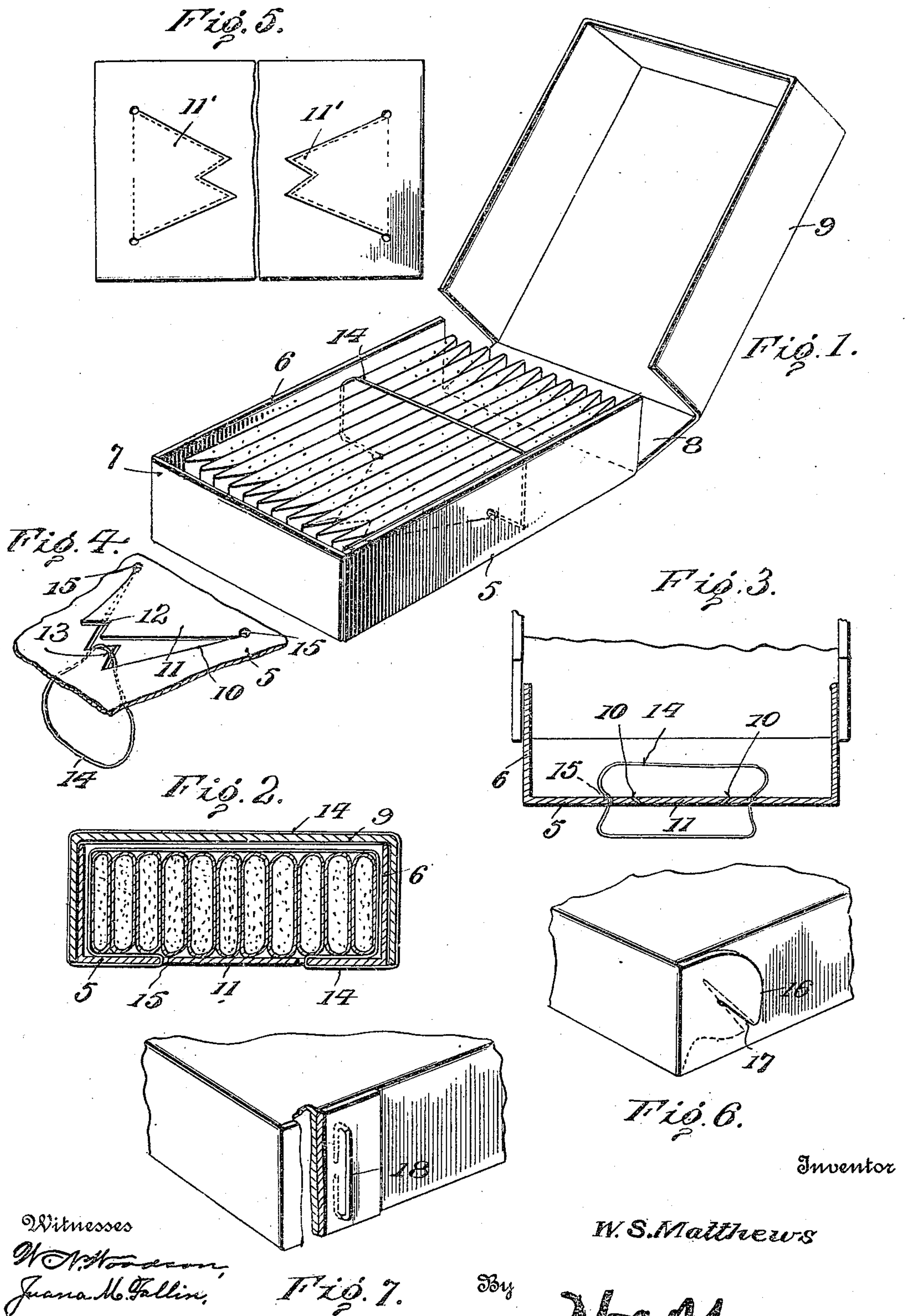


W. S. MATTHEWS.  
PAPER BOX AND FASTENER.  
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961,784.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PAPER BOX AND FASTENER.

961,784.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 21, 1910.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTER S. MATTHEWS, citizen of the United States, residing at Gulfport, in the county of Harrison and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper Boxes and Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to boxes and similar receptacles, and more particularly to means for preventing accidental displacement of the contents of the box during transportation or shipment.

The object of the invention is to provide a box or receptacle having an elastic element secured to the bottom thereof and which serves the dual function of preventing accidental displacement of the contents of the box and also as a means for holding the cover of said box in closed position.

A further object is to form the bottom of the box with a tongue capable of being pressed upwardly within the box to permit the attachment of the elastic securing element, but held against downward movement so that the bottom of said box will always present a smooth unobstructed surface.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and efficiency, as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the description, it being understood that various changes in form, proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box or receptacle constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the cover open so as to expose the contents of the box. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the box showing the cover closed. Fig. 3 is a detail vertical sectional view of the box before being filled. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the bottom of the box showing the tongue pressed upwardly to permit the attachment of the elastic securing element. Fig. 5 is a bottom plan view illustrating a modified form of the invention. Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view showing a different

manner of connecting the side walls of the box. Fig. 7 is a similar view illustrating a further modification.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the accompanying drawing by the same reference characters.

The improved box or receptacle forming the subject-matter of the present invention includes a bottom section 5 having side walls 6 rigidly secured thereto and to one of the end walls 7, the opposite end wall 8 being formed integral with the bottom 5 and cover 9 respectively, so as to permit the cover to be moved to closed position and also to permit the ready discharge of the contents of the box when the cover is in open position.

The bottom of the box is formed with converging incisions 10 defining a tongue 11, there being a V-shaped recess 12 formed in the tongue, and producing a longitudinally disposed tooth 13 in the bottom of the box opposite the recessed portion of the tongue, as shown.

Embracing the tongue 11 is an elastic securing element, the latter being preferably in the form of a continuous elastic band 14, a portion of which embraces the contents of the box for preventing accidental displacement thereof during transportation or shipment, while another portion thereof is adapted to extend over the cover 9 when the latter is closed and thus assist in retaining the cover in closed position. Suitable openings or perforations 15 are formed in the bottom of the box at the incisions 10 for the purpose of receiving the elastic band 14 and retaining the latter in position on the bottom of the box.

Attention is here called to the fact that the side walls of the incisions 10 and recess 12 are inclined downwardly so as to permit the tongue 11 to be pressed upwardly within the box when attaching the securing element 14, said inclined walls serving to prevent the tongue from being forced below the plane of the bottom of the box, and thus prevent accidental displacement of said securing element.

In applying the elastic securing element to a box the tongue 11 is pressed upwardly and the elastic band 14 positioned over the tooth 13, after which that portion of the band engaging the tooth is drawn forwardly within the body of the box and thence pressed laterally against the inclined walls



of the incisions 10 into engagement with the openings 15. The box is then filled, the contents of the box being inserted between the elastic element 14 at the bottom of said box, as best shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing. After the box is filled, the cover 9 is moved to closed position and the lower strand of the elastic element 14 passed over the top of the box as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawing, so as to hold the cover in closed position.

The box is principally designed for doctors' and dentists' use in transporting or shipping powders, and the like, but it will, of course, be understood that the same may be used with equally good results for transporting playing cards, and other merchandise, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

It will here be noted that by making the end wall 8 separate from the side walls 6 of the box, the powders or other contents of the box may be readily removed without the necessity of first severing the elastic band 14, the powders being withdrawn from beneath the elastic band 14 by exerting a slight longitudinal pull thereon, so that any number of powders may be removed, the remaining powders in the box being held against accidental displacement by the inherent elastic properties of the securing band 14.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, the side walls 6 of the box are shown rigidly and permanently secured to the end wall 7 thereof, but if desired, the side walls of the box and cover may be formed as illustrated in Fig. 6 of the drawing, in which one of said walls is provided with a locking tongue 16 adapted to enter a slot 17 formed in the adjacent wall.

In some cases the side and end walls of the body of the box and cover may be detachable, or permanently secured together by staples or similar fastening devices indicated at 18 in Fig. 7 of the drawing.

While it is preferable to form the bottom of the box with a single tongue for engagement with a single securing element, it will, of course be understood that two or more of said tongues may be provided when the contents of the box is such as to necessitate a plurality of clamping bands or elements to retain the contents of the box against accidental displacement during transportation or shipment. Such a construction is shown in Fig. 5 of the drawing, in which a tongue

11' is shown at each end of the box for this purpose.

Thus it will be seen that there is provided a comparatively simple and inexpensive device, admirably adapted for the attainment of the ends in view.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new is:—

1. A receptacle including a cover and having one wall thereof provided with spaced incisions defining a tongue, the walls of which are undercut, and an elastic securing element engaging the tongue and having a portion thereof extended within the receptacle, and another portion thereof adapted to engage the cover.

2. A receptacle including a cover having its bottom provided with converging incisions to produce a tongue, the walls of which are undercut, there being a V-shaped recess formed in the free end of the tongue and defining a correspondingly shaped tooth adapted to enter the recess, and an elastic securing element engaging the tongue, and having a portion thereof extending upwardly within the body of the receptacle for engagement with the contents thereof, and another portion thereof adapted to engage the cover when the latter is in closed position.

3. A receptacle including a cover having its bottom portion provided with a tongue free to move upwardly within the box, but held against downward movement, and an elastic securing element engaging the tongue and having a portion thereof extended within the receptacle for engagement with the contents thereof, and another portion thereof adapted to extend across the cover when the latter is in closed position.

4. A receptacle including a cover and having one wall thereof provided with a tongue free to move laterally within the box but held against outward movement, and securing element engaging the tongue, and having a portion thereof extending within the receptacle for engagement with the contents thereof.

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

WALTER S. MATTHEWS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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