

O. Stoddard,

Fruit Basket.

N^o 40,436.

Patented Oct. 27/1863.

Fig. 2.

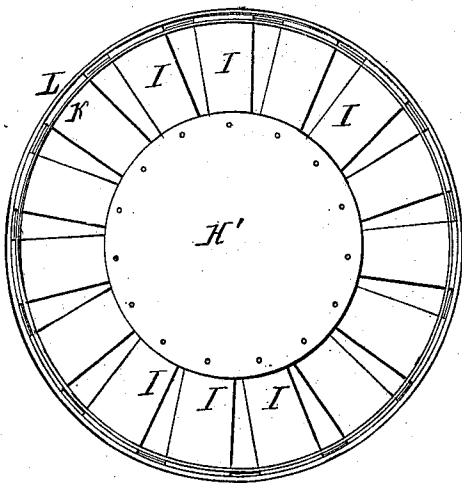


Fig. 3.

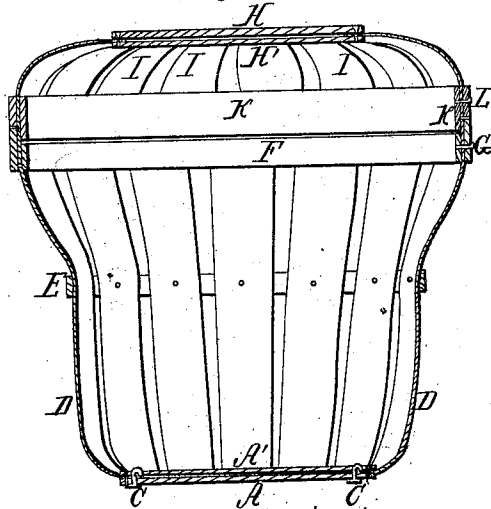


Fig. 4.

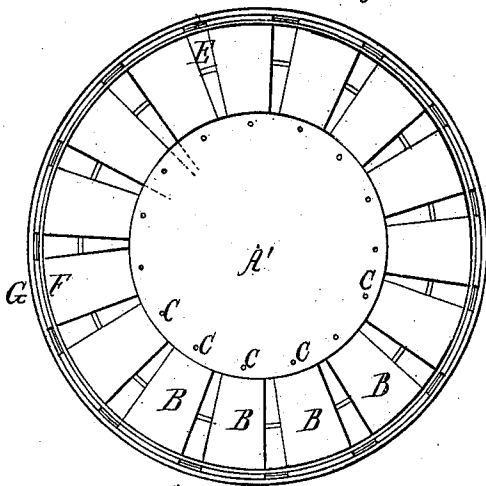
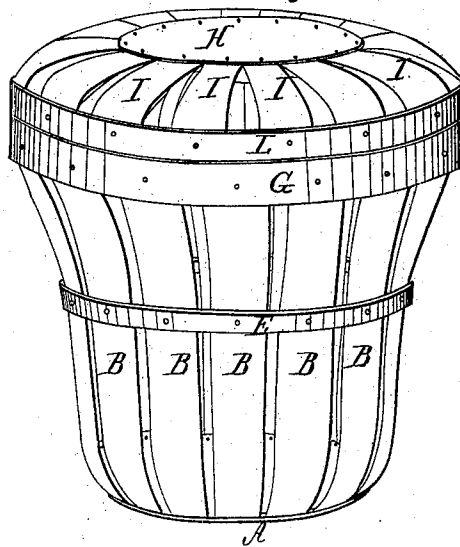


Fig. 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OREN STODDARD, OF BUSTI, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **40,436**, dated October 27, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OREN STODDARD, of Busti, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Baskets for Containing and Conveying Fruit; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and complete description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 is a view of the under side of the cover. Fig. 3 is a vertical section, and Fig. 4 is an inside view of the body of the basket.

Like letters refer to like parts.

The nature of my invention relates to such a form of baskets that they can be nested together for transportation and so constructed in regard to shape that when filled with fruit they can be placed one upon another without pressure upon the fruit, and thus transported without injury to either basket or fruit; also, to the form and structure of the cover, by which it is enabled to sustain a weight without pressing upon the fruit. Both the basket and cover are so constructed as to admit of a free circulation of air among the fruit to prevent its becoming moldy.

The bottom consists of two thin disks of wood, A A', which should be in diameter about three-fifths of the top of the basket. Splints from three-fourths of an inch to one inch in width are introduced between these disks, as indicated by the dotted lines B' in Fig. 4, and secured by small tacks, which are driven through the edges of the disks and splints, as shown at C in Figs. 3 and 4. From this point the splints curve gently upward, as seen at D, Fig. 3, until they are nearly vertical, leaving a space of a quarter of an inch or more between each splint. At that point which marks about the middle of the body of the basket the hoop E incloses the splints, each one of which is secured to the hoop by means of small tacks. From this hoop E the splints curve outward and upward to the top, the ends being secured between the hoops F & G by tacks, as before described. The inner hoop, F, has only about half the width of the outer hoop, G, the outer hoop projecting

above the inner hoop, thus forming a ledge or rabbet for the cover.

The cover is constructed as follows: Two thin disks of wood, H H', form the central part of the cover. The splints I are secured between them by means of small tacks, in the same way that the splints B are secured between the disks A A'. The splints bend outward and downward, as shown in Fig. 3, and are secured between two hoops, K and L, by small tacks in the end of each splint. The hoop K is wider than the hoop L. The outer circumference of K fits upon the inner circumference of the hoop G, the lower edge of the hoop K and the upper edge of the hoop F meeting, as seen in Fig. 3, and the edges of the hoops G and L meeting in the same manner, thus giving the cover a firm support upon the top of the basket.

It will be observed that the top of the basket is larger than the middle at E. Consequently larger baskets will contain smaller ones of the same form, enabling me to nest them for transportation.

When the baskets are filled with fruit, a large surface is exposed to view when the cover is removed.

When the cover is on, it can be secured for transportation when filled with fruit by tying with cords, or by wire twisted around the rims of the basket and cover at two or three points, thus securing them together. The hemispherical form of the cover gives it firmness, so that one basket can be set upon another when filled for transportation, and the fruit is thus secured from pressure.

What I claim as my improvement, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described construction of basket and cover, wherein one end of the splints is secured between disks and the other end between hoops, which form a rabbet in the top of the basket and a corresponding rabbet in the cover, which fit together as described, and as a whole having the form and structure herein set forth, and operating as and for the purposes specified.

OREN STODDARD.

Witnesses:

W. H. BURRIDGE,
HENRY VOTH.