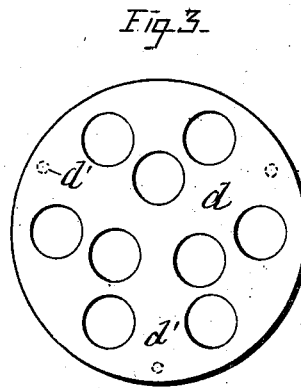
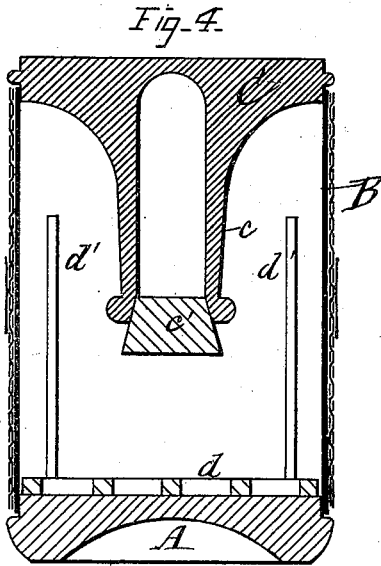
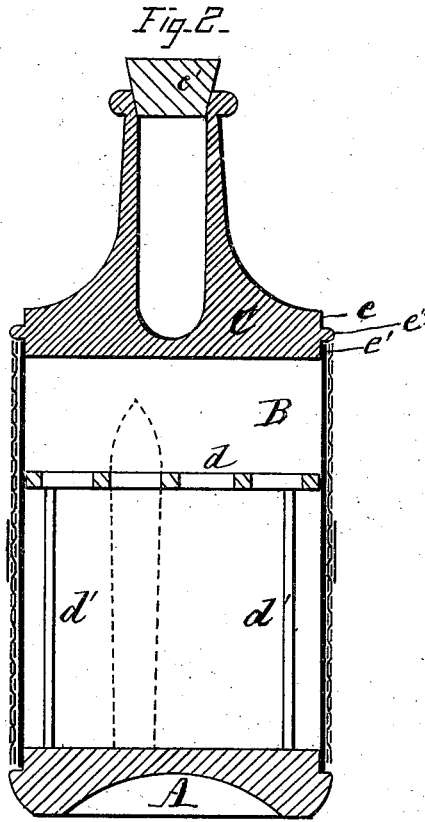
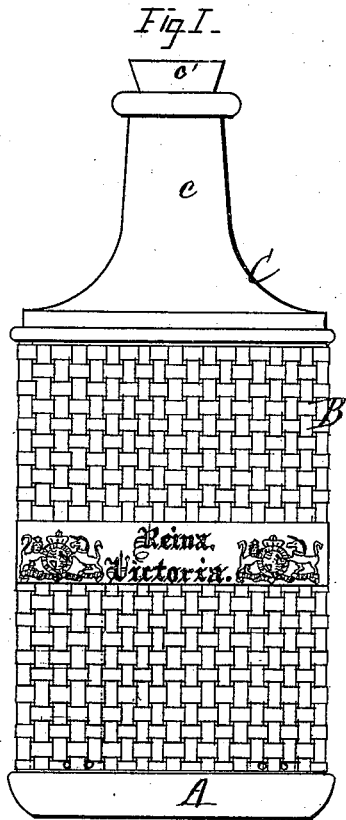


C. A. BROWN.  
 Convertible Goods Box

No. 197,595.

Patented Nov. 27, 1877.



WITNESSES.  
 Frank M. Burnham.  
 J. C. Hewlett

INVENTOR.  
 Charles A. Brown  
 by W. H. M. J. Howard  
 Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. BROWN, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN CONVERTIBLE GOODS-BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **197,595**, dated November 27, 1877; application filed November 2, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. BROWN, of the city of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented a certain Improvement in Boxes, of which the following is a specification:

The invention consists in a box having several of its parts so constructed as to enable it to be transformed into a device of different exterior shape and internal arrangement, whereby the box is reduced in bulk for shipping purposes, and also adapted to receive and hold different classes of articles.

The special uses to which the box is applied are to hold collars or cuffs, with which goods it is designed to be sold by the manufacturer of said articles of wear, and as a cigar-case, or cigar-case and match-box combined, for which it is employed, either primarily or after the collars or cuffs have been removed therefrom or exhausted.

The invention, when not used as a cigar-case, may, however, be used to receive articles other than collars or cuffs; but its construction is such as to specially adapt it for that purpose.

The construction of the box as to appearance is such as to make it an attractive ornament for the mantel or elsewhere.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an exterior view of the invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same, used as a cigar-case. Fig. 3 is a top or plan view of a portion of the invention, as hereinafter described. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the box as used for holding collars or cuffs, and as arranged, also, for packing and shipping.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar parts in all the views.

A is the base of the box, consisting of an ornamentally turned or molded plate or disk. A portion of the base extends within the body of the box, which is formed of the cylinder B, constructed out of some suitable thin material, and tacked or otherwise secured to the base. In the present case the cylinder is composed of strips or layers of chip, artistically interwoven and lined or backed with colored paper of pleasing design.

The removable lid of the box consists of the plate or disk C, having a neck or handle, *e*,

which is hollow, forming a box for matches, and provided with a lid or stopper, *e'*.

Resting within the cylinder B is a perforated plate, *d*, standing upon wire feet *d'*, or otherwise supported within the box. The perforations in the plate *d* are intended to receive cigars, one being shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2.

It will be observed by reference to Fig. 1 that the box, when its parts are in the position therein shown, presents the appearance of a wine or cordial bottle, the lid *e'* representing its cork.

The cylindrical portion of the box may be surrounded by a ribbon, bearing a name and mark by which any favorite brand of cigars is designated.

Fig. 4 shows the box, in section, as used for holding collars and cuffs, and prepared for packing and shipment, the plate *d* being reversed and caused to rest on the base A, the wire feet *d'* standing up and inclosing the said articles. The lid C is also reversed and brought to the position indicated in said figure.

With the view of adapting the lid C to occupy the two positions shown, shoulders *e* and *e'* are turned above and below the projection *e''*, and made the proper size to fit neatly within the mouth of the cylinder. When the box is adjusted for shipping, the neck or handle *c* projects into the central space left within the roll of collars or cuffs, and the box is then reduced to a compact form and convenient shape.

It is not necessary, in carrying out my invention, that there should be a match-box combined with the cigar-case; but I prefer that one should be combined therewith, as herein shown, as the convenience of the invention as a cigar-case is materially increased by its addition.

I do not limit myself to any particular design of box, or to any particular mode of construction, or to any specified material, although I prefer the shape, construction, and composite formation herein described, which is claimed as my invention in a separate application for Letters Patent filed by me and now pending.

Having described my invention, I claim as new and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. A box having a reversible lid and a reversible perforated tray, whereby, when the

same are reversed or inverted, as described, the box is reduced in bulk and the character of its interior changed, substantially as specified.

2. A box having a reversible lid, in which is formed a supplementary box, substantially as described.

3. A box, combined with a lid, having a handle and two shoulders, adapting the lid to be placed in reversed positions in the box, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

4. A box, combined with a perforated plate or tray, standing on feet, the said tray being capable of being inverted within the box, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

5. The lid C, having the hollow neck or

handle *c*, combined with the stopper or lid *c'*, substantially as shown.

6. The device herein described, consisting of the following parts, in combination—that is to say, the box A B, lid C, having the hollow-neck *c* and stopper *c'*, and perforated tray *d* and its supports, substantially as herein set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereto subscribed my name this 18th day of October, A. D. 1877.

CHAS. A. BROWN.

Witnesses:

J. WARREN SEYMOUR,  
JOHN S. FAKE.