

(No Model.)

G. S. CARTER.
CIGAR SAMPLE BOX.

No. 453,691.

Patented June 9, 1891.

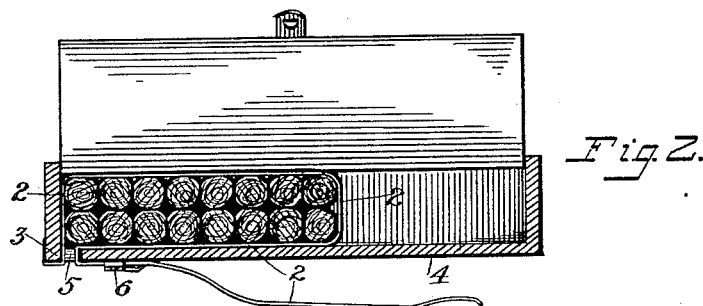
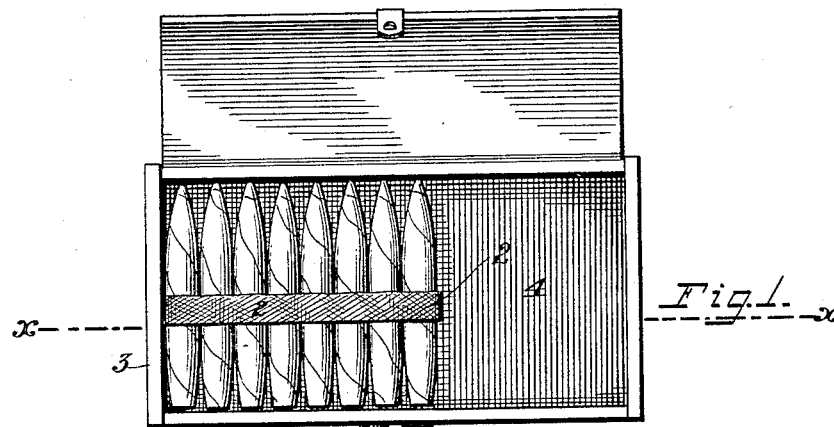


Fig. 3.

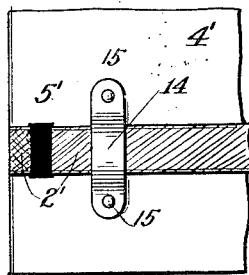


Fig. 5.

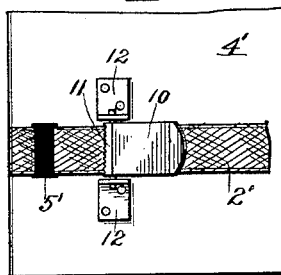


Fig. 4.

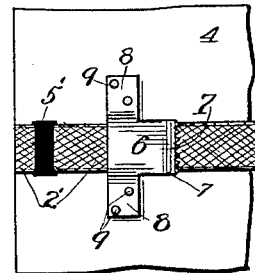


Fig. 6.

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE S. CARTER, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

CIGAR SAMPLE-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 453,691, dated June 9, 1891.

Application filed September 22, 1890. Serial No. 365,700. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE S. CARTER, of Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain
5 Improvements in Packing-Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to packing-boxes in general, but more especially to sample-boxes adapted to contain a quantity of separate
10 samples—as, for instance, cigars.

The object of my invention is to provide means whereby, after one or more of the samples have been removed from the box, the others may be prevented from shaking about
15 in the same and thereby becoming broken, soiled, or otherwise disfigured.

To this end my invention consists in a flexible strip or ribbon secured at one end of the box, and thence passing in a loop around all
20 of the articles as they are arranged in the box, the ribbon being carried back under the samples to the end of the box, thence carried through a slot in the walls or bottom of the box, and secured on the outside thereof by a
25 suitable clamp adapted to normally hold the ribbon against movement in either direction, except when pulled out to tighten or loosen the loop around the samples.

My invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view showing a sample-box of cigars provided with a retaining device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a
35 sectional side elevation thereof, taken upon line *x x* of Fig. 1. Figs 3 and 4 are details showing a clamp suitable for use with my invention. Fig. 5 shows a simple strip employed as a clamp for the ribbon. Fig. 6 is a
40 view showing the bottom of the box provided with the clamp used in Fig. 2, a side view of the same being there shown.

In Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings I have illustrated my invention as applied to cigar-
45 boxes, as it is particularly applicable for such use.

Heretofore manufacturers and jobbers in cigars have experienced much loss and inconvenience in the handling of samples, owing to the fact that as soon as one or more
50 cigars were removed from a box all of the others were left to shake about and rub against

one another, thereby breaking or otherwise destroying the beauty or usefulness of the cigars and making it necessary to provide a
55 new set of samples.

As shown in the drawings, the ribbon 2 is secured to the end or lower edge 3 of the cigar-box. This ribbon passes in a loop around the cigars, as shown in Fig. 1. If the box
60 was full, the ribbon would extend clear across the same. The ribbon is carried down around the farther end of the sample cigars and back to the end 3, along the bottom 4 of the box, and thence down through the
65 slot or opening 5 in the same. This slot is practically just wide enough to permit the ribbon to pass through the same and of a length equal to the width of the ribbon. From this point the ribbon is carried back
70 under the box, as shown, and secured in position by a clamp 6. This clamp presses upon the ribbon with sufficient force to prevent the drawing back of the ribbon to loosen the loop around the cigars. It will be seen that when
75 the first cigar is taken out of the farther end of the box the ribbon will be drawn taut to confine the others in their original positions, and that as each following cigar or cigars are taken out the others may still be easily
80 retained and held compactly together by simply drawing out the ribbon 2 through the slot and under the clamp 6. Thus the remaining cigars or like articles may be practically held
85 in their original positions until the very last has been removed from the box, thereby obviating all damage to the samples and doing away with the necessity of frequent renewal of a salesman's samples and the attendant inconvenience and expense.

Inasmuch as cigar-boxes may in accordance with the law be used but once, it is only necessary to provide a clamp which will allow the pulling out of the ribbon, but which
90 will not allow its being drawn back to loosen the loop. The clamp 6 (shown in Figs. 2 and 6) is for this reason particularly adapted for use with cigar-boxes, and consists, simply, in a stamped plate having the teeth 7 slightly bent in toward the box, and the lugs 8, through
95 which the tacks 9 are driven into the box to hold the clamp thereon. This plate is slightly swelled out in the middle to allow sufficient room for the ribbon to pass beneath the same.
100

The teeth 7 engage the ribbon, and, while the ribbon may be drawn through under the clamp, prevent its being pulled back. The clamp 6 thus forms an automatic lock. When, however, my sample-boxes are used for articles which do not restrict the use of the box, it is desirable to provide a clamp which will somewhat more readily admit of the drawing back of the ribbon. In such cases I may employ the clamp shown in Figs. 3 and 4, consisting in the lever-plate 10, having the notched angle-piece 11, and pivoted in the lugs 12. By throwing out the lever 10 the teeth will be carried away from engagement with the ribbon 2, which may then be drawn through the slot 5 in either direction, and after which it may be secured by pushing back the lever 10, or in some cases a cheaper clamp may be provided in the simple strip 14, secured on the bottom of the box with the pins or screws 15, adapted to hold the ribbon by simple pressure. By exerting considerable tension on the ribbon the same may be pulled back or forth beneath the strap 14, which, under ordinary circumstances, will effectually retain the ribbon, and thereby the samples, in position. It is sometimes preferable to make use of an elastic ribbon to more firmly hold the samples.

It is obvious that my invention may be employed with rectangular or cylindrical samples, and, further, that one or more of the ribbons with their clamps may be employed to retain the articles packed in any box.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, in a packing-box, of a ribbon provided therein, said ribbon formed in a loop and adapted to embrace the articles contained in the box, one end of said loop or ribbon being fastened permanently in the box, the other end of the ribbon being left

free, and means for tightening said ribbon-loop about said articles and for securing or clamping said free end at the point where the other end is secured, substantially as described.

2. The combination, in a device of the class described, of the ribbon having one end secured in the box, said ribbon being provided in the form of a loop adapted to retain the articles in said box, the free end of said ribbon passing through an opening in the box, and a clamp adapted to secure said free end on the outside of the box, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a packing-box, of the box adapted to contain the cigars or other articles with the flexible strip or ribbon 2, one end of said ribbon being secured in the end of the said box; the other end of said ribbon being passed in a loop around said cigars, the slot 5 in the bottom of the box, through which the free end of said ribbon passes, and a clamp adapted to normally hold said ribbon, and thereby the articles, in place in the box, substantially as described.

4. The combination, with the cigar-box adapted to contain the sample cigars, of the ribbon 2, one end of said ribbon being secured to the end of the box, the slot in the bottom of the box, and the clamp 6, adapted to normally hold said ribbon in position and to prevent the same from being drawn back through the slot 5 to loosen the loop of the ribbon holding the cigars in position, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of September, 1890.

GEORGE S. CARTER.

In presence of—

A. M. GASKILL,
C. G. HAWLEY.