

No. 701,665.

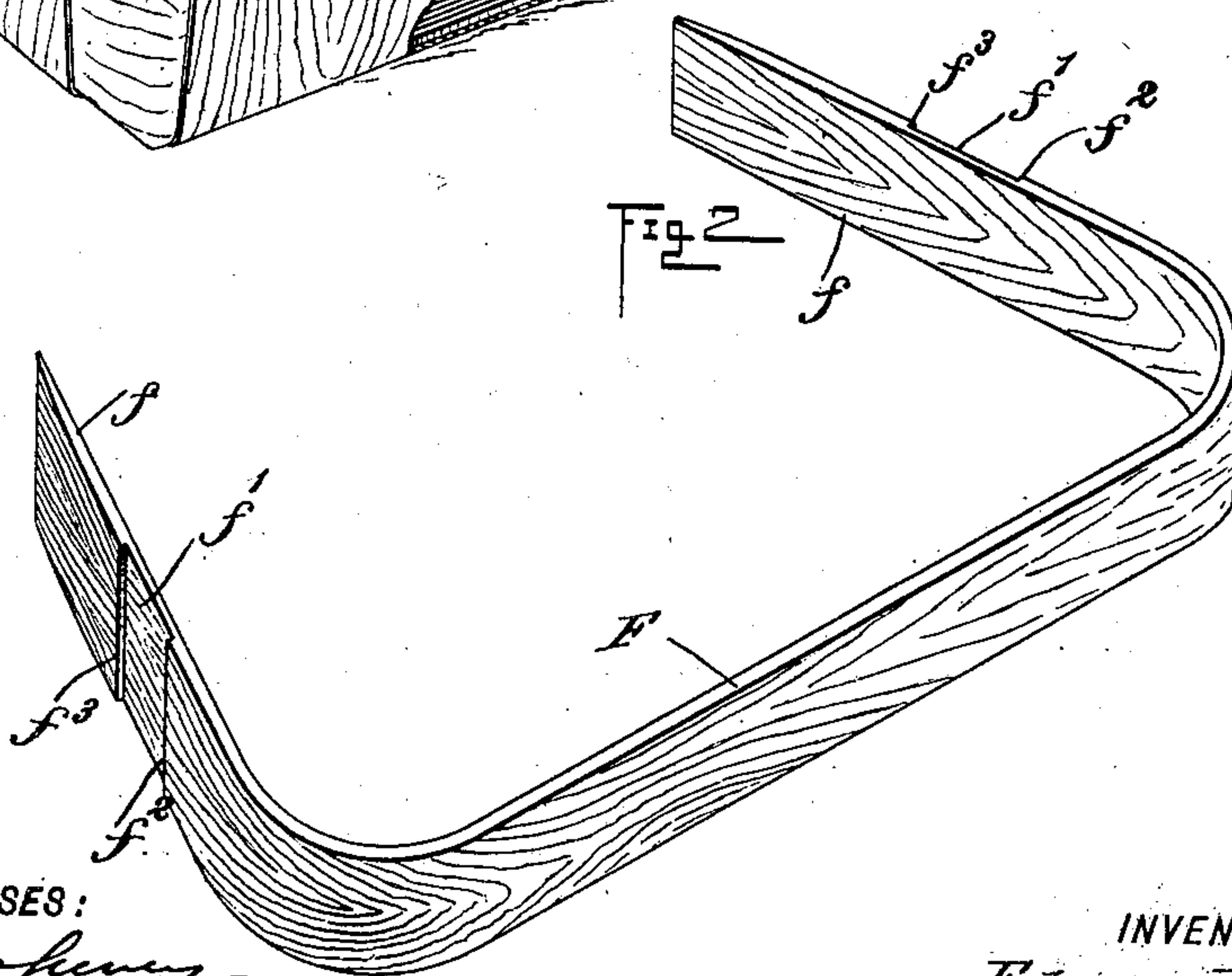
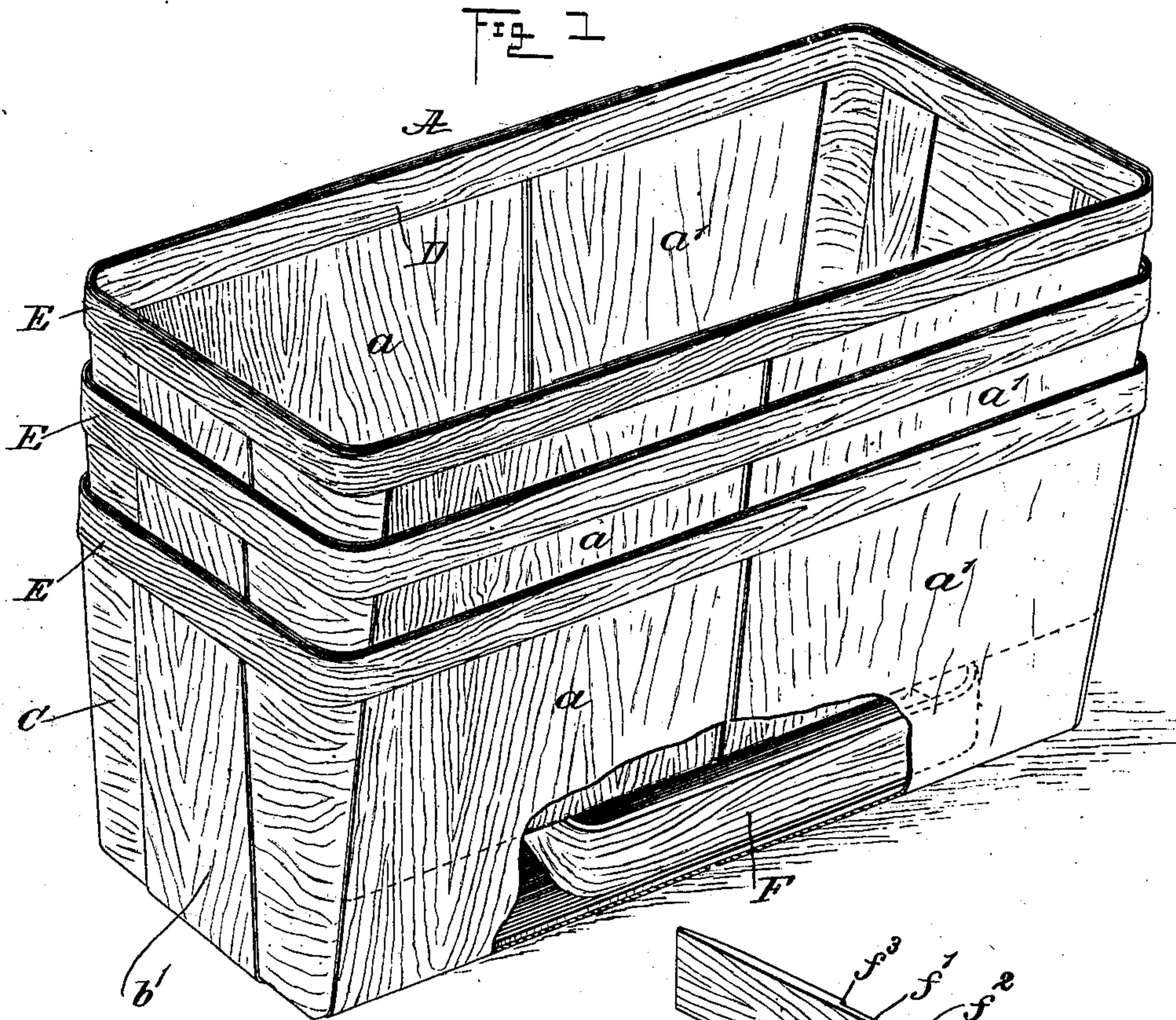
Patented June 3, 1902.

E. ABER.
VENEER BASKET.

(Application filed Jan. 25, 1902.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES:

W. J. Bunker
H. J. Bunker

INVENTOR

Edgar Aber

BY

Mum

ATTORNEYS

No. 701,665.

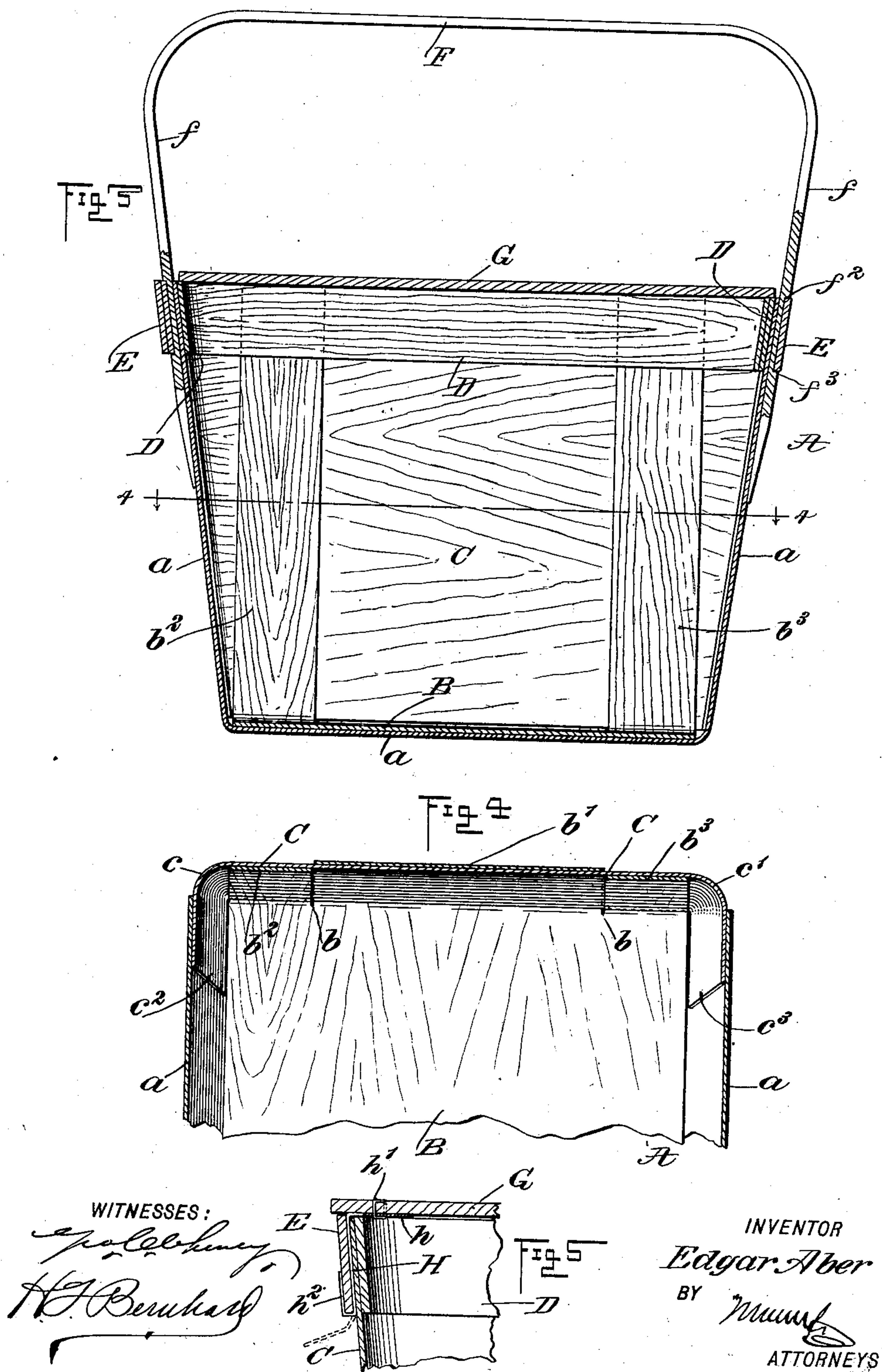
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDGAR ABER, OF JACKSONVILLE, TEXAS.

veneer basket.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 701,665, dated June 3, 1902.

Application filed January 25, 1902. Serial No. 91,201. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDGAR ABER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jacksonville, in the county of Cherokee and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Veneer Baskets, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in veneer baskets of that class which are now extensively employed in the packaging and shipment of fruit, although I would have it understood that the improved article of my invention may be used for any and all purposes of which it is capable.

The objects that I have in view in my present invention are to provide an improved article which shall be stronger in construction and lighter in weight than prior devices of its class, which does not require as much veneer stock in its manufacture as in prior devices, and hence can be produced more economically, and which makes provision for the secure attachment of the handle without the necessity of nailing or stapling the same in place, thus allowing the handles to be placed in the bottoms of the baskets, and a stack of baskets may thus be compactly nested together for shipment or transportation.

With these ends in view my invention consists of a veneer basket embodying novel features of construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a number of baskets nested together, the lowermost basket being partially broken away in order to show the position of the handle therein. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of the handle on an enlarged scale and detached from the basket. Fig. 3 is a vertical cross-section through the complete basket and its handle. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section through an end portion of the basket, the plane of the section being indicated by the dotted line 4 4 in

Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the preferred means for fastening the cover in place upon the basket.

The body A of the improved basket consists of two or more body-sections, (indicated at a'), each body-section being bent from a single piece of veneer, so as to produce the desired cross-sectional form. The body-sections produce in part the bottom of the basket; but this bottom is completed by the provision of the bottom veneer B, the same extending the full length and width of the basket. This bottom veneer or bottom section B is in practice equal in length to the bottom of the basket and the width of the basket at the two ends thereof, and said end portions of the bottom veneer or section are bent upwardly and are slitted, as indicated at b in Fig. 4. The incisions or slits b at each end portion of the bottom section or veneer B provide a central upstanding splint b' and the tongues or members $b^2 b^3$. The splint b' at each end of the bottom section or veneer lies between the tongues $b^2 b^3$, as shown by Fig. 4, and when the parts of the basket are assembled together the splint b' is bent or deflected to a position somewhat out of line with a line drawn through the tongues $b^2 b^3$, as also shown by Fig. 4.

The end portions of each basket are formed by the provision of the end sections C, each of which is bent from a single piece of veneer to the appropriate form. Each end section is stamped or cut from a layer of veneer to the proper size, and by means of a suitable shaping-die or other machine this veneer which forms one end section is bent to produce the rounded corners $c c'$ and the inwardly-extending flanges $c^2 c^3$, the form of the end sections being more clearly represented by Fig. 4. In the manufacture of the end section from a single piece of veneer I prefer to give the rounded corners $c c'$ an upwardly-flaring form, whereby end sections of this character will not only properly fit into the other members forming the basket, so as to give round corners thereto, but said end sections will also impart the desired upward flare to the basket—that is to say, ex-

tending upwardly from the bottom member or section B the end portions of the basket will flare outwardly.

D designates the inside reinforcement band or strip, which is arranged around the inner upper edge of the basket, as shown by Fig. 3. A similar reinforcement-strip E is secured to the outside of the basket, and these two strips or bands D E house or inclose between themselves the upper marginal portion of the sections forming the article.

F designates the handle. (Shown more clearly by Figs. 2 and 3.) In preparing the handle a suitable piece of stock material is selected, which is first properly moistened and is then subjected to the bending action in a press, thus placing the handle in the bent condition or in the form shown by Fig. 2. This operation makes the legs f occupy the convergent relation necessary to fit the sloping sides of the basket. Before bending the stock it is prepared by suitable machinery, so as to produce therein the transverse grooves or gains f' , said grooves being formed in the outer faces of the legs and producing the shoulders $f^2 f^3$. The width of the grooves f' is equal to that of the outside band E, and in assembling the handle in proper relation to the basket the legs f thereof are forced or thrust into the spaces between the body-sections $a a'$ and the outside band E, thus bringing the notches f' in position for the outside band E to enter said notches and snugly fill the same.

G designates the cover, which may be made of any suitable material. (See Fig. 5.) This cover is adapted to rest upon the top edge of the basket, and it is held in place by the provision of metallic fasteners H, which are provided at the end portions of the cover, one of said fasteners being shown by Fig. 5. Each fastener is bent at one end, as at h , and secured to the under side of the cover by a staple or its equivalent, as at h' . The fastener extends below the cover for a suitable distance, so that it may pass through the space between the outside band E and the end section C, after which the free end of said fastener may be bent in an upward direction, as at h^2 , thus engaging with the outside band E in the manner shown by full lines in Fig. 5.

In assembling the several parts of the basket together the body-sections $a a'$ are placed side by side and the bottom section B is fitted upon the body-sections, the tongues and the splints extending upwardly at the end portions of the embryo article. The end sections C are now brought together, so that the flanges $c^2 c^3$ will be received within the respective body-sections $a a'$, and these end sections C are each arranged to fit against the tongues $b^2 b^3$ and the splints b' at one end of the body-section. The tongues lie within the end sections, so as to furnish an internal support therefor, while the splints b' lie outside of the

end sections C, and thereby afford an external or outside support therefor. It will thus be apparent that the end portions of the article are very strong, because the end sections are materially reinforced from the inside and the outside by members which are integral with the bottom section, and, furthermore, these connected sections are strengthened by the attachment of the inside and outside bands D E.

In shipping the articles from the factory to the consumer the handles F may be placed in the bottom of the baskets in the manner plainly indicated by Fig. 1, and these baskets may thus be placed one within the other or nested together, thus decreasing the amount of space required for the transportation of the articles. When it is desired to use the device, it is only necessary to withdraw the baskets from the nest and to slip the handles in place, said handles having the desired interlocking engagement with the band E, and thereby securing the rigid attachment of the handle to its basket without the necessity for nailing the parts in place.

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

1. A basket comprising a suitable body, a bottom having upstanding slitted end portions, and end sections made in separate pieces from the body and the bottom, each end section extending continuously from one side to the other of the body and having overlapping relation thereto, said end sections having interlocking engagement with the slitted end portions of the bottom.

2. A basket comprising a suitable body, end sections made in separate pieces from the body and provided with flaring rounded corners, and a bottom provided with upstanding members which have overlapping relation to the end sections on lines within the flaring rounded corners thereof, all of said parts being united firmly together.

3. A basket comprising a suitable body, a bottom having upstanding end portions, and separate end sections provided with flaring rounded corners and assembled into overlapping relation to the body and in interlocking engagement with said upstanding portions of the body.

4. A basket comprising a suitable body, a bottom having upstanding end portions, separate end sections each provided with flaring rounded corners and extending continuously from one side to the other of the body, said end sections having overlapping relation to the body and interlocking engagement with the end portions of the body, and means for binding all the parts firmly together.

5. An article of the class described, comprising a bottom having its end portions bent and slitted to form the tongues and the splints, and the end sections bent to form the round-

ed flaring corners, and having the inwardly-
extending flanges, said flanges being received
within the side portions of the article, and
said end sections fitting in the slitted portions
5 of the bottom, so as to engage with the
tongues and the splints.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

EDGAR ABER.

Witnesses:

MARTIN EARLE,
J. A. SUTHERLIN.