

(No Model.)

E. L. MAESEL.

BASKET.

No. 320,266.

Patented June 16, 1885.

Fig. 1.

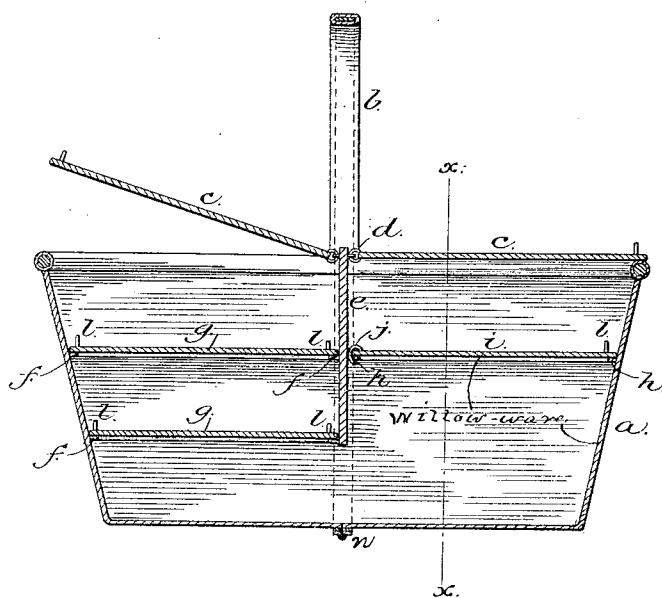
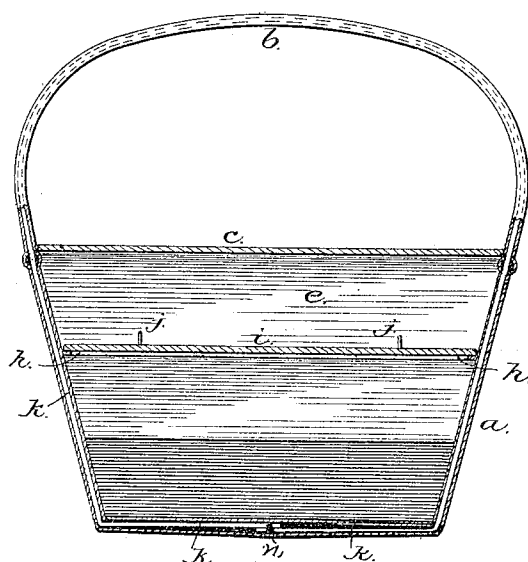


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 320,266, dated June 16, 1885.

Application filed September 17, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMMA L. MAESEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Baskets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain improvements in that class of baskets known as "market" or "provision" baskets; and my improvement consists in a basket of this character provided with a fixed vertical partition and adjustable horizontal partitions, whereby several compartments are formed adapted to the different sizes and variety of articles to be stored therein.

My invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of a basket containing my improvements. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same, taken on line *y y*.

Let *a* represent the body of the basket, and *b*, in general, the handle, which, as in the ordinary style of baskets of this class, is attached in the middle of the top portion.

c c are two covers or lids, arranged one on each side and hung to the central cross-piece, *d*.

The interior of the receptacle is subdivided in its upper portion by a transverse piece, *e*, which extends from the top to a little more than midway of its depth. If, as in ordinary cases, the basket is formed of willow strips woven together, the partition *e* may be of a similar woven material, it being desirable that the basket should be as light as is possible.

Around the inner wall of the basket and partition, in the right-hand division, are arranged strips *f f*, (which may be a large cane introduced during the weaving or plaiting process,) which serve as a projection or ledge to support the trays or lids *g g*. In the opposite division a similar strip, *h*, is arranged, upon which the lid or cover *i* rests. In Fig. 1 all the trays and lids are shown in position, thus forming within the basket four compartments. The lids *g g* are not attached to the basket, and one or both may be inserted, as one or more divisions are required. The lid or partition-piece *i* has detachable connecting devices which serve as hinges. On the rear edge of this lid are provided hook-

shaped devices *j*, which are readily clasped over the strip *h* between the strands which bind the same in place.

By this arrangement the interior of the basket can be divided off into several compartments, ranging in number from one to four, as desired, thereby enabling articles to be kept from contact with each other, which is absolutely necessary with some varieties of provisions. If it is desired to use the whole interior as one receptacle, the trays and lids can be all removed.

The handle *b* consists, as is usual, of a twisted or plaited handle portion secured at each side to a flat wooden strip, *k*, which is fastened beneath the strands during the process of weaving or plaiting the basket. A common objection to this method of fastening is that if the basket is very heavily loaded the strain upon the handle will cause it to become separated. To obviate this I extend the wooden strips *k* down the sides and beneath the bottom, where the ends are lapped one over the other and secured together and to the bottom of the basket by a screw, *n*.

Baskets of this character are especially adapted for receptacles for holding delicate and fragile articles out of contact with each other, either for the purpose of transportation or for storage. In such cases each tray or partition may be lifted out of the basket without disturbing the articles thereon by taking hold of the projecting pins *l*, arranged on each side of the partitions *g* and *i*.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A provision-basket having a central fixed vertical partition and removable horizontal partition-pieces, with means for supporting the same, whereby several compartments may be formed therein, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, with the basket-body *a*, provided with the partition *e* and supporting-strip *h*, of the lid *i*, having hook-shaped attachments *j j* for removably securing it in position, as set forth.

EMMA L. MAESEL.

Witnesses:

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