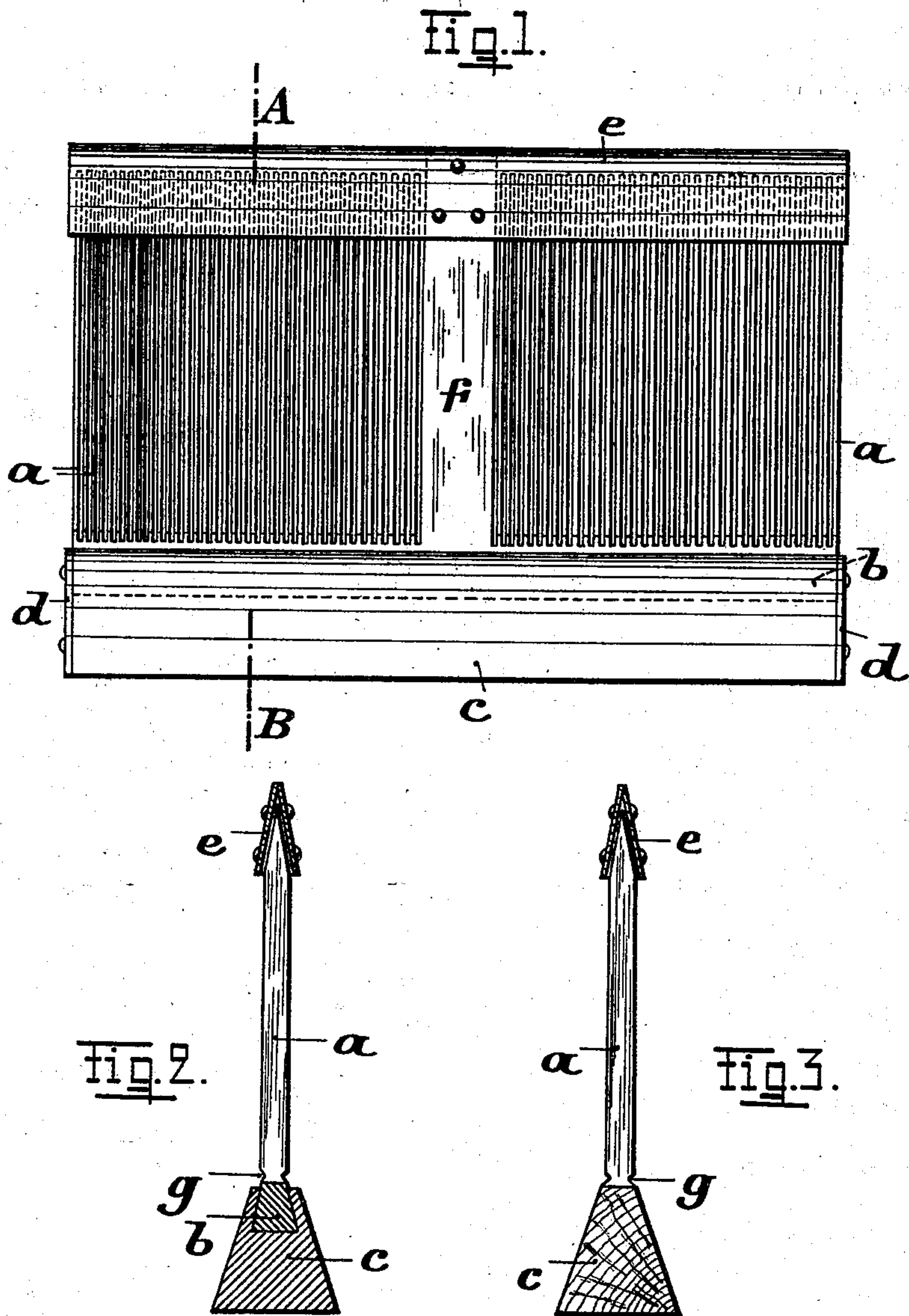


No. 695,491.

Patented Mar. 18, 1902.

W. REINHARD.
TOOTHPICK PACKAGE.
(Application filed June 14, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES

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TOOTHPICK-PACKAGE

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 695,491, dated March 18, 1902.

Application filed June 14, 1901. Serial No. 64,578. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILHELM REINHARD, merchant, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and a resident of 11 Friedenstrasse, Berlin, Germany, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement Relating to the Manufacture of Toothpicks; 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 the manufacture of toothpicks, and has for its object to so arrange them as to be readily broken off for use and fully protected for carrying in form of a comb-like piece in which a number of toothpicks are fast by one end on a bar from which they may be broken off as required for use, while their free pointed end is protected by a guard extending over the entire row of toothpicks, so as to prevent the said pointed free ends thereof catching in the fabric of a garment or the like, and thus become unintentionally broken off.

In order that my invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into effect, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 is a section taken on the line A B of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows a similar section of a slightly-modified form.

The toothpicks *a* are formed with a groove or grooves *g* for facilitating their removal and are connected by one end to a bar, and thus form a comb-like arrangement of a row of toothpicks secured together, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. A convenient manner of manufacture is to form cross-cuts in thin pallets, so as to produce a number of prongs attached to the bar *b*. It is advantageous to have the *b* of dovetail section to fit into a corresponding groove of a base-piece *c* having plates *d* screwed to both ends so as to secure the bar *b* in position.

In order to prevent the toothpicks being pulled by their points for the purpose of breaking the same off the bar *b*, I prefer to protect the points by means of a cardboard cover *e*, fastened to a solid portion *f*, left centrally upon the bar *b*, while cutting the prongs *a*.

According to the modification shown in Fig. 3 the toothpicks are directly formed in one piece with the base-piece *c*. In this case the entire device after all the toothpicks have been taken off has to be renewed, while with the previously-described arrangement, Figs. 1 and 2, the base-piece or stand *c*, which may be made of metal, wood, or other appropriate material, may be permanently utilized—that is, when all of the splints of one series or group have been detached the remaining bar *b* can be removed from the base and another series of connected splints readily inserted in the groove in the stand. It will be seen that the splints are all supported in vertical position with their reduced free ends uppermost and that a portion of each splint is exposed between the base or stand *c* and the shield or cover *e*. By this arrangement the end members of the series of splints can be easily grasped and detached. The cover or shield is so arranged that it obstructs or interferes with the detaching or removal of any but the end splints of the series.

By means of my improved arrangement the unused toothpicks are protected from breakage and cannot be pulled by their points, while, moreover, it prevents previously-used toothpicks being inadvertently mixed with fresh ones.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is—

1. The combination of a series of splints connected at one end, and an enlarged base or stand engaging said connected ends and supporting the splints in position.

2. The combination of a series of splints connected at one end, an enlarged base engaged with the connected ends and supporting said splints, and a cover arranged over the free ends of the splints.

3. The combination of a series of splints connected at one end, and a fixed cover arranged over the free ends of the splints and obstructing the detachment of any but the end splints of the series.

4. The combination of a base or stand, a series of splints connected together and to said base at one end, and a cover or shield protecting the free ends of the splints, said splints

being of such length that the opposite sides of an intermediate section of each are exposed between the base and the shield or cover.

5 5. The combination of a series of splints connected at one end, an intermediate one of said series being of greater width than the others, and a shield secured to said intermediate, wider, splint and protecting the free ends of the others of the series.

10 6. The combination of a series of splints connected at one end, a base having a groove in its upper surface to receive said connected ends, and a cover arranged over the free, upper, ends of the splints.

7. The combination of a series of splints 15 connected at one end, a base having a groove in its upper surface to receive the connected ends of said splints, a cover arranged over the free ends of the splints, and means for locking the connected ends of the splints against 20 movement longitudinally of the groove in which they are fitted.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two witnesses.

WILHELM REINHARD.

Witnesses:

WOLDEMAR HAUPT,
HENRY HASPER.