No. 696,243. Patented Mar. 25, 1902.

E. E. JOHNSTON.

CRATE OR BOX.

(Application filed Dec. 12, 1901.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

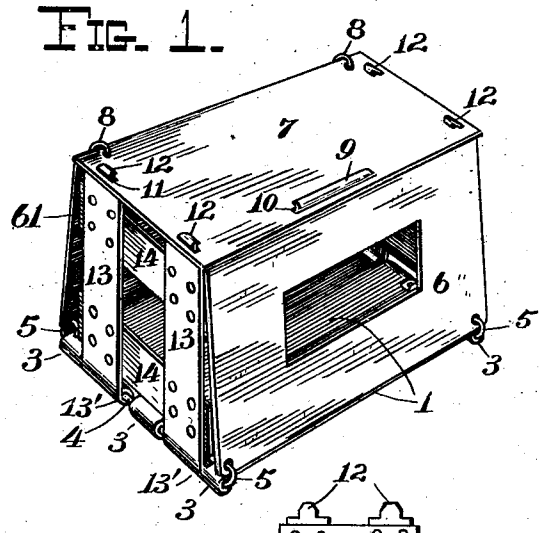


FIG. 2.

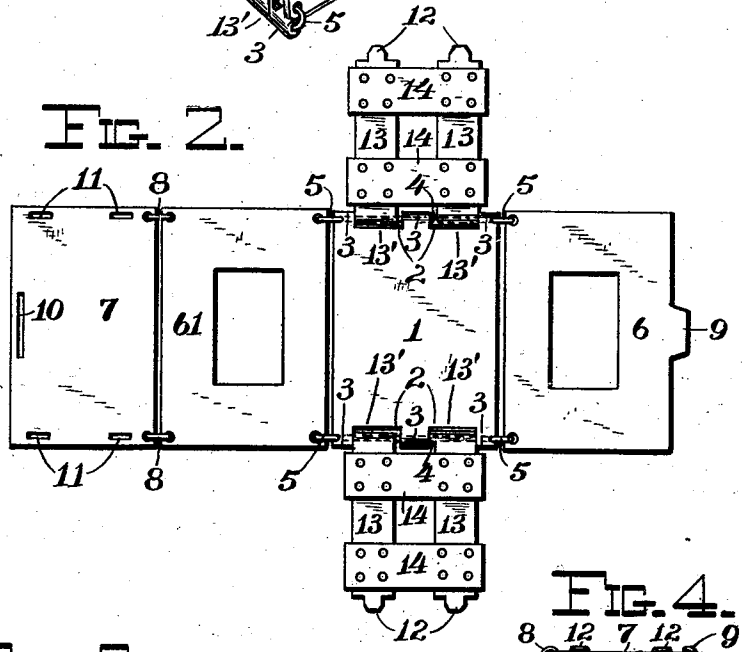


FIG. 3.

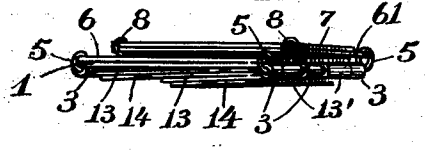
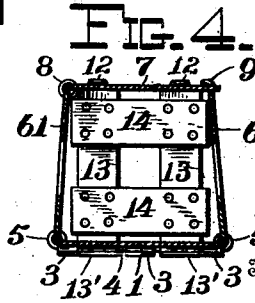


FIG. 4.



Witnesses

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By [signature]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, OF CRIPPLECREEK, COLORADO.

CRATE OR BOX.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 696,243, dated March 25, 1902.

Application filed December 12, 1901. Serial No. 85,570. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cripplecreek, in the county of Teller and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Crates or Boxes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to improvements in boxes or crates, and refers particularly to a folding or collapsible box or crate designed for shipping eggs, poultry, butter, and like merchandise; and the object of my invention is the provision of a box or crate which can be produced at a minimum cost and which will possess the necessary strength and durability without being heavy and which can be easily folded and set up.

With this object in view my invention consists of a box or crate embodying novel features of construction and combination of parts, substantially as disclosed herein.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my box or crate set up. Fig. 2 represents a similar view with the parts of the box opened or distended. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the box or crate folded or collapsed. Fig. 4 represents a vertical transverse sectional view of the box when set up.

Referring by numerals to the drawings, in which similar numerals of reference denote corresponding parts in the several views, the numeral 1 designates the bottom of the box, which at each end is formed with the recesses 2 and with the tongues bent to form the sleeves or bearings 3, through which pass the rods 4, having at each end the loops or eyes 5, which loops or eyes serve to hinge the front side 6 and the rear side 61 to the bottom, and the top 7 is connected to the rear side by means of the wire loops 8, and the front side is formed with a tongue 9, which when the box is built or set up engages a slot or kerf 10 in the top section, and this connection serves when the tongue is bent down to lock the parts or sections. The top section is also provided with slots or openings 11 to receive the locking-tongues 12 on the vertical end strips 13, said end strips being connected together by the cross-strips 14, riveted to the vertical strips and forming the ends of the box, and the vertical strips 13 are formed with sleeves or bearings 13′, which fit in the recesses formed on the bottom of the box, and said sleeves surround the rods 4 and serve to hinge the end pieces to the bottom section.

From the description and drawings the construction, the manner of setting up, and the manner of closing or collapsing my box or crate will be readily understood, and it will be seen that the parts of the box will fold upon the bottom, and when set up the locking-tongue on the front will fasten in the kerf on the top, and the locking-tongues on the ends will also engage the kerfs on the top section, and said tongues are bent down, and thus secure the parts of the box.

It is evident that my box is light in weight, but strong and durable, and can be shipped at a saving, that it is easy to set up and fold, and that it can be produced at a low price, thus possessing the features to render it entirely practical.

I claim—

1. A box or crate consisting of the bottom, sides and top all hinged together, said top having a series of slots, the ends hinged to the bottom, said ends and front side having locking-tongues to engage the slots in the top and lock the sections of the box.

2. A box or crate consisting of the bottom having the sleeves or bearings at each end, the rods passing through said sleeves and having a loop or eye at each end, the front and rear sides hinged to the bottom by said loops, the ends also hinged to the rods, the top connected to the rear side and having a series of slots, and locking-tongues on the ends and front side to engage said slots in the top for securing the sides and ends when the box is set up.

3. A box or crate composed of the bottom having the bent portions forming bearings, the rods passing through said bearings the front and rear sides hinged to said rods, the locking-tongue on the front side, the top hinged to the rear side and having a kerf to receive the locking-tongue on the front side, and having kerfs at each end, and the ends hinged to the rods and having locking-tongues to engage said kerfs on the ends of the top to lock the sections when the box is set up.

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

EDWARD E. JOHNSTON.

Witnesses:
GEO. M. STINGLEY,
HENRY S. RASSBACH.