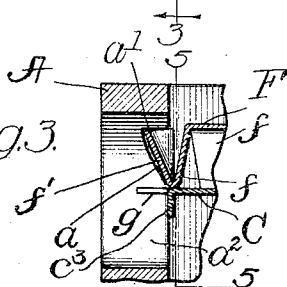
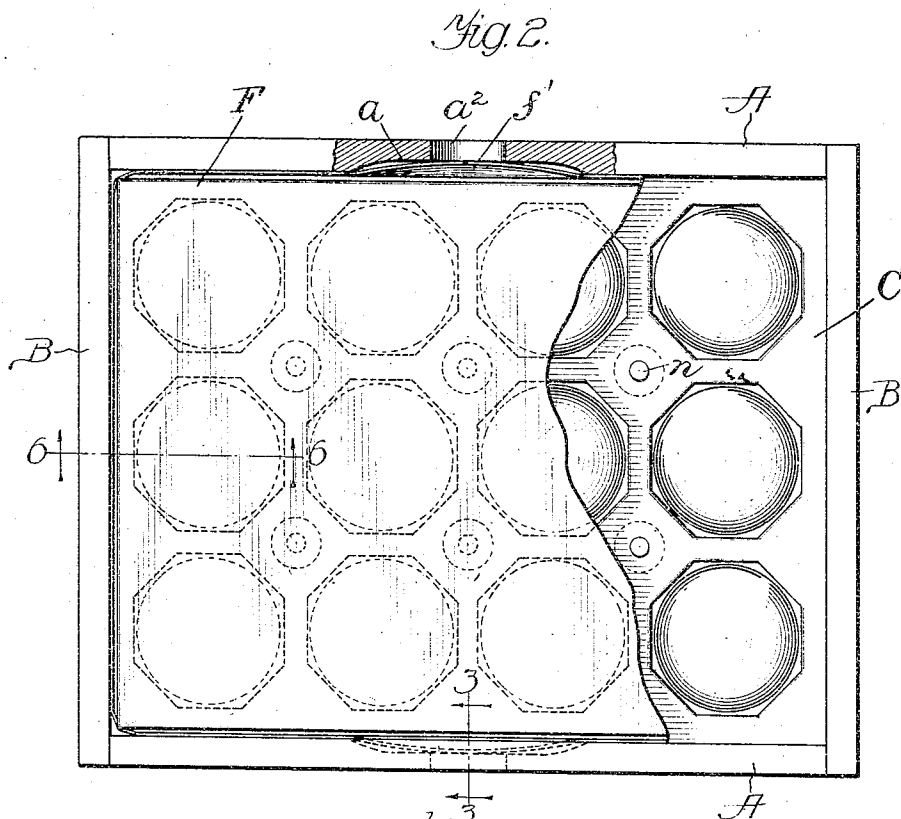
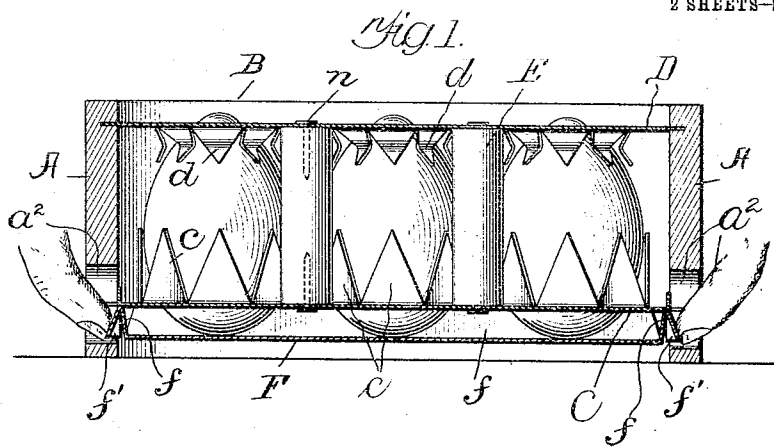


H. H. CUMMER.
 COMBINED EGG CARRIER AND DELIVERY TRAY.
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 1, 1910.

1,049,211.

Patented Dec. 31, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

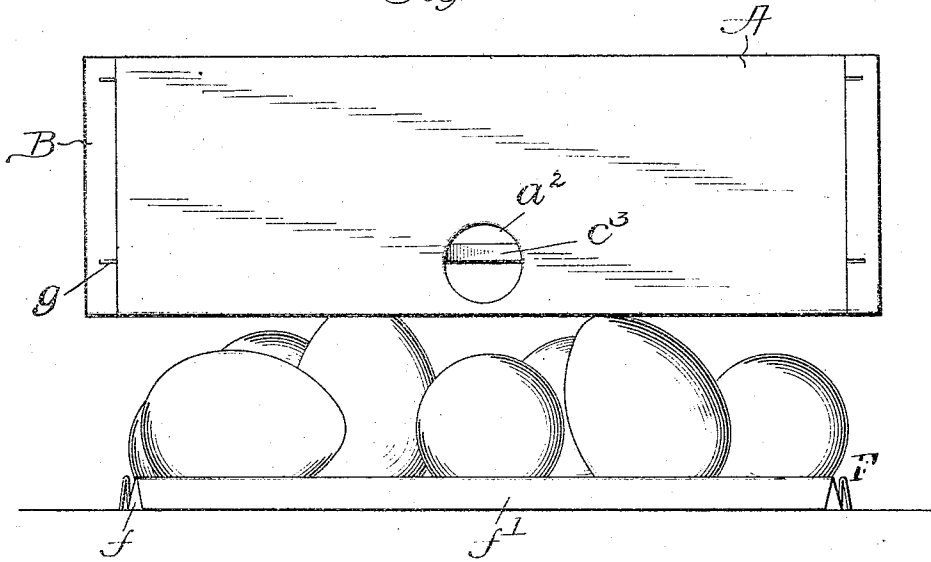


Fig. 5.

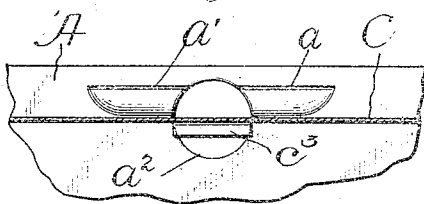


Fig. 6.

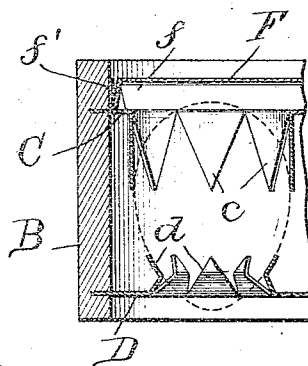
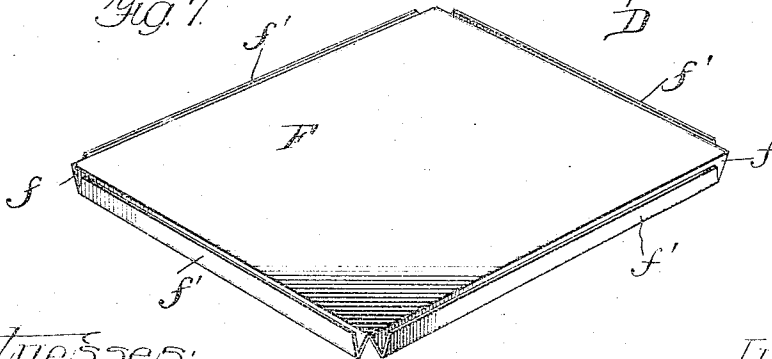


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT HARVEY CUMMER, OF CADILLAC, MICHIGAN.

COMBINED EGG CARRIER AND DELIVERY TRAY.

1,049,211.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 31, 1912.

Application filed April 1, 1910. Serial No. 552,841.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT HARVEY CUMMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cadillac, in the county of Wexford, in the State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Egg Carriers and Delivery Trays, of which the following is a specification.

The object of the invention is to provide a substantial form of holder in which the eggs can be carried about, effectively protected against breakage, and the cover of which may constitute a delivery tray, readily put in place as a cover and becoming automatically locked to the body of the holder secure against accidental separation therefrom, yet readily separable therefrom while the holder is held inverted, the cover then serving as a tray in which the eggs are delivered with despatch and without danger of breakage. While substantial and durable the holder may be inexpensively constructed and assembled. The combined cover and delivery tray requires only a single piece of cardboard or the like and the coating formation of the holder for locking the cover in place is very simple and easy to produce as is also the formation which provides for unlocking.

In the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification Figure 1 represents a cross section of the complete holder inverted for delivery of the eggs by disengaging the tray from the holder in a manner here represented; Fig. 2 shows the holder in top plan view with the cover on but represented as partly broken away and a portion of the holder also so represented; Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view on line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4 represents the holder in side elevation inverted and the body of the holder lifted away from the cover leaving the eggs deposited in the latter; Fig. 5 represents a portion of one side of the holder viewed from the interior of the latter the section being on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3 with the cover omitted; Fig. 6 is a section taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 7 shows the combined cover and delivery tray in perspective viewed as a cover.

The body of the holder is made up of four side pieces A B, preferably of wood, two apertured plates C D, preferably of tin, and a number of separating and supporting

posts E, preferably of wood. The plates are engaged around their edges with the sides A B and at interior points are secured against opposite ends of the posts E, with their apertures in alinement as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 6. These alined apertures provide repositories for the eggs—accommodating one dozen as here shown though of course the number may vary. The apertures in the plate C are here shown as octagonal though their exact outline is immaterial, the purpose being merely to provide openings conforming in general to the largest cross-sectional area of the eggs and calculated to readily receive the same and at the same time prohibit any considerable play thereof when deposited in the holder. When the eggs are to be placed in the holder the latter rests with the plate C uppermost (Figs. 2 and 6) and the eggs are dropped through the openings in said plate. The octagonal contour of these openings comes about by reason of the reëntrant formation for confining the eggs in place. Thus the plate having been slit radially for each opening, the V-shaped portions between slits are bent inwardly forming a substantially circular series of fingers *c* to embrace the egg when dropped through the opening. The openings in the other or bottom plate D are similarly formed though smaller in area since the eggs are not to drop through these openings but seat in them. Thus V-shaped fingers *d* bent in around the latter are not brought substantially to right angles with the plate as are the fingers *c* with relation to the plate C, but the base portions of said fingers *d* converge to contract the openings and their inner end portions are bent back so as to diverge and form conical or flaring seats for the eggs which are preferably dropped through the openings in the plate C with their small ends downward. It will be obvious that the points of the eggs will then protrude into the openings in the plate D and the eggs back of the points will settle in the flaring seats formed by the diverging portions of the fingers *d* (see dotted line Fig. 6). Thus the eggs will be held out of contact and against possibility of contact with any protuberances which could cause breakage of the shells, and lateral movement of the eggs will be limited to very slight rocking or rolling in said seats under

confinement by the fingers *c* of the upper openings. The side pieces A B extend sufficiently beyond the plate D to protect the points of the eggs.

5 The egg compartments provided by the formations above described are of course relatively located to prevent any possible contact between the eggs. The supporting and separating posts E are located between
10 the apertures so as to firmly support the plates and stiffen the middle portion of the structure. A simple method of securing the plates to the posts is to drive nails, *n*,
15 as illustrated in the drawings. At their margins the plates are firmly held through engagement with the side-pieces A B which are formed with grooves or slits *g* as illustrated in Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 5, to receive the
20 edges of the plates. These wooden side pieces A B are nailed or otherwise secured together around the plates and together with the posts E, obviously serve to give stability to the whole egg-holding structure. The
25 said side pieces A B extend considerably beyond the upper plate C to receive a cover F for protecting the eggs and preventing them from being jumped out of the pockets or compartments of the holder above described, or from falling accidentally when
30 the holder is inverted, though said cover eventually constitutes a delivery tray, it being understood that it is not a permanent portion of the holder but is left with the customer when the eggs are delivered. Said
35 cover is composed of a piece of cardboard cut across the corners and scored and bent back all around forming sides *f*, separated from each other at the ends. These sides
40 are creased or scored lengthwise and bent back to form flaps or flanges *f'* to frictionally engage the inner surfaces of the side pieces A B and interlock with the side pieces A as presently explained. In bending the
45 cardboard along the scorings or creases the sides *f* and flaps or flanges *f'* will be left extending at an angle to the main portion of the cover and at angles to each other, so that insertion of the cover between the side
50 pieces A B of the holder, will require forcing back of the said cover portions *f* and *f'* against the inherent resiliency of the material composing the cover thus creating friction between the same and the inner surfaces of
55 said side pieces of the holder so that there is a close engagement all around and one calculated to retain the cover in place though not relied upon in the latter connection.

In order to effectively secure the cover
60 against accidental displacement from any cause and particularly when the holder is inverted, provision is made for causing it to become automatically locked through resiliency of the material of which it is composed.
65 To this end the side pieces A of the holder

are grooved lengthwise throughout a limited area at the middle as shown at *a'* (Figs. 2 and 5) the grooves tapering in depth at each end and in cross-section and what normally constitute the top sides of the grooves being
70 abrupt shoulders *a'* as illustrated in Fig. 3. The effect is that when the pasteboard cover is forced into the holder, middle portions of the flanges or flaps *f'* which extend along
75 the longer sides of the cover, will spring into said grooves and under said abrupt shoulders (Figs. 1, 2 and 3), owing to the inherent resiliency of the cardboard. This will obviously lock the cover to the holder
80 automatically and effectively. The proportion of the parts is such that the folds between the sides *f* and flanges *f'* contact with the upper plate C when the said flanges *f'* so engage under said shoulders *a'*. Hence
85 the cover will be firmly held in place over the eggs.

It will be seen that the above described construction provides a very simple and efficient manner of securely locking the cover to the holder without requiring any fasten-
90 ing devices which have to be specially manipulated.

As before stated the cardboard F is to eventually constitute a tray on which to deliver the eggs and so provision is made for
95 unlocking the same from the holder in a convenient manner. To this end circular openings *a''* are made in the sides A intercepting the grooves *a'*. When the eggs are to be delivered the holder is turned upside down
100 and with the hands grasping the side pieces A, a finger will be inserted in each of the said holes *a''* (see Fig. 1) and the flanges *f'* pressed against to disengage them from the shoulders *a'*; whereupon the holder will be
105 lifted as illustrated in Fig. 4 while the inverted cover is held down or permitted to remain down under the weight of the eggs. Obviously the holder separates from the inverted cover, on which the eggs will be de-
110 posited and left, the sides *f* thereof serving to confine the eggs so that the cardboard piece then serves as a tray which is left with the customer. To avoid encounter of the fingers with sharp edges of the plate C the latter where it crosses the openings *a''*, is bent in as illustrated at *a'''*.

What I claim is:

1. A combined egg carrier and delivery tray comprising a holder with compart-
120 ments for the eggs and interior cover retaining shoulders, and a cover piece having sides adapted to form a tray for the eggs when inverted and flanges doubled back from the edges of said sides and adapted to
125 engage automatically with said shoulders the holder being apertured to permit said flanges to be laterally pressed out of engagement with the shoulders; substantially as and for the purpose described.
130

2. A combined egg carrier and delivery tray comprising a holder with compartments for the eggs and interior cover-retaining shoulders in opposite sides, and a cover-piece having sides adapted to form a tray for the eggs when inverted and flanges doubled back from the edges of said sides and adapted to engage automatically with said shoulders when the cover-piece is introduced between the sides of the holder,—the latter having openings in opposite sides intercepting the retaining shoulders whereby the flanges may be laterally pressed out of locking engagement with such shoulders; substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. An egg holder comprising top and bottom plates with alined openings and fingers surrounding the openings bent inwardly toward each other, the openings and fingers of the top plate being of such size as to permit the entrance of an egg, and the fingers of the openings in the bottom plate converging from their bases for part of their length and diverging toward their tips to form seats for the eggs.

4. An egg holder comprising top and bottom plates with alined openings and fingers surrounding the openings bent inwardly toward each other, the openings and fingers of the top plate being of such size as to permit the entrance of an egg, and the fingers of the openings in the bottom plate converging from their bases for part of their length and diverging toward their tips to form seats for the eggs, and separating

and supporting posts between and secured to the plates.

5. An egg holder comprising top and bottom plates with alined openings and fingers surrounding the openings bent inwardly toward each other, the openings and fingers of the top plate being of such size as to permit the entrance of an egg, and the fingers of the opening in the bottom plate converging from their bases for part of their length and diverging toward their tips to form seats for the eggs, and spacing members intermediate said plates.

6. An egg holder comprising a frame and a horizontal bottom plate having openings surrounded by upwardly extending fingers forming seats for the eggs, said fingers being bent intermediate their bases and tips and the tip portions diverging to form seats, and means located above said seats for restraining lateral movement of the eggs.

7. An egg holder comprising top and bottom plates with alined openings, the openings of the top plate being of such size as to permit the entrance of an egg, and the openings in the bottom plate being surrounded by upwardly extending fingers forming seats for the eggs, said fingers converging from their bases for part of their length and diverging toward their tips to form said seats.

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