(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. WILLIAMS.

COMBINED LUNCH BASKET AND TABLE.

No. 597,662 Patented Jan. 18, 1898.

Fig. 1.

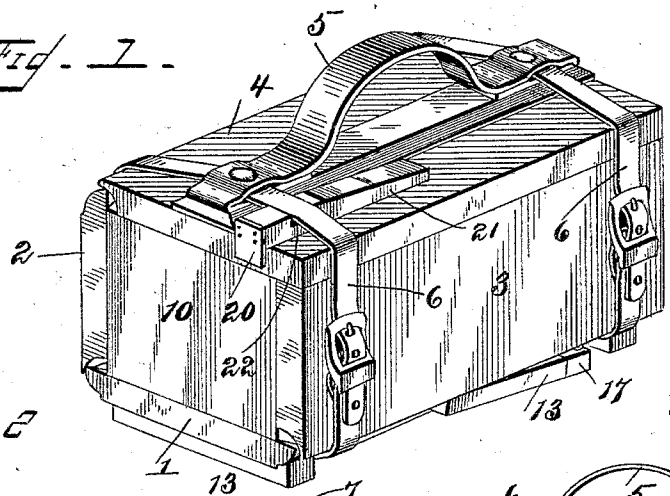


Fig. 2.

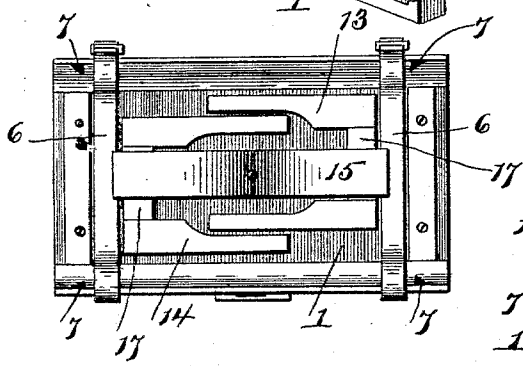


Fig. 3.

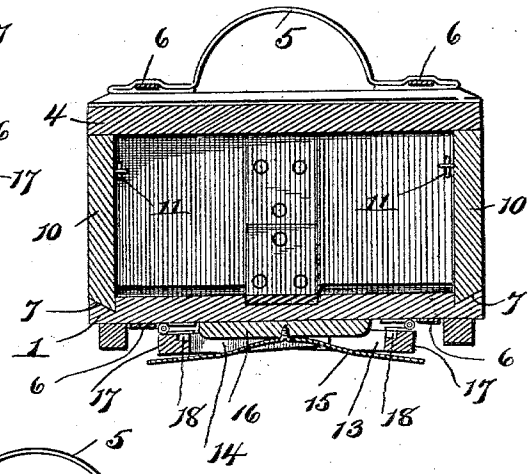
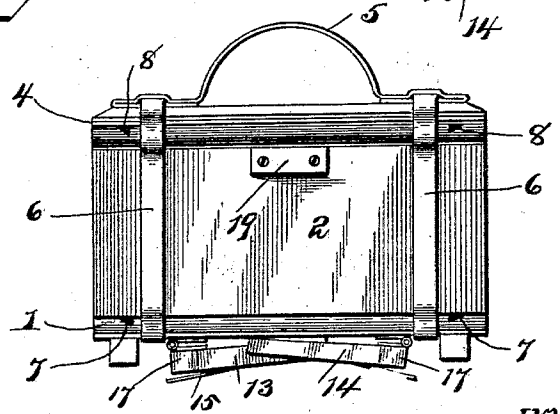


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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No. 597,662. Patented Jan. 18, 1898.

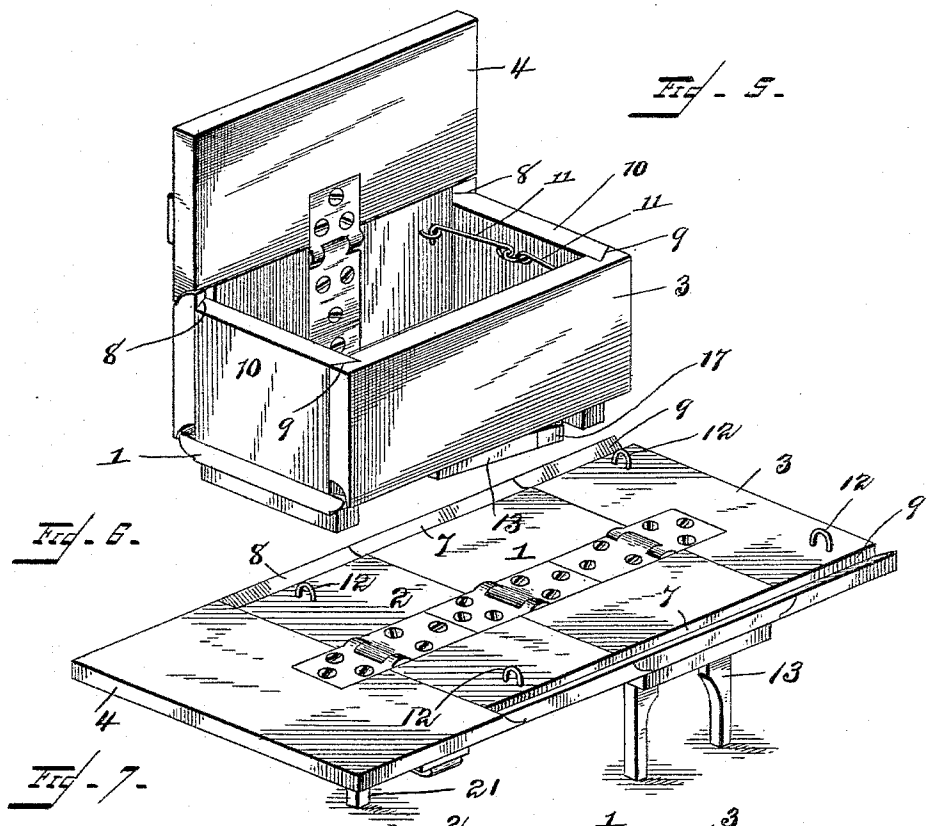


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

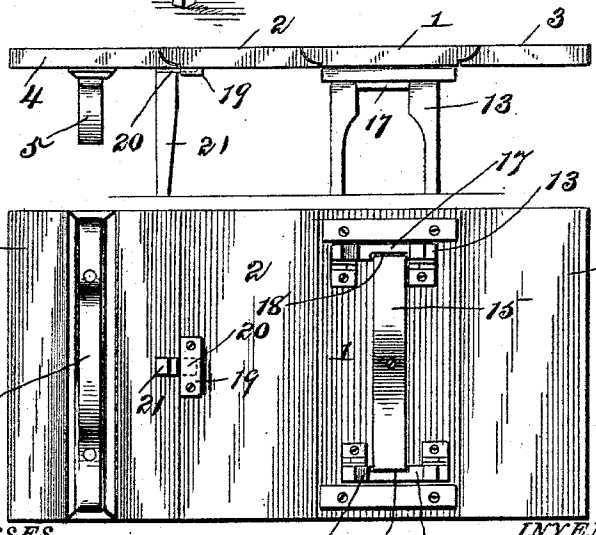


Fig. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMBROSINE WILLIAMS, OF SALEM, MISSOURI.

COMBINED LUNCH BASKET AND TABLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 597,662, dated January 18, 1898.

Application filed September 12, 1896. Serial No. 605,649. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AMBROSINE WILLIAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Salem, in the county of Dent and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Lunch Basket and Table; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in combined lunch baskets and tables, the object of the same being to provide a basket in which a picnic-lunch may be conveniently carried and which may be converted into a table upon which the lunch may be spread when it is desired to eat the same.

The invention consists of a basket, preferably constructed of wood, having a bottom piece, two side pieces hinged to said bottom piece, and a lid or cover hinged to one of said side pieces. Detachable end pieces are also provided which are adapted to fit within grooves on the inner sides of the side and bottom pieces adjacent to their outer edges and to be secured in place by means of hooks and staples. On the under side of the bottom piece are hinged supporting-legs which are adapted to be folded up out of the way when the device is used in its basket form and to be folded downwardly when the same is used as a table. A detachable leg is also provided for one of the side pieces to aid in supporting the device when it is used as a table.

The invention also consists in other details of construction and combinations of parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the drawings forming part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my device shown in its basket form with the supporting-legs folded up out of the way and with the ends of the straps for holding the parts in place buckled. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation. Fig. 5 is a perspective view showing the lid or cover raised. Fig. 6 is a similar view showing the device in its table form. Fig. 7 is an elevation of the same, and Fig. 8 is a bottom plan view.

Like reference-numerals indicate like parts in the different views.

My improved device is preferably constructed of wood and consists of a bottom piece 1 and side pieces 2 3, hinged thereto and adapted to fold outwardly until they lie in a horizontal plane. Hinged to the outer edge of the side piece 2 is a lid or cover 4, which has a handle 5 secured to the top surface thereof, from the outer ends of which extend straps 6 6, which are adapted to be passed around the outside of the device when in its basket form for holding said basket in its closed position. The inner surface of the bottom piece 1 is formed with grooves 7 7 adjacent to its outer edges, and similar grooves 8 8 and 9 9 are formed in the same relative positions in the side pieces 2 and 3, respectively. The end pieces 10 10 have their lower edges and the outer edges of their sides cut away to conform to the shape of the grooves 7, 8, and 9, and said sides are adapted to fit within said grooves when the device is used in its basket form. They are held in place against the side pieces by means of hooks 11 11, pivoted to them and adapted to be inserted into staples 12 12 on the side pieces 2 and 3, respectively. On the under side of the bottom piece 1 are hinged two pairs of legs 13 14, which are adapted to fold upwardly in close contact with said bottom piece when the device is used in its basket form and to be held in such position by a flat spring 15, secured centrally to a block 16, projecting outwardly from said bottom piece and engaging the rectangular cross-bars 17, connecting said pairs of legs. The said cross-bars 17 have recesses 18 18 cut in them, in which the ends of the spring 15 are adapted to fit when said legs are turned to their open position, the same being held positively in said open position by said spring. On the outer side of the side piece 2 is secured a plate 19, the same being cut away on its inner surface adjacent to its central point, forming a socket for the reception of a metallic plate 20, projecting laterally from a supplemental leg 21. Said leg 21 has a recess 22 cut along one edge thereof, into which one of the straps 6 fits for the purpose of holding said leg in place when the device is used in its basket form. When the straps 6 are unbuckled, said leg is readily removed and

attached to the side piece 2 by inserting the plate 20 therein into the socket formed by the plate 19. Said leg serves as an additional support for the device when it is used as a table.

In filling my improved basket the lid 4 is raised in the usual manner and the contents placed upon the bottom piece 1 between the sides 2 and 3 and the end pieces 10 10. When full, the lid 3 is turned downwardly, closing the basket, and the ends of the straps 6 6 are then buckled together, holding the parts of the basket in their closed positions, the legs 13 14 lying in close contact with the under side of the bottom piece 1.

When it is desired to remove the contents of the basket and convert it into its table form, the straps 6 6 are unbuckled and the leg 21 is removed and applied to the side piece 2 in the manner heretofore described. The legs 13 14 are then folded downwardly, as clearly shown in Fig. 6, the same being held in that position by the engagement of the spring 15 with the shoulder in the cross-bars 17, formed by the recesses 18 18 therein. The hooks 11 are then disconnected from the staples 12 and the end pieces 10 removed. The sides 2 and 3 are then folded rearwardly into the positions shown in Fig. 6, with the side piece 2 supported by the supplemental leg 21. If desired, a leg may also be provided for the side piece 3; but it will be found that the hinge by which said side piece is connected to the bottom piece 1 will be of sufficient strength to support it. Said table may then be spread with a cloth and the lunch spread thereupon.

To reconvert the device into its basket form, the reverse operation to that just described will be performed.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a combined lunch basket and table, the combination of a bottom piece, side pieces hinged to the opposite edges thereof, a lid or cover hinged to the edge of one of the side pieces and provided with a handle, the bottom piece and side pieces being grooved adjacent to their outer edges, removable end pieces having hooks on their inner sides to engage fastenings on the side pieces and also having part of their edges constructed to fit in the said grooves, two pairs of legs hinged to the under side of the bottom piece, an extended plate-spring for holding the legs in supporting position, a plate attached to the outer portion of one of the side pieces and cut away to form a socket, a supplemental leg having a metal plate thereon adapted to engage the said plate on the side piece, and surrounding straps supplied with fastening devices for holding the parts in closed position, said pairs of legs being adapted to be folded against the bottom piece, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

AMBROSINE WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:
T. J. MOSELEY,
SAMUEL WHITE.