

L. W. BEECHER.
Fruit-Basket.

No. 198,446.

Patented Dec. 25, 1877.

Fig. 1. *E*

Fig. 2.

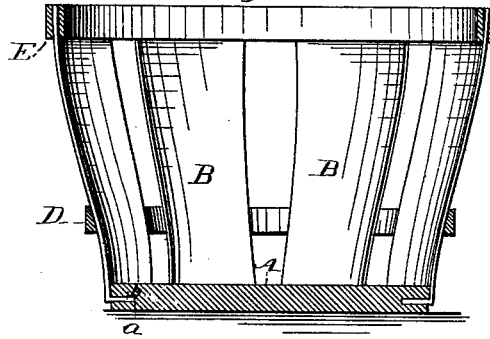
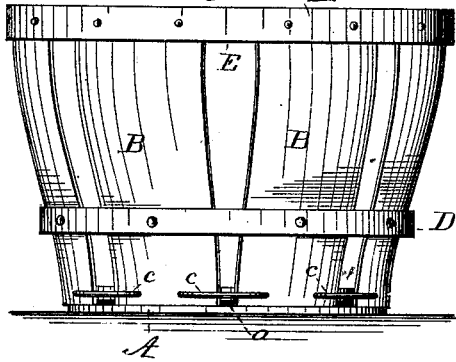


Fig. 3.

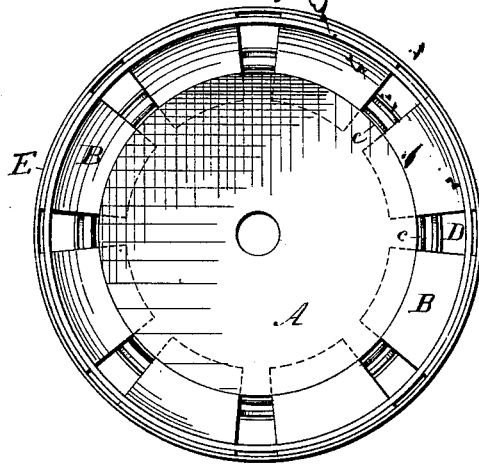


Fig. 4.

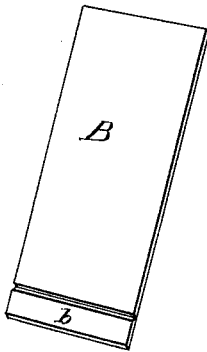


Fig. 5.

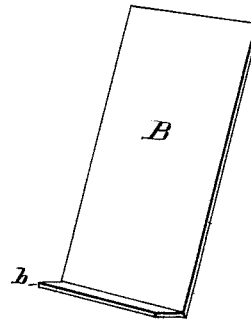


Fig. 6.

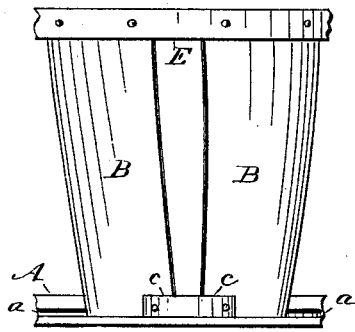
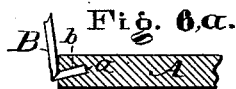


Fig. 6α.



WITNESSES:

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L. WHEELER BEECHER, OF WESTVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-BASKETS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,446**, dated December 25, 1877; application filed July 10, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, L. W. BEECHER, of Westville, county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fruit-Baskets; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention consists, mainly, in the combination, with the bottom piece and side pieces of the basket, of staples or equivalent devices for securing the two together, the latter being applied in such manner as to span the joint between the side pieces, and to penetrate the latter at some distance from their edges, as will be fully described hereinafter.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved basket; Fig. 2, a central perpendicular section; Fig. 3, a plan view; Figs. 4 and 5, detail views of the side pieces; and Fig. 6, a fastening device which is equivalent to that shown in Fig. 1.

To enable others skilled in the art to make my improved basket, I will now proceed to fully describe its construction.

A represents the bottom piece, made of any proper material, and of any suitable size and shape, which is essentially provided upon its periphery with the angular groove or recess *a*, as shown.

B B represent side pieces of proper form and size, which are scored or cut transversely near their lower ends, as shown in Fig. 4, in order that the lower portion *b* may be readily bent at right angles, as shown in Fig. 5, to enter the groove *a*.

C C, Fig. 1, represent staples having widely-separated legs, which are applied to the basket for the purpose of securing the side pieces to the bottom, in such manner as to span the joint between the side pieces, and to penetrate the latter at some distance from their edges, as shown in Fig. 1.

C C, Fig. 6, represent an equivalent device, consisting of a short metallic strip, secured in place by simple nails.

D represents a securing-hoop composed of a strip or band, beveled upon its inner side to correspond with the taper of the basket, which is located a short distance above the plane of the bottom piece, as shown.

E represents an upper hoop, by means of which the top of the basket is finished; but any other proper means of finishing may be employed in place of this, if desired.

If desired, the annular groove *a* may be formed in the bottom piece at an angle, as shown in Fig. 6.

The parts of the basket having been prepared, the same may be put together, as described, in any proper manner.

The side pieces are used in a green state, in order that the bent portion *b*, which is quadrangular in its outline, may assume the segmental form required by its position in the groove.

Some of the advantages of the described construction are as follows: By the employment of the staples or equivalent devices, as described, the parts are strongly secured together by economical means. The edges of the side pieces are perfectly held, although not fastened at these points, the wood being pierced at a distance from the edge, to allow the necessary shrinkage without splitting.

The fastening described is employed in the place of the usual base-hoop, the use of which latter is objectionable, because, from its position, it is liable to injury from the swelling of the wood when the same is exposed to dampness.

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

1. The combination, with the side pieces and bottom pieces, of the staples or equivalent devices, as described, applied to the former in such manner as to span the joint and penetrate the wood at a distance from the edges, substantially as described.

2. In combination with the grooved bottom piece A and the scored and bent side pieces B, the staples *c c*, as described, for the purpose set forth.

This specification signed and witnessed this 28th day of June, 1877.

L. WHEELER BEECHER.

Witnesses:

H. A. BARNES,
J. F. BENTON.