

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## PORTABLE CUT-OUT BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 782,857, dated February 21, 1905.

Application filed August 4, 1904. Serial No. 219,429.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ANTON T. KLIEGL, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, and JOHN H. KLIEGL, a citizen of the United States, both residents of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Portable Cut-Out Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the drawings accompanying and forming part of the same.

Our invention relates to cut-out boxes of the portable kind, and has for its object to provide a device of this character which shall be strong and compact and at the same time of inexpensive manufacture.

To these ends it consists of the novel features, combinations of elements, and arrangements of parts hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

A convenient embodiment of our invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, partly in section. Fig. 3 is an end view, and Figs. 4 and 5 are side views of the plug which we prefer to use with the box.

The casing 1 of the apparatus is preferably of rectangular prismatic form, open at its ends and provided on two opposite sides with centrally-located openings, each provided with a hinged closure, as 2 3. In each end of the box is supported one or more sockets 4, held in place by flanges on the ends of the casing, as shown, carrying insulated contacts 5 6. Between the two sets of sockets we provide a plate 7, of insulating material, to support the fuse-wires 8, which are connected with the conducting bars or plates 9 10 on their respective sides of the support 7, and the bars or plates are provided with terminals, one of which is shown at 11, for making connection with the source of current. In a side wall adjacent to the terminals are apertures provided with insulating-bushings 12 13, through which the supply-leads may be introduced.

The plug which we prefer to use is shown in detail in Figs. 4 and 5 and consists of a rec-

tangular prism of insulating material, such as fiber composition, reduced at one end to form a handle 14. On the narrow sides of the plug are contacts 15 16 to engage those in a socket. One of the plug-contacts is rigidly secured, while the other is yieldingly supported at one end by a spring 17, as will be readily understood. In the handle is a pair of perforations, through which the conductors 18 may be laced before being connected to the adjacent ends of the contacts. Any pull on the cords or conductors will therefore be largely taken up by the walls of the apertures instead of by the contact binding-screws, thus relieving the latter of practically all strain and rendering accidents less liable. In fact, the ordinary conductors are stiff enough to permit the plug to be withdrawn from the socket by simply pulling the conductors. The box being made sufficiently heavy, a quick jerk on the cords will pull the plug out without the necessity of approaching the box at all, thus effecting a saving of time in breaking the circuit, which might be of great advantage in case of emergency. The plug construction we do not claim herein, but do so in our co-pending application filed of even date herewith.

To make the casing as strong as possible, so as to withstand rough usage, such as it would be subjected to when used by traveling theatrical companies, corner-braces of metal, as 19, may be provided. To obviate danger of fire from the blowing out of a fuse, the interior may be lined with asbestos or other non-inflammable material, as indicated at 20, or the entire casing may be made of fireproof material.

The form shown is typical merely of our invention, which may be variously embodied without departure from its proper scope.

What we claim is—

1. A portable cut-out box, comprising in combination, a rectangular casing, sockets carried in the ends of the casing, a fuse-plate supported between the sets of sockets, hinged closures for the sides of the casing adjacent the fuse-plate, and a lining of fireproof material for the casing, as set forth.