

J. L. STEVENS.

EGG-CARRIER.

No. 173,826.

Patented Feb. 22, 1876.

Fig. 1.

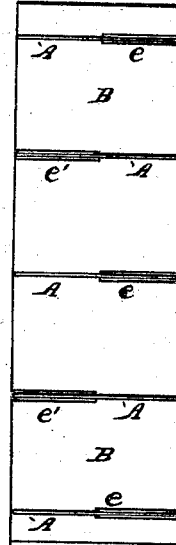
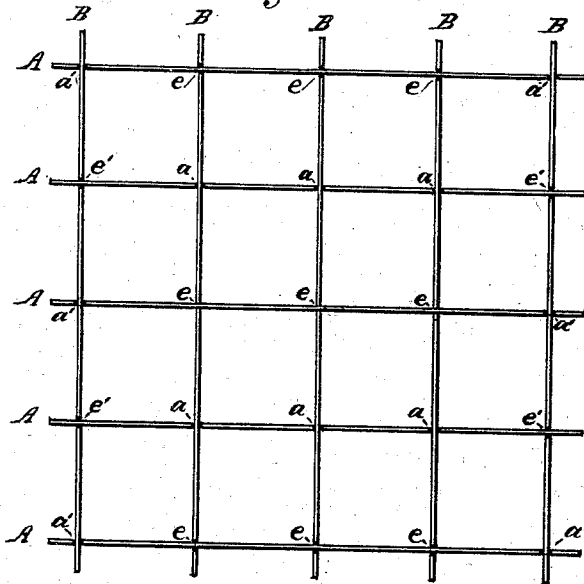


Fig. 3.

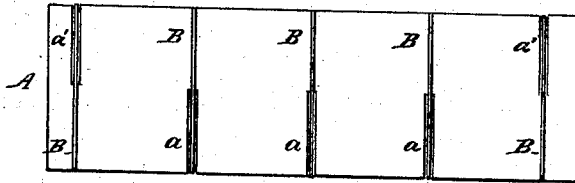


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

F. A. Herring.
S. E. Wiley.

Inventor:

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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. **173,826**, dated February 22, 1876; application filed June 12, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. STEVENS, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Egg-Carriers, of which improvement the following is a full, clear, and exact description, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the said improvement, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof, and in which—

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of a series of egg-separating compartments, embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a side elevation of one side thereof; and Fig. 3, an elevation of another side at right angles to that already referred to.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention relates to that class of egg-carriers in which layers or tiers of bottomless folding and removable egg-separating compartments are employed in connection with separate and removable egg-supporting sheets or diaphragms, arranged horizontally between each tier, the whole being packed in suitable shipping-cases in such a manner as to protect the eggs during transportation.

Heretofore the egg-separating compartments have been made of strips of straw-board or other similar or suitable material, notched or cut in such a manner that a series of strips would be so interlaced as to all lie in the same plane. An example of egg-carriers thus constructed is shown and described in Letters Patent No. 62,378, for improvements in egg-carriers, issued to myself and George W. Stevens, jointly, the 26th day of February, 1867. These strips have subsequently been interlocked in various ways, so that in seizing any one or more, for the purpose of removing the tiers of compartments, no strip would be liable to be detached. These strips have also since been arranged so as to support the eggs independently of the diaphragms above referred to.

The object of this invention is to so improve the construction shown and described in the Letters Patent hereinabove referred to as to prevent the accidental detachment of the strips

during the act of removing the compartments from the case.

In the drawing, A represents a long narrow strip made, preferably, of straw-board. This strip, when standing vertically on one of its longitudinal edges, exceeds a little in height the longer diameter of a hen's egg. *a a* are notches or cuts sunken into one of the longitudinal edges of the strip, and extending about half way across it. *a' a'* are like notches or cuts sunken into the opposite edge of the strip, and arranged near the ends. The distance between each of the cuts is about equal to the shorter diameter of an egg.

B is also a strip, the same in material and size as the strip A, and *e e* are cuts or notches, sunken about half-way across it from one of its longitudinal edges, and *e' e'* are like cuts sunken into its opposite edge. The notches *e* and *e'* alternate with each other, as shown, and are the same distance apart as the notches *a a*.

In order to construct the compartments, I arrange a number of strips, A A, parallelly, as represented, each alternate strip of this series having the notches *a a* arranged downward, and each other alternate one having them arranged upward, thus also alternating the position of the notches *a' a'*. I then arrange a number of strips, B B, parallelly to each other, and transversely with relation to the strips A A, and so that the notches *e* and *e'* will receive the latter strips and the notches *a* and *a'* receive the strips B B, thus allowing each series to interlace the other, and both to occupy the same plane.

When constructed and arranged in this manner, the strips forming the compartments are firmly locked together, so that none of them will be liable to be drawn from the series accidentally while the compartments are being removed from the case, or at any other time. The strips, however, may be detached from each other when desirable. The compartments are capable of being folded compactly, and are intended to be used in connection with separating diaphragms in the usual manner.

I am aware that compartments of this class have heretofore been so constructed as to pre-

vent the accidental separation of the strips from the series to which they belong, and I do not here claim such, broadly; but,

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

The series of egg-separating compartments, consisting of the strips A A, having in one longitudinal edge the notches or cuts *a a*, and in the opposite edge, near each end, the

notches or cuts *a' a'*, and of the strips B B, having the notches or cuts *ee* in one longitudinal edge, alternating with the notches *e' e'* in the other, all combined and arranged substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

JOHN L. STEVENS.

Witnesses:

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F. F. WARNER.