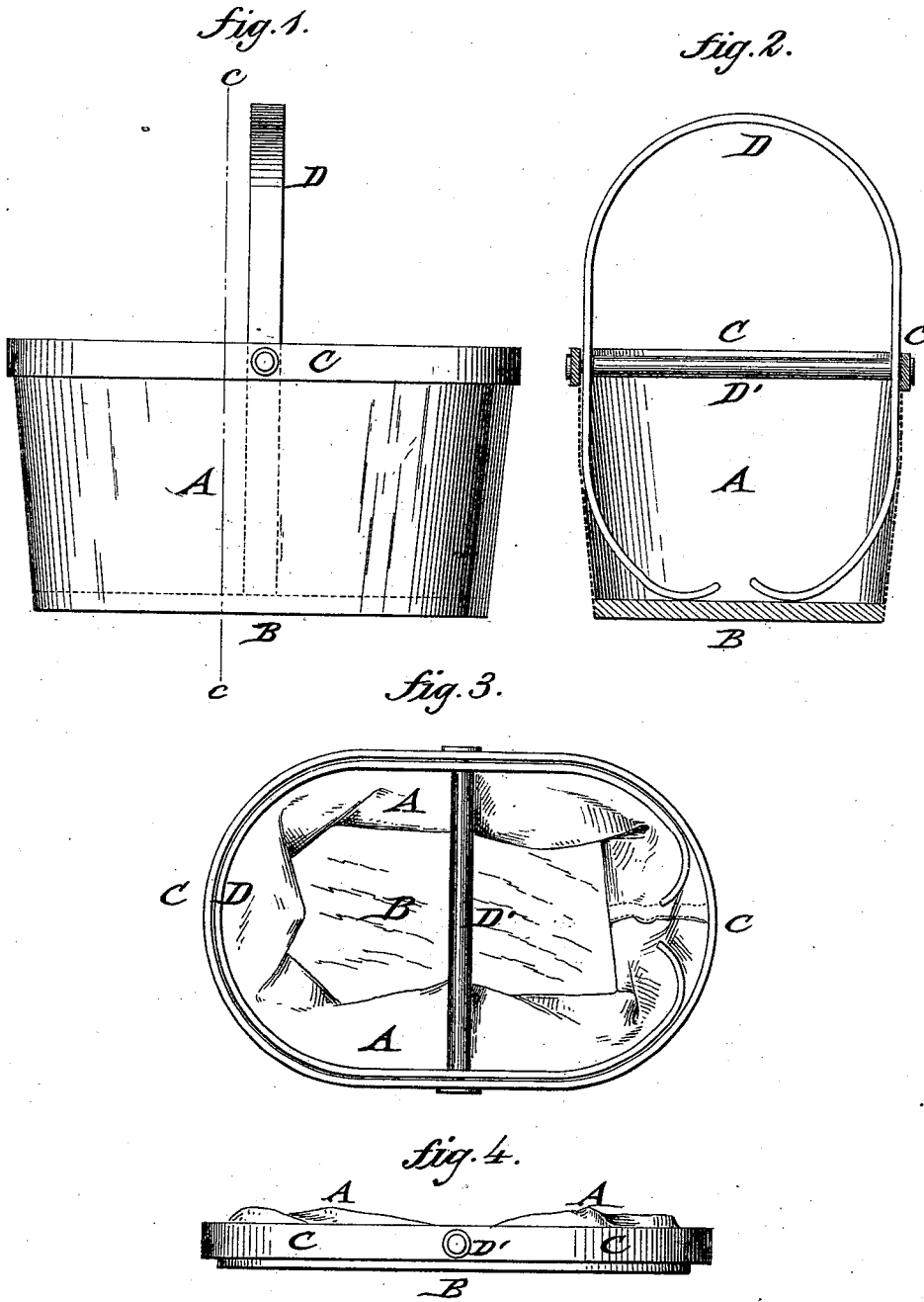


C. H. BALL.  
BASKET.

No. 188,331.

Patented March 13, 1877.



WITNESSES:  
*Gustave Dietrich*  
*J. A. Scarborough*

INVENTOR:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. BALL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 188,331, dated March 13, 1877; application filed January 29, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. BALL, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Basket, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a side view; Fig. 2, a vertical transverse section on line *cc*, Fig. 1, of my improved folding basket, shown in position for use. Figs. 3 and 4 are top and side views of the same, showing it folded up.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved basket of strong and durable construction that may be conveniently folded up after use into narrow compass, and instantly extended for use; and the invention consists of a basket made of a flexible body, solid bottom, and top band, and with a swinging bail pivoted to the top band or hoop, and binding by curved spring extensions reaching the solid bottom, to retain the basket in expanded state.

In the drawing, A represents the body of my improved folding basket, which is made of canvas or other flexible fabric of suitable strength, that is riveted or otherwise attached to the under side of the solid bottom B, and to a single or double top band or hoop, C, of suitable size and width. A bail, D, bent of wood or other material, is pivoted by a central cross piece or brace, D', to the band C, and the sides of the bale are extended downward and curved at the lower ends, where they form contact with the bottom B, so that the lower spring ends bind thereon and keep the flexible body in tight and stretched position.

By swinging the bail into horizontal position, so as to fold inside of the top band C, the spring ends release the bottom and admit the folding up of the flexible body, bringing the bottom inside of the top band below the cross-piece.

The basket takes up in folded state a very small space, so as to be conveniently carried, shipped, and stored, forming a convenient lunch, market, and traveling basket that combines cheapness, strength, and durability with convenience and adaptability for practical uses.

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

1. A folding basket composed of a flexible body part, and of a swinging bail, serving to stretch the body when turned into a vertical position, and permitting the same to be folded when turned into a horizontal position, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.
2. A folding basket, formed of a canvas or other flexible body, with solid bottom and top band or hoop, in connection with a swinging bail having downwardly-extended stretching ends, substantially as set forth.
3. A folding basket formed of a body of canvas or other flexible fabric, with solid bottom and top band or hoop, in connection with a laterally braced and pivoted bail having downward-extended spring ends, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES H. BALL.

Witnesses:  
PAUL GOEPFEL,  
C. SEDGWICK.