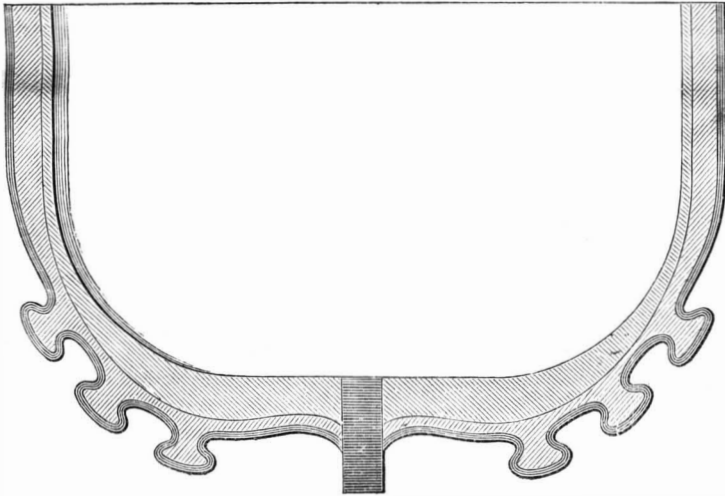


**Improved "Rorqual Fold" for Ships.**

Many narrow-beam ships are much benefited by attaching long "shelves," running fore and aft, projecting downward, at an angle from the sides, a foot or more. These "shelves" take hold of the water, confine it, and thus prevent the heavy roll and lurch that crank ships are liable to. This invention is designed to effect the same object, and it is called by the inventor the "rorqual fold," from the whale of that species, which is the largest known to naturalists, and for the peculiar faculty of creating similar folds in its skin.

Regarding the uses to which it may be applied, and the advantages resulting from it, the inventor says:—

"Our vessels, as now constructed, sit on the water



**BOWDLEAR'S "RORQUAL FOLD" FOR SHIPS.**

regardless of the laws of hydraulics, and entirely at the mercy of the waves. There is no affinity between the vessel and its element. It rises and falls, rolls and pitches, without the least control over the waters around. My theory is, when my attachment is placed on a vessel's bottom that the tendency to roll is counteracted by the resistance these folds offer. They clench the water like so many fingers, and keep the vessel from rising above its true center of gravity, as the water and vessel retain their mutual hold of each other. Thus when a vessel is lifted by the powerful action of the sea, the momentum given exceeds that of the wave itself, and consequently she plunges at random, or rolls by her momentum beyond the requirement of the element by which she is surrounded; in fact she does not roll on a safe center of gravity.

"Practical men who have examined it, among them Admiral Stringham, are desirous to see it at once applied."

This invention was patented Oct. 14th, 1863, by John Bowdlear, of Roxbury, Mass. For further information address him at that place, Box No. 419.

**Butter at Sixteen Cents.**

Canada must be a very desirable place to live in at the present time. The prices of provisions in the London (C. W.) markets make us long for a corresponding reduction in the enormous prices for food which are obtained here. We quote from the Canada Farmer:—

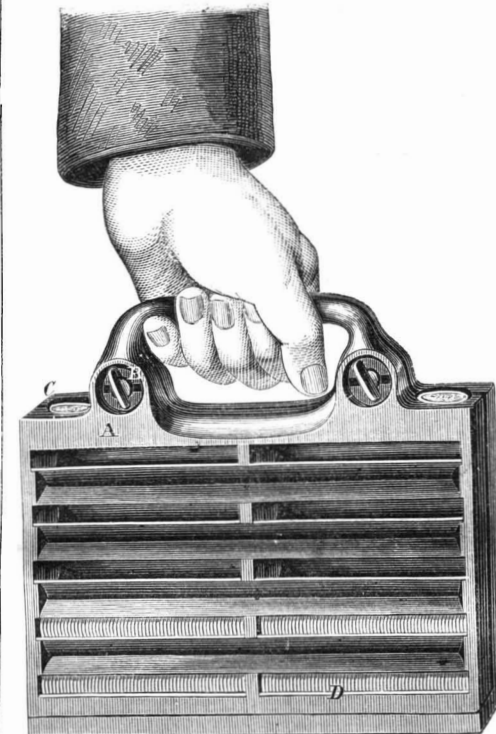
"Meat, from farmers' wagons, in large supply, and by the quarter very cheap. Beef \$2 to \$3 50 per 100 lbs. Mutton and lamb, 2c. to 4c. per lb. Poultry—dressed turkeys, 50c. to 75c.; geese, 25c. to 37½c. each; fowls, 37½c. to 50c.; ducks, 32c. to 40c. per pair. Butter, fresh in rolls, 16c. to 18c. Eggs, 10c. to 12½c. per dozen. Fruit—apples plentiful, at 25c. to 62½c. per bushel. Vegetables abundant; potatoes, 40c. to 50c. per bushel; turnips, 37½c.; onions, \$1 to \$1 25."

Beef here costs ten times as much. Butter three times and poultry six times as much. Potatoes nine times as much.

An English photographer has lately introduced a novelty in the mode of taking carte-de-visite photographs with the signatures of the sitters appended. This gives but little extra trouble. The sitter simply signs his name on a slip of paper, and finds its fac-simile, diminished in size, transferred to the portraits when they come home.

**HOWARD'S COIN SAFE.**

By transporting specie to a distance in the ordinary canvass bags, boxes, or other packages, where the coins have a chance to rub against each other, a very perceptible loss occurs from abrasion or friction. The rough milled edges scraping against each other, and on the smooth parts, is the cause of this loss; the amount of wear on large lots of gold is really very serious, as our large importers know to their sorrow. This has been provided against, as will be seen by inspecting the accompanying engraving. The case, A, is made of cast-iron, and is japanned handsomely outside and in. The case separates in the middle like a portmanteau, and at the junction



size as desired. The gold packed is shown at D and in this condition is wholly protected from loss by the causes mentioned previously. Money cannot be lost out of this safe as it is from bags, which are often cut or ripped, and it need not be counted, as the contents are known, when the racks are full, by a glance. It is more durable than a bag, for it will last for years, whereas bags are costly and soon wear out. The inventor cites one instance where this safe would have been useful; there are, doubt,

less, many similar ones:—"Last winter when there was about six inches of snow on the ground and it was fast increasing, a gentleman was carrying a bag of gold through Wall street; the bag ripped and a number of pieces fell in the snow, his predicament was peculiar; he could not leave what he had dropped for obvious reasons, he could not count what he had left so as to ascertain how much he had lost, he could not tell how many pieces there were under the snow. So all he could do was to rummage with benumbed fingers in all the snow on that part of the sidewalk, and with an amused audience to witness the performance." This coin safe can be conveniently carried in the hand like a carpet bag, and will, no doubt, become popular with our business firms.

A patent is now pending through the Scientific American Patent Agency by Joseph P. Howard, of Brooklyn, N. Y. For further particulars address Andrews & Co., 29 Cliff street, New York City

Soft soap mixed with a solution of potash or caustic soda, or pearlash and slaked lime, mixed with sufficient water to form a paste, is an excellent solvent for old putty and paint. Either of these laid on with an old brush or rag, and left for some hours, will render the putty or paint easily removable.

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