

J. W. McCLEERY.  
 RECEPTACLE MADE OF PAPER OR CARDBOARD.  
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 25, 1910.

1,158,699.

Patented Nov. 2, 1915.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

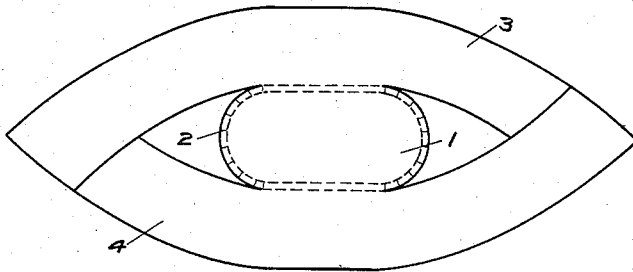


FIG. 1.

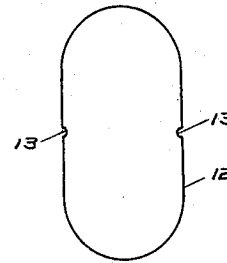


FIG. 2.

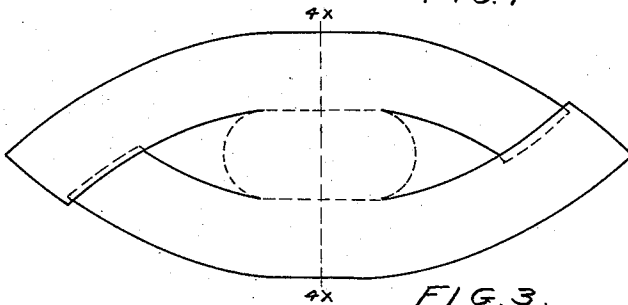


FIG. 3.

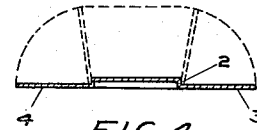


FIG. 4.

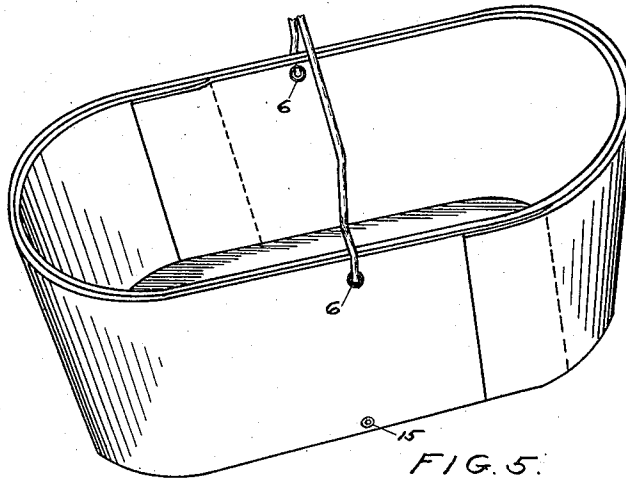


FIG. 5.

WITNESSES

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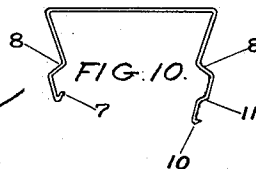


FIG. 10.

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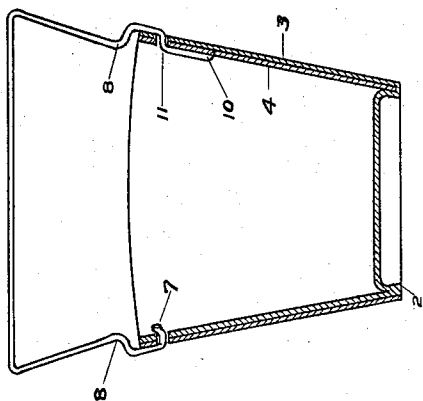


FIG. 7.

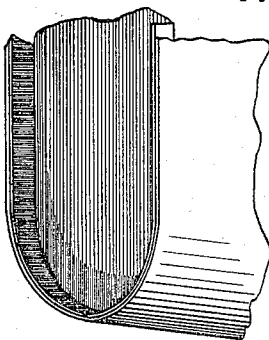


FIG. 9.

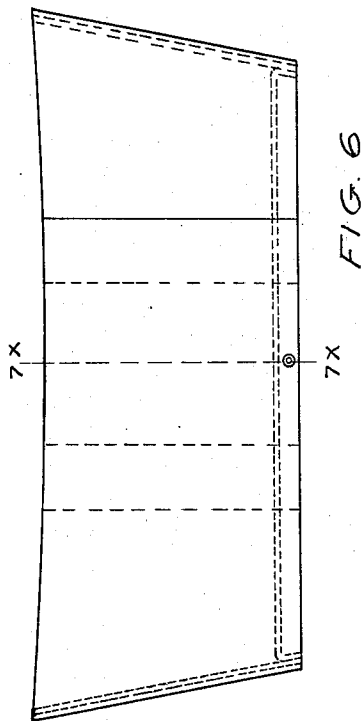


FIG. 6.

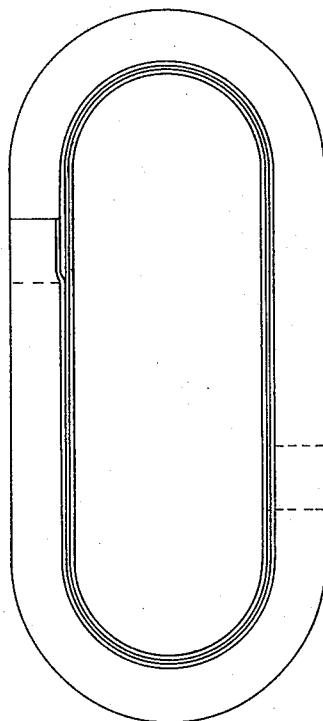


FIG. 8.

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## RECEPTACLE MADE OF PAPER OR CARDBOARD.

1,158,699.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 2, 1915.

Application filed April 25, 1910. Serial No. 557,581.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES WILSON McCLEERY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Rochester, county of Monroe, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Receptacles Made of Paper or Cardboard, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in receptacles for the transportation and storage of small commodities such as grapes and other small fruits, etc.

One object of my invention is to make baskets or receptacles of low cost that will have sufficient strength and stability to stand the handling incident to their manufacture and shipment, and the filling, cartage and transportation of them as well. It will be understood that in store houses and in freight cars, while in shipment and at railroad depots, these baskets when filled are piled one on top of the other to a considerable height, and in consequence the baskets at the bottom of the pile are subjected to a considerable strain, due to the weight of the baskets placed on top.

The strength of baskets heretofore manufactured is such as to limit the number of tiers of baskets that can be placed in a pile to an inconsiderable number, but with my invention it is believed the loaded baskets may be piled on top of each other to a considerable height or even to the ceiling of an ordinary room or the roof of a freight car.

Therefore this object of my invention may be stated to be; to produce a receptacle combining with light weight and economical construction, great strength and rigidity to withstand the weight to which they will be subjected in storage and the rough usage which they will naturally receive in transportation.

A further object of my invention is to provide a handle for the basket which can be readily attached thereto after the basket has been filled, which handle will be practically rigid with the basket.

A further object of my invention is to support the bottom of the basket at a considerable distance above the lowest part of the basket, or in other words, to provide a raised bottom or a false bottom in the basket, keeping such bottom and its contents out of any moisture that may be on the floor on which the basket is standing.

With the foregoing objects in view, and such other objects as will appear as the nature of my invention is more fully disclosed, I now refer to the accompanying drawings in which the form of my receptacle and the process of its manufacture are illustrated.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the blank or pattern from which the basket will be formed, as it is cut out by a die. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the cover for the basket. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the blank after the bottom has been raised therefrom. Fig. 4 is a section of the line 4<sup>x</sup>, 4<sup>x</sup> of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the basket as it will appear when finished, with a handle attached. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the basket showing that the basket is higher at the ends than in the middle. Fig. 7 is a section of the line 7<sup>x</sup>, 7<sup>x</sup> of Fig. 6 the basket being shown with a handle attached thereto. Fig. 8 is a plan view of the basket inverted. Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the bottom of the basket partly broken away. Fig. 10 is a view of the handle.

Like reference numerals refer to like parts in the accompanying drawings.

The receptacle comprises three portions, each separate and complete in itself, viz. the body, which includes the bottom, the cover and the bail. The body is formed from a single blank stamped out of sheet material. The cover is formed from still another blank stamped of sheet material, and the bail from a single piece of wire or other suitable material.

The body comprises a bottom 1 having an annular flange 2 extending completely around it. The shape of the bottom is an oblong having parallel sides with semi-circular ends. This shape is only a matter of convenience, as any other shape that may be desired in the basket may be used instead. The flange 2 comprises an annular strip of material extending around the bottom, being integral with the bottom within it and being integral with the sides of the basket formed on either side of the flange.

The solid lines shown in Figs. 1 and 3 indicate the lines on which the blank is cut clear through, while the dotted lines indicate the lines on which the blank is cut merely partly in two, or is merely scored or indented. The object of these scored lines is to facilitate the bending of the material, it being understood that the material will nor-

mally bend on the line that is scored, the material on that line offering less resistance to bending than does the material on either side of the line.

- 5 After the blank has been formed by being cut and scored as illustrated in Fig. 1, the basket will be formed by the following process: First, the material is bent on the lines connecting the flange 2 to the bottom 10 1 and to the sides 3 and 4, in the manner illustrated in cross section in Fig. 4. This raises the bottom above the balance of the blank or the sides thereof a distance substantially equal to the width of the flange 2. 15 After this the sides can be bent up to the position shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4. The first bend between the bottom and the flange will be to bend the flanges down from the bottom. The next bend between the 20 flange and the sides will be to bend the sides up parallel with the flange and almost perpendicular to the bottom. This will give a double thickness of material below the bottom, due to the thickness of the flange 25 and the sides. After this the ends of the sides of the blank can be bent around in position to form the finished basket. As will be noticed in Fig. 1, each side has a long end and a short end so positioned that 30 the long end of one side will overlap the short end of the other side when they are bent around the bottom to form the sides of the basket. These ends are of such length that the sides of the basket will contain two 35 thicknesses of material all the way around the basket. The ends will further overlap so that three thicknesses of material will be found for a short distance. In each case the short end should preferably be wound 40 inside the long end that is placed opposite thereto although it is obvious that it may be wound outside the long end that is placed opposite thereto, or at one end of the basket the long end may be placed inside and at the 45 other end the long end may be placed outside, these details being simply a matter of choice.

- The sides of the basket may be fastened together and held in place by gluing them 50 together where they overlap or by fastening them together with staples.

- The flange 2 on the bottom 1 may at the semi-circular ends have incisions cut therein to facilitate the bending down of the material of which it is composed. These incisions 55 may preferably be radial, dividing the flange into sections. When these sections at the ends are bent down their ends will slightly overlap each other. I prefer however to form the rounded part of the flange 60 without making these incisions and it is obvious that the incisions are unnecessary where the flange runs straight. Besides, such incisions cannot advantageously be cut 65 in the flange where it runs straight for the

reason that the straight portions of the flange are connected to the bottom on the one side and to the sides on the other. I prefer to bend the flange at the semi-circular end by leaving the cardboard uncut and forcing it to the desired shape, using sufficient pressure therefor, and if necessary heating the material to facilitate the bending of it. 70

It will be noticed in Fig. 6 that the ends 75 of the basket are somewhat higher than the middle of the basket. This I consider an important feature of my invention and contributes materially to the strength or resistance of the basket to pressure. Ordinarily these baskets are piled up as follows: 80 Two baskets are placed side by side on the floor; two additional baskets are placed side by side on top of these and at right angles to them; two other baskets are 85 placed on top of these at right angles and so on indefinitely, forming what is generally termed a "buck," each pair of baskets tying together the pair of baskets above and below it, the baskets may also be placed 90 end to end in a row. On top of this row of baskets another row of baskets may be placed, the baskets being arranged end to end, the intervals between consecutive baskets of the second row being staggered with 95 reference to the intervals between consecutive baskets in the first row. Additional rows may be piled on top in like manner indefinitely. In this way each basket ties together the two adjacent baskets in the 100 row above and below. In either case the weight is placed on each basket at the top, not in the middle but at the ends. This tends to draw the ends of the basket out; it tends to make the basket longer and draw 105 the sides of the basket together in the middle, making the basket narrower. This places a compression strain on the rounded ends of the basket where it is best able to withstand pressure and places a tension 110 strain on the sides of the basket, which strain is the one that the sides of the basket are best adapted to withstand. Because of these features of the construction of the basket, these baskets when filled may be stacked 115 up to a great height safely and without incurring any risk in changing the shape of the basket or injuring the basket or its contents.

In the blank from which the basket is 120 made, the long and the short ends of the sides opposite each other abut and are otherwise so shaped that the greatest possible percentage of the stock is utilized for the formation of the basket. The outside line 125 around the blank is a continuous one. The ends of the sides are cut on such an angle as to make the ends practically perpendicular to the bottom line of the basket. The portions of the ends of the sides 3 and 4 130

which form the rounded ends of the basket should be made somewhat wider than the remaining portions of the sides so as to give the proper excess height to the ends of the basket. In this way the ends of the basket will be made higher than the middle of the basket. It will also be seen that the short ends of each of the sides will be long enough to pass clear around the rounded end of the basket and overlap the side beyond it by a considerable distance, all of which contributes greatly to the strength of the basket. The long end of each side of the basket will pass around the basket in the opposite direction and will overlap the short end of the same side to which it is connected. This is true of the long and the short end of both sides of the basket, giving at all points of the sides of the basket two thicknesses of material and for a short interval in two places three thicknesses of material.

As illustrated in Fig. 5, one of the ends of one of the sides of the basket will be engaged in the fold between the flange 2 and the side 3 of the basket.

All of the contacting surfaces will be held to each other by glue or other equivalent means of fastening. In each side, as shown in Fig. 5, an eyelet 6 will be placed, which eyelets will hold the layers composing the sides of the basket permanently in place. This is a distinct advantage in case the sides are glued to each other, as the eyelets will hold the sides together until the glue has set and hardened.

As shown in perspective in Fig. 10, I equip my improved basket with a handle preferably made of wire. This handle on one side has an upturned end 7 which passes through the eyelet 6 and a shoulder 8 that passes over the top of the basket. Above this shoulder the handle is bent up and out and is at the top spread a distance substantially equal to the top of the basket. The other side of the handle is shaped substantially in the same way except that instead of terminating with the upturned end 7 the wire is bent down and out and terminates in a point 10 that is capable of engaging with the soft material of the basket. After the basket has been filled or before, the handle can be put in place by inserting the point 10 through the eyelet 6 from the outside until the shoulder 11 rests in the eyelet, after which the handle may be turned up to its proper position over the basket and the upturned end 7 on the other end of the handle inserted in the eyelet 6 in the other

side of the basket, into engagement with which it can be very easily sprung. The engagement of the point 10 with the soft material of the basket keeps the handle from rocking on the basket and holds it positively in position. It is also obvious that the handle can be attached to the basket before the basket is filled and that in either case no tools are needed to complete the engagement. The handle can be disengaged equally as readily.

Between the shoulders 8 and the top of the basket sufficient room is left for the insertion of the cover 12. As illustrated in Fig. 2, this cover is recessed at 13, 13 to engage with the handle. There is sufficient spring in the handle to hold itself in engagement with the recesses 13 in the cover when the cover has been placed in position. The shoulders 8, 8 bearing on top of the cover serve to hold the cover in position with sufficient firmness for all practical purposes. When the sides of the handle are sprung apart the cover can be easily removed or inserted.

To insure proper ventilation of the bottom of the basket from underneath, I provide one or more ventilating holes 15 piercing the flange below the bottom of the basket for this purpose.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and patentable is as follows:

A blank for a receptacle, said blank comprising an elongated bottom section having rounded ends and side sections of curved outline connected thereto, said bottom section having a double line of scoring extending along its sides and around the rounded ends, and each of said curved side sections having a long and a short end, said long end of each of the side sections having sufficient length to extend around a rounded end of the bottom section and for a substantial distance along the side of the opposing side section, and said double line of scoring enabling the blank to be bent first in one direction and then in the other to form an elevated bottom between and integral with two upstanding sides and the material between the lines of scoring forming a depending flange which surrounds said bottom.

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

JAMES WILSON McCLEERY.

Witnesses:

J. N. BOWMAN,

ALICE M. JOHANNES.