T. E. FEARON.

CIGAR BOX.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 19, 1908.

951,728. Patented Mar. 8, 1910.

Fig. 1

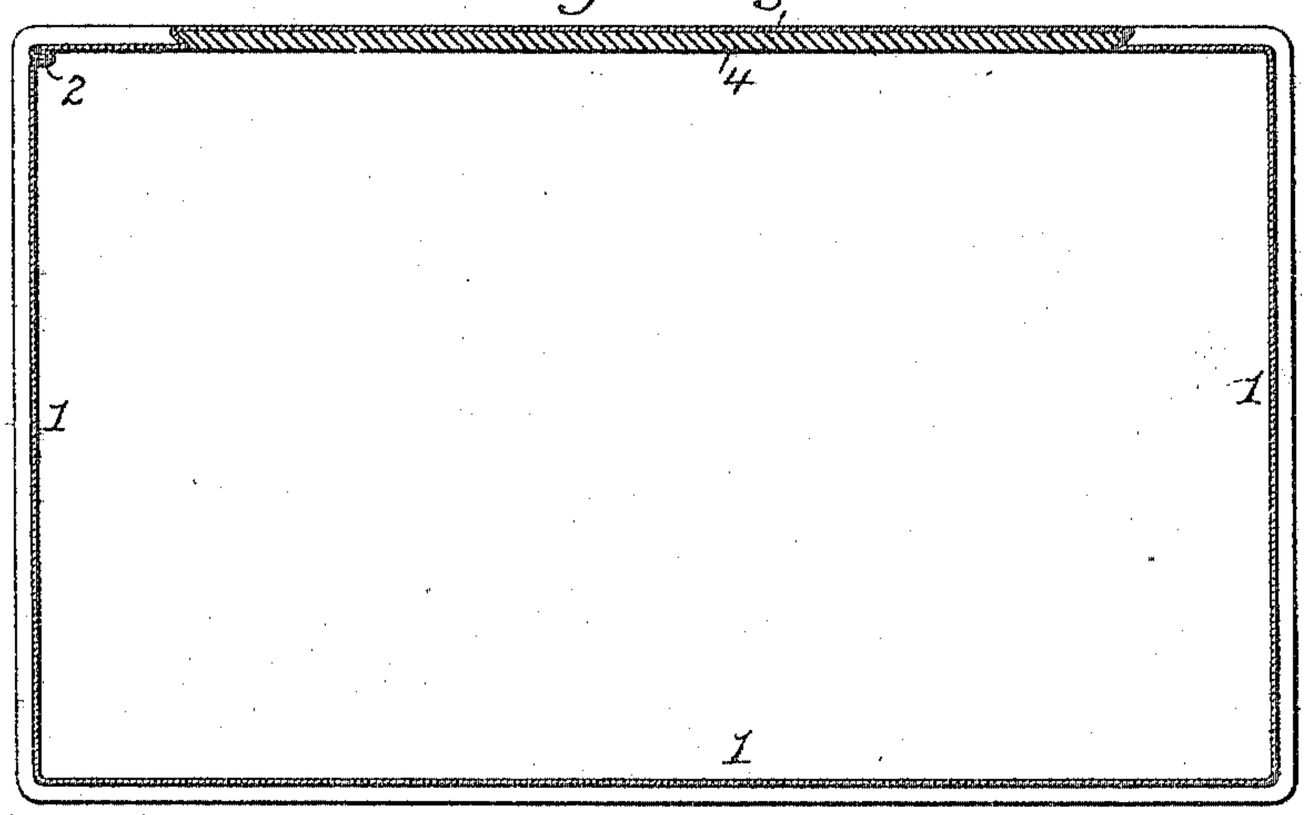
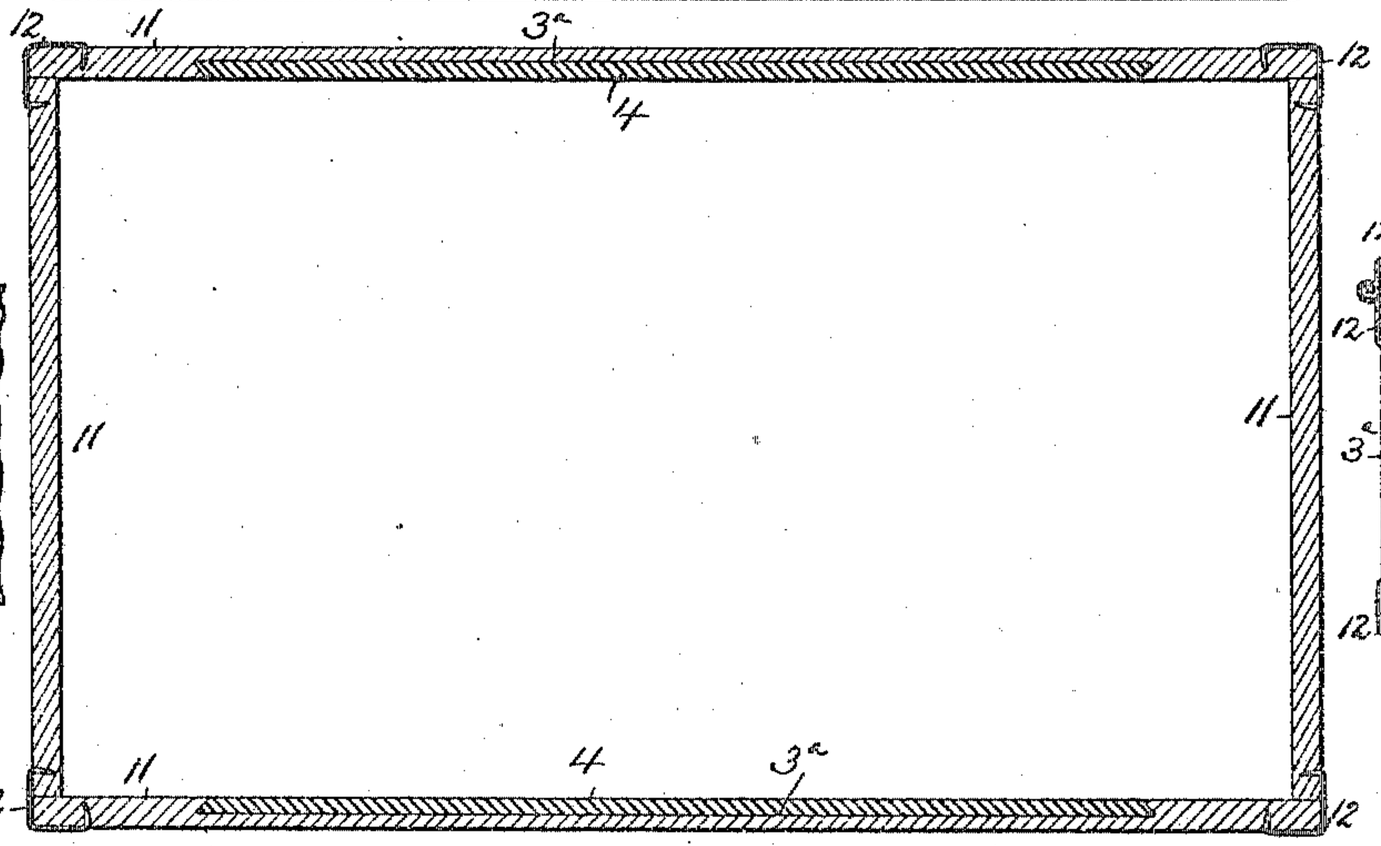


Fig. 3



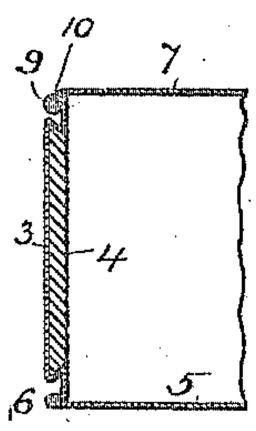
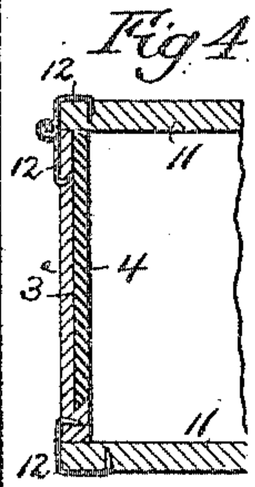


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4



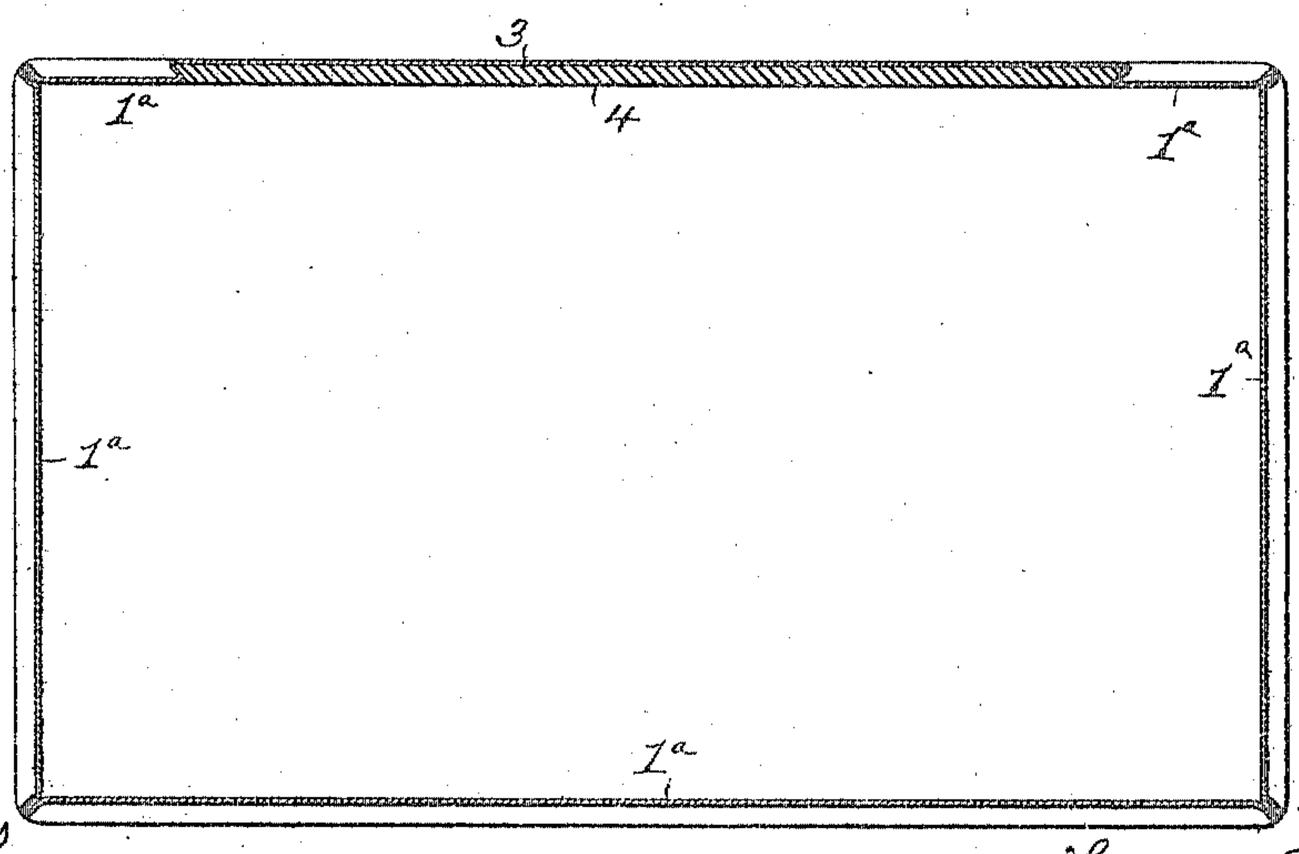


Fig 5.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. FEARON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CLIFTON MALONEY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

CIGAR-BOX.

951,728. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 8, 1910.

Application filed November 19, 1908. Serial No. 463,461.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. FEARON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Cigar-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to so construct a cigar box as to lessen the cost of the same as compared with the ordinary wooden boxes now in use, and to provide for keeping the cigars in the desired moist condition without the use of a separate humidor. This object I attain in the manner hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a horizontal longitudinal sectional view of a cigar box constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical sectional view of part of the same; Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but illustrating another construction of cigar box in accordance with my invention; Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical sectional view of part of the box shown in Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a horizontal longitudinal sectional view illustrating a modified construction of a box of the type shown in Fig. 1.

Owing to the rapidly diminishing supply and constantly increasing cost of the cedar wood of which cigar boxes are usually made, the cost of such boxes is becoming prohibitive. The ordinary wooden box, moreover, does not maintain the cigars in the proper moist condition from the time the box is first opened until all of the cigars have been consumed. My invention has therefore been designed with the view of overcoming both of these objections.

That form of box shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is composed wholly of sheet metal, the body of the box consisting, preferably, of a single strip 1 of sheet metal bent to proper form and having its edges united at one corner by a suitable seam, as shown at 2. The back of the box has formed in it a pocket 3 for the reception of a pad 4 of absorbent material, which may be moistened and placed in the pocket before the cigars are packed in the box and which serves to keep the contents of the box in moist condition for a considerable length of time, the pad being removed and remoistened, if necessary, as often as desired, depending upon the time during which the cigars are permitted to remain in the box, or instead of moistening the pad in the first instance, it may be dry when first inserted so that it will absorb the moisture from the damp cigars when they are first placed in the box, and will continue to do so until an equilibrium is established, after which time it will give out its moisture to prevent or retard the further drying of the cigars.

The bottom 5 of the box may be secured to the body member of the same by any suitable form of joint 6 and the top 7 may be hinged to the body member by means of hinge members 9 formed respectively on the body member and top, and serving for the reception of a pivot wire 10, as shown in Fig. 2. In order that it may not interfere with the formation of these hinge and bottom joints, the pocket 3 is preferably discontinued before it reaches the top or bottom of the box.

If desired, the front, back and ends of the box may consist of independent pieces united together at the corners of the box as shown in Fig. 5, and additional pockets may be formed in the front of the box, in the ends of the same or in the lid, depending upon the amount of absorbent material 4 which may be necessary to maintain the contents of the box in the desired moist condition.

Instead of forming the box of sheet metal the same may be composed of sheets or slabs 11 of vulcanized fiber or other material impervious to air, these sheets being properly secured together at their meeting points, as for instance, by means of metal binding strips 12, one or more of the sides of the box having a pocket 3^a pressed therein for the reception of a moistening pad 4, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. In a box of this type the binding strips 12 preferably extend from top to bottom, from end to end, or from side to side of the box for the purpose of making the joints as nearly air tight as possible.

A box constructed in either of the ways described is cheaper than the ordinary cedar wood box now employed, and permits of the ready pressing or molding of the pocket or pockets in the material of which the box is composed.

As the box material is impervious to air,

and the internal pocket has no communication with the outside of the box, it follows that all evaporation from the moistening pad contained in the pocket must be within the box, where alone it is effective for the purpose of moistening the cigars.

I am aware that separate pockets or receptacles for the reception of moistening pads have heretofore been attached to the lids and other portions of cigar boxes, and also that a pad-receiving pocket has been formed on the outside of the box where it is open to the access of the outside air, and I therefore claim neither of these constructions, but

I claim:

A cigar box composed of sheet material impervious to the air, a side of which is shaped to form an internal pocket for the reception of a moistening pad, said pocket terminating short of the top or bottom of the box, substantially as described.

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

THOMAS E. FEARON.

Witnesses:

HAMILTON D. TURNER,

KATE A. BEADLE.