

F. B. METZGER.

HOLDER FOR MATCHES, TOOTHPICKS, OR LIKE ARTICLES.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 30, 1904.

Fig. 1.

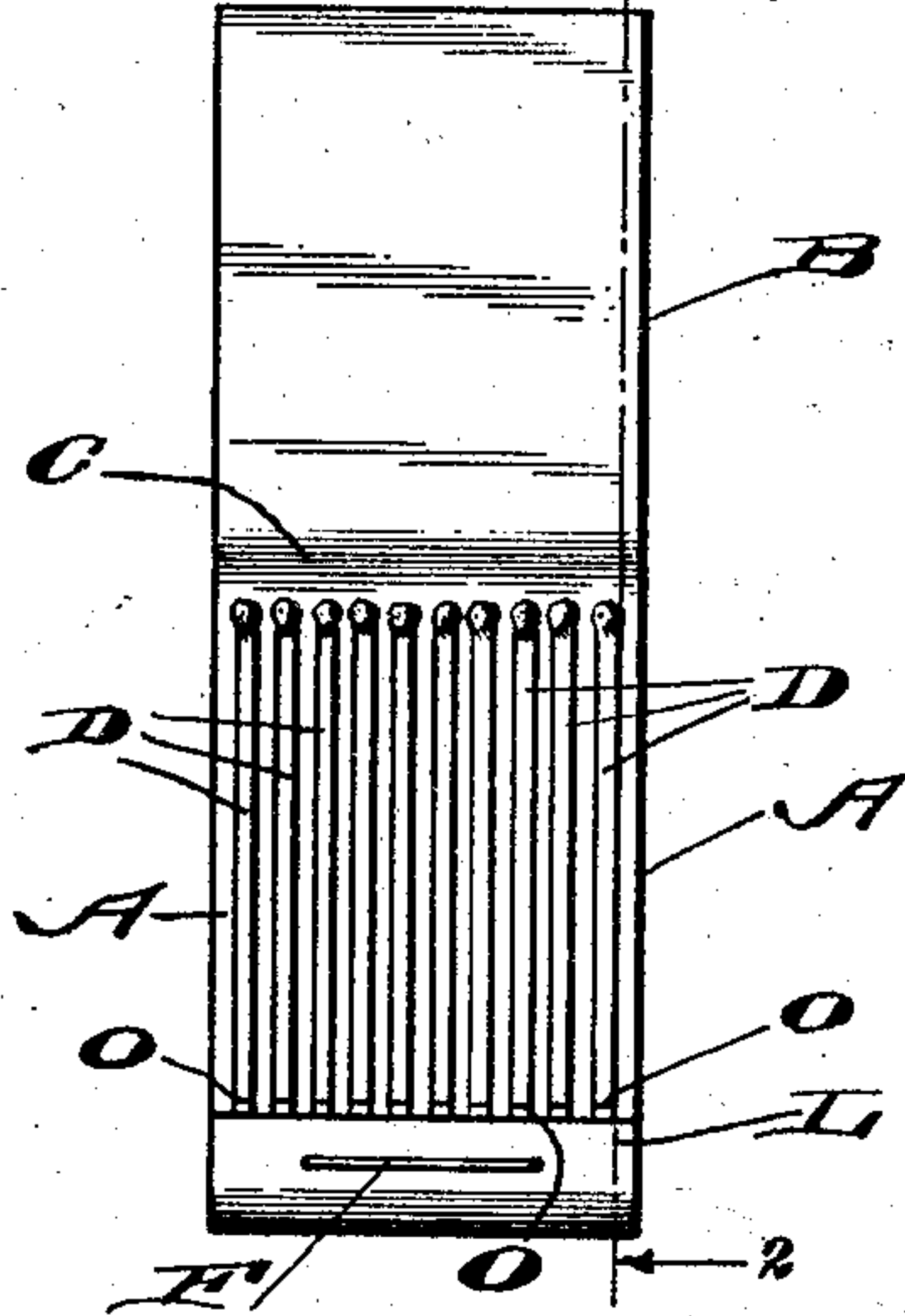


Fig. 2.

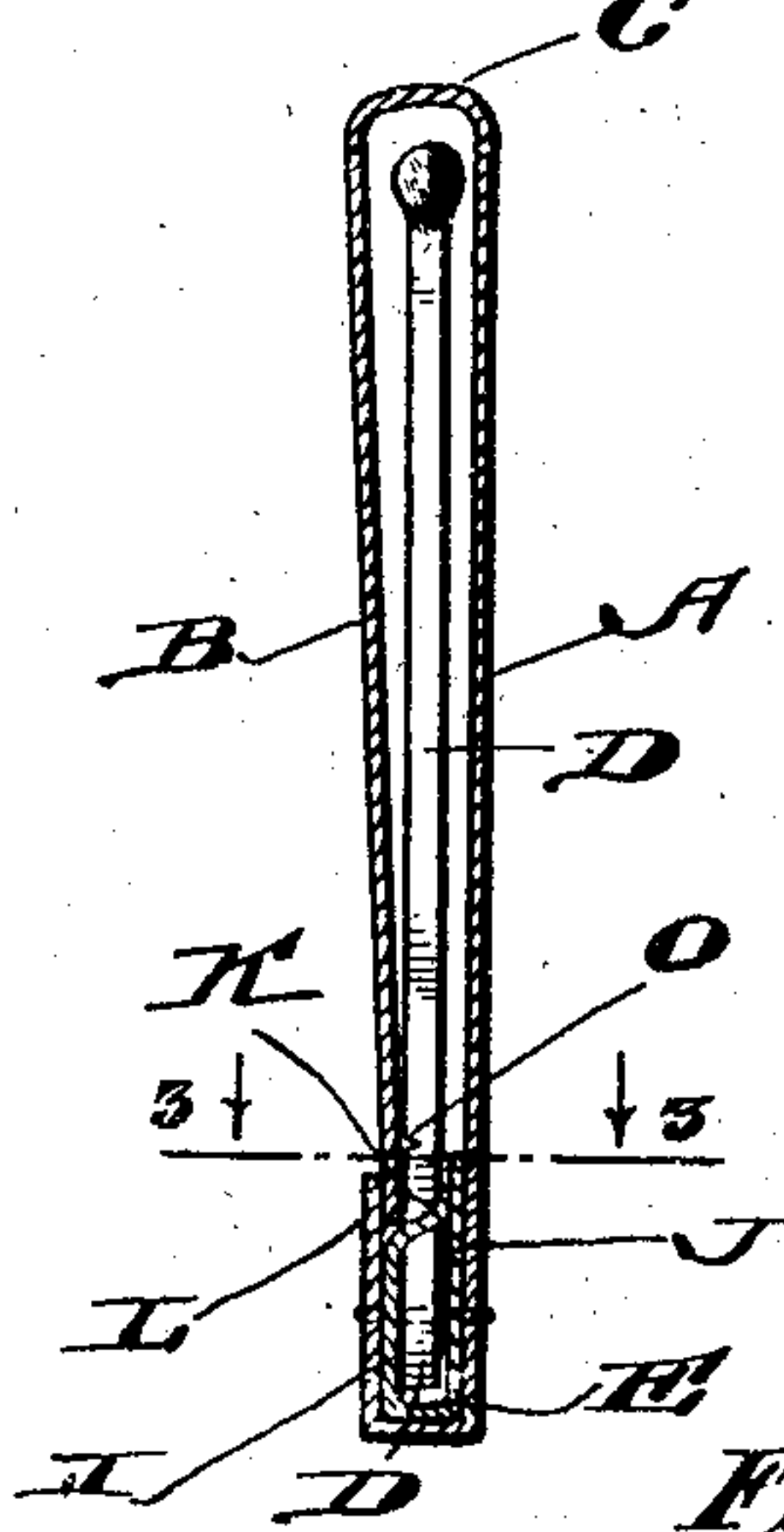


Fig. 3.

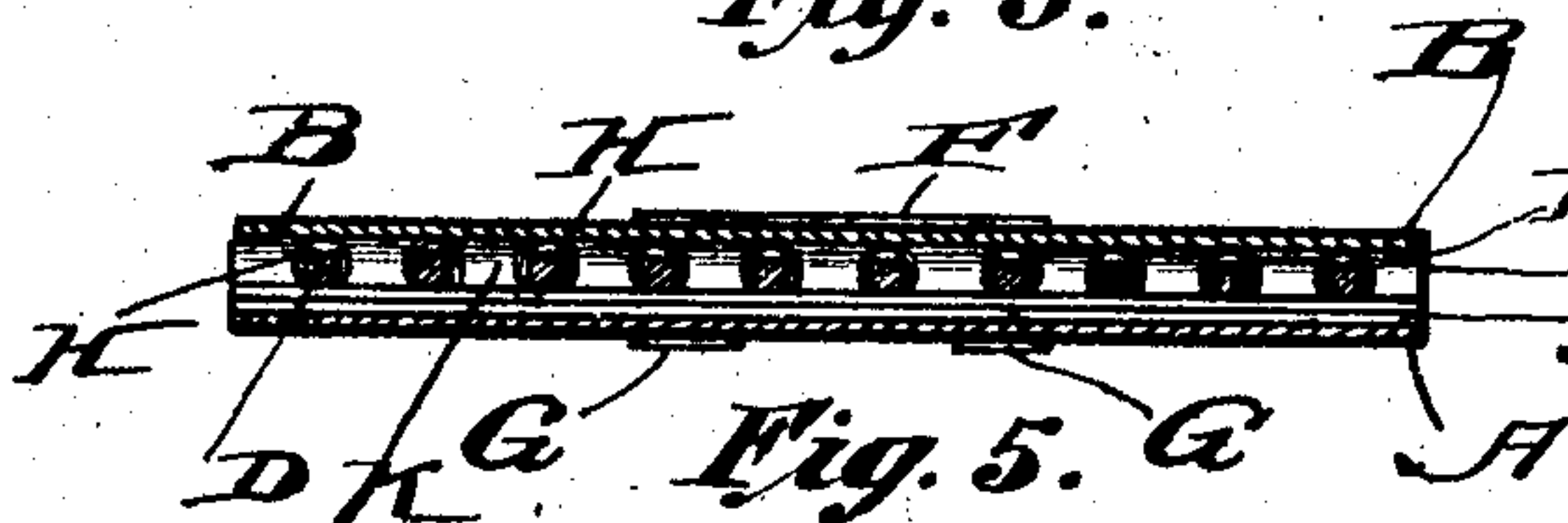


Fig. 5.

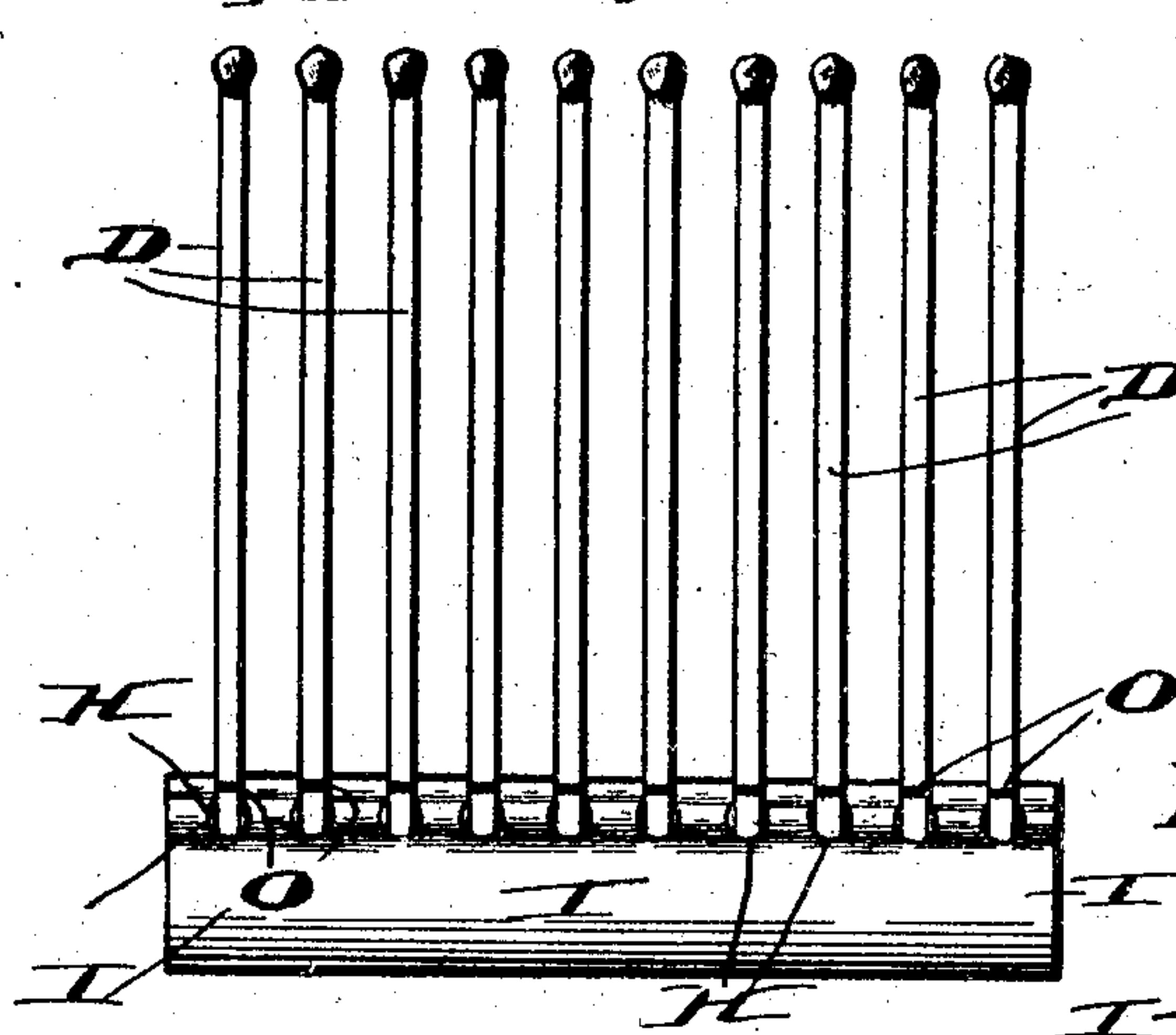


Fig. 6.

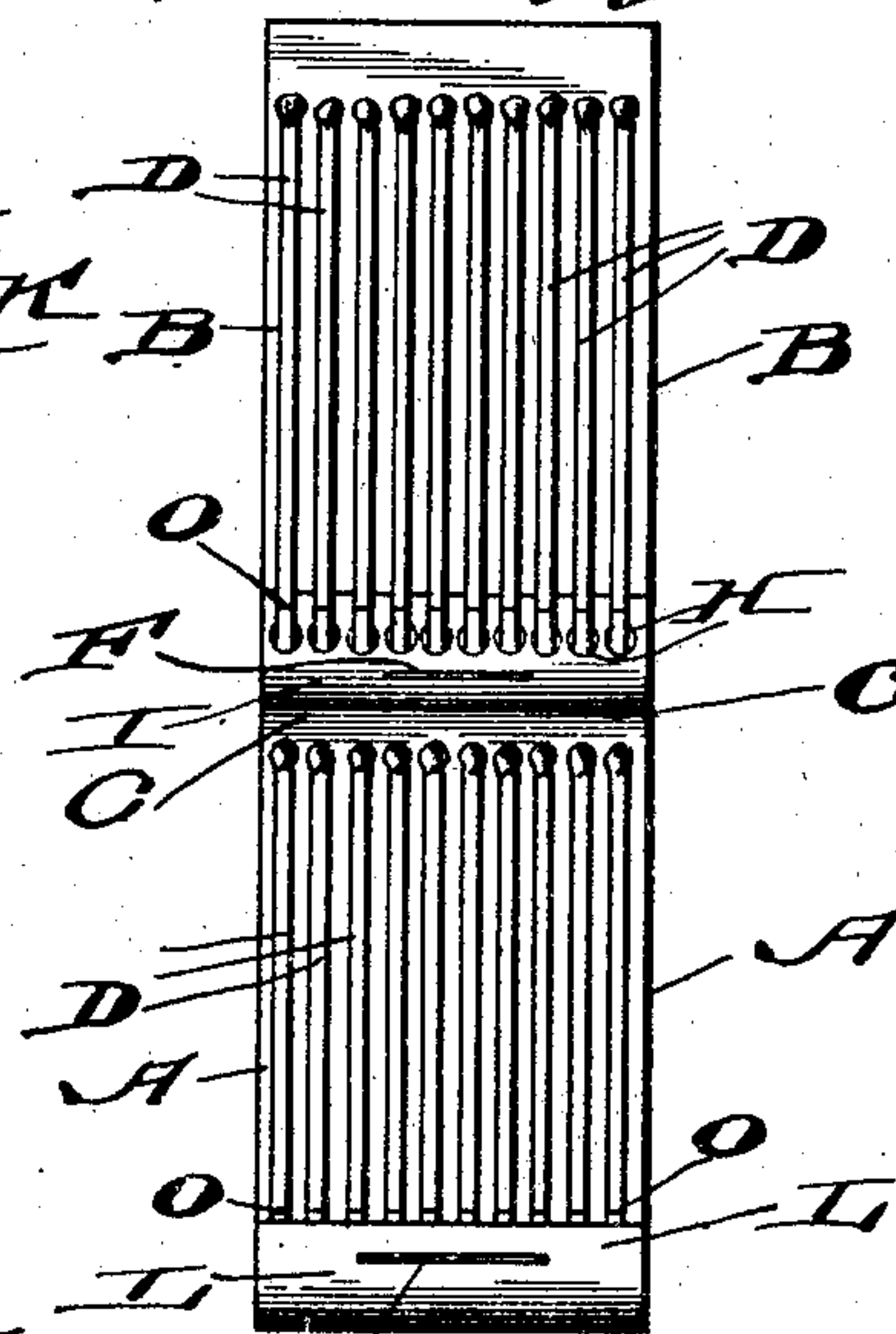


Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



WITNESSES:

*Anna Mitchell*  
*W. T. L. L.*

INVENTOR.

FRANK B. METZGER

BY *Dickerson Brown,*  
*Caegener & Binney*  
his ATTORNEYS.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK B. METZGER, OF BAYONNE, NEW JERSEY.

## HOLDER FOR MATCHES, TOOTHPICKS, OR LIKE ARTICLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 791,638, dated June 6, 1905.

Application filed September 30, 1904. Serial No. 226,638.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK B. METZGER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Bayonne, county of Hudson, State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holders for Matches, Toothpicks, or Like Articles, of which the following is a specification accompanied by drawings.

This invention relates to cases or holders for matches, toothpicks, and the like; and the objects of the invention are to enable the splints forming the matches, toothpicks, or other like articles to be securely and neatly held in cases or packages which are ready and convenient in form for use and at the same time protect the contents from injury.

Another object of the invention is to secure a simple, cheap, and ready means for holding splints, more particularly the splints of matches or toothpicks, in a paper holder, so that each match or toothpick is firmly held in the holder, but may be broken off when it is desired to use one.

Further objects of the invention will hereinafter appear; and to these ends the invention consists of a case or holder for the articles specified embodying the features of construction, combinations of elements, and arrangement of parts having the general mode of operation substantially as hereinafter fully described and claimed in this specification, and shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an open-face view of a case or holder with the matches in position on one side of the same. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the case or holder shown in Fig. 1 on the line 2 2 with the cover or flap folded downward over the contents of the case. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of Fig. 2 on the line 3 3. Fig. 4 is an open-face view of a holder having matches on each foldable portion of the same. Fig. 5 is a detail view of one of the strips provided with matches and adapted to be applied to the case. Fig. 6 is a detail view of a portion of the holder, showing the form of the perforated holding-strip before it is bent to hold the stems of the matches. Fig. 7 is an edge view of the strip

shown in Fig. 6 partially bent into position. Fig. 8 is a detail end view of the holding-strip fully bent into position with the stem of one of the matches inserted.

Referring to the drawings, it will be seen that the case or holder comprises foldable portions A and B, which may be multiplied as many times as desired; but in this instance two portions are shown to illustrate the invention. The material of the holder may be anything desired—as, for instance, stiff paper or cardboard. As shown, the holder is creased or folded at C to form the portion A, which may be called the “body” portion, and the flap or cover B. In this instance matches are shown held in the casing A B; but of course toothpicks may be substituted therefor or any other suitable splints adapted to various uses. In order to hold the splints, matches, or toothpicks in position, they are secured in a folded strip E, of paper, cardboard, or other suitable material, and the folded strip E, together with the splints secured therein, are fastened to the holder A B by mucilage, if desired, and they may be additionally secured to the holder by a metallic staple F, having bent ends G.

In order to form the holding-strip E, the paper or cardboard of the desired size, which, as shown in Fig. 6, is longer than its width, is perforated at H along one side and at one end of the same with a series of perforations, one for each splint. The strip E is then bent first into the U-shaped form shown in Fig. 7, the perforated portion I preferably being a little longer than the unperforated or base portion J. The strip E is then further bent into the loop form shown in Fig. 8, which brings the perforations H along the connecting portion K of the strip which connects the portions I and J, as shown in Fig. 8. The stems of the matches, splints, or other articles are then thrust into the perforations H and suitably secured between the portions I and J of the holding-strip, as by means of mucilage or glue.

Fig. 3 shows the splints thrust into the perforations and secured therein. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the holding-strip and matches ready to be applied to the holder A and B.



The finished article is shown in Figs. 1 and 4 both single and double.

When the casing or holder is completed, the cover B may be folded down over the matches 5 and tucked under the end of the inturned portion L, so that a complete and serviceable package is formed which is convenient for the pocket and serves to protect the points of the picks and the heads of the matches. The 10 picks or matches may be scored, as at O, to enable each one to be broken off, as desired, for use.

The perforations H may of course be apertures of any size, form, and shape desired, 15 and the strip after having been provided with the apertures is bent into U-shaped or box-like form, so that the apertures arrange themselves along one side of the box-like holder formed by the strip.

20 Obviously some features of this invention may be used without others, and the invention may be embodied in widely-varying forms.

Therefore, without limiting the invention to the constructions shown and described nor 25 enumerating equivalents, I claim, and desire to obtain by Letters Patent, the following:

A device of the character described for holding matches, toothpicks and like articles, com-

prising a casing formed of an approximately rectangular piece of material having a body 30 portion, a bent-over end forming a pocket, and a longer portion forming an inclosing flap, a holding-strip adapted to hold the ends of the splints, said strip comprising a piece 35 of suitable material secured in said pocket and having a series of perforations along one side and at one end of the same, said strip being bent into loop-shape form with the ends secured together, having the perforated portion slightly longer than the unperforated 40 base portion, and the outer edge of the perforated portion being secured to the base portion, whereby the ends of the splints or the matches, toothpicks or like articles carried 45 by the device may be inserted through the said perforations and seated in the loop or fold of the strip, the short bent-over end of the casing being secured over the perforated loop.

In testimony whereof I have signed this 50 specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK B. METZGER.

Witnesses:

H. G. OGDEN, Jr.,

A. L. O'BRIEN.