

No. 840,856

PATENTED JAN. 8, 1907.

W. T. MAPES.
MATCH BOX.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 30 1906.

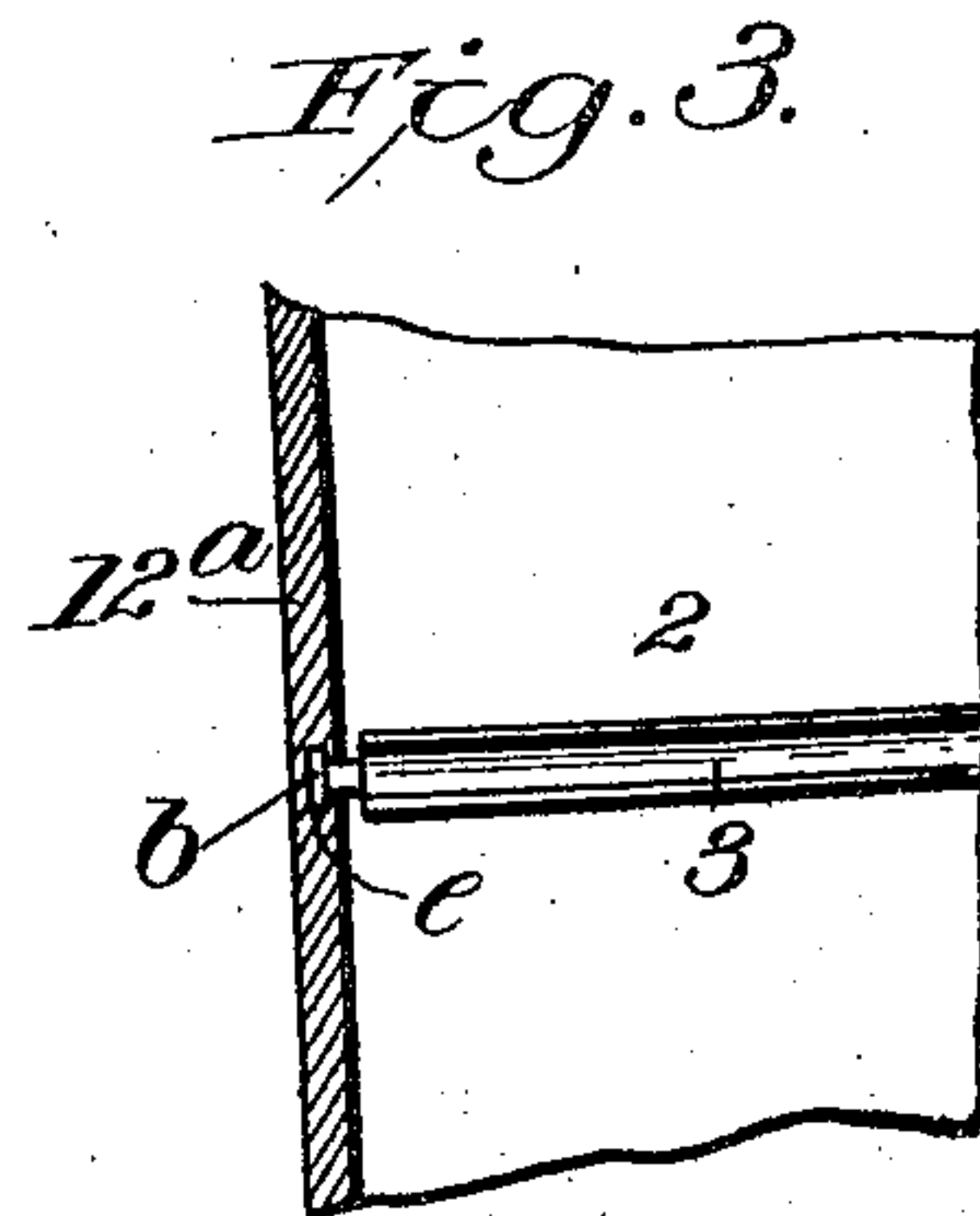
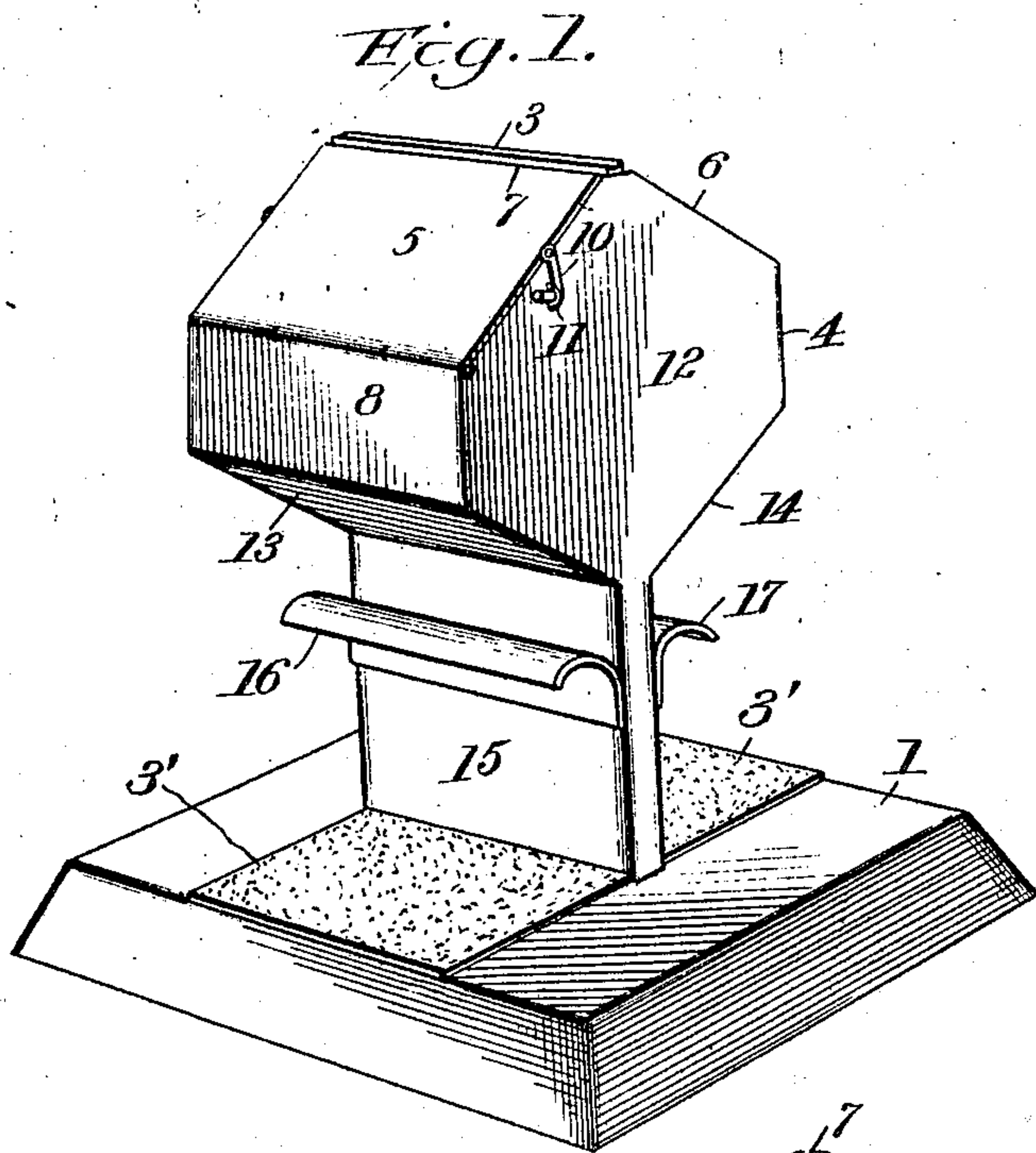


Fig. 4.

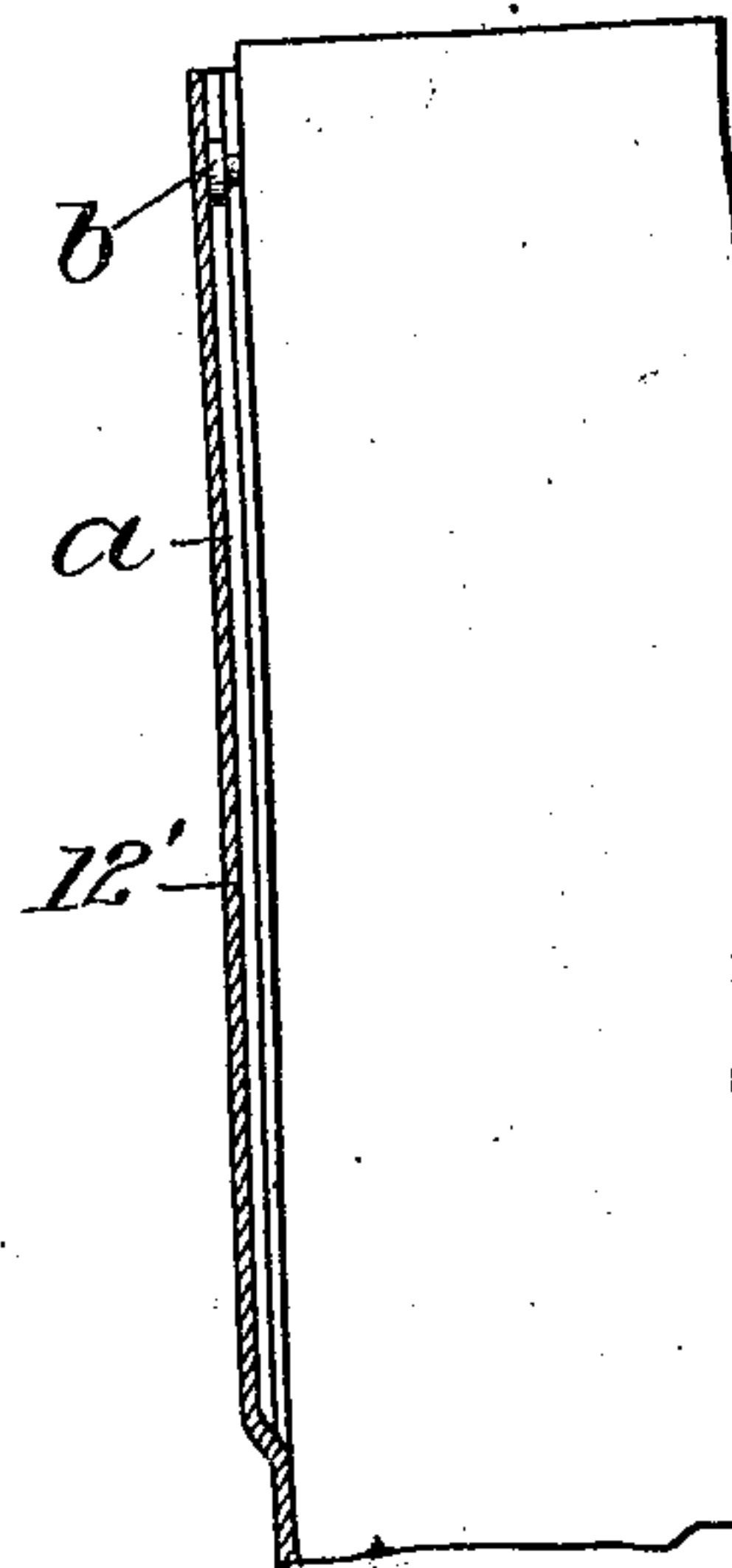
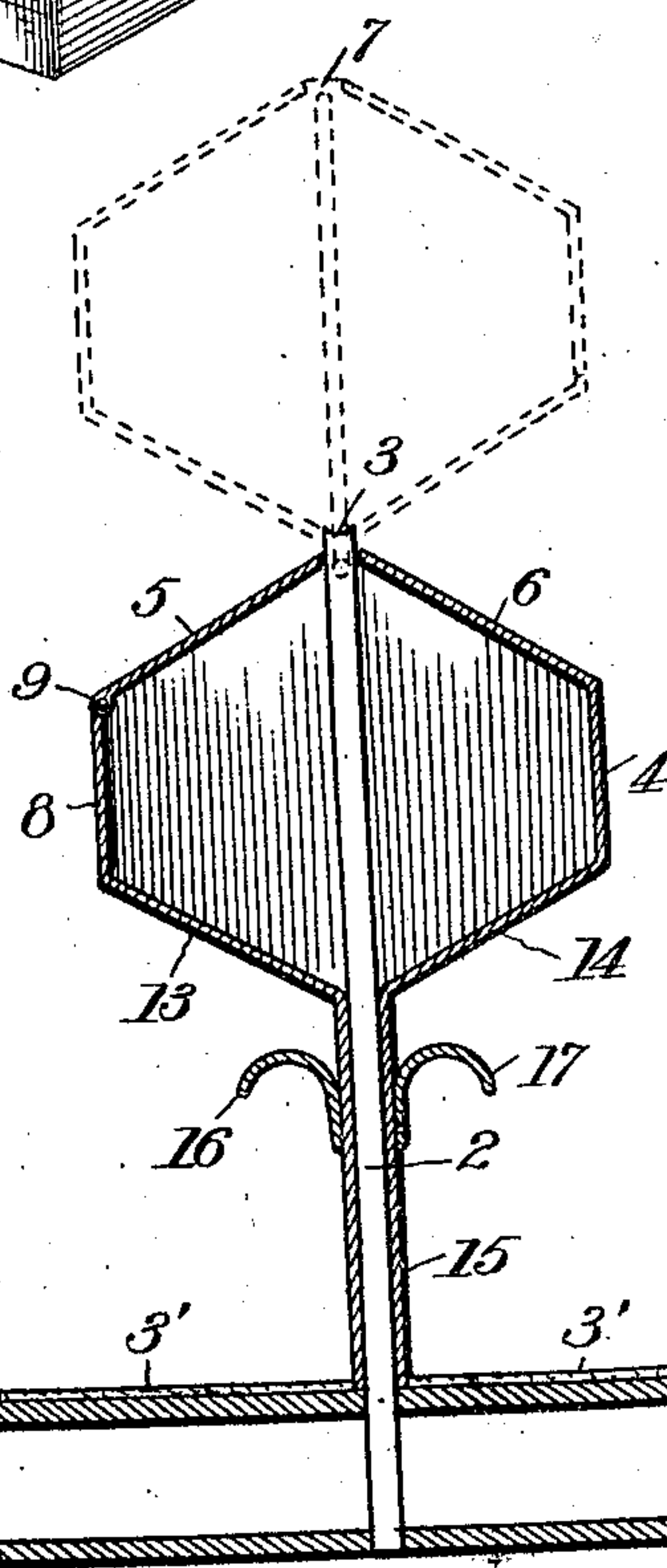


Fig. 2.



Witnesses

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MATCH-BOX.

No. 840,856.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 8, 1907.

Application filed January 30, 1906. Serial No. 298,678.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM THOMAS MAPES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ogden, in the county of Champaign and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to match-boxes.

One object of the invention is to provide an exceedingly simple, inexpensive, durable, and efficient receptacle for matches from which the latter may be readily dispensed.

Another object of the invention, and the most important one, resides in the provision of a match-box constructed and arranged whereby a single match may be delivered at a time, thereby resulting in a saving of matches, in that a person cannot, without a little inconvenience and time, take more than one match at a time from the receptacle.

With the above and other objects in view the present invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claim, it being understood that changes in the form, proportion, size, and minor details may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view, the dotted lines indicating the position of the box in its elevated position. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view illustrating the upright in full lines. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view of the box when composed of sheet metal, illustrating particularly the projecting pin of the upright working in the pressed groove of the box proper.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawings, the reference character 1 indicates a base upon which is mounted an upright 2, whose upper end is provided with a match-receiving groove 3 for a purpose presently explained. Upon each side of the upright a strip of sandpaper or other abrasive material 3' may be secured to the base to facilitate the lighting of matches.

The match-box proper (indicated at 4) has its top composed of two upwardly-converging members 5 and 6, whose inner ends do

not meet, but which terminate short of each other to provide a passage 7 rather closely fitting the sides of the upright 2. The top member 5 is hingedly connected to the side 8 of the box, as at 9, so that matches may be readily placed within the box or taken several at a time therefrom. This member 5 may be considered the closure of the box, and it is provided with a catch 10, designed to cooperate with the hook 11 upon the outer face of the side 12 of the box, whereby the closure may be latched when desired. The bottom members 13 and 14 of the box converge downwardly, as shown, with their inner edges in rather close proximity to the corresponding sides of the upright 2, whereby the matches, regardless of the supply thereof, will always lie in engagement with or toward the upright to facilitate the deposit of one match at a time within the match-receiving groove 3 of the upright 2 whenever the match-box proper is lifted upwardly with respect to the upright.

The match-box is provided with a depending portion 15, which rather closely engages or embraces the upright 2, the lower ends of the depending portion 15 resting normally upon the top of the base 1, as shown. To slide the match-box and its depending portion upwardly upon the upright 2, I provide the lift members 16 and 17, which are secured to said depending portion 15 in any suitable manner, there being a groove *a* formed in the side 12' in alinement with the upright 2, in which engages the pin *b*, secured in one side of said upright. This groove *a*, if the box be made of sheet metal, may be pressed therein and is open at its upper end, with its lower end closed to form a shoulder *c* for engagement with the aforesaid pin *b* when the box is lifted to limit the upward movement of the latter to prevent disengagement thereof with respect to the upright. If desired, the side 12^a of the box in Fig. 3, which corresponds to the side 12' of the box shown in Fig. 2, may have the groove *e* formed therein in a manner different from a pressing operation and may be of T shape in cross-section, as shown. The groove *e* may be any form in cross-section.

When a match is desired, a person may engage either one of the lift members 16 and 17 and force the match-box proper to an upward position upon the upright 2. The dis-

tance of upward movement may be determined by the quantity of matches within the box. At any rate the box is lifted, resulting in one match being delivered to the match-receiving groove 3 of the upright 2, as should now be well understood.

It might be remarked that the box and its depending portion may be formed of wood, sheet metal, or the like and that the base 1 is preferably hollow, so that it may be filled with material designed to weigh sufficiently heavy therein as to prevent accidental upsetting of the box. If preferred, the base may have holes *f* for the reception of suitable fastenings, whereby the box may be fixed immovably upon a shelf, counter, or the like. Furthermore, the lift members 16 and 17 need not necessarily extend entirely across the depending portion 15, but obviously may be of less length than shown.

What is claimed is—

A single-delivery match-box comprising a base, an upright secured to the base and provided at its upper end with a match-receiving groove and also with a laterally-directed

projection at one side near its upper end, a match-box having a depending portion snugly embracing the upright to prevent matches falling therebetween and the upright, the lower end of said depending portion resting normally upon the base, the box having an opening in its top snugly embracing the upright and lying normally above said projection of the standard, the box also having a groove in the inner face of one of its side walls terminating in a shoulder at one end to engage the aforesaid projection of the upright to limit the sliding movement of the box in one direction, a closure hinged against displacement and a lift member secured to the depending portion of the box to lift the box upwardly upon the upright for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand this 12th day of January, 1906.

WILLIAM THOMAS MAPES.

In presence of—

A. H. FREESE,
BERTIE FREESE.