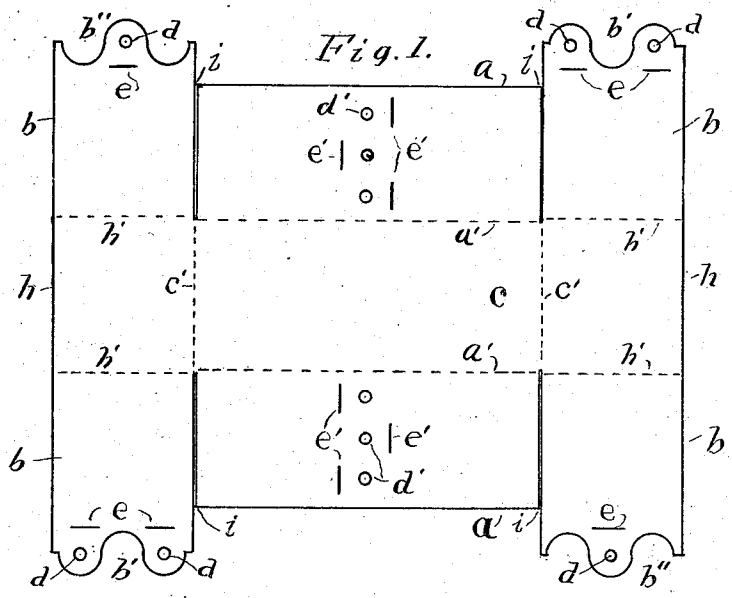
No. 881,500. PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

W. J. THOMAS.

BASKET.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 1, 1905. RENEWED JAN. 15, 1908.

Fig. 1.



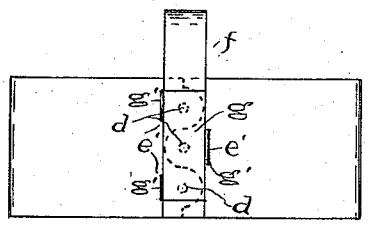


Fig. 2.

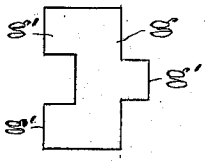


Fig. 3.

Inventor

William Jay Thomas

Witnesses

A. Allgier.

Vrl Eilley.

By Jethro J. Eilley

Attorney

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM JAY THOMAS, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ANNIE S. THOMAS, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

BASKET.

No. 881,500. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed July 1, 1905, Serial No. 267,975. Renewed January 15, 1908. Serial No. 411,027.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM JAY THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Baskets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in fruit baskets, and its object is to provide a knock down fruit basket with which the sides may be reinforced with overlapping ends cut upon a single blank and the meeting ends of the reinforced side so interlocked that the handle or bail, covering the meeting ends, may be secured to the basket sides by nails or rivets passing through the bail and through the alternate portions of the interlocking ends so that there can be no possible chance for the reinforcing sides to draw out from under the bail, though the rivets or nails are placed in a direct line in the center of the bail. I attain this object by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which

Figure 1 is a plan of one form of blank from which the basket is made; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a basket, and Fig. 3 is a plan of the blank from which a shield or clamp is made with which to cover the end of the bail, and which may be utilized for securing the bail to the basket, in lieu of the rivets or nails, if so desired.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the blank shown in Fig. 1, *a a* represent the sides of the basket, and are integral with the bottom *c*, but severed from the reinforcing sides *b* at the line *i* and are designed to be bent up on the dotted lines *a' a'*, while the ends, *h*, are bent up on the lines *c'*, thus forming the body of the basket, after which the reinforcing sides *b* are bent upon the lines *h'*, *h'*, &c so that the ends *b'* and *b''* will meet and interlock at the exact longitudinal center of the basket and in position to be wholly covered by the ends of the bail *f*, as indicated in Fig. 2, in position so that rivets or nails driven through the bail will pass through the openings *d*, *d'* securing the meeting ends of the reinforcing sides and holding them firmly to place and, by the overlapping or interlocking of these ends, greatly strengthen this portion of the sides, and rendering the sides much more substantial as a whole.

The plate *g*, in Fig. 3, is designed to cover the ends of the bail at the sides of the basket, as indicated in Fig. 2, the slots *e* in the reinforcing sides *b* being in proper position to register with the slots *e'* in the sides *a* so that the wing *g'* on the plate *g* may be bent at right angles with the plate and made to enter and pass through the registering slots *e e'*, and be therein secured, which may be done by using a substantial metal plate *g*, and clamping the ends *g'* firmly upon the inner surface of the sides of the basket. I prefer the use of metal for this purpose as it is more flexible and better adapted to the purpose than other material. The use of this plate, also, greatly reinforces the point of juncture between the ends *b' b''* under the ends of the bail and contributes to prevent them from drawing apart by unusual strain at the ends of the basket.

While the form of ends shown at *b' b''* are the most desirable for basket construction, I do not wish to restrict myself to this particular form as it is evident that there are several forms of overlapping or interlocking the ends that would be available and would not depart from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:—

In basket construction, an integral blank cut to form the bottom, the sides, the ends, and reinforcing sides integral with the ends, the meeting ends of the reinforcing sides extending by each other in alternate projections to form interlocking joints, a handle formed and placed so that its ends will cover the interlocking joints at each side of the basket, means for securing the ends of the handles to the sides of the basket, and a metallic plate cut and formed to cover each end of the handle and provided with lugs to pass through the sides of the basket and bend closely against the inner surfaces thereof in position to clamp the ends of the handle closely thereto, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Signed at Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 27, 1905.

WM. JAY THOMAS.

In presence of:
A. ALLGIER,
ITHIEL J. CILLEY.