

No. 612,732.

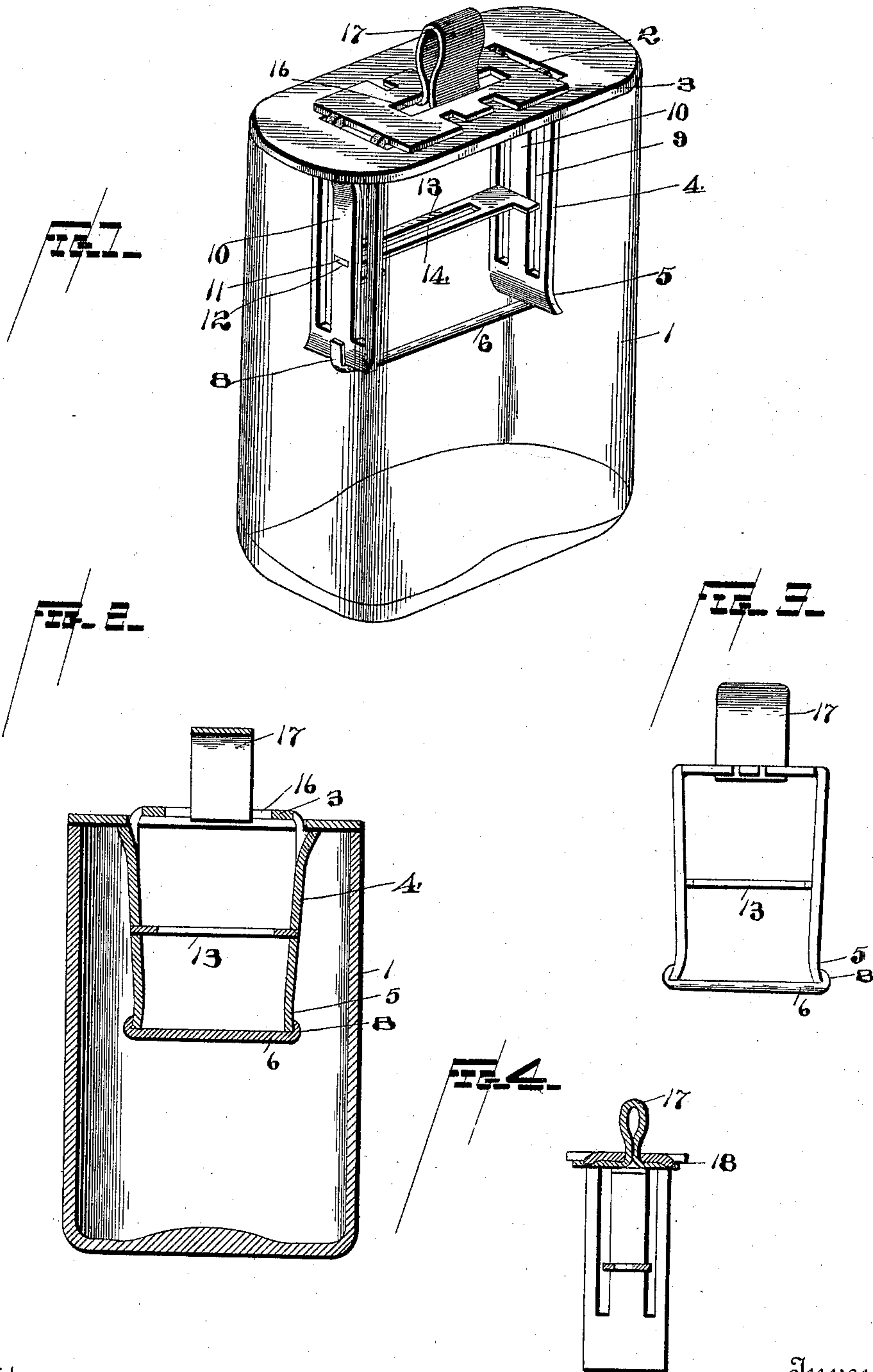
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L. J. JUSTEN.

TOY BANK.

(Application filed Nov. 6, 1897.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY BANK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 612,732, dated October 18, 1898.

Application filed November 6, 1897. Serial No. 657,645. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAWRENCE J. JUSTEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fond du Lac, in the county of Fond du Lac and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Toy Banks; 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.

This invention relates to toy banks, and has for its object to provide a child's bank of the character referred to which will be amusing and which will thereby encourage the child to save coin.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a bank so constructed that by thrusting the coin forcibly into the bank in a certain direction it will unlock the bank, so that it can be opened for giving access to the contents thereof. The proper manipulation of the coin is rendered somewhat difficult, so that in attempting to gain access to the bank a large number of coins will probably be caught and retained therein.

The detailed objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the course of the subjoined description.

The invention consists in certain novel features and details of construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the drawings, and incorporated in the claims hereto appended.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved bank. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the same. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the cover, locking and releasing mechanism, including the cover and the coin-actuator. Fig. 4 is a detail transverse section through the cover, showing the method of securing the ends of the elastic strap.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several views.

In carrying out the present invention I employ a body 1, which is hollow and of sufficient size to receive any desired number of coins and which is also formed of glass, so that the contents of the bank may be ob-

served at all times, as well as the apparatus which must be operated in order to open the bank and afford access thereto.

The body of the bank is provided in one end with an opening 2, which is covered by means of a metal plate 3. This plate 3 is provided at each side or end with downwardly-extending wings 4, which by forming the plate and wings of spring metal have a certain resiliency and are bent so as to have a normal outward spring at their lower ends. The said lower ends are deflected slightly outward in opposite directions, as shown at 5, and are held toward each other by means of a keeper 6, preferably formed of a piece of wire having its opposite ends upturned to form catch-lips 8, which engage the lower ends of the wings 4 and hold the same a predetermined distance apart.

The wings 4 are provided with inverted-U-shaped incisions 9, the said incisions comprising spring-tongues 10 within them, and these spring-tongues are provided with sockets 11, in which fit the reduced ends 12 of a plate or supporting-brace 13, having a longitudinal slot 14 arranged in alinement with the keeper and the initial receiving-slot 16 of the bank, so that a coin when passed into the bank may be forced through the slot in the spreader, so as to strike against the keeper and knock the same out of engagement with the wings for releasing the latter. The spreader serves to thrust the free ends of the spring-tongues apart, so as to cause the latter to engage beneath the top of the bank, adjacent to the edges of the opening 2, thus preventing the removal of the cover while the keeper is in engagement with the wings. However, when the keeper is removed the wings can spring apart at their lower ends and the upper ends of the spring-tongues will move toward each other and out of engagement with the top of the bank, so as to allow the cover, with its attachments, to be removed.

Extending upward above the slot 16 is an elastic band 17, looped at its center above the slot and having its ends passed through the slot 16 and secured beneath lips 18, formed integrally with the cover 3, thus securely holding the band in place. The operation of

the device is as follows: A coin is placed within the elastic loop and the loop is then drawn upward and the coin released. If the coin is properly directed as it is released, it will pass through the slotted spreader and strike against the keeper, and the impetus of the coin in connection with its weight will be sufficient to knock the keeper off the wings, with the result that the spring-tongues of the wings will move toward each other and allow the cover, wings, and other parts of the device to be removed, thus giving access to the bank. As it will require considerable practice to properly direct the coin through the slotted spreader, a number of coins will be caught and retained in the bank before access can be had thereto.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a toy bank, the combination of a body or receptacle, a removable cover having a coin-slot, a pair of spring-wings extending from said cover into the body, a pair of spring-tongues carried by said wings adapted to retain the cover in place, and a keeper arranged in the path of the coin for releasing the wings and thereby moving the tongue out of en-

gagement with the body of the bank, substantially as described.

2. In a toy bank, the combination with the body of the bank, of a removable cover having a coin-slot, a pair of wings extending from said cover into the body, a spring-tongue carried by one of said wings adapted to retain the cover in place, and a keeper arranged in the path of the coin for releasing said wing and moving the tongue out of engagement with the body of the bank, substantially as described.

3. In a toy bank, the combination with the body of the bank, of a removable cover provided with a coin-slot, wings extending from said cover inward, spring-tongues on said wings for engaging the body of the bank, a slotted spreader interposed between said tongues, a keeper engaging the ends of the wings, and an elastic band for actuating the coin through the slot in the cover, substantially as described.

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

LAWRENCE J. JUSTEN.

Witnesses:

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