No. 702,650. Patented June 17, 1902.

R. H. HAZEN.

FOLDING BASKET OR BUCKET.

(Application filed Oct. 21, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

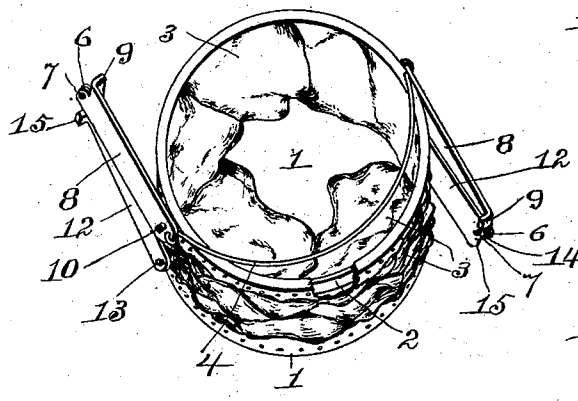


Fig. 2.

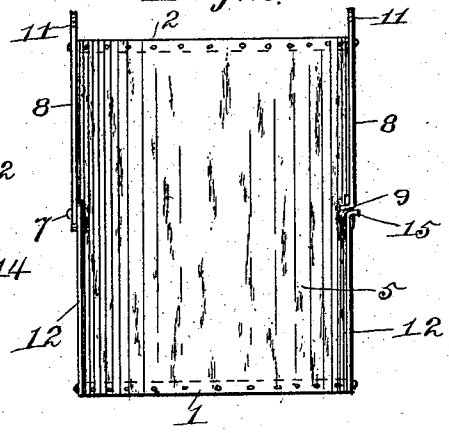
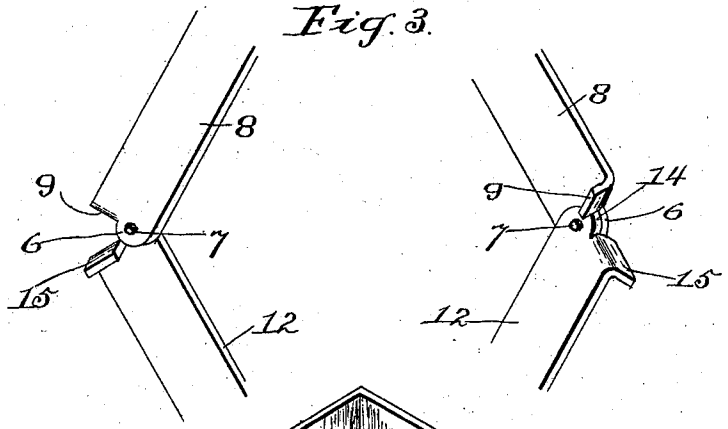


Fig. 3.



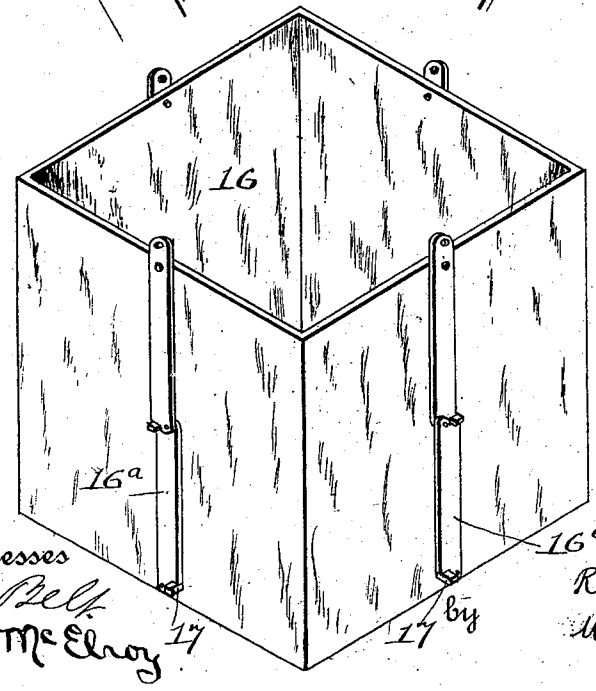


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT HENRY HAZEN, OF LULA, MISSISSIPPI.

FOLDING BASKET OR BUCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,650, dated June 17, 1902.

Application filed October 21, 1901. Serial No. 79,454. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT HENRY HAZEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lula, in the county of Coahoma and State of Mississippi, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Baskets or Buckets, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to baskets and buckets, and particularly to foldable baskets and buckets, the former for holding cotton or other material for weighing and the latter for holding and carrying water or other liquids.

The object of the invention is to provide a collapsible or telescopic receptacle—such as a basket or bucket—for the purpose of packing, storing, shipping, and reshipping having a flexible body and novel and peculiar means for collapsing or folding the receptacle and for opening or extending the same and holding it in rigid extended position.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a foldable, collapsible, or telescopic bucket or basket having a bottom and top connected by pivoted levers of special construction, so that the flexible or collapsible body of the basket or bucket may be operated by opening or folding the levers separately.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a collapsible or folding bucket or basket with hinged levers adapted to open and close in opposite directions one from the other, so that the accidental folding of one lever pair will not affect the other pair or pairs of levers, and to provide the pivot ends of the levers with abutment heels or flanges, the heels of one pair of levers being arranged with respect to the other pair or pairs of levers so that all the levers will stand in upright position and remain so until each pair of levers is operated separately to effect the folding of all the levers and of the receptacle to which they are applied.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bucket in folded position. Fig. 2 is an elevation of a basket extended or unfolded and adapted for weighing the contents thereof. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the levers. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modification, showing a basket with four pairs of levers.

The same numeral references denote the same parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

The basket, bucket, or other receptacle has a suitable bottom 1 and top ring 2, and the bucket has a body 3, of rubber or other waterproof material adapted to be folded, and is provided with a handle 4. The basket-body 5 is composed of any suitable material capable of being collapsed or folded.

The means for folding or collapsing and unfolding or extending the basket, bucket, or similar receptacle consist, preferably, of two pairs of levers having ears 6, by which each pair of levers is pivoted together at 7. The top lever 8 of each pair of levers has a flange or heel 9 extending laterally from its ear 6 and is turned inwardly at right angles to the pivot end of said lever, and the other end of the top levers is pivoted at 10 to the top ring 2 and projects above the ring for the purpose of attaching a handle, as in the bucket, or, as in the basket, an aperture 11 is made in the top ends of the levers to receive scale-hooks for weighing cotton or other contents of the basket. The lower levers 12 have one end pivoted at 13 to the bottom of the receptacle, and their other ends are provided with an ear 14, pivoted on the pivot 7. Each of the lower levers 12 has a lateral flange or heel 15 extending from the ears 14, and said flanges are bent outwardly at right angles to the pivoted ends of the levers, the pivot of one pair of levers being on the opposite edge from the pivot of the other pair of levers and the flanges or heels of one pair of levers being upon the opposite side of the pivot to that of the pivot of the other pair of levers, so that the one pair of levers divides or opens in the opposite direction to that of the other pair of levers. The ears and flanges are formed by splitting the pivot ends of the levers for a short distance and striking up or bending the metal away from the ears, at right angles thereto and to the levers, so that the ears are free to work on their pivots without engaging the flanges, and the latter only engage each other when the levers are extended in vertical line with each other. This con-

struction is maintained whether the vessel be a bucket, basket, or other receptacle, and no matter how many pairs of levers are employed they are made to open or divide at their pivot-point alternatively in opposite directions, so that the closing of one pair of levers will not affect any other pair, but each pair requiring a separate operation to close, yet all are opened simultaneously by pulling the top ring of the basket or bucket.

In the modification shown in Fig. 4 the receptacle 16 is square and has four pairs of levers, the bottom ones, 16^a, of which are cut away and engage a lug 17 on the bottom of the basket to assist in holding the levers in upright rigid position. These lugs may be employed with the two pairs of levers, if desirable.

It will be seen that the receptacle cannot be collapsed or folded by pressure on the top or bottom, the heels preventing this, nor does the opening of one pair of levers affect the other pair, because they open in opposite directions, and any attempt to force one pair of levers only increases the rigidity of the other pair, the heels accomplishing this. Therefore each pair of levers must be opened separately in opposite directions in order to fold or collapse the receptacle. It is obvious that the levers require no mechanism to hold them in either position. The receptacles are folded in very compact form and are unusually light, inexpensive, and durable.

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

1. The combination, with a foldable receptacle, of the levers pivoted to the top and bottom of the receptacle and terminating in ears pivoted together and in flanges struck from the ears at right angles thereto and to the levers, so that the ears do not engage the flanges, and the latter engage each other only when the levers are in extended position.

2. The combination, with a foldable basket or bucket, of the upper and lower levers having ears and pivoted together in pairs and to the bottom and top of the basket or bucket, an inturned flange or heel from the ears of the upper levers, and an outwardly-turned flange or heel from the ears of the lower levers, one pair of said levers adapted to open and close in a direction opposite to that of the other pair of levers, without the ears engaging the flanges.

3. The combination, with a foldable basket or bucket having bottom lugs, of the upper and lower levers having ears and pivoted together in pairs and to the top and bottom of the bucket or basket, and flanges at right angles to the ends of the levers at their central pivot-point, one pair of levers opening and closing in a direction opposite to that of the other pair, and the bottom levers engaging said lugs to assist the said flanges in holding the levers in rigid upright position.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT HENRY HAZEN.

Witnesses:

T. BROWN,

W. L. RHODES.