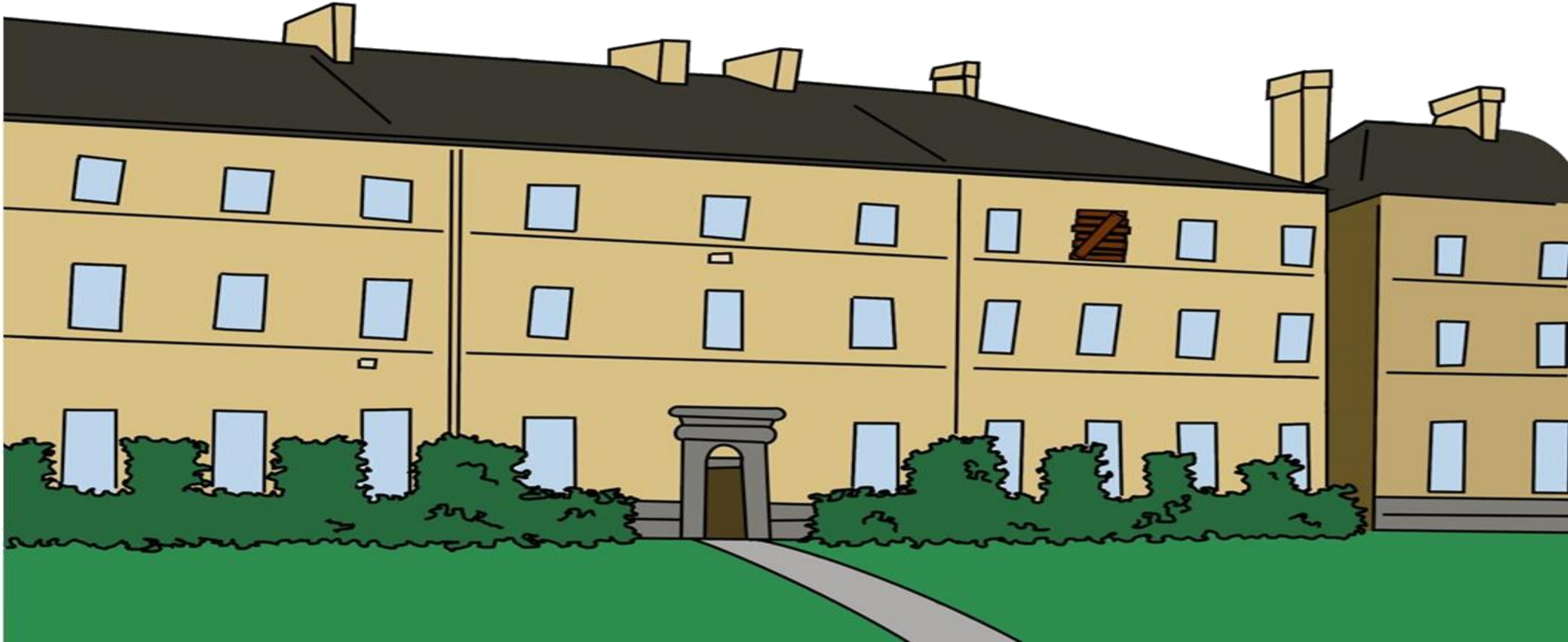


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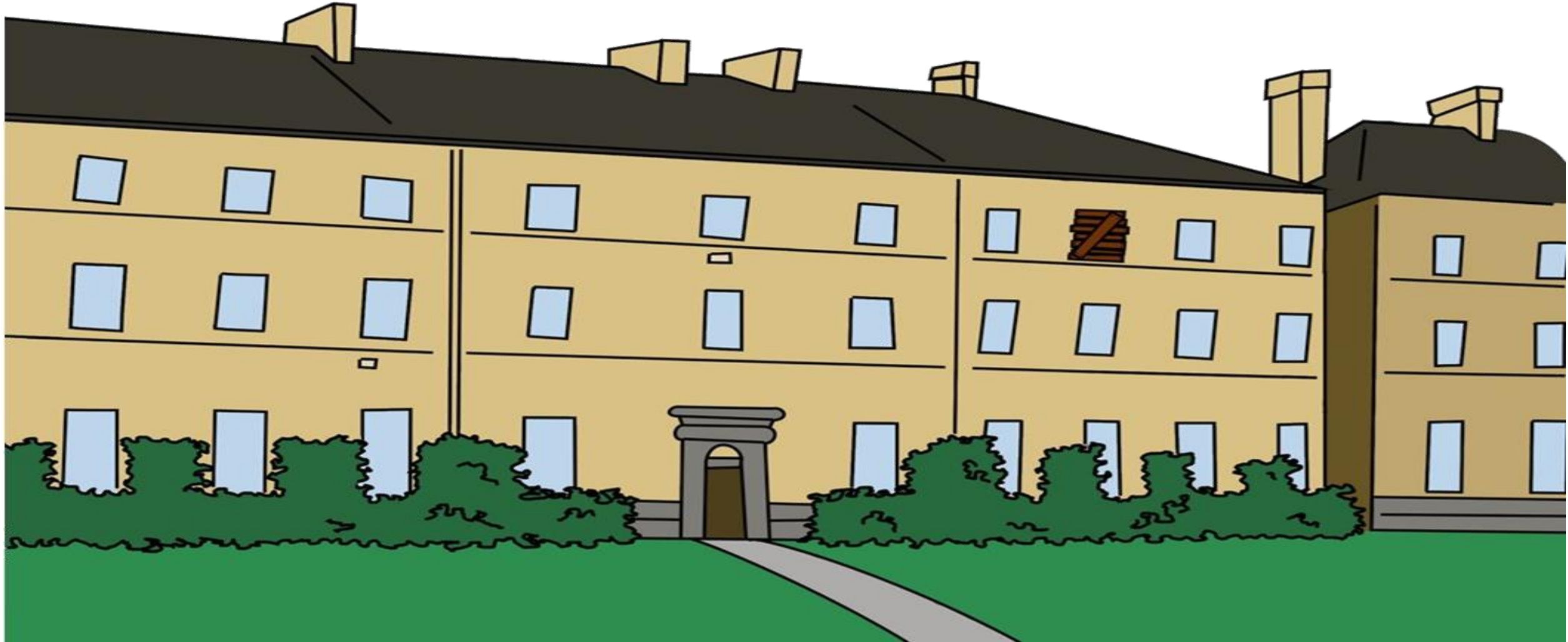
Presents

"The Life and Times in Victorian London"



Baker Street Elementary

The Life and Times in Victorian London
063 -- Cardboard's Adventure -- February, 2022



**WELCOME TO TOPIC # 063... TODAY WATSON
AND I WILL LOOK AT THE USE OF CARDBOARD
DURING THE VICTORIAN PERIOD.**



WHEN THE EVENTS OF 'THE ADVENTURE OF THE
CARDBOARD BOX' OCCURRED IN 1888, CARDBOARD
BOXES HAD ONLY BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR NINE
YEARS, AND THE CARDBOARD BOX WE KNOW
TODAY HAD NOT YET APPEARED.





ITS MANUFACTURE BEGAN IN 1895 — TWO YEARS AFTER THE STORY'S PUBLICATION... SPECIFICALLY, THE PACKAGE WAS DESCRIBED AS 'A YELLOW, HALF-POUND HONEYDEW BOX' WRAPPED IN BROWN PAPER (ALSO INVENTED IN 1879).





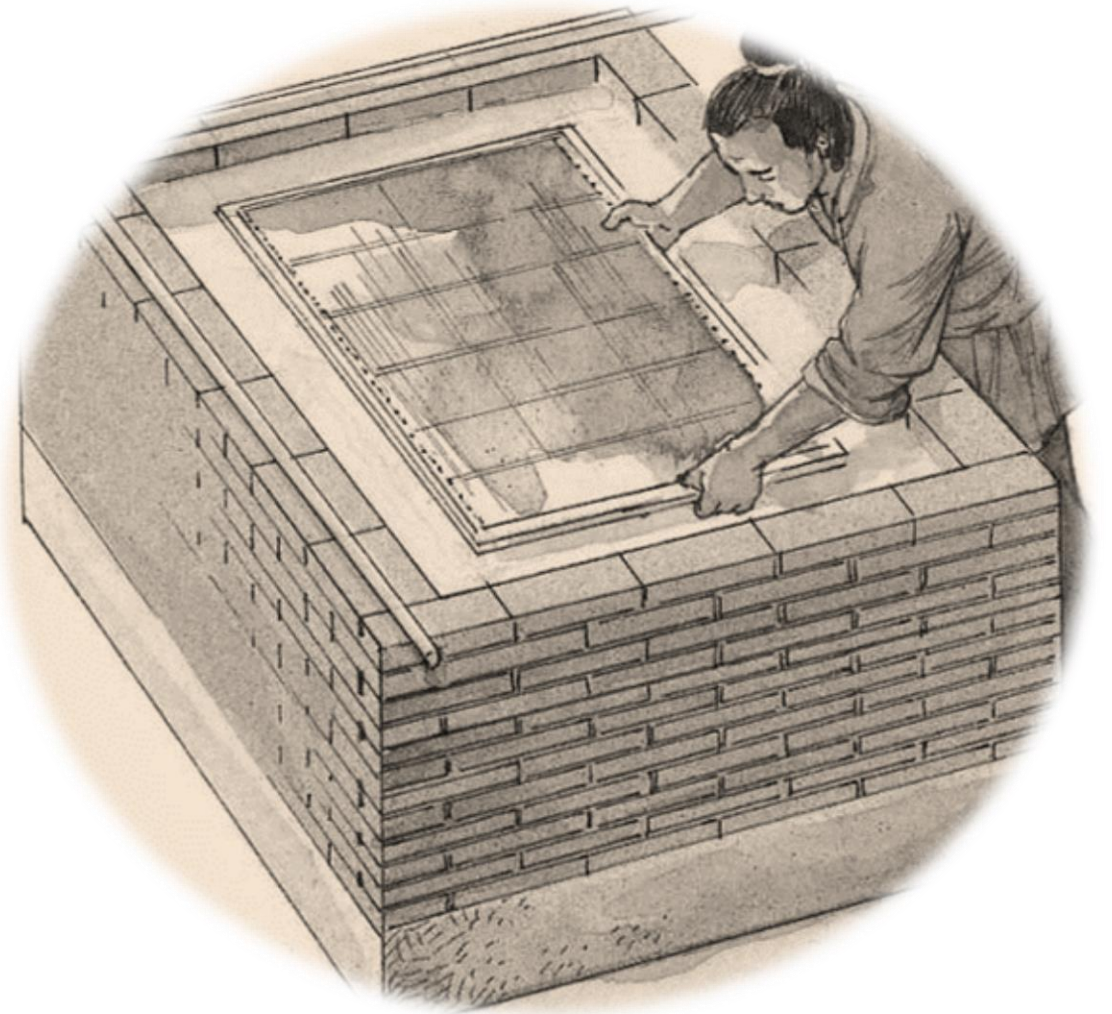
WHILE THE BOX AND THE WRAPPING PAPER HAD ONLY BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR A SHORT WHILE, THEIR PREDECESSORS HAVE A LONG HISTORY.



EVIDENCE EXISTS OF THE CHINESE USING FLEXIBLE SHEETS OF BARK TO WRAP FOOD FROM THE FIRST OR SECOND CENTURY BC.



THE BARK WAS LATER MIXED WITH PLANT FIBERS AND CLOTH AND TURNED INTO A PULP THAT WAS SPREAD OUT, PRESSED, AND DRIED TO MAKE PAPER.



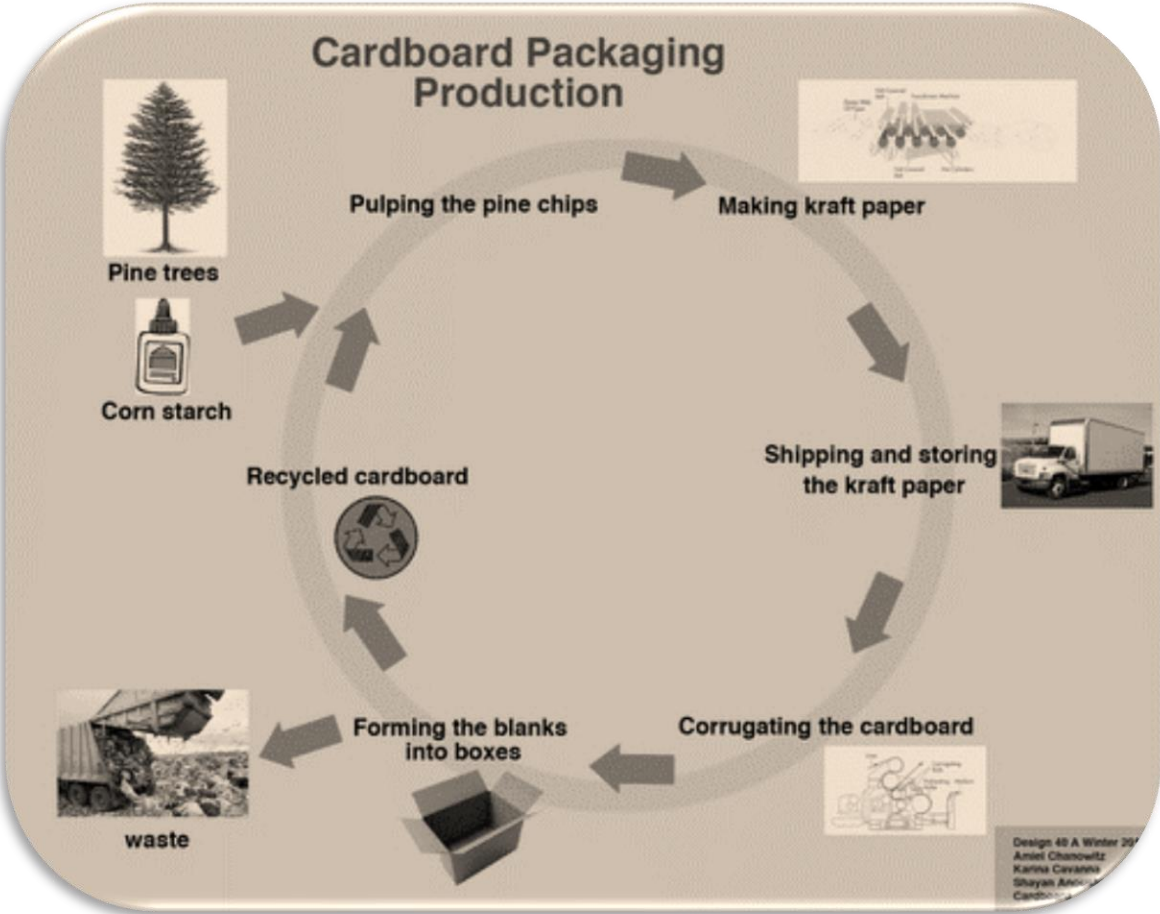
THIS PROCESS WAS REFINED AND PASSED WESTWARD INTO EUROPE BY 1310 AND AMERICA BY 1690 — ALTHOUGH THE FORMULA IN THE COLONIES USED FLAX FIBERS AND LINEN RAGS.



**THE FAMILIAR BROWN PAPER USED IN BAGS AND
CARDBOARD WAS INVENTED BY GERMAN CHEMIST
CARL DAHL IN 1879.**



THIS 'KRAFT PROCESS' USED WOOD CHIPS TO CREATE A PAPER RESISTANT TO TEARING... WHILE THE PAPER BECAME MORE RESISTANT, ITS TEXTURE EVOLVED AS WELL... CORRUGATED PAPER APPEARED IN THE 1850s.





EDWARD ALLEN AND EDWARD HEALEY DEVELOPED
IT TO LINE MEN'S HATS... AMERICAN ALBERT
JONES USED THIS PAPER TO CUSHION GLASSWARE
DURING SHIPPING.

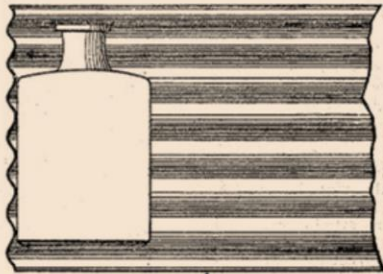


Improvement in Paper for Packing.

No. 122,023.

Patented Dec. 19, 1871.

Fig 1



A

Fig 3

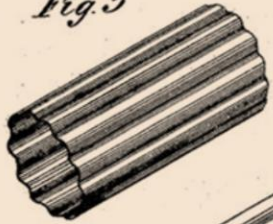
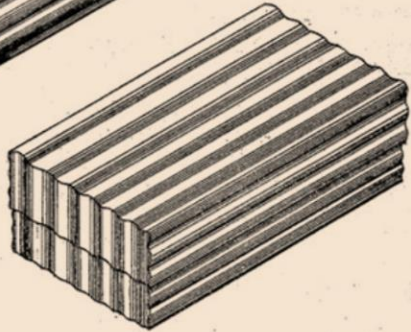


Fig 2



Witnesses:

A. W. Almquist
Geo. H. Mabee

Inventor:

A. L. Jones
PER *Munn & Co.*
Attorneys.

OLIVER LONG SANDWICHED THIS PAPER BETWEEN TWO SHEETS OF PAPER, CREATING THE CLOSEST APPROXIMATION TO MODERN CARDBOARD IN 1879.



THE CARDBOARD CARTON WAS FIRST DEVELOPED IN THE US IN 1895... IT USED THE KRAFT PAPER TO COVER BOTH SIDES OF CORRUGATED PAPER... BY THE 1900s, THESE CARTONS BEGAN TO REPLACE THE WOODEN CRATES CUSTOMARILY USED TO SHIP ITEMS.



THE SALT-FILLED CARDBOARD BOX SUSAN CUSHING RECEIVED IN THE MAIL WAS MOST LIKELY A PAPERBOARD CARTON INVENTED BY ROBERT GAIR IN THE 1870s... GAIR RAN A PRINTING AND PAPER-BAG BUSINESS IN BROOKLYN.



A MACHINE USED FOR BAGS CUT INSTEAD OF
CREASING THE PAPER ONE DAY, AND GAIR REALIZED
THE MACHINE COULD BE USED TO BOTH CREASE
AND CUT THE PAPERBOARD TO CREATE CARTONS
AUTOMATICALLY... THESE ARE REFERRED TO A
'SEMI-FLEXIBLE PACKAGING.'





THE 'YELLOW, HONEY-DEW' BOX USED BY
BROWNER MOST LIKELY WAS A PAPERBOARD BOX
PRINTED YELLOW...



*...AND HOLDING A SHAG TOBACCO REFERRED TO AS
'HONEY DEW,' USED IN CIGARETTES AND PIPE TOBACCO.*





THE USE OF SUCH BOXES TOOK OFF WHEN THE KELLOGG BROTHERS USED THEM TO PACKAGE THEIR CORN FLAKES CEREAL IN 1906... THE BOX WAS COVERED IN A WAXED BAG, PRINTED WITH THE BRAND NAME.



DESPITE THE RISE IN THE USE OF PLASTICS FOR PACKAGING IN THE 1970s AND 80s, THERE HAS BEEN A RESURGENCE IN THE USE OF RECYCLABLE PAPER AND CARDBOARD CARTONS.



*AS A RESULT, CARDBOARD PACKAGING IN THE UK
IS WORTH ABOUT FOUR BILLION POUNDS
ANNUALLY AND EMPLOYS ABOUT 27,000 PEOPLE.*



THAT SUSAN CUSHING RECEIVED HER GRUESOME
CORRESPONDENCE ONLY NINE YEARS AFTER THE
PAPERBOARD BOX WAS INVENTED INDICATES THE
POPULARITY AND DIFFUSION OF THIS RELATIVELY
INEXPENSIVE, YET STURDY, PACKAGING — BOTH
BOX AND PAPER.



BROWNER'S MESSAGE WOULD CERTAINLY HAVE BEEN LOST ON ALL CONCERNED IF THE PACKET HAD FAILED TO STAND UP TO ITS HANDLING THROUGH THE MAIL — A FATEFUL DECISION ON HIS PART.



SO, WE HAVE COMPLETED TOPIC # 063 IN OUR SERIES...

IN TOPIC # 063, WE WILL BE LOOKING AT MY MUSIC, PRIMARILY THE
GRAMOPHONE...



REFERENCES FOR THIS TOPIC:

- [HTTPS://OHIOLINE.OSU.EDU/FACTSHEET/CDFS-133](https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/cdfs-133)
- [HTTPS://BLOG.PAPERMART.COM/BUYERS-GUIDE/THE-HISTORY-OF-CARDBOARD-BOXES/](https://blog.papermart.com/buyers-guide/the-history-of-cardboard-boxes/)
- [HTTPS://IA600208.US.ARCHIVE.ORG/0/ITEMS/CU31924001715998/CU31924001715998.PDF](https://ia600208.us.archive.org/0/items/cu31924001715998/cu31924001715998.pdf)
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IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

JOE FAY
LIESE SHERWOOD-FABRE
RUSTY MASON
&
STEVE MASON

