

W. H. DOUGHERTY.
 PACKAGING PLAYING CARDS, &c.
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911,647.

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Fig. 1.

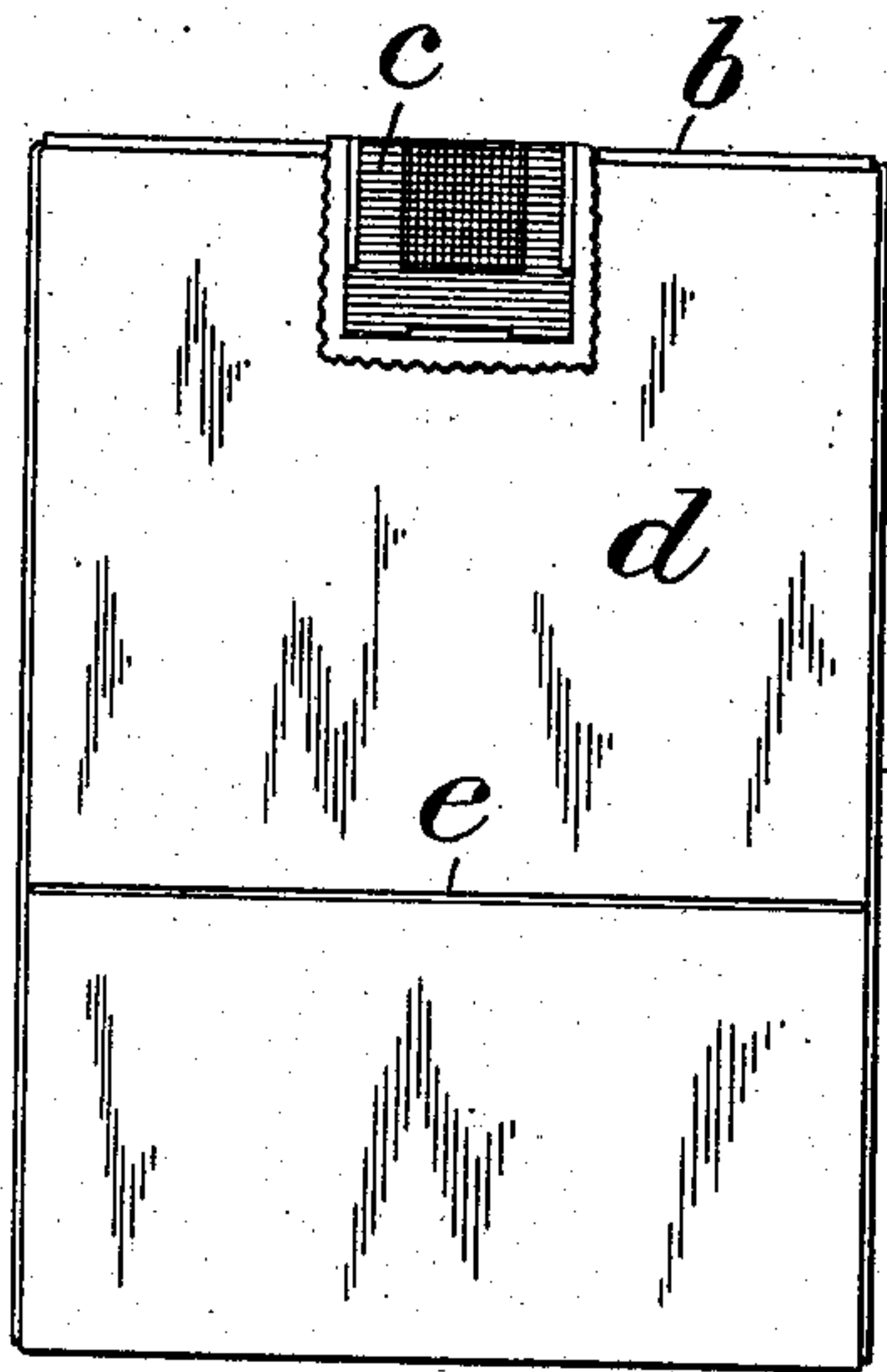


Fig. 2.

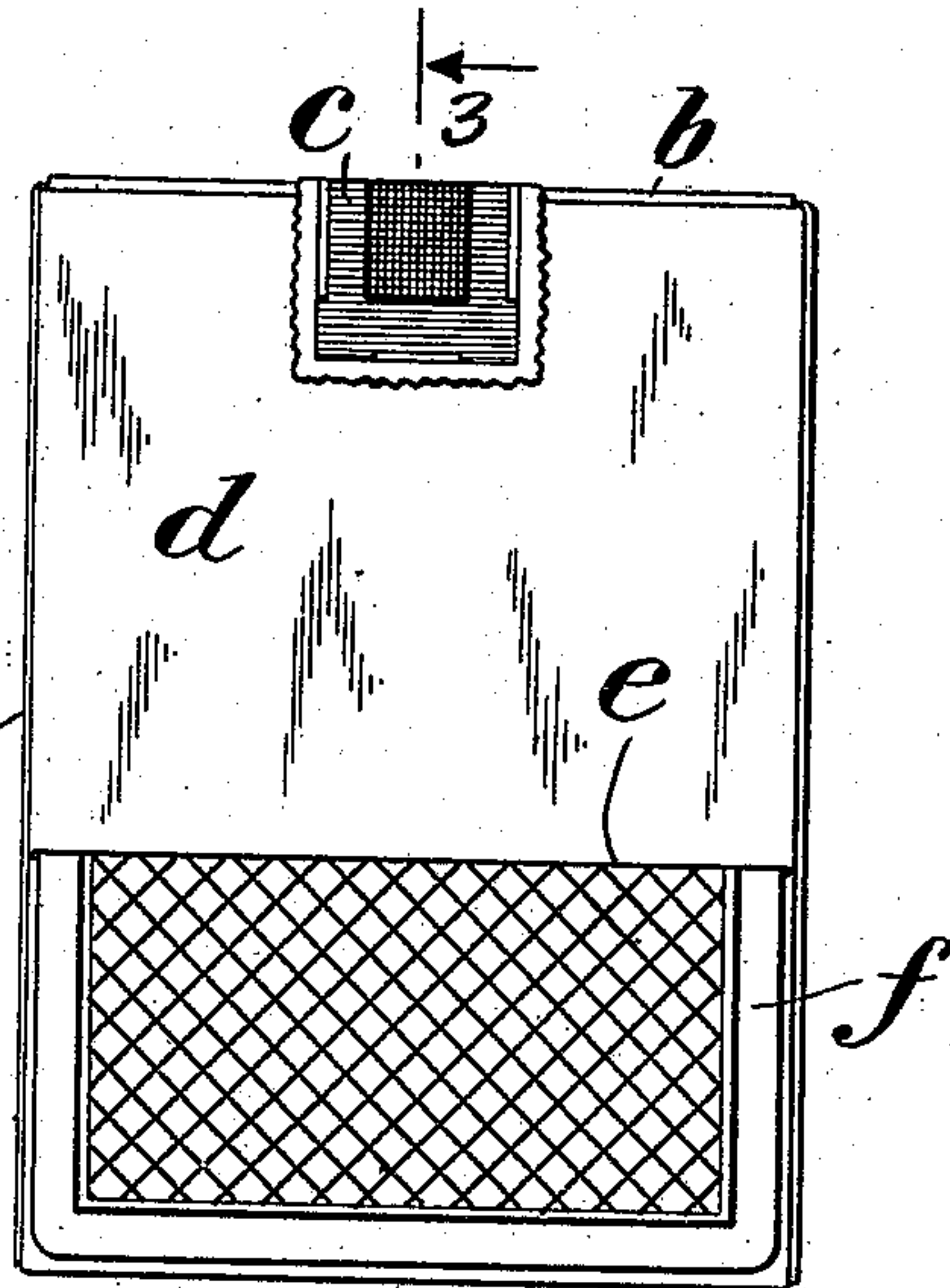
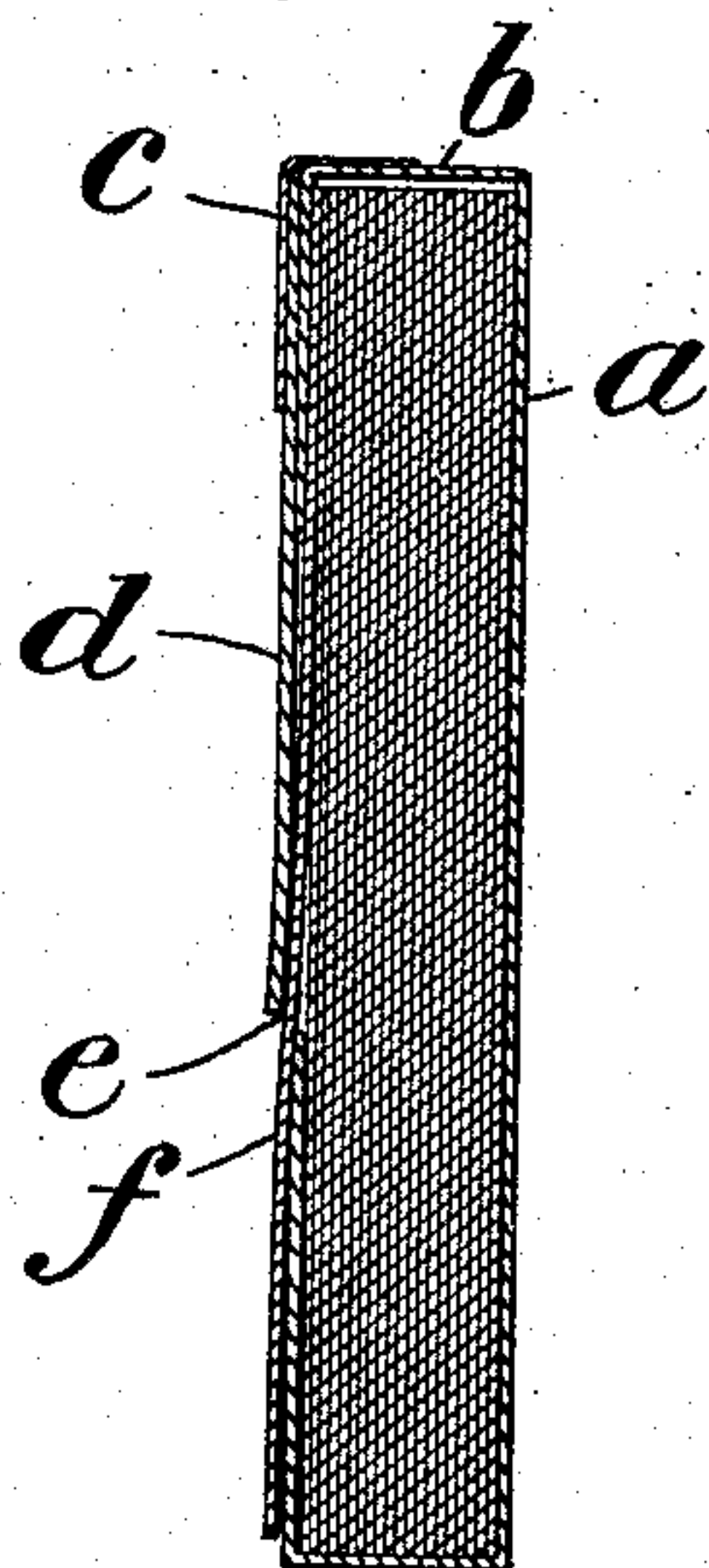


Fig. 3.



Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. DOUGHERTY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

PACKAGING PLAYING-CARDS, &c.

No. 911,647.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed October 7, 1908. Serial No. 456,664.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. DOUGHERTY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Brooklyn of the city of New York, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Packaging Playing-Cards, &c., of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

Under the provisions of the internal revenue law each package of playing cards, when sold, must bear an unbroken revenue stamp which seals the package. If the law is strictly enforced it is therefore impossible for a prospective purchaser of a pack of playing cards to assure himself as to the quality of the cards by removing the cards from the box or wrapper for purposes of examination. Moreover, even if the law is not strictly obeyed and the prospective purchaser is allowed to make such examination of cards offered for sale as requires a removal of the pack from the box or wrapper, the subsequent prospective purchaser is often deterred from the purchase of a pack of cards on which the revenue stamp has been broken by the knowledge thus obtained that the quality of the cards was not satisfactory to some previous examiner or by the belief that an attempt is being made by the seller to work off a pack of cards which has been used. It is, therefore, desirable to enable a prospective purchaser to assure himself as to the quality of a pack of cards without requiring the revenue stamp to be broken. An attempt has been made heretofore to accomplish this result by providing in one face of the carton, box or wrapper a flap which is supposed to sufficiently protect the adjacent card of the pack while the pack is on the shelf, but can be lifted to permit the purchaser to see the back of the card and also to feel the surface of the card. An examination as to the quality of playing cards by seeing and feeling the surface of a card does not, however, give the purchaser sufficient assurance as to the quality of cards, which assurance can be secured only by actually fingering a card of the pack. This result is accomplished, in accordance with the present invention, by forming in one face of the carton, box or wrapper, between the ends or sides of such face, a slit which extends entirely across such face, in one direction or the other, so as to permit a

sample card to be inserted part way within the carton, box or wrapper, its position conforming to the position of the pack within the wrapper. Such sample card can be withdrawn for purposes of close examination by the purchaser, not only as to appearance and surface but as to texture, yet the pack is undisturbed and the revenue stamp remains unbroken.

The invention will be more fully explained hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawing in which it is illustrated and in which,

Figure 1 is a view in elevation of a carton, box or wrapper for a pack of playing cards showing the slit but with the sample removed. Fig. 2 is a similar view but showing the sample card inserted in the slit. Fig. 3 is a view in section on the plane indicated by the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

The carton, box or wrapper may be made of cardboard, paper or other suitable material and may be made in any suitable manner. It is usually provided at one end with an ungummed flap *b* and is sealed by the application of a revenue stamp, applied as indicated at *c*, across the flap *b*, but any other suitable construction may be adopted which will permit of the sealing of the package, including the cards, in such manner that the cards cannot be removed without breaking the revenue stamp. In one face, as at *d*, of the carton, box or wrapper, is formed a slit *e*, which extends entirely across such face. The slit is located at any convenient point between the sides or ends, but at a sufficient distance from the adjacent side or end to prevent the removal through the slit of any card of the pack. It is obviously immaterial, except as a matter of convenience in manufacture and in handling, whether the slit be made to run lengthwise or crosswise of the face. The package of cards having been made up with its inclosure provided with the slit as described and sealed by the application of the revenue stamp, as explained, a sample card *f*, corresponding in color and quality, as well as in size, to the cards of the pack, is slipped into the slit, thus leaving a portion of the sample card exposed while another portion is covered by the face of the carton, box or wrapper. This sample card may be withdrawn at any time to enable the purchaser to examine its quality carefully, as by fingering the card in the usual manner, and then restored to its

place, without at any time requiring the revenue stamp to be broken. The purchaser is thus enabled to assure himself as to the quality of the cards while the revenue law is strictly complied with and subsequent purchasers are assured, by the unbroken revenue stamp, that the pack has not been used previously nor rejected by some prior prospective purchaser.

10 I claim as my invention:

1. A package of playing or similar cards comprising a plurality of cards; a wrapper inclosing said cards and sealed, so that in removing the cards from the wrapper in the manner contemplated the seal will be broken, and provided with a slit extending across the surface of said inclosed cards; and a sample card held within said slit and extending to the exterior of the package, the character of the slit being such that the sample card may be withdrawn therefrom and from the package, while the cards inclosed by the wrapper may not be removed therethrough.

25 2. A package of playing or similar cards comprising a plurality of cards; wrapper inclosing said cards and sealed, so that in removing the cards from the wrapper in the manner contemplated the seal will be broken, and provided with a slit extending across

the surface of said inclosed cards; and a sample card held within said slit and extending to the exterior of the package, the slit being of sufficient length to permit the withdrawal therethrough of said sample card from the package, and the location thereof being such that the cards inclosed by the wrapper may not be removed there- 35 through.

3. A package of playing or similar cards comprising a plurality of cards; a wrapper inclosing said cards and sealed, so that in removing the cards from the wrapper in the manner contemplated the seal will be broken, and provided with a slit extending across the surface of said inclosed cards; and a sample card held within said slit and extending to the exterior of the package, said slit extending transversely of the package and the ends thereof terminating adjacent the sides of the package and of the inclosed cards, and the location thereof being medial with respect to the inclosed cards. 40 45 50

This specification signed and witnessed this 5th day of October, A. D., 1903.

WILLIAM H. DOUGHERTY.

Signed in the presence of—
WILLIAM B. GREELEY,
AMBROSE L. O'SHEA.