

(No Model.)

J. H. KIRBY.
MINER'S COMBINATION BOX.

No. 342,365.

Patented May 25, 1886.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

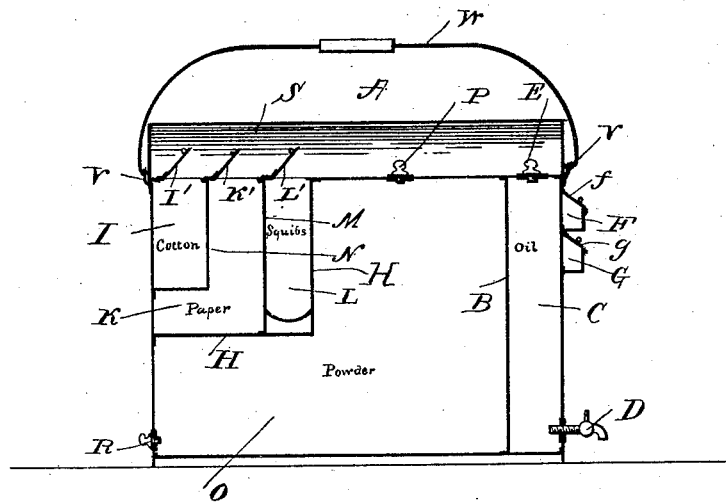
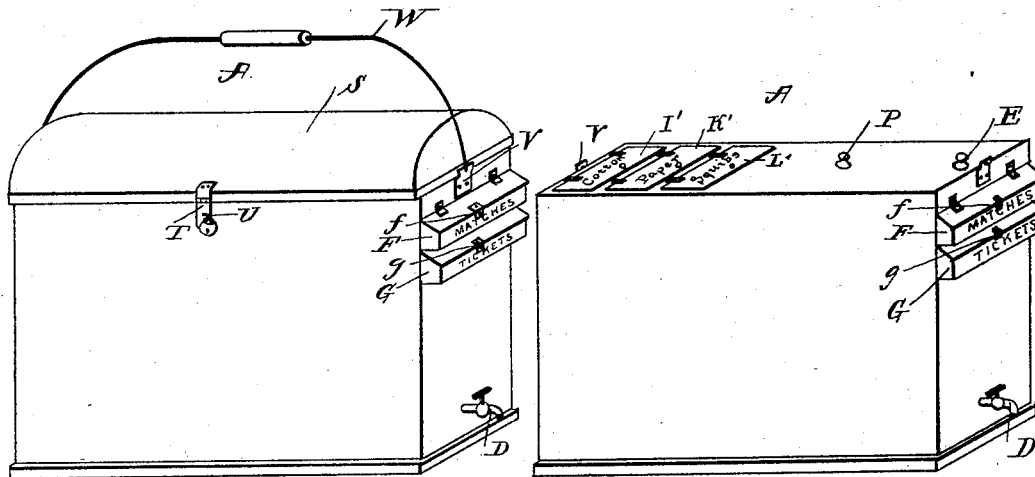


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES HENRY KIRBY, OF COAL VALLEY, WEST VIRGINIA.

MINER'S COMBINATION-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 342,365, dated May 25, 1886.

Application filed March 22, 1886. Serial No. 196,161. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES HENRY KIRBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coal Valley, in the county of Fayette and State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Miners' Combination-Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to an improvement in boxes for carrying powder, oil, cotton, paper, squibs, matches, and tickets for miners; and it consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of devices, that will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a box embodying my improvement with the lid closed and locked thereon. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the same with the lid removed. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section.

A represents a rectangular box of suitable dimensions, and preferably made of tin or zinc or other sheet metal. Near one end of this box is a vertical partition-plate, B, which extends to the top of the box and forms a compartment, C, between the said partition-plate and the adjacent end wall of the box, for the reception of oil. A tap or faucet, D, is provided near the lower end of the compartment, to permit the oil to be readily drawn therefrom, and at the upper end of the compartment C is a screw-plug, E, which may be readily removed to permit the oil to be poured into the compartment.

On one end of the box A at the upper end thereof, is secured a horizontal rectangular box, F, which is provided with a hinged lid, *f*, and a suitable spring-catch for securing the said lid when closed. Below the box F is arranged a similar box, G, which is also provided with a hinged lid, *g*, and spring-catch therefor. The box G is adapted to hold tickets and the box F to hold matches. In the opposite end of the box A, at the upper corner thereof, is secured a partition-plate, H, which depends vertically for a suitable distance from the top of the box, and then extends horizontally to the end thereof, thereby forming a rectangular

compartment in the upper corner of the box. This compartment is divided into three compartments, I, K, and L, by means of a vertical partition-plate, M, and a partition-plate, N, which latter is bent at right angles similarly to the plate H. The compartment L is adapted for the storage of squibs. The compartment K is to receive paper, and the compartment I is to receive cotton. The said compartments are provided, respectively, with hinged lids I', K', and L' at their upper ends. That portion of the box between the partition-plates B and H forms a chamber, O, in which to place powder. The top of the said chamber is provided with a screw-plug, P, similar to the plug E, and through which the powder is to be poured into the chamber O, and in the lower outer corner of the said chamber is a screw-plug, R, by means of which the powder may be poured therefrom.

S represents a convex lid or cover, one side of which is hinged to one side of the box, and the free side of the said lid is provided with a hasp, T, which engages with the staple U, secured to the box, whereby the said lid or cover may be readily locked or secured on the box, and thus serve to cover the lids of the various compartments and the screw-plugs by means of which access is obtained thereto, and thus prevent the oil, powder, or squibs from becoming accidentally ignited.

The ends of the box are provided with ears V, to which is attached the usual bail or handle, W, which enables the box to be readily carried about.

A box thus constructed will be found very useful by miners, as it provides for the safe storage of the various articles required by them, and prevents accidental explosion or ignition of the powder, oil, or squibs.

It will be understood that when the box is in use the screw at the top of the powder-receptacle will be closed down, and thus afford protection against accidental explosion from flying sparks, as the powder is to be withdrawn from the bottom opening.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. As a new article of manufacture, the miner's box formed of sheet metal and divided

into the compartments C, O, I, K, and L, the compartment C having the screw-plug E and the tap D, the compartment O having the screw-plugs P and R, and the remaining compartments being provided with the hinged lids, the match and ticket boxes secured on one end of the box A, the cover S for the said box, and the bail or handle W, attached thereto, substantially as described.

10 2. As a new article of manufacture, the miner's box provided with the compartment

C at one end, the compartments I K L at the opposite end, and the compartment O, occupying the remaining portion of the box, as set forth.

15 In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES HENRY KIRBY.

Witnesses:

FOSTER HART,

EDWARD O. EDWARDS.