J. P. BUCKINGHAM & O. M. HAMILTON.

Paper-Box.

No. 210,913. Patented Dec. 17, 1878.

Fig. 1.

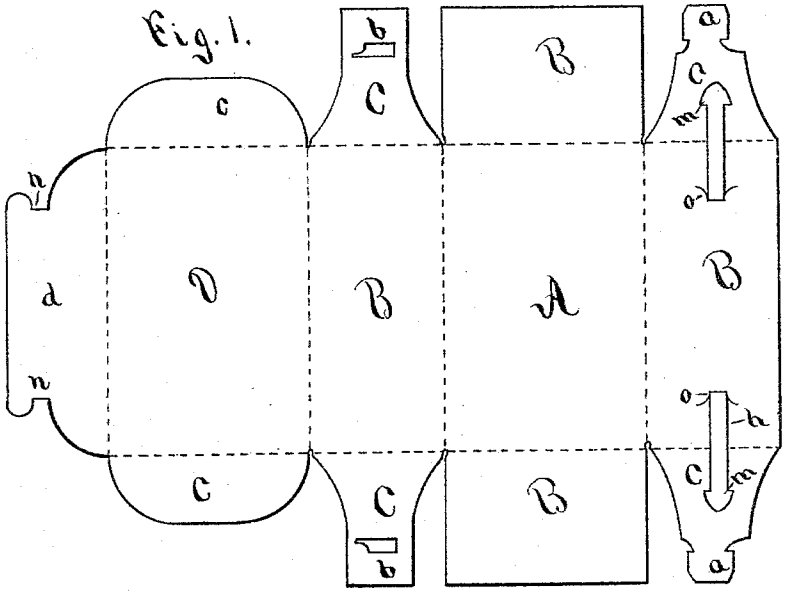


Fig. 2.

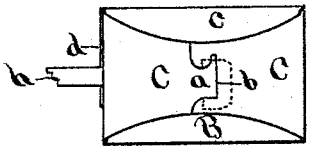


Fig. 3.

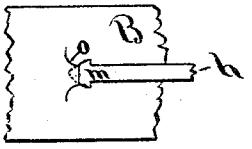
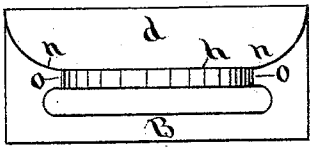


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH P. BUCKINGHAM, OF CHICOPEE, AND OLIVER M. HAMILTON, OF SPRINGFIELD, ASSIGNORS OF ONE-THIRD OF THEIR RIGHT TO GEORGE A. DENISON, OF CHICOPEE, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN PAPER BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **210,913**, dated December 17, 1878; application filed August 5, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOSEPH P. BUCKINGHAM, of Chicopee, in the county of Hampden and State of Massachusetts, and OLIVER M. HAMILTON, of Springfield, in the same county and State, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper Boxes, of which the following is a specification:

Our invention consists of the peculiar form of lock for the sides, the handle and manner of locking it in place, and the combination of the handle and fastening-flap of the cover, all as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of a box which embodies our invention, the same being represented as unfolded. Fig. 2 is an end view of the same, represented as folded up and locked together. Fig. 3 is a detached view of the same, showing the manner of inserting the handle; and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of said box.

A designates the bottom of the box. B B B B designate the four sides which form the depth of the box; C C C C, the locking-straps, formed on two of said sides, which are opposite each other, half of which straps have shouldered tongues *a a*, and half of which have eyes *b b*, of the form shown in Fig. 1. The length of the eye transversely to said straps, and on the side nearest the part of the box to which the strap is connected, is such that the body of the tongue *a* may be readily passed through it at that point, while the opposite side of said eye is narrower in the same direction, and of the proper size to admit only the neck of the tongue just back of or between the shoulders.

D designates the top of the box, having end flaps, *c c*, and side flap, *d*. The broken lines in Fig. 1 indicate the lines on which the parts are folded in setting up the box.

Upon the side over which the side flap, *d*, of the cover folds is a handle, *h*, the ends of which are pointed and provided with shoulders *m*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. In this side of the box two straight transverse slits are made, of a length a little greater than the width of the handle just back of the shoulders *m*; and extending from the ends of said straight slit at an angle thereto there are two curved slits, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, said straight and curved slits being designated *o* in the drawings.

By entering the point of the handle in the slit *o* when the handle lies flat against the side B, as shown in Fig. 3, it may be easily pushed through, thereby bringing the shoulders upon the inside of the box. The other end is pushed through in like manner.

If the box is to be shipped in the flat or knock-down form, the handle thus inserted may lie flat with the box, as shown in Fig. 1. By turning the ends of the handle at right angles to the side of the box and drawing the bulk of the handle through to the outside, the shoulders *m* will engage the solid side of the box in line with the straight portion of the slit *o* and hold the handle in place.

The straps C C C C span two of the sides B B, and are locked together by passing the tongues through the eyes, then dropping them a little sidewise and letting them draw back into the position represented in Fig. 2, the outlines of so much of the tongue as is back of other parts being indicated by broken lines.

By making the eye longer on one side than the other in a transverse direction, and corresponding respectively to the width of the body and neck of the tongue, taken in the same direction, the latter can be inserted and locked in place without doubling over or bending the corners or twisting the tongue.

Other styles of locking devices—as, for instance, an ordinary buckle—may be employed to secure the straps; and other material, such as leather or leather-board, may be employed to form a more substantial article for lunch-boxes or other uses.

It is much more convenient to fill the box from one of its broadest sides, which we call the "top" of the box, and in order to leave the top accessible for such purpose, we make the straps C C extend across the end from side to side, instead of from top to bottom.

The side flap, *d*, of the cover D is formed with a neck between the notches *n n*, which will just fit in between the two ends of the handle *h* and fasten the cover in place, as shown in

Fig. 4. If desired, the cover D might be omitted, or another cover substituted for it, without changing the other features of our invention.

We are aware that boxes closed upon both top and bottom, and accessible for filling only at the ends, have been locked together at the ends by flaps connected to said top and bottom, or the two broadest sides of the box; also, that boxes have been made with short corner-flaps, which locked into one of the four sides, but not into each other, and we hereby disclaim such prior boxes.

We claim as our invention—

1. In a knock-down box, the locking-straps C C C C, two of which have shouldered tongues *a a*, and two of which are provided with eyes *b b*, of a size at their inner sides corresponding in a transverse direction with the width of the tongues outside of the shoulders, and at their opposite and outer sides with the width of the neck inside of said shoulders, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

2. In a paper box, the handle shouldered at the ends, in combination with the side having slit *o*, with straight and divergent portions, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

3. In a folding box, the handle projecting from one side, in combination with the cover D and its flap *d*, having notches *n n*, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:
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