

(No Model.)

A. E. BONESTEEL.

PACKING BOX.

No. 347,917.

Patented Aug. 24, 1886.

Fig. 1.

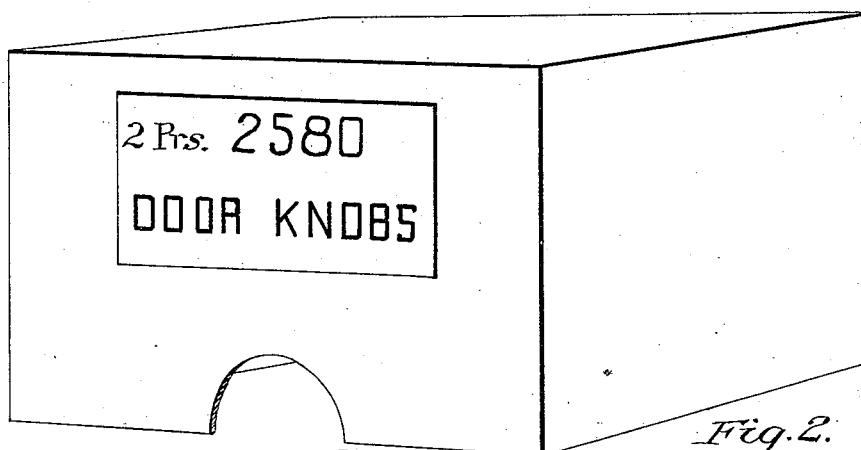
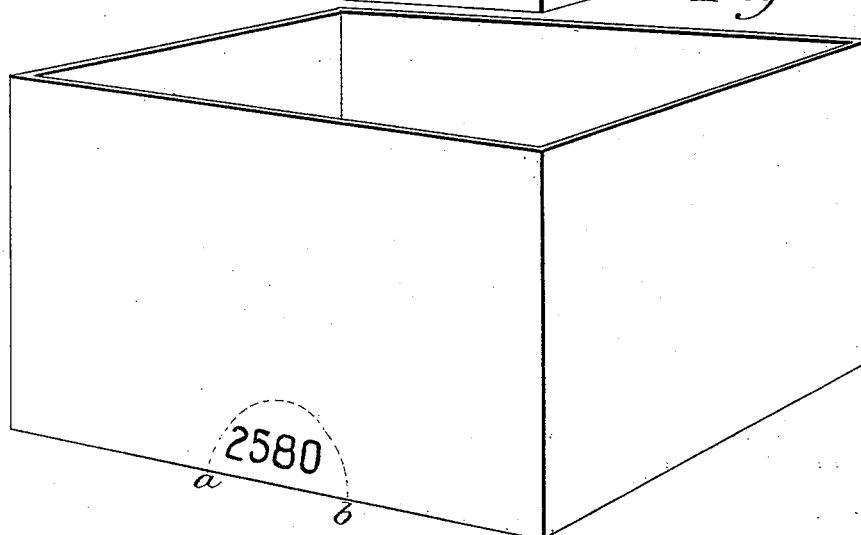


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT E. BONESTEEL, OF TROY, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO P. & F. CORBIN,
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PACKING-BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,917, dated August 24, 1886.

Application filed April 15, 1885. Serial No. 162,365. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT E. BONESTEEL, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Packing-Boxes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Heretofore boxes, cases, and various other vessels and receptacles containing goods and wares prepared to be placed upon the shelves of merchants and exposed, shown, and exhibited for sale, have usually had pasted or otherwise affixed to the covers thereof labels describing the nature, size, quality, and quantity of such goods and wares, and otherwise specifying and identifying the contents of such receptacles.

When there is a great variety of goods of the same general class, it is usual to designate the several varieties and distinguish one from another by arbitrary numbers, letters, or other symbols printed upon such labels. In some cases, however, such numbers, letters, and symbols are not arbitrary, but signify the size or other characteristic of the article.

I believe that it is more common to affix labels to the covers of boxes and other receptacles than it is to the boxes and receptacles themselves, and when labels are so affixed to covers there is no corresponding label, number, letter, or symbol upon or affixed to the box or other receptacle to indicate to which box or other receptacle the cover belongs, and when the label is affixed to the box or other receptacle its proper cover is not identified. Confusion and inconvenience result from this practice, particularly when several boxes of the same size and general appearance are opened and the contents shown. An examination of the contents of each box is often necessary to determine upon which box a cover bearing a certain label shall be placed. Even with such examinations mistakes are frequent, owing to the resemblance of one variety of goods to another, and to unfamiliarity with the arbitrary numbers employed to designate different varieties, grades, and sizes, and

owing also to the difficulty of correctly associating the numbers with the articles they are employed to designate by a mere effort of the memory.

My invention is designed and intended to furnish a simple and complete remedy for the evil described. I attain this object by means of the device illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a box, and Fig. 2 its cover.

In my improved packing-box I provide the cover of the box with an ordinary descriptive label of the contents, such as is usually attached by the manufacturer or dealer who packs the goods. Upon such label is printed a conspicuous number, letter, or other symbol, for the purpose of distinguishing the contents of the box from other goods of the same general class, but differing in size, grade, weight, design, finish, or otherwise. In addition to such label upon the cover, I provide the box itself with a duplicate of the distinctive number, letter, or other symbol which appears upon the label affixed to the cover. This number, letter, or symbol may be included in an entire duplicate label, or it may be printed upon a small label or tag to be pasted upon the box, or it may be printed, written, or branded upon the surface of the box.

In that class of boxes having covers equal in depth to the boxes to which they are fitted, as the one shown in the drawings and having a portion of the edge of the cover cut away, as also shown, to afford a convenient hold upon the box in removing the cover, I prefer to affix the identifying number, letter, or symbol to that portion of the box left exposed by such cutting away. Thus the duplicate letters, numbers, or symbols on both box and cover are always visible, for comparison or other purposes, when the box is covered, as shown by the dotted line *a b*, Fig. 2, which indicates the position of the edge of the cover when the box is covered. In other cases a hole may be so cut through any part of the cover as to expose the number, letter, or symbol attached to the box.

When the covers are removed from several boxes for the purpose of exhibiting the wares

contained in them, by means of my invention they can be identified and properly replaced by observing the duplicate numbers, letters, or symbols, without delay and without examination of the contents of each box, and the annoyance and confusion which result from transposition of boxes and covers which otherwise occur, and which are the causes of frequent complaint, are entirely avoided.

10 This invention is applicable and I intend to apply it to all manner of boxes, cases, vessels, packages, and receptacles, of whatever nature, in which goods, wares, and merchandise are packed, and which have removable lids or
15 covers, both in cases wherein the label is affixed to the lid or cover and the duplicate symbol to the box or other receptacle, and in cases wherein the label is affixed to the receptacle and the duplicate symbol to the cover.

20 Having thus described my invention, what I desire to claim and secure by Letters Patent is—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a packing-box and its cover, the cover provided with a label descriptive of the contents of the box, said label including also the arbitrary number or symbol by which such contents are usually designated, a duplicate of such letter or symbol being also affixed to the box, in the manner and for the purposes specified and shown.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a packing-box and its cover, the box provided with a label descriptive of the contents thereof, said label including also the arbitrary num-

ber or symbol by which such contents are usually designated, a duplicate of such letter or symbol being also affixed to the cover, in the manner and for the purposes specified and shown.

3. As an improved article of manufacture, labels for packing-boxes and the lids or covers thereof, such labels bearing on their face the number, letter, or symbol employed to designate the contents of the box, such labels to be affixed to the covers, and duplicate letters, numbers, or symbols to be attached to the boxes, in the manner and for the purposes specified and shown.

4. As an improved article of manufacture, labels for packing-boxes and the lids or covers thereof, such labels bearing on their face the number, letter, or symbol employed to designate the contents of the box, such labels to be affixed to the boxes, and duplicate letters, numbers, or symbols to be affixed to the covers, in the manner and for the purposes specified and shown.

5. The process of conveniently identifying and associating receptacles for goods and wares with the lids or covers which properly belong to them and with the contents of such receptacles by means of duplicate letters, numbers, or other symbols, in the manner and for the purposes specified and shown.

ALBERT E. BONESTEEL.

Witnesses:

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