

No. 667,655.

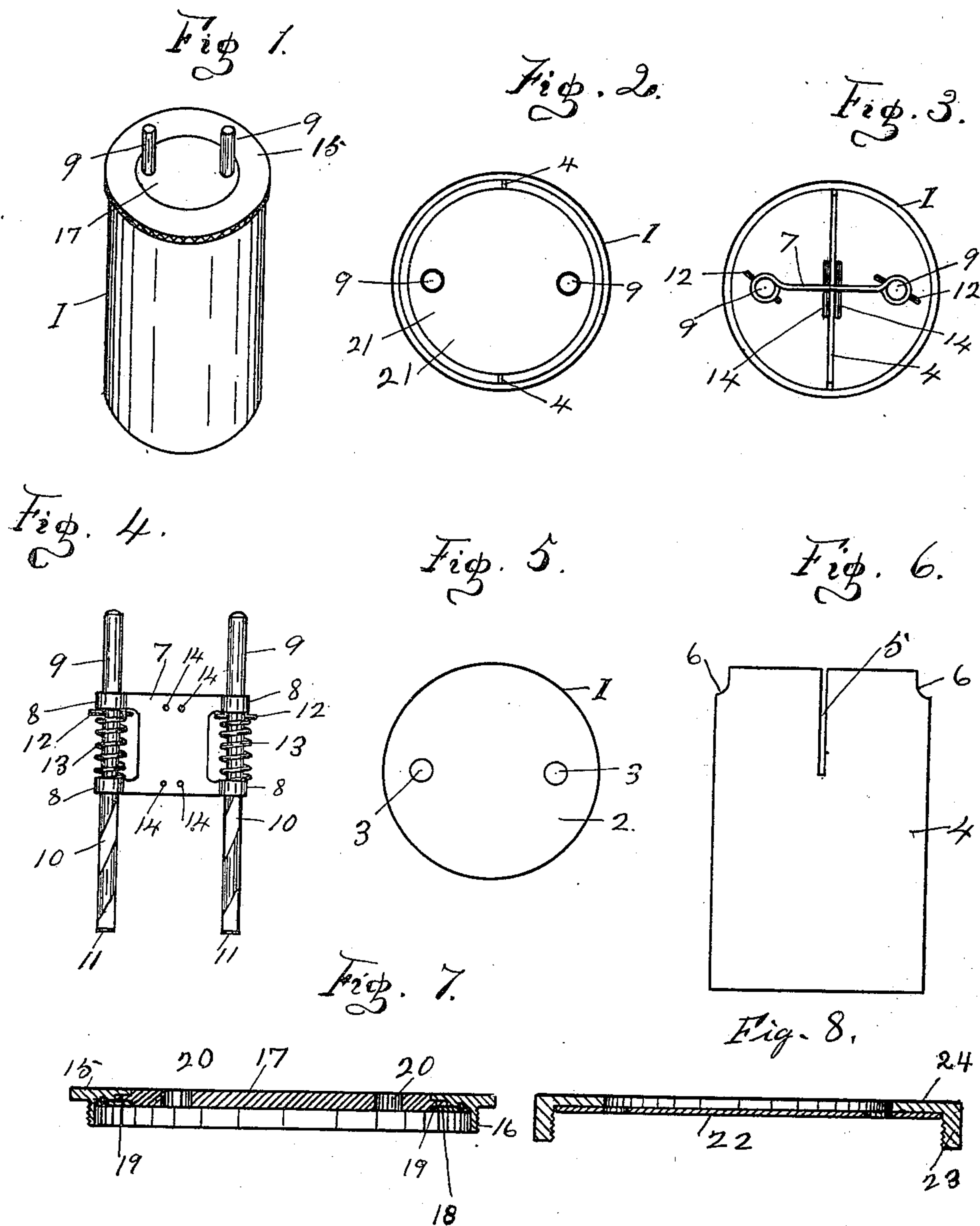
Patented Feb. 5, 1901.

M. V. B. GRUSH.  
COMBINED SALT AND PEPPER BOX.

(Application filed June 2, 1900.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 9.

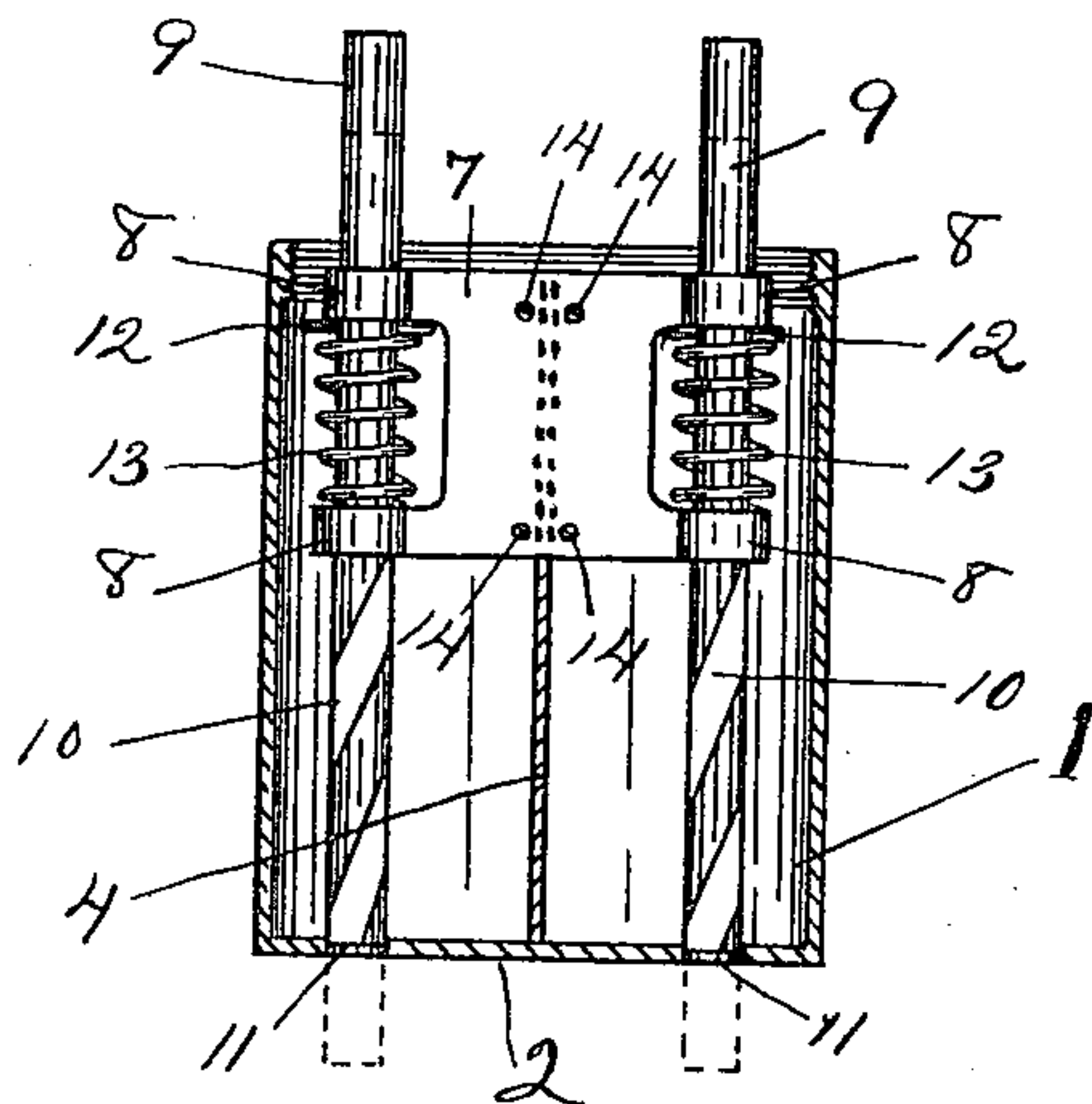


Fig. 10.

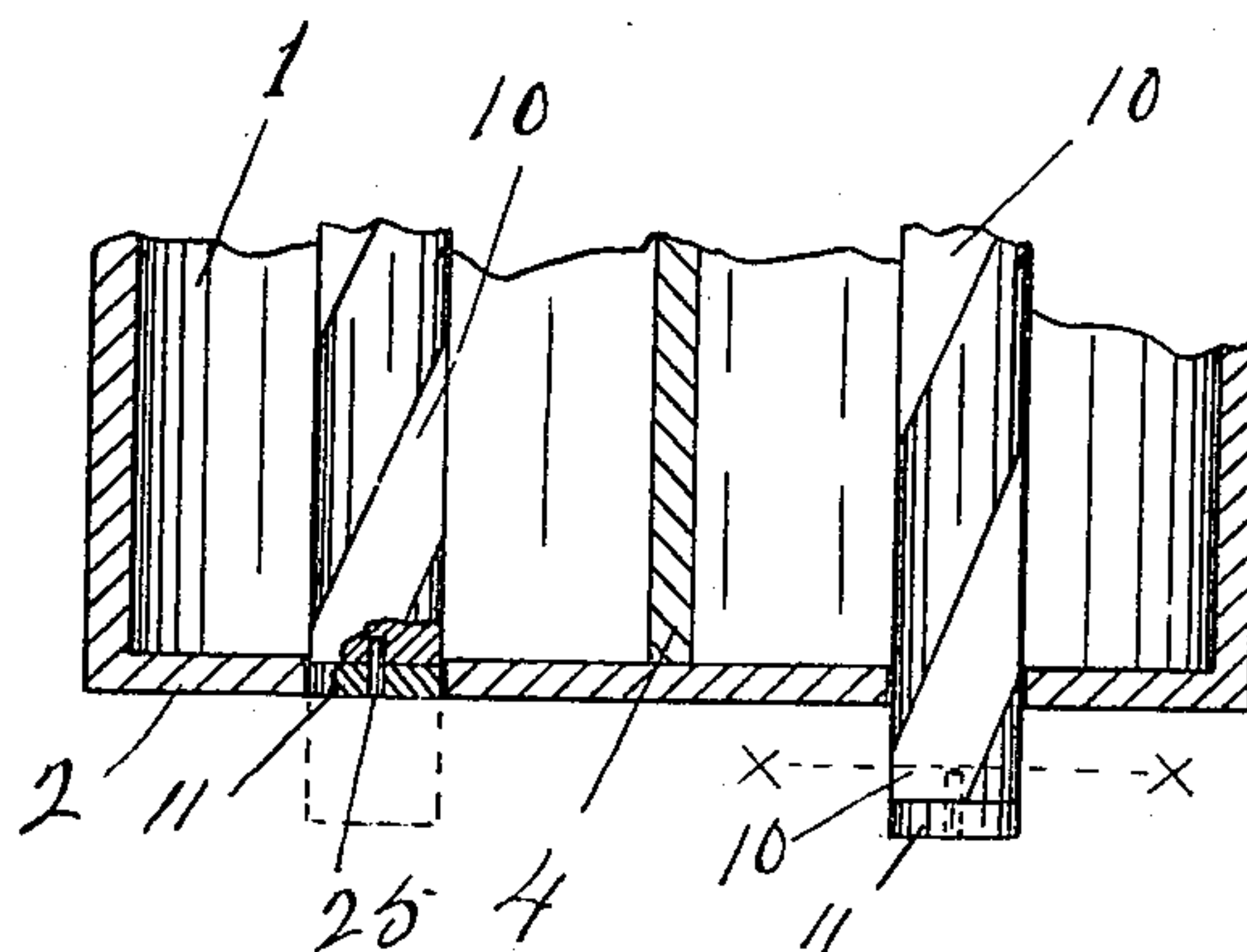
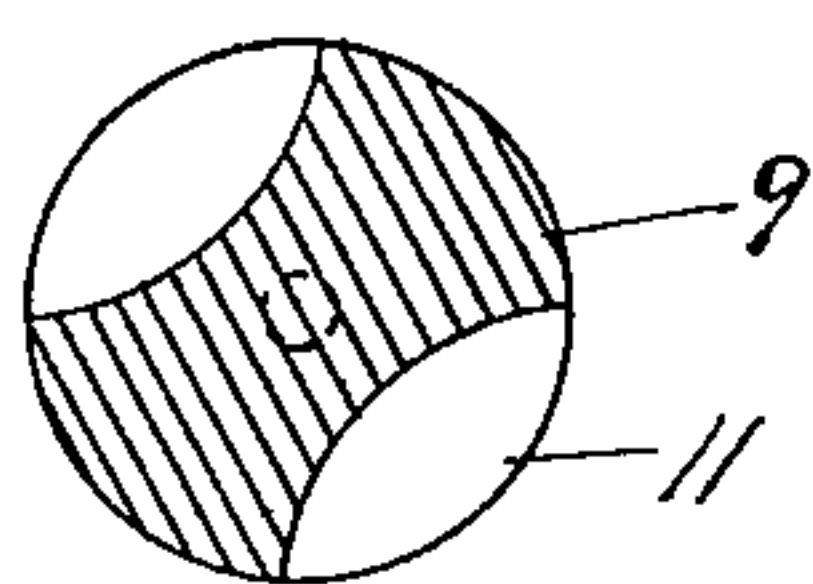


Fig. 11.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN V. B. GRUSH, OF BALDWIN, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
FRANKLIN FREESE, OF SAME PLACE.

## COMBINED SALT AND PEPPER BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 667,655, dated February 5, 1901.

Application filed June 2, 1900. Serial No. 18,826. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARTIN V. B. GRUSH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baldwin, in the county of Allen, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Salt and Pepper Box; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in combined salt and pepper boxes.

The object of my present invention is to provide a combined salt and pepper box of cheap and simple construction and efficient and reliable operation from which either salt or pepper can be conveniently shaken or distributed at the pleasure of the operator.

The novel feature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the spring-controlled plungers and the screw-threaded lid having a separated central plate through which the plungers pass, and thereby permit the removal or replacing of the screw-threaded lid without disturbing the relative fixed position of the said plungers.

In the accompanying drawings, in which similar reference-numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention in condition for use, showing the protruding ends of the plungers passing through the two-part lid. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same with the lid removed, but having a removable circular plate in position upon the top of the said partition. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the same with this circular plate removed and showing the said partition and the transversely-mounted plungers. Fig. 4 is a detail side view of the said plungers and of the transverse supporting-plate in which they are mounted. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan of the receptacle with plungers removed, showing the openings through which the contents of the receptacle are distributed. Fig. 6 is a detail of the said longitudinal partition, showing the vertical longitudinal slot in which the plunger-supporting

plate rests. Fig. 7 is a transverse central section of the said lid, showing the construction by which the two sections thereof are revolubly united. Fig. 8 is a transverse central section of a modified form of said lid, in which the revoluble central section of the lid is omitted. Fig. 9 is a vertical central section of my improvement with the lid omitted, showing the plungers in their normal position and showing in dotted outline the limit of their downward movement. Fig. 10 is an enlarged detail of the lower end of the said plungers in their different positions in use. Fig. 11 is a top view of the lower end of one of the said plungers in cross-section on the line *xx* of Fig. 10.

All parts of my improvement are made of suitable metal, though the cylindrical receptacle itself may be made of glass, if desired. This cylindrical vessel 1 has its bottom 2 provided with a pair of circular openings 3, Fig. 5, and is also provided with a fixed diametric longitudinal partition 4, which divides the interior of the vessel 1 into two equal compartments, one compartment being designed for salt and the other one for pepper. This partition 4 has at its upper end a longitudinal slot 5 midway of its sides, for the purpose hereinafter described, and also has small longitudinal recesses 6 at its upper corners, Fig. 6.

A plate 7, Fig. 4, is provided at each end with a pair of apertured lugs in vertical alignment in which the feeding-plungers 9 are loosely mounted. These vertically-movable plungers are provided at their lower ends with a spiral groove 10, which aids in loosening up and distributing the contents of the said apartments. The lower ends of the said plungers have a terminal circular plate 11, adapted to normally close the said respective openings 3 in the bottom of the receptacle by being seated in said openings flush with the lower face of the said bottom 2, Fig. 9. These plates 11 are rigidly secured in position by means of a pin 25, Fig. 10, or other proper manner. These plungers 9 have each a fixed diametric pin 12, against which the upper ends of the spiral springs 13 bear, respectively, their lower ends bearing against the upper face of the lower lugs 8. This plate 7 is adapt-



ed to be snugly but removably mounted in the slot 5 of said plate 4, transversely thereof, and is rigidly secured in such position by the fixed transverse pins 14, Figs. 3 and 4, which are arranged on both sides of the said partition 4 when the plate 7 is in position. The plungers 9 are thus normally held in the position shown in Fig. 4 by the said coil-springs 13.

I have shown two forms of removable lid in Figs. 7 and 8. In the form shown in Fig. 7 the lid 15 has its pendent annular flange 16 screw-threaded on its outer face and adapted to form a screw-threaded connection with the upper end of the vessel. To the lower face of the lid 15 is riveted an annular plate 18. The said lid has a large circular opening which is closed by a circular plate 17, rotatably mounted therein, as follows: The lower face of the inner edge of the lid has an annular recess adapted to loosely contain a corresponding annular flange 19 on the said plate 17, Fig. 7. This circular plate has circular openings 20 for the respective plungers. Another circular plate 21, Fig. 2, having openings coincident with those of the said plate 17, may be loosely mounted on said plungers and adapted to rest on the said plate 7, though this plate 21 is not material to the successful use of my improvement. The said recesses permit the screw-threaded flange of the lid to fit within the receptacle-top.

In that form of lid shown in Fig. 8 the rotatable plate 17 is omitted and the lid formed of but two parts, a flat circular plate 22, having openings for the plungers and loosely mounted on the top of the said receptacle 1, and an annular internally-screw-threaded portion 23, provided with an inwardly-projecting flange 24 overlapping the edge of the said plate 22. In this form of lid the top of the receptacle 1 should be externally instead of internally screw-threaded.

The operation of my improvement thus described is, briefly stated, as follows: When the compartments of the receptacle 1 have been properly filled, the operator compresses rapidly several times that one of the said plungers 9 which corresponds to the chamber whose contents are desired, thereby distributing the same through the openings made by the spiral grooves 10. The plungers may be properly colored to enable the operator to determine which compartment contains the contents desired. The lower ends of the said plungers normally snugly close the said openings 3 in the bottom of the receptacle, thereby preventing any leakage of the contents, and when the pressure of the finger is removed from the top of the plungers their respective coil-springs 13 will promptly return them to their normal position. The lid in either form shown is easily removed for refilling and tightly closes the receptacle against the intrusion of impurities.

My improvement is thus cheap, simple, efficient, and sanitary in use and can readily

be carried, as in camping out and the like, without leakage of its contents.

Having thus described my invention and the manner of employing the same, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. A combined salt and pepper box having a longitudinal diametric partition slotted as shown, and plunger-openings in the bottom of the box; a plunger-plate transversely mounted in the slotted end of said partition, and provided upon its opposite ends with apertured coincident lugs in which the feeding-plungers are loosely mounted; plungers loosely mounted in said lugs, and having retractile springs and spiral feeding-grooves, and provided with terminal annular plates adapted to normally close said openings; a removable two-part lid, consisting of inner and outer concentric portions, the outer portion being adapted for a screw-threaded connection with the said receptacle, and the inner portion being rotatably mounted in the said outer portion and provided with plunger-openings.

2. A combined salt and pepper box consisting of a cylindrical receptacle closed by a two-part circular lid, consisting of inner and outer concentric portions, the inner portion being rotatably mounted in the said outer portion and provided with plunger-openings, and the outer portion being adapted for a screw-threaded connection with the said receptacle whose bottom is provided with two plunger-openings; a longitudinal partition separating the interior of the receptacle into two compartments, and having a longitudinal slot in its upper end; a plunger-supporting plate removably mounted in the said slot as shown; a pair of spring-retracted vertical plungers loosely mounted in suitable bearings in said plate having spiral feeding-grooves; a terminal circular plate normally closing said plunger-openings; and the said two-part circular lid.

3. A vessel of the class described having plunger-openings in its bottom and a central longitudinal partition vertically slotted at its upper end; a supporting plate or bracket removably mounted in said slot in transverse relation to said partition; a pair of spring-retracted plungers loosely mounted in said bracket and having spiral feeding-grooves and terminal circular plates adapted to normally close the said plunger-openings by being seated within the same; and a two-part lid consisting of inner and outer concentric portions in rotatable relation, its inner portion having openings for the protruding ends of the plungers and its outer portion being adapted for a screw-threaded connection with said vessel.

4. The combination of a vessel of the class described having its bottom provided with outlet-openings and a lid having a circular central portion in rotatable relation with an inclosing annular portion and provided with



vertical openings for the purpose specified;  
and a pair of spring-retracted plungers pro-  
truding through said openings, having spiral  
feeding-grooves, and provided at their lower  
5 ends with terminal circular plates normally  
resting in the outlet-openings and closing the  
same.

Signed by me at Fort Wayne, in the county  
of Allen and State of Indiana, this 31st day  
of May, A. D. 1900.

MARTIN V. B. GRUSH.

Witnesses:

ADELAIDE KEARNS,  
ALICE KEARNS.