

(No Model.)

W. H. CADWELL.  
FRUIT BASKET.

No. 440,136.

Patented Nov. 11, 1890.

Fig. 1.

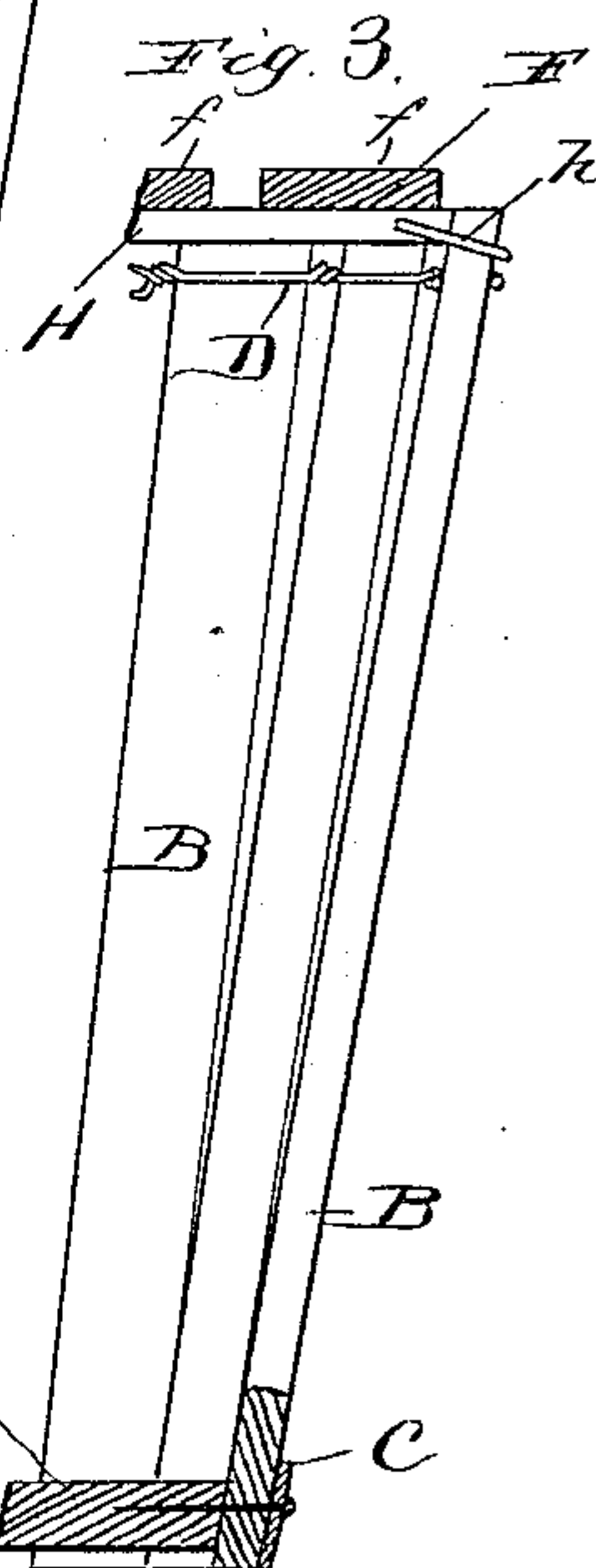
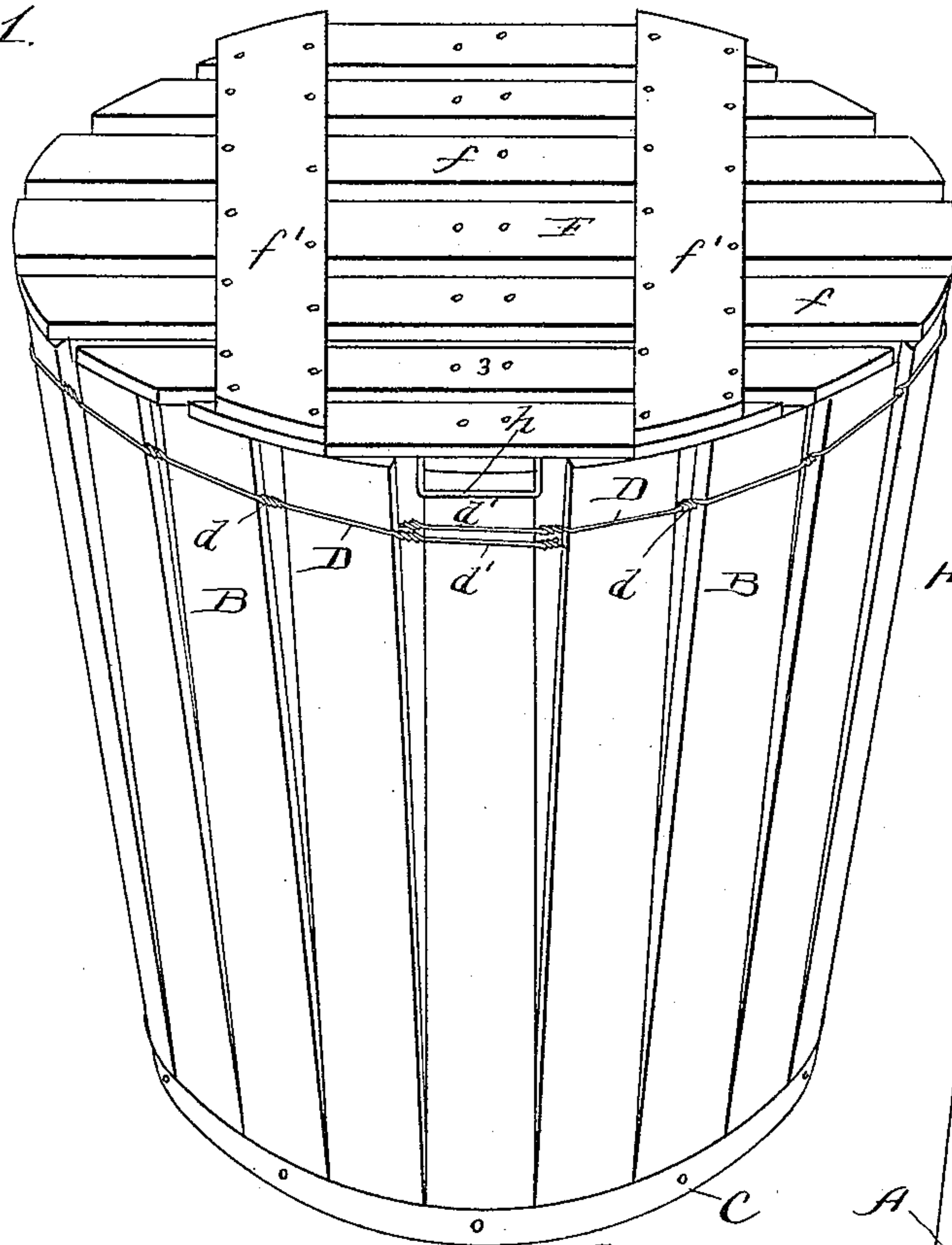
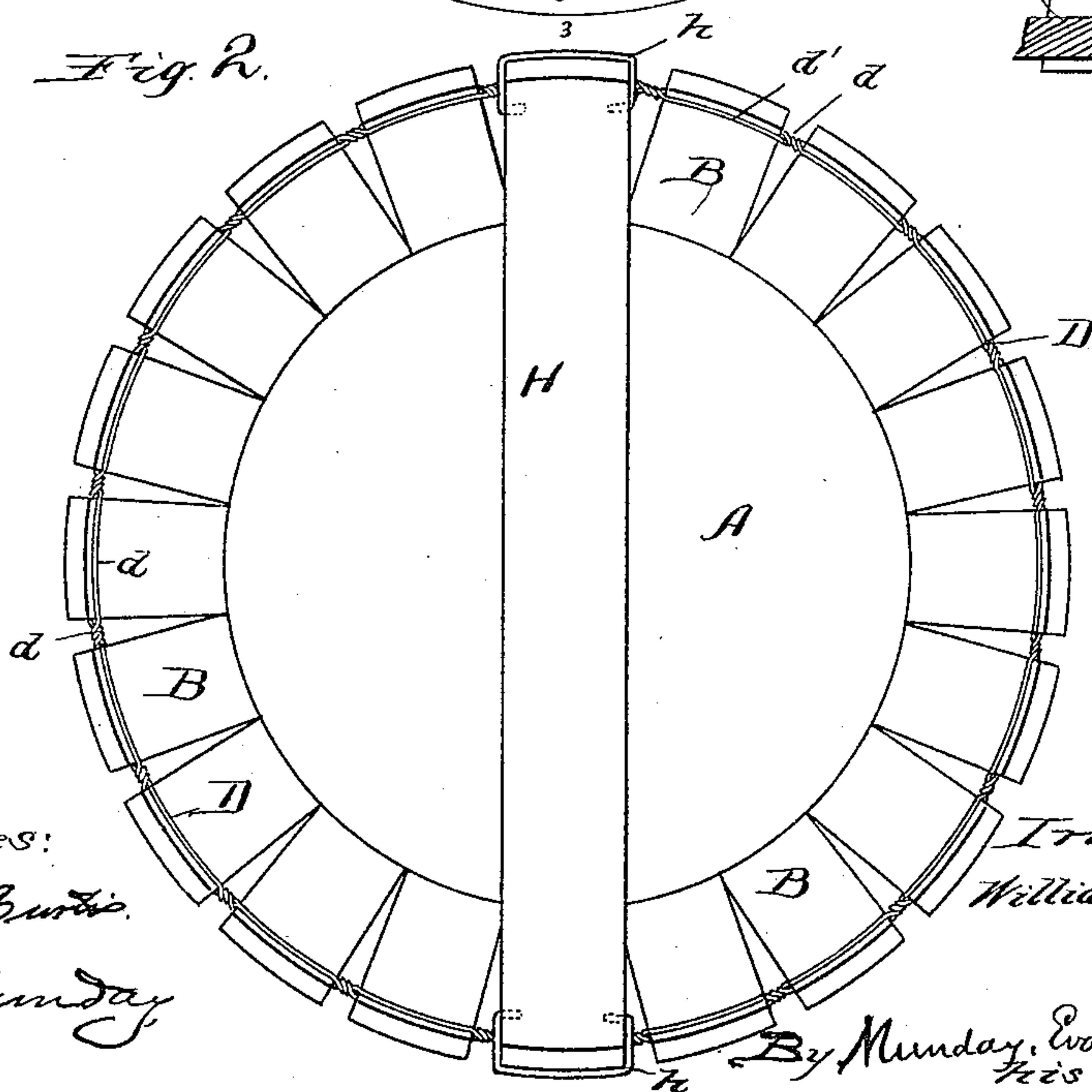


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

Geo. C. Curtis

A. W. Munday

Inventor:

William H. Cadwell

By Munday, Everts & Adcock  
his Attorneys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. CADWELL, OF LANSING, MICHIGAN.

## FRUIT-BASKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 440,136, dated November 11, 1890.

Application filed March 24, 1890. Serial No. 345,050. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. CADWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lansing, in the county of Ingham and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Baskets for Shipping Fruit and for other Purposes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in the construction of baskets.

The object of my invention is to provide a basket of a simple, efficient, and durable construction which may be cheaply and rapidly manufactured, which will be adapted to resist any tendency to collapse or spring together, and which will also be adapted to support one basket on top of another without danger of injury to the fruit, eggs, or other contents of the basket, and which when empty will nest together for economy in shipment.

My invention consists in the novel devices and novel combinations of parts and devices herein shown and described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a basket embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a top or plan view showing the cover removed, with the exception of the lower cross tie or slat of the cover. Fig. 3 is a partial vertical central section taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1.

In the drawings, A represents the wooden bottom of the basket; B, the wood slats composing the vertical sides of the basket, and C the metal band or hoop, which encircles the basket near its bottom and serves to bind the slats B B together and to the bottom A. The flat metal band C is secured in place by tacks or small nails driven through the slats B into the bottom A at intervals. The wood slats B are bound and secured near their upper ends by binding-wires D D, twisted together between the contiguous slats, so that the twists *d d* of the wires will cause the wires D D to slightly embed and firmly grasp or hold each slat securely in place. The twists *d d* between the slats also serve to separate the contiguous slats at their upper ends and give the vessel or basket a flare or taper. The slats B B fit or preferably fit snugly together at

their lower ends, as is clearly shown in the drawings, as by this means the basket is given greater strength and rigidity. The two meeting ends of the wires D D, which individually embrace the slats B, are furnished with loops or pockets *d' d'*, through both of which one of the slats B is inserted, thus securing the two ends of the double binding-wires together. This not only affords a very simple and efficient means of securing the ends of the double binding-wires together, but it also insures an even spacing between all the slats, so that the baskets may be readily made of a uniform size. This enables them to be used as bushel or other measures.

The wood cover F is preferable composed of a series of longitudinal slats *f*, cut of a circular shape and conforming to the exterior upper diameter of the basket, so that the cover will rest flat upon the top of the vertical slats B. The cover F is provided on its under face with a cross tie or slat H, conforming to the interior upper diameter of the basket, so that the ends of this tie or slat H will fit within the basket and abut against the vertical slats B. The tie or slat H will thus prevent the collapse or springing together of the vertical sides of the basket in the direction this slat H extends. To prevent the collapsing or springing together of the vertical sides of the basket in the direction at right angles to the slat or tie H, I provide this slat or tie H at each end with a wire staple or loop *h*, adapted to fit over the ends of the two opposite vertical slats B B, against which the ends of the tie H abut. These staples *h* will thus prevent the sides of the basket springing outward at the extremities of the tie H, and therefore thus also prevent the sides of the basket collapsing or springing together in a direction at right angles to the bar H. The staples *h* also serve the additional function of securing the cover F in place, which is especially necessary, as the cover F is made to lie flat on the top of the basket, so that the baskets may be piled one on top of another. As the cover F fits flat on the top of the vertical slat B, the basket has great strength and is well adapted for resisting vertical pressure. I am thus enabled to pile any desired number of the baskets one on top of another without danger of injury to their contents.



The cover F, especially when it is composed of a series of separate slats *f*, as shown in the drawings, is or should be provided with one or more cross-slats *f'* on the top thereof.

- 5 By combining a flat band C with the inter-twisted double-wire band D at the top of the basket the vessel or basket is given the required flaring form, as the flat metal band or hoop C permits the individual slats to fit close  
10 together at their lower end, while the twists *d* of the intertwisted wires D D serve to separate the slats and at the same time hold them rigidly in their separated position.

I claim—

- 15 1. The flaring slat-work vessel having a bottom and a bottom hoop and provided with a series of vertical slats clamped between said bottom and bottom hoop and bound together near the top by hoop-wires D D, intertwisted  
20 between the individual slats, whereby the vessel is given a flaring form, the intermediate intertwisted portion of said wires being stiff and rigid and serving to hold the slats separate and to retain the vessel in shape, sub-  
25 stantially as specified.

2. The combination, in a slat-work basket, of a cover adapted to fit on top of the vertical slats, said cover being furnished with a tie or slat on its under face adapted to fit

within the basket, said tie being provided 30 with staples at its ends to embrace two of the vertical slats, whereby the basket is adapted to resist collapse in every direction, and one basket is adapted to be piled on top of another, substantially as specified. 35

3. The combination, with bottom A, of vertical slats B, flat metal hoop C, and hoop-wires D D at the upper end of the vessel, said wires being intertwisted between the slats, whereby the vessel is given a flaring form, said flat 40 metal hoop and bottom in connection with the rigid intertwisted portions of said hoop-wires serving to prevent the collapsing or folding of said slats at the upper end of the vessel and to retain the vessel in shape, substantially 45 as specified.

4. The combination, with bottom A, of vertical slats B, flat metal hoop C, hoop-wires D D at the upper end of the vessel, said wires being intertwisted between the slats, whereby 50 the vessel is given a flaring form, and cover F, having cross-slats H on its under side furnished with staples *h h*, embracing the ends of two opposite slats, substantially as specified. 55

WILLIAM H. CADWELL.

Witnesses:

WM. H. PINCKNEY,  
FRANK E. ROBSON.