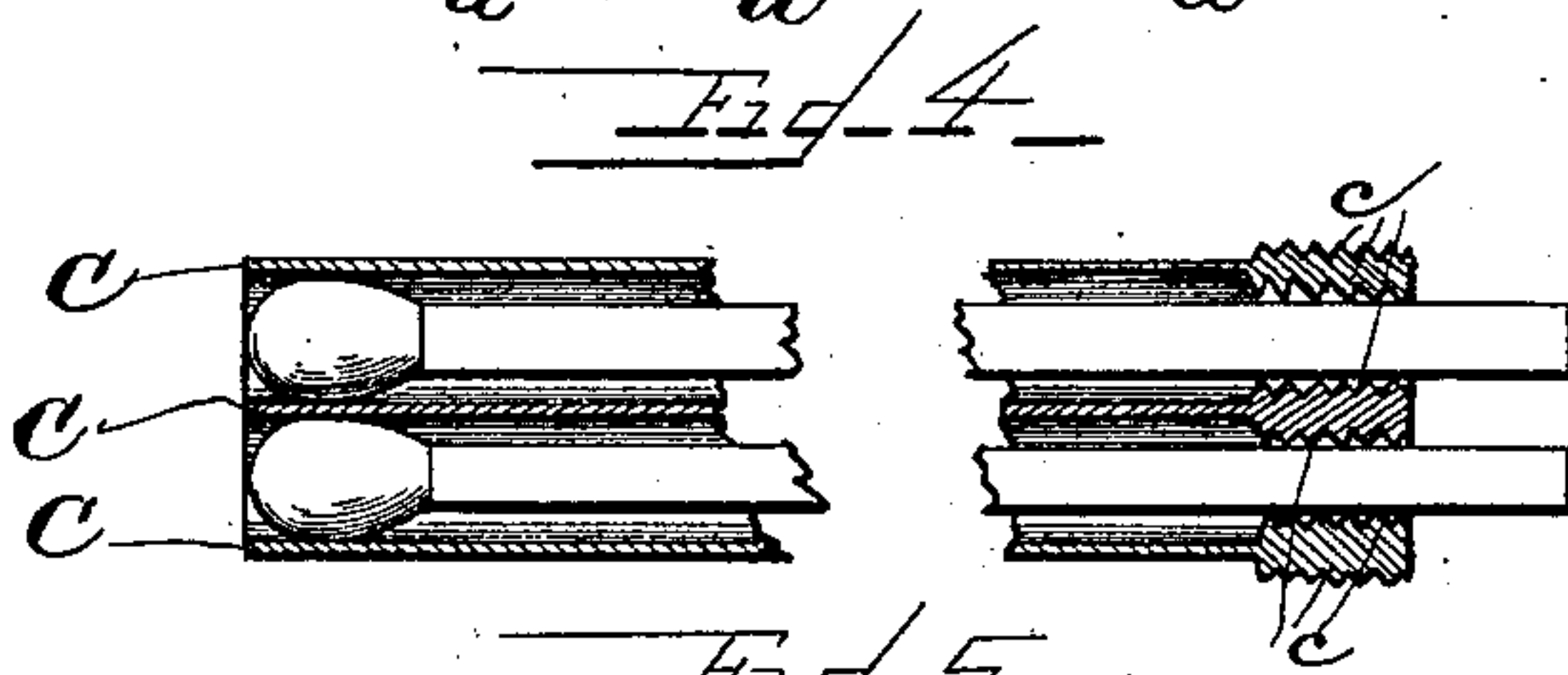
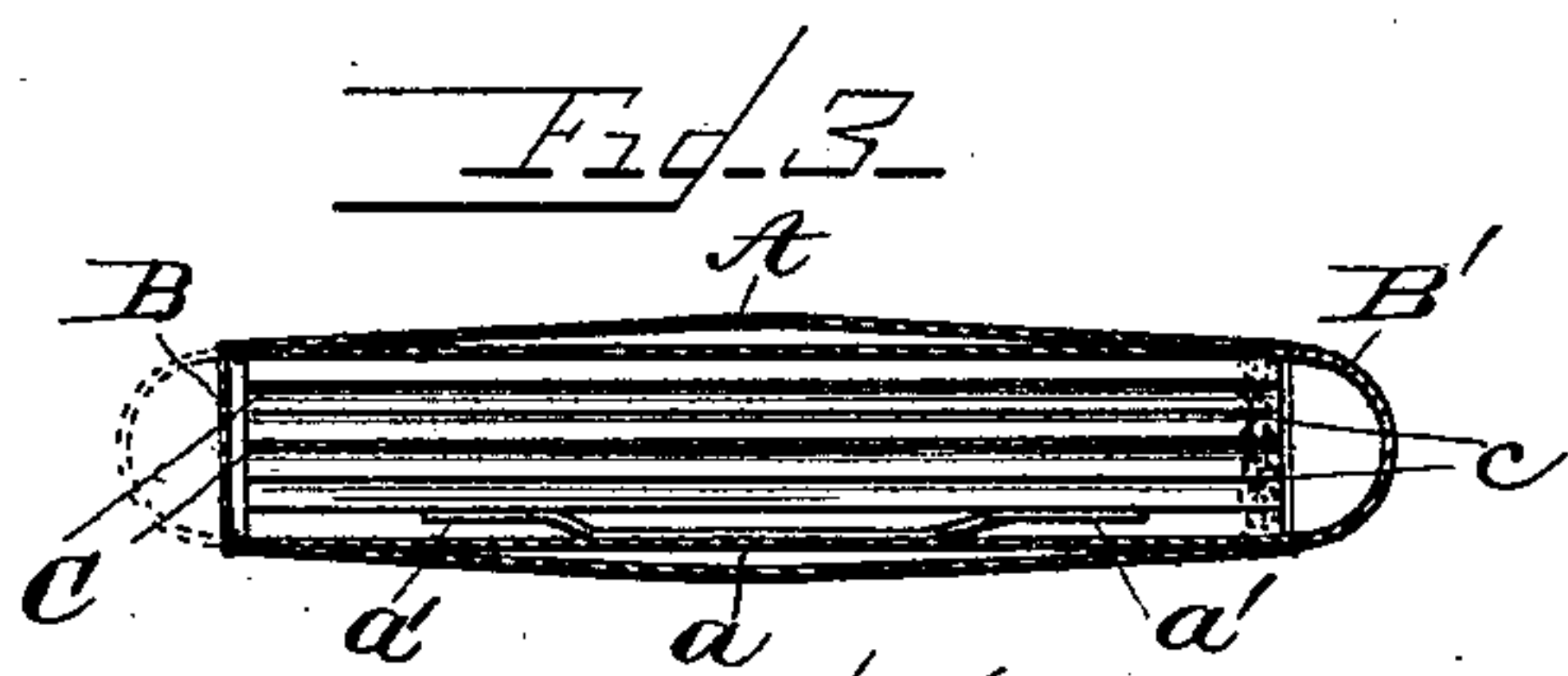
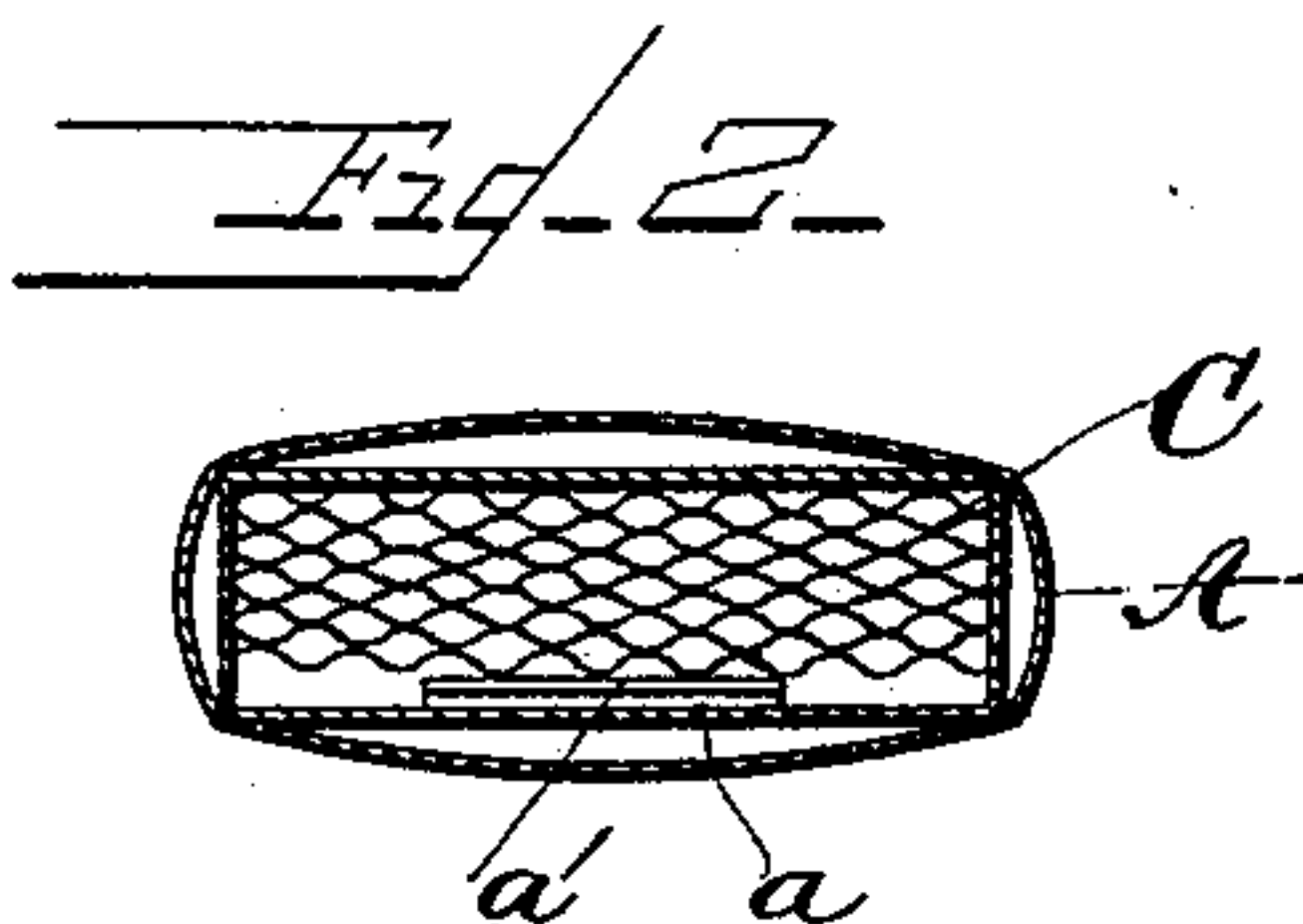
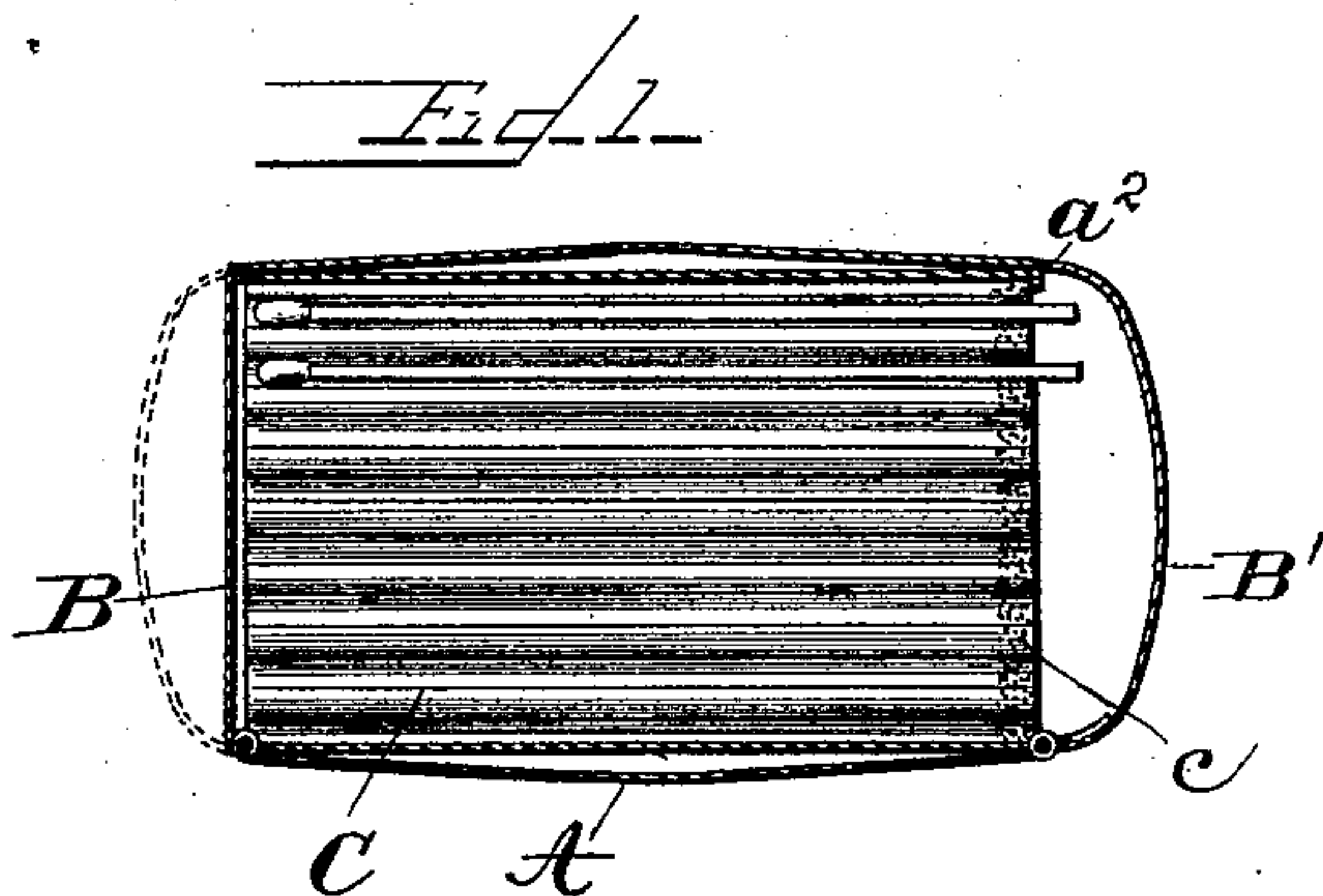


(No Model.)

J. F. GENT.
MATCH BOX.

No. 540,433.

Patented June 4, 1895.



Witnesses
G. A. K. Schmitt,
J. D. Kingsbury.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH F. GENT, OF COLUMBUS, INDIANA.

MATCH-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 540,433, dated June 4, 1895.

Application filed September 18, 1894. Serial No. 523,340. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH F. GENT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Bartholomew and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes; 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 make and use the same.

My invention is an improvement in match boxes and consists in the novel features of construction hereinafter described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate one form in which I have contemplated embodying my invention and said invention is fully disclosed in the following description and claims.

Referring to the said drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of a match-box constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 represents a longitudinal sectional view of the match-box, taken at right angles to the line of section of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an enlarged view broken away, showing the position of a match between two of the corrugated partitions or plates of the box. Fig. 5 is an end view, enlarged, of a portion of several of said partitions or plates.

The object of my invention is to provide a match box in which each match will be ignited by simply drawing it out of the box and which will hold all the matches separated from each other so that they cannot become ignited within the box.

In the drawings A represents the shell casing of the match box which may be constructed in any desired manner, the said shell or casing being provided with a hinged cover at each end.

B represents one of said covers which is preferably made straight as shown in full lines, but it may be made curved or rounding if preferred as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1.

B' represents the other cover or lid which is preferably curved or hollow as is usual in match boxes and both covers will be provided with means for retaining them in closed position. In this instance, I have shown coiled

springs arranged about the pivots of said covers to hold them normally in closed position but any other desired form of spring or closing device may be employed.

One side of the shell or casing A is provided with a flat spring *a* which is preferably secured to the casing at its central portion in any desired way, and has its ends *a'* *a'* extending to points adjacent to the ends of the casing as shown in Fig. 3.

Within the shell or casing A are a series of corrugated partitions consisting in this instance of plates C C preferably formed of sheet material placed side by side, the depressed portions on each side of each plate being opposed to the depressed portions of the next adjacent plate thus forming a series of longitudinally extending apertures between each two plates into which matches may be inserted, as indicated in Figs. 2 and 5. I prefer to form the corrugations of said plates of such depth that when two plates are placed together the apertures thus formed will be of slightly less diameter than a match so that when matches are inserted the plates will be forced apart slightly and will thus hold the matches firmly between them. The plates will be held pressed together by the ends *a'* *a'* of the spring *a* and the spring will yield to permit the matches to be inserted.

At the end of the shell or casing A adjacent to the rounded cover B', I provide a transverse shoulder or web *a²* against which the plates C C abut when they are placed within the box. The matches will be inserted at the other end of the box, and the plates will be of such length that the match stems will project beyond said plates as shown in Figs. 1 and 4 so that they can be readily drawn out, and the shoulders or webs *a²* *a²* will prevent the plates from being moved longitudinally when the matches are inserted or removed. It will not be necessary to secure the plates against removal from the other end of the case as the spring *a* will always exert enough pressure upon them to prevent them from falling out and the matches will always be pressed in and drawn out in a direction toward the shoulders or webs *a²* *a²* as will be readily understood.

The corrugated plates C C are provided adjacent to the end from which the matches are

to be drawn out with serrated or roughened portions *c c*, in any desired way on each side as shown in Figs. 1 and 4, so that as the matches are drawn out of the box, they will
5 be ignited as the heads pass between the said roughened portions.

In order to use my improved match box the flat cover B is opened and a number of matches are inserted into the apertures between the corrugated plates stem first so that
10 their stems will project into the hollow cover B' at the other end of the box. The cover B is then closed and when it is desired to use a match the cover B' is opened and a match
15 drawn out, thereby lighting it as the head passes between the roughened portions *c c* of the plates. The spring *a* will allow the plates C C to separate as matches are placed between them and will hold the matches firmly
20 so as to preclude the possibility of their igniting.

I prefer to have a flat cover B and a curved or hollow cover B' as it makes the box more compact in form and enables the user to determine which cover to open in order to withdraw a match or to fill the box, whereas if
25 both covers were alike it would be difficult if not impossible to always open the right one.

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

1. A match box provided with a series of detached partitions for spacing the matches having at one end a cover to open the box for the insertion of the matches and a cover at
35 the other end to permit the removal of the same, the cover at the end at which the matches are inserted being the only retaining means for the partitions at that end of the box, substantially as described.

40 2. A match box consisting of a body open at each end provided with shoulders adjacent to one end and a cover at the opposite end, and a series of partitions located in said body

and engaging the said shoulders whereby the cover may be opened and matches inserted
45 without moving said partitions, substantially as described.

3. A match box provided with a series of corrugated partitions to separate and hold the matches, a cover at one end to permit the in-
50 sersion of the matches, and a hollow cover at the opposite end for the removal of the matches, whereby the matches are entirely inclosed and are permitted to project beyond the partitions for ready removal, substantially
55 as described.

4. A match box having a main body open at each end provided with a cover at one end and shoulders adjacent thereto, of corrugated partitions located in said body engaging said
60 shoulders and a spring forcing said partitions together, whereby the matches may be inserted at one end of the box without moving said partitions, and the cover at the opposite end opened to permit the withdrawal of the
65 matches, substantially as described.

5. A match box comprising among its members a casing open at both ends and provided with transverse shoulders adjacent to one end, a series of corrugated partitions disconnected therefrom located in said box and en-
70 gaging said shoulders, a spring for forcing said partitions together, a cover for one end of said box to give access to the interior of the box for the insertion of the matches with-
75 out moving said partition and a hollow cover for the opposite end of said box to accommodate the stems of the matches and permit of their removal, substantially as described.

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

JOSEPH F. GENT.

Witnesses:

L. P. WHITAKER,
J. D. KINGSBERRY.