W. P. GROOM.

SAMPLING PACKAGES.

No. 195,816. Patented Oct. 2, 1877

Fig. 1.

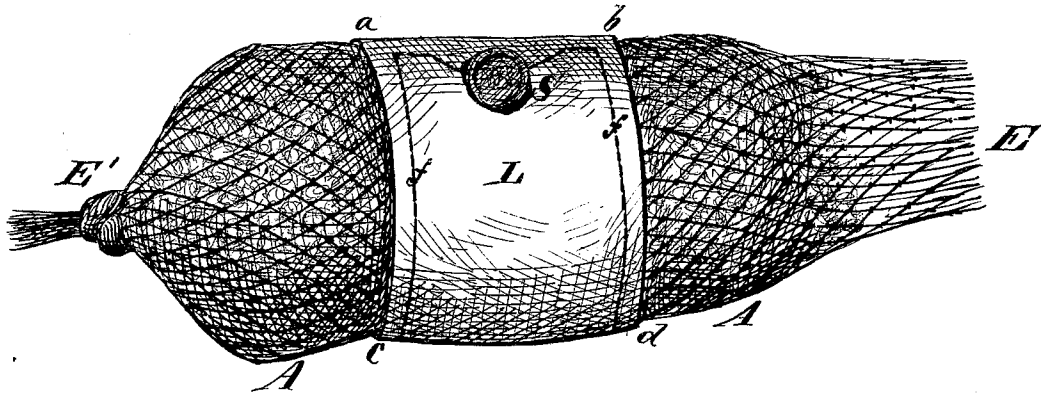


Fig. 2.

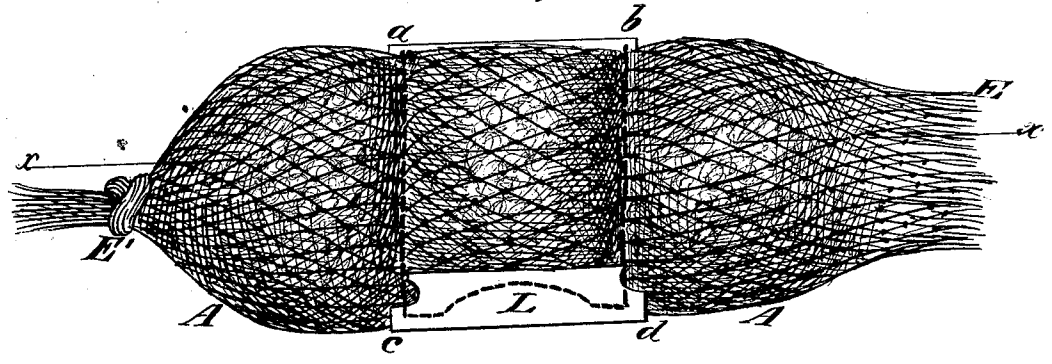
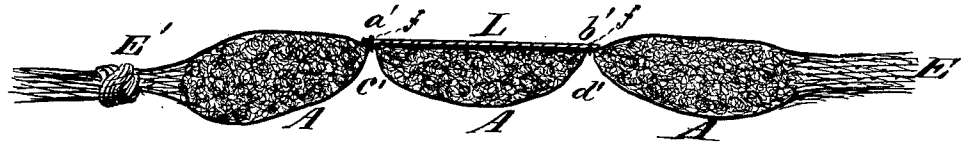


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN SAMPLING-PACKAGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **195,816**, dated October 2, 1877; application filed August 28, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALLACE P. GROOM, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Sampling-Packages; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification.

The objects of my invention are to facilitate the selling of goods by sample, and to prevent disputes arising from claims that goods invoiced are inferior to the sample on which the sale was based.

Figure 1 in the accompanying drawing is a top view of a sampling-package comprising my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the under side of such a package. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the package, made on the line *x x* in Fig. 2.

The invention may be carried out in various ways, and may be applied to sampling any kind of fibrous material, and it may also be used for sampling coffee, beans, corn, &c. The invention will, however, be sufficiently illustrated by a description of it as applied to a sampling-package of cotton, which is the kind of package shown in the drawing.

A represents a reticulated or perforate retaining-inclosure for holding the sample of cotton or other material or product. Said inclosure is, preferably, made in a tubular form, with open ends, as shown at E, which may subsequently be closed by tying them in knots, as shown at E′, or which may be otherwise closed or left open, according to the character of the sample. For cotton, hemp, jute, flax, or other fibrous material, the said ends may conveniently be left open. For coffee, corn, beans, &c., it would be more convenient to close the said ends.

In such reticulated package I set off any portion—for example, such a part as is indicated by the letters *a b c d*, Figs. 1 and 2, or *a′ b′ c′ d′* in Fig. 3—and by stitching, netting, or tying with a thread, wire, or other filamentous material, *f*, into, upon, or through the inclosure A, I permanently separate the contents of such part from the other portions. Upon said thread, wire, or other filamentous material, by which the separation is effected, I place a seal, S, Fig. 1, which prevents the withdrawal or removal of the same for tampering with the permanently-inclosed sample; and I furthermore, preferably, place over the said permanently-inclosed sample a label, L, which is attached by the same thread, wire, or other filamentous material employed for making the permanent inclosure.

Said label, when made of paper or other material which may be easily torn, is an additional protection against tampering with the sample, and upon it may be conveniently printed, marked, or written words or signs indicating the quality of the sample, and its price or other commercial inscription with ink, chalk, or pencil, as the case may require.

The advantages of such a package are, that while its contents may be seen, handled, and inspected, and while portions may be extracted for examination, the quality of the sample cannot be changed or raised by taking out a part of the same and replacing it with a higher grade of goods; consequently the business of selling goods by sample will be greatly advanced and benefited by the use of such packages.

I claim—

1. The combination, in a sampling-package, of a reticulated inclosure, through which the sample may be inspected, a thread or other filamentous material for permanently inclosing said sample, or a portion of the same, and a seal for securing the inclosure, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, with a sampling-package having a portion of its contents separated from the rest by a thread, wire, or other filamentous material and secured by a seal, of a label attached by the same material which separates the sample, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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