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1,009,905.

B. HOLT.

PACKING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 19, 1911.

Patented Nov. 28, 1911.
FLEMING-HENRY 1.

A facing machine

Our diagram illustrates with this article shows a drawing which was presented to the United States Patent Office by Benjamin Holt, the inventor of the facing machine. The patent was granted Nov. 28, 1911. Benjamin Holt, who lived on South Clinton Street in Albion is listed in the 1911 Orleans County Directory as a stone cutter.

Let us remember that the Median Sandstone Quarries were seasonal labor for the men who worked them. Holt, therefore, had spare time during the winter months and applied himself in this worthy pursuit as an inventor. Back at this period of time, farmers shipped thousands of barrels of apples on the Erie Canal and the New York Central Railroad. It was the

custom at the time to face the barrels with selected apples so that when the barrel head was removed the top looked especially nice.

The Holt invention worked in such a way that the best apples were placed on a temporary tray, polished and arranged so that when the barrel was inverted, these apples would be on top with all their stems upward. The rest of the apples, perhaps of lesser quality or size were inserted on top of the best ones before being turned over. The effect was a beautiful barrel of apples of superior quality, laid out in circular rows to create a very pretty design. Immediately under this facing layer was a round corrugated piece of packing paper separating this

from the rest of the apples in the barrel.

This idea of facing barrels was done by all fruit farmers years ago. Holt's device made it much easier to have a more perfected appearance to the facing layer. It was also easier on the person packing the barrel as they did not have to lean into the barrel to place the apples. Apples were simply dumped into the barrel using a bushel basket which is shown in our picture.

Apples were also shipped in bushel baskets years ago which were faced with selected apples on top. These, as well, were done up with a paper liner and other packing material to make the fruit look most presentable and delicious in appearance. The bottom line here was all about aesthetics.

