

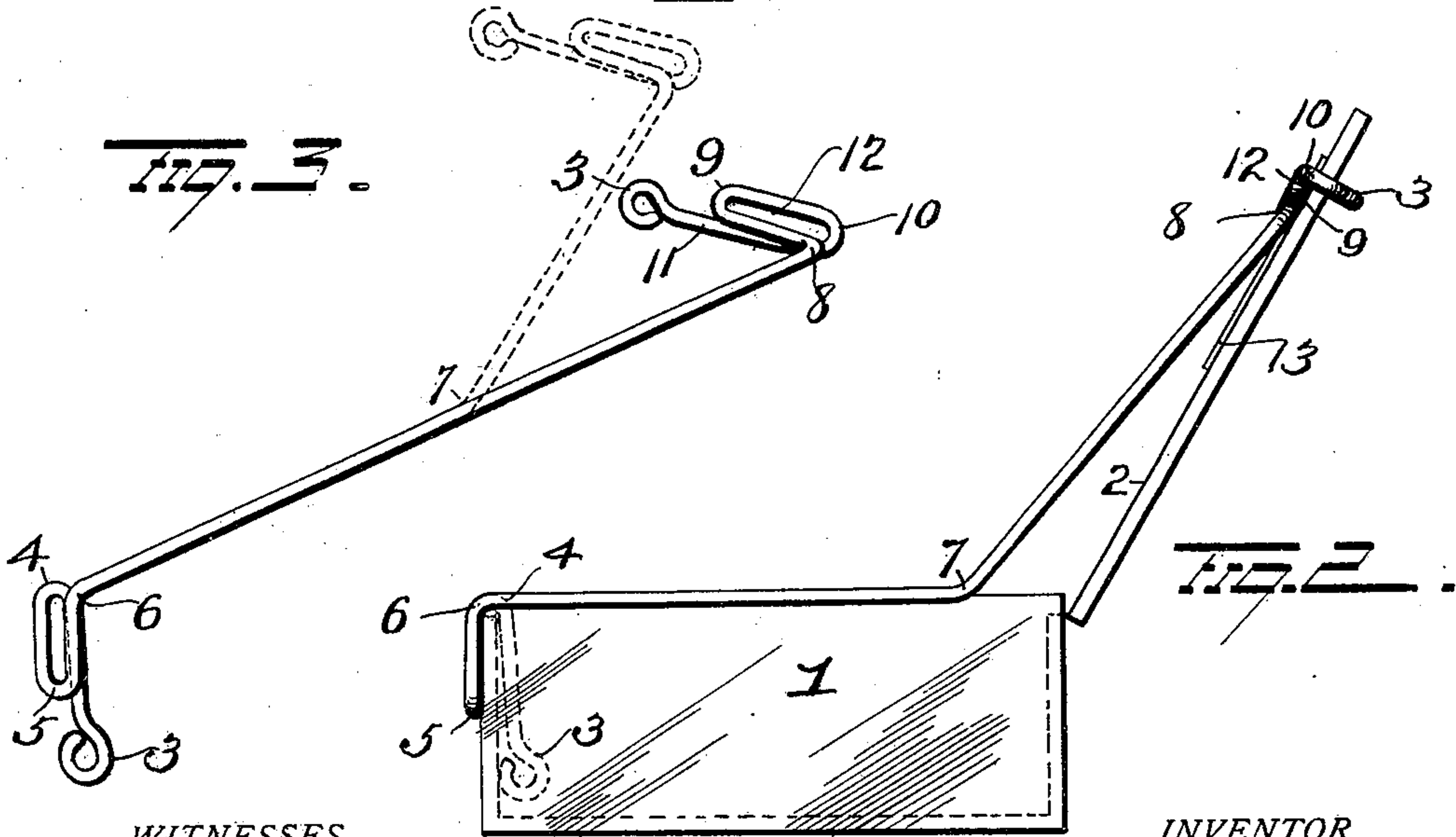
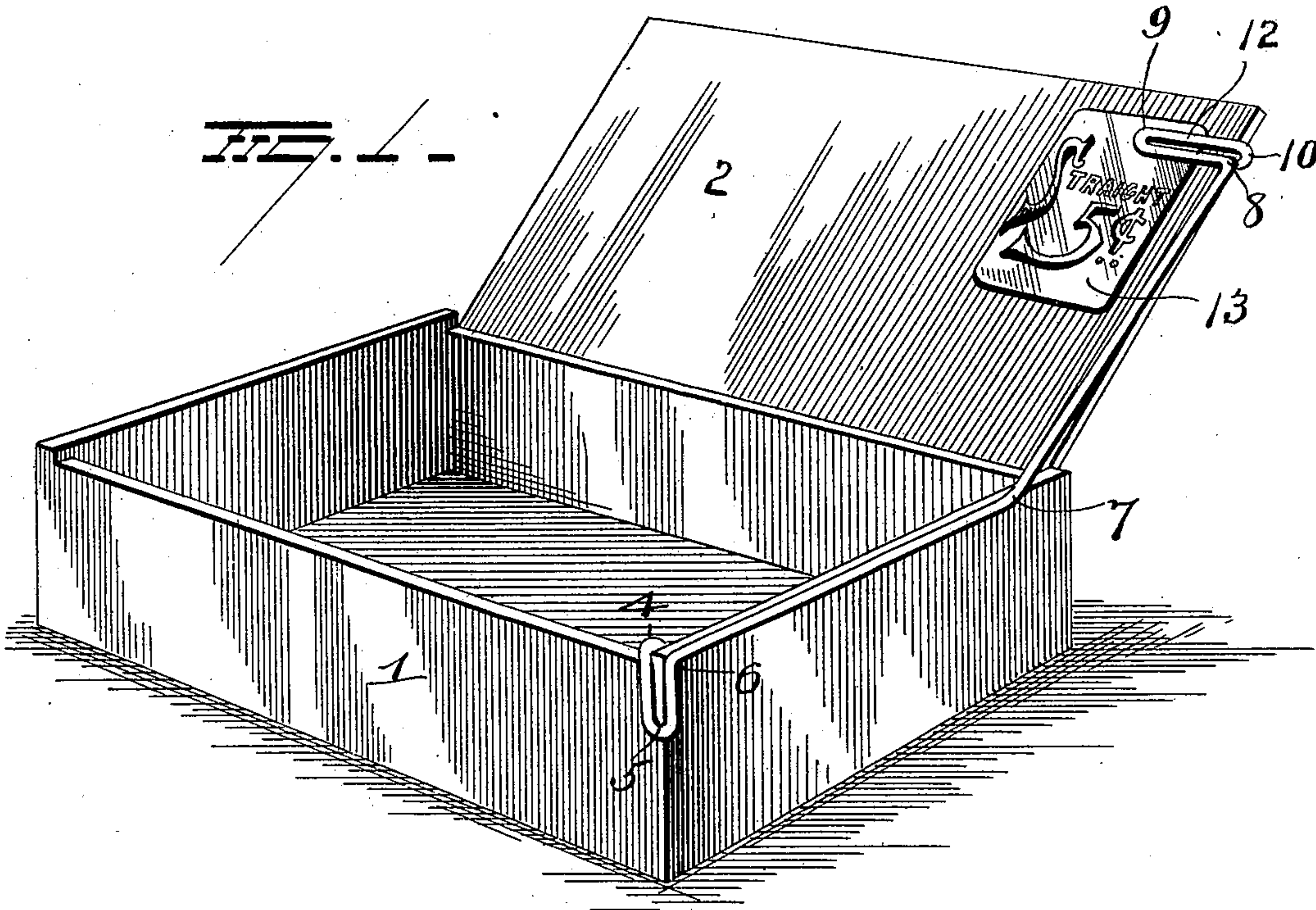
No. 712,702.

Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

L. MERTZ.  
BOX LID HOLDER.

(Application filed Feb. 5, 1902.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES  
E. H. Nottingham  
G. F. Downing.

INVENTOR  
L. Mertz  
By H. A. Seymour  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEWIS MERTZ, OF GENESEO, ILLINOIS.

## BOX-LID HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,702, dated November 4, 1902.

Application filed February 5, 1902. Serial No. 92,730. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEWIS MERTZ, a resident of Geneseo, in the county of Henry and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and  
5 useful Improvements in Box-Lid Holders; 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.

10 My invention relates to an improved box-lid holder, and more particularly to a box-lid and price-tag holder adapted to hold the lid in an open position at any desired angle and hold the price-tag in a prominent position, the  
15 object of the invention being to provide a simple and cheap, as well as most efficient, device of this character which can be readily placed on a box and removed therefrom and which will effectually hold the lid in position  
20 to display its advertisement and the contents of the box and which will be strong enough to permit the box to be conveniently handled by the lid without altering the angle of the lid with relation to the box.

25 With this object in view the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

30 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in elevation illustrating my improvements. Fig. 2 is a view taken at right angles to Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a view of the holder detached.

35 1 represents a cigar-box of ordinary construction, having the usual hinged lid 2, which bears the advertising matter for the cigar, and it is the object of my invention to provide improved means for holding this lid in position  
40 to display the advertisement thereon, as well as the cigars in the box, and hold a price-tag in prominent position to be viewed by the purchaser.

My improved holder comprises a wire (preferably, although not essentially, spring wire)  
45 bent into the shape shown, as will now be described. Both ends of the wire are bent into eyes or loops 3 for ornamentation and to prevent scratching the box-lid and injury to the  
50 contents of the box when placing the holder thereon or removing it. One end of the wire is bent, as shown at 4, to overlap the front

board of the box and then extends down the front of the box at one corner thereof and is again bent, as shown at 5, and extends up to  
55 the upper edge of the box, and is bent at right angles, as shown at 6, and projects along the end of the box to near the lid. The wire is here again bent at 7 and projects up to near the outer edge of the lid, where it is bent at  
60 right angles, as shown at 8, extends inward over the front of the lid, is bent upon itself, as at 9, and continues back again to the edge of the lid, where it is once more bent, as at  
65 10, and forms a spring-tongue 11 behind the lid, which together with the tongue 12, formed by the bends 8, 9, and 10, securely clamps the holder to the lid. This latter tongue 12 is also adapted to firmly clamp a tag 13, inserted  
70 between the tongue and lid, and hold the tag in convenient position to be viewed by the purchaser.

It will be seen that by simply changing the angle of bend 7 the angle of inclination of the lid can be varied at will to suit the trade and  
75 that the holder can be readily removed from one box when said box is empty and as readily inserted on another, as the life of the holder is unlimited.

By the construction and arrangement of the  
80 holder, as above described, and by attaching one end of the holder over the front of the box, or, more strictly speaking, over the front end of one end of the box, the box can be readily handled by means of the lid, as is  
85 often desirable in removing a cigar-box from a case.

My improved holder is of course adapted for use on other than cigar-boxes, and the several bends in the wires may be altered  
90 slightly as to size and shape to receive boxes of various sizes and shapes, and a great many other slight changes might be made in the general form and arrangement of the several parts described without departing from the  
95 spirit and scope of my invention, and hence I would have it understood that I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such slight changes and alterations as fairly fall  
100 within the spirit and scope of my invention.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A box-lid holder consisting of a wire bent at one end to clamp the lid of a box, bent at its other end to clamp a forward corner of the box, and adapted to be bent between its ends  
5 to hold the lid at any angle.

2. A box-lid and tag holder, consisting of a wire bent at one end to form clamping-tongues on opposite sides of the box-lid to secure the holder to the latter and clamp a tag to the  
10 lid, the other end of said wire bent to clamp a forward corner of the box and bent between its ends to hold the lid at the desired angle.

3. A box-lid and tag holder consisting of a wire bent at three points at one end as shown,  
15 to clamp the lid and secure a tag thereto, and bent at three points at its other end, as shown, to clamp a forward corner of the box and also

bent between its ends at any angle desired, to hold the lid in proper position.

4. A box-lid and tag holder, consisting of a 20 wire bent at three points at one end as shown, to clamp the lid of a box and secure a tag thereto, and bent at three points at its other end, as shown, to clamp a forward corner of the box, and also bent at each end into eyes 25 or loops.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LEWIS MERTZ.

Witnesses:

ERNST B. ACKERMANN,  
CHARLIE E. ROBERTS.