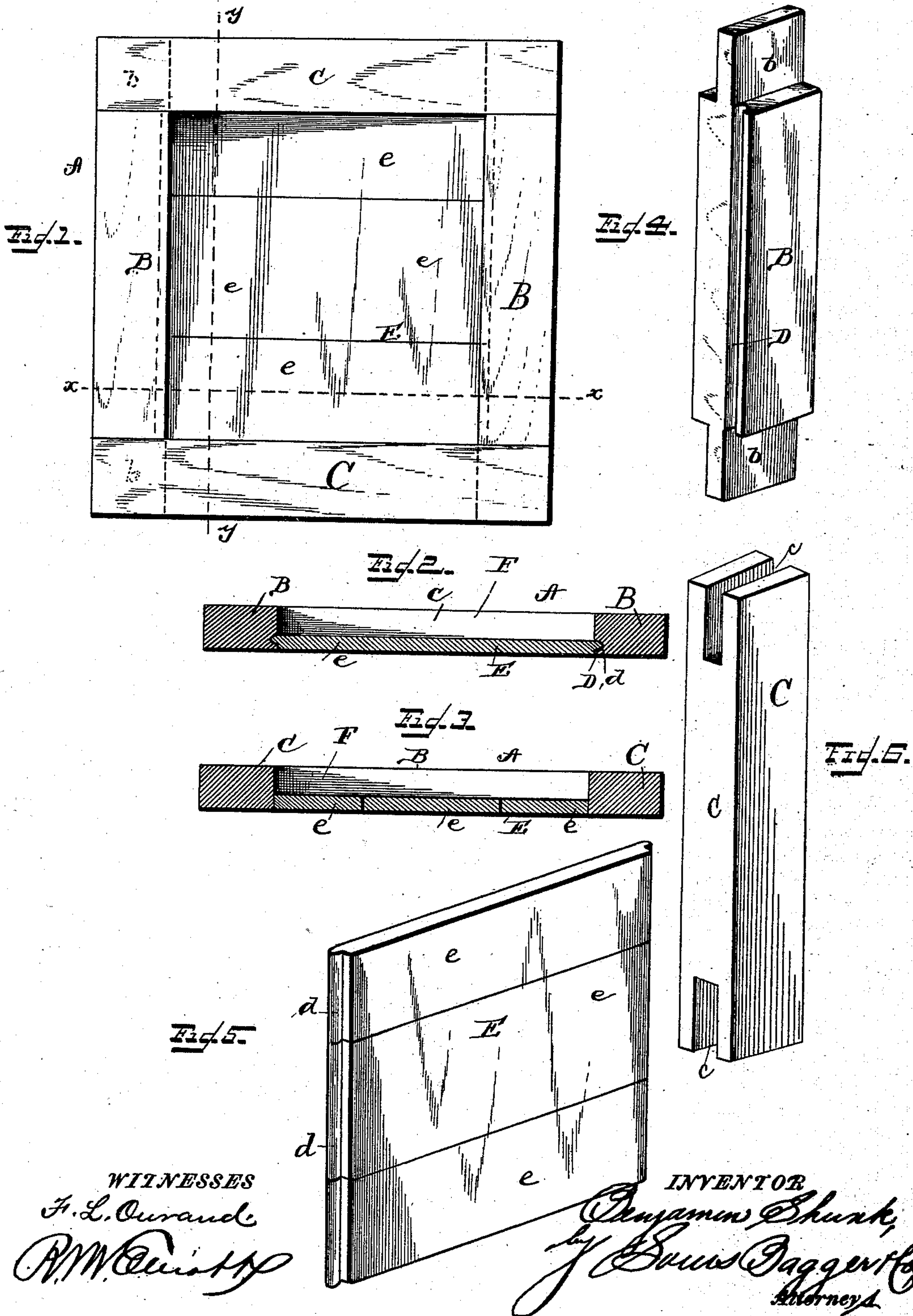


(No Model.)

B. SHUNK.
HEAD FOR FRUIT BOXES.

No. 410,034.

Patented Aug. 27, 1889.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN SHUNK, OF FERNANDINA, FLORIDA.

HEAD FOR FRUIT-BOXES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 410,034, dated August 27, 1889.

Application filed April 24, 1889. Serial No. 308,452. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN SHUNK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Fernandina, in the county of Nassau and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Heads for Fruit and Vegetable 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.

This invention relates to heads for fruit and vegetable boxes.

The principal object of my invention is to produce a box-head which may be constructed of small pieces of lumber that would ordinarily be wasted, while at the same time producing a durable and cheap head. A subsidiary object is to reduce the cost of manufacture, and thus save both time and money.

With these objects in view the invention resides, broadly, in a box-head consisting of a frame suitably mortised together and provided on its inner edges with grooves, in combination with slats or boards provided with rabbeted ends to fit in the said grooves.

Furthermore, the invention consists in the improved construction and combination of parts of a box-head, which will be hereinafter fully described in the specification, illustrated in the drawings, and more particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, I have illustrated one form of head embodying the essential features of my invention, although the same may be carried into effect in other ways without in the least departing from the spirit thereof.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved box-head, showing its peculiar configuration. Fig. 2 is a cross-section taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a similar view taken on the line *y y*. Fig. 4 is a detail view of one of the end pieces. Fig. 5 is a similar view of the filling-pieces, and Fig. 6 is a detail view of the other end piece.

Heretofore there has always been a large waste of lumber in the construction of boxes, inasmuch as the short pieces cut from boards have been wasted, in that they were too small

to be used in the construction of a box for packing purposes. This has been found to be a great loss to manufacturers, and it is the object of this invention to utilize the short pieces in the construction of box-heads, and to so construct the head that the nails used in securing the same to the box will also serve to hold various parts of the head together. In the particular use to which heads of this class are designed to be used—that is, in boxes used for packing oranges—this will be found highly useful and of great advantage.

By referring to the drawings it will be readily seen how I construct my improved head.

In the drawings, A designates a frame consisting of the end pieces B, provided with tenons *b*, and the end pieces C, provided with the open-ended mortises *c*. The inner end of the edge of the end pieces B is provided with the rabbet D, which may be of any configuration—that is, angular, square, or U-shaped—and is, as will be seen, nearer the lower side of the frame than the upper.

E designates the filling, which may be constructed of a number of small pieces of lumber *e*, having their ends provided with the tenon *d*, adapted to fit in the rabbet D. As will be observed, the tenon on the filling is on the side of the end instead of in the center, so that when placed in position, as shown in Fig. 3, the filling will be flush with the inner edge of the frame, which will be readily understood from the fact that the rabbet in the ends is on one side instead of in the center. Thus when the filling is placed in the frame the side which is intended to be next to the article in the box—that is, the inner side—will be a level surface, while the upper side will have shoulder F, which serves as a handhold for use in the handling of the box.

If desired, instead of only the ends being provided with a rabbet, the sides may also be rabbeted, thereby presenting a tight box-head. Should this particular kind of a head be used as a partition for dividing an orange-box into two parts, the filling will be of sufficient thickness to present a level surface on both sides, thereby preventing damage to the fruit, which would follow should the sharp edges of the shoulder F be left exposed. When this head is to be placed on the box, it is only necessary in order to clamp the device securely

together to drive nails through each of the four corners, when the sides and ends will be securely clamped together against working loose.

5 It will be readily seen from the foregoing description that although this device is exceedingly simple of construction it will be found of the highest efficiency in use, in that all waste lumber may be utilized in the construction of boxes, and that no nails are necessary to hold the frame together other than those used in securing the head to the box; moreover, that they may be constructed at a very slight expense.

15 Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The box-head herein described and shown, consisting of the end pieces provided with tenons and a groove or rabbet in one side, the side pieces having mortises to receive the tenons of the end pieces, and the filling consisting of pieces fitted together and having their ends formed with tongues, providing tenons adapted to fit in the grooves or rabbets of the end pieces, substantially as shown and described. 20 25

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

BENJAMIN SHUNK.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. EDWARDS,
J. A. EDWARDS.