

(No Model.)

S. A. HOSKINS.

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

LUNCH BOX.

No. 244,898.

Patented July 26, 1881.

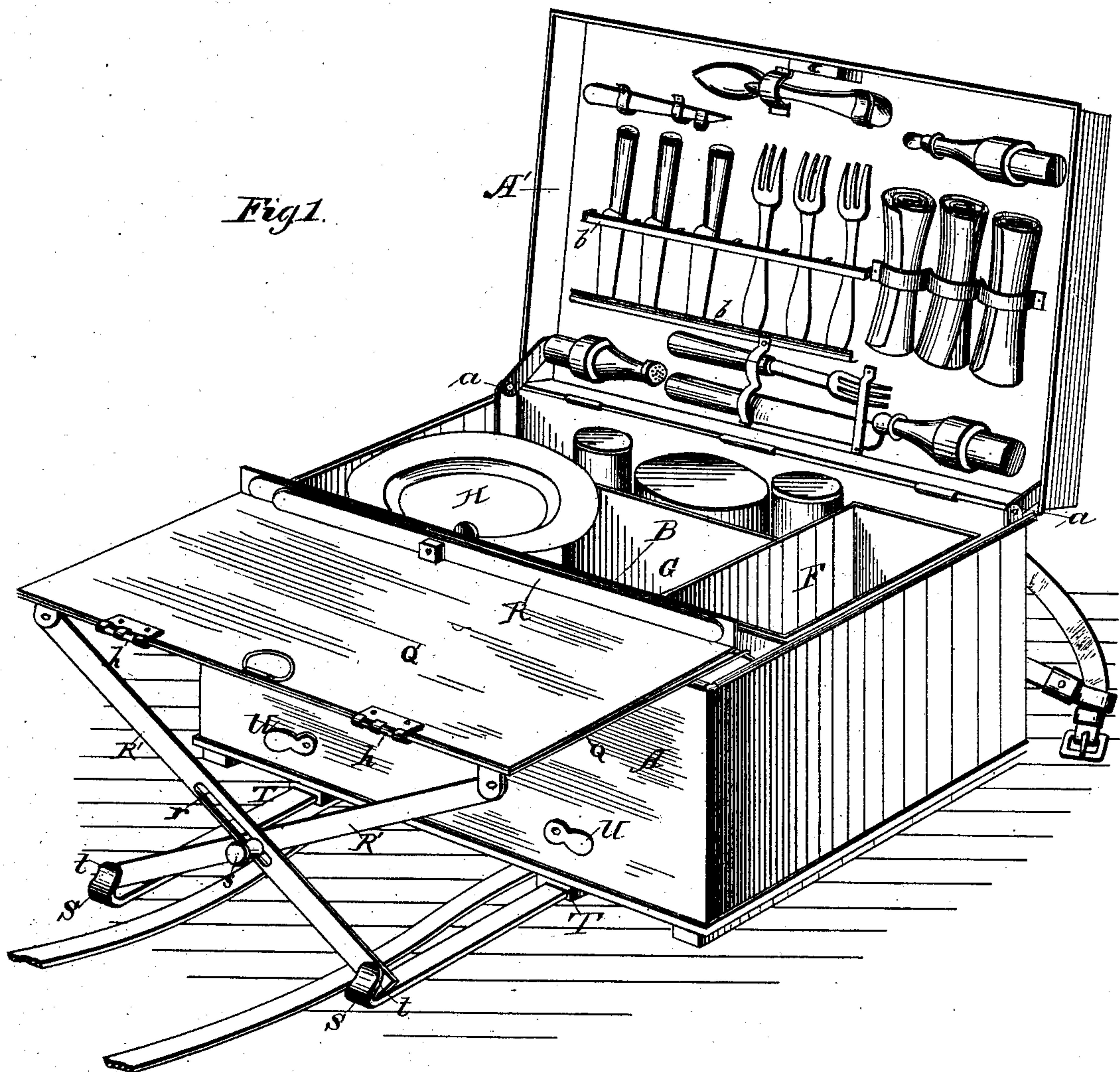
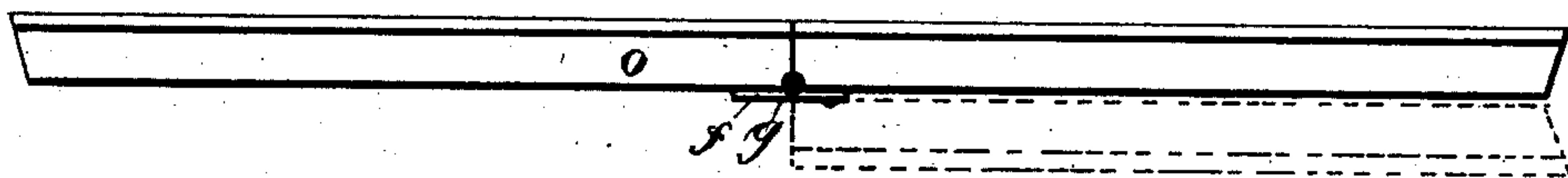


Fig.4:



WITNESSES

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By Her Attorneys

INVENTOR

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(No Model.)

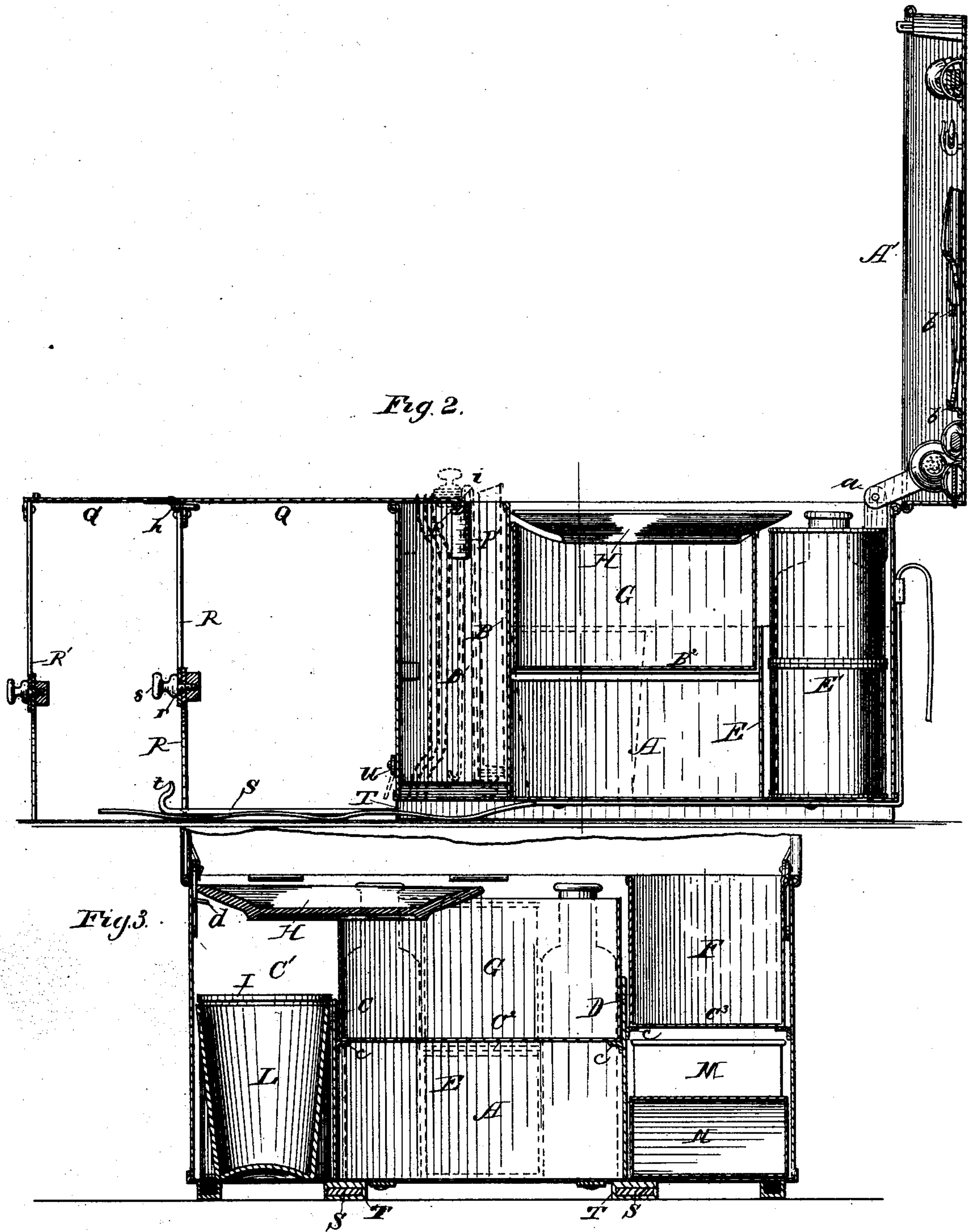
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH A. HOSKINS, OF BANGOR, MAINE.

LUNCH-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 244,898, dated July 26, 1881.

Application filed May 9, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SARAH A. HOSKINS, of Bangor, in the county of Penobscot and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Luncheon-Boxes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the box with the cover or lid opened and one-half of the folding table extended. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section, showing the cover open and the folding table extended to its full capacity. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section of the box with the lid closed; and Fig. 4 is a side view of the folding salver open, the dotted lines showing it in its closed position.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention contemplates certain improvements in luncheon-boxes suitable for the use of travelers, camp-meetings, or excursionists, so arranged as to contain all the requisites and paraphernalia of a first-class luncheon compactly in a small space, the several articles being so disposed that access may be easily had to any one of them when desired for use. I also provide the box with a table, the leaves of which are hinged and provided with folding legs, so as to adapt it to be folded up within a small compass and slid into a compartment provided for it in the box, all substantially as hereinafter more fully described.

In the accompanying illustrations of my invention I have shown one of my large-size boxes, which is particularly adapted to the use of overland travelers to California, camp-meetings, or fishing-parties, as it will contain from thirty-five to forty pounds of food. Smaller sizes are made on the same general plan, but differing somewhat in the location and relative arrangement of the several compartments, and for the larger sizes it may sometimes be found desirable to cover the box with canvas, leather, or wicker-work, especially if it is to be subjected to rough usage.

In the drawings, A represents a box of rect-

angular shape, made of heavy sheet-tin, and having a hinged flanged cover, A', which is held in an upright position when open and prevented from tilting too far back by hinged knees *a a*, one at each side. This cover is provided on its inside with suitably-arranged bands or keepers *b b*, to hold spoons, knives, and forks, a can-opener, cruets of mustard, salt, and pepper, folded napkins, and other requisites, if desired.

The body of the box is divided, first, by a longitudinal partition, B, into two compartments, B' and B², the last-named one of which is again subdivided by lower transverse partitions, C and D, into three compartments, denoted, respectively, by C', C², and C³, the middle one of which, C², is divided by the longitudinal partition E, so as to form a smaller compartment, E'. The end compartment, C³, and middle compartment, C², have cleats, (shown at *c c*,) which form ledges or supports for, respectively, the bread-box F and the cake-box G. The inner corner and edges of the latter are cut off a little from the top, so as to make room for the pie-plate H, which is set on top of the cake-box and overlaps the compartment C'. This compartment contains a sugar-box, I, pickle or olive jar K, and a place for cups or tumblers, L. It also has, at its upper edge, an inwardly-projecting lip or bracket, *d*, which forms a support for the rim of the pie-plate H, preventing it from tipping down. The space in the middle compartment, C², underneath the cake-box, is for meats, the sub-compartment E' for canned goods and bottles, (the cans being arranged on top of one another between the bottles,) and the end compartment, C³, contains an egg-box, M, a butter-box, N, and space between the two for boxes of sardines or other articles, according to choice. A folding salver, O, which is held in its rigid or extended position by pivoted lugs *f*, which catch in under the hinge *g*, is placed on top of and serves as a cover for the cake-box.

Passing longitudinally through the upper part of compartment B', parallel to the partition B, is a rod, P, and a flat strap or bar, P', the first of which serves as a hinge and the latter as a guide for the folding table. This is composed of two leaves, Q and Q', hinged to-

gether at *h*, so that they may be folded up upon one another. The inner end of the inner leaf, *Q*, is turned to form a roll or bead, *i*, through which rod *P* is inserted, thus forming a hinge
5 for the folding leaves, which, when doubled upon one another, may be swung up into a vertical position and slid down into the compartment or receptacle *B'*, the inner leaf, *Q*, passing between its hinge-rod *P* and guide *P'*,
10 as shown in Fig. 2 in dotted lines.

Each of the leaves *Q* and *Q'* is provided with a pair of hinged legs or supports, *R R'*, which cross one another, one of each pair of legs having a slot, *r*, and the other a set-screw,
15 *s*, working in the slot, by means of which they may be locked so as to form a firm support for the table when extended. The innermost pair of legs, *R*, which are hinged to the inner leaf, *Q*, rest with their lower ends upon slides *S S*,
20 which, when the table is not in use, may be pushed back into tubular cleats or sockets *T T*, secured upon the bottom of the box. Each of these slides *S* has an upturned lip, *t*, at its outer end, back of which is a small recess or
25 depression for the legs to rest in.

This arrangement will be found particularly useful in railway-cars, as it keeps the legs of the inner leaf steady, with the outer leaf folded up upon it, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.
30 When the box is packed and the table folded and slid down into its proper compartment, *B'*, there is room on one side of the table for the plates, and on the other side for a waiter or salver, thus economizing the space. The slides *S* are
35 prevented from slipping out from their sockets *T* by hinged stops *U*, which may be turned down over the projecting lips *t*.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The combination, with a luncheon-box constructed and arranged substantially as described, of the hinged and folding table *Q Q'*, each leaf of which has a pair of hinged legs or supports, *R* and *R'*, crossing one another,
45 slotted at *r*, and having set-screws *s* working in said slots, substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein shown and set forth.

2. The combination, with the box *A*, having extensible slides *S*, of the hinged folding table *Q Q'*, having hinged and adjustable legs
50 *R* and *R'*, slotted at *r*, and provided with set-screws *s*, substantially as set forth.

3. A folding table composed of the hinged leaves *Q* and *Q'*, adapted to fold upon one another, each leaf being provided with a pair of hinged legs or supports, *R R' R' R'*, having slots *r* and set-screws *s*, constructed and combined to operate substantially in the manner
55 and for the purpose herein shown and specified.

4. The folding salver *O*, hinged at *g* and provided on its under side with the pivoted lugs *f f*, for locking it into its extended position, substantially as and for the purpose here-
65 in shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SARAH A. HOSKINS.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. McCULLIS,
PELEG T. JONES.