

R. B. WHEELER.
Stave-Basket.

No. 165,285.

Patented July 6, 1875.

Fig. 1.

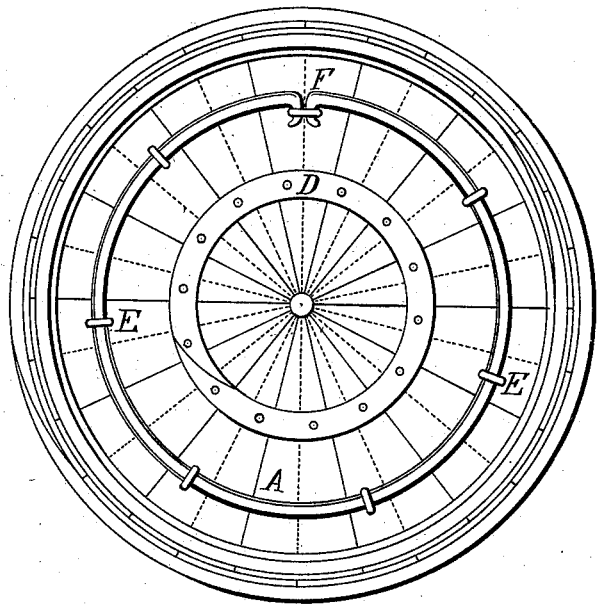
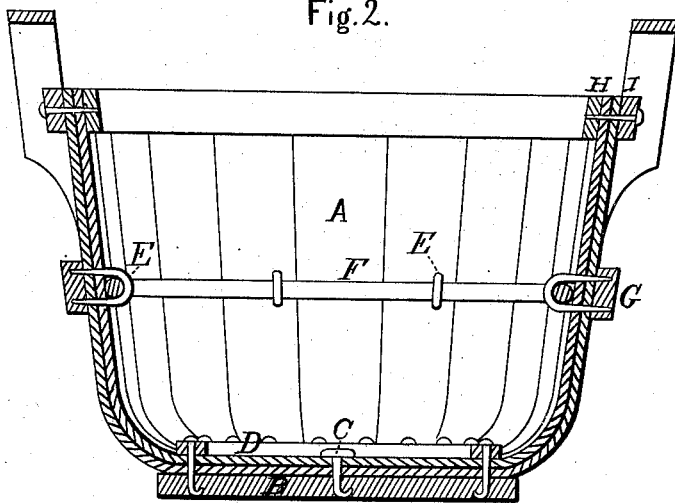


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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ROSCOE B. WHEELER, OF NILES, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS
RIGHT TO HENRY LARDNER, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN STAVE BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **165,285**, dated July 6, 1875; application filed
January 23, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROSCOE B. WHEELER, of the city of Niles, county of Berrien and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stave Baskets, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of this invention relates to the construction of stave baskets; and consists in applying a supplemental bottom to a basket constructed with two series of staves, all of which are tapered to a point at the lower end, and meet point to point at the center of the basket-bottom; also, in a large-headed nail driven at the points of both series of the staves, and through the supplemental bottom; also, in the staple fastening by means of which an inner wire hoop and an outer wooden hoop are secured to the body of the basket.

The accompanying drawing forms a part of this specification, and shows in Figure 1 a top view of a device embodying my invention; and Fig. 2 shows a vertical transverse sectional view of the same, in which—

A represents the staves of both series, all of which are formed after one pattern, and are tapering their entire length, and terminate in a sharp point at one end. B represents the supplemental bottom. This is made of a thin circular board about three-eighths of an inch in thickness, and sufficiently wide to cover the entire bottom of the basket. To construct this basket the supplemental bottom B is first placed in a recess prepared for it in the center of a suitable table or a round-topped stand, so as to come flush with the surface of said table. The staves A are then placed on the table, edge to edge at the points, with their pointed ends meeting at the center of the supplemental bottom, a sufficient number being used (which will depend upon their width) to fill the circle of the bottom of the basket. This constitutes the outer series. A second series of such staves are now employed, and are placed in the same order as the first-described series, and breaking joints with them. C represents a large-headed or trunk nail. This nail is driven through the center of the supplemental bottom at the point where all the staves meet;

so the points of all the staves are fastened by the single nail to the supplemental bottom. As a further means for fastening the staves to said supplemental bottom, I employ the common base-hoop D. This hoop is made somewhat smaller in diameter than the supplemental bottom, so that when nails are driven through this hoop to fasten it to the basket and said bottom, they will pass through said supplemental bottom far enough from the outer edge to take a substantial hold and not be liable to split. This hoop is applied to the inner side of the basket-bottom, concentric with the center of the supplemental bottom, and the said nails are driven in such a manner as to avoid the joints between the staves in either series, care being taken to nail through all the staves and through the supplemental bottom, and clinch the nails on the outside. The basket is now formed on a suitable former, and provided with the usual top rim, hoop, and handles, in the usual manner, and need not be described here. But I attach to the body of the basket, at a point about midway of its height, an inner wire hoop, F, and an outer wooden hoop, G, by means of wire staples E, driven outside of the wire hoop, through the staves and wooden hoop, and clinched. I use, also, a staple to connect the hooked ends of the wire hoop F.

By the employment of an interior supporting wire hoop, F, less space is taken up in the interior of the basket than when a thicker wooden hoop is employed, and the construction is lighter, and articles placed in the basket are not so liable to be injured by contact with the wooden hoop.

I am aware that a basket has heretofore been constructed of two thicknesses of staves or splints, the outer thickness or covering being composed of splints which extend from side to side of the basket beneath the bottom, and the inner thickness or lining being composed of splints which extend from the center of the bottom of the basket to its top edge, the splints being connected together at the center by a cap and rivet, and I therefore lay no claim to such invention, which differs from mine in construction, forming a thick, protruding, curved bottom, rendering the

basket liable to be easily overturned, while my construction is much cheaper and lighter. I am aware, also, that a basket made by the combination of a solid grooved disk, hoops, and tapered staves has heretofore been employed, as shown in Letters Patent of H. C. Jones, dated September 2, 1873, and I therefore lay no claim to such invention.

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

The basket herein described, having the bottom board B, extending from the center of the bottom to the bend of the staves, the

double series of tapering staves, united by the outer hoop G, the inner wire hoop F, and staples E, and meeting point to point, and lying flat on the bottom board within their bends, the inside hoop D, and the center nail C, having a large head covering all the stave-points, and securing the same in their relation to each other and to the bottom board, as shown and described.

ROSCOE B. WHEELER.

Witnesses:

CLEMENT L. BARRON,
S. H. WHEELER.