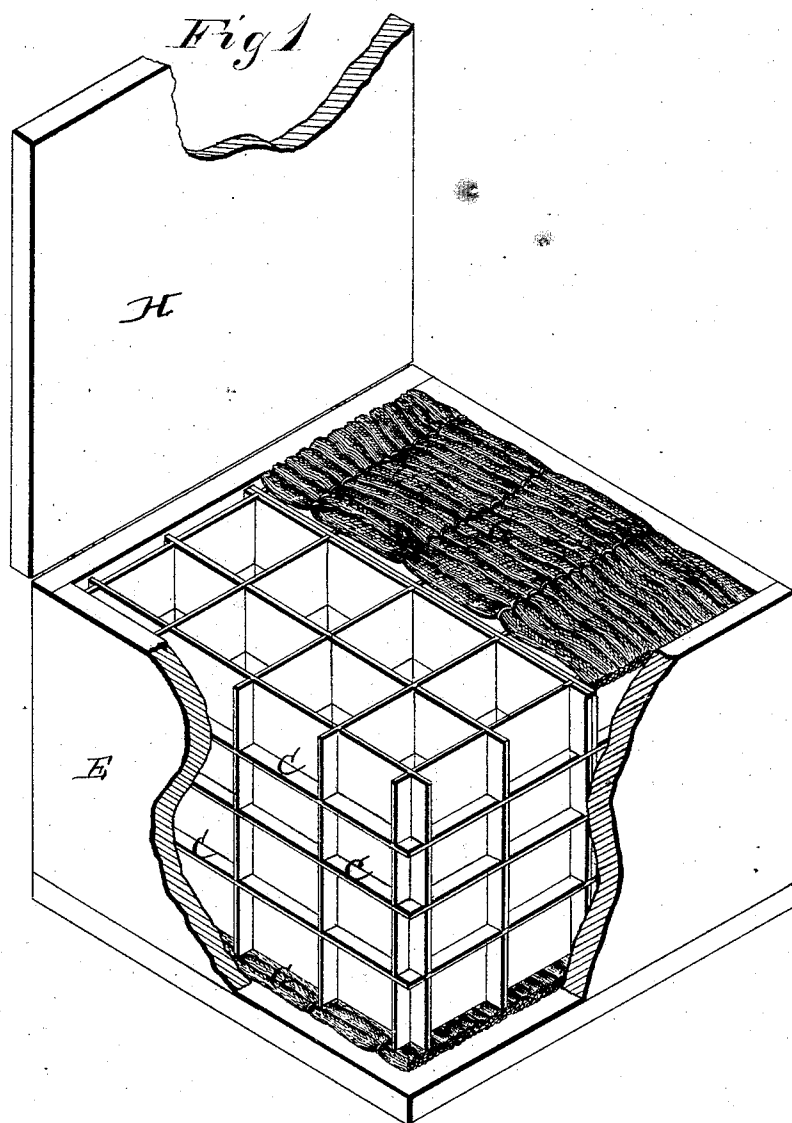


J. L. STEVENS.
Egg-Carriers.

No. 158,327.

Patented Dec. 29, 1874.



WITNESSES

Frank L. Ourand,
C. R. Evers,

INVENTOR

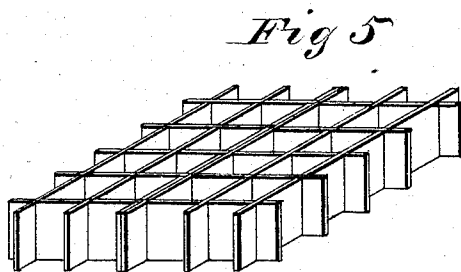
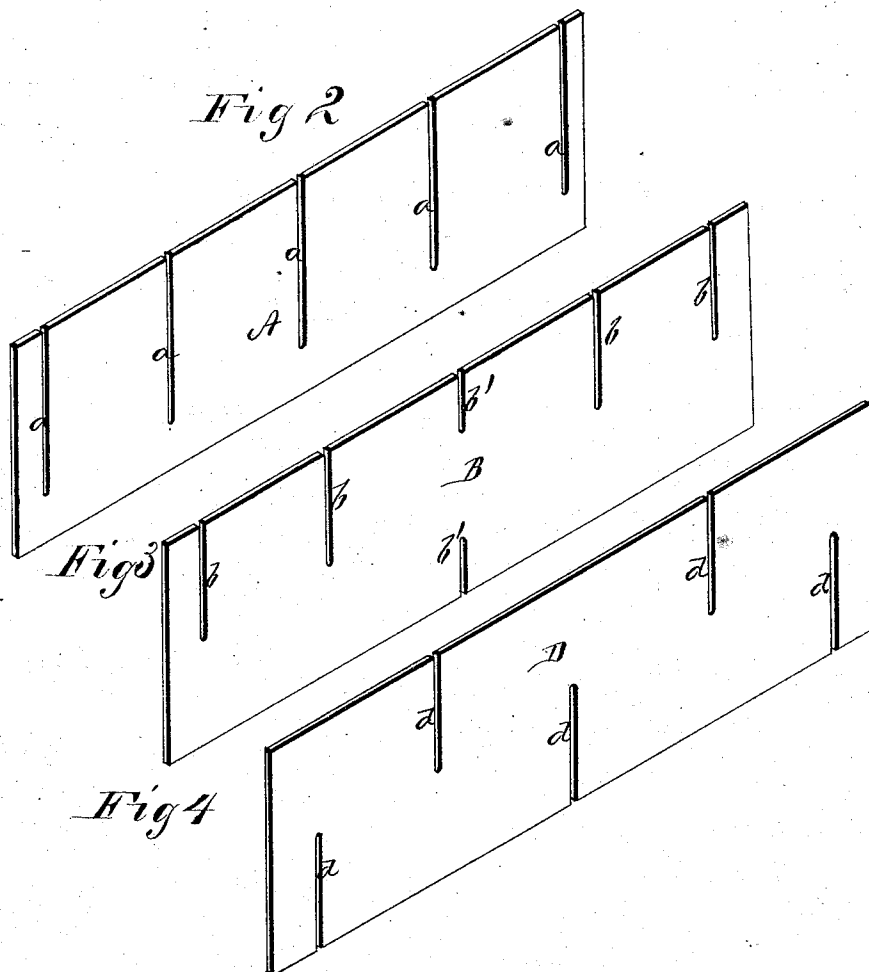
John L. Stevens
per Alexander Mason,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. STEVENS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO BILLINGS, COBURN & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN EGG-CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 158,327, dated December 29, 1874; application filed September 5, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. STEVENS, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Carriers; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of an egg-carrier, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my egg-carrier with the lid opened and box partially broken open to show the interior thereof. Figs. 2, 3, and 4 show the strips of which the trays are formed; and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the trays.

My egg-carrier trays are each formed of three kinds of pasteboard strips, A, B, and D. The strips A are provided with an odd number of slots, *a*, running from one edge to or nearly to one-fourth the width from the other edge, as shown in Fig. 2. Two of these strips are used in each tray to lock the other strips together. The strip B is, in the center, provided with two short slots, *b'*, running on a line with each other, from opposite edges, about one-fourth the width of the strip. In addition to these slots, the strip is provided with slots *b*, running on each side of the center, from one edge only, one-half the width of the strip. An odd number of these strips is used in each tray. The strips D are provided with slots *d*, running alternately from opposite edges one-

half the width of the strip. An even number of these strips is used in each tray.

The strips B and D are first placed together by passing the strips B alternately from top and bottom into the strips D, the slots *b* and *d* passing into each other in the usual manner. This leaves the slots *b'* of the strips B unoccupied. Now, by passing the two strips A A into the slots *b'* of the strips B—one from the top and the other from the bottom—all the strips become locked in such a manner that none of the strips B D can be removed without first removing the locking-strips A.

The strips A A may be left separate, or be pasted together, as may be deemed most desirable.

Between the trays in the egg-carrier box I place pasteboard sheets C C as partitions, and at the top and bottom I use mats G, made of flagging, dried grass, shavings, or other suitable material, woven or otherwise united together. The whole is inclosed in a box, E, having a suitable lid, H.

The trays will fold up flat, so as to take but little room in transportation.

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

The combination, with the strips B, having slots *b b'*, and the strips D, having slots *d*, of the locking-strips A A, provided with the slots *a*, all substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of August, 1874.

JOHN L. STEVENS.

Witnesses:

J. M. MASON,
H. A. HALL.