

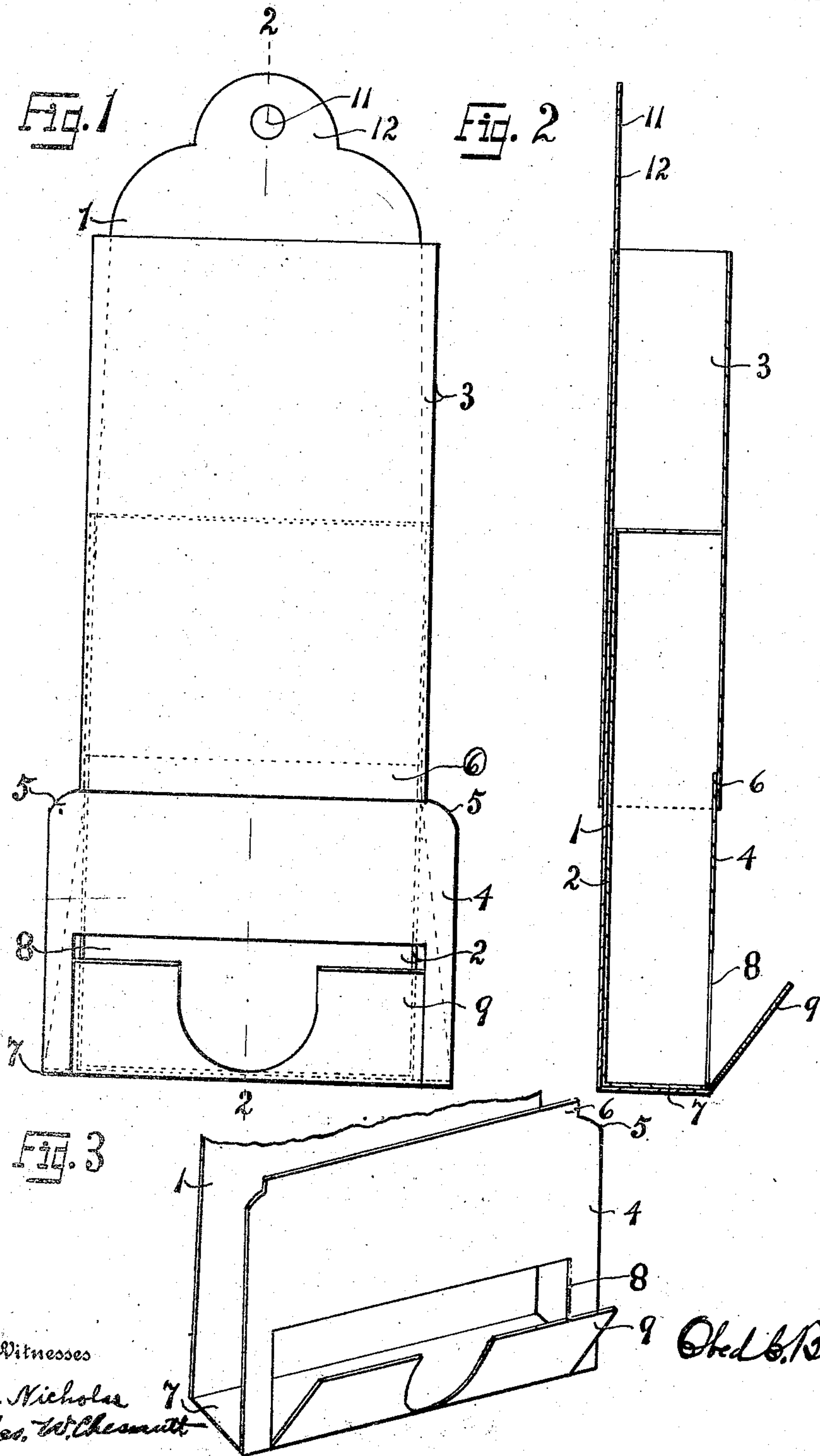
O. C. BILLMAN.
MATCH BOX HOLDER.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 18, 1906.

907,958.

Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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Chas. W. Chesnut

Inventor

O. C. Billman

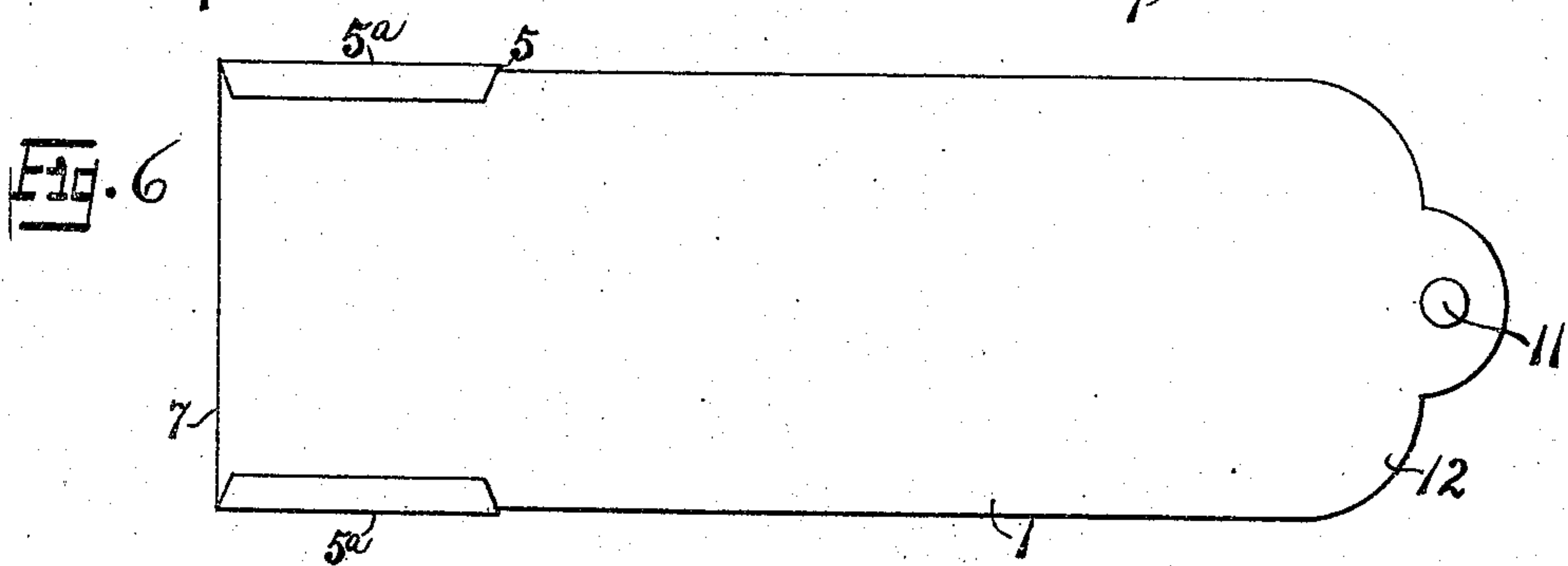
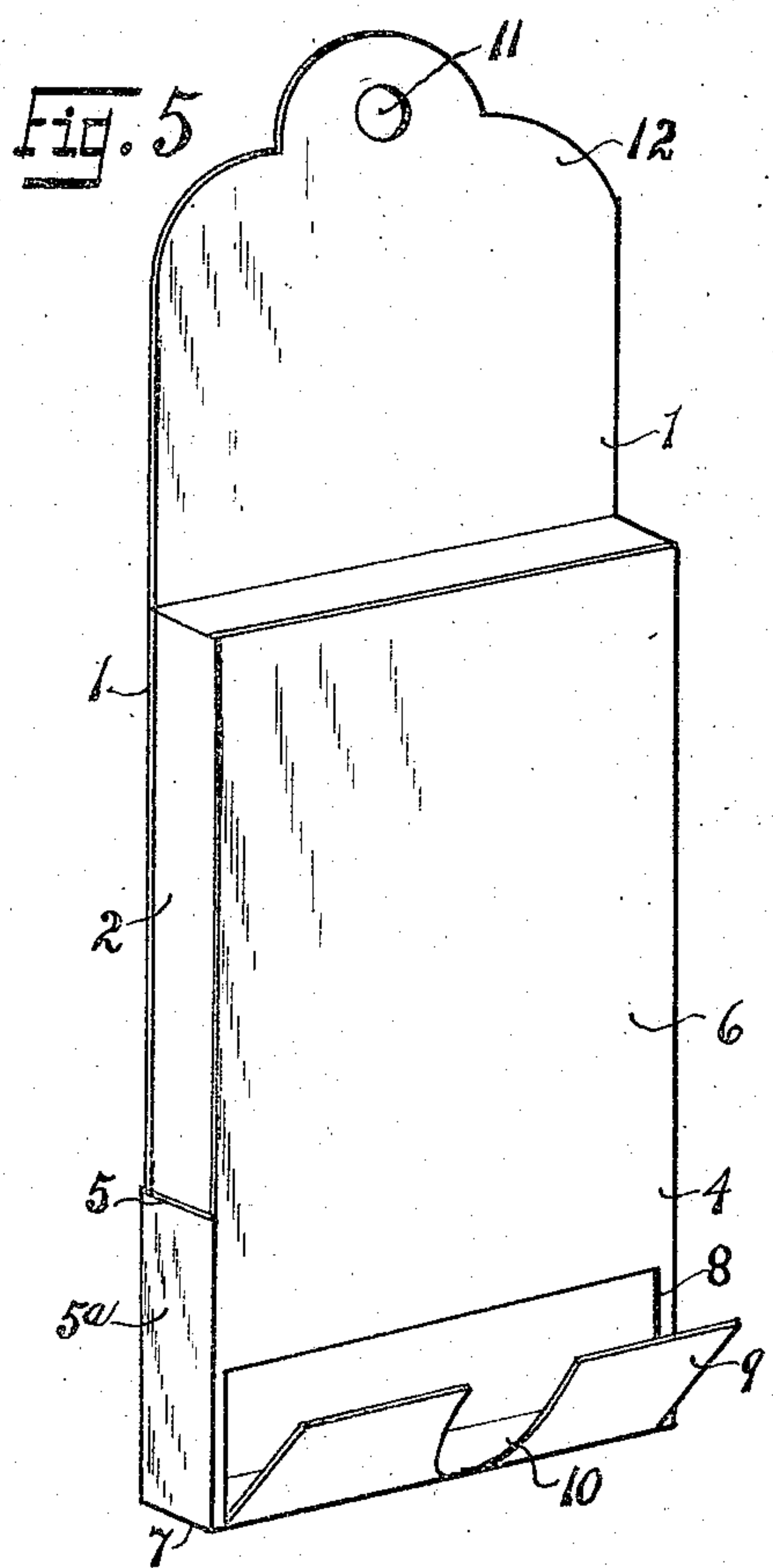
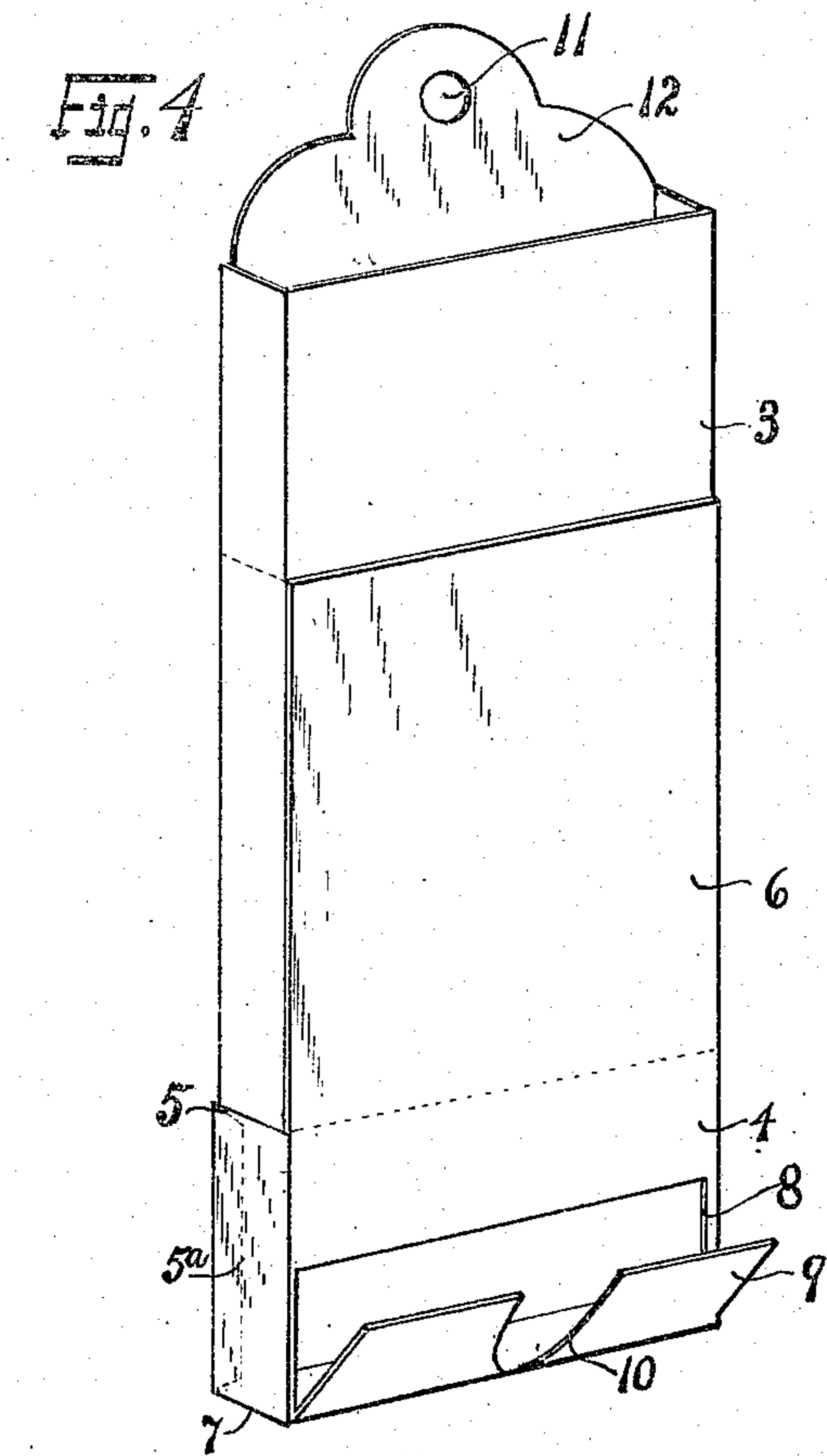
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OBED C. BILLMAN, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

MATCH-BOX HOLDER.

No. 907,958.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

Application filed September 18, 1906. Serial No. 335,060.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OBED C. BILLMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Box Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in match-box holders for automatically delivering the matches readily to the hand of the user; and an object of the invention is to provide such a holder which will be exceedingly cheap and simple in construction and free from the objectionable feature of allowing the matches to be easily spilled, as by fumbling in the dark.

Another object of the invention is to produce a generally improved device of this class in which an ordinary commercial box of matches may be inserted in bulk and then hung on the wall, or placed upon some other suitable and convenient place of support, where they are automatically fed to the delivery portion, allowing but a few matches to be taken at a time.

A further object is to provide a device of this class for use as an advertising novelty by providing a delivery portion having a face adapted to carry the advertisement.

With these ends in view, the invention consists in the novel construction, arrangement and combination of parts, hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1, is a plan view of my improved match-box holder in its operative position applied to an ordinary commercial match-box. Fig. 2, a sectional view of the same taken through line 2,—2, of Fig. 1. Fig. 3, a perspective view of the lower or delivery-portion of the holder detached from the match-box. Fig. 4, a perspective view of a modified form of the same attached to an ordinary match-box, the extension of the delivery portion extending upwardly to cover the face of the open-end box-cover. Fig. 5, a similar view of same attached to sliding-box only. Fig. 6, a rear plan view of the same.

Similar characters of reference designate like parts throughout all the figures of the drawings.

The improved holder is designed for use in connection with an ordinary paper or card-

board match-box either with or without the sliding open-end box-cover, and comprises a suspending-shank 1, adapted to slip through between the bottom of the sliding-box 2, and the open-end box-cover 3, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 4, and an upwardly-extending delivery-portion 4, provided at its sides with shoulders 5, which engage the lower portion of the box-cover 3, to hold it a certain distance from the bottom of the holder while the sliding-box 2, is shoved down to the bottom of the holder, thus opening the box a sufficient distance to permit automatic feeding.

The upper end of the delivery-portion 4, is provided with a tongue or extension 6, designed, when used in connection with a box-cover as shown in Figs. 1, and 2, to be received by and take into the lower portion of the box-cover 3, of the match-box, thus holding the various parts in their proper operative positions, or the extension 6, may be further extended upwardly and the shoulders 5, formed by providing lateral wings 5^a, bent rearwardly and folded over the edges of the suspending-shank 1, thus providing side walls, and bracing the delivery-portion 4, and the extension 6, when extending upwardly in front of the face of the box-cover, as shown in Fig. 4, or closing and retaining the matches in the sliding-box when used without the box-cover, as shown in Fig. 5. The bottom or bent over portion 7, of the holder corresponds with the thickness of the sliding-box 2, and forms a seat for and supports the same when shoved down into the holder.

The lower portion of the delivery-portion 4, is provided with an opening 8, preferably, rectangular as shown, formed by a cut away portion forming an outwardly and upwardly-extending match-supporting-tongue or flange 9, adapted to receive and form a seat or support for the matches as they are automatically fed from the box through the opening 8. The tongue or flange 9, is provided with a central opening or recess 10, preferably extending to the base of the tongue or flange as shown, and designed for the insertion of the thumb and finger in grasping the matches back of the tongue or flange 9, and within the delivery portion of the holder.

An aperture 11, is formed in the top or upper portion 12, of the suspending-shank 1, of the holder to take over a nail or hook by means of which the holder carrying the match-box may be suspended on the wall or

other convenient place of support. However, if desired, the top of the suspending-shank 1, may be extended and bent over to form an easel, and the holder may be then
5 set upon a mantel, table, or counter.

The improved holder can be easily adapted for use in connection with match-boxes of varying thicknesses by simply bending the suspending-shank 1, so that the bottom or
10 bent over portion 7, will correspond with the thickness of the sliding-box 2, and the holder can be easily and quickly attached to any commercial match-box now in use, using the matches from the original package, thus pre-
15 venting the matches from being spilled out and effecting a great saving in time and matches.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the operation and advantages of my inven-
20 tion will be readily understood.

Having thus described my invention, without having attempted to set forth all the forms in which it may be made, or all the
25 modes of its use, I declare that what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A match-box holder, comprising a suspending-shank, and a delivery-portion bent upwardly parallel with said suspending-
30 shank and provided with an upwardly-extending extension adapted to extend in front of the suspended box, and a match-supporting-tongue cut out of said delivery-portion leaving a transverse match-delivery-opening
35 having its ends flush with the inner edges of the sides of said suspended box.

2. A match-box, comprising a single blank of metal bent upon itself forming a suspending-shank, a bottom or bent over
40 portion at the base of said shank, and an upwardly-extending delivery-portion extending from said bottom parallel with said shank and provided with lateral wings bent rearwardly and secured at their rear or free
45 ends to the edges of said shank forming vertical side walls, an upwardly and outwardly-extending match-supporting-tongue cut out of said delivery-portion leaving a transverse rectangular match-delivery opening extend-

ing from said bottom and terminating at its
50 ends in close proximity to the base or bent over portions of said side walls, and a central opening or recess dividing said match-supporting-tongue and terminating at the
55 edge of said bottom.

3. A match box, comprising a suspending-shank, a bottom at the base of said shank, an upwardly-extending delivery-portion extending from said bottom parallel with said shank and provided with lateral wings bent
60 rearwardly forming side walls extending upwardly from said bottom and secured by having their rear or free ends bent at the rear of said shank, and a match-supporting-tongue struck out of said delivery-portion
65 and extending outwardly and upwardly from said bottom leaving a transverse rectangular match-delivery-opening having its ends terminating adjacent to the base or bent over portions of said wings forming said side walls,
70 said match-supporting-tongue being provided with a vertical thumb-slot terminating at the front edge of said bottom.

4. A match-box holder, comprising a suspending-shank adapted to pass between the
75 cover and the bottom of the sliding-box, an upwardly-extending delivery-portion parallel with said shank and provided with wings bent rearwardly and secured at their free
80 ends to the edges of said shank forming vertical side walls affording shoulders for engaging said cover as the box is shoved down into the holder to permit feeding, an extension formed with said delivery portion above said
85 shoulders and extending upwardly parallel with said shank, and a bifurcated match-supporting-tongue cut out of said delivery-portion and extending outwardly and upwardly from said bottom leaving a transverse rectangular match-delivery-opening
90 terminating close to said side walls.

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

OBED C. BILLMAN.

Witnesses:

CHAS. W. CHESNUTT,
H C. MOORE.