No. 639,194. Patented Dec. 12, 1899.

J. N. BURTON.

ICE CREAM PACKAGE.

(Application filed Feb. 8, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

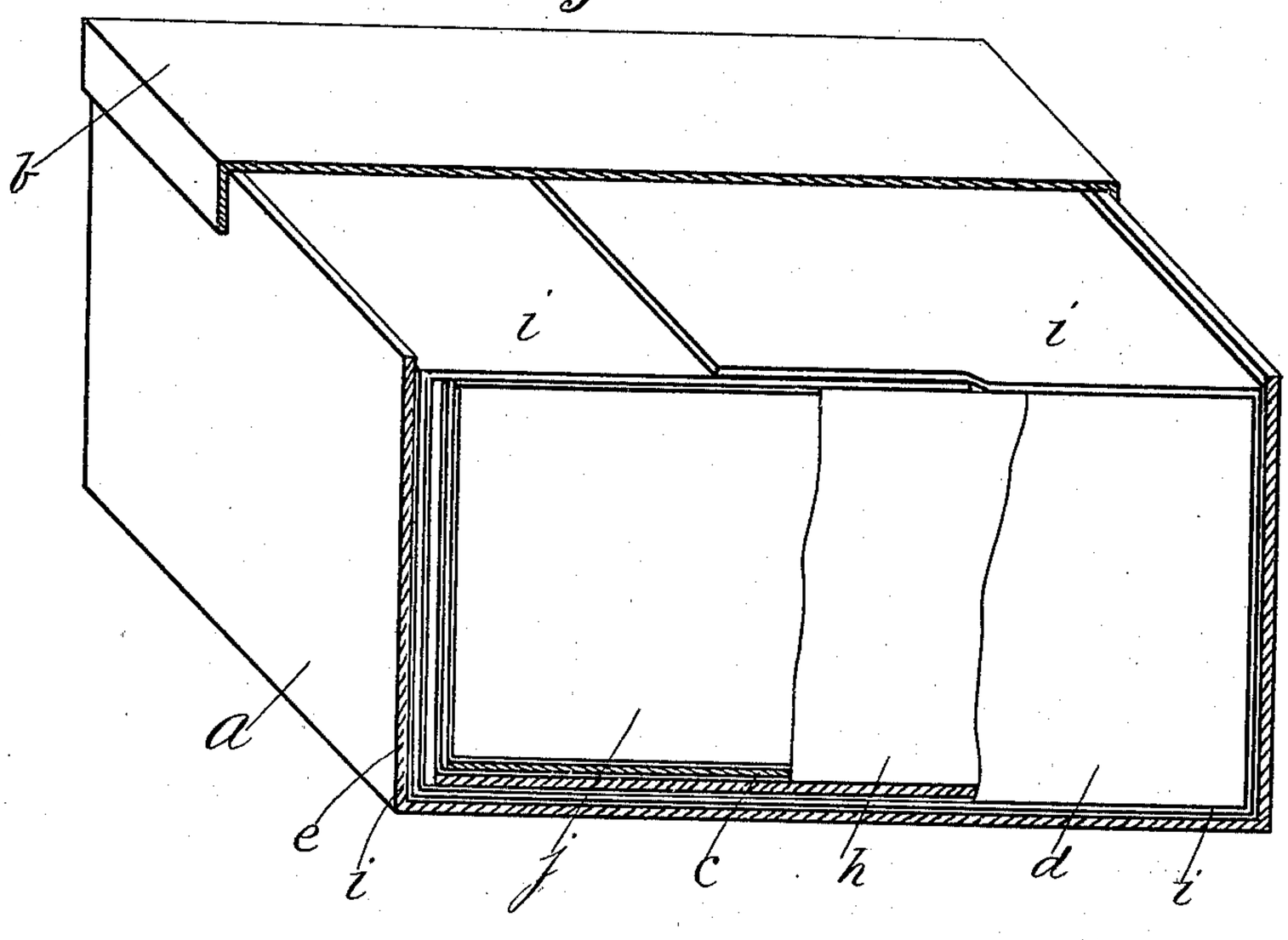
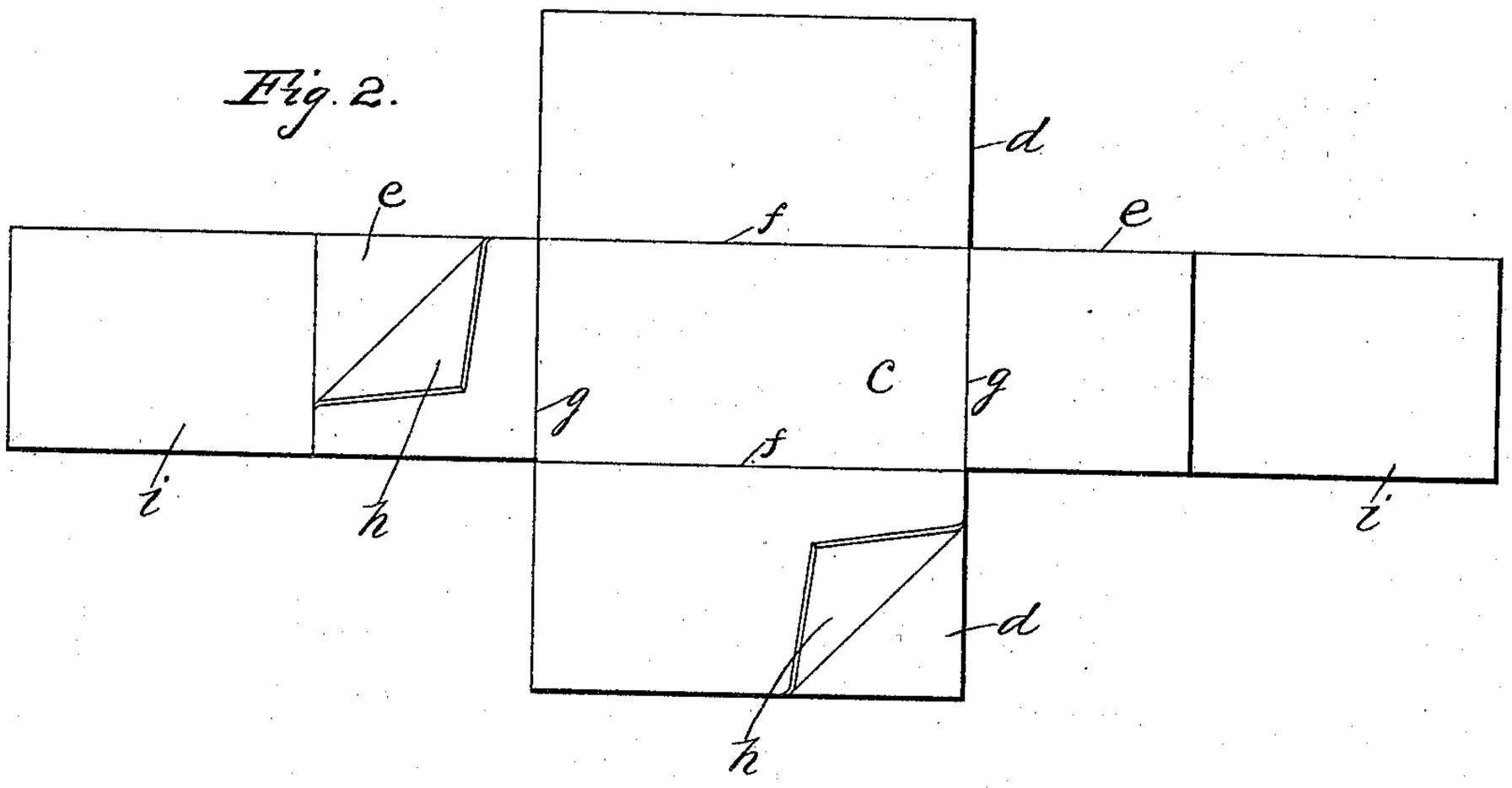


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES

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JOHN N. BURTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

ICE-CREAM PACKAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,194, dated December 12, 1899.

Application filed February 8, 1899. Serial No. 704,872. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN N. BURTON, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the borough of Brooklyn, New York city, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ice-Cream Packages, of which the following is a specification.

In putting up small packages of ice-cream for retail trade it is the common practice to use tin boxes adapted for molding it in "bricks" of different sizes, as pints, quarts, and the like. The boxes are filled while the cream is comparatively soft, and it is pressed in compactly and then put in the refrigerator to freeze and be kept on the ice until dealt out to the customers. Being in direct contact with the interior surfaces of the metal box, the cream freezes hard thereto, especially to the bottom, and is in consequence very difficult to remove when required for use, often requiring that the box be set in warm water to destroy the adhesion by heat. It is also sometimes detached by turning the box upside down and pounding the bottom and sides. When heat is employed, it often happens that the box is left standing too long and much of the cream is unnecessarily melted, and at best melting sufficiently to release the brick makes waste and unsightliness that it is important to avoid. When pounding is resorted to, the box is often spoiled for future use by indentations in the sides, which make greater resistance to the discharge of the bricks subsequently formed in the boxes. To avoid these objections, I have provided a supplementary package of non-conducting material insertible in the box preparatory to putting in the cream and which will not freeze to the cream and having appliances by which the brick can be readily lifted out of the box when it is to be removed and being an excellent means whereby the bricks can be taken out of the tin box when sold and be wrapped in as convenient a package for delivery to the customers as the tin box, whereby the latter may be retained by the dealer, and thus the time and labor of collecting and returning the boxes for reuse may be avoided.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective sectional elevation of a tin box filled with a brick of cream contained in my improved supplementary package, parts of one side of which are sectioned out; and Fig. 2 is a diagram of the supplementary package laid out flat, with two corners of waxed-paper lining turned up to distinguish it from the body portion of the package.

The usual tin box and its cover are indicated by reference-letters *a* and *b*, respectively, the front side of the box and the front side and part of the cover of the box being cut off.

c represents the bottom, *d* the sides, and *e* the ends, of a pasteboard supplementary package in flat blank form in Fig. 2, adapted to fold up on the lines *f* and *g*, so as to be inserted as a lining of the tin box (see Fig. 1) preparatory to packing in the cream, said blank being preferably covered with waxed paper *h* to prevent the cream from sticking to it and the waxed paper being stuck on the pasteboard with paste sufficiently to keep it in position.

i represents a strip of light cheap woven fabric, as muslin, pasted to the under side of the bottom *c* of the pasteboard fabric, the purpose of which is to furnish straps by which to lift the bricks out of the box. These straps are especially useful for removing the bricks by pulling them downward over the upper edges of the ends of the box, whereby they hold the tin box firmly down on the table at the same time that they lift the bricks. In this way the operation can be so regulated that the bricks can be raised evenly, so as not to bind at the ends, as when one end is raised in advance of the other. The straps are pulled down by the two hands, respectively, and the bricks rise in full view of the operator, who, if he sees one end higher than the other, can pull harder at the other end, and thus equalize the operation.

The extensions of the muslin strip beyond the ends of the end portions *e* of the supplementary package are to be folded over the upper surface of the filling *j* of cream when the box is filled. Thus it will be seen that the cream will not stick to the waxed paper and the pasteboard will not stick to the box and the cream can be removed readily without injuring it or the box, and this may be done

by the dealer, the package being in good shape to be wrapped in paper for delivery, so that the tin box may be retained.

The package thus far described represents the most preferable form; but when it is not desired to retain the tin box by the dealer the side parts *d* and end parts *e* may be dispensed with, the bottom *c* and the muslin *i* being retained and used to prevent the freezing of the cream on the bottom of the box and to lift the cream out of the box, as the cream does not generally freeze very hard to the sides of the box.

It will be understood that the waxed paper is used only to prevent the cream from sticking to the pasteboard, and so far as the functions of the rest of the supplementary package is concerned may be dispensed with.

I am aware that various forms of pasteboard non-conducting packages for ice-cream have been made; but I only claim such a package when provided with the straps adapted for pulling downward over the edges of the ends of the box to remove the bricks.

I am also aware of the cylindrical mailing tube or package for rolled drawings and the like, shown in the Patent No. 176,451, in which two strings and a disk are so employed that the strings may be used for pulling out the rolls by holding the package in one hand and pulling the strings with the other hand, which is the most natural way, because the package is of such form that it can be so held, and the rolls can thus be pulled to better advantage than in any other way; but such strings and even tapes of considerable breadth would fail entirely to serve my purpose, because they would rupture the bricks of cream and spoil their appearance to such extent as to be very unsatisfactory. Although well frozen, the cream is rarely so hard but that a string or tape would cut and rupture the bricks badly, because the adherence of the sides and bottom to the box is such that considerable force has to be applied. Hence it is that the straps must for my use be practically as wide as the box to start the bricks without injury to their shape, and the fabric must be sufficiently substantial for strength and to avoid drawing in crimps or folds. as fabric will that will stretch in places if unevenly strained.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The combination with a "brick-molding" ice-cream box having plane sides, of a removable supplementary inner bottom of material that is practically not freezable to the cream, and a strip of fabric connected thereto and being practically the full width of the box with extensions forming straps reaching above the top of the box at opposite sides when filled, and adapted for pulling downward over the edges of the box for lifting out the "bricks."

2. The combination with a "brick-molding" ice-cream box having plane sides, of a removable supplementary inner package of material that is practically non-freezable to the cream, and comprising bottom and side parts in a flat sheet adapted to be folded into proper form and size for lining the bottom and sides of the box, and a strip of fabric connected thereto and being practically the full width of the box, with extensions forming straps reaching above the top of the box at opposite sides when filled and adapted for pulling downward over the edges of the box for lifting out the "bricks."

Signed by me at New York, N. Y., this 3d day of February, 1899.

JOHN N. BURTON.

Witnesses:
A. P. THAYER,
C. SEDGWICK.