





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## COMBINED MATCH-SAFE AND CIGAR-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 616,247, dated December 20, 1898.

Application filed September 4, 1897. Serial No. 650,610. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DAN COLEMAN MOSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Iuka, in the county of Tishomingo and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Combined Match-Safe and Cigar-Cutter, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in combined match-safes and cigar-cutters; and the object of my invention is to provide a combined match-safe and cigar-cutter which shall be neat and attractive in appearance, so as to form an ornamental object on a counter, bar, or table, which shall be simple and cheap in construction, and which is adapted to receive whole boxes of matches (one or more) and to permit of the delivery or taking of only one match at a time, thereby preventing waste. These objects I attain by the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a combined match-safe and cigar-cutter embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same.

The match-safe consists of a box or case of substantially triangular form in side elevation, of which *a* is the base. *b* are ends substantially triangular in form, *c* the inclined sides, and *d* the inclined inner sides, which are arranged parallel with the outer sides *c*, respectively, to form the match-compartments *e* between the inner and outer sides, these match-compartments being each of suitable size and shape to receive an entire box of the variety of matches commonly known as "parlor-matches" when the sliding outer cover of the said match-box has been removed, so as to expose the matches therein to view. To one side of each of the match-compartments *e* is formed a slideway *f* for the cigar-cutters *g*. Each of these cigar-cutters, of which there is one on each side of the match-safe, is composed of a slide *h*, adapted to work in the guideway *f*, having its inner side hollowed or cut away, as at *i*, to permit the escape of the cut cigar ends and having a finger-piece *k*, which works in a slot *l* in the outer side *c*. A coiled extensile spring *m* bears against the lower end of each of the cigar-cutters, thereby serving to move

the same upward in the guideway as soon as the pressure of a finger is removed from the finger-piece, and in each slide *h* is a steel plate *n*, secured on its outer face, which plate is provided with cutting-openings *o*, that are of a sufficient size to receive the end of a cigar and which normally register with slightly-enlarged openings *p* in the outer side of the match-safe. Openings *r* are made in the inclined inner sides *d*, at the outer sides thereof, which establish communication between the guideways *f* and the central space or compartments, formed in the match-safe between the inner inclined sides thereof, and an opening *t* is made in the base of the match-safe. By this means the ends of the cigars which are cut off fall into the central compartment *s* and may be discharged therefrom through the opening *t* and prevented from unduly accumulating in the match-safe.

Slotted openings *v* are made in the inclined outer sides of the match-safe, the said openings being of just sufficient length and width to admit of the passage of a match sidewise through the said slotted openings, and the central portions of the said slotted openings are enlarged, as at *w*, to admit of the insertion of the thumb and forefinger, whereby any person desiring a match may readily withdraw one from the box placed in the match-safe. A slide top *x* forms a cover for the match-boxes when they are placed in the safe.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that my improved match-safe is adapted to receive two entire boxes of parlor-matches and to dispense them one at a time, thereby avoiding both the trouble and annoyance of having to remove the matches from the boxes before placing them in the safe and also preventing the matches from being wasted. By providing the cigar-cutters in the sides of the match-safe in immediate proximity to the boxes of matches in the manner which I have hereinbefore described a combined match-safe and cigar-cutter is produced which is of great utility and convenience in cigar-stores, saloons, hotels, and other places in which cigars are sold or used.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

As a new article of manufacture, the match-

case having the oppositely-inclined compartments *e*, adapted for the reception of boxes of matches, the outer sides of said compartments being provided with the discharge-  
5 openings for the matches and with the openings *p*; the central compartment *s* formed between the said compartments *e*; the guide-ways *f* formed beside said compartments *e* and having the openings *r* on their inner  
10 sides communicating with the compartment

*s*, and the slides *h* in the ways *f*, having cutting-openings *o*, the said slides *h* being hollowed or cut away on their inner sides, as at *i*, for the purpose set forth, substantially as described.

DAN COLEMAN MOSS.

Witnesses:

G. W. PATTERSON,  
J. W. JOURDAN.