No. 752,584. PATENTED FEB. 16, 1904.

S. E. PATRICK.

HAT BOX.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 7, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

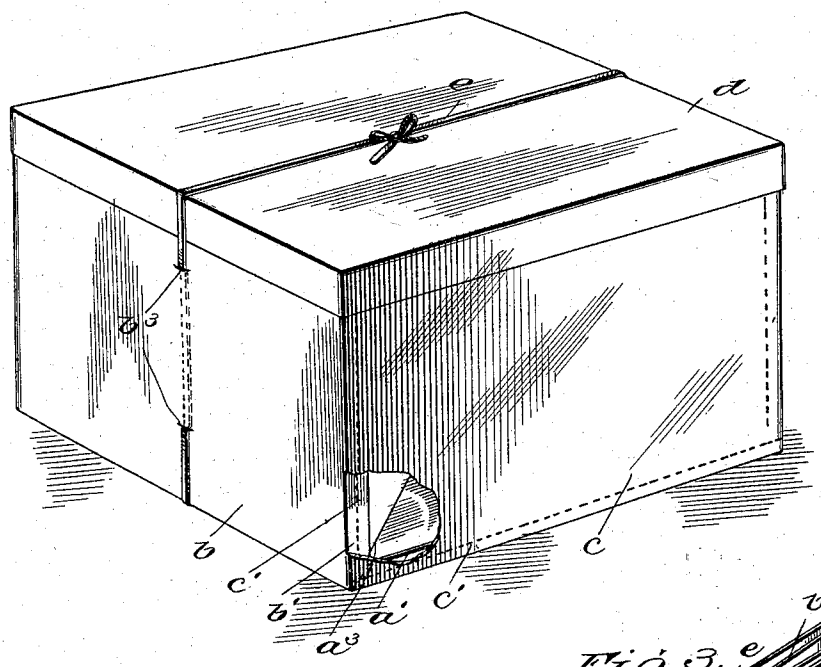


Fig. 2.

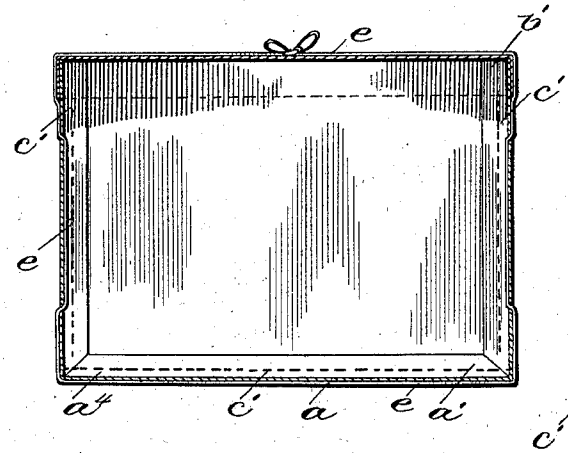
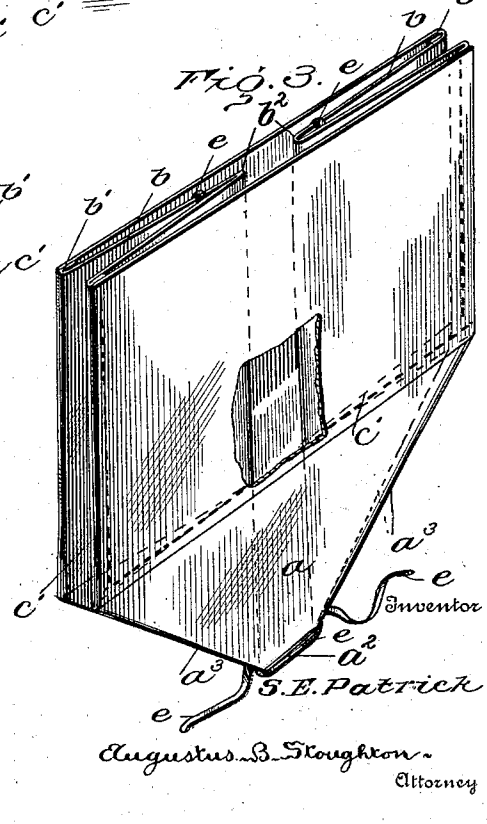


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

Frank E. Finch

By

Inventor

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Augustus B. Stoughton

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C

No. 752,584. Patented February 16, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SHELDON E. PATRICK, OF BRIDESBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO QUAKER CITY FOLDING BOX COMPANY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

HAT-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 752,584, dated February 16, 1904.

Application filed January 7, 1903. Serial No. 138,092. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SHELDON E. PATRICK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Bridesburg, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Hat-Box, of which the following is a specification.

One object is to provide a hat-box which can be collapsed and folded to facilitate storing and transporting.

Another object is to provide a box such as stated having its bottom folded outwardly and which may be readily opened by pressing the bottom upon a counter or other support.

A further object is to provide a box such as stated which is reinforced at the points of greatest strain, whereby it is better adapted to resist the wear and tear to which such boxes are usually subjected in practice and its life correspondingly prolonged.

To these and other ends, hereinafter stated, the invention consists in the improvements presently to be described, and defined in the claim hereto appended.

The nature, characteristic features, and scope of the invention will be more fully understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hat-box embodying features of the invention, one side of the box being partly broken away to disclose the mode of uniting the edges. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the box; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the box collapsed, showing the bottom folded outwardly, a portion of the box being broken away to disclose the arrangement of the folding side sections.

The improved box comprises the bottom *a* and the four boxing or side sections *b* and *c*, the side sections *b* being arranged to fold inwardly. The bottom *a* and the two side sections *b* are integral or constituted of one piece of pasteboard or other suitable box material. The side sections *b* and the bottom *a* are formed or provided with side flaps a' and b', to which are sewed, as at c', the side sections *c*. The lines along which the edges are sewed are the points of greatest strain, and heretofore these edges have been glued or made to interlock with each other. The latter two methods of securing the parts together have proved themselves to be wholly unsatisfactory in practice, because with the constant folding and unfolding of the box and the usage to which it is subjected the glue invariably cracks and releases the parts, and in the case of the interlock the parts are simply split or torn asunder. It is obvious that this cannot occur where the parts are united by threads in the manner described.

The bottom *a* is provided with a central fold or crease a^2, extending longitudinally thereof, and the side sections *b* are provided midway with vertical folds or creases b^2, which form continuations of the longitudinal fold a^2. The bottom *a* is also provided with diagonal folds a^3 and with edge folds or creases a^4. The latter constitute hinge connections between the bottom and the side or boxing sections, so that the bottom may be collapsed outwardly in respect to said sections, as shown in Fig. 3, while the latter may be folded inwardly, as also represented in said figure. In this position the folded side or boxing sections *b* occupy the spaces formed between the diagonal folds of the bottom. It is evident, therefore, that the box when folded is quite compact and that numbers of them can be packed and shipped and stored with facility.

In use the bottom *a* is simply pressed down upon a counter or other convenient support, whereby the side sections are forced open and the bottom made to assume a horizontal plane.

A suitable lid or cover *d* may be provided, as shown in Fig. 1, and there is also provided a tape E, which extends across the bottom of the box and is threaded through slits or openings b^3 of the side sections *b* and its ends finally brought together and united at the top. The object of the tape is to prevent the bottom of the box when the latter is in use

from collapsing outwardly under the weight of its contents and also to hold the lid or cover to place.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which the invention appertains that modifications may be made in details without departing from the spirit and scope of the same. Hence I do not limit myself to the precise construction and arrangements of parts hereinbefore described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing; but,

Having described the nature and objects of the invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A box of the character specified comprising an outwardly-folding bottom having a central longitudinal fold and also diagonal folds, side sections whereof two are integral with the bottom and have central vertical folds forming continuations of the longitudinal fold whereby said integral sides may fold inwardly, said bottom and integral sides having flaps to which the other side sections are sewed, a lid, and a tape extending across the bottom of the box and threaded through two opposite sides thereof and finally secured at the top, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

S. E. PATRICK.

Witnesses:
WM. J. JACKSON,
FRANK E. FRENCH.