A. FOX.
Basket.

No. 198,289. Patented Dec. 18, 1877.

Fig. 1

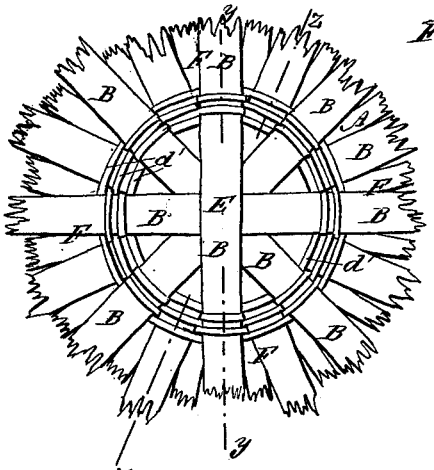


Fig. 2

Fig. 4

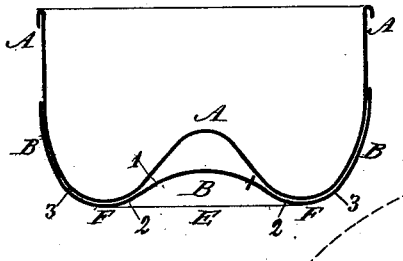


Fig. 5

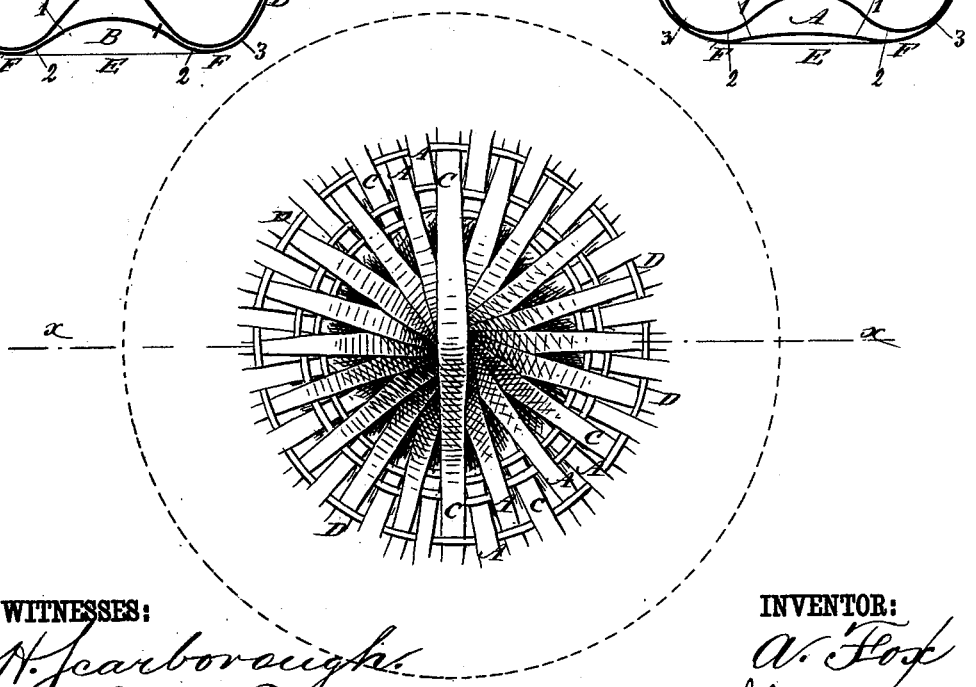
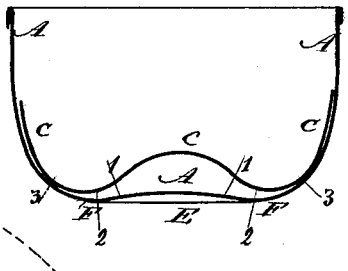


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM FOX, OF STITTVILLE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,289**, dated December 18, 1877; application filed October 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM FOX, of Stittville, in the county of Oneida and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baskets, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to so improve the construction of the bottoms of baskets as to increase their strength and durability.

The invention consists in the combination with the cross-splints, reaching from edge to edge, and crossing one another at the center of the basket, of shorter strengthening-splints, placed on the cross-splints alternately inside and outside of the bottom, to increase the strength and rigidity of the latter, the splints or cleats being bent into three turns from the center outward, and interwoven with the horizontal splints, so as to form the wearing-surface to the protection of the bottom of the basket and of said horizontal splints, as will be hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents an under-side view of the bottom of the basket. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same, taken through the line *x x* of Fig. 5. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of the basket, taken through the line *y y* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a similar section through the line *z z* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 5 is a plan view of the bottom, seen from the inside of the basket.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A are the cross-splints or ribs, running from edge to edge of the basket, and crossing each other at the center. B are the outside, and C the inside, strengthening-splints for the bottom of the basket.

The splints B C are shorter than the splints A, and of length sufficient to reach across the bottom of the basket, and allow of their tapering ends being secured to the splints A on the side of the basket by being woven in between the latter splints and the horizontal splints D, surrounding the basket. The inside splints C are not secured to the same ribs or cross-splints as the outside splints B, but in alternate positions, and for every third (or more) splint A they may be left out altogether.

Underneath the bottom the weaving together of the splints B and A is interrupted, except by enough of splints *d'* to keep the splints B in proper shape and position. This is done in order to leave the central surface E and the annular surface F, formed of outside splints B, exposed as wearing-surface of the bottom, thereby protecting the horizontal splints D, and increasing the durability as well as rigidity of the basket.

It will be seen, with reference to the drawings, Figs. 2, 3, 4, that the strengthening splints or cleats B are bent to form three turns, 1 2 3, between the center of the bottom and the ends of the said cleats, the central surface E, between the turns 1 1, forming a hollow, and the space between the turns 1 and 2 being the place where the cleats B and upright splints are bound together by the horizontal splints *d'*. The annular wearing-surface F for the protection of the bottom is between the turns 2 and 3.

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

A basket formed by the splints A, continuous from edge to edge of basket, crossing one another at the center, and provided with shorter strengthening-splints B C, the latter placed alternately on the inside and outside, and held upon the main splints A by horizontal splints D, as shown and described.

ABRAHAM FOX.

Witnesses:

EDWIN A. FOX,

E. J. SEEGER.