

A. L. PLOTNER.

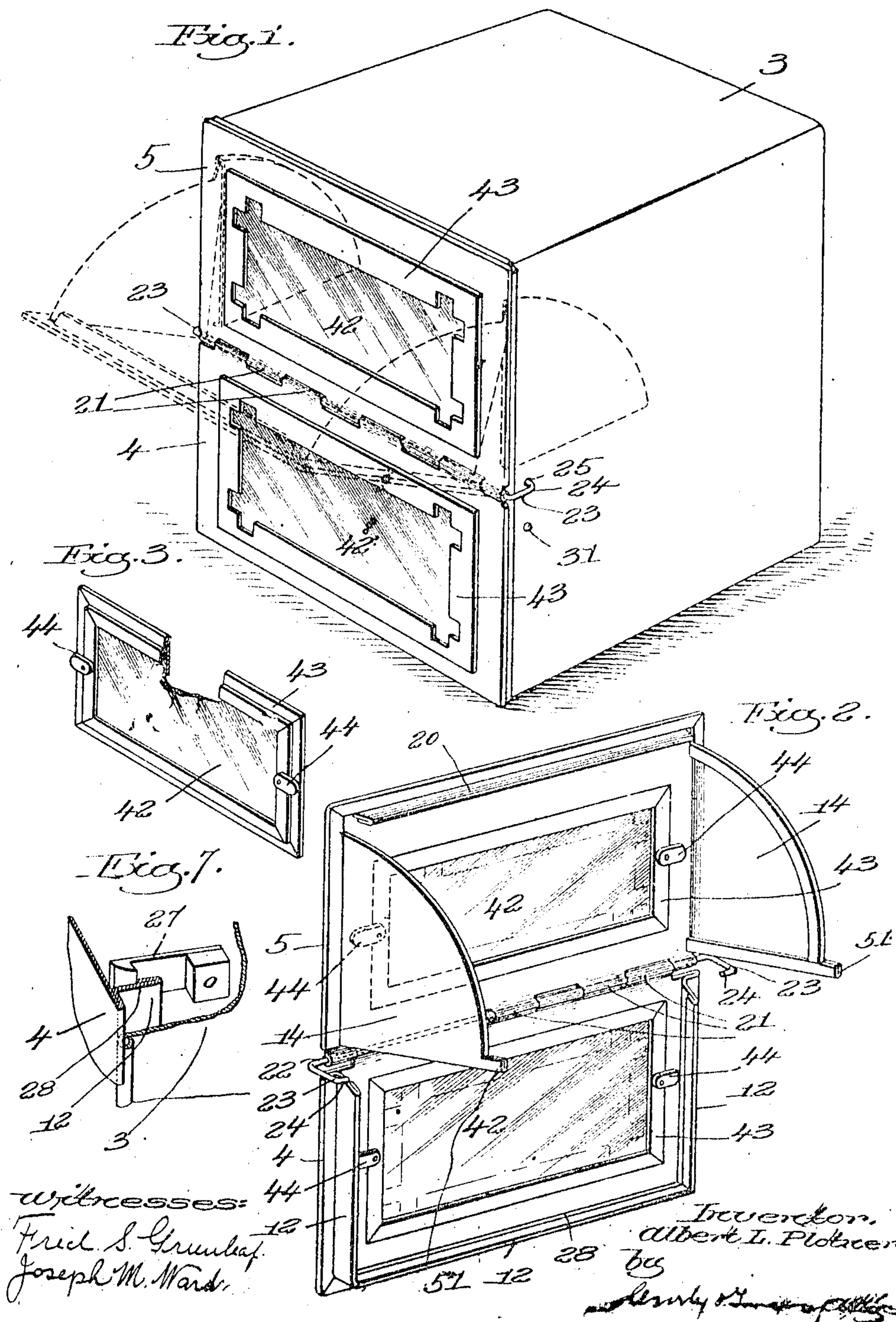
CRACKER BOX.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 30, 1909.

947,498.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

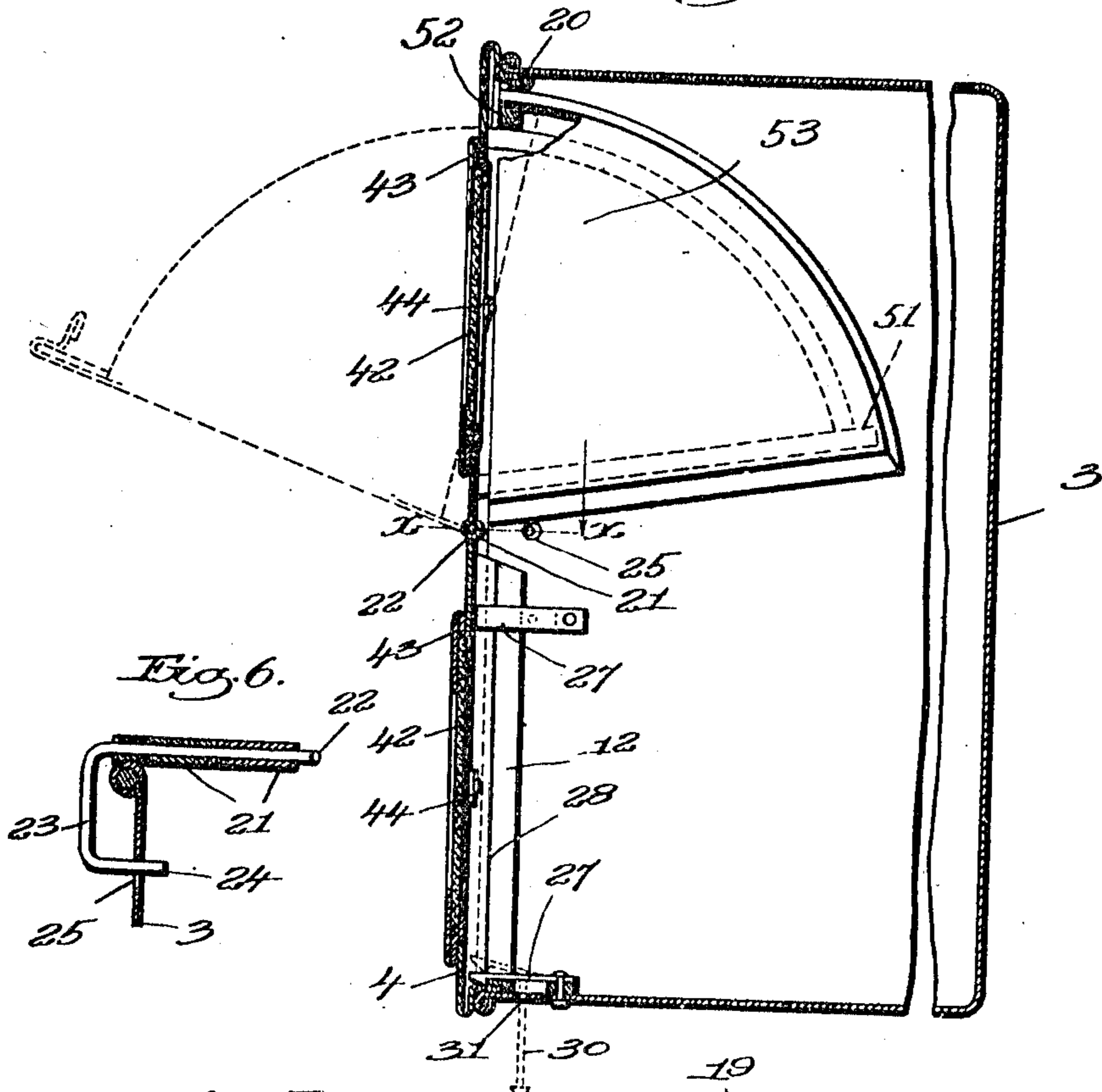


Fig. 6.

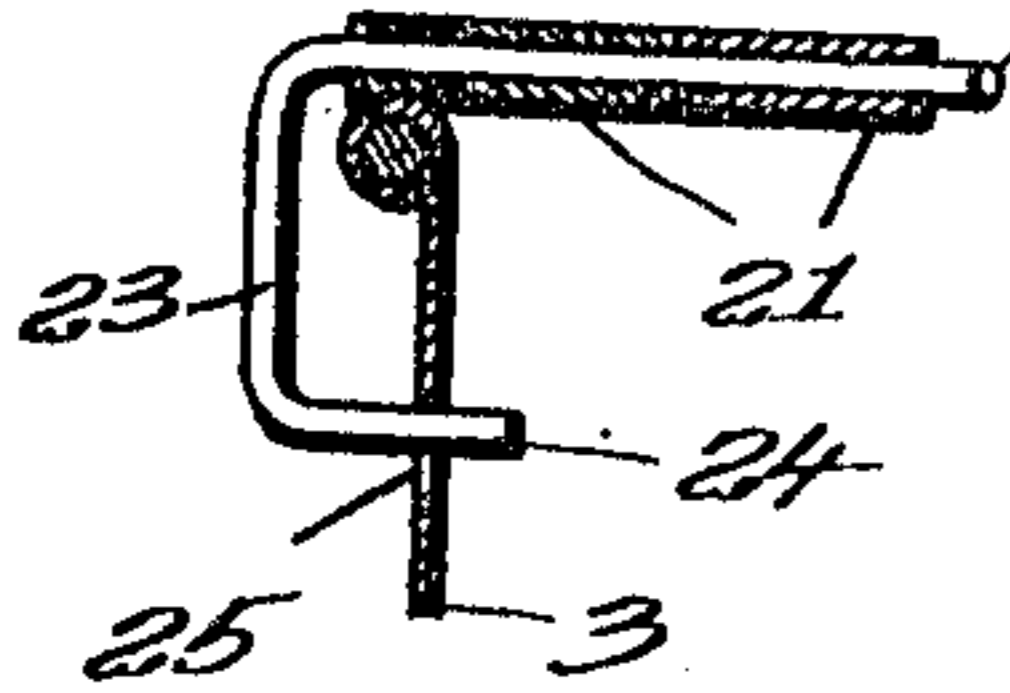
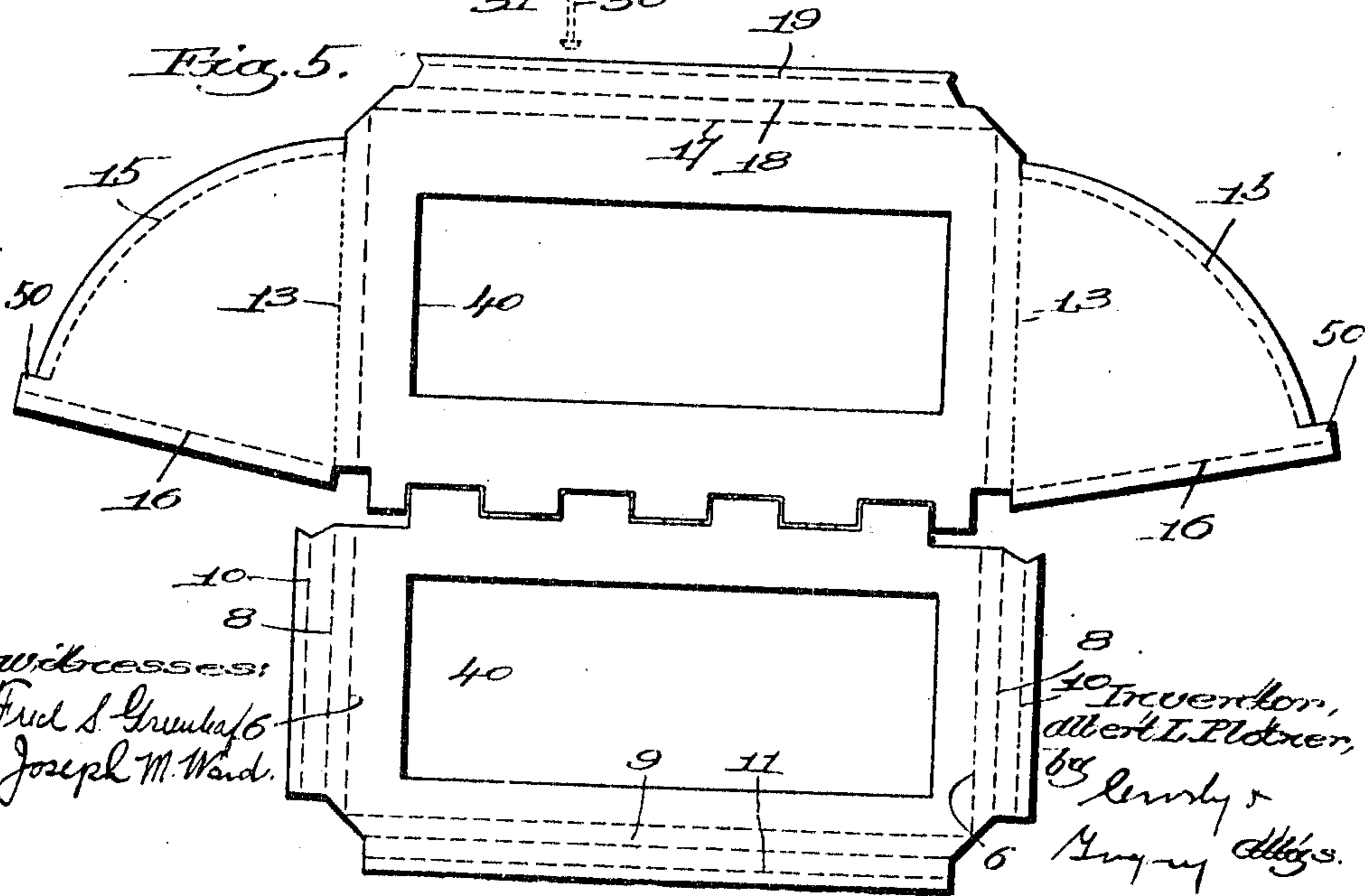


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT L. PLOTNER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

CRACKER-BOX.

947,498.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT L. PLOTNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boston, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Cracker-Boxes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like figures on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention relates to cracker boxes of that type which are provided with a hinged door on the front side through which access may be had to the interior of the box.

In my improvement the entire front of the box is made removable, although only a portion of the front of the box is hinged to constitute a cover which provides access to the box.

My invention aims to provide a novel construction for the front of the box and a novel manner of locking this front in position, all as will be more fully hereinafter described and then pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cracker box embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the inner face of the removable front; Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the transparent portion of the front; Fig. 4 is a vertical central section through the box from the front to the rear; Fig. 5 is a view showing the blanks from which the two sections of the removable front are formed; Fig. 6 is a section on the line $x-x$, Fig. 4; Fig. 7 is a detail in perspective of a portion of the locking device.

The body 3 of the box is of any suitable or usual construction, it being made with the open front. This open front is closed by the box front which is herein formed of the two sections 4 and 5 that are hinged together. The section 4 is rigidly secured in place, while the section 5 constitutes a swinging door which can be swung from its full line position Figs. 1 and 4 to the dotted line position in order to provide access to the interior of the box.

I propose to make the section 4 of sheet metal from a blank such as shown in Fig. 5, and after the blank has been formed, it is folded back on itself along the lines 6 and the folded edge is then bent along the lines 8, 9 so that the remaining portions or wings stand at right angles to the plane of the sec-

tion and such wings are then folded back on themselves on the lines 10, 11. When the construction is thus made, the edges made by the folds along the lines 6, constitute the edges of the section and the wings or portions extending beyond said lines 6, are folded to present the flange 12 which is situated a slight distance from the edge of the section. This flange 12 is properly positioned so that it fits inside an opening at the front of the cracker box.

The upper or door section 5 is made in one piece from a blank such as shown in Fig. 5, and in shaping the section from the blank it is folded along the lines 13 to form the two wings or side pieces 14, and the edges of these wings are folded along the lines 15 and 16 to form double thicknesses at the edges for strengthening and stiffening the wings. The upper edge is folded back on itself along the line 17 and then is bent again along the line 18 to stand at right angles to the plane of the body of the section, and the edge is folded on itself along the line 19, thus forming the flange 20 which stands at right angles to the plane of the body of the section. In forming the wings 14, the blank is folded so that said wings are located a slight distance in from the edge of the section. The blank is formed with the extensions 50 so that when it is folded the projections 51 are provided which by their engagement with the stops 52 secured to the box body limit the opening movement of the door. The box is provided on its interior at each side with a chamber 53 which is adapted to receive the wings 14 when the door is shut, said chambers 53 each being open at the front as will be obvious. The stops 52 are placed within said chambers at the mouth thereof. The walls of the chamber 53 prevent the contents of the box from coming in contact with the wings so that the door can be readily opened and closed without meeting any obstruction from the material within the box.

The two sections 4 and 5 of the front may be hinged together in any suitable way. I have herein shown each section as provided with the ears 21 through which the pivotal rod 22 passes. Each end of this rod 22 is bent into a hook shape, as at 23, and the point 24 of the rod is adapted to engage in an aperture 25 formed in the side of the cracker box thereby to assist in holding the front in place. The section 4 of the front

is rigidly secured to the body of the cracker box, while the section 5 is adapted to be swung from the full to the dotted line positions Figs. 1 and 4, thereby to provide access to the box. For holding the lower section 4 in position I have shown the spring catches 27 which are rigidly secured at one end to the body of the box and are adapted to catch over the edge or shoulder 28 which is formed when the rib 12 is made.

If it is desired to remove the front entirely from the cracker box, this may be done by inserting a pin or piece of wire, as shown in dotted lines 30 Fig. 4, through an aperture 31 directly in line with each of the catches 27 thereby forcing said catches back off from the shoulder 28 and at the same time withdrawing the ends 24 of the pintle wire from the apertures 25. The front can be readily placed in the cracker box by merely forcing it into place, for during this movement the catches 27 will spring over the shoulders and thus hold the lower section 4 in place. After the catches have thus engaged the shoulders 28 the ends 24 of the pintle pin may be sprung into the apertures 25.

The construction herein described makes a very strong front and one which may be easily inserted into the cracker box or withdrawn therefrom. When the front is in position, it is rigidly held because of the fact that the flange 12 fits accurately the inside of the box and the catches 27 and ends 24 of the pintle rod serve to firmly hold the front in place. When the swinging section 5 is closed the flange 20 thereon fits accurately the inside of the box, as shown in Fig. 4. The swinging movement of the door section 5 places more or less strain on the upper edge of the fixed section 4, but this strain is provided for by the way in which the pintle rod 22 is formed into the hooked ends 23 that are sprung into openings 25 in the sides of the box body.

I propose to make either or both of the sections of the front with window openings through which the contents of the box may be seen. These openings may conveniently be formed when the blank is cut out, as shown at 40 and 41 in Fig. 5, and each is closed by a suitable section 42 of glass or other transparent material. Each section of transparent material may conveniently be sustained in a frame 43 which can be removably secured to the sections 4 and 5 in any appropriate way, as by means of the buttons or catches 44.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a cracker box, the combination with a box body having an open front, of a removable front for the body comprising a fixed section and a door section pivoted together, the fixed section having a flange extending therefrom which sets into the open front and fits against the sides thereof, and means within the body adapted to engage said flange to retain the fixed section in place.

2. In a cracker box, the combination with a box body having an open front, of a front for the body comprising a fixed section and a door section pivoted together, said fixed section being made from sheet metal which is folded at its edges to form on three sides thereof a flange of double thickness which extends at right angles from the main portion of said section and is situated a slight distance from the edge thereof and which is adapted to fit within the open front and engage the walls of the body, and means within the body to engage said flange thereby to retain the front in place.

3. In a cracker box, the combination with a box body having an open front, of a front for the body comprising a fixed section and a door section pivoted together, said fixed section being made from sheet metal which is folded back on itself on three edges to form a flange of double thickness which fits within the open side of the box and which is provided with a shoulder, and means within the box to engage said shoulder thereby to hold the fixed section in place.

4. In a cracker box, the combination with a box body having an open front, of a removable front for the body comprising a fixed section and a door section pivoted thereto, a wing extending outwardly from each end of the door section, each wing having at its back edge an outwardly-extending projection situated in the plane of the wing, each side of the body being provided with a pocket to receive the wing, and a stop within the pocket adapted to be engaged by said projection when the door is opened.

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

ALBERT L. PLOTNER.

Witnesses:

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THOMAS J. DRUMMOND.