H. B. IRVIN.

SHIPPING CRATE FOR COTTON.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 10, 1917. RENEWED DEC. 23, 1918.

1,293,451.

Patented Feb. 4, 1919.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

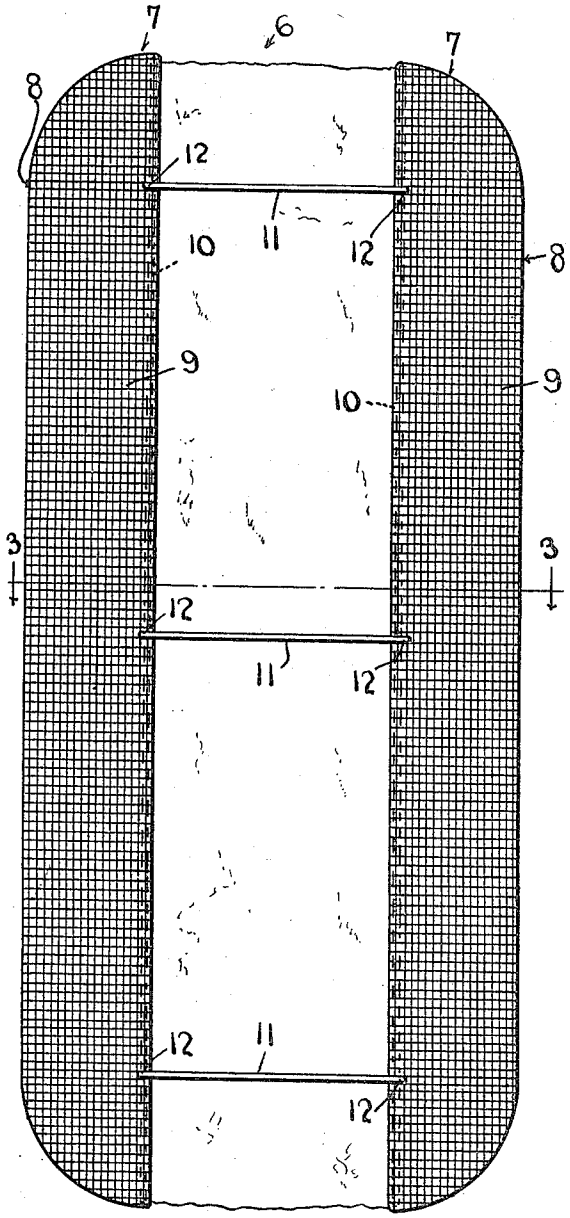
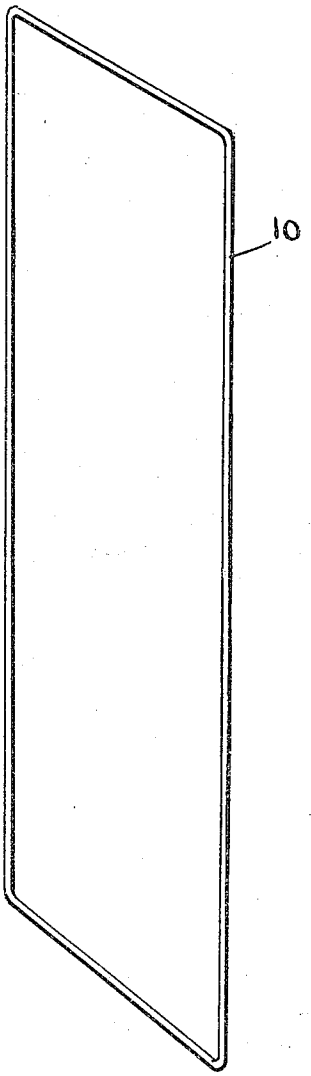


Fig. 5.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

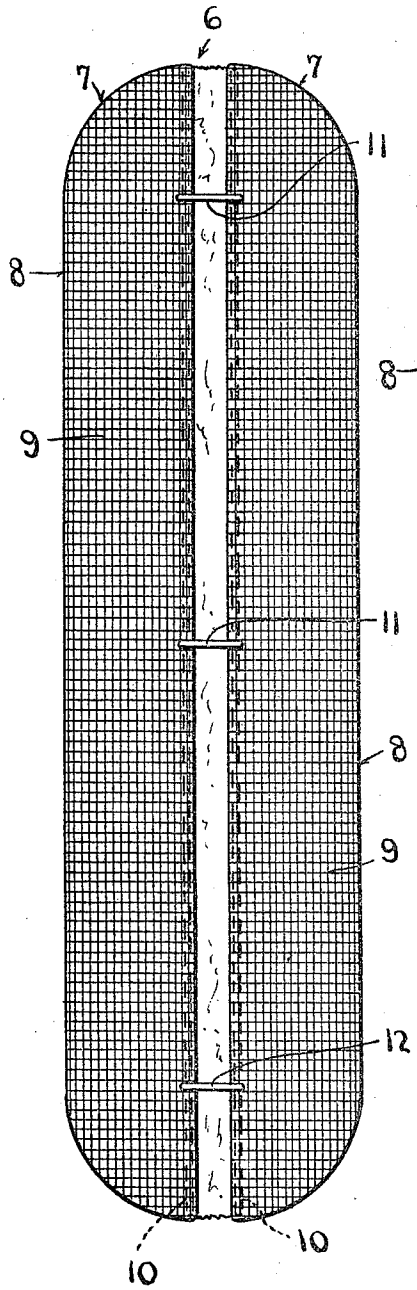


Fig. 3.

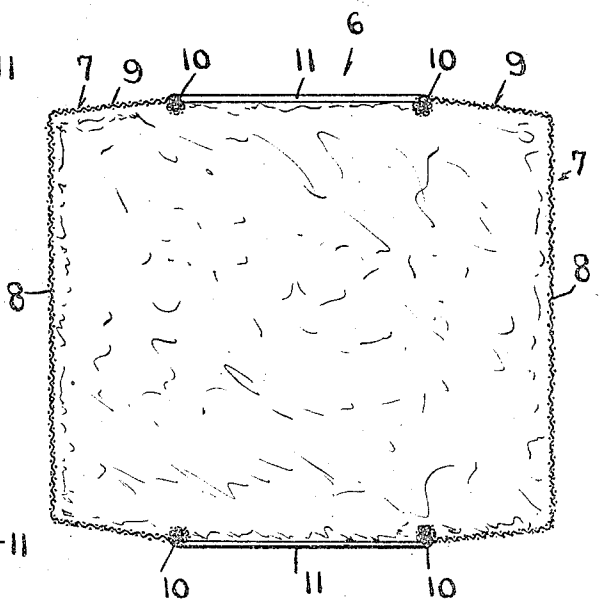
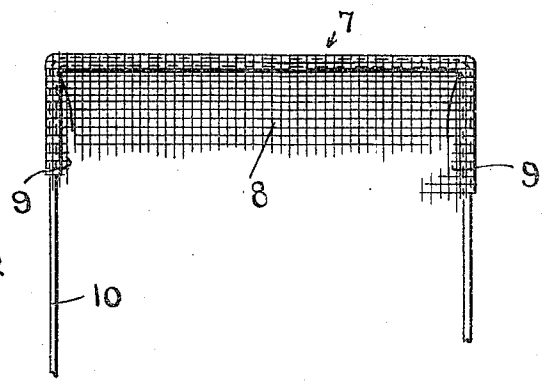


Fig. 4.



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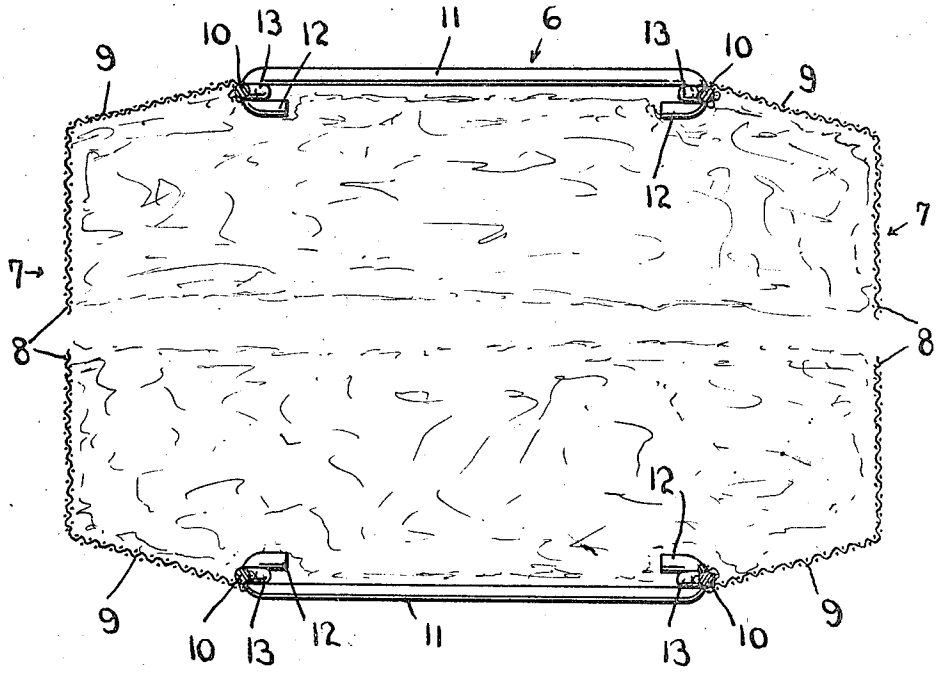
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 6.



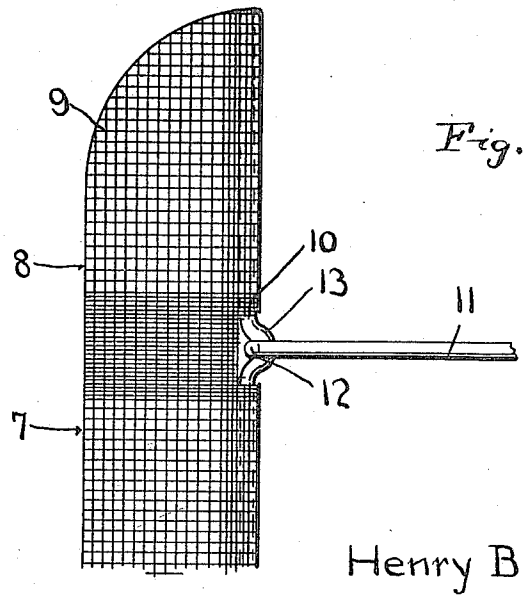


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY B. IRVIN, OF DURANT, OKLAHOMA.

SHIPPING-CRATE FOR COTTON.

1,293,451. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 4, 1919.

Application filed September 10, 1917, Serial No. 190,535. Renewed December 23, 1918. Serial No. 268,056.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY B. IRVIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Durant, in the county of Bryan and State of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping-Crates for Cotton, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to improvements in shipping crates and more particularly to that class adapted for use in shipping cotton.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of a shipping crate in which the cotton is compressed and confined in a fire proof and moisture proof state during shipping.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a crate which comprises two counterpart sections together with means for retaining said sections in desired relative positions.

A still further object of the invention is to improve and simplify structures of this character, rendering them comparatively simple and inexpensive to manufacture, reliable and efficient in use, and readily operated.

With the above and other objects in view the present invention resides in the novel features of construction, formations, combinations and arrangements of parts to be hereinafter more fully described, claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming a part of the present application and in which;

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the crate in a semi compressed state;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the crate fully compressed and ready for shipping;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal cross sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of a portion of one section of the crate;

Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the reinforcing rod and one of said sections;

Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view taken through a modified form of crate; and

Fig. 7 is a detail view showing the offset parts of the reinforcing rods and links.

Referring now more particularly to the accompanying drawings by corresponding characters of reference throughout the several views and particularly to Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, the numeral 6 designates generally a crate constructed in accordance with the present invention, which comprises two compressed sections 7 which are of identical form, each being of substantially rectangular formation and having bottoms 8 and curved side and end members 9 which extend to the rectangular reinforcing rods 10 to which their free edges are secured in any preferred manner.

In use the cotton or the like to be shipped is placed between the two sections 7 which are arranged with their reinforced edges disposed inwardly in which position they are first connected by the detachable links 11 which are provided with hooked terminals 12 which engage the before mentioned reinforcing rods 10.

The opposite crate sections are then subjected to sufficient pressure to compress the cotton disposed therebetween as shown in Fig. 2 after which the links 11 are removed and shorter links are substituted therefor.

When in the position shown in Fig. 2 the cotton is sufficiently compressed to render the crate sufficiently fire proof so that should the outer surface of the cotton become ignited the pressure of the cotton will prevent the interior cotton from being burned.

When in this position the same will for a like reason be moisture proof.

The sections 7 above referred to can be formed from any suitable material but it is preferred that a reticulated substance such as wire or the like be employed as illustrated throughout the various figures of the drawings.

Referring particularly to Figs. 6 and 7 of the drawing, the reinforcing rods 10 are offset as at 13 so as to engage the ends of the links 12 and to prevent them from slipping should it be necessary to drag the crate over the ground or floor of a building.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be manifest that a shipping crate for cotton or the like is provided which will fulfil all of the necessary requirements of such a device, and it should be understood in this connection, that various minor changes in the specific details of construction can be resorted to within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit, or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

As before stated, the crate embodying the present invention has the body portions of its sections formed of wire mesh material

and while this material is illustrated in a more or less general manner in the drawings, the meshes will be relatively large, the material being preferably the same as that employed in fencing poultry yards, etc. By reason of the use of such material the body portions of the sections of the crate are rendered more or less yieldable and due to their foraminous nature, box hooks may be employed in handling the crate. As a consequence a bale of cotton encompassed by the crate may be as conveniently handled as the ordinary bale and yet the cotton is more effectually protected, as will be readily understood. The wire mesh material being more or less yieldable in nature, no damage to the crate sections will result from the usual rough handling of the bale of cotton, for even should the sections of the crate become crushed in at any point, the said sections will be restored to their normal form when used a second time, and in the operation of compressing a bale of cotton between them.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

In a shipping crate, crate sections each comprising a frame, a yieldable foraminous body secured at its margin to the frame, offsets in the frame providing loops, and means for connecting the sections comprising tie rods provided at their ends with hooks engageable with the said loops.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY B. IRVIN.

Witnesses:
C. L. JOHANSEN,
HENRY FACTOR.

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