

(No Model.)

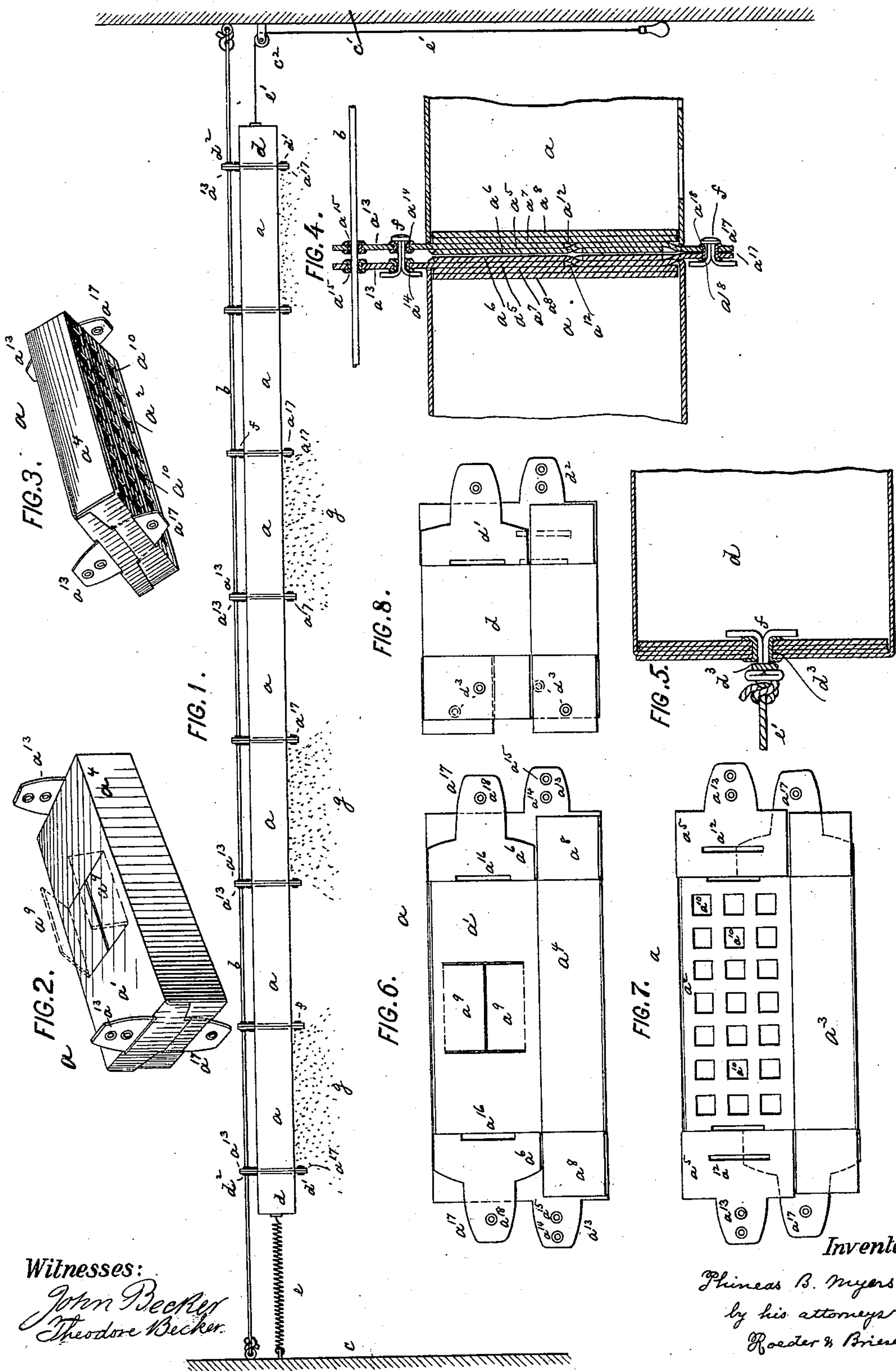
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

P. B. MYERS.

APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING STAGE ILLUSIONS..

No. 547,085.

Patented Oct. 1, 1895.



Witnesses:

John Becker
Theodore Becker

Inventor:

Phineas B. Myers
by his attorneys
Roeder & Brien

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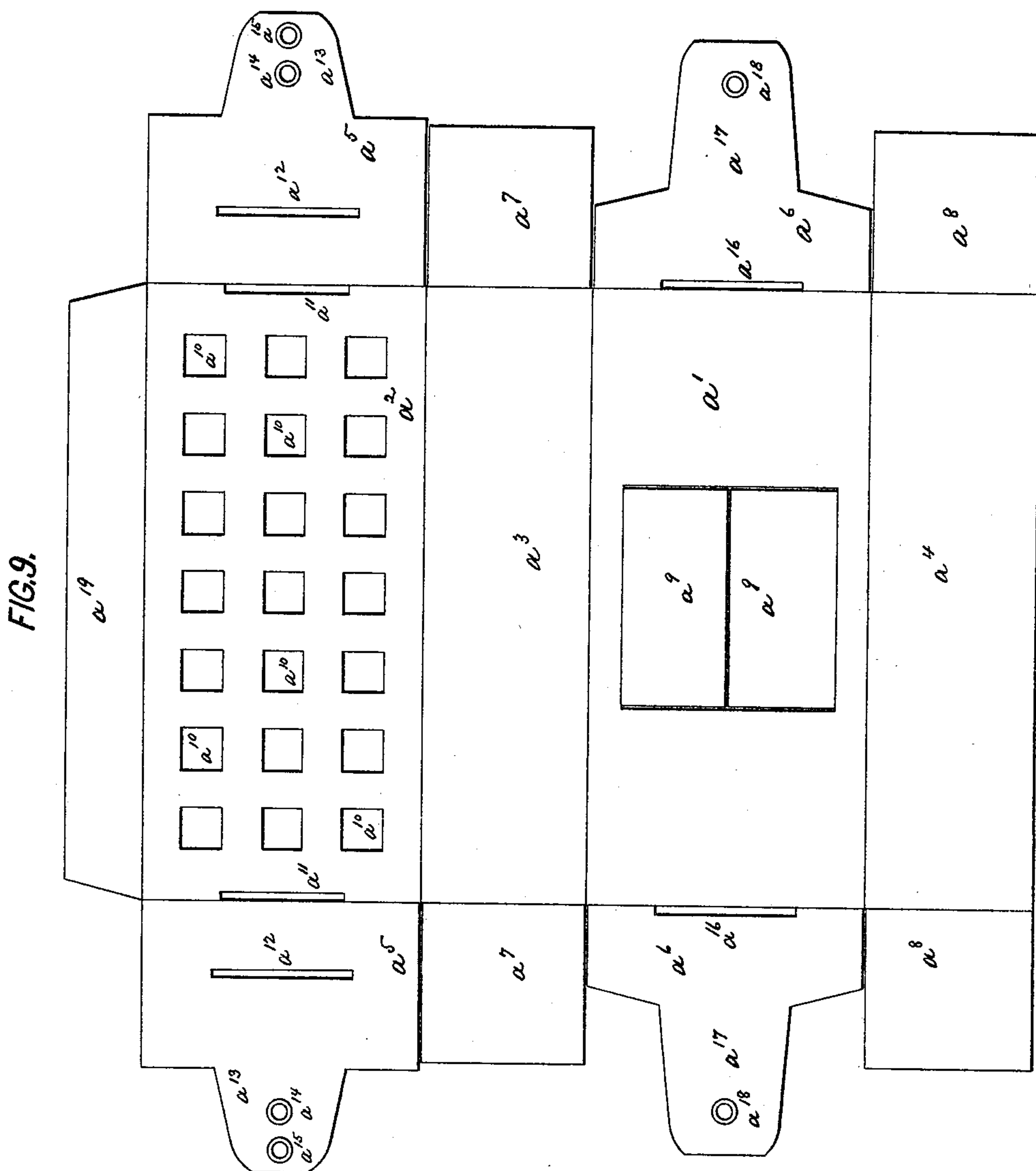
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHINEAS B. MYERS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING STAGE ILLUSIONS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 547,085, dated October 1, 1895.

Application filed July 2, 1895. Serial No. 554,693. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHINEAS B. MYERS, of Brooklyn, New York, have invented an Improved Apparatus for Producing Stage Illusions, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an apparatus for producing a stage illusion of falling snow, and is more particularly designed for use on small stages—such as for Sunday-school entertainments and the like.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the apparatus, showing it in operative position. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of box *a*, showing its top. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing its bottom. Fig. 4 is a detail vertical section through the joint between two boxes; Fig. 5, a similar section through the end of the box *d*. Fig. 6 is a top view of box *a*, showing it flattened out; Fig. 7, a bottom view of said box, showing it flattened out; Fig. 8, a top view of box *d*, showing it flattened out; and Fig. 9 shows the blank of box *a*.

My improved apparatus consists of a series of paper boxes *a* free to slide on a string or wire *b*, that is attached to two fixed supports *c c'*. The two end boxes *d* are somewhat shorter than the boxes *a*, and are attached, respectively, to the support *c* by a spring *e* and to a pull-rope *e'*, running over a pulley *c²* of support *c'*. Each of the boxes *a* is formed of a blank. (More fully illustrated in Fig. 9.) It is composed, essentially, of top *a'*, bottom *a²*, sides *a³ a⁴*, and end flaps *a⁵ a⁶ a⁷ a⁸*. The top *a'* is provided with a charging-opening adapted to be closed by a pair of gates *a⁹*, while the bottom *a²* is provided with a series of perforations *a¹⁰* and marginal slots *a¹¹*. The flaps *a⁵* have a longitudinal slot *a¹²* and a tongue *a¹³*, containing two eyelets *a¹⁴ a¹⁵*. The flaps *a⁶* have a longitudinal slot *a¹⁶* and a tongue *a¹⁷*, containing a single eyelet *a¹⁸*.

To make up the box it is folded on its longitudinal creases and connected at its end by securing the gumming-flaps *a¹⁰* to the side *a⁴*. The ends *a⁷ a⁸* are turned in and the flap *a⁵* turned up, with its tongue *a¹³* projecting through the slot *a¹⁶*. Finally the flap *a⁶* is turned down and its tongue *a¹⁷* passed first

into the slot *a¹²* and then out of the slot *a¹¹*. The result is a box, Figs. 2 and 3, which is closed at its ends and there provided with the upwardly-projecting tongue *a¹³* and the downwardly-projecting tongue *a¹⁷*. The string *b* is passed loosely through the upper eyelets *a¹⁵*, while staples *f*, Fig. 4, are passed through the eyelets *a¹⁴ a¹⁸* of adjoining boxes to connect them into a series. The end boxes *d* are attached to spring *e* or pull-rope *e'*, Fig. 5, by means of staples *f*. These end boxes are made preferably shorter than the boxes *a* to permit the upsetting of the staple-shanks by means of the fingers.

The boxes *d* have perforated tongues *d' d²* on one end only, while at the opposite end they are perforated, as at *d³*, for the admission of the staple *f*.

In use some or all of the boxes are charged with scraps of paper *g*, and the pull-rope *e'* is quickly manipulated to cause a reciprocating motion of the boxes upon the string *b*. This will cause the scraps *g* to be discharged from the perforations *a¹⁰* in a manner well designed to imitate a miniature snow-storm.

What I claim is—

1. A stage apparatus consisting of a string, a series of perforated boxes movable thereon, and a hand rope for operating the boxes, substantially as specified.

2. A stage apparatus consisting of a string, a series of suspended perforated boxes having upwardly and downwardly projecting tongues, means for connecting the tongues, and a spring and hand rope connected to the end boxes, substantially as specified.

3. A paper box for stage illusions, having a perforated bottom, slotted end flaps *a⁵ a⁶*, and perforated tongues projecting from such flaps, substantially as specified.

4. A paper box for stage illusions, having a perforated and slotted bottom *a²*, an open top *a'*, slotted end flaps *a⁵*, having perforated tongues *a¹³*, and slotted end flaps *a⁶*, having perforated tongues *a¹⁷*, substantially as specified.

PHINEAS B. MYERS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM SCHULZ,
F. V. BRIESEN.