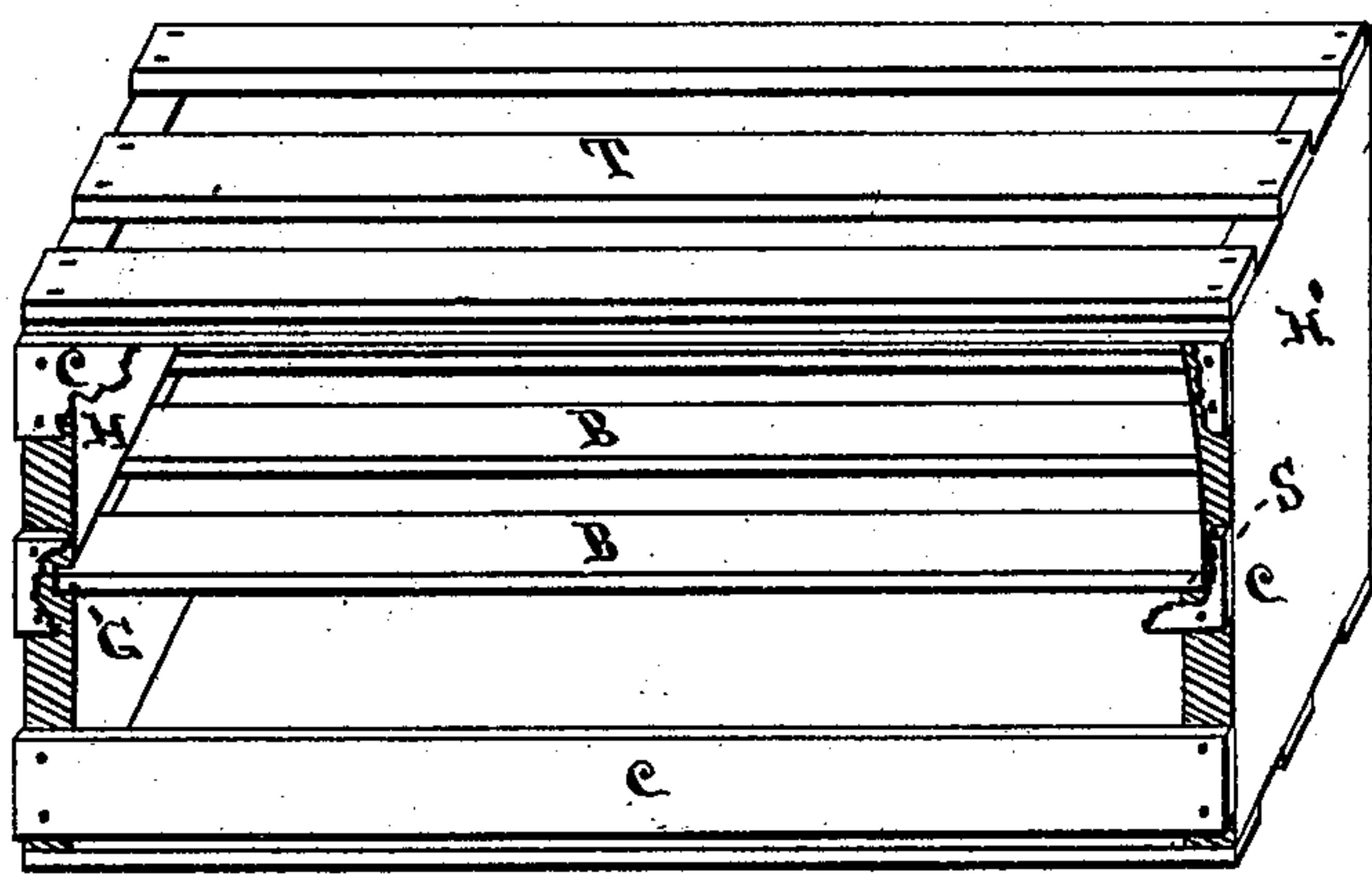


M. & R. J. COOKE.  
Fruit and Packing Box.

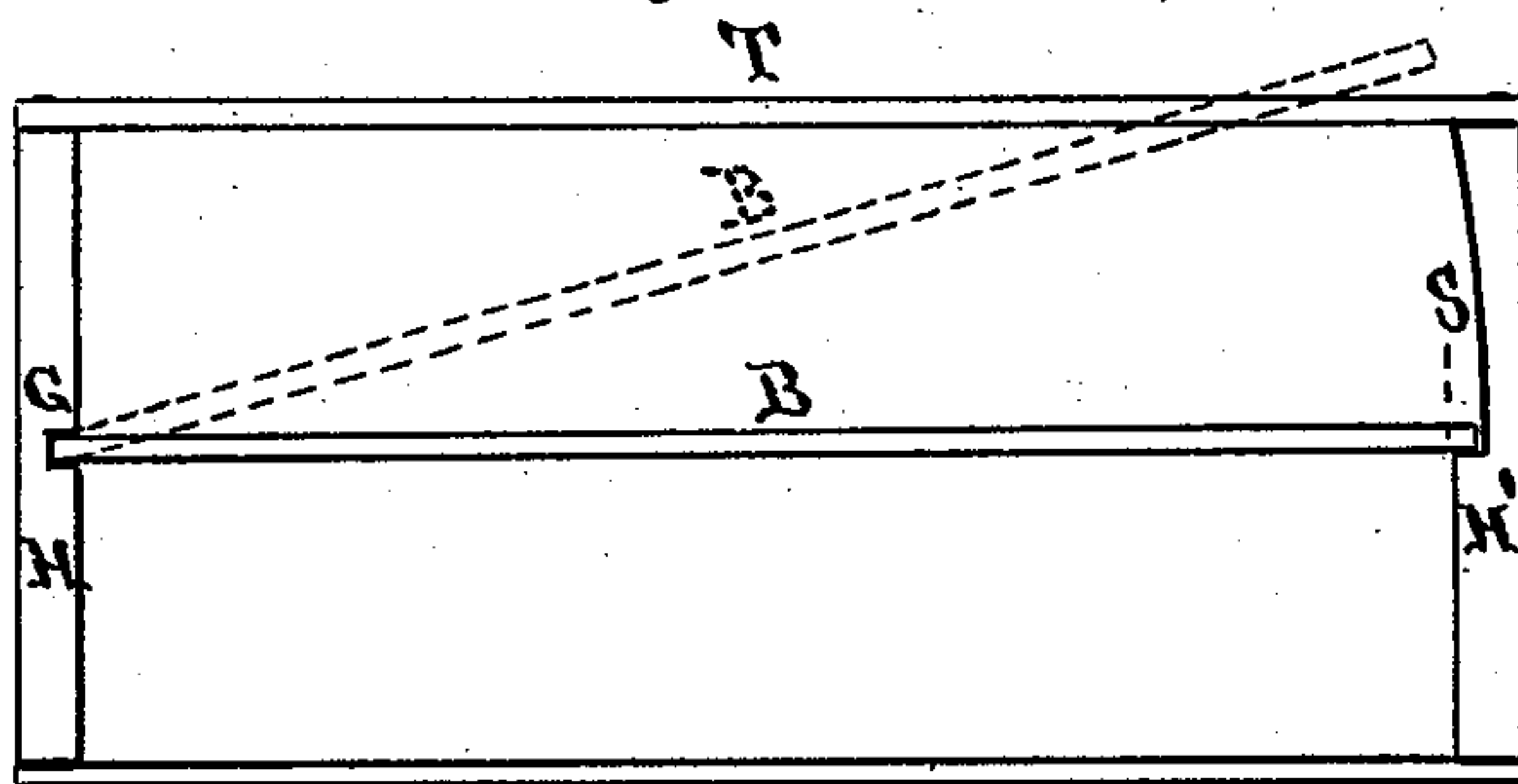
No. 210,241.

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*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHEW COOKE AND ROBERT J. COOKE, OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT AND PACKING BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **210,241**, dated November 26, 1878; application filed July 9, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, MATTHEW COOKE and ROBERT JOHN COOKE, both of the city and county of Sacramento, State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fruit and Packing Boxes, of which the following is a specification:

The invention relates to an improved partition or floor to be put into the packing-boxes for the purpose of dividing the same into two or more compartments.

The invention consists in forming two opposite sides or ends of the box in a manner so that the partition or floor can be readily taken out or inserted.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an isometrical view of the box with sides cut away, showing the partition or floor inserted in the same. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the box, showing the part embodying our invention.

Fig. 1 shows a fruit-box composed of solid board ends H and H', with sides, top, and bottom made of light strips, left open between them to allow the circulation of air. Between the top and the bottom is shown a floor, B, made of strips similar to the top, the object of the floor being to divide the box in two parts, and, in case desired, two or more compartments can be made by using a corresponding number of floors. The manner of inserting these floors is what constitutes the principal part of our invention.

It will be seen in the drawings that the floor is composed of strips B B, that extend from end to end of the box. At the end H the strips B are secured by having their ends inserted in the groove G cut in the board H, said groove running across said board on a plane with the floor, so that one end of the strips B can be inserted and held secure in G, while the other ends of B B swing down and rest on a shoulder, S, formed in the opposite end board, H', said shoulder S being formed by having a part of the inner side of H' cut away above the floor, so as to leave the step or shoulder S, as shown in the drawing, upon which the strips B rest.

Fig. 2 shows a side elevation of the same as Fig. 1, with sides left off, so as to make more plain the nature of the invention in it. The solid end H is shown with the groove G, also the end H' with part cut away to form the shoulder or step S, upon which B rests. The two ends H H' are connected by the light strips forming the top and the bottom.

In the groove G of the end H the partition or floor-strip B is inserted, the other end of B resting on the shoulder S, as shown. The part cut away from H' to form S is that part of the inner side of H' above S, upon which B rests. The shoulder S is on the plane of the floor B and parallel to and on the same plane with the opposite groove G. The amount removed from H' to form the shoulder S is what is required to let the strips B swing up and out of the box, as shown in dotted lines, while its opposite end rests in G. While the floor B is in its place the shoulder S in H' and the groove G in H prevent it from falling down, as the strips are of sufficient length to enter both recesses, while the articles to be packed above the floor or strips B prevent them from rising up. When desired, tacks can be driven in on each side of the strips B, to prevent them from moving sidewise, or cleats connecting the different pieces B B can be used for the same purpose, the object of the device being to form a cheap and simple partition or partitions in packing-boxes, so that the partitions can be readily inserted or removed, and also to allow a free circulation of the air through the partitions and articles packed in the boxes.

What we claim as new is—

The partition B, in combination with a box having the end H, with groove G, and end H', having seat S, with the inclined upper wall, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

MATTHEW COOKE.  
ROBERT JOHN COOKE.

Witnesses:

N. FISHER,  
H. L. BUCKLEY.