

(No Model.)

L. N. HEADINGTON.

JOINTED PACKING BOX.

No. 266,471.

Patented Oct. 24, 1882.

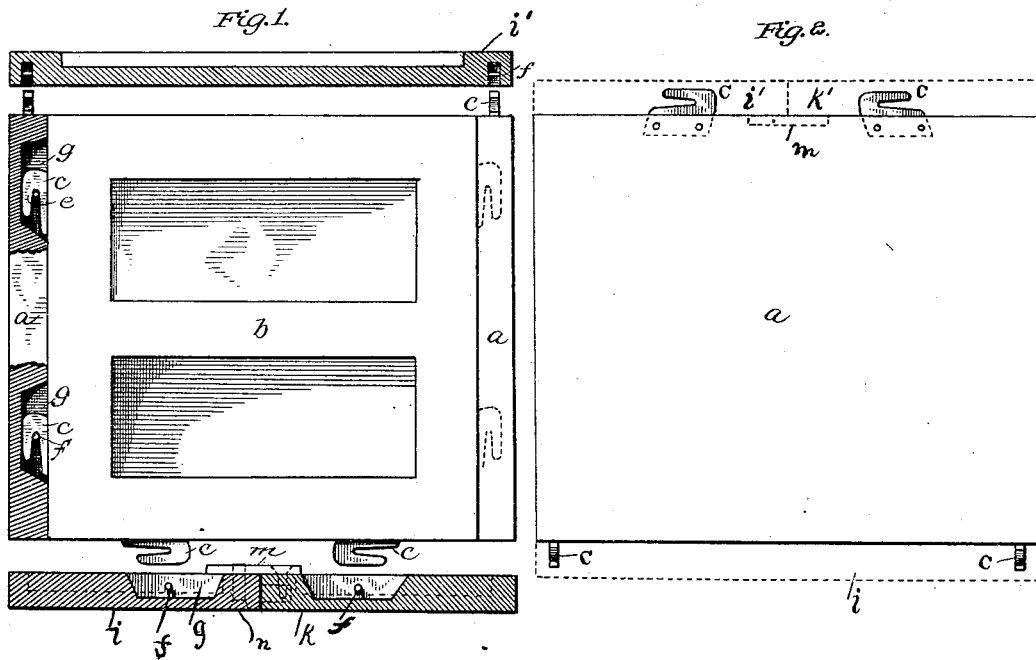
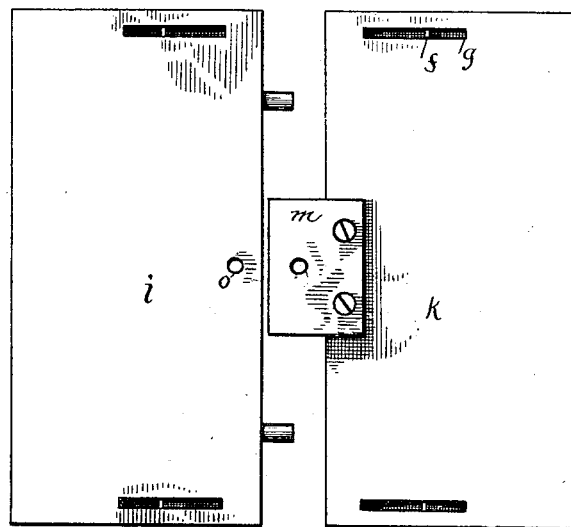


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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JOINTED PACKING-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,471, dated October 24, 1882.

Application filed September 16, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEGRAND N. HEADINGTON, of Mount Vernon, in the county of Knox and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Jointed Packing-Boxes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to packing-boxes of that class of which the parts are jointed and capable of separation for closer packing when empty.

The purpose of my invention is, to secure the parts more firmly together, and to provide, with economy in the manufacture, a strong box capable of being readily put together or taken apart.

My invention consists in the combination of the parts of the box with a special form of hook, all as hereinafter fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows a side elevation of the box with parts broken away to show the connections. Fig. 2 is a like view of the box one-quarter turned from the position of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a top view of the parts of the bottom.

In these drawings I have shown the sides plain, with the ends and top and bottom paneled; but it is obvious that they may be made of any desired outward appearance, though approximately smooth surfaces are preferable for close packing. The sides and ends are marked respectively *a a b b*, and are held together by means of hooks *c c c c* on the end pieces entering slots in the ends of the side pieces. These pieces *c c* are of the shape shown in Fig. 1, with their base or larger part fastened securely by pins in the ends of the end pieces in slots made to receive them. They are preferably made of wrought-iron or any suitable material, and are provided with a hooked portion, *e*, which projects beyond the surface of the end when the piece is in place, and is adapted to enter slots *g*, formed in the side pieces near the end, and to hook over pins *f*, crossing such slots a short distance from the inner surface of the side pieces. The inner face of the hooked portion *e* of the piece *c* is made slightly wedging, and the hooks in the end pieces are turned in one direction, whereby they may be introduced into the slots *g* and forced downward into place, causing the hooks

e to pass over the pins in their respective slots and by their wedging action against these pins to draw the sections tightly together. It will be understood that there are four of these hooks (two upon each end) on the ends of the end pieces engaging in slots corresponding to those just described. It is also evident that any number of these hooks and slots may be used, this being determined by the size and other requirements of the box.

The bottom I form in two pieces, *i k*, and in each end of these pieces I provide a slot and pin similar to those before described to receive similar hooks. The hooks, however, for the bottom are secured in the end piece, *b b*, in a slightly-different manner from those adapted to hold the sides and ends together, as will now be fully explained. These hooks are secured to the bottom of the end pieces, with the hooked portion of each facing the side or outwardly, and the two portions of the bottom are placed upon the box separately and forced together, the hooks *e* engaging with the pins in the same manner as heretofore described, and, by reason of the position of said hooks, tending to hold the side pieces tightly together in addition to holding the bottom firmly in place.

The top *i' k'* is constructed and secured to the top of the box in the same manner as the bottom, with the single exception that the hooks, instead of being secured in the end pieces, are in this case secured in the side pieces, and obviously the top pieces are placed upon the box at right angles to the pieces composing the bottom, by which arrangement I secure binding action in the opposite direction from that given by the bottom pieces, and thus hold the box tightly together and prevent swaying in any direction. The top and bottom pieces are locked by means of a small plate of metal, *m*, screwed to the under part of one of the sections composing the top or bottom and projecting beyond the edge of the section, so as to underlap the other section of top or bottom when in place. This underlapping portion is provided with a threaded hole, *n*, adapted to register with a hole, *o*, slightly larger in the overlapping section, and the whole is securely fastened together by means of a locking screw or bolt passing through the opening *o* in the

overlapping section and screwing into the metal plate. In order that these holes may register at all times, I provide the sections of the top and bottom with dowel-pins and holes, by means of which the sections are guided into proper position and the screw or bolt inserted without difficulty.

It is evident that by the construction described the box can be easily taken apart by simply unlocking the top and bottom pieces and forcing the hooks out of their respective slots, and, the contents being removed, the pieces composing the box can be secured together, one upon the other, and returned to the sender, thus securing great economy of space and obviating all danger of breakage.

The boxes may obviously be made of any size, and in some instances the top or bottom may be omitted—as, for example, when used to pack buggy-bodies the bottom is not required. The other parts lock the whole securely. They may be made closed or open, as crates.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A jointed packing-box consisting of side and end pieces, provided with the hooks *c* and slots *d*, having transverse pins, the parts being adapted to interlock, as described.

2. In a box having jointed sides and ends, provided on top or bottom with the described form of hooks facing outward, a cover or covers composed of two parts, provided with grooves and pins adapted to the hooks, and a locking device, substantially as described.

3. In combination with the two-part covers, having grooves adapted to the hooks on the box, arranged facing outwardly, the plate *m* and screw *n*.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LEGRAND N. HEADINGTON.

Witnesses:

F. L. MIDDLETON,

WALTER DONALDSON.