(No Model.)

E. L. MUELLER.

PACKING BOX FOR BOTTLES.

No. 264,894. Patented Sept. 26, 1882.

Fig. 1.

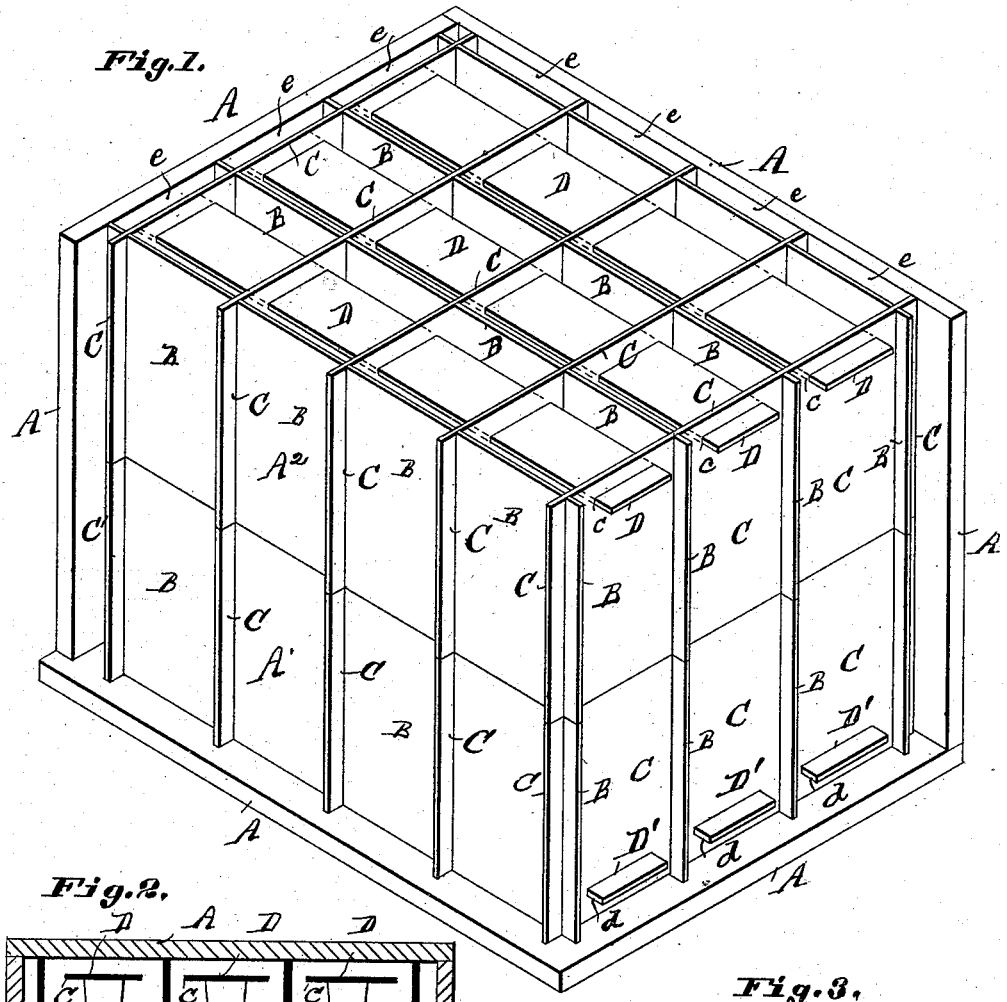


Fig. 2.

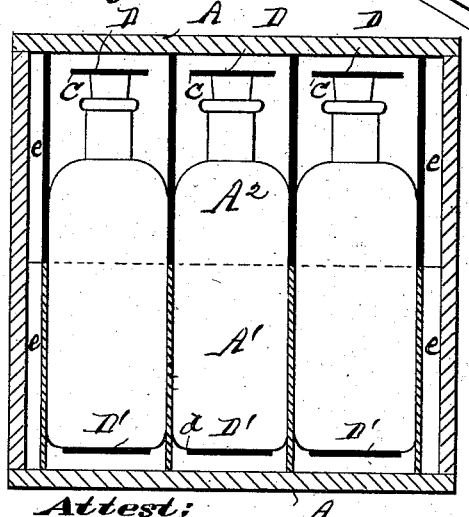
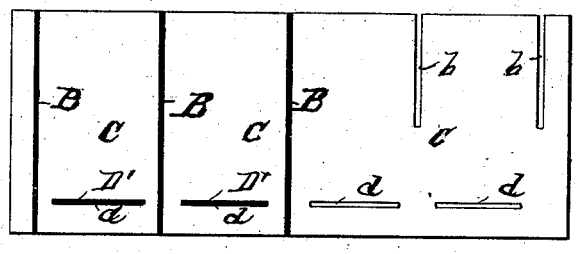


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. MUELLER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

PACKING-BOX FOR BOTTLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 264,894, dated September 26, 1882.

Application filed August 21, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD L. MUELLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improved Packing-Box for Bottles, &c., of which the following is a specification.

It is my object chiefly to pack bottles and the like articles that are liable to fracture or require to be packed, covered, or protected for storage, transportation, and shipping purposes. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the series of compartments, squares, or nests as they appear in the box. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional elevation, showing the bottles in the compartments, and specially to show the latter divided in equal halves, the upper half being placed directly on top of the lower half. Fig. 3 shows the pattern or one of the sides, the full lines to the left representing the intersecting sides inserted in the vertical and horizontal slits, the latter being shown cut in the side piece or pattern in the right-hand part of the said figure.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents the box or case in which the layers of compartments filled with bottles, &c., are packed. A′ A² represent duplicate halves of compartments to form a single layer of completed compartments. The compartments are made of pasteboard or other suitable material, B B, which are the longitudinal sides or strips intersected by transverse sides or strips C C, placed at right angles, as shown, forming a square-shaped space, but open at top and bottom, which I close by the means and manner hereinafter stated. The strips B B and C C have the like slits cut where they intersect, so as to fit together. These vertical slits can be seen marked *b b* in Fig. 3.

I do not claim nests, squares, or compartments formed of the like strips B B and C C, having the like cuts or slits, so that the one strip can intersect the other, as the like nests are common in egg crates or carriers. I however provide all the strips C C with the further slits marked *c c*, and cut horizontally near the bottom edge of the strip, as shown. Through each strip C C having slits *c c*, just named, I pass a strip of thin wood, (veneer,) D, which sufficiently closes the upper, while a like strip of veneer, D′, in similar manner passing through slits *d d*, closes the bottom space of each compartment. The veneer strips D′ support the bottom of the bottle, and the veneer strips D at top form a bearing to retain the bottle, as shown in Fig. 2. The veneers D D′ stiffen, brace, and otherwise strengthen the intersecting pasteboard sides. A single layer of completed compartments, therefore, consists of the two duplicate halves A′ A², each composed of the like intersecting strips B B C C, &c., the transverse strips or sides having the slits *c d* and passed through same, the respective longitudinal top and bottom veneers, D D′, all as shown in Figs. 1, 2, so that the upper half, A², can be placed on top of the lower half, A′, completing the compartments in order to house or pack the bottles. The edges of all the sides or strips B B C C D D′ project beyond the sides and form the spaces (marked *e*) between the outer face of the layer and the inside faces of the box. When the layer of compartments is placed inside the box the spaces *e* exist on all sides, the object being to cushion the compartments and their contents from injury liable to arise from concussion, jars, &c.

The packing of bottles and the like is accomplished with great dispatch and safety, since all that is necessary is to place the lower half-layer, A′, in the box, then place the bottles in the compartments. This done, place the remaining half-layer, A², on top of A′, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, lastly closing the lid of the box.

What I claim is—

1. In combination with the sectional halves A′ A², each consisting of sides B B C C, intersecting each other and having slits *c d*, as shown and described, the slits at *c* and *d* and the respective veneers D D′ to form the top and bottom sides of the compartments, as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The combination of the respective half-layers of counterpart compartments, each consisting of the sides or strips B B C C, intersecting each other midway the like distance, the

latter strips further having the horizontal slits *c d*, the veneer strips D D′ passing through the said slits *c d* and forming the top and bottom strips of the compartment proper, by means whereof bottles and the like can be packed in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

3. In combination with the box A, the layer of compartments A′ A^2, each consisting of the like strips B B C C, intersecting each other midway the like distance, the latter strips further having the horizontal slits *c d*, the veneer strips D D′, the edges of all the strips B C D D′ projecting beyond the sides and forming spaces *e* between all the sides of the compartments facing the box and the box proper, by means whereof bottles and the like can be packed in the manner and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony of said invention I have hereunto set my hand.

EDWARD L. MUELLER.

Witnesses:
WILLIAM W. HERTHEL,
SIMON ROETTER.