

No. 759,032.

PATENTED MAY 3, 1904.

A. C. SMITH.
CARTON.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 14, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

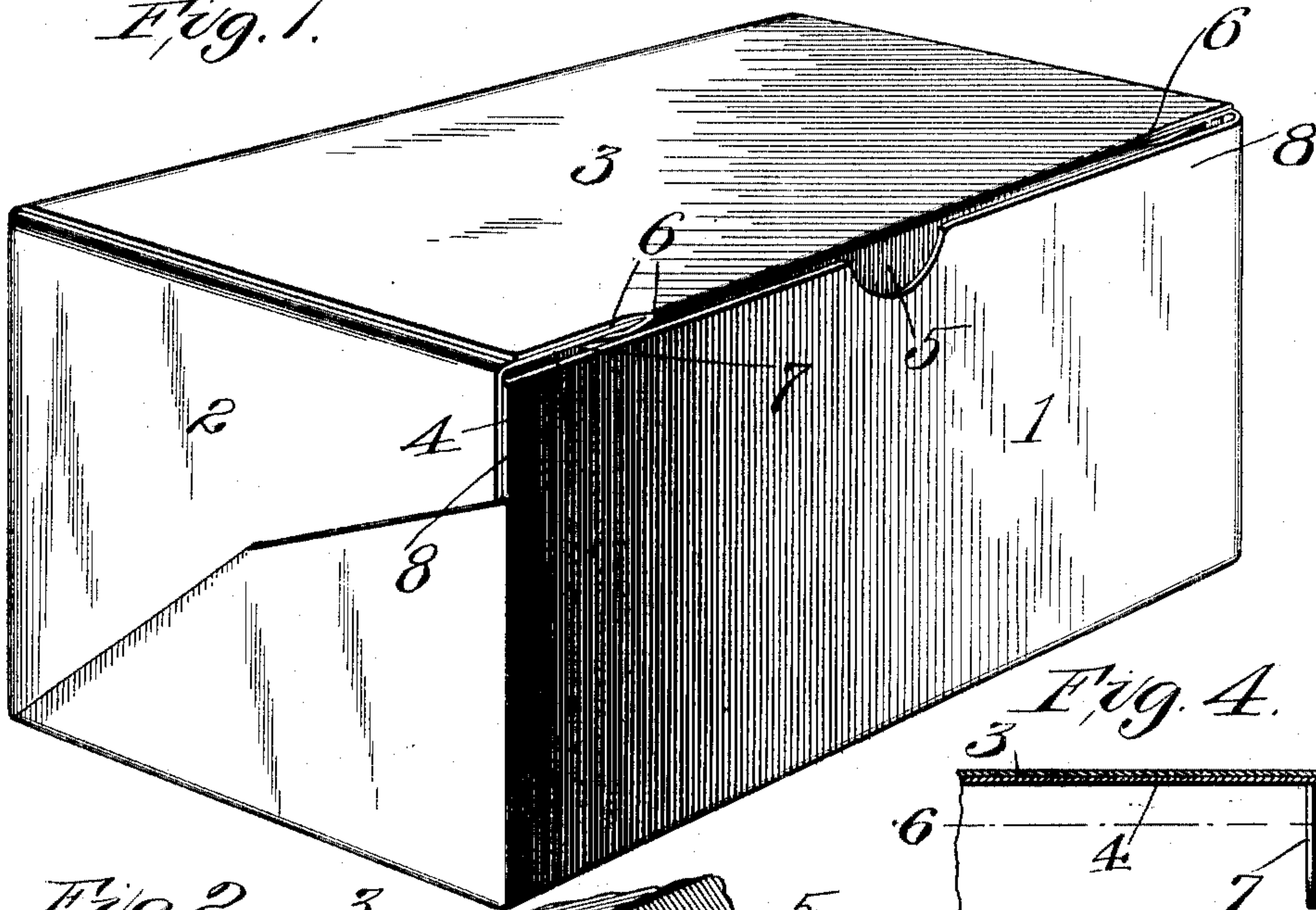


Fig. 2.

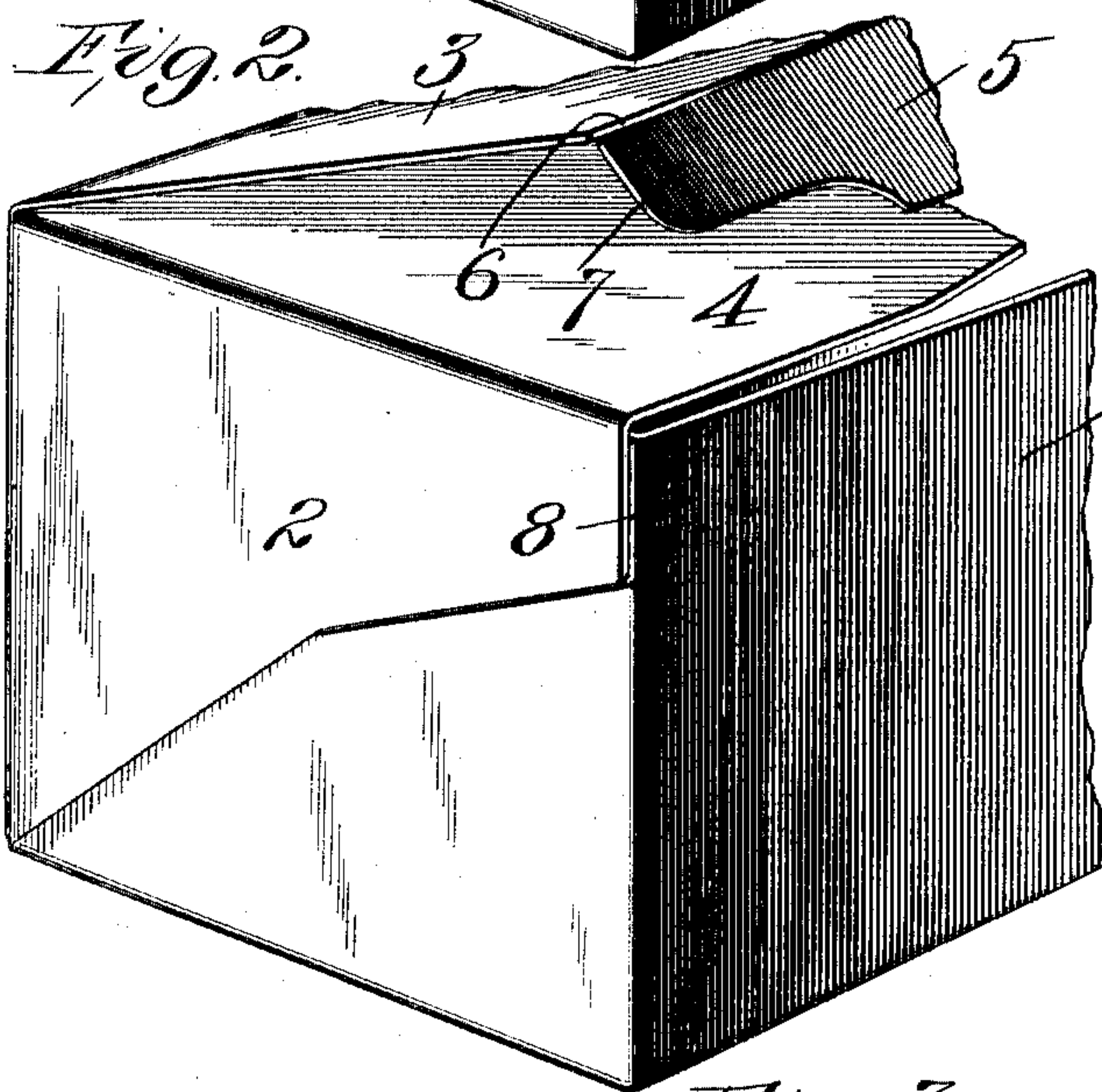


Fig. 3.

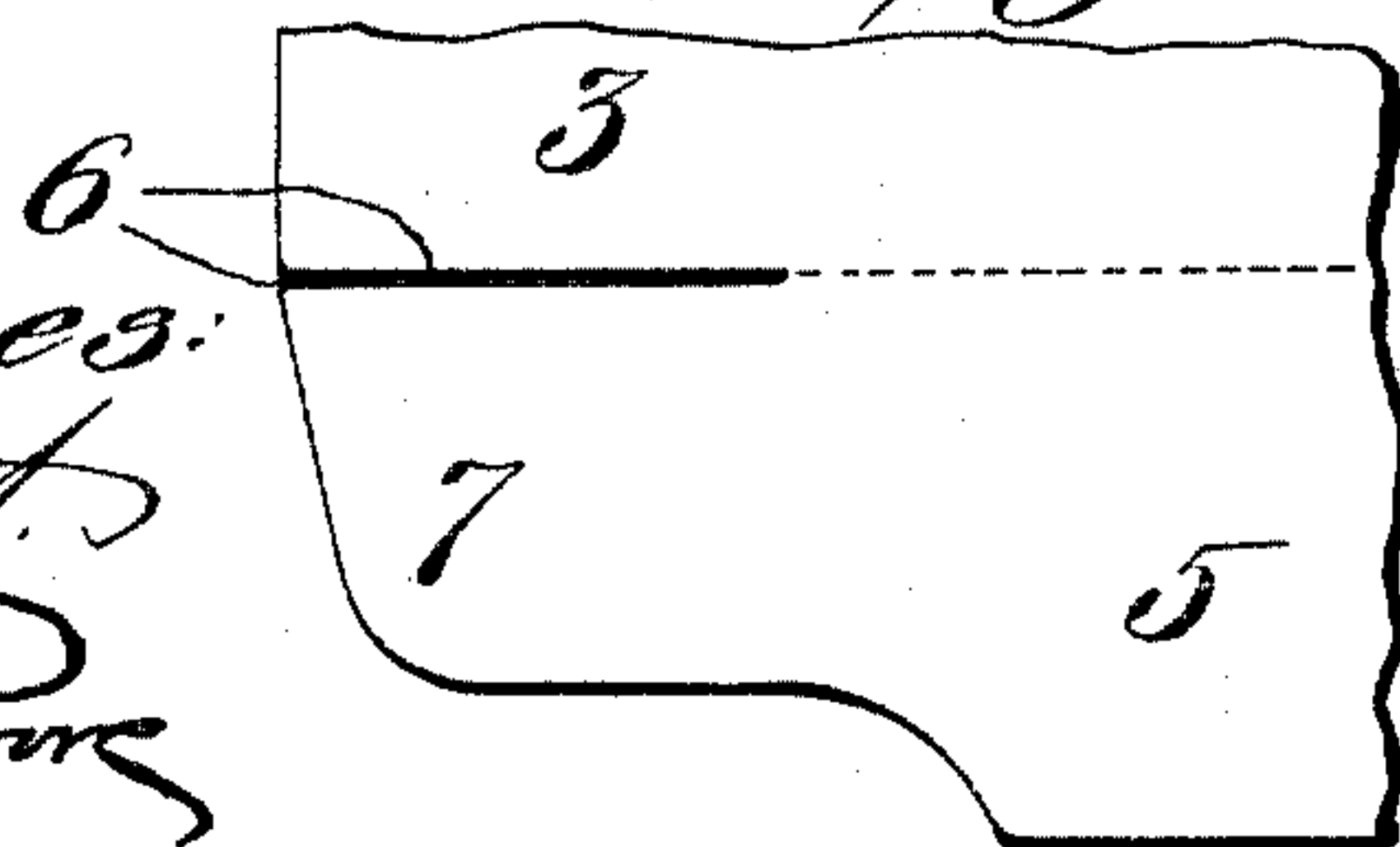


Fig. 4.

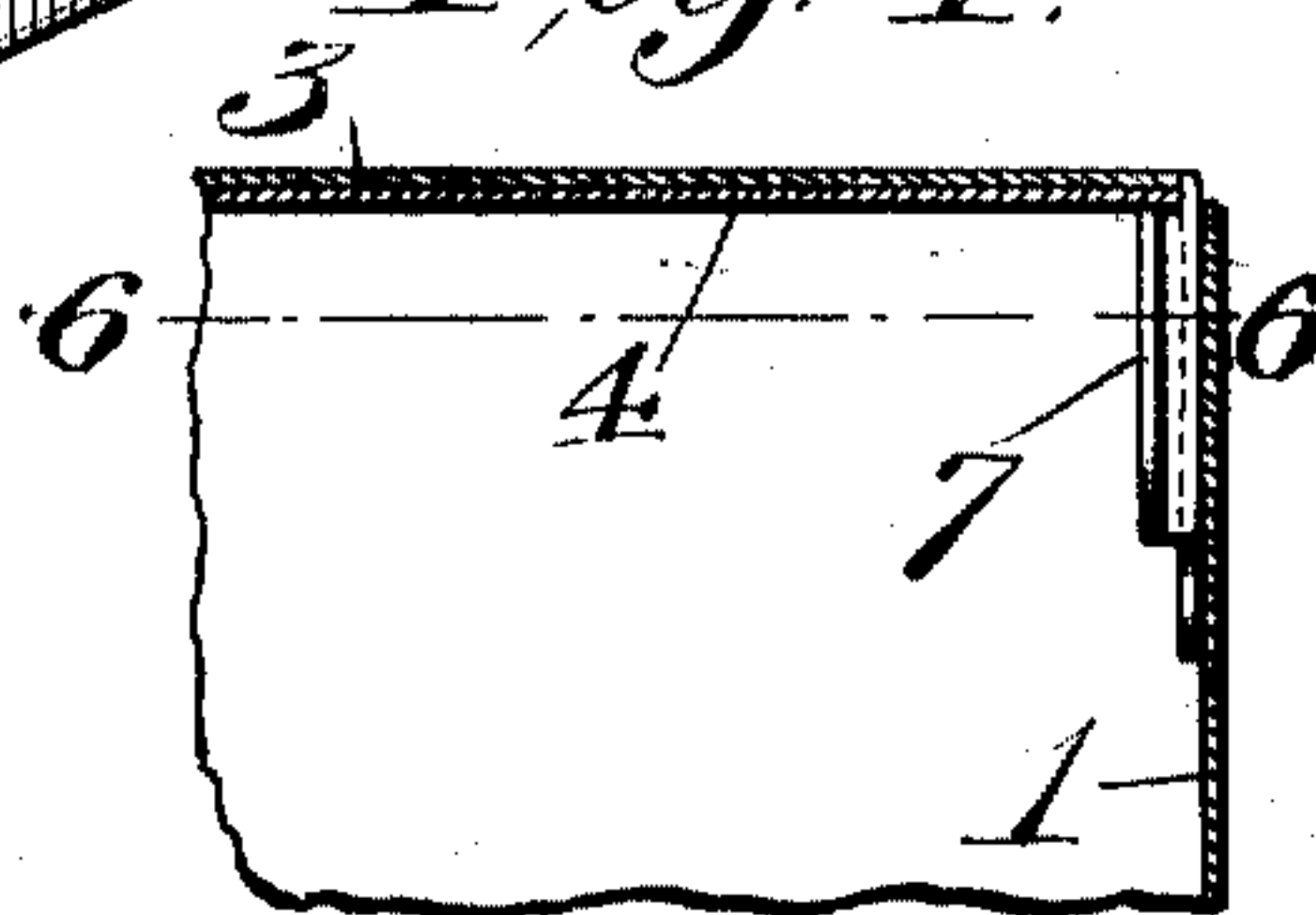


Fig. 5.

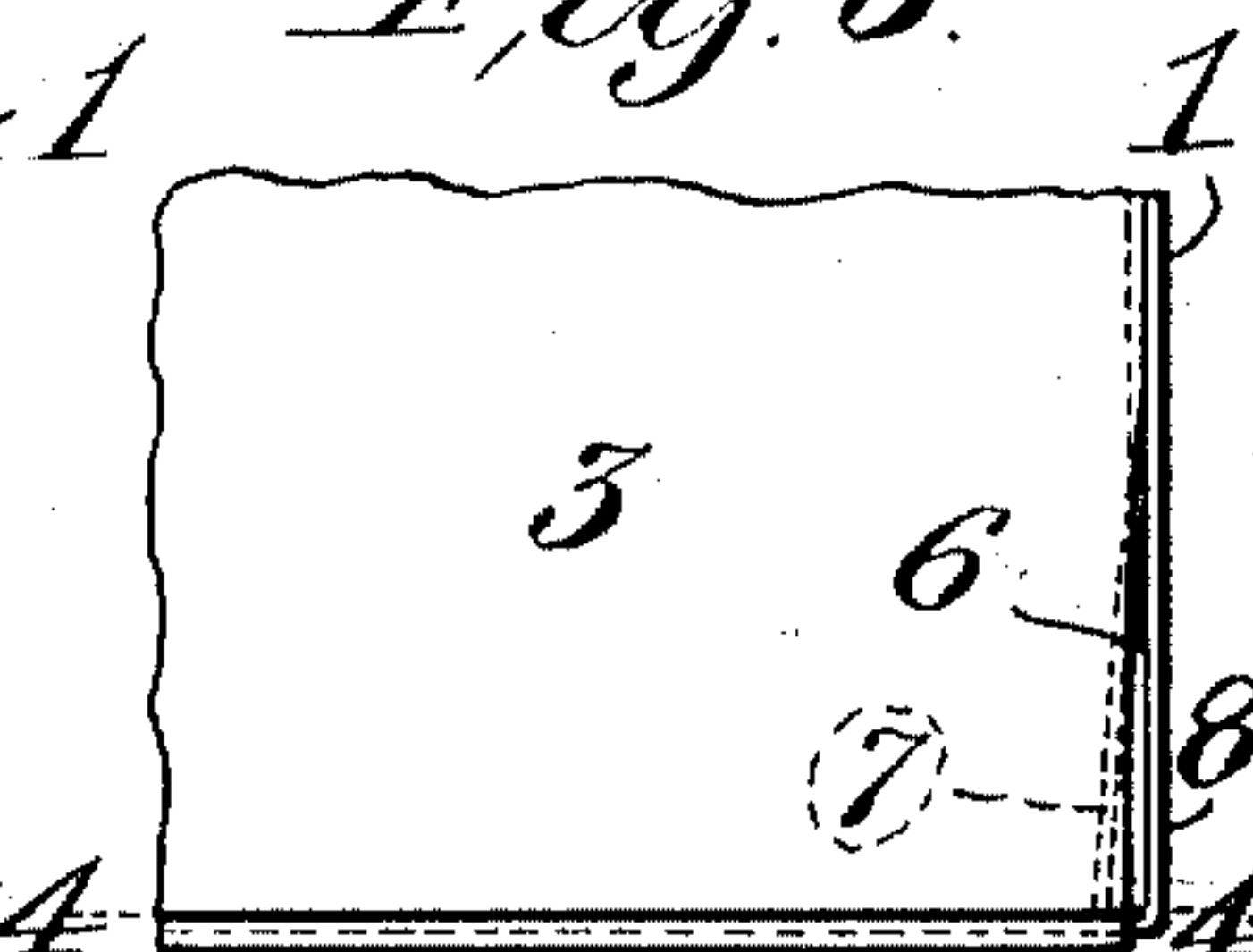
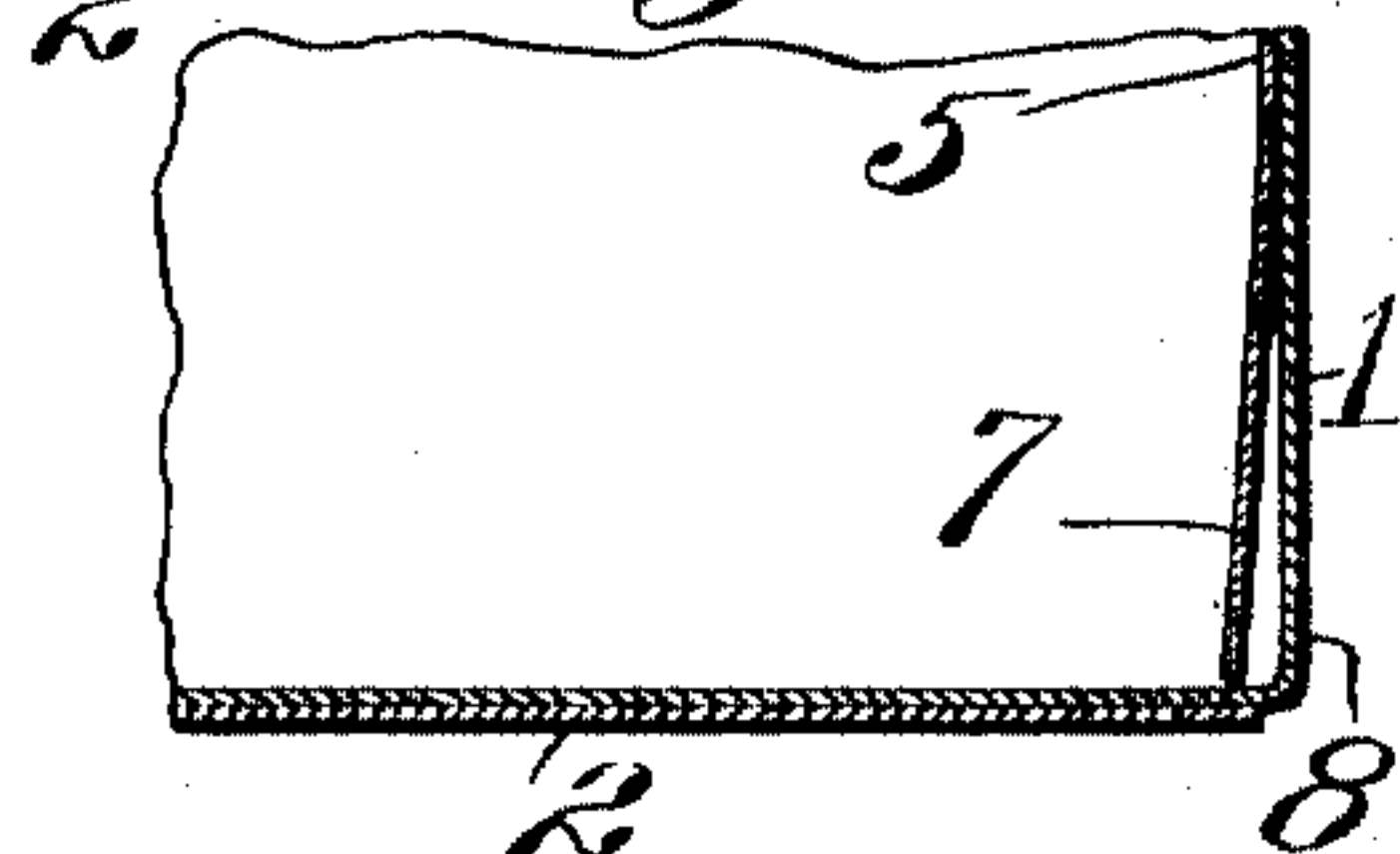


Fig. 6.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT C. SMITH, OF ROSEDALE, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO LOOSE-WILES CRACKER & CANDY COMPANY, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, A CORPORATION OF MISSOURI.

CARTON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 759,032, dated May 3, 1904.

Application filed December 14, 1903. Serial No. 185,162. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT C. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rosedale, Wyandotte county, Kansas, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Cartons, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the carton closed. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of one end of the carton, showing the top section unlocked and partly raised. Fig. 3 is a plan view of that portion of the blank which produces one end of the top section and the adjacent end of the tuck-flap. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary elevation chiefly in section on about the line 4 4 of Fig. 5. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary top plan view of one corner of the carton, and Fig. 6 is a sectional plan view of the same corner of the carton on about the line 6 6 of Fig. 4.

This invention relates to improvements in cartons—such, for example, as are commonly employed for packaging crackers and the like.

My object is to provide a simple and convenient means for temporarily locking the top section in closed position.

To this end the invention consists in the various matters hereinafter described and claimed.

Cartons of the general character of the present are old and well known, and therefore the construction of the major portion of the carton need not be particularly described in this specification, a carton of the general character of the present being disclosed, for example, by the patent to F. M. Peters, No. 621,974, granted March 28, 1899.

Such a carton as that to which the present invention relates comprises, of course, a body portion and a top section, which is adapted to close the carton in a manner which is well understood. The accompanying drawings

illustrate the front section 1 and one of the ends 2 of the body portion and also show the top section 3 hinged at its back to the body portion, all as is well known and well understood. As is common in cartons of the general character of the present a top flap 4 extends inwardly from each end 2, and at the forward or free edge of the top section is a tuck-flap 5, which when the carton is closed lies between the front section 1 and the top flaps 4.

Cartons constructed as thus far described have been upon the market for several years; but they are objectionable in that unless some separate and additional fastening member is employed (such as a string tied about the carton or a band or covering pasted about the same) the top section will not remain in closed position, such top section frequently flying open during handling of the carton. This accidental opening of the carton is highly objectionable during handling of the same at the factory, as it makes it necessary for the various operators to successively close the carton and also makes it liable for the contents of the carton to accidentally fall therefrom before the carton is finally closed by the outer wrapper commonly employed and for the inner wrapper (usually a piece of paraffin-paper having ends folded upon the top of the crackers or other contents) to become disarranged. Furthermore, with the cartons heretofore in use it has been almost impossible to cause the top section to remain in closed position after the usual outer wrapper has been removed by the purchaser, thus causing the contents of the carton to be at least partially exposed after the customary outer wrapper has been broken. The present carton overcomes these difficulties and provides in a simple and efficient manner for temporarily holding the top flap in closed position. In the present carton a slit or kerf 6 is produced at each end of the top section in the line of the bend between the top section 3 and the tuck-flap 5, each slit or kerf 6 opening upon the end of the top section and extending inwardly a short distance.

This simple change in the structure of the carton causes each end of the tuck-flap to become a locking-tongue 7.

The carton is made up in the usual manner, 5 is filled, and is closed in the manner heretofore practiced. After the carton has been closed with the tuck-flap lying in its usual position in rear of the front section 1 it is only necessary for the operator to press inwardly 10 with his thumbs against the upper corners 8 of the front section. As the locking-tongues 7 of the tuck-flap lie against these corners of the front section, said tongues are forced inwardly and caused to engage under the top 15 flaps 4, as clearly shown in Fig. 4. As the portions of the front section 1 which have been engaged by the operator in the manner indicated are intermediate portions of a sheet of material, such engaged portions of the front 20 section readily return to normal position as soon as pressure is relieved; but as the locking-tongues 7 are only free ends of the tuck-flap they remain in their bent positions, engaging under the top flaps 4, as shown in Fig. 25 4. Furthermore, as the kerfs 6 are preferably mere cuts and have practically no width the top flaps 4 become wedged between the top section 3 and the locking-tongues 7. As will be readily apparent, these locking-tongues 30 of the tuck-flap engaging under the top flaps, as just indicated, the top section is locked against accidental opening, although the top section can be opened when desired by merely pulling the top section toward open position 35 with sufficient force.

It will be readily apparent that the top flaps 4, connected to the body portion of the carton, form shoulders under which the locking-tongues 7 engage, the top section being locked 40 in its closed position by reason of a simple interengagement between parts (the top flaps) carried by the body portion and parts (the locking-tongues 7) carried by the top section 3.

I am aware that minor changes in the construction, arrangement, and combination of 45 the several parts of my device can be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without in the least departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described the invention, what 50 is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. A carton comprising in its construction bottom, top, side and end sections, the end 55 sections having top flaps and the top section having a tuck-flap fitting between the front section and the top flaps and slotted to form in part a locking-tongue positioned to be forced below the top flaps; substantially as described. 60

2. In a carton, the combination with a body portion including a front section, end sections, and a top flap, of a top section, and a tuck-flap upon said top section, said tuck-flap including a flexible locking-tongue separated 65 by a slot from said top section and fitting without folding in the space between said front section and said top flap and in proximity to the front of the carton, whereby said locking-tongue can be forced by the operator into 70 locking position below said top flap; substantially as described.

3. In a carton, the combination with a body portion having a front section, end sections, and a top flap, of a top section, and a tuck-flap upon said top section and adapted to be 75 inserted in the space between said front section and said top flap, said tuck-flap including a flexible locking-tongue separated by a slot from said top section and, when said top is in 80 closed position, lying in proximity to said front section, said tuck-flap including said locking-tongue being when extended of less length than the distance between said end sections, whereby said tuck-flap including said 85 locking-tongue can without folding be inserted in the space between said end sections, and said locking-tongue can by pressure applied to said front section be forced into locking position with relation to said top flap; substan- 90 tially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses, this 10th day of December, 1903.

ALBERT C. SMITH.

Witnesses:

F. D. MISKELLY,
JOHN KAVANAUGH.