

(No Model.)

H. WEED.
BASKET COVER.

No. 543,279.

Patented July 23, 1895.

Fig. 1.

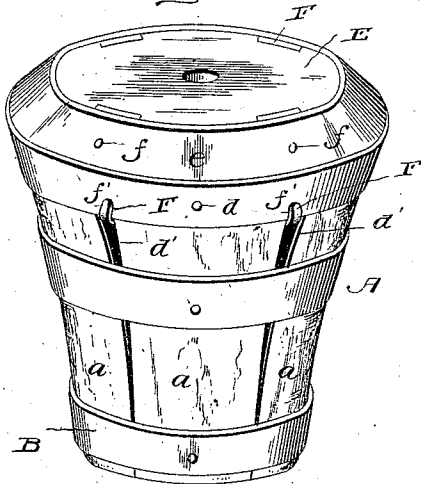


Fig. 2.

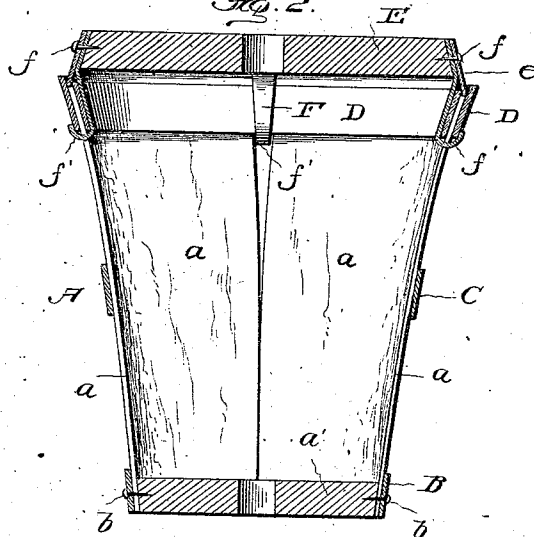
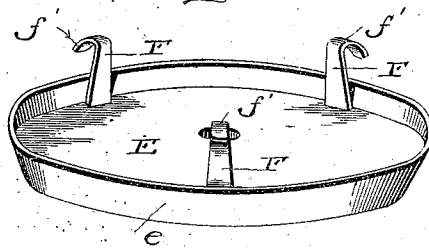


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIRAM WEED, OF LLOYD, NEW YORK.

BASKET-COVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 543,279, dated July 23, 1895.

Application filed March 21, 1895. Serial No. 542,601. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HIRAM WEED, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lloyd, in the county of Ulster and State of New York, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Basket-Covers; 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 ap-
10 pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to crates or baskets for the transportation and storage of fruit.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive crate or basket which
15 will give perfect protection and will reduce to a minimum the bruising of the fruit, although affording perfect ventilation and convenience in shipping, and to which the cover may be quickly and securely applied, and
20 from which it may be readily removed.

With these objects in view the invention consists of certain features of construction and combination of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

25 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved crate or basket. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the cover inverted.

30 A denotes the basket or crate comprising the staves *a*, bottom *a'*, which is secured to the lower ends of the staves by hoop B, through which pass nails or screws *b* into the edge of the bottom, as shown in Fig. 2. A hoop C is
35 secured to the staves between their ends, and hoops D are secured by rivets *d* to the upper ends of the staves and project above them, one on the interior and one on the exterior thereof, forming a recess at the top of the
40 basket, whereby a seat for the cover is provided, and the upper end of the crate is prevented from collapsing and expanding under pressure in shipping. The side edges of the
45 staves are spread apart, so as to form openings *d'*, for the purpose of ventilation and inspection.

E denotes the cover, to the edge of which is secured a depending flange *e*, which is adapted to fit into the seat formed by the two
50 hoops D and rest upon the ends of the staves and support the cover above the upper end

of the basket, so as not to bruise or injure the fruit contained within the basket.

Flexible catches F are secured between the edge of the cover and its depending flange by
55 nails or screws *f*, and their lower ends may be bent outward to form lips *f'*, which are adapted to project through the openings *d'* between the staves and engage the lower edges of the hoops D, thereby retaining the
60 cover in position against accidental displacement.

To remove the cover from the basket, the ends of the catches *f* are pressed downward and inward to free them from the hoops and
65 the cover may then be raised.

The basket is simple in construction, may be produced at a small cost, and when in use its cover will remain firmly in place against accidental displacement, as any lateral strain
70 exerted to remove it is resisted by the depending flange *e*, which fits in the annular groove, which is formed between the inner and outer hoops D, while it is prevented from being removed vertically by the spring
75 catches F.

While I do not wish to confine myself exclusively to the precise form of cover shown in the drawings, as the depending flange may be perpendicular or sloping, the cone shape
80 as there represented gives it numerous advantages in connection with the other parts of my device. Its sloping flange *e*, projecting into its seat between the hoops D, gives it much greater strength to resist the pressure
85 to which it is likely to be subjected in shipping than would a perpendicular flange, and also by its tapering inwardly toward its top it avoids all contact with adjoining baskets, which with the usual wooden covers render
90 them liable to be torn from place during transportation.

This form of cover also makes it possible to dispense with the usual slats, which not only have sharp edges inside to bruise the
95 fruit, but afford greater opportunity for pilfering than does my device. The cone shape also enables the covers, in returning empty crates, to be nested as readily as are the baskets, thus saving much valuable space. Fi-
100 nally, my flexible catches are so protected within the cover and hoops as not to be ex-

posed to displacement by contact with other baskets in transportation, as are the fastenings usually used with wooden covers. It will, therefore, readily be seen that I produce
5 a cheap, durable, as well as very strong and secure basket or crate for convenient shipping or storing of fruit.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent
10 of the United States—

A fruit basket or receptacle having openings in its sides and hoops secured to the top of said basket on the inner and outer sides thereof, the upper edges of said hoops extending above the top of the walls of said
15 basket to form an annular groove, in combination with a cover provided with a depend-

ing flange forming the edge of said cover and adapted to fit in said annular groove and be supported by the upper end of the walls of
20 said basket, when the basket is closed, and flexible catches secured to said cover, said catches extending downward and adapted to spring outward through the openings in the basket and under the hoops with which they
25 engage, substantially as and for the purposes described.

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

HIRAM WEED.

Witnesses:

C. W. H. ARNOLD,
IRVING ELTING.