

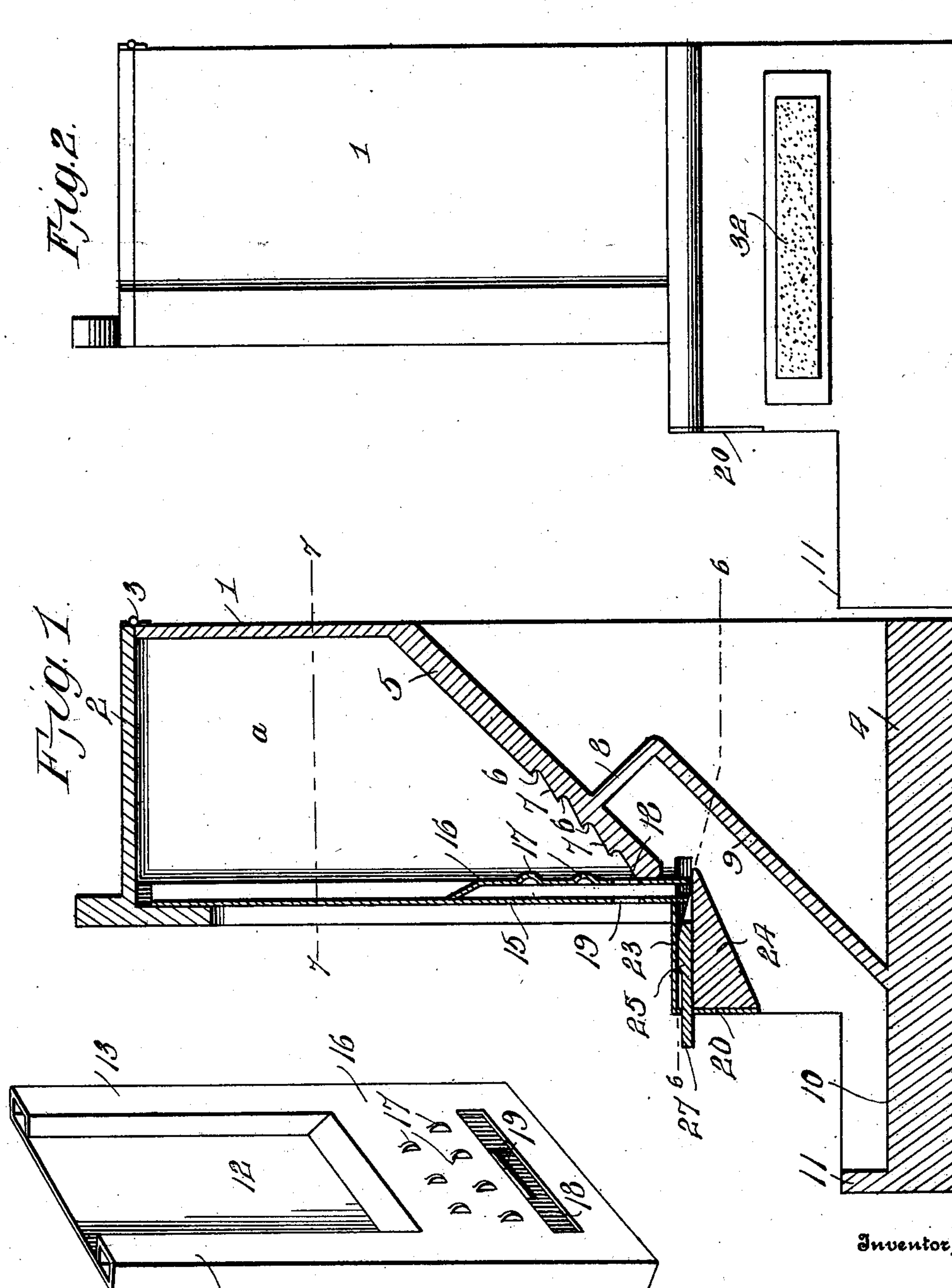
No. 889,252.

PATENTED JUNE 2, 1908.

G. W. MORGAN,  
MATCH BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 18, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses  
Frank Hough

*P. B. Morgan*

Gordon W. Morgan,

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Victor J. Evans

Attorney

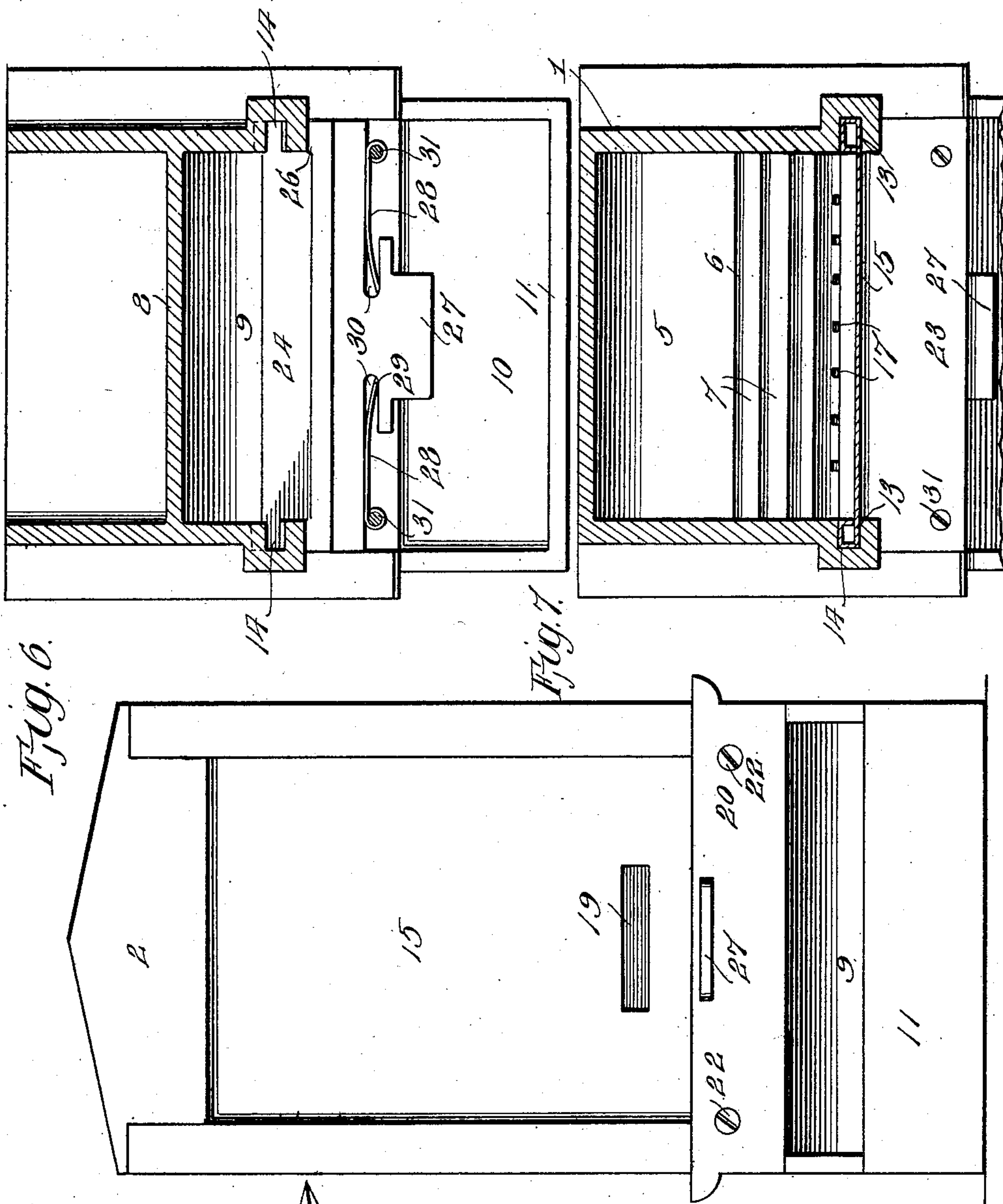
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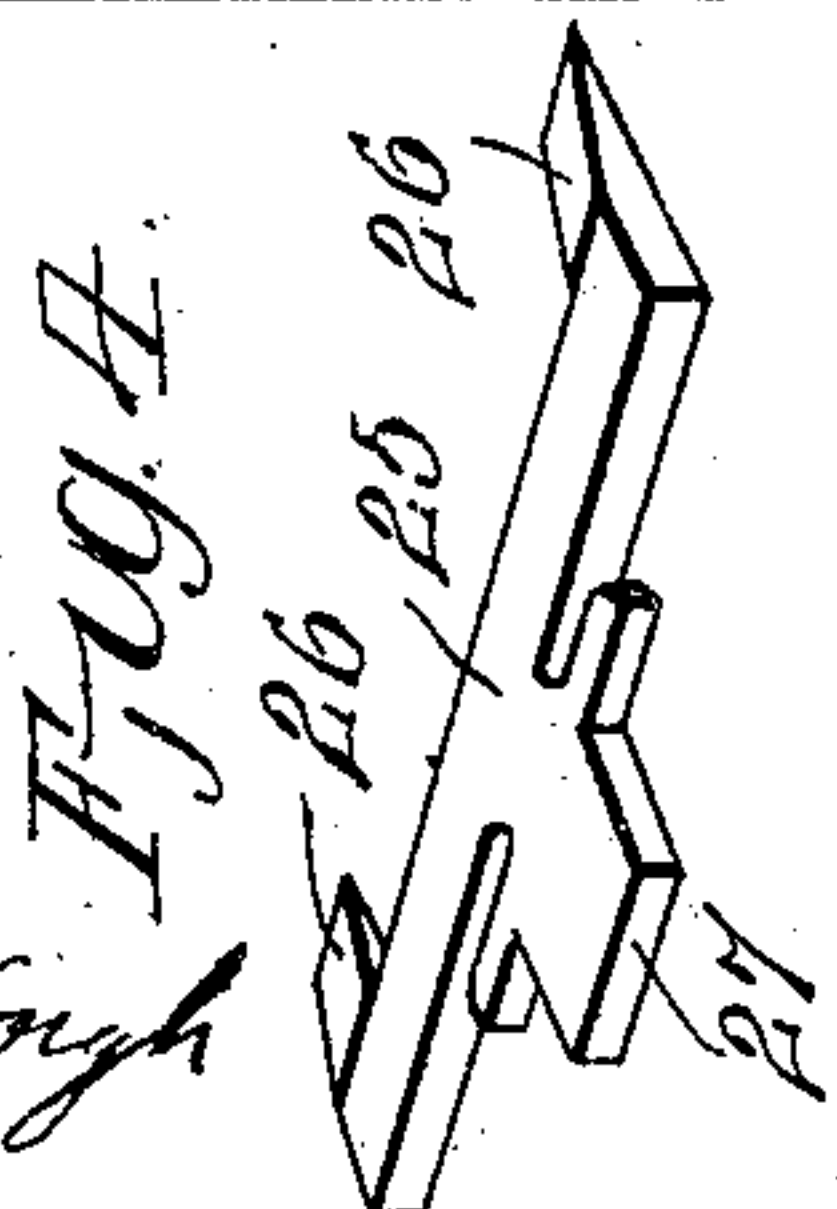


Fig. 5.  
Gordon W. Morgan,  
Inventor  
By Victor J. Evans  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GORDON W. MORGAN, OF SALEM, VIRGINIA.

## MATCH-BOX.

No. 889,252.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 2, 1908.

Application filed May 18, 1907. Serial No. 374,317.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GORDON W. MORGAN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Salem, in the county of Roanoke and State of Virginia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to match boxes, and one of the principal objects of the same is to provide simple and efficient means for delivering matches one at a time from the interior of the box.

Another object of the invention is to provide a match safe or box from which matches may be delivered one at a time, and to provide means for preventing the delivery mechanism from becoming clogged, and thus preventing the proper operation of said delivery mechanism.

These and other objects may be attained by means of the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a central vertical section of a match box or safe made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the vertically sliding gate. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the sliding wedge for lifting the gate. Fig. 5 is a front elevation of the match safe or box. Fig. 6 is a sectional view on the line 6—6, of Fig. 1. Fig. 7 is a similar view on the line 7—7, Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings for a more particular description of my invention, the numeral 1 designates the body portion of the match box or safe provided with a cover 2 hinged as at 3, to the body of the box, said box resting upon a suitable base 4. An inclined floor 5 extends from the back toward the front of the box, said floor having a series of transverse grooves 6 and inclined faces 7 near the lower portion thereof. Connected to the lower side of the floor is a partition 8, and connected to the lower end of the partition 8 is an inclined chute 9 which communicates with a match tray 10 formed upon the front side of the base portion 4, said match tray having a flange 11 extending around the front and opposite sides thereof.

A sliding gate 12, preferably formed of sheet metal, and provided with side posts 13 is mounted to slide in guideways 14 formed in the opposite sides of the box or casing 1, said sliding gate being open at its lower end and provided with a front wall 15 and an

inner wall 16, said inner wall being provided with a series of projections 17; and an outlet opening 18, while the outer wall 15 is provided with a sight opening 19.

Secured to the front of the box is a plate 20 having an aperture 21 therein, said plate being secured to the front of the box by screws 22, the upper portion 23 of said plate being disposed above the cross piece 24 a sufficient distance to form a guideway for a sliding wedge 25, said wedge comprising a cross bar having spaced wedges 26 which engage the lower edge of the sliding gate, and a finger piece 27 projecting through the aperture 21 in the plate 20, said wedge being normally forced outward by means of the springs 28, having their outer ends curved outwardly as at 29 to bear upon the finger piece 27 in the recesses 30, said springs being held in place by means of screws or pins 31. Upon the side of the box or safe a match striker 32 is secured.

The operation of my match safe may be briefly described as follows: A quantity of matches are placed in the chamber *a* of the box, said matches being disposed transversely upon the inclined floor 5, and one of said matches passing out through the opening 18 to lie between the walls 15 and 16 of the sliding gate. To deliver a match the sliding wedge is moved inward by pushing the finger piece 27 against the tension of the springs 28, the wedges 26 moving under the gate 12 and raising the same to discharge a match onto the chute 9, and into the tray 10. The projections 17 serve to roll the matches and to prevent them from clogging the opening 18 at each movement of the gate, while the grooves 6 and the inclined faces 7 hold back the column of matches to deliver one at a time through the opening 18 and between the walls 15 and 16 of the sliding gate.

From the foregoing it will be obvious that a match safe made in accordance with my invention is comparatively simple in construction, will operate efficiently for its purpose, will not clog the matches, and can be manufactured at slight cost.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. In a match safe, an inclined floor provided with a series of grooves and adjacent inclined faces, in combination with a vertically sliding gate provided with spaced outer and inner walls, the inner wall being pro-

vided with a delivery aperture and a sliding wedge for raising the gate and delivering the match.

2. A match safe comprising a casing having an inclined floor therein, a series of transverse grooves formed in said floor, a vertically sliding gate provided with an outer and an inner wall spaced apart, said inner wall having a delivery opening, and provided  
10 with a series of projections to prevent clogging of the matches, and a sliding wedge for raising the gate and delivering the match, said wedge being provided with springs for moving the same in one direction.

15 3. A match safe provided with an inclined

floor, said floor having a series of transverse grooves and inclined faces, a chute under the floor, and a match tray in front of said chute, a sliding gate, a spring actuated wedge for raising said gate, said gate being provided 20 with front and rear walls, one of said walls having a delivery opening therein and the other wall having a sight opening therein.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GORDON W. MORGAN.

Witnesses:

J. M. MORGAN,  
M. B. MARTIN.