



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. WESTON, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 132,942, dated November 12, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. WESTON, of San Francisco city and county, State of California, have invented an Improved Fruit-Box; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawing are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvement without further invention or experiment.

My invention relates to that class of fruit-boxes which are made out of thin veneers, and are principally intended for containing small fruits or berries. My improvement relates to a novel manner of constructing these boxes out of a single piece of veneer, by which I provide a neat and cheap box, which is easily manufactured, and will be quite strong and substantial.

In order to more fully illustrate and explain my invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of veneering spread out flat. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a box made of the veneering.

A represents a single veneer or strip of wood long enough to form the bottom and ends and wide enough to form the bottom and sides of the box. At the point where each of the four bottom corners of the box will come (leaving a sufficient border for the sides and ends) I make a hole or opening, *b*, and in a parallel line with the sides I slit from each of these holes entirely to the end of the veneer, thus forming three flaps, *d e f*, at each end of the veneer. This line is represented by C, Fig. 1. I then bruise or scratch the veneer in a straight line between each of the end holes *b*, across the ends of the bottom of the box, shown by *d'*, and from each of the holes I scratch or bruise the veneer at an angle to the line *b* along the base of the outer flaps *d f*—line shown at

*i*—so as to make the sides of the box tapering when it is made, for the purpose of allowing them to rest together for convenience in packing. I then cut off each of the corners of the piece of veneer at right angles to the angular bruised line *i*, and parallel to this cut I slit the flaps *d f* about one-half of an inch inside of the cut at *g*, thus forming a narrow angular strip, as shown at *l*. Now in order to form the box the sides are first turned up and the outside flaps *d f* turned in, so that they overlap each other across the end of the box. The middle flaps *e* are then turned up outside of the flaps *d f* and outside of the flap *e*, the angular narrow edge strips are folded across, so as to overlap each other, where the whole can be united together by means of glue, paste, tacks, or other equivalent. Before turning up the ends and sides, as above described, while the veneer is lying upon a flat surface, I secure to the edges of the sides and end strip *e* a binding and stiffening strip of wood, marked *j*, by any proper fastening, so that when the parts are folded together the box will be complete. By making the openings at the corners of the bottom of the box, I am able to curve the bottom-side edges of the box without splitting the wood at the corners, which would in most instances spoil the box if the sides were turned up so as to form angular corners.

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

A fruit-box constructed of one piece of veneer, having the flaps *f*, *d*, and *l*, and ends *e*, and sides *o*, as described.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and seal.

CHARLES W. WESTON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

J. L. BOONE,  
C. M. RICHARDSON.