

(No Model.)

I. L. TOWNSEND & J. CONWAY.  
MATCH BOX AND CIGAR CUTTER.

No. 541,702.

Patented June 25, 1895.

Fig. 1.

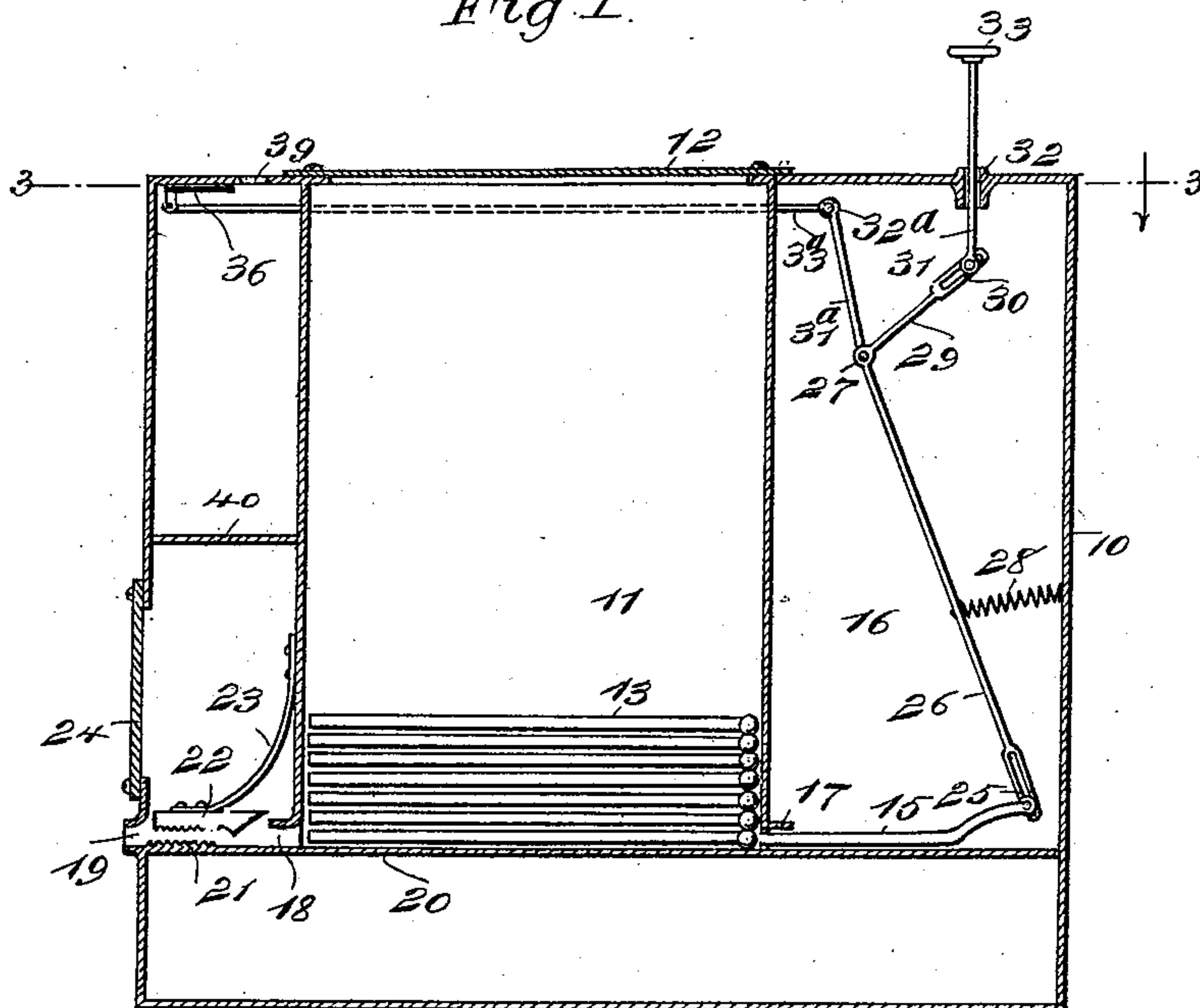


Fig. 2.

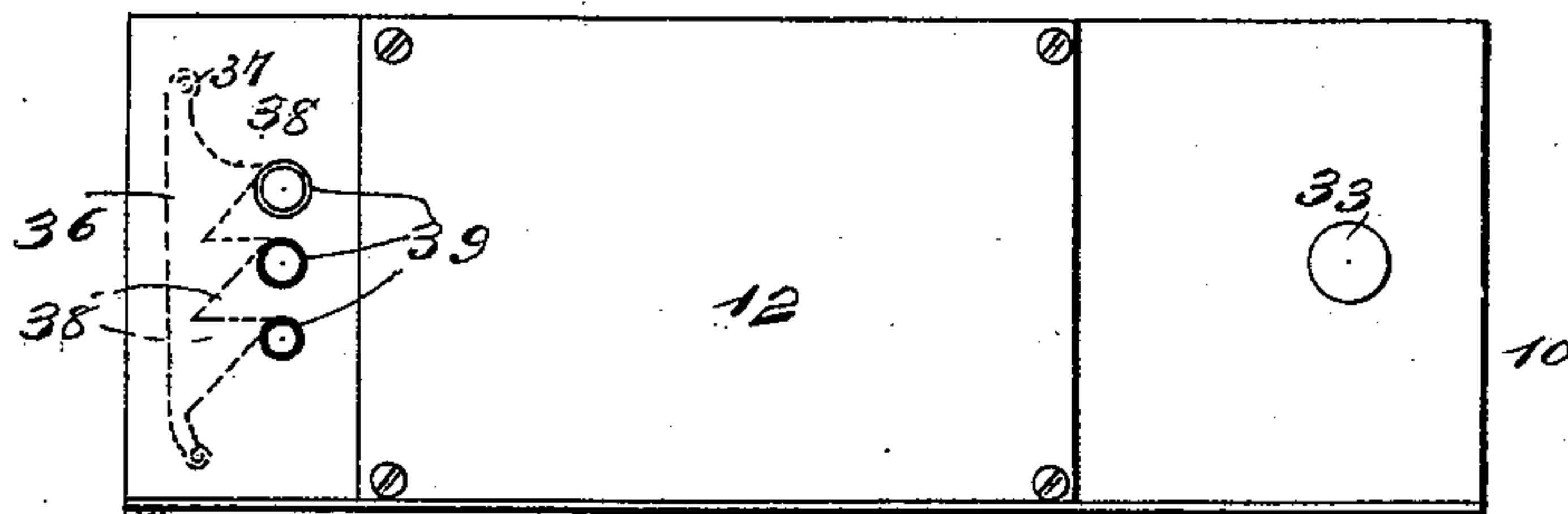
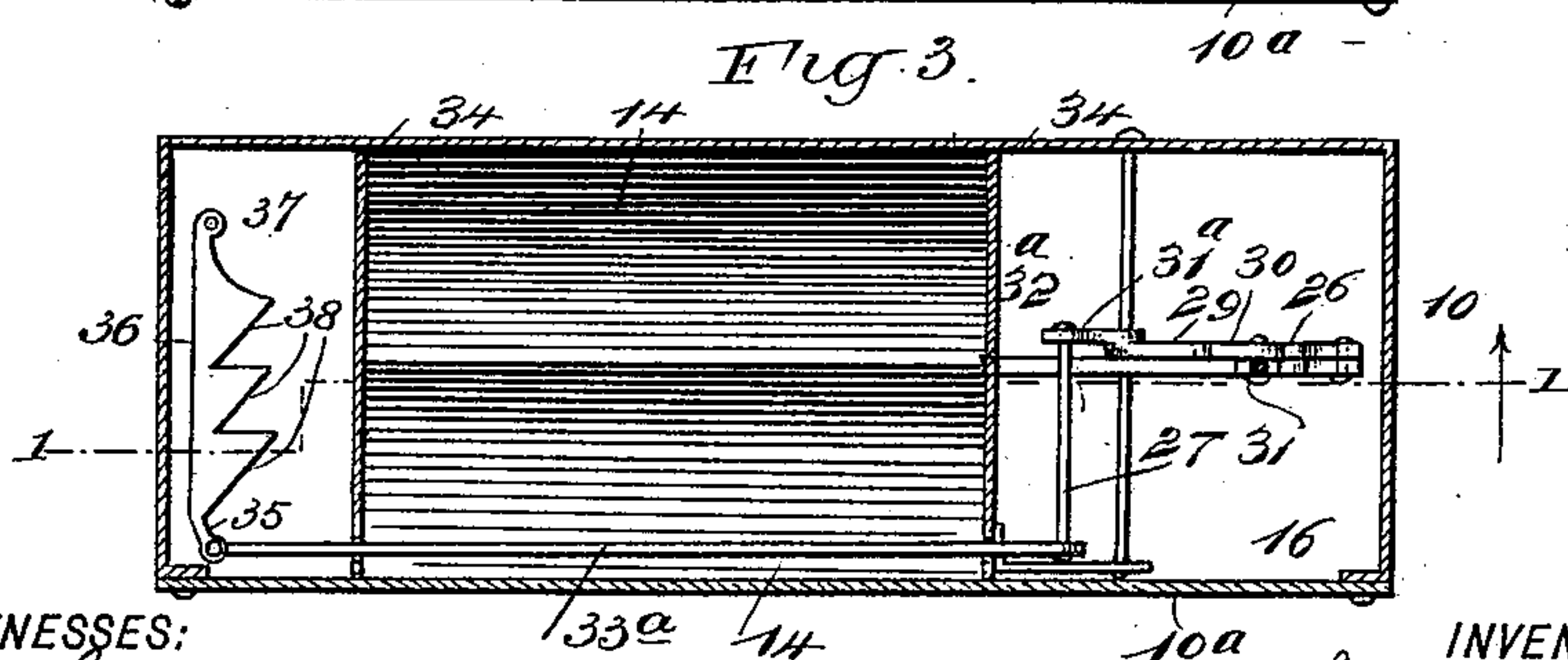


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC L. TOWNSEND AND JOHN CONWAY, OF PERRY, IOWA.

## MATCH-BOX AND CIGAR-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 541,702, dated June 25, 1895.

Application filed June 2, 1894. Serial No. 513,250. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ISAAC L. TOWNSEND and JOHN CONWAY, of Perry, in the county of Dallas and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Match-Box and Cigar-Cutter, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Our invention relates to improvements in match boxes and cigar cutters; and the object of our invention is to produce a simple and inexpensive device, which combines the functions of a match safe and cigar cutter, which has the matches arranged in such a manner that by the pressure of a button a match is delivered to the person desiring to use it, which is constructed in such a way that when the match is withdrawn it is also ignited, which is provided with means for cutting off a cigar tip at the same time it delivers a match, and which is arranged in such a way that it may be easily filled with matches, and the cigar clippings may be conveniently removed.

To these ends our invention consists of certain features of construction and combinations of parts, which will be hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a central vertical section on the line 1 1 of Fig. 3 of the machine embodying our invention. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the device, and Fig. 3 is a sectional plan on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1.

The match box 10 is provided with a central chamber 11 capable of holding matches, this chamber being closed at the top by a removable plate 12, which is preferably screwed to the top of the box, so that when in use the matches cannot be taken from the top of the chamber. The chamber is of such dimensions that the matches 13 lie endwise and horizontally within it, as shown in Fig. 1, and the bottom of the chamber is preferably inclined, as shown at 14 in Fig. 3, so that a match will always be in position to be ejected by the plunger 15 which is arranged in a compartment 16 at one end of the match chamber and slides through an aperture 17 in the chamber wall, this aperture aligning with a open-

ing 18 in the opposite wall of the match chamber, so that when the plunger moves into the chamber it pushes a match outward through the opening 18 and through an opening in the exterior of the box 10.

A transverse horizontal partition 20 extends through the box below the match chamber and forms a support and guide for the plunger 15, and also a guide for a match which is ejected by the plunger, this partition having a roughened striking surface 21 near the opening 19, while above this surface is a roughened striking plate 22 which is held on a spring 23, the latter being fastened to one wall of the chamber 11 and thus two relatively yielding rough surfaces are provided, between which a match is drawn, and these surfaces strike and ignite the head of the match, while the yielding of the striking plate provides for the variation in size of the matches and also serves as a spring holder to hold a match with one end projecting until it can be grasped by the fingers and pulled out.

The holes 17 and 18 for the plunger 15 and matches 13 are produced by punching through the walls of the chamber 11 so as to leave the metal turned out, as shown in Fig. 1, thus assisting in guiding the plunger and the matches. The striking plate may be reached and adjusted, by removing the plate 24, which is screwed to the box 10 opposite the spring 23. The plunger 15 is at one end pivoted in the slotted end 25 of the lever 26, which extends upward in the chamber 16 at the rear of the chamber 11 and is fulcrumed on a cross rod 27, the lever and plunger being normally pulled back by a spiral spring 28 which is secured to the lever and also to the case. The lever 26 has, at its upper end an arm 29 which is slotted, as shown at 30, to permit of a sliding connection with the push rod 31 which slides in a suitable bearing 32 in the box top and has at its upper end a push button or finger piece 33, and it will be observed that by depressing this button, the arm 29 and lever 26 are tilted so as to swing the latter against the tension of the spring 28 and push the plunger 15 against a match so as to throw the latter outward through the apertures 17 and 18. The lever has also an upwardly extending arm 31<sup>a</sup> which is at its upper end pivoted to a rod 32<sup>a</sup> connected to one end of



a rod 33<sup>a</sup> which slides over guides 34 at one side of the match chamber 11, as shown in Fig. 3, and the rod is at its opposite end pivoted to the stem 35 of the cutter 36, which swings flatwise against the top of the box 10 at one end of the chamber 11, the cutter being fulcrumed at one end, as shown at 37, so that by depressing the button 33 and tilting the lever 26, as specified above, the rod 33<sup>a</sup> and cutter 36 are moved, the latter being actuated in such a manner as to bring its blades 38 beneath the holes 39 in the box top and thus a cigar tip, which is put through one of the holes, is cut off, and the tip is caught and retained on the partition 40 which forms a tip-holding-chamber in one end of the box, as shown in Fig. 1.

It will be understood that a plain or straight edged cutter may be used, but a serrated cutter having a series of blades as described is preferably employed, as this enables the several blades to be brought effectively opposite the holes 39, which holes are made in several sizes to receive different sizes of cigar tips. To provide for easily reaching any part of the box, it is provided with a removable side 10<sup>a</sup>, as shown in Fig. 3.

It will be seen that when a smoker wishes to light a cigar, he can insert the tip of his cigar in one of the holes 39 and then, by pressing on the button 33, the cutter 36 is actuated so as to cut off the tip of the cigar, and at the same time the slide or plunger 15 pushes out a match 13, so that it can be conveniently grasped by the fingers, and then the match is pulled out entirely, causing its head to be scratched over the striking surfaces, as described, and the match is ignited ready for use.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A match box and cigar clipper, comprising a casing having a chamber for containing matches, a cutter pivoted in the casing adjacent to an opening therein, a pivoted and spring pressed lever, a plunger connected to one end of the lever and projecting into the match chamber, a connection between the lever and cutter for operating the latter from the former, and means for operating the said lever, substantially as described.

2. A match box and cigar clipper, comprising a casing having a chamber for containing matches, a cutter pivoted in the casing adjacent to an opening therein, a pivoted and spring pressed three armed lever, a plunger connected to one arm of the lever and projecting into the match chamber, a connection be-

tween a second arm of the lever and the cutter for operating the latter from the former, and a push rod connected with the third arm of the said lever, substantially as described.

3. A match box and cigar clipper, comprising a compartment box, the central compartment of which forms a match chamber, said match chamber having openings in opposite walls at the bottom, a pivoted cutter in one of the end compartments below openings in the top of said compartment, a pivoted and spring pressed three armed lever in the other end compartment, a plunger connected with one arm of the said lever and projecting into the match chamber, a connection between a second arm of the said lever and the pivoted cutter, and a push rod secured to the third arm of the said lever and projecting out through an opening in the top of the compartment in which the lever is arranged, substantially as described.

4. In a match box and cigar clipper, the combination with a compartment box, the central compartment of which forms a match chamber, of a pivoted cutter in a compartment at one side of the match chamber and below openings in the top of said compartment, a pivoted three armed lever, a plunger connected to one arm of the said lever and projecting into the match chamber, a rod connected to the upper end of a second arm of the lever, a second rod connected to the first named rod and the free end of the cutter, and a push rod connected with the third arm of the said lever, substantially as described.

5. A match box and cigar clipper, comprising a box formed with a central match compartment having an inclined bottom and apertured side walls, a compartment at one end of the match compartment and two compartments, one above the other, at the other end of the match compartment, a cutter pivoted to the under side of the top of the upper end compartment, below openings therein, a yielding striking plate in the lower end compartment, a pivoted and spring pressed lever in one end compartment, a plunger connected with the lever and projecting into the central match compartment, a connection between the lever and cutter, and means for operating said lever, substantially as herein shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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