

908,050.

O. S. TOOTHMAN.
MATCH BOX.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 28, 1908.

Patented Dec. 29, 1908.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1

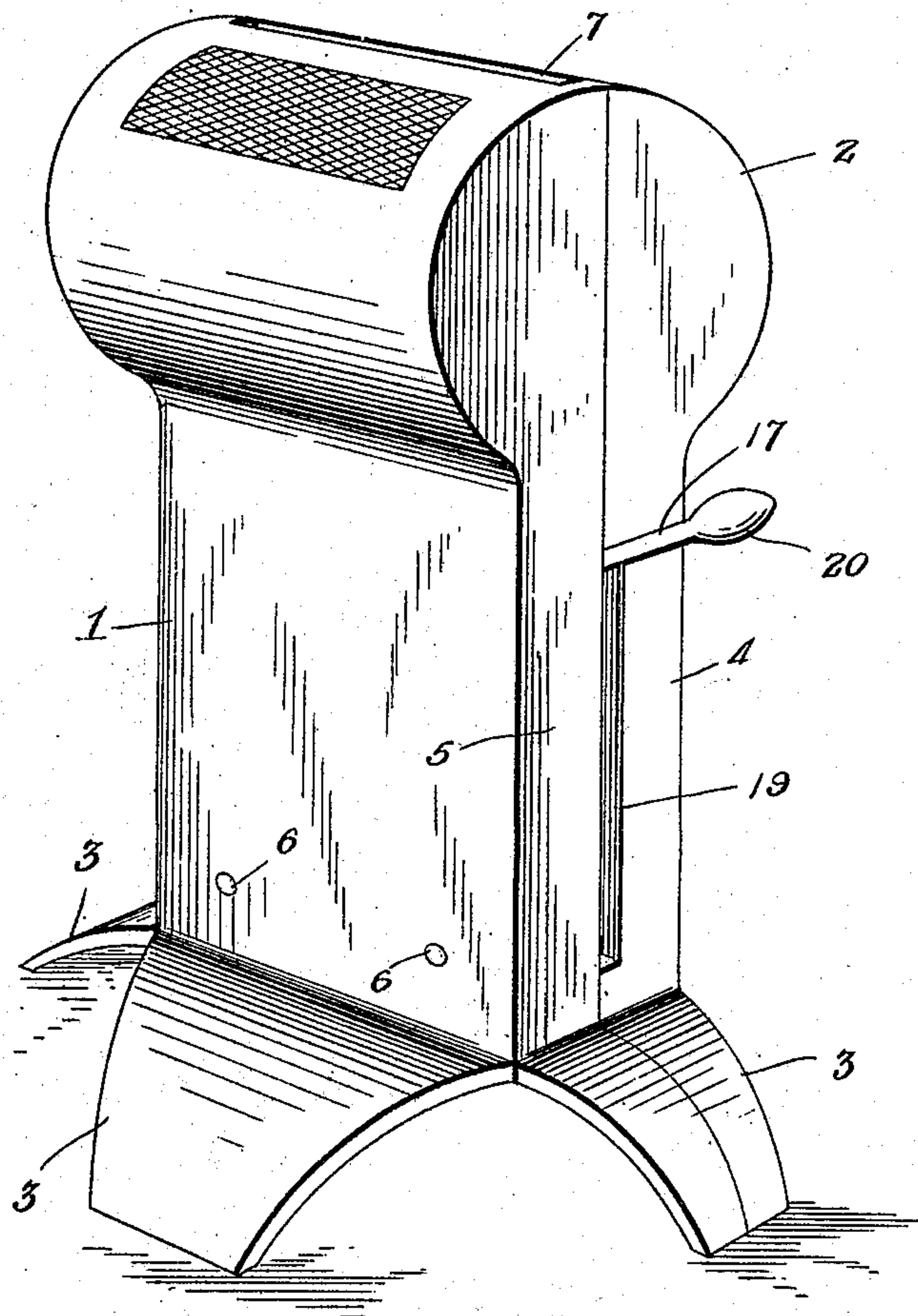
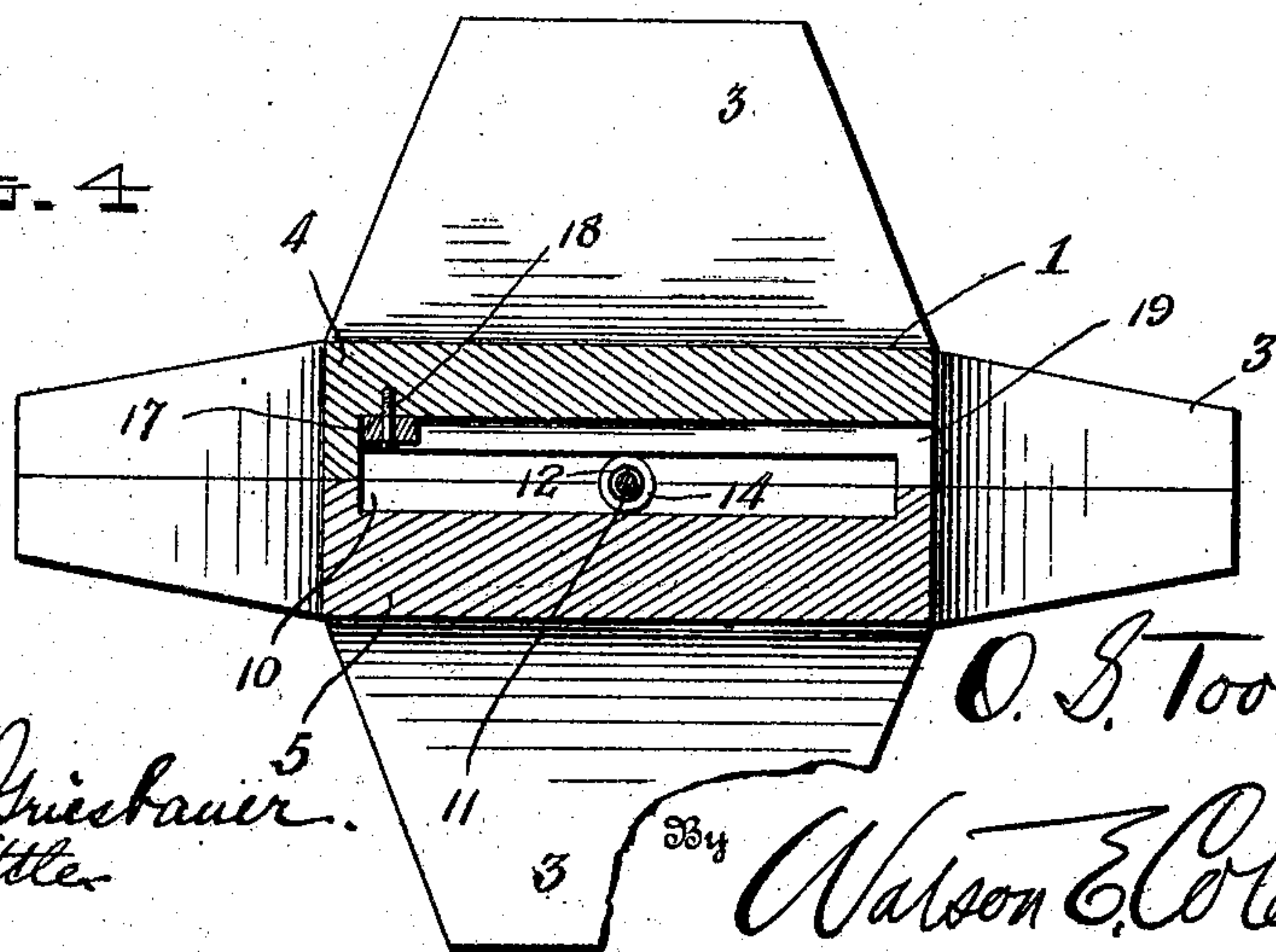


FIG. 4



Witnesses
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MATCH-BOX.

No. 908,050.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 29, 1908.

Application filed February 28, 1908. Serial No. 418,362.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSELLUS S. TOOTHMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fairmont, in the county of Marion and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Match-Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in match boxes or holders and more particularly to one which will deliver one match at a time.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which will be simple, strong, durable and comparatively inexpensive in construction and which will be easy to operate and effective in accomplishing its intended purpose.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction and the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved match box; Figs. 2 and 3 are vertical sectional views taken on planes at right angles to each other; and Fig. 4 is a horizontal section taken on the plane indicated by the line 4—4 in Fig. 2.

My improved match box or holder comprises an upright body 1 at the top of which is a match receptacle 2 and at the bottom of which are supporting feet 3 or any other suitable base which will prevent the device from being readily overturned and which, if desired, may be secured by screws or other fastenings to a counter, table, or the like. When the device is to be used upon a show case or a polished surface, the base is preferably flat and covered with felt or the like.

The device is preferably made of metal and in two substantially similar half-sections 4, 5 united by transverse rivets or similar fastenings 6. The match receptacle 6 is preferably of cylindrical form and in the center of its top is a longitudinally extending match discharge opening 7 which is normally closed by the grooved top 8 of a match delivery plunger or slide 9 arranged for vertical reciprocatory movement in the body portion 1 of the device or holder and through the match chamber or receptacle 2. The slide 9 is in the form of a substantially rectangular plate

arranged for sliding movement in guide grooves or recesses 10 formed in the opposing inner faces of the longitudinally divided half-sections 4, 5 of the body 1, which latter, as illustrated in Fig. 4, is preferably of rectangular shape in cross section. The plunger is further guided by an upright guide rod 11 which serves as a guide for a coil spring 12. The rod 11 is suitably secured at its lower end in the bottom of the rectangular body portion 1, but preferably by forming its lower end with a screw threaded portion 13 and an annular stop flange or shoulder 14 and by providing upon said threaded end 13, a clamping nut 15, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The upper end of the guide rod 11 projects into a vertical recess 16 formed in the bottom of the match delivery slide 9. The recess or hole 16 is of such length and the extent of the sliding movement of the slide 9 is such that when the latter is moved to the limit of its downward movement, its grooved top 8 reaches the lowermost point in the bottom of the match chamber or receptacle 2, the opposite sides of which latter are downwardly inclined, owing to its substantially cylindrical shape; and when said slide is moved to its normal elevated position, its grooved top 8 lies in the plane of the outer top surface of the receptacle 2 so that a match resting in the groove 8 may be readily picked up from the same.

The coil spring 12 serves to elevate the slide 9 and hold it in its normal position, and it is adapted to be lowered by depressing a lever 17 arranged longitudinally for vertical swinging movement within the body 1. Said lever is pivoted at one of its ends, as at 18, and its other end projects through and swings in a vertical slot 19 formed in one end of the body 1, said projecting free end of the lever being provided with a suitable handle 20. Any suitable operative connection may be provided between the lever 17 and the slide 9, but I preferably employ a link 21 which is pivoted to each of said parts, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

In order to enable the match receptacle 2 to be filled with matches, I provide in the upper portion of one of its sides a filling opening 22 which is covered by a door or closure 23 hinged at 24 and provided with an actuating spring 25 which retains it in its closed position. The door 23 is opened by pushing it inwardly into the match recep-

tacle or chamber, as will be readily seen upon reference to Fig. 3.

In operation, it will be seen that when a match is desired it is only necessary to push downwardly upon the handle 20 of the operating lever and then release it. When the free end of the lever moves downwardly, the link 21 carries the slide 9 with it so that the top 8 of the slide drops beneath the matches in the receptacle 2 in order that a single match may lodge in the groove in said top of the slide. When the lever 17 is released, the spring 12 returns the plunger and lever to their elevated positions and brings the grooved top of the slide into the discharge opening 7 so that the match may be conveniently removed.

A match striking surface may be provided at any suitable place upon the device and its exterior surface may also be suitably shaped and decorated to make it ornamental and attractive and to permit of advertising matter being placed upon it.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that I do not wish to be limited to precise construction set forth, and that various changes in the form, proportion and minor details may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims. For instance, instead of having a single guide rod and slide actuating spring, I may provide two or more of said rods and springs.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

1. A single delivery match box or holder comprising an upright body recessed and slotted, an enlarged supporting base at the bottom of the body, a match receptacle at the top of the body formed with an inclined bottom and a match discharge opening in the center of its top, a match delivery slide arranged for vertical reciprocatory movement in the recessed body and through the match receptacle, said slide having a grooved or recessed top to receive a single match and a vertically extending recess formed in its bottom, an upright rod projecting from the bottom of the recessed body and into the recess in the slide, a slide actuating spring surrounding said rod, a slide actuating lever pivoted in the recessed body and having its free or handle end projecting through the slot in said body, and a loose connection between the lever and the slide.

2. A single delivery match box or holder comprising an upright body recessed and slotted, an enlarged supporting base at the bottom of the body, a match receptacle at the top of the body formed with an inclined bottom and a match discharge opening in the center of its top, a match delivery slide arranged for vertical reciprocatory movement in the recessed body and through the match receptacle, said slide having a grooved or

recessed top to receive a single match, and a vertically extending recess formed in its bottom, an upright rod projecting from the bottom of the recessed body and into the recess in the slide, a slide actuating spring surrounding said rod, a slide actuating lever pivoted in the recessed body and having its free or handle end projecting through the slot in said body, and a link pivoted at one end to the slide and at its other end to the lever.

3. A single delivery match box or holder comprising an upright body recessed and slotted, an enlarged supporting base at the bottom of the body, a match receptacle at the top of the body formed with an inclined bottom and a match discharge opening in the center of its top, a match delivery slide arranged for vertical reciprocatory movement in the recessed body and through the match receptacle, said slide having a grooved or recessed top to receive a single match and a vertically extending recess formed in its bottom, an upright guide rod arranged in the bottom of the recessed body and having a screw threaded lower end projecting through an aperture in said bottom, a shoulder upon the rod above the bottom, a clamping nut upon the projecting lower screw threaded end of the rod, the upper end of the rod being adapted to project into the vertical recess in the slide, a slide actuating coil spring surrounding the rod beneath the slide, a hand lever pivoted in the body and having its free end projecting through the slot in the latter, and an operative connection between the lever and the slide.

4. A single delivery match box or holder formed of two substantially similar half-sections and comprising a recessed and slotted body formed at its lower end with supporting feet and at its upper end with a substantially cylindrical match receptacle, the latter having an inclined bottom, a longitudinally extending match discharge opening in the center of its top and a filling opening in one side, a door for closing said filling opening, a match delivery slide arranged for vertical reciprocatory movement in the body and through the match receptacle, the top of said slide being grooved to receive a single match and its bottom being formed with a vertically extending recess, an upright guide rod projecting from the bottom of the recessed body and extending into the vertical recess in the slide, a coil spring surrounding said rod beneath the slide, a lever pivoted at one end in the body and having its free end projecting through the slot in the latter, and a link pivotally connecting the lever and slide, substantially as described.

5. A single delivery match box or holder formed of two similar half-sections, each consisting of a rectangular body portion formed at its lower end with supporting feet and at its upper end with a semi-circular enlarge-

ment, the opposing faces of the body portions and the semi-circular enlargements being recessed to provide a substantially cylindrical match receptacle in the top of the holder, communicating recesses in the lower portion of the same, a slot upon one side and a match discharge slot at the top, a match delivery slide arranged in said recesses and adapted to move vertically through said match receptacle, said slide being formed in its top with a match supporting groove and in the center of its bottom with a vertical recess, an upright guide rod arranged in the recesses in the holder and having its lower end fixed in the bottom of the same and its

upper end projecting into the vertical recess in said slide, a coil spring arranged upon said rod for projecting said slide upwardly, an operating lever pivoted in said recesses in the holder and having a handle end projecting through the slot in the side of the holder and a link pivoted to the lower portion of the slide and to said lever, substantially as described.

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

OSELLUS SHELBEY TOOTHMAN.

Witnesses:

H. C. DE SHIELDS,
A. C. ROUSE.