

F. E. LONG.
 SELF FEEDER MATCH SAFE.
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912,697.

Patented Feb. 16, 1909.

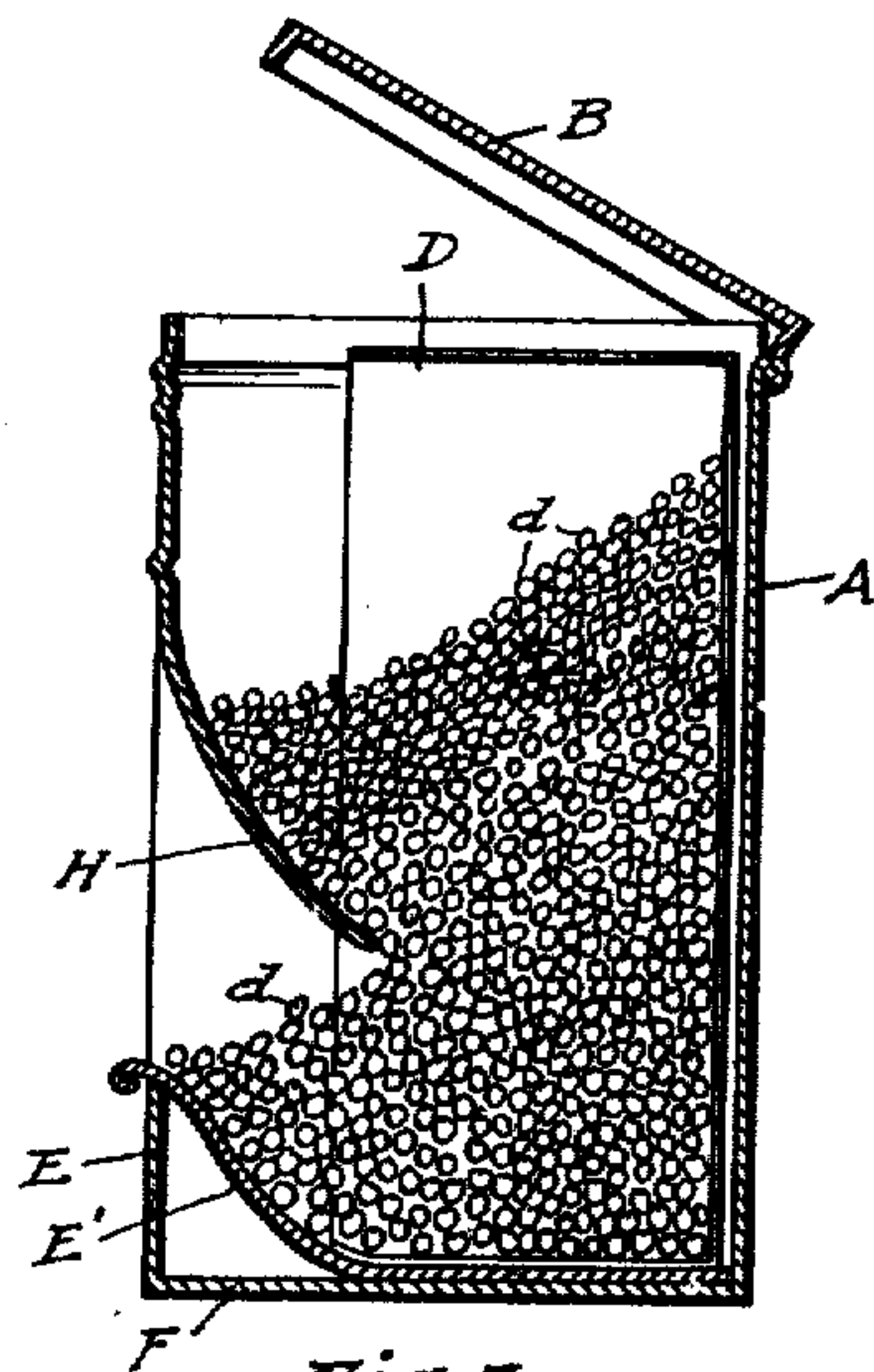


Fig. 3.

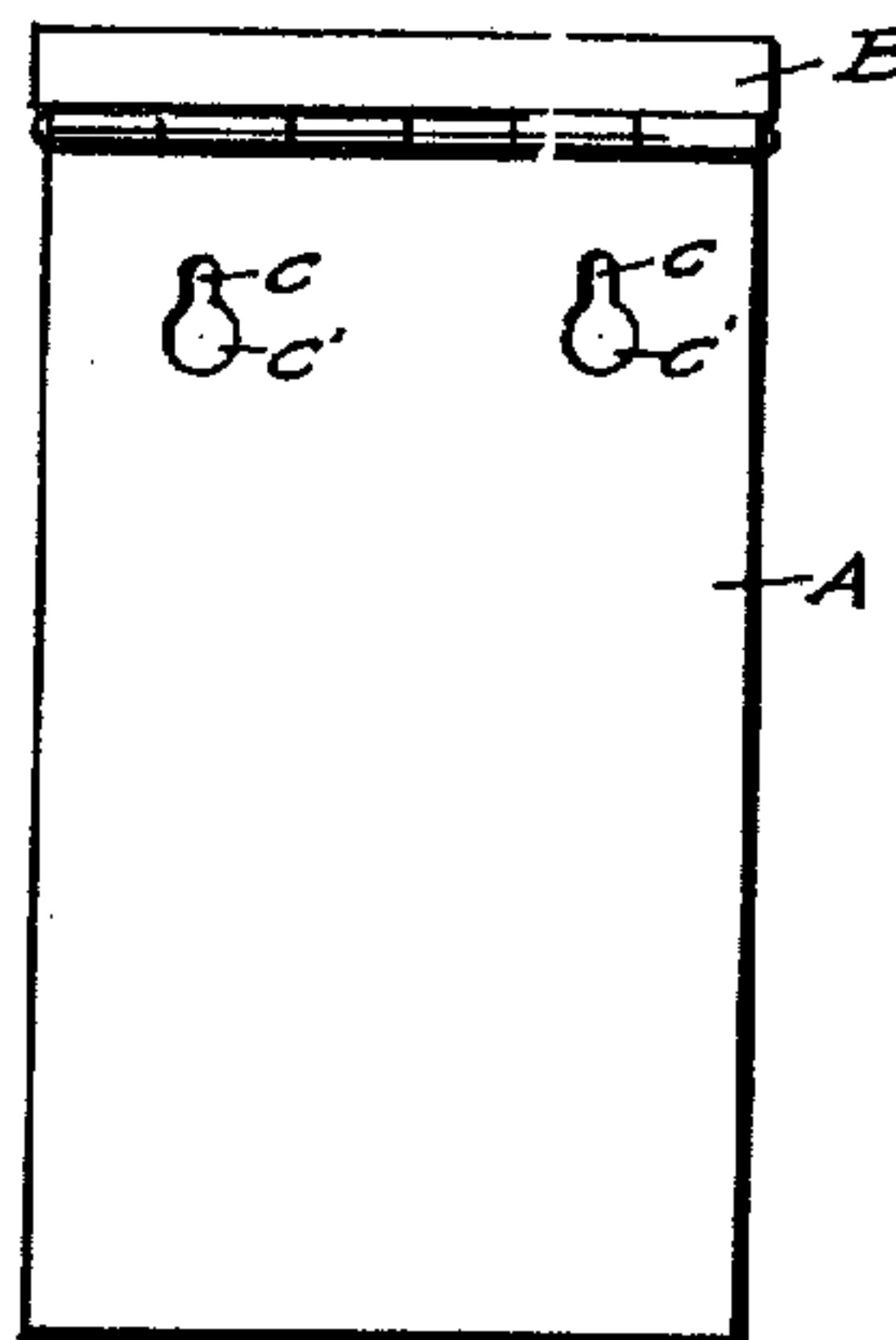


Fig. 2.

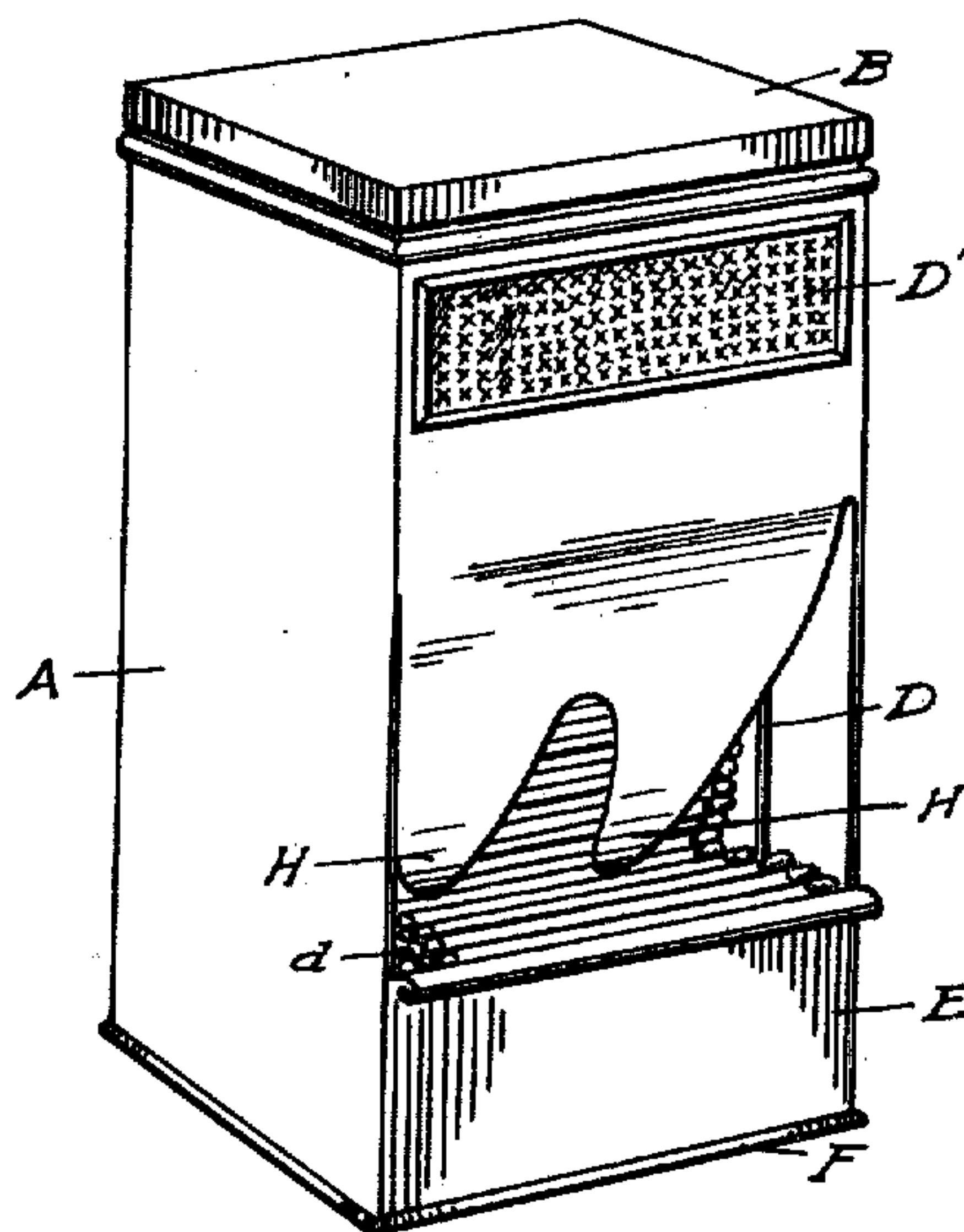


Fig. 1.

WITNESSES:

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SELF-FEEDER MATCH-SAFE.

No. 912,697.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 16, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK E. LONG, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Joseph, in the county of Buchanan and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Feeder Match-Safes, of which, the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a device equally adapted to be supported upon a bracket, desk, dressing case or other piece of furniture, or be hung against the side wall of a room and that will automatically feed down the matches direct from the match box as needed.

I accomplish my object by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,—

Figure 1 is a perspective of the safe; Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a transverse vertical section of the same.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in the several views.

In the drawings A represents the body of a safe, and B a lid thereon, preferably hinged.

C C are slotted openings of key hole form, reverse, the lower circular parts C' C' being adapted to receive the heads of nails or screws that may be in a wall, the neck of the nail or screw fitting into the upper part of the elongated end of the slot when the safe is slightly lowered. The safe is thus held firmly against the wall, being removable only by first raising it up the length of said elongated slots.

D represents an oblong match box, the casing or top thereof removed, set end-wise in the safe, the open front set to correspond with the front of the safe; *d d* illustrate matches therein, and D' represents a match ignition surface. E, at the front of the base of the safe, is a retainer to prevent the descending matches falling out. Said retainer also supports the front of a false bottom E' which extends therefrom downward and rearward on an incline or curve and forms the receptacle for the matches that are in position for use at the front of the safe. This construction of the false bottom prevents any of the matches lodging in the right angle corner formed by said front E and the bottom F of the safe, thus facilitating the withdrawal of each match and at the same time serving as an upward and backward check upon the descent of the

matches. The upper part of the front of the safe is provided with two fingers H H dovetailed apart as shown in Fig. 1 and curved somewhat to the rear. These fingers, as shown in Fig. 3, serve to prevent the matches that press against them passing down too rapidly and guide them rearward where they mingle and descend with those still in the match box into the receptacle.

It will be understood that the matches are not emptied from the match box into the safe but the box itself is placed endwise in the safe, the matches being thus retained in horizontal position. When one box is emptied lid B is lifted, the empty match box withdrawn and another inserted. Fingers H H of spring metal readily yield space for the box as it is inserted and when the empty box is being removed said fingers are easily sprung and held forward until the box has been raised above the horizontal of the tips of said fingers.

I desire to reserve the right to make any changes in said safe that will adapt it for use with match boxes of any size and shape, to construct it with one, or two, or more fingers of any form and to make any other alterations in construction that are simply mechanical.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A match safe comprising a body forming a magazine as a receptacle for a match box, a hinged lid, perforations forming a match igniter near the top, a cut away portion below the igniter, feed fingers projecting downward into said cut away space and curved somewhat backward into the magazine, a match retainer at the front below said cut away portion, and an inclined curved false bottom extending rearward from the top of said retainer, substantially as set forth and shown.

2. In a self-feeder match safe the combination with an open match box and the matches therein, of the body of a match safe its front spaced from the match box, a partly open front its upper part provided with a match igniter, its lower part serving as a match retainer, feed fingers curved rearward in the body of said safe and an inclined false bottom to support the lower matches and retard the descent of those in the match box, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination with a match safe, of a self-feeder match safe of oblong shape

provided with a lid and having solid vertical back and sides and upper and lower front parts entirely closed, a false bottom attached to the top edge of the front retainer part 5 incurved downward and backward to check the forward egress of matches from the match box, and fingers in the central open space at the front to receive and carry backward the matches falling forward from the 10 upper half of the match box, substantially as set forth and shown.

4. The combination in a self-feeder match safe with a match box set endwise, its top removed, of the sides, back, top, bottom, and 15 the upper and lower solidly closed parts of the front of the safe spaced forward from the match box, feed fingers integral with the upper part of said front bearing downward and rearward to a line slightly back 20 of the vertical of the front of the match box into contact with the matches to check their too rapid descent, and a false bottom engaging at its front edge with the top of the lower member of the front of the safe and 25 curved downward and rearward therefrom to the horizontal line of the bottom of the safe to check the too rapid egress of the matches into the match receptacle and permit the lower end of the match box to be 30 seated firmly on the base of the safe, substantially as shown and described.

5. The combination with a match box of a self-feeder match safe comprising feed 35 fingers extending downward and rearward into contact with the matches to prevent their too rapid descent, the vertical spaces at the sides and between said fingers constituting the only open parts of the safe, a false bottom its front edge extending horizontally 40 across the entire lower part of the front, a retainer below and supporting said edge of the false bottom closing the lower part of the front of the match safe chamber, substantially as described and set forth.

45 6. A match safe comprising a closed bottom, back, sides, a lid on top thereof, a front closed at the bottom and also closed at the top, feed fingers bearing downward and

rearward in the open space in the front, a false bottom supported at the front on the 50 top horizontal edge of the lower member of the front and curved downward and rearward to the safe bottom forming a distributing receptacle for matches and permitting an end of a match box to be solidly 55 seated in the right angle formed by the back and bottom of the safe, substantially as shown and described.

7. A match safe for receiving an uncovered match box endwise therein comprising front members at top and bottom 60 closed rigidly, feed fingers projecting downward and rearward from the upper front member, a false bottom rigidly supported on the top edge of the lower front member 65 bearing downward and rearward to seat the lower end of the match box, the front space on said false bottom forming a receptacle for matches descending to occupy the space of those withdrawn, substantially as de- 70 scribed and shown.

8. The combination with a match safe having a front with upper and lower members spaced apart, of match feeder fingers projecting downward from said upper mem- 75 ber and a floor, its front edge supported by the top edge of said lower member and curved to form a match receptacle, substantially as set forth and shown.

9. In a match safe having an open top 80 and a front with upper and lower members spaced apart, a floor connected with the top edge of the lower member of the front and extending backward on a curved decline, thence horizontally, its rear part serving as 85 a support for a match box, its front part as a receptacle for matches and as a brace to prevent a too rapid descent of matches descending from said box, substantially as shown and set forth. 90

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

FRANK E. LONG.

Witnesses:

D. E. HEATON,
GEO. S. JOYCE.