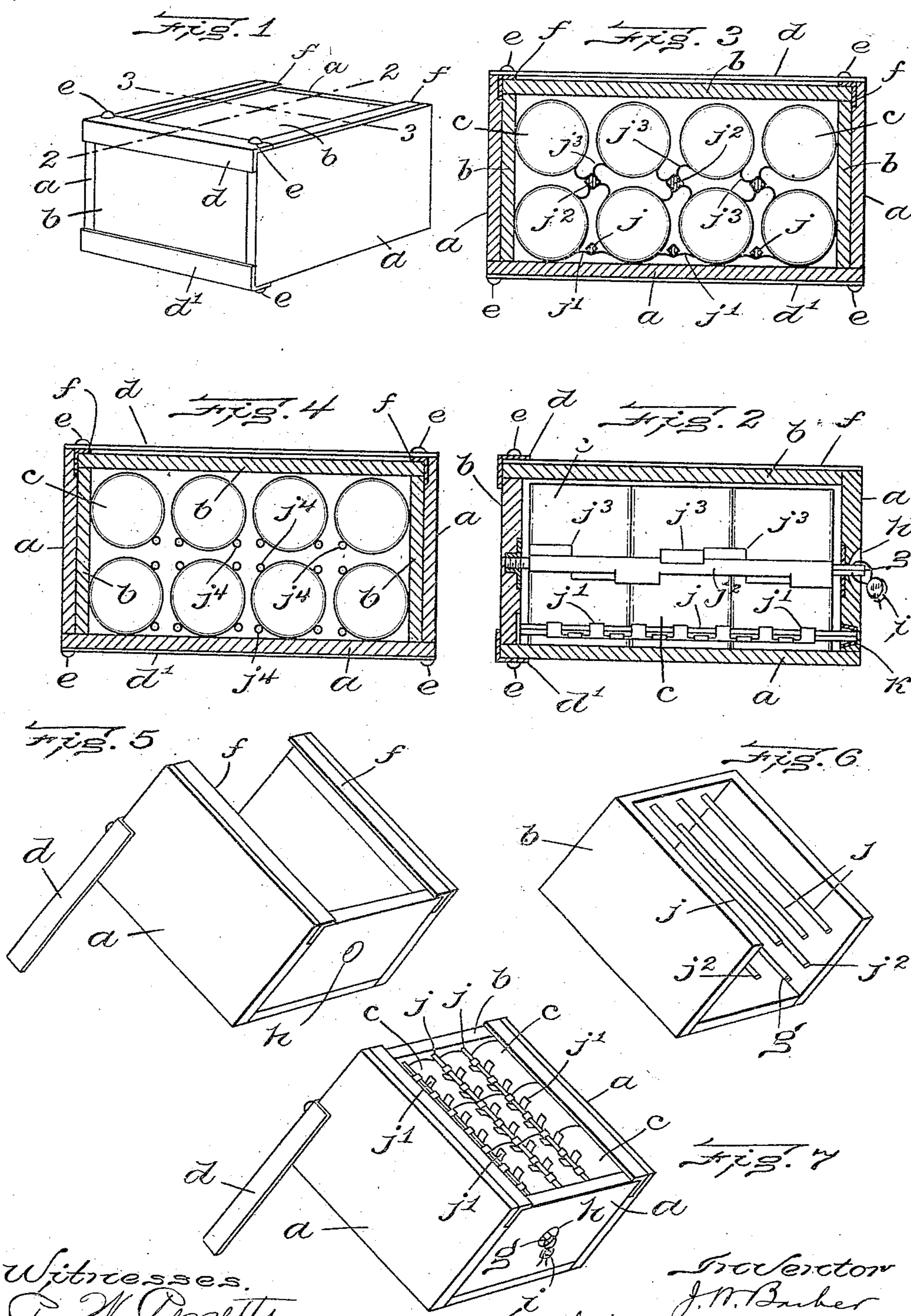


No. 898,170.

PATENTED SEPT. 8, 1908.

J. W. BARBER.
PACKING AND DISPLAY CASE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 5, 1906.



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JOHN W. BARBER, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

PACKING AND DISPLAY CASE.

No. 898,170.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 8, 1908.

Application filed November 5, 1906. Serial No. 341,982.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BARBER, of Newton, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Packing and Display Cases, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide a packing box or case adapted to be used as such for the protection and transportation of goods, and also to be used to display the goods therein contained in such manner as to prevent or render difficult the unauthorized removal of the goods.

The invention consists in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification,—Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved case in condition for use in inclosing and transporting goods. Fig. 2 represents a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 represents a view similar to Fig. 3, showing a different arrangement of the retaining members in the inner member of the case. Figs. 5 and 6 represent perspective views of the outer and inner members separated from each other. Fig. 7 represents a perspective view showing the case in position for displaying its contents.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

My improved packing case is composed of two general parts or members; viz., an outer member *a* which is open at its top and at one end, as shown in Fig. 5, and an inner member *b* which is also open at its top and one end, as shown in Fig. 6. The inner member *b* is provided with means, as hereinafter described, for retaining a plurality of articles of merchandise, such, for example, as cans *c*, although it will be understood that my invention may be adapted for holding articles of any shape and character which are adapted to be packed in a case. The inner member is adapted to be inserted in the outer member either with its open top uppermost to display its contents, as shown in Fig. 7, or in an inverted position with its closed bot-

tom uppermost to cooperate with the outer member in forming a case which is closed at all sides, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, the closed ends of the two members forming the opposite ends of the case. Means are provided for securing the inner member to the outer member, and locking them together in either of said positions. The means here shown for purposes of illustration comprise, first, removable stops *d d* which are preferably angular metal strips detachably secured to the sides of the outer member by screws *e*, and extending across the open end of the outer member, and, secondly, inwardly-projecting flanges *ff* at opposite sides of the open top of the outer member, said flanges overhanging the interior of the outer member, and engaging portions of the inner member to prevent the same from being lifted through the open top of the outer member. The stops *d* engage the closed end of the inner member, and prevent it from being moved endwise through the open end of the outer member. When it is desired to remove the inner member, the stops *d* may be detached, thus permitting the inner member to be moved through the open end of the outer member. If desired, the stops *d* may be utilized as legs or supports adapted to sustain the case in an inclined position, as shown in Fig. 5, the said stops being temporarily attached to opposite sides of the outer member.

Means are provided for fastening the inner member to the outer member when the case is adjusted for display purposes, the means here shown comprising a rod or locking device affixed to the closed end of the inner member, and having an end portion *g* projecting outwardly from its open end, the closed end of the outer member being provided with an opening *h* through which the portion *g* is adapted to pass, the outer end of the portion *g* being engaged by an external locking device of any suitable character, such as a lead and wire seal *i*, a padlock or any other suitable locking device. The locking portion *g* may be a part of one of the retaining and spacing rods *j*² or *j*⁴, hereinafter described, or it may be a part of an independent rod. The described fastening means may also be

used to secure the inner member when the latter is in an inverted position, as shown in Fig. 2.

It will be seen that the inner member *b* of the case constitutes a holder for the goods to be shipped or displayed, the outer member *a* of the case constituting a holder for said inner holder. In other words, the case comprises inner and outer holders, the inner one being adapted to contain the goods in condition for shipment or exhibition, and said two holders may be locked in their relative positions, whether in use for shipping the goods or in exhibiting them. This locking feature is an important one, and it comprises members adapted to engage each other whether the inner and outer holders are placed relatively for shipment or exhibition of the goods.

As shown by comparing Figs. 2 and 7, the end portion *g* of the rod or locking device carried by the inner holder constitutes one member of the locking mechanism, and the opening *h* formed in the wall of the outer holder constitutes another member of the locking device which may be engaged by the end portion *g* of the rod whether the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 2 for shipment of the goods, or in the position shown in Fig. 7, for exhibition of the goods. As above described, these members may be locked either by means of a padlock or lead and wire seal, or other suitable device.

The means for preventing an unauthorized removal of the contents of the case may be variously modified. In Figs. 2 and 3 I show as the said means, a plurality of rods *j*, each secured at one end to the closed end of the inner member, and extending through the open end of said member into sockets *k* provided for their reception in the closed end of the outer member, the said rods having ears *j'* adapted to bear on a tier of articles *c* adjacent to the open top of the inner member, and thus prevent the removal of said articles. Additional rods *j''* are provided within the inner member, said rods having ears *j'''* which are preferably resilient, and bear upon the inner tiers of articles *c* to not only prevent the removal of said articles, but also to serve as yielding packing members preventing injury to the articles by jars or shocks, and holding the articles properly spaced apart so that they cannot come in contact with each other. In Fig. 4 I show for the same purposes a plurality of rods *j⁴* extending across the interior of the inner member, and arranged to space and retain the articles *c*, the ends of the rods *j⁴* engaging sockets in the closed end of the outer member. It will be seen that the two members, each having an open top and an open end, may be combined

in such manner as to form a case closed at all sides, as shown in Fig. 1, or a case that is open at its top, as shown in Fig. 7.

My invention is not limited to the particular construction here shown, and may be variously modified without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A packing and display case comprising an outer holder having an open top and an open end, an inner holder also having an open top and an open end, said holders being separable endwise from each other, the inner holder being adapted to be inserted in the outer holder in either one of a plurality of positions, and means for locking the holders in either of said relative positions.

2. A packing and display case comprising inner and outer holders, each having an open top and an open end, said holders being constructed to permit them to be longitudinally separated and reengaged in different relative positions, and locking mechanism adapted to lock the holders together with the goods therein concealed for transportation, or in position to be exhibited.

3. A packing and display case comprising inner and outer holders each of which is open at its top and at one end, the inner holder being adapted to be inserted endwise in the outer holder with its open top uppermost to display its contents, or with its bottom uppermost to form, with the outer holder, a closed case, interengaging members carried by the inner and outer holders, and means for locking said members when engaged.

4. A packing and display case comprising an outer holder open at its top and at one end, and an inner holder also open at its top and one end, said inner holder being adapted to be inserted endwise in the outer holder with either its open top or its closed bottom uppermost, and provided with means for preventing the removal of its contents through the open top, means being provided for locking the said holders together.

5. A packing and display case comprising an outer holder open at its top and at one end, and an inner holder also open at its top and one end and adapted to be longitudinally removed from and inserted in the outer holder with either its open top or its closed bottom uppermost, the inner holder having a locking device adapted to pass through an opening in the closed end of the outer holder in either of the described relative positions, and to be engaged by a complementary external locking device.

6. A packing and display case comprising an outer holder open at its top and at one end, and an inner holder also open at its top and one end and adapted to be longitudinally

nally removed from and inserted in the outer holder with either its open top or its closed bottom uppermost, the inner holder having a locking device adapted to pass through an opening in the closed end of the outer holder in either of the described relative positions, and to be engaged by a complementary external locking device, the inner holder being provided internally with retaining members

arranged to prevent contact between articles 10 stored therein.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. BARBER.

Witnesses:

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C. F. BROWN.