(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

S. E. SURLES.

FOLDING HAT BOX.

No. 380,364. Patented Apr. 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

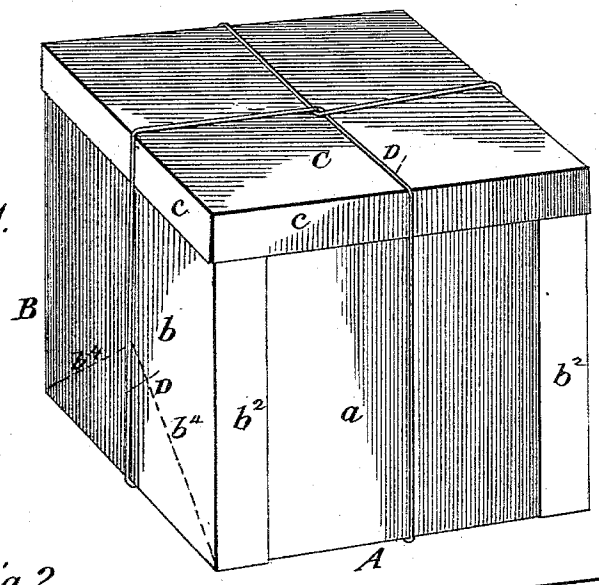


Fig. 5.

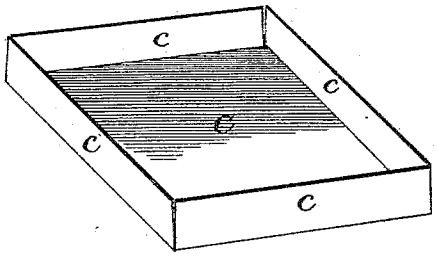


Fig. 2.

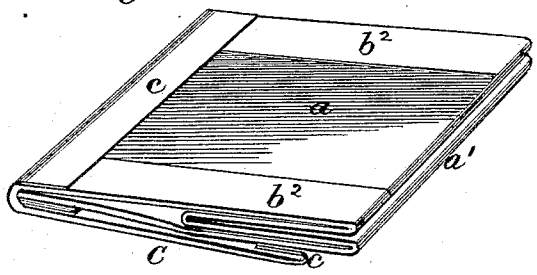


Fig. 4.

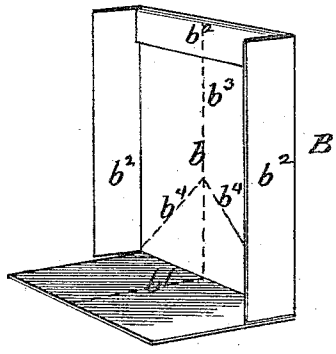
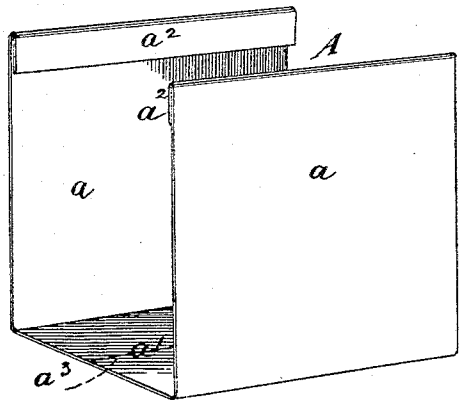


Fig. 3.



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(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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FOLDING HAT BOX.

No. 380,364. Patented Apr. 3, 1888.

Fig. 6.

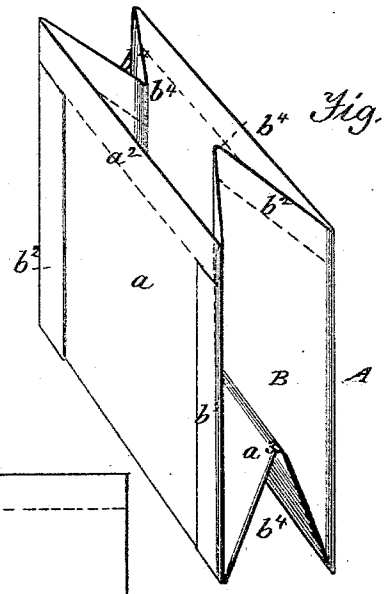


Fig. 7.

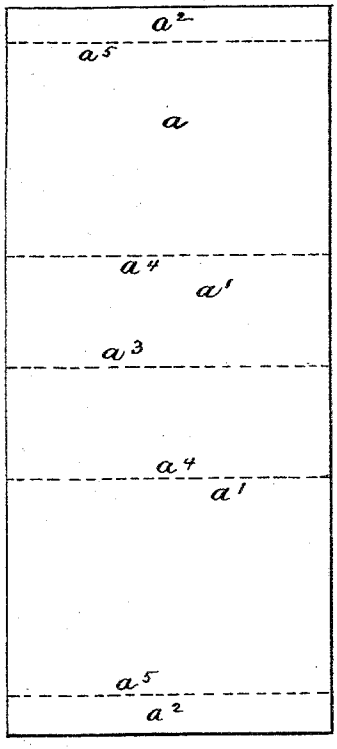
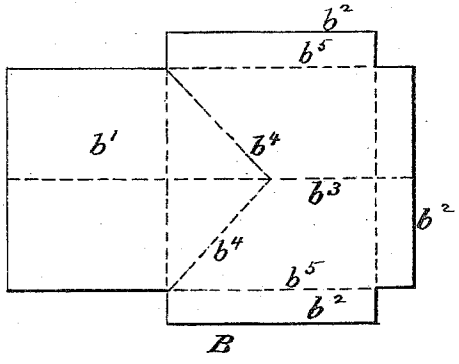


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SUSAN E. SURLES, OF CHIPLEY, GEORGIA.

FOLDING HAT-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 380,364, dated April 3, 1888.

Application filed October 17, 1887. Serial No. 252,518. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SUSAN E. SURLES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chipley, in the county of Harris and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Hat-Boxes; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The special object of the invention is to make a paper hat-box which shall be cheap, easy of manufacture, and which may be readily folded for packing or transportation.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of my hat-box ready for use; Fig. 2, an end elevation of the same when folded up; and Figs. 3, 4, and 5, detail plan views of the parts which compose my hat-box. Fig. 6 of Sheet 2 is a perspective view of the box partially folded. Figs. 7 and 8 are plan views of the body-pieces, showing their configuration and line of fold.

In the drawings, A represents an oblong parallelogram of moderately stiff paper. It consists of the two box-sides *a a*, the bottom *a'*, and the two laps a^2 a^2. B B are two corresponding pieces, each formed of the box-side *b*, the bottom lap, *b'*, and the laps b^2, and C is the box-top having the four laps *c*. The piece A is provided with the lines of fold indicated by the dotted lines a^3 a^4 a^4 a^5 a^5, and the pieces B have the corresponding lines of fold marked by the letters b^3 b^4 b^4 b^5 b^5, so that by simple hand-pressure the box may be partially folded, as shown in Fig. 6 of the drawings, or wholly collapsed, as shown in Fig. 2.

a a b b form the four sides of the box; *a' b' b'*, the double-ply bottom, the parts *b' b'* being lapped under the part *a'* up to their meeting ends and pasted thereon. The side laps, b^2 b^2, are pasted over the sides *a*, and the top laps, a^2 a^2, folded inwardly, so as not to make a raw edge at the top of box and on which the cover must rest. The cover C is connected with the top of the box by pasting one of its laps *c* to the upper edge of one of the sides, while the other three laps *c* fold on the outside of the sides A B, and around these is tied the safety-string D, which may be of any suitable material. The top edge of the box has a fold or lap of about one inch, which is set at a right angle with the sides, so as to stiffen the top and keep it in shape. The lid or cover is folded in the same way, and is pressed down flat when prepared for shipping, so as to fit tight or close to the sides of the box when open.

It will be perceived that the box consists of four pieces, including the lid or cover. The corners are pasted to the sides, which are not intended to be bent in folding, and their stiffness is thus preserved. The bottom, being made double, is very stiff. The laps *c* on the sides of box and hanging from the cover C assist in excluding the dust. The turn at the top of box should be straightened out when the box is folded.

Having thus fully described all that is necessary to a full understanding of my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to protect by Letters Patent, is—

1. A paper box made of four pieces, A B B C, each having laps and folds, substantially as shown and described.

2. A paper-box bottom consisting of two plies, the ply *a'* being integral with the opposite sides *a a*, and the two-part ply *b' b'* being integral with the opposite sides *b b*, substantially as shown and described.

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

SUSAN E. SURLES.

Witnesses:
D. W. SURLES,
O. D. TUCKER.