(No Model.)

T. W. LANKFORD.

CRATE.

No. 376,321. Patented Jan. 10, 1888.

Fig. 1.

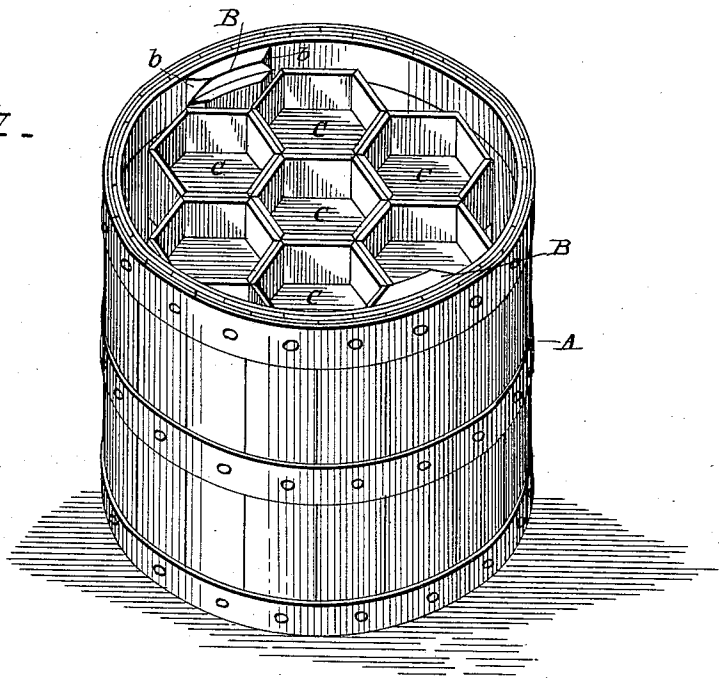


Fig. 2.

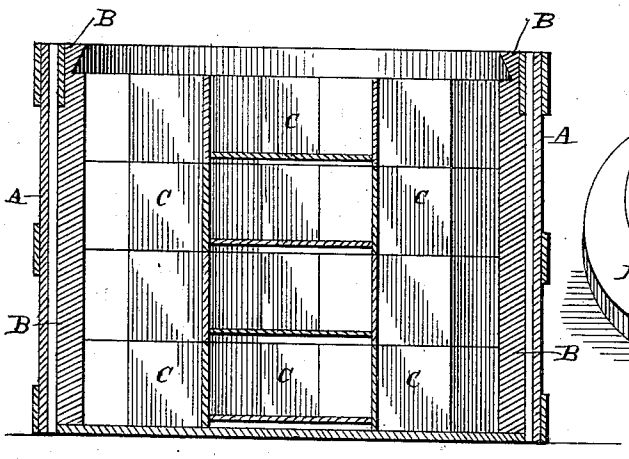
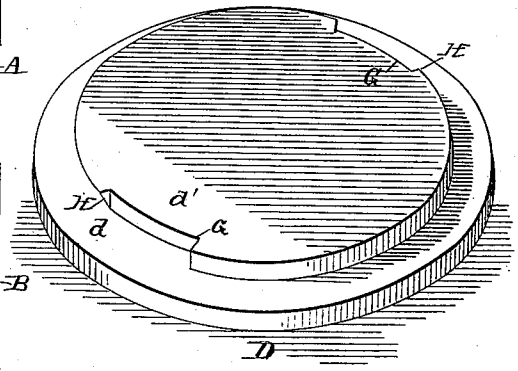


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TILGHMAN W. LANKFORD, OF SHARPTOWN, MARYLAND.

CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 376,321, dated January 10, 1888.

Application filed February 17, 1887. Serial No. 227,942. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TILGHMAN W. LANKFORD, of Sharptown, in the county of Wicomico and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Crates; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to crates, and more especially to covers for crates.

The object of my invention is to provide a crate with devices to secure the cover when placed in position.

The invention consists in the features of construction hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of my improved crate with the cover removed. Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line *x x* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the cover, taken from its under side.

The letter A indicates the crate, which is shown as circular, and made from staves in two layers, interlapped to break joints, and with inner and outer hoops; but any preferred construction of crate may be employed.

B B represent cleats secured to the inner side of the crate diametrically opposite each other, and extending from the bottom to the top edge of the crate. The cleats B B are beveled at each side, as seen at *b*, and just below their upper ends they are transversely grooved, the lower wall of the groove being horizontal, while the upper wall is inclined or undercut. The crate, as thus constructed, is adapted to receive the fruit-boxes C, which are here shown as hexagonal, and are arranged in layers one above the other. The beveled cleats, it will be seen, fit within the space between the two adjacent boxes of each layer of boxes, and thus limit their lateral movement. The strips or cleats B B not only serve as stops to prevent undue jarring of the boxes, but also re-enforce and strengthen the crate.

D represents the crate-cover, consisting of an outer section or cover proper, *d*, and an inner section or locking-disk, *d'*, which is provided at opposite points with recesses G G, adapted to register with the upper ends of the cleats B B. The periphery of the disk *d'* is beveled at diametrically-opposite points adjacent to the recesses G G, to form inclined projecting edges H H, which coincide with the undercut grooves of the cleats to hold the cover in place.

It will be apparent that to secure the cover it is only necessary to place it upon the crate with the recesses G G opposite the cleats, and then give the cover a slight turn to force the inclined edges H H of the disk *d'* into the grooves of the cleats.

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

The combination, with a crate, box, or other vessel, of oppositely-arranged cleats having grooves, the lower walls of which are horizontal and the upper walls inclined, and a cover provided on its under face with a disk, *d'*, said disk provided with recesses G G, and having its periphery beveled to form inclined edges H H, which coincide with the grooves in the cleats, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

TILGHMAN W. LANKFORD.

Witnesses:

THOS. F. J. RIDER,

F. M. SLEMONS.