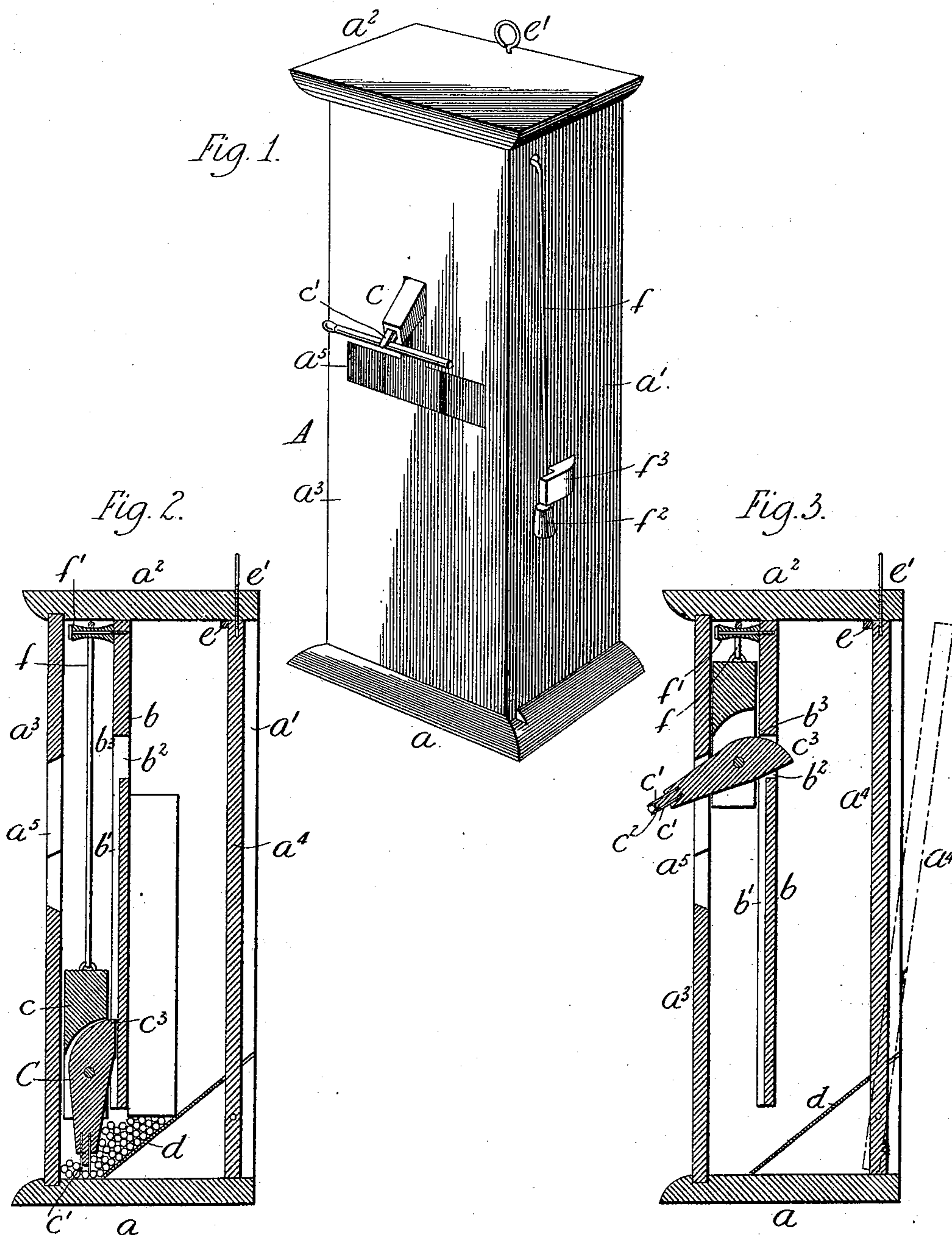


(No Model.)

B. W. KARST.
MATCH BOX OR SAFE.

No. 602,333.

Patented Apr. 12, 1898.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BERNARD W. KARST, OF HARLANSBURG, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO GEORGE E. MILLER, OF SAME PLACE.

MATCH BOX OR SAFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 602,333, dated April 12, 1898.

Application filed October 19, 1897. Serial No. 655,670. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNARD W. KARST, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harlansburg, in the county of Huntington and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match Boxes or Safes; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention is directed to improvements in that class of match boxes or safes which are designed for the delivery of the articles singly to the user.

The object of the invention is to simplify and improve the general construction and operation of such devices and to provide for the delivery of the articles from the original package, all of which is hereinafter fully and clearly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved match box or safe. Fig. 2 is a vertical central sectional view of the same, showing the parts in position for engaging a match; and Fig. 3 is a similar sectional view showing the parts in position for delivering a match. This figure also shows the rear portion of the casing open for the reception of a package of matches.

Referring to the said drawings by letter, A denotes the casing, which is of general rectangular form and comprised of the base a , the sides a' a' , the top a^2 , the front a^3 , which is slidably arranged in grooves in the base and top, and the back a^4 , which is hinged to permit of its being moved to give access to the interior of the casing.

In the casing is a partition b , by which is formed two compartments, in the forward one of which is the picker C, while the rearward one is adapted to receive a package or box of matches such as is shown in Fig. 2. The partition b terminates a short distance above the base a and above a guide-plate d , said guide-plate extending on an incline from the base up-

wardly and rearwardly to the back a^4 and serving as a support for the package of matches and also as a guide to conduct the articles from the box into position to be engaged by the picker in the forward compartment. The back a^4 is pivoted near its lower end to the sides of the casing, and by exerting pressure at said lower end the back is caused to open, as shown in Fig. 3, to allow of the insertion of the package.

e denotes a stop against which the back is closed, and e' is a thumb-screw to lock the back in its closed condition. To supply the safe, the back is opened and a package inserted to occupy the rearward compartment and rest on the guide-plate, the lower end of the package being partly or wholly torn or broken away to allow of the contents passing therefrom down the guide-plate to the bottom of the forward compartment, where they are in position for engagement by the picker.

The picker C comprises an arm pivotally secured to a guide-block c , which occupies the forward compartment and is vertically movable therein, and two picker-fingers c' c' , which are arranged to project from the lower end of the arm and are separated a distance slightly less than the diameter of a match. Between the fingers is a shoulder c^2 , which provides, with the fingers, a recess for the reception of a single match. The other end c^3 of the arm is cam-shaped and projects beyond the inner side of the block c into a groove b' , provided in the outer side of the partition b . At the upper end of the groove, which is some distance below the top of the partition, is an opening b^2 , the upper side b^3 of which forms a shoulder against which the end c^3 of the arm abuts when the picker has reached its upward limit. The engagement of the arm with the shoulder b^3 causes the inner end to be depressed and to occupy the opening b^2 and the outer end carrying the picker-fingers to be elevated and projected through and beyond a slot a^5 in the front a^3 . This slot is in the form of an inverted T, the vertical portion receiving the picker and the horizontal portion allowing of the projection of the match held by the picker-fingers. The picker is depressed to engage a match by the action of gravity, and to elevate the picker and the en-

gaged match I employ a hand-cord f , which is attached at one end to the block and is passed around a sheave f' in the upper end of the forward compartment and thence
 5 through an opening in the side of the casing. f^2 is a hand-button secured to the cord for ready manipulation, and f^3 is a stop which when engaged by the button maintains the elevated position of the picker, as shown in
 10 Fig. 3.

It will be understood from the figures of the drawings that the matches pass from the package down the guide-plate and collect at the base of the forward compartment when
 15 they are in the path of the picker. The picker being elevated and then released falls to the bottom of the compartment and the fingers engage a match about centrally of its length. A pull on the cord elevates the picker, and
 20 when the upward limit is reached the picker is tilted and the match is projected without the casing and may be removed by hand.

I claim as my invention—

1. A match box or safe comprising a casing
 25 having a delivery-slot in its front, and an openable back, a partition separating the interior of the casing into two compartments and provided with a groove and an opening at the upper end of the groove, a picker car-
 30 ried by a guide-block movable in the forward compartment, said picker comprising a pivoted arm having at one end picker-fingers and at the other end a cam projection movable in the groove and adapted to enter the opening

to tilt the picker and project the fingers 35 through the delivery-slot, means for elevating the picker, and a guide-plate leading from the rearward into the forward compartment, substantially as described.

2. A match box or safe comprising a casing 40 having a delivery-slot in its front, and a back pivoted near its lower end, a partition dividing the interior of the casing into a rearward compartment for containing a package of matches and a forward compartment, said 45 partition having a groove terminating at its upper end in an opening, an inclined guide-plate to guide the matches from the package into the forward compartment, a guide-block vertically movable in the forward compart- 50 ment, a picker-arm pivotally secured to said block and carrying at one end picker-fingers and having at its other end a cam projection for coöperating with the groove and opening, a cord connected to the block and passed 55 around a sheave in the upper portion of said compartment and passed through the side of the casing and provided with a hand-button, and a stop on the outer side of the casing adapted for engagement with the button to 60 hold the picker in its elevated position, substantially as described.

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

BERNARD W. KARST.

Witnesses:

GEORGE E. MILLER,

H. F. ZEERT.