

A. F. NEWELL & H. L. VAN GORDER.
Fruit-Package.

No. 220,543.

Patented Oct. 14, 1879.

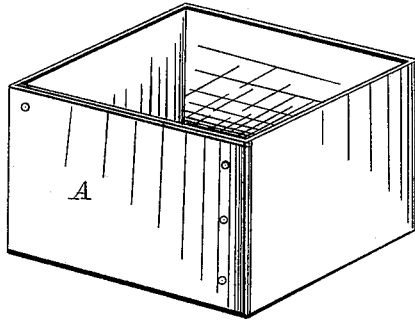


Fig. 1.

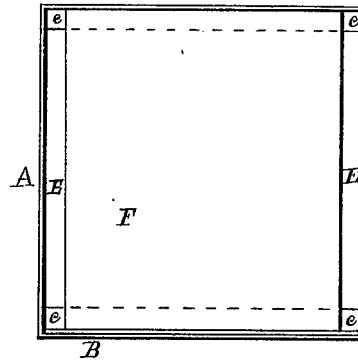


Fig. 2.

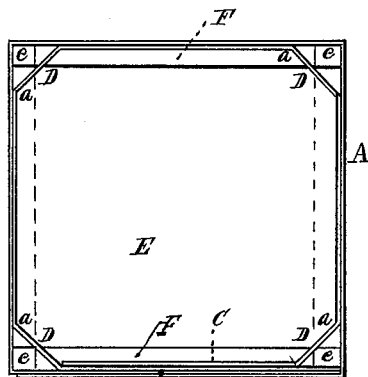


Fig. 3.

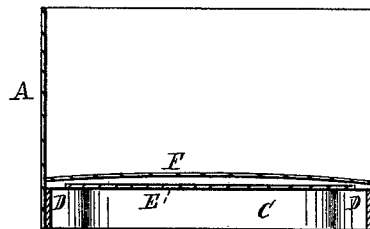


Fig. 4.

Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW F. NEWELL AND HENRY L. VAN GORDER, OF WARREN, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-PACKAGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,543**, dated October 14, 1879; application filed July 28, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANDREW F. NEWELL and HENRY L. VAN GORDER, both of Warren, in the county of Trumbull and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Packages, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the box. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the inside. Fig. 3 is a view of the under side of the bottom. Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical section.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the views presented.

This invention is an improvement in fruit-boxes.

Said improvement consists in providing a box with a cleat extending around its lower inner sides and across the corners to form a rest upon which to support the bottom of the box, and to prevent a similar box placed upon the top thereof (or an upper tier of such boxes) from sinking into a lower tier of boxes and crushing the fruit in the lower box or tier of boxes. Said cleat also serves as a brace to strengthen the corners, thereby making the box stronger and more durable.

A further and more full description of the invention is as follows, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

The box above alluded to is square in shape, as seen in Fig. 1. The sides A of the box consist of a single piece or strip of thin board scored at certain distances for turning the corners. The side B, Fig. 2, of the box, is double by the overlapping of the ends, which are secured by nails or otherwise.

Around the inside of the lower edge of the box is secured a re-enforcing strip or fillet, C, consisting of a narrow strip of wood, which is scored at certain distances to make the turns a, Fig. 3, in order to form the braces D across the corners of the box.

The bottom of the said box consists of one or two or more pieces of thin wood, E and F, Fig. 4, the ends of which are supported upon the fillet and partially by the braces D, onto which they lap.

It will be observed that the pieces of the bottom are not so wide as the box, and that they are arranged crosswise each other, thereby forming openings c at each corner of the bottom.

It will also be observed that the upper section or piece, F, of the bottom is slightly crowning, and therefore does not lie flat down upon the lower piece, E.

The above-described box is an improvement on a similar box for which a patent was granted the applicant, A. F. Newell, January 5, 1864, of which this is an improvement. Said patented box had no corner-braces D, as shown in this invention; hence when the boxes were placed in a crate one upon the other for transportation the upper tier of boxes would slide upon the lower tier, causing the corners of the upper boxes to settle down upon the fruit in the lower boxes, thereby crushing it, rendering it unsightly and unsalable, unless the boxes were packed closely in the crate, in which event it was found difficult to take the boxes out without injuring the fruit; therefore it was necessary to have the boxes fit loosely in the crate in order to remove them.

To prevent the crushing of the fruit in the lower tier of boxes by the corners of the upper boxes tilting down upon it is the purpose of having the braces D across each corner of the box, so that the upper tier of boxes in the crate, though loose therein and shifting about, the corners cannot tip into the lower boxes upon the fruit, for the reason of said braces, upon which the boxes will rest, though slipped from off the edges of the lower ones; hence the fruit therein is safe from being crushed by the displacement of the upper tier of boxes from their bearing upon the edges of those below. The braces also serve to strengthen the sides of the boxes, making the same stronger and more durable, so that the contents of the boxes can be carried with greater safety than they could be in the box patented to me.

In having the bottom of the box a little crowning, as above described, the fruit is less liable to injury by jolting, &c., as the curved bottom serves as a spring to relieve the contents of the box from the bruising effects of such joltings.

The openings in the corners of the box permit fresh air to ascend to and permeate the fruit, preventing it from molding or being otherwise injured by the presence of moisture, &c., in consequence of exclusion from fresh air.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In fruit-boxes, the re-enforcing strip or fillet C, constructed and arranged within the lower

edge of the box, to form a rest for the bottom of said box, and a brace across each corner thereof, in the manner substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

ANDREW F. NEWELL.
HENRY L. VAN GORDER.

Witnesses:

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