A. ALFORD.
Tobacco-Pail.

No. 198,178. Patented Dec. 18, 1877.

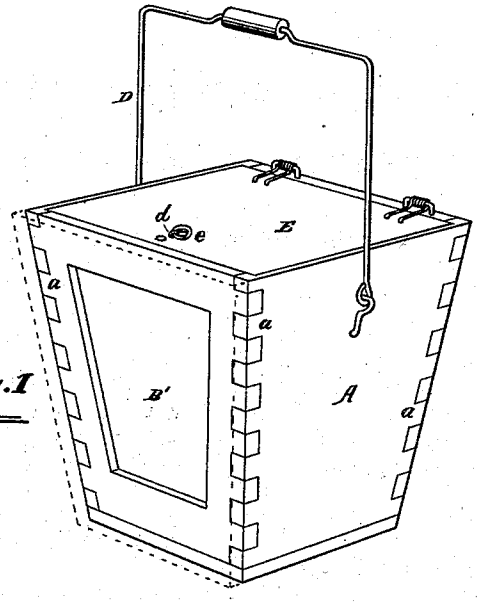


Fig.1

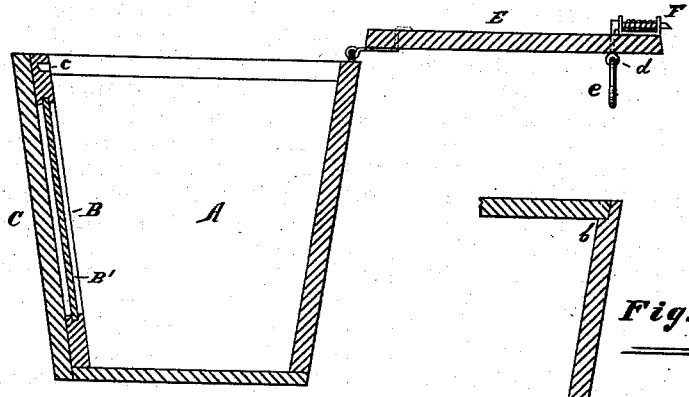


Fig.2

Fig.3

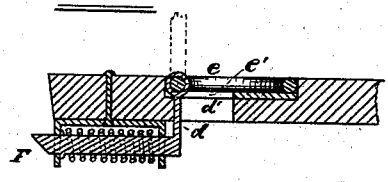


Fig.4

Attest:

L. L. Schoff.

F. L. Pomchard

INVENTOR:

Albert Alford

By F. F. Warner, his

Attorney.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT ALFORD, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOBACCO-PAILS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,178**, dated December 18, 1877; application filed September 1, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT ALFORD, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Packages for Shipping Tobacco, and for keeping and exposing it for sale, which invention is fully described and set forth herein, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a package embodying my improvements; Fig. 2, a vertical section thereof from front to rear; Fig. 3, a sectional view of a part of one side and of the lid; and Fig. 4, a section indicating the construction, arrangement, and mode of applying and operating the bolt or fastening.

In the drawing, A represents a wooden package, having the form of an inverted frustum of a four-sided pyramid. The meeting-edges of the sides are joined by means of tenons on one edge, lying in corresponding cross-cuts in the other, as shown at *a a*. The upper edges of the sides are shouldered, as at *b*, for the purpose hereinafter mentioned.

An opening, B, is made in the front of the package, and a sheet of glass, B′, is inserted therein in any suitable manner.

C is a covering for the front of the package, and is readily removable. It ought, however, to be firmly enough applied to prevent it from being accidentally removed.

The glass B′ should be set deeply enough into the opening B to permit the cover C to be in contact with the frame of the panel without the liability of injuring the glass.

Ordinarily, short nails or brads will serve for the purpose of fastening the cover C to the package.

It is also to be understood that the cover C corresponds to the face of the package in form.

D is a bail, and E is a lid, hinged at its rear edge to the package in such a manner as to allow the lid to rest upon the shoulders *b b* when the lid is closed, thus causing the lid to lie flush with the upper edges of the body of the package.

F is a spring-bolt, applied to the interior face of the lid E, and the paneled side or front of the package is mortised to receive the end of the bolt, as shown at *c*.

The end of the bolt should be beveled, as usual, to cause it to be pushed back when the lid is closed, it being understood that the bolt will move automatically into the mortise *c* after the lid is closed.

In order that the lid E may be unlocked, a small pin, *d*, projects from the bolt through a slot, *d′*, in the lid, the slot lying in the direction of the movement of the bolt.

To enable the bolt to be drawn and the lid to be raised with facility, a small ring, *e*, passes through an eye in the pin *d*. The ring *e* lies in a circular or disk-shaped depression, *e′*, sunken into the upper face of the lid, as shown. By this means the pin *d* and ring *e* are flush, or nearly so, with the upper face of the lid; but the ring may be lifted for the purpose of drawing the bolt and raising the lid, and the bolt cannot be drawn without lifting the ring, the depression *e′* forming a stop or shoulder, which prevents a sliding movement of the ring.

The form of the package is desirable, and gives it a neat and tasteful appearance. The glass panel enables the purchaser to view the contents without opening the package, and the cover C protects the glass during transportation.

This cover, which is intended to be labeled, will serve as a display-card, to be hung in the store of the retail dealer, or elsewhere, it being understood that it is to be removed for that purpose.

The lid E, by being hinged to the body of the package and provided with a bolt, may be easily opened and closed from time to time, and locked when closed, without injury to the package, and only those familiar with the construction and operation of the fastening would be likely to unlock the cover until after repeated attempts.

The cover, by lying flush within the upper edges of the body of the package, and resting on the shoulders *b b*, cannot be injured or knocked off, under ordinary circumstances, during transportation or at other times.

The ring *e*, by lying in the depression *e′*, is not only thus protected, but also prevents the bolt from being drawn until the ring or lifter is raised for that purpose.

In practice a seal or label will be spread over the lifting-ring, thus not only concealing

it from view, but preventing the package from being opened by those familiar with the location of the bolt without breaking the seal. For these reasons railroad employés and others will probably be deterred from attempting to meddle with the contents of the package.

The package may be easily carried in the hand by means of the bale.

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

The combination of the box or body of the package, having therein the mortise *c*, the lid E, having therein the depression *e'*, the spring-bolt F, and the ring *e*, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

ALBERT ALFORD.

Witnesses:
F. F. WARNER,
J. H. COYNE.