(No Model.)

W. H. PRICE.

BOX FOR BOTTLED BEVERAGES.

No. 590,858. Patented Sept. 28, 1897.

Fig. 1.

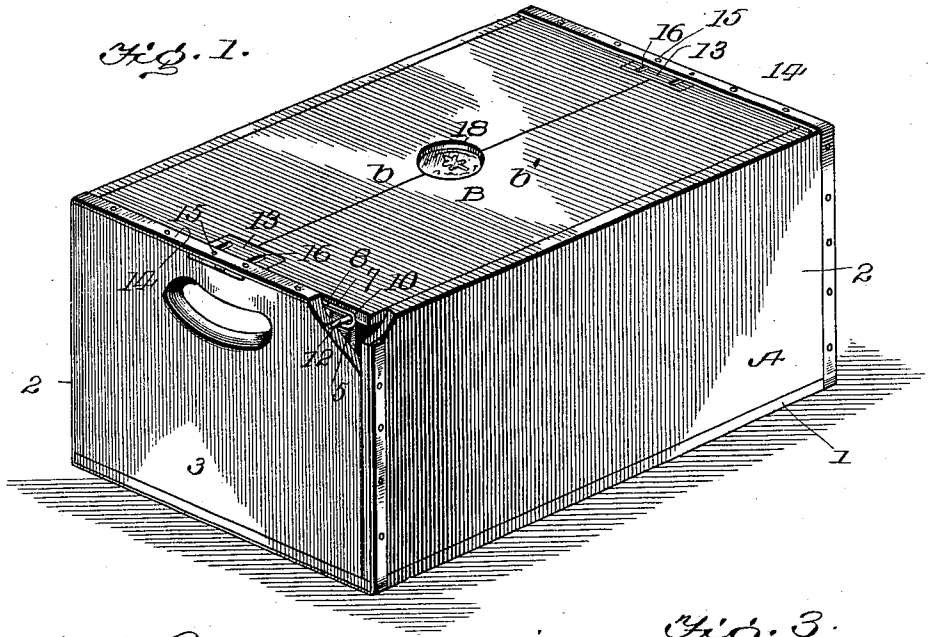


Fig. 2.

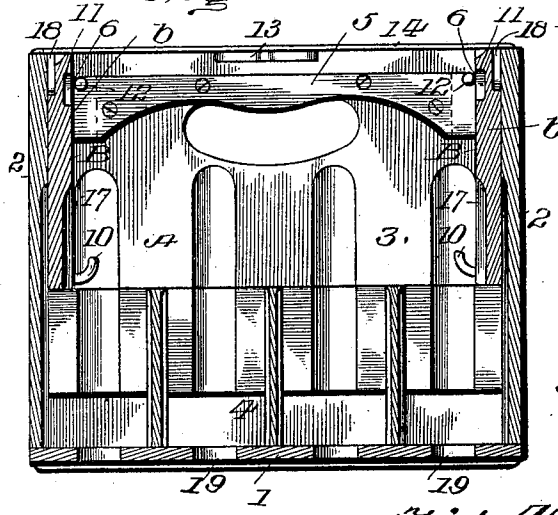


Fig. 3.

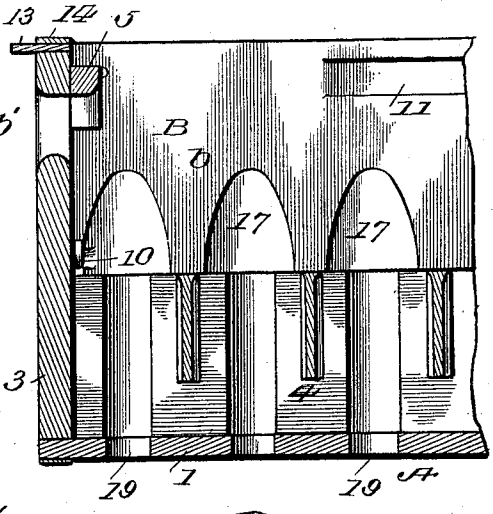
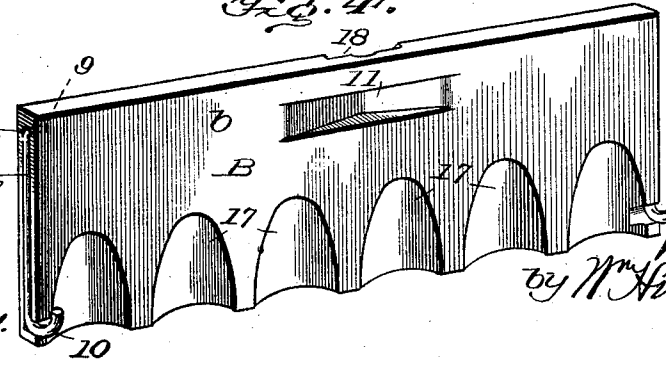


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. PRICE, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO BENJAMIN BEVAN, OF SAME PLACE.

BOX FOR BOTTLED BEVERAGES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,858, dated September 28, 1897.

Application filed April 23, 1897. Serial No. 633,459. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. PRICE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates generally to an improvement in boxes of the class designed to contain bottled beverages, such as beer or the like.

The object of my invention is the production of a sectional top or cover for the box of such construction as to be available with the ordinary boxes now in use, the cover being adapted to disappear when operated to open the box and to be locked when in a closed position by simple means carried by the box.

With this and other minor objects in view my invention consists, primarily, in a box having a cover made in two sections, each adapted to be raised on its outer edge as a hinge and dropped down between the bottles and the side of the box.

The invention also consists in certain details of construction and combinations of parts, which will first be described in connection with the accompanying drawings and then pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of my improved box closed, partially broken out for illustration of certain interior parts. Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section of the same, taken near one end, showing the positions of the cover-sections when the box is open. Fig. 3 is a broken longitudinal section of the same, showing the cover-sections in the open positions. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the cover-sections.

Referring to the drawings, A represents my improved box, having a bottom 1, sides 2, and ends 3, the bottom being provided with the usual bottle-receiving rack 4, all of the ordinary construction.

In providing a box with my improved cover I secure to each end of the box a cleat 5, slightly less in length than the interior width of the box, thus leaving a narrow space between the ends of the cleat and the sides of the box, as at 6, Fig. 2.

The cover B is made in two sections *b* and and *b'*, each preferably equal in width to half the width of the box. Each section is formed at each end with a longitudinal groove or channel 7, into which fits a wire 8, having its upper end bent at a right angle 9 and driven into the section and its lower end formed into a hook 10, as shown. This wire not only serves the purpose of a hinge, as hereinafter described, but by its length and position in the section effectively prevents the latter from warping. The sections are adapted to slide down in contact with the sides of the box, fitting in the spaces 6 and being guided by the ends of the cleats 5, the lower end of each section resting upon the upper edge of the bottle-rack, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. When desired to place the sections in positions to serve as a cover, they are raised by the user grasping them in the finger-notches 11, the upward movement being continued until the hooks 10 engage suitable studs 12, driven or otherwise secured in the ends of the box, this engagement forming a hinge for the cover-sections at the extreme of their upward movement and permits them when released to fall forward upon the cleats 5, forming a cover for the box, as shown in Fig. 1.

When the sections are in place to cover the box, they are locked in closed position by catches 13, one on each end of the box, each catch comprising a metal plate inserted between the upper edge of the end of the box and the metal binding-strip 14 for the end, the plate being guided by pins 15, passing through slots 16, formed in it, thus permitting the plate to be readily moved forward or backward when desired to lock or unlock the sections, as will be evident from the drawings.

Although I have shown the catch as comprising a plate it is evident that a rectangular wire catch would be equally applicable, as the only result desired is to guard against accidental movement of the sections.

In order to permit my cover to be applied to boxes of the ordinary width now in use, I form in each section a series of concave recesses 17, so as to permit the section to readily pass the bottles in the racks next the side, as the sections slide down between the side of the box and the bottles and there is not

sufficient space ordinarily for a cover of proper thickness without these recesses.

At the meeting edges of the cover-sections I form a label-receiving recess 18 of sufficient depth to receive a number of superimposed labels. By this construction when the beer has been placed in the box at the brewery the brewer or bottler may place a label or trade-mark in the recess 18, and thus insure the delivery of the contents of the box undisturbed, as the sections cannot be moved without destroying the label. By forming the recess of some little depth a number of labels may be successively placed therein without removing the previous ones. Although I have shown the label-receiving recess as round in shape it is evident that it may be of any shape suited to the particular label to be applied.

Heretofore the use of the boxes for purposes foreign to their intended use, such as for garbage and ash receptacles, has been a source of frequent complaint on the part of the bottlers, and I overcome this objection by forming a series of holes 19 in the bottom of the box, these holes being preferably arranged one beneath each bottle-rack 4, thereby effectively preventing the use of the box for any other purpose than that of a receptacle for bottled beverages.

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

1. In a box for bottled beverages, a cover made in two sections adapted to disappear within and on opposite sides of the box, each of said sections having a hook on each end, and studs secured in the ends of the box with which the hooks are adapted to engage, whereby the sections are given hinged connection with the box when in use.

2. In a box for bottled beverages, a cover made in two sections adapted to disappear within and on opposite sides of the box, each of said sections having hinged connection with the box only when in position to serve as a cover, and cleats secured at the ends of the box forming supports for the sections when in place as a cover, the ends of the cleats serving as guides for the sections during their operation to open and close the box.

3. In a box for bottled beverages having a bottle-rack within it, a cover made in two sections adapted to disappear within and on opposite sides of the box and rest on said rack, each of said sections having hinged connection with the box only when in position to serve as a cover and being formed with a series of concave recesses in its inner surface, said recesses being so located that when the section is within the box they will be in line with and extend above the cells of the rack, all substantially as described and for the purposes stated.

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

WILLIAM H. PRICE.

Witnesses:

G. W. BALLOCH,

WM. HUNTER MYERS.