

J. Erpelding,

Lunch Box.

No. 85,807.

Patented Jan. 12. 1869.

Fig. 1.

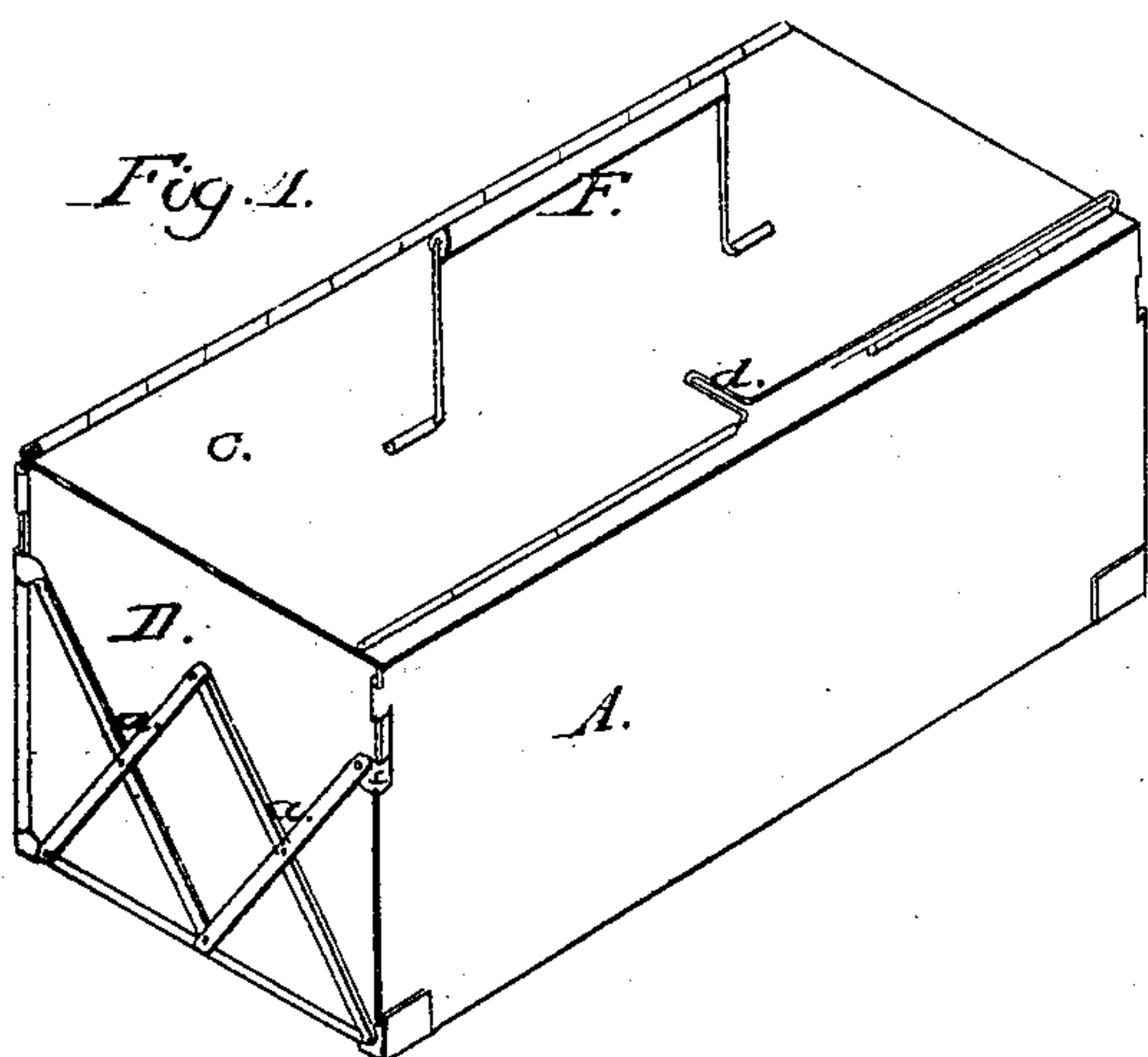


Fig. 4.

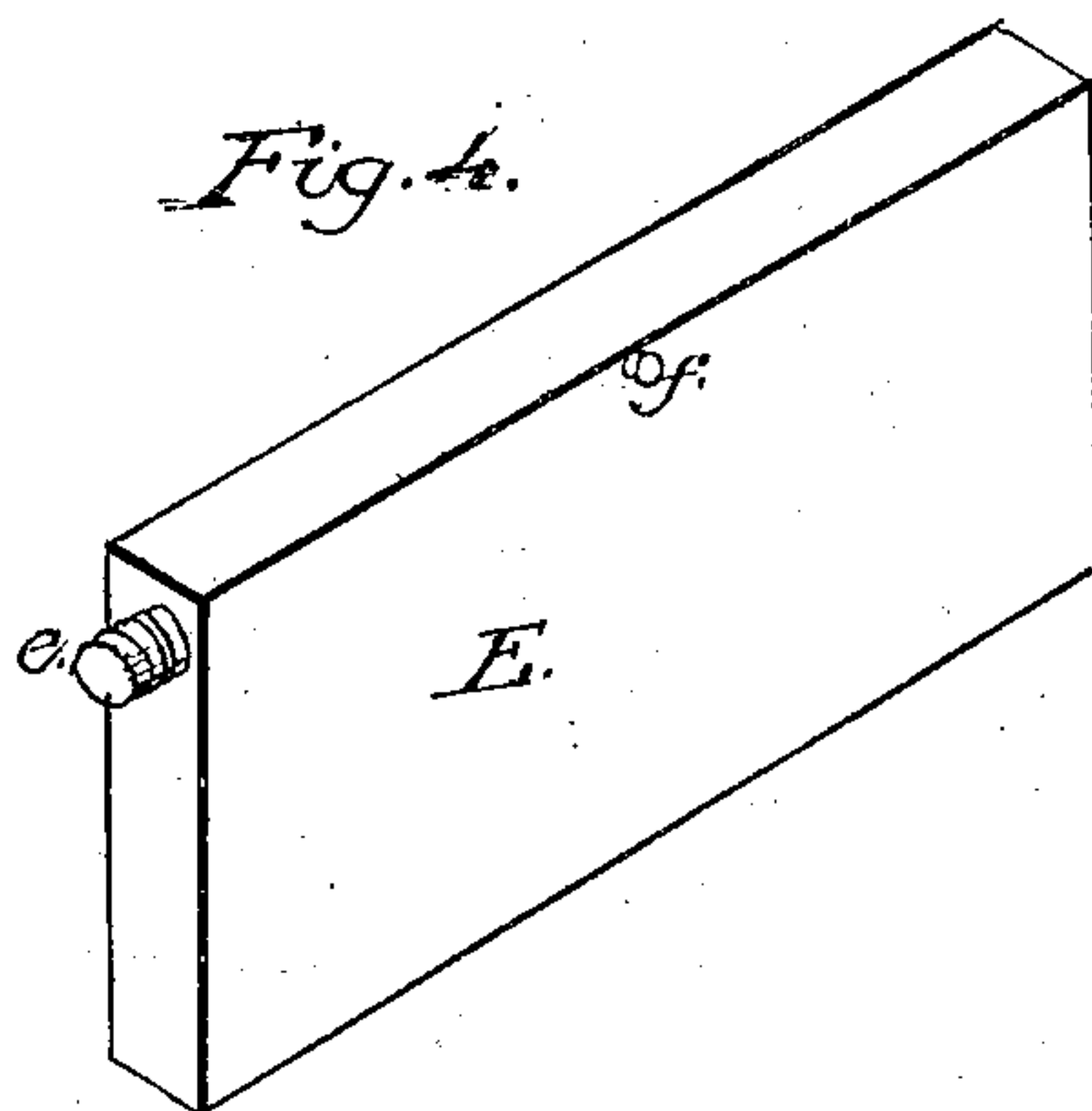


Fig. 2.

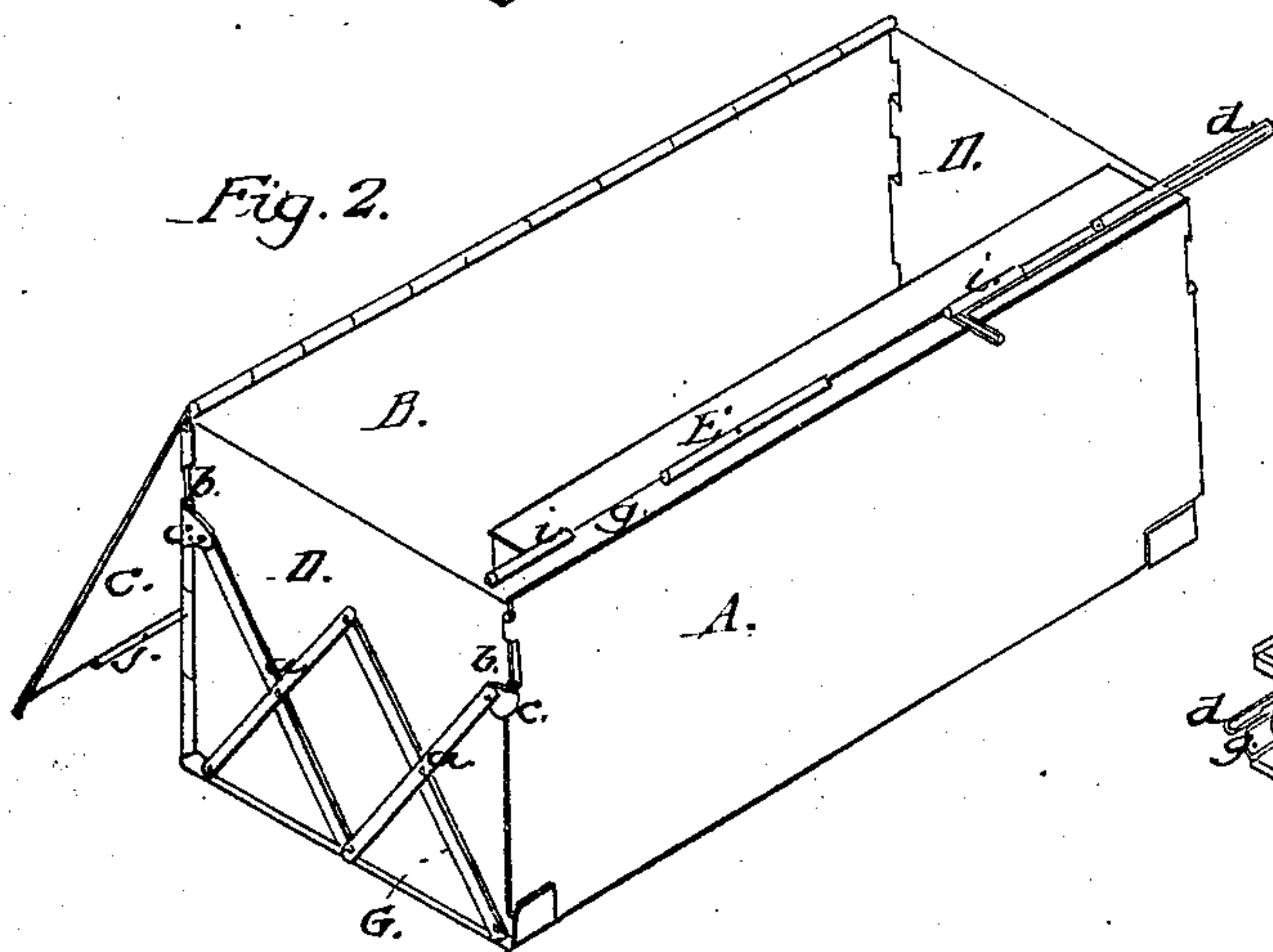
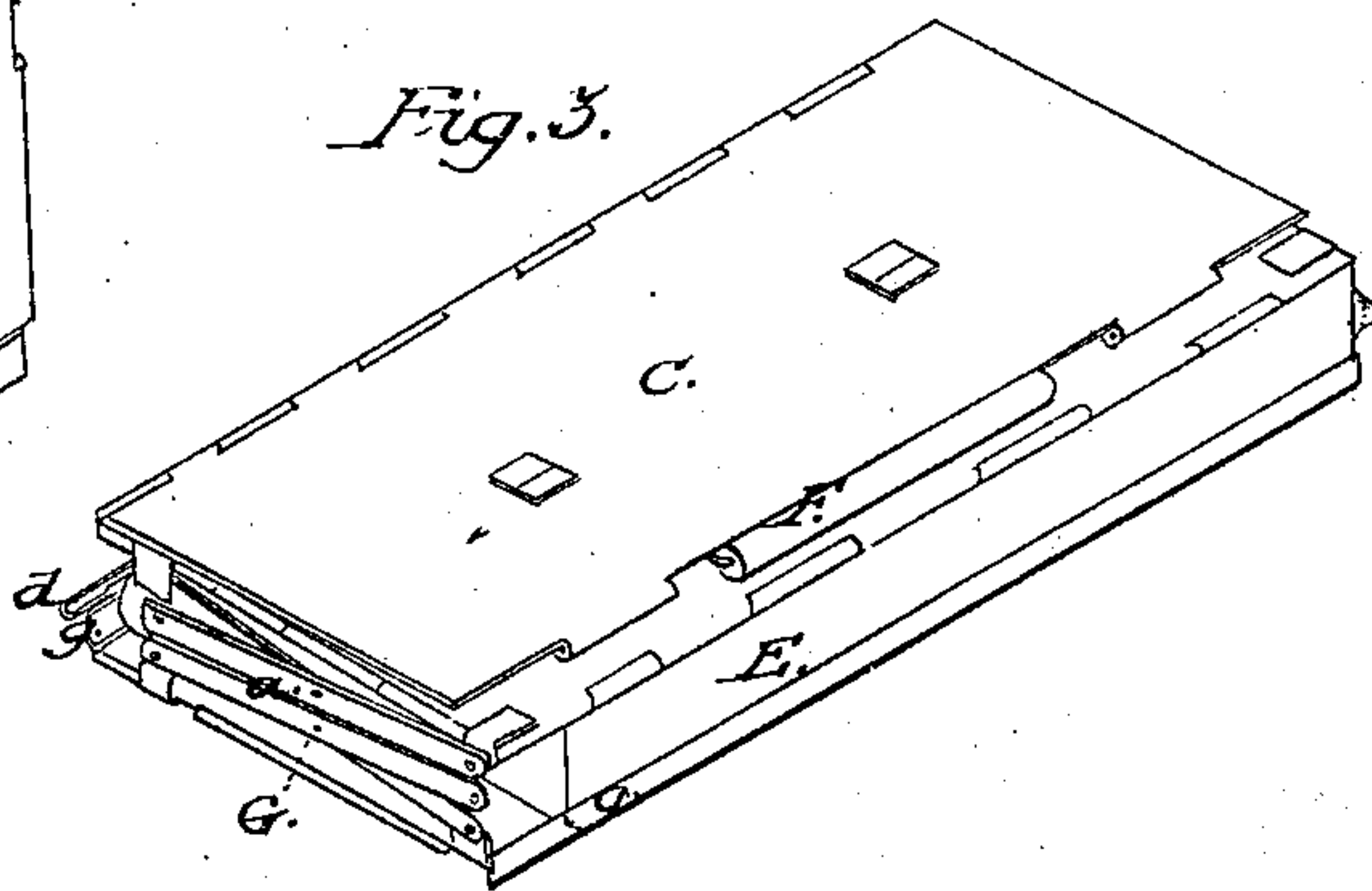


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
P. T. Dodge
L. Hailer.

Inventor:
John Erpelding
by Dodge & Mann
his attys.

United States Patent Office.

JOHN ERPELDING, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 85,807, dated January 12, 1869.

IMPROVED LUNCH-BOX.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN ERPELDING, of Chicago, in the county of Cook, and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Lunch-Box; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, like letters indicating like parts wherever they occur.

To enable others skilled in the art to construct and use my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a lunch-box, with its sides united by pivoted levers or lazy-tongs, and its top, bottom, and end pieces hinged to one of its sides, and with a flask arranged to fit within it, so that the whole may be compactly folded up.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my box, extended ready for use, with the top closed;

Figure 2, the same, with the cover or lid opened, showing the position of the flask inside;

Figure 3, a view of the box folded, with the flask inside; and

Figure 4, the flask detached.

The box consists of two pieces, which form its opposite sides, connected at their ends by cross-levers or "lazy-tongs," and having the top, bottom, and ends connected in such a manner that they may be formed into a strong rectangular box, or quickly folded up into a flat form, all as hereinafter more fully explained.

A and B are the two sides of the box, connected by the "lazy-tongs" *a* in such a manner that they may be brought close together, or drawn some distance apart, but always lie in parallel planes.

To the side, B, is hinged the bottom, G, the two ends D, and the lid or top C, all as shown in figs. 1, 2, and 3, in such a manner that they may all be folded down flatwise against said side B, the top, C, turning over back on the outside, and the bottom and ends down on the inside.

The side, A, is provided with flanges *g*, extending inwards toward B, and one of said flanges has attached to it a sliding catch or bolt, *d*, as shown in figs. 1 and 2.

When the box is to be extended for use, the plates A and B are drawn apart, the bottom, G, turned down until it rests upon flange *g*, and the ends D turned out against levers *a*. The box is now ready for use.

The flask E is filled and placed inside, as also the articles of food, and the lid C turned down and fastened by bolt *d*, which locks into the eyes *j* on the edge of said cover.

To the outside of the lid is secured a bail or handle, F, by which the box is carried when in use.

The flask E is made flat, and of the same size and shape as one side of the box, so as to fit snugly in place inside, and help to brace the box and keep it in shape.

This flask is provided with two openings, closed by thumb-screws, one in the end, closed by the screw *e*, and through which the fluid is introduced, and one in the side, closed by the screw *f*, which is to allow of the escape of steam, when the flask is laid flat upon a stove to heat its contents.

To compress the box, first turn the lid over back, then remove the flask, turn the ends in against the side, B, and the bottom, G, up over them. Then place the flask on the inside, against the side, A, and press the side, B, and its connections down upon it, and the whole will be small enough to readily enter the pocket.

The flask is held in place, when the box is compressed, by the flanges *g*, between which it lies.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The folding lunch-box, consisting of the sides A and B, united by means of the pivoted levers *a*, and having the top, bottom, and end pieces hinged to one of the sides, and all arranged to operate substantially as described.

2. The flask E, provided with the openings *e* and *f*, and arranged to fit within the box, as shown and described.

JOHN ERPELDING.

Witnesses:

A. LIMBERG,
WM. H. LOTZ.