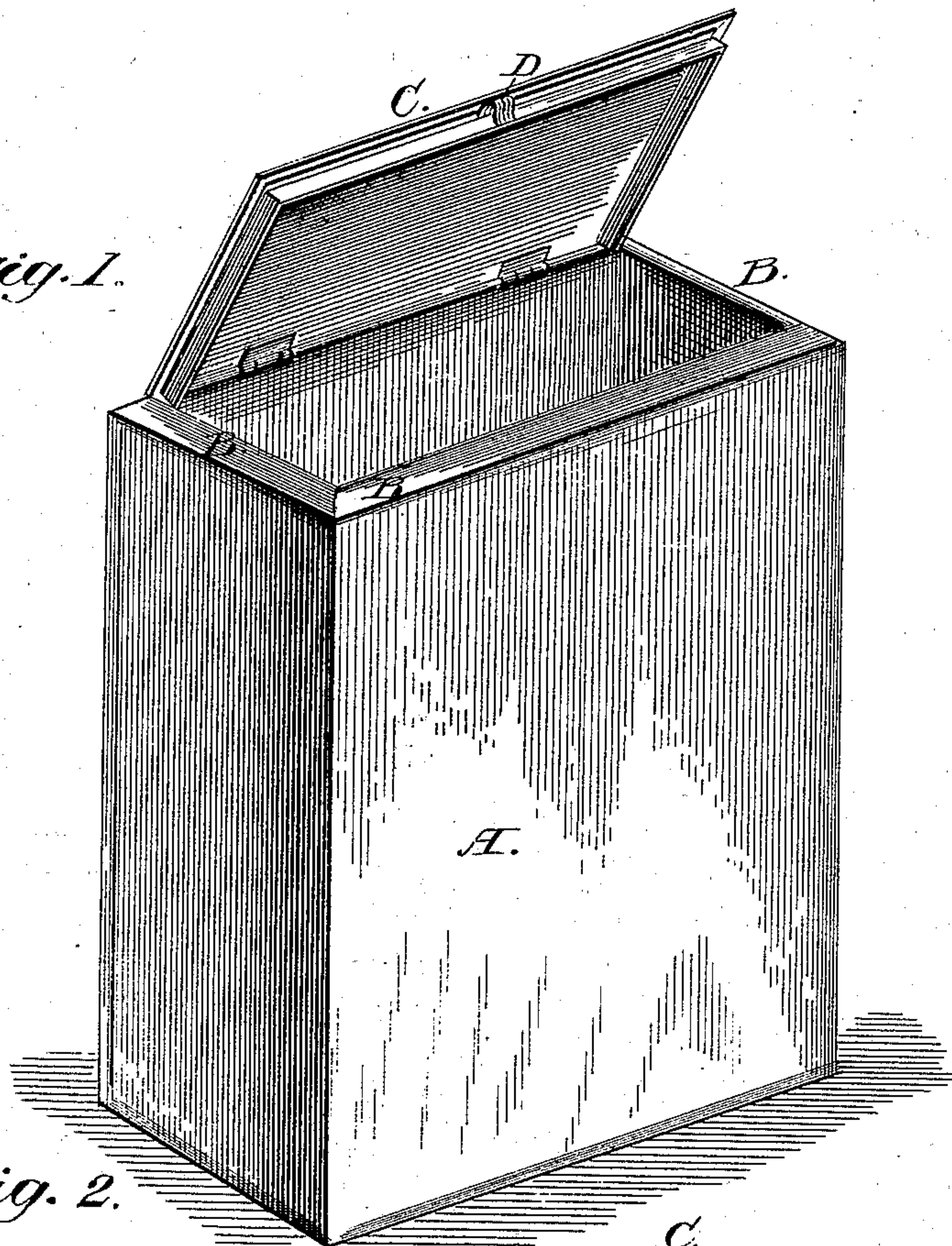


J. E. BURNS.  
Tin-Box.

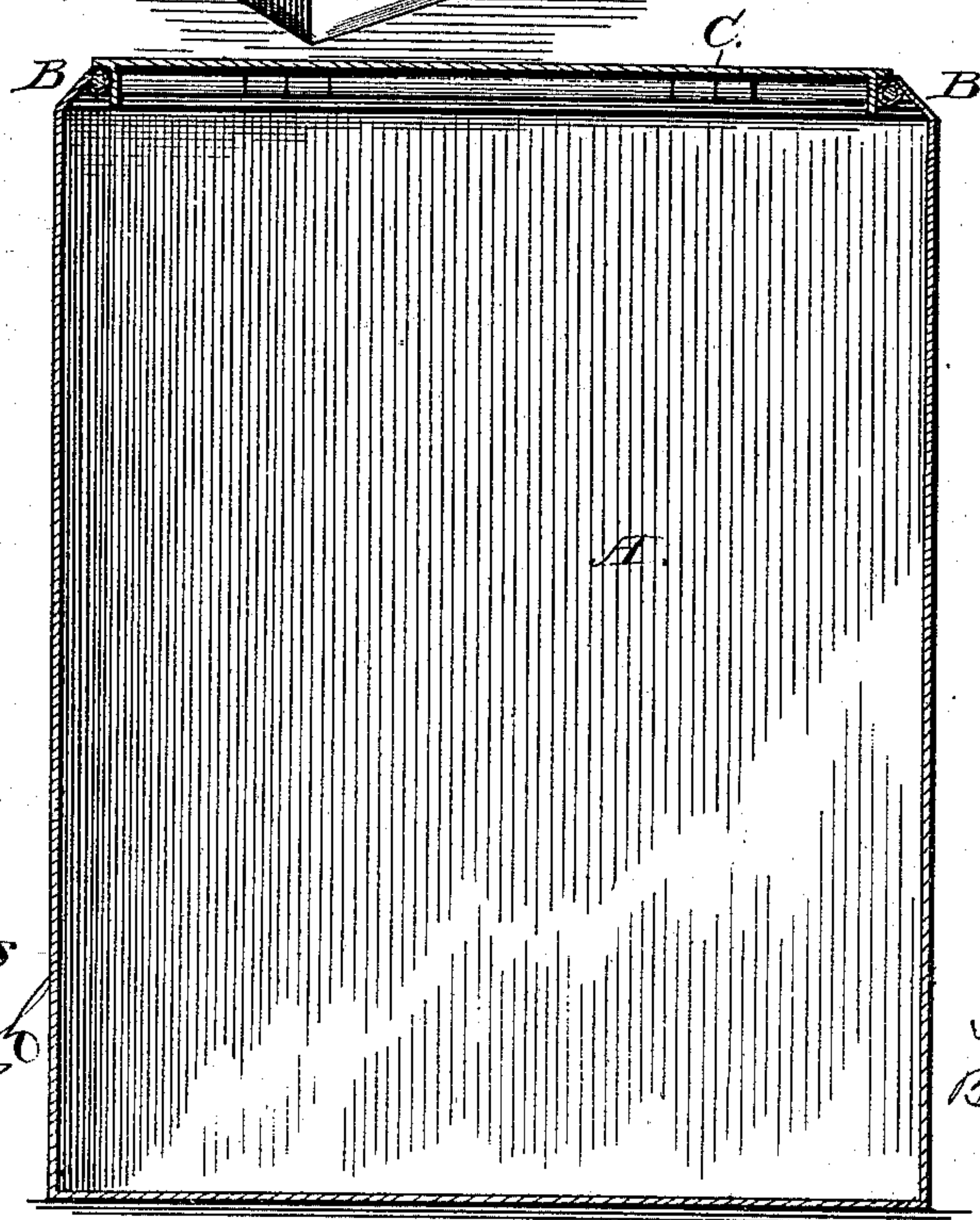
No. 217,445.

Patented July 15, 1879.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*witnesses*  
*Fred. G. Dietrich*  
*Geo. P. Brooks*

*Inventor*  
*James E. Burns*  
*By So<sup>t</sup>. J. Stewart*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES E. BURNS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TIN BOXES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,445**, dated July 15, 1879; application filed June 9, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES E. BURNS, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tin Boxes, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to tin boxes for commercial packages used in dry packing for ground spices and other ground or powdered articles.

Heretofore it has been customary to pack ground spices and similar goods in tin boxes hermetically sealed, so that retail dealers, in order to get at the contents of the package, have been compelled to break each box open, thus rendering the box useless for other purposes, and at the same time, after having withdrawn the quantity called for, leaving the remainder exposed to the deteriorating influences of atmospheric air, thereby losing strength and aroma, becoming stale and dusty; to obviate which is the object of my invention, by providing a commercial package for dry packing which may be opened without breaking, and closed again after the withdrawal of any portion of its contents, and may also be used again for its original or any similar purpose.

The invention consists of a tin box with a beveled edge turned over a wire at the top or upper end of the tin box, so as to form an opening through which it may readily be packed and discharged of its contents, upon one side of which opening a lid is hinged on said wire, which lid has a catch which closely passes against and under the beveled and wired

edge on the opposite side to the hinge, and holding said lid in its place.

In the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a tin box embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of a tin box embodying my invention.

The tin box A is of the square shape, and is made in the ordinary manner of a dry packing-box, except that the upper edge is turned over a wire of smaller dimensions, with the beveled edges B B connecting with the body of the box A. The lid C is hinged onto the wire upon one side of the mouth of the box formed thereby, and fits closely down within the same, where it is held tight, when closed, by means of the catch D, which engages with the wire on the opposite side of the said mouth to that on which said lid is hinged.

I do not claim as new either the shape or body of the box or its lid, square boxes with lids being in common use.

What I claim is—

A tin box having wired and beveled edges B B B B, of smaller dimensions than the outside of said box, so as to form a mouth, the lid being hinged to its wire on one side, and provided with the catch D, working against and under the edge B on the opposite side, substantially as shown and described.

JAMES E. BURNS.

Witnesses:

H. PENNINGTON,  
J. EMORY BYRAM.