

(No Model.)

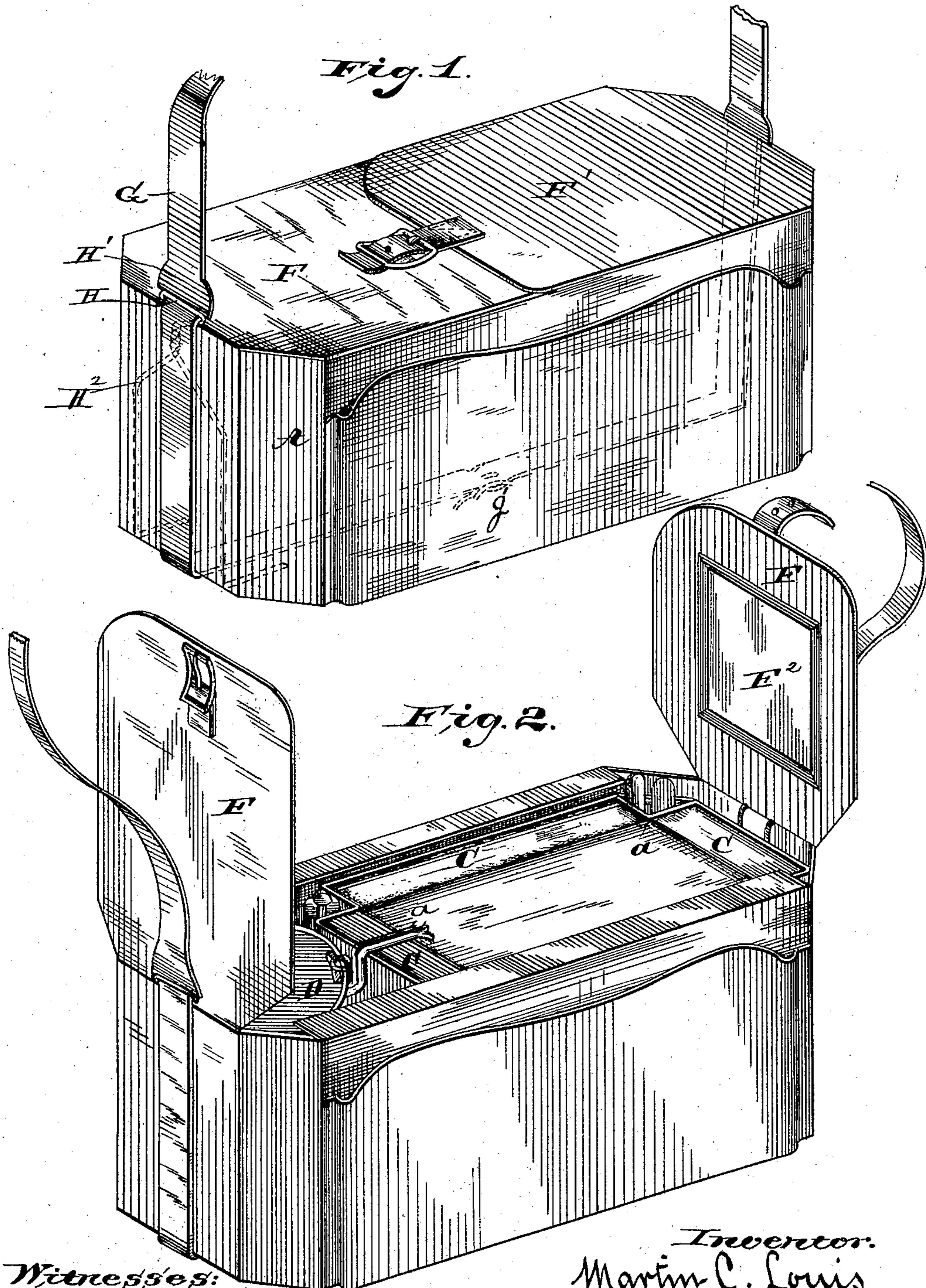
3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

M. C. LOUIS.

LUNCH BOX.

No. 375,495.

Patented Dec. 27, 1887.



Witnesses:

E. J. Walker

Wm. J. Tanner

Inventor.

Martin C. Louis
By his atty
Whitaker & Trench

(No Model.)

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Fig. 3

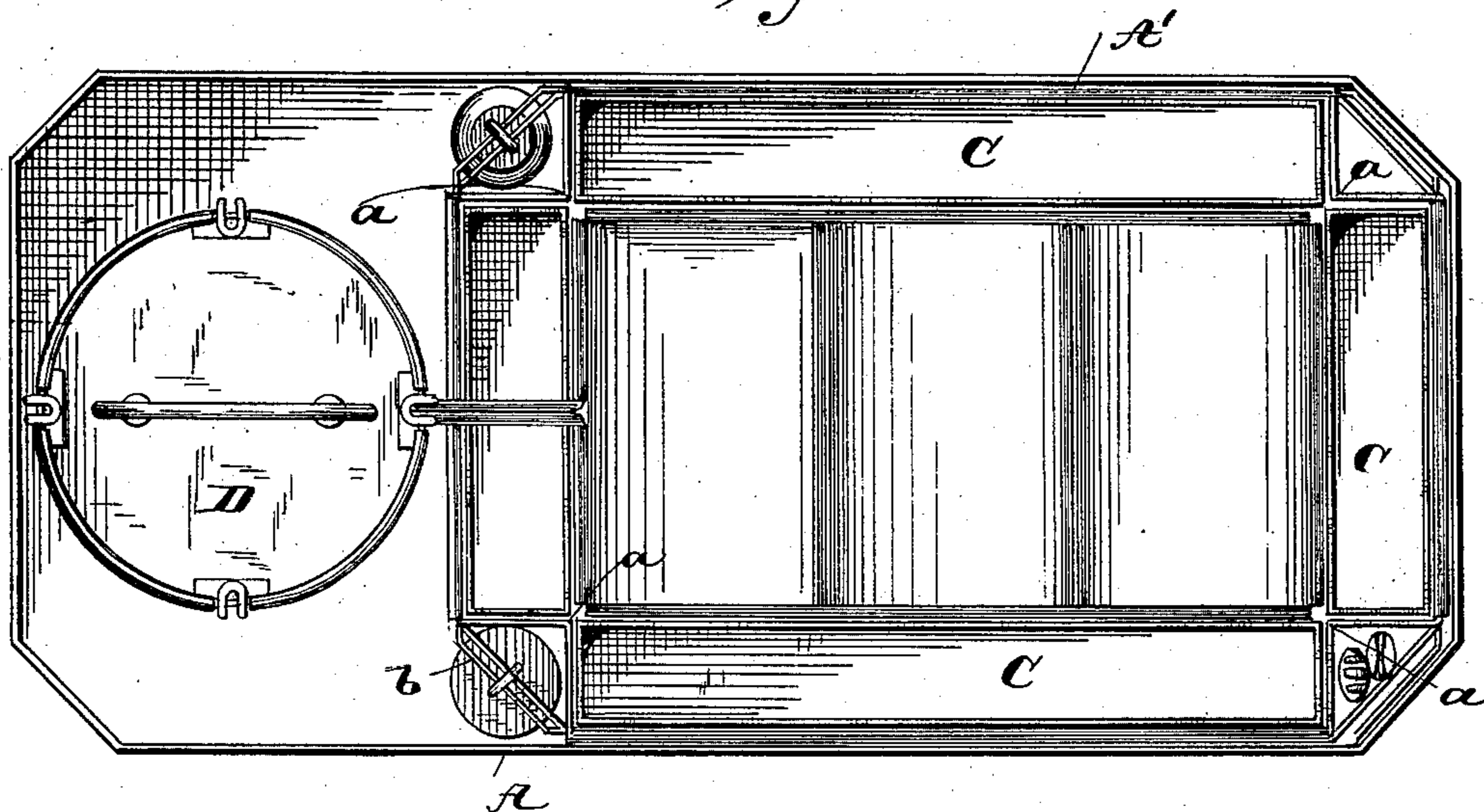
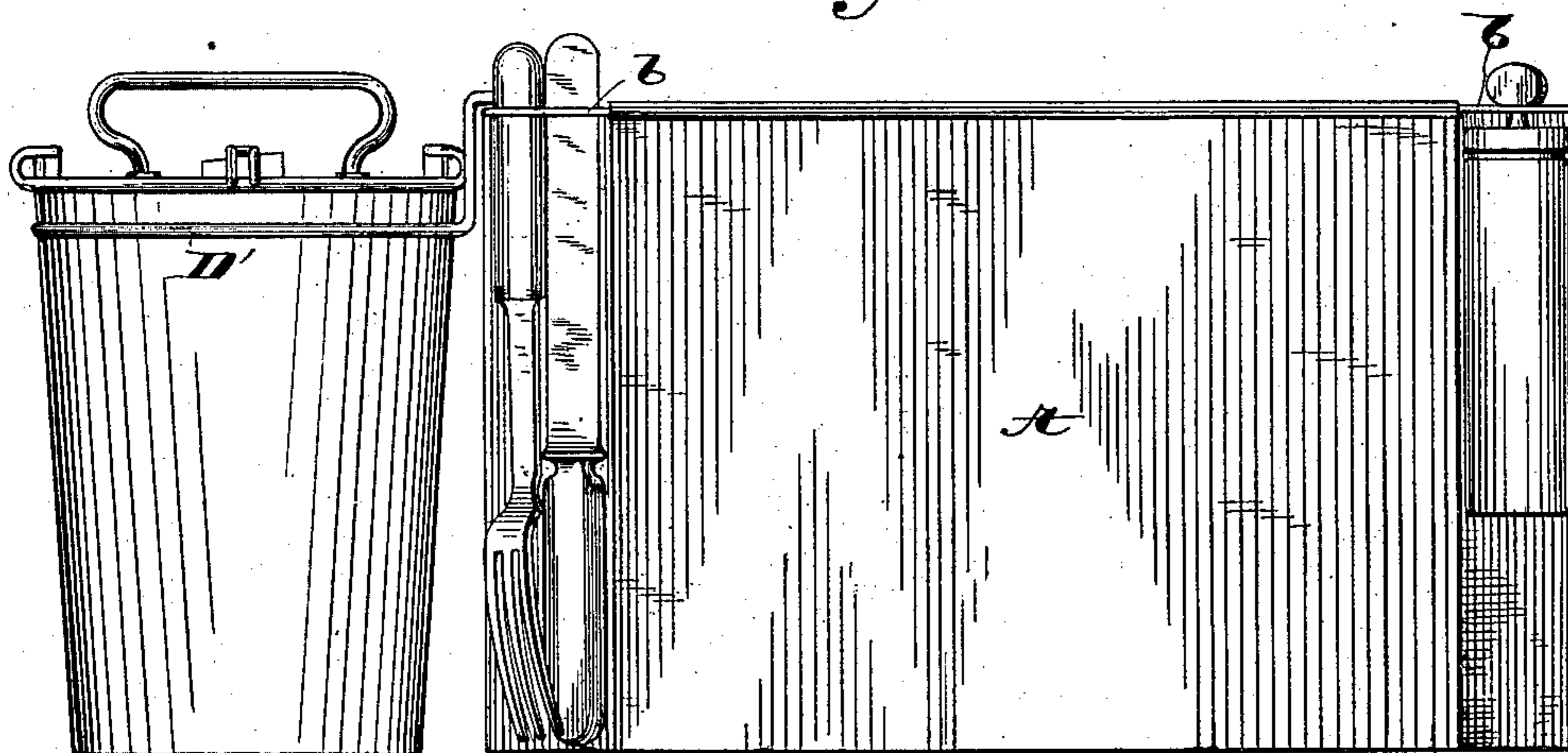


Fig. 4



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(No Model.)

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Fig. 5.

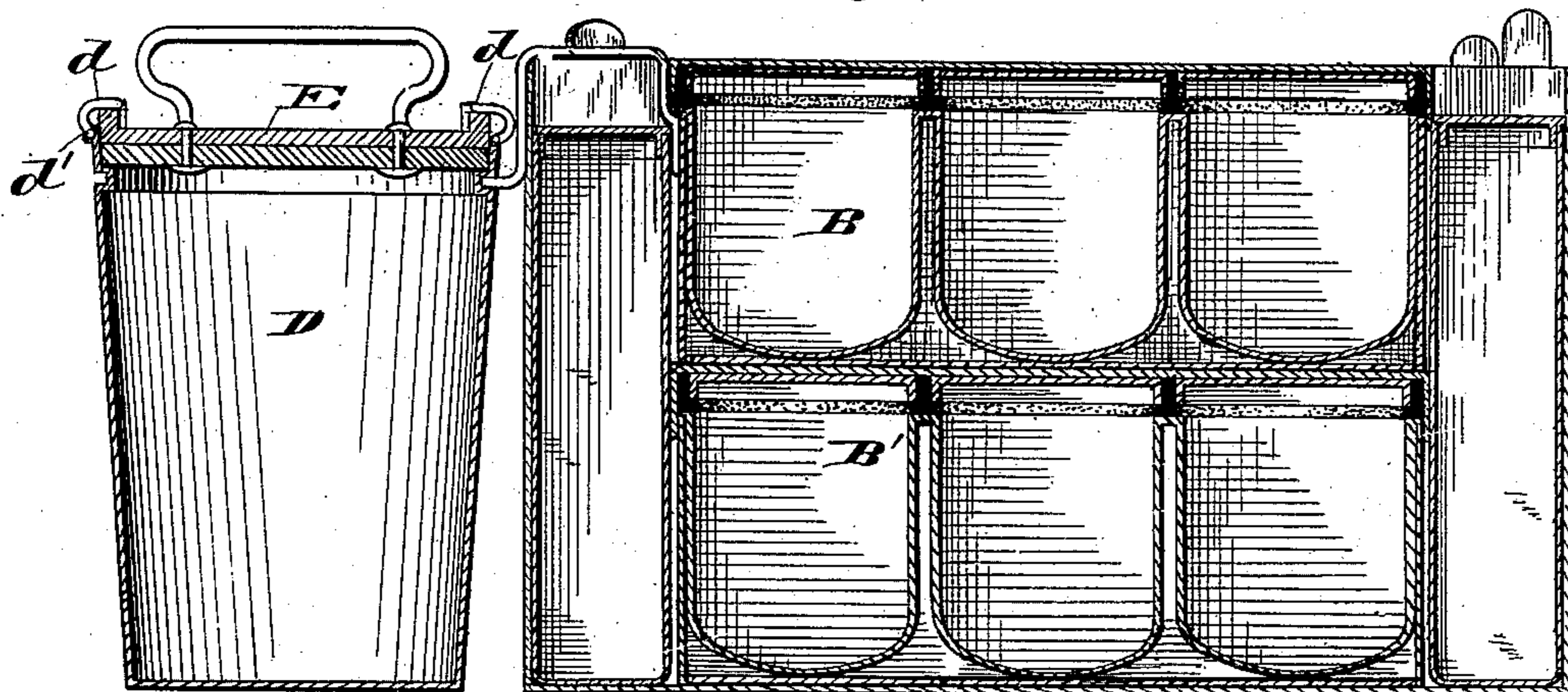


Fig. 7

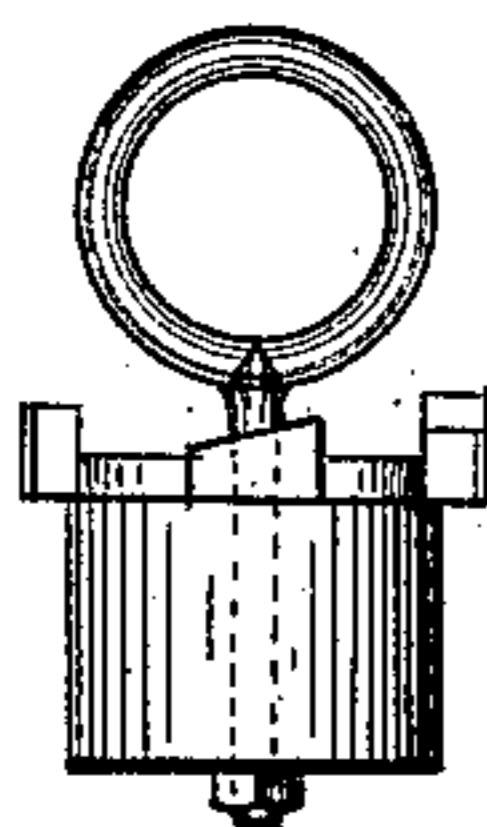
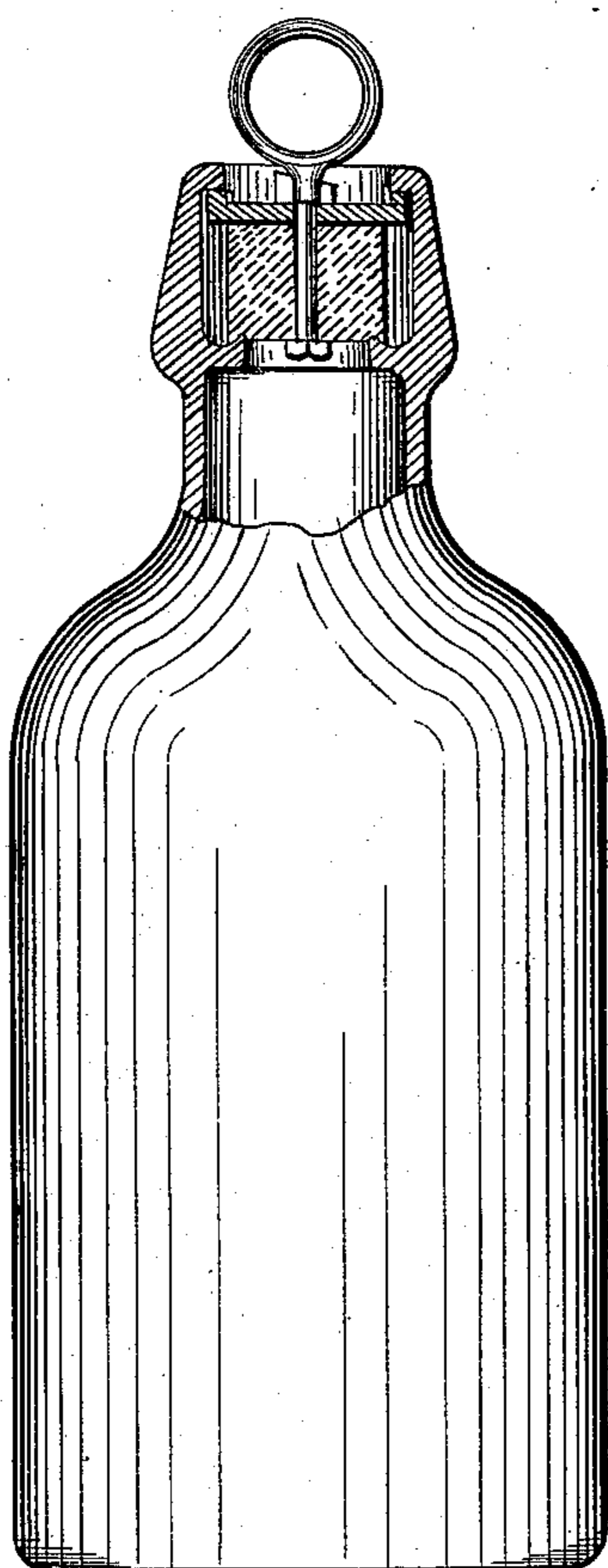


Fig. 6



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Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIN C. LOUIS, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

LUNCH-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 375,495, dated December 27, 1887.

Application filed September 20, 1887. Serial No. 250,241. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTIN C. LOUIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lunch-Boxes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to lunch-boxes, and contemplates certain improvements in the same which increase its value as a receptacle and carrier for articles of food and drink.

The object of my invention is to provide a lunch-box so constructed as to carry equally well all kinds of food prepared for use, together with the condiments, coffee, or other liquid, and also to provide such box with an outside covering, which shall render it neat in appearance and easy to carry.

In order that my invention may be understood, I have illustrated it in the several views of the annexed drawings, and will describe it in the specification following.

Similar letters of reference will indicate identical parts throughout.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved box and cover. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the top of the cover raised. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the box and receptacle for coffee or other liquid. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 5 is a sectional view showing arrangement of compartments. Fig. 6 is an enlarged view of vinegar-bottle. Fig. 7 represents the style of cork or stopper which is preferably used.

My device consists, substantially, of four boxes—the main or outside box, A, the box A', approximately rectangular, but having its corners *a* extending inward, and the compartment-boxes B B'. The box A' fits in the main box and is capable of receiving the two boxes B B', the former resting upon the latter. These latter boxes may be held in position by contact with the corners *a*, or fastening devices may be used. Enough space is left between the end of box A' and that of A to carry the can D, which acts to hold A' in place. Other means may be employed to prevent the displacement of A'. The boxes B B' may be provided with any number of compartments, and,

instead of having two boxes, the upper box, B, may be made deeper and B' dispensed with. In the blank spaces left by the inwardly-projecting corners *a* are placed the salt-cellars, spice or pepper boxes, vinegar-bottle, and knife and fork. In the spaces between B B' and the sides of A' may be placed, if desired, other boxes, C, or the spaces themselves may be partitioned off and used to carry articles of food. The receptacles for salt, vinegar, &c., may be held in place in any desired manner, but preferably by means of two wires, *b b'*, between which the handle of the stopper is inserted and then turned.

The can D is provided near its top with a small rim or ridge passing round it, for the purpose of holding slightly the collar D', attached rigidly to the box B. The can is lifted simultaneously with B, but is removable from the collar D'. The upper edge of the can is provided with a number of upwardly and inwardly extending projections, *d*, occurring at regular intervals. The top of the stopper E of the can is also provided with a like number of upwardly-extending beveled projections, *d'*. This stopper or cover is placed on the can and turned until the beveled projections *d'* engage the inwardly-bent projections *d*, and, acting on a well-known principle, hold the cover or stopper securely in place.

The lid of the box B is provided with packing in the shape of elastic ridges, which are so placed as to come in contact with the rim and edges of the compartments when the lid is closed and prevent the escape of any substance with which the said compartments may be filled.

The box A is covered with leather or any suitable material, which may be either permanently or removably secured to it. This cover is closed by means of flaps F F', provided with strap and buckle or other fastening device. One of the flaps has attached to its inner side a looking-glass, F. A pocket may be provided upon the outside of the cover for handkerchief, napkin, or other article.

By removing the interior boxes from A the latter, with its cover, may be used as a satchel, and is provided with attachments by means of which it may be carried over the shoulder.

If desired, the box A may be provided with a lid of suitable construction, which will also

act as a cover for the smaller boxes or compartments, G. The box B' may also be provided with a lid.

The can D may be secured to any of the other boxes, and other devices employed to connect the boxes and can.

The strap G' passes around the under side of the box, as indicated by dotted lines, Fig. 1, and is provided with a buckle, g. The outside covering is provided with a loop, H, through which the strap G' passes, and by which it is held in position. The strap is broadened and shouldered at H' in such a manner as to prevent it from slipping downward through the loop H. By means of this device for securing the strap to the box I am enabled to carry a bundle on the under side of the latter and at the same time use the remainder of the strap for the purpose of carrying the box. The strap may be made long enough to pass over the shoulder; or it may be simply of sufficient length to serve as a bail or handle for the box.

The loop H may be secured to the cover in any preferred manner; but in Fig. 1 I have shown it as formed from the wires H², which are located inside near each end of the cover and pass down and through the bottom thereof, and are then bent at right angles to secure them in place.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A lunch-box consisting of a covered inclosing case or box, a removable compartment-box within the same, a can-support connected with said compartment-box, and a can in said support, also within the inclosing case or box, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a compartment lunch-box, of a cover provided with elastic ridges engaging the walls of said compartments, and a fastening device for said cover, substantially as described.

3. In a lunch-box, the provision-box consisting of a rectangular case with re-entrant angles at the corners and a removable box or boxes occupying the central space in the case within the lines of the re-entrant angles.

4. The combination, with a carrying-case provided near its top with loops on opposite sides of the same to receive a carrying-strap, of a carrying-strap passing through said loops, provided with enlargements above them and adjustably connected beneath the case, substantially as described.

5. In a lunch-box, the provision-box consisting of a rectangular case with re-entrant angles at the corners, a central removable box or boxes in the case within the lines of the re-entrant angles, and separate removable boxes at the sides and ends of the removable box.

6. In a lunch-box, the provision-box consisting of a rectangular inclosing-case with re-entrant angles at the corners, and a removable box or boxes within the same, and retaining-bars on the outside of the case diagonally across the re-entrant angles of the same, substantially as described.

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

MARTIN C. LOUIS.

Witnesses:

HARRY L. WINCHELL,
CLAUDE R. SMITH.