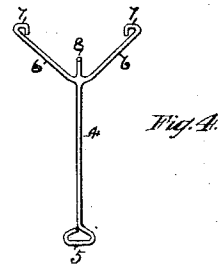
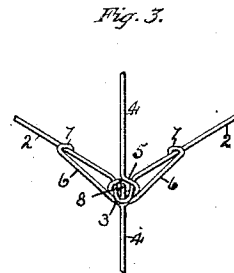
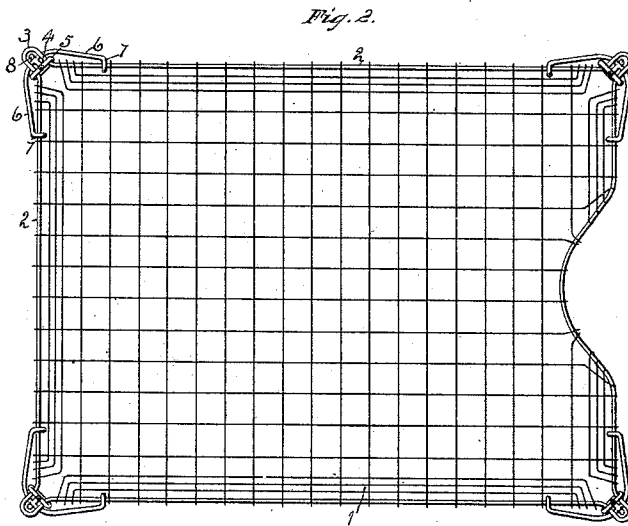
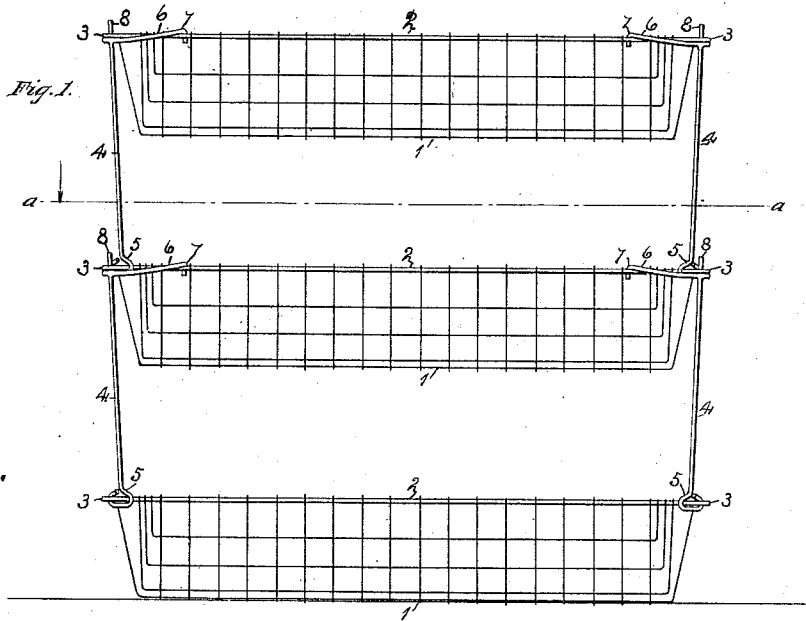


E. L. DENNIS.
LETTER TRAY.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 27, 1911.

994,984.

Patented June 13, 1911.



Witnesses:

W. L. Kloss.
E. Behel.

Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELMER L. DENNIS, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO ANDREWS WIRE AND IRON WORKS, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

LETTER-TRAY.

994,984.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 13, 1911.

Application filed April 27, 1911. Serial No. 623,788.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER L. DENNIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Letter-Trays, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to construct a connector for letter trays which will enable them being nested for shipment and held separated when in use.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of a plurality of trays connected by my improved connector. Fig. 2 is a section on line *a a* Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of portions of two connectors in connection with one corner of a tray. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the connectors.

The wire trays 1 are of the usual construction with the exception that the top wire 2 has loop portions 3 located at the corners of the tray. Connectors are provided to connect the trays and hold them one above the other and each connector comprises the shank 4 having a loop 5 at one end and two branches 6 each having a hook 7 at its free end. These branches 7 are located some distance from the end 8 of the shank 4.

In use the branches 6 are hooked over the top wire 2 of the tray, each side of a loop 3 and the end 8 of the shank 4 is located in a loop 3. The loop 5 of the lower end of the shank 4 receives a loop 3 of another tray. A connector is used at each corner of the tray. As the tendency of the shanks 4 is to

incline inwardly, it will be seen that when the loop 5 of the shank is placed over a loop 3 of the tray, its spring tension will hold it over the loop 3. Another tray may be added to the bottom tray by the employment of four connectors. All of the connectors are locked in connection with the trays with the exception of the lower set of connectors by the ends 8 extending through the loops 3 of the wire of the trays after the loops 5 of the shanks are placed over the loops 3. The trays can be nested for shipment and erected as required for use.

I claim as my invention.

1. A tray connector comprising a shank having a loop at one end, two diverging branches near its other end and each branch formed with a hook.

2. A plurality of trays, each formed with a top wire and the top wire formed with a loop at each corner of the tray, and connectors for the trays, each comprising a shank having a loop at one end, two diverging branches near its other end and each branch formed with a hook, the hooked ends of the branches overlying the top wire of the tray and the end of the shank located in the loop of the same tray and the loop of the shank located over a loop of another tray.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ELMER L. DENNIS.

Witnesses:

A. O. BEHEL,
E. D. E. N. BEHEL.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."