

(No Model.)

E. BERNINGHAUS.  
PACKING BOX.

No. 549,867.

Patented Nov. 12, 1895.

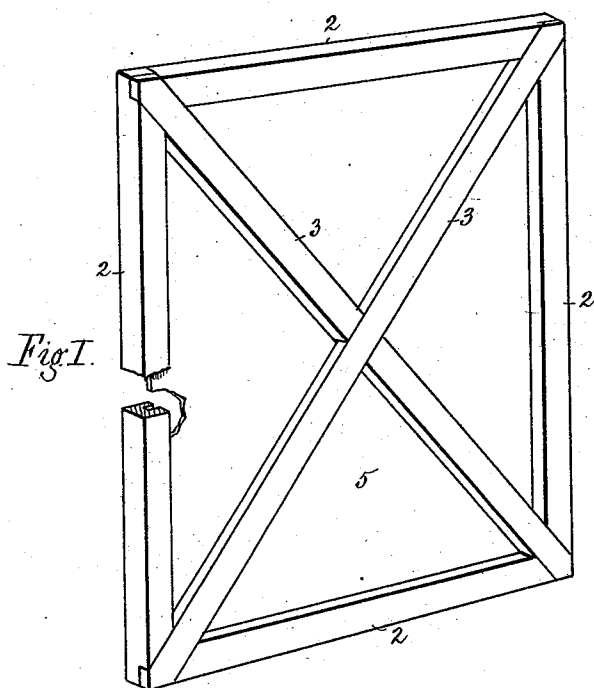


Fig. I.

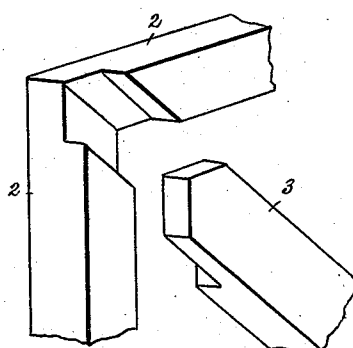


Fig. II.

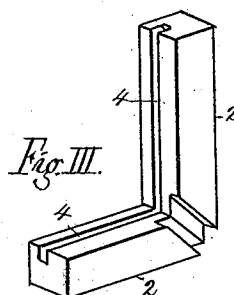


Fig. III.

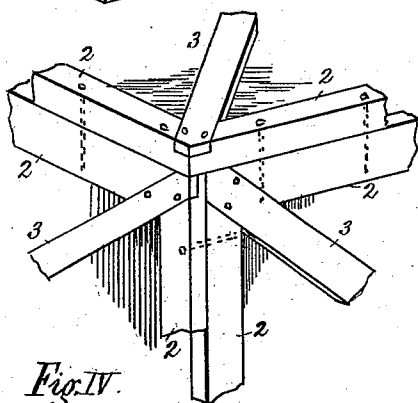


Fig. IV.

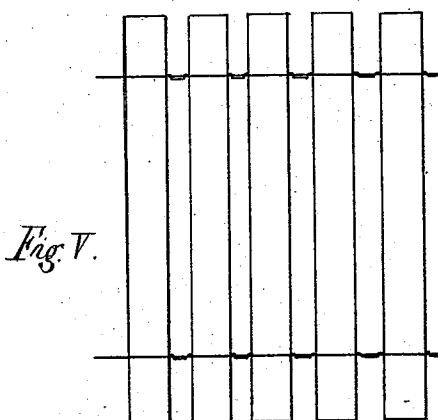


Fig. V.

Witnesses  
R. S. Miller  
L. M. Adams

Inventor,  
E. Berninghaus  
By *[Signature]*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EUGENE BERNINGHAUS, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

## PACKING-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 549,867, dated November 12, 1895.

Application filed February 21, 1895. Serial No. 539,235. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EUGENE BERNINGHAUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Packing-Boxes, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

10 Figure 1 is a perspective view of one end of my improved packing box or hamper; Fig. 2, a detail view showing the manner of uniting the diagonal braces to the corners of the frame; Fig. 3, a detail showing the groove in the inner face of the frame-bars to admit the panel or inner lining of the box; Fig. 4, a detail showing the manner of uniting the several frame-sections, and Fig. 5 a view of a section of a slat-and-wire fabric adapted for the panels or inner lining of the box.

20 My invention pertains to improvements in the construction of boxes or hampers of the class generally employed for packing and transporting certain classes of merchandise, and my purpose is to combine economy in the cost of construction with lightness, strength, and durability.

30 The essential features of the device consist in making the ends, sides, top, and bottom of the package primarily in the form of skeleton frames of any desired dimension, which are reinforced by diagonal braces and backed by a suitable light and thin material, forming the inner lining of the package. These sections are laid one upon another, forming compact bundles for storage or shipment to consumers, who can readily unite them when desired.

40 The peculiar advantages of the device will be readily perceived by referring to the accompanying drawings.

Fig. 1 represents an end section of the box, consisting of a rectangular frame composed of bars 2, having mitered ends suitably gained at their junction to admit the diagonal braces 3, whose extremities are fastened to the adjoining ends of the bars by nails or other suitable means. It will be understood that the side, top, and bottom frames are constructed in a similar manner. The inner faces of the

bars 2 are provided with grooves 4 to engage the edges of a panel 5, of light veneer or other thin material, which may be made additionally secure by nailing it at intervals to the inner sides of the braces.

If it be desired to utilize the boxes for fruits, vegetables, or other merchandise requiring ventilation, the panels may be suitably perforated to permit a free admission of air or they may preferably be made of a fabric composed of slats and wire, as shown in Fig. 5.

60 It will be understood that in constructing these packages the end and side frames are first united. The top and bottom sections or frames are wider, so that they extend over the side sections, as shown in Fig. 4. It will be evident that by this arrangement all the nails which fasten the sections together pass transversely through the grain of the wood and are therefore less liable to be drawn out by rough handling of the packages while in transit. It is also evident that the sections may be united by screws or other means, so that they may be "knocked down" if desired and returned to the shipper of the merchandise; but in view of the very moderate first cost at which they may be produced it is not presumed that the "knockdown" form will be demanded.

What I claim as new is—

In a packing box, the combination with the side frames consisting of vertical and horizontal bars grooved on their inner sides and mitered at their ends and the diagonal bars, rabbeted or mitered and seating in the mitered ends of the said bars, and the bolts, for securing them thereto, of the top and bottom frames bolted to said side frames, formed with grooves in their inner sides, and with miters at the ends, the diagonal bars having rabbeted ends, fitting in said miters and secured thereto by bolts and the veneers fitting in the grooves in said frames, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, this 11th day of February, 1895, in the presence of witnesses.

EUGENE BERNINGHAUS.

Witnesses:

LOUIS A. IRETON,  
FYFFE CHAMBERS.