

(Model.)

J. H. MARVIL.

BASKET COVER.

No. 350,377.

Patented Oct. 5, 1886.

Fig. 1.

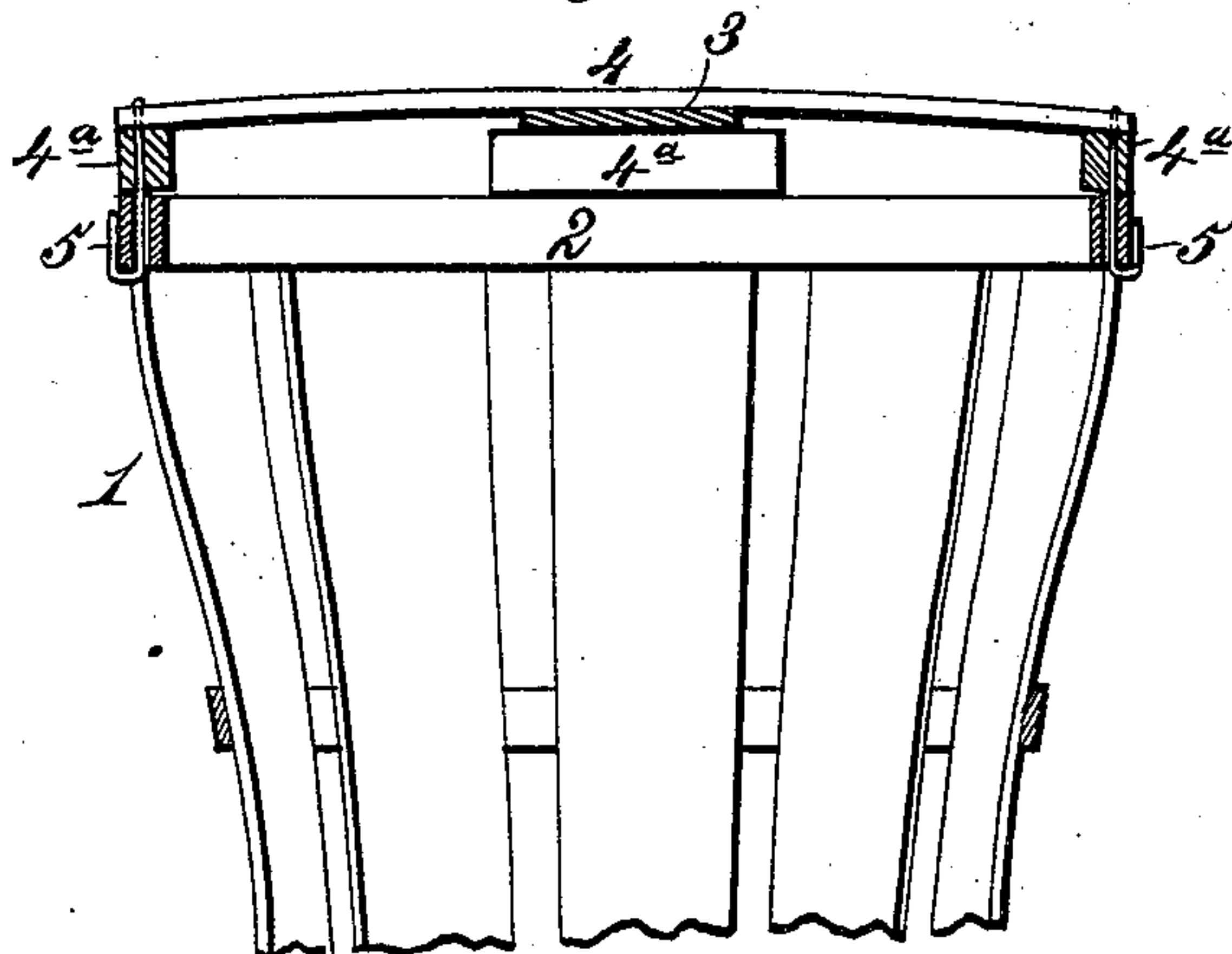


Fig. 2.

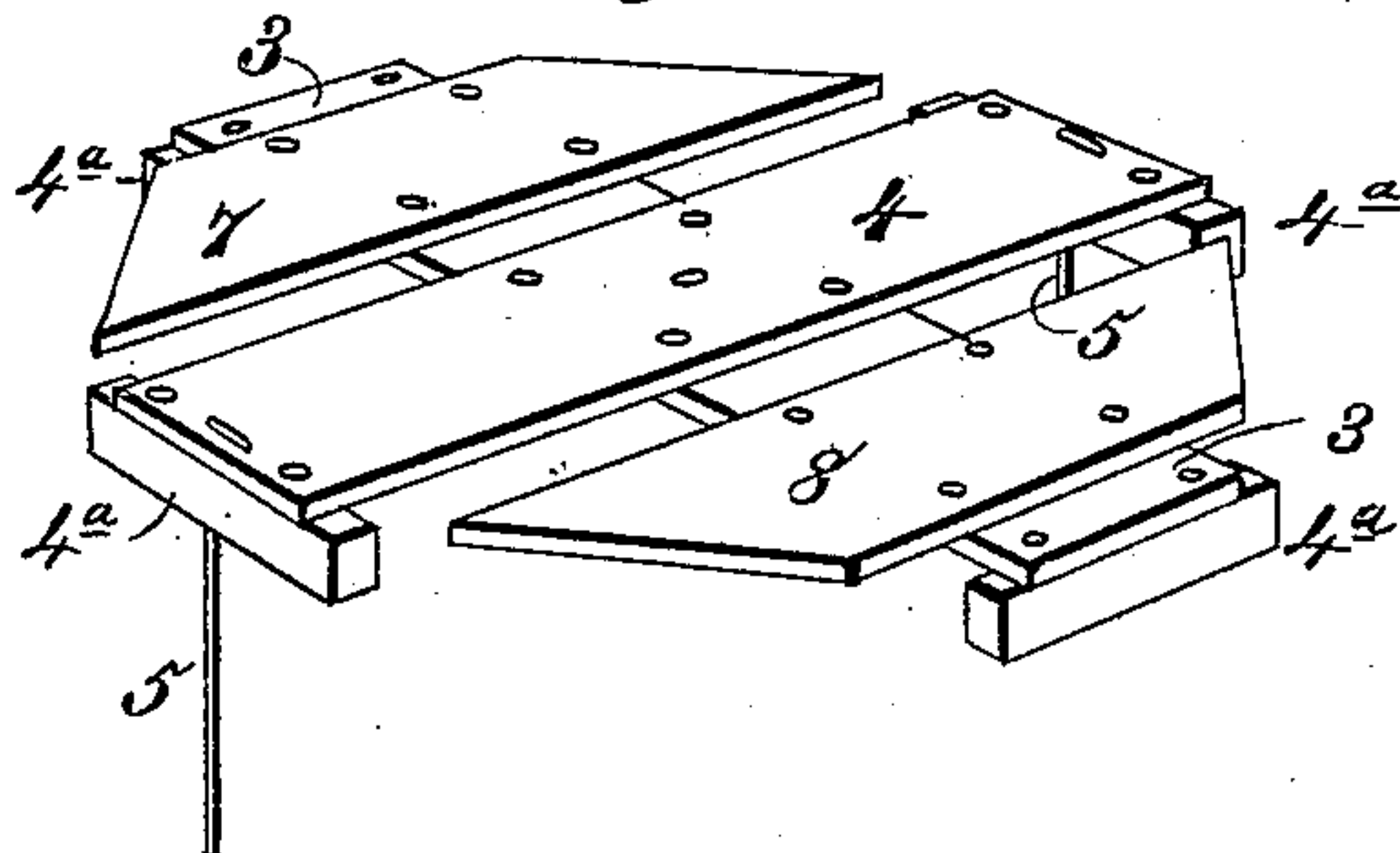
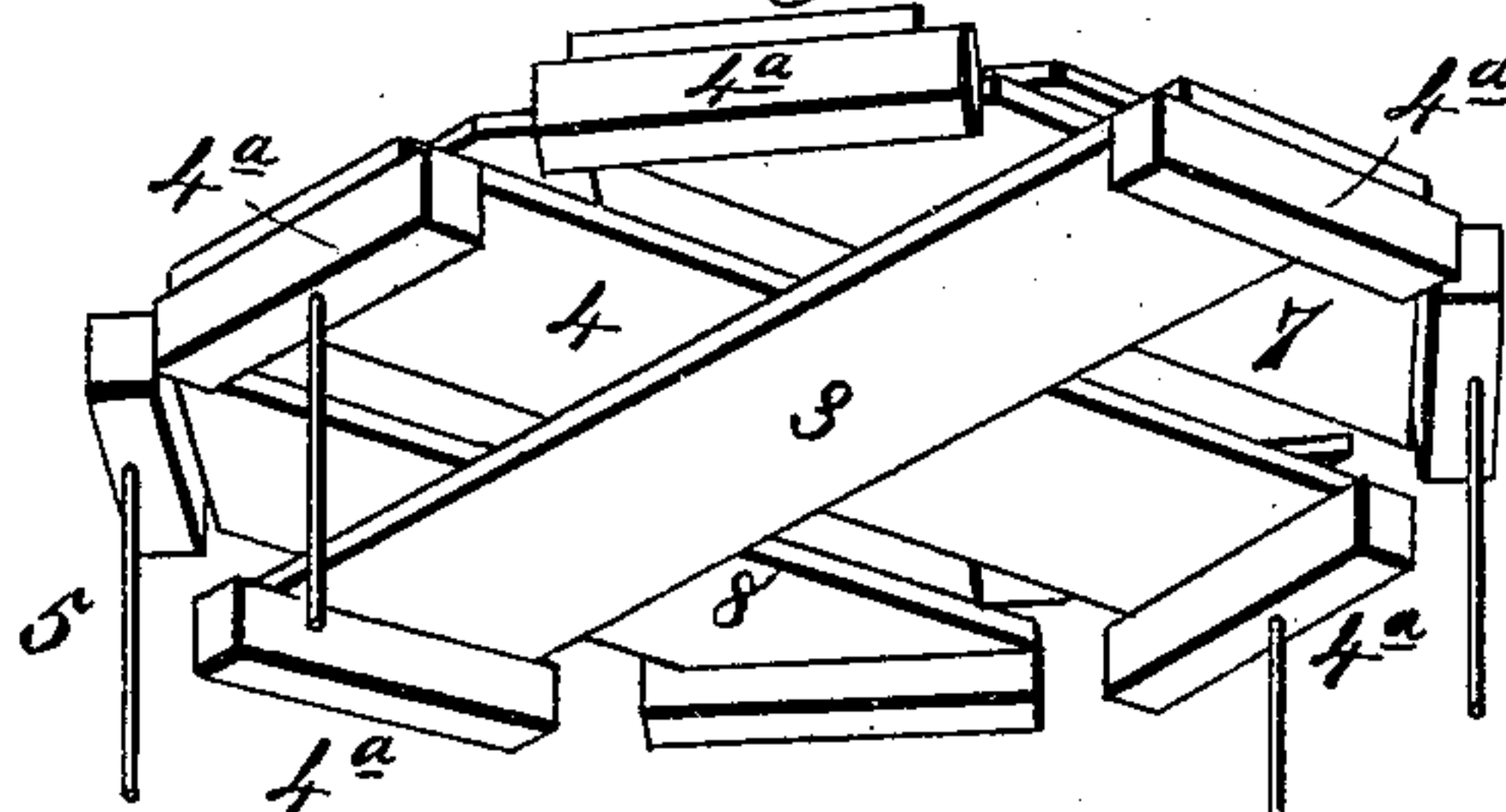


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSHUA H. MARVIL, OF LAUREL, DELAWARE.

BASKET-COVER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 350,377, dated October 5, 1886.

Application filed August 19, 1886. Serial No. 211,322. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSHUA H. MARVIL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Laurel, in the county of Sussex and State of Delaware, have invented new and useful Improvements in Covers for Fruit-Baskets, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to that class of slatted-work covers for fruit-baskets which allow the contents of the basket to be heaped therein and exposed to view, while at the same time the fruit is securely confined in condition for transportation.

The object of the invention is to provide a cover which is simple in construction and easily and cheaply made, and is capable of being firmly retained in position upon the basket, the cover, when placed upon the basket and held by fastening devices, assuming such a shape that one basket will set steadily upon the other without rocking when they are set up in tiers, either filled with fruit or empty.

Another object of the invention is to permit the covers, when not in use upon baskets, to be nested in such a manner as to occupy very little space, thus lessening the cost of freight or transportation and obtaining other advantages incidental to such nesting.

With the ends above stated in view my invention consists in the construction of the cover, which will be hereinafter more fully described, and then set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a central section of my improved cover, together with a portion of the body of the basket. Fig. 2 is a perspective top view of the cover. Fig. 3 is a perspective bottom view showing the manner of nesting the covers when not in use.

The reference numeral 1 designates a basket, which may be of any desired construction, shape, and material, and has the customary top rim, 2, for supporting the cover. The latter consists of the two slats, 3 4, which may be termed, respectively, the "lower" and "upper" slats, and are crossed at right angles, or about so, and secured together at the point of crossing, so as to form what may be termed a "cross-shaped" body having arms or branches of equal length. To the under sides of the extremities of the four branches or arms thus formed are secured blocks 4^a, which

are of uniform thickness and serve to raise the cover the proper distance above the basket by resting upon the top rim of the latter. The blocks 4^a extend at right angles to the slats and may project slightly beyond the edges thereof. They are secured in place by nails or other fastening devices, and wires or other flexible metal strips, 5, passed through the two blocks on the upper slat, 4, and clinched on the top of said slat, also serve as additional means for securing said blocks in place. On each side of the upper slat, 4, and running parallel therewith, are arranged two shorter slats, 7 8, having their ends cut off obliquely at about an angle of forty-five degrees, more or less. These slats with obliquely-cut ends are secured to the lower slat, 3, by nails or other means of fastening, and when all the parts are in position, as shown, a cover of an octagonal shape is formed, the slats bearing the blocks constituting four sides, and the shorter slats with oblique ends the other four sides.

When the cover is required for use, it is placed upon the basket-rim in such a way that the blocks 4 will raise the cover to such a height as will allow the contents to be heaped and remain exposed to view. The wires 5, which hold the cover in place, are inserted between the two hoops constituting the upper basket-rim, and then they are bent short around the outer hoop of such rim upon the outside thereof, as is clearly seen in Fig. 1. It should be observed that when bending the wires the blocks of the upper slat bearing such wires are pressed down upon the basket-rim, and said upper slat, by pressure on the lower slat, 3, as hereinafter stated, will cause the blocks 4^a on the latter to press upon the rim of the basket. It will be apparent that by fastening the upper slat to the lower one in the manner shown and providing its blocks with the retaining-wires, said slat is curved somewhat when the wires are locked, thereby forming a spring and causing the unwired blocks upon the lower slat to be pressed firmly upon the rim of the basket. By such means the cover is firmly retained in the position into which it is placed until the wires attached to the upper slat are loosened, in order to permit the cover to be removed from the basket. When the covers are thus removed,

a series of them can be nested into each other and firmly retained in such nested or concentric position without the use of fastening devices to tie them together. In other words, the
5 different covers are held by friction against one another, and their capability of being thus nested and retained is due to the obliquely-cut short slats of one cover lying against the inner sides of the blocks of another
10 cover, as is clearly seen in Fig. 3.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, is—

1. A cover for fruit-baskets, consisting of the lower and upper slats, 3 and 4, crossing
15 each other and centrally joined together, a block, 4^a, attached to each end of said slats,

and the short slats 7 and 8, having oblique ends and secured between their ends to the lower slat, substantially as described.

2. A cover for fruit-baskets, consisting of 20 the crossed centrally-secured top and bottom slats having end blocks, the fastening wires or devices secured to the blocks of the upper slat, and the short slats having oblique ends secured to said lower slat, substantially as 25 described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSHUA H. MARVIL.

Witnesses:

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