(No Model.)

C. L. KRUM.

EGG CASE.

No. 375,363. Patented Dec. 27, 1887.

Fig. 1.

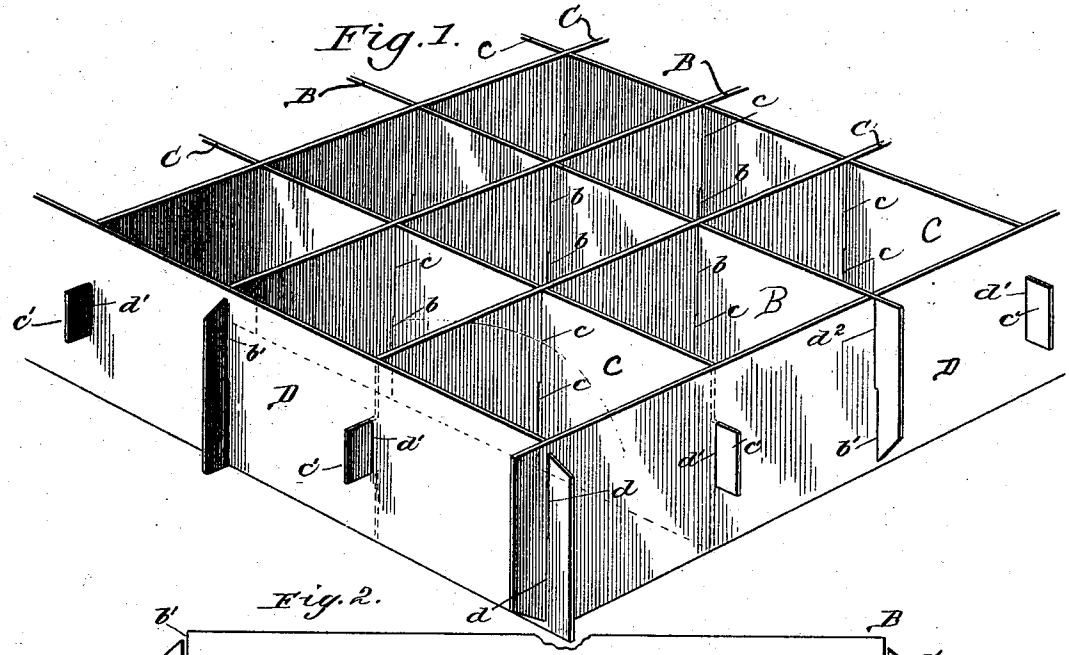


Fig. 2.

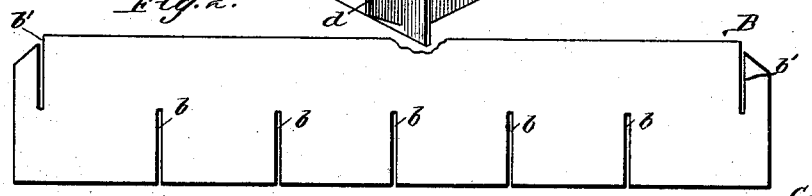


Fig. 3.

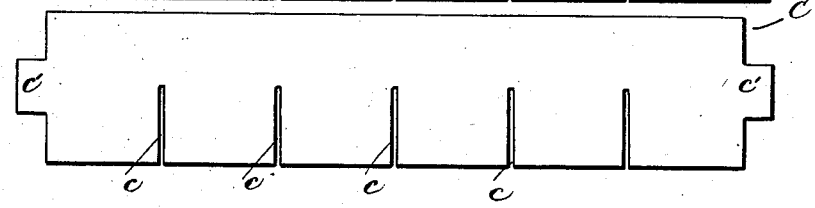
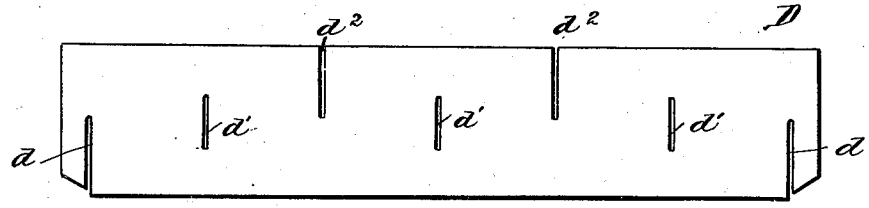


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.
W. Rossiter
L. S. Logan

Inventor
Charles L. Krum
By Chas. G. Page
Atty.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES L. KRUM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

EGG-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 375,363, dated December 27, 1887.

Application filed May 7, 1887. Serial No. 237,390. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES L. KRUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in egg-carriers of that class wherein the device for holding and separating the eggs consists of a nest of egg-holding compartments formed by two series of paper-board or analogous partition-strips, with the partition-strips of one series arranged to intersect the several partition-strips of the remaining series, the whole forming a frame which can be brought into rectangular form when in use, and when not in use closed, so as to cause all of the partition-strips to lie substantially parallel with one another and closely together.

A simple and approved mode of connecting together the two sets or series of partition-strips at all points of intersection, excepting along the four sides of the frame, has consisted in slitting each strip at several points transversely to its length and for a portion of its width, and connecting the slitted strips of one set with those of the remaining set by interlocking the strips at the points where the cuts or slits are made, it being understood that the slots or slits in the strips of one set receive unslitted portions of the strips of the other set, which latter in turn similarly engage the strips of the set first mentioned. It is, however, desirable, and in fact a matter of necessity, to provide other means for locking together the strips at the points of intersection along the four sides of the frame, since, should the foregoing mode of interlocking the strips at several points between their ends be employed at points along the four sides of the frame, the structure would when handled be extremely liable to drop apart. One way of locking together the strips along the four sides of the frame has been to interlock the four side strips with one another at the four corners, and to likewise interlock the strips at other points along the sides of the frame by a form of joint attained by providing in one strip an angular or L-shaped slit, formed intermediate of the longitudinal edges of the strip, and notching another strip at opposite edges thereof and adjacent to its end, so as to provide a sort of arrow-shaped tongue, which constitutes the end of the strip and which is to be bent over in a manner to permit it to be inserted through the L-shaped slot or slit, after which insertion the engagement of the tongue of the one strip with the strip through which it has been introduced is insured by straightening up the previously-bent portion of the tongue. An objection is, however, found to such means in that the bending of the paper-board frequently cracks and weakens the same to such an extent that the end portion will during use separate from the strip along the line of bend, thereby permitting the structure to become disjointed, and hence impairing the efficiency and utility of the device.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, durable, and efficient construction and disposition of parts, serving to avoid the foregoing-mentioned defects and to produce a more desirable and reliable article, which can be readily put together, and which, when put together, will withstand all ordinary usage without breakage.

To the attainment of these and other useful ends my invention consists in matters hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents in perspective a portion of an egg-carrier constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 represents one of the three forms or constructions of strips involved in the formation of my improved egg-carrier. Fig. 3 represents the second of said three constructions of strips herein present. Fig. 4 represents the third construction of strip.

The egg-carrier consists of a rectangular frame, (whereof a portion is shown in Fig. 1,) said frame being composed of two series of strips, with the strips of one series arranged transversely to the strips of the other series, so as to provide a suitable nest of egg-holding compartments. These strips are connected together in the usual way at all points of intersection excepting along the four sides of the frame and at the four corners thereof—that is to say, the strips of one series are slit-

ted transversely for a portion of their width with the slits all commencing along one longitudinal edge of the strip, while the corresponding slits of the strips of the remaining series commence at the opposite longitudinal edges thereof, as will be understood by reference to Fig. 1. In this figure, omitting the two side strips therein shown, the strips of one series are provided with transverse slits all commencing at points along the top edges of the strips, while the strips of the other series are provided with slits all commencing at points along their lower edges. The strips of each of these two series involve, however, different forms or constructions, while the four strips which form the sides of the frame involve still another or third form or construction. These three constructions can be best explained by reference to the last three figures, wherein B, Fig. 2, indicates one of three forms or constructions of cross-strips; C, Fig. 3, the second form involved in the construction of cross-strips, and D, Fig. 4, the form or construction of side strip.

It will be seen that the strip B is provided between its ends with a series of transverse slits, *b*, commencing at points along one longitudinal edge of the strip and cut into the strip, so as to extend partially across the width of the same, but that the strip is provided adjacent to each end with a transverse slit, *b'*, extending partially across the width of the strip and commencing at the longitudinal edge of the strip that is opposite the longitudinal edge whereat the transverse slits *b* have their points of commencement or open ends. The two corners of the strip B, at the points where the slits *b'* occur, are also desirably cut off, substantially as shown, to facilitate the connection of the ends thereof with certain other strips.

The strip C is provided at intervals along its length with the transverse slits *c* commencing at points along one of its longitudinal edges and extending partially across the width of the strip. This strip C is at each end provided with a short straight rectangular tongue, *c'*, extending out from the strip midway of its longitudinal edges.

The strip D is at each end slitted similar to the strip B, whereby it is provided with the two end slits, *d*, one at each end. The strip D is, however, between its slitted ends provided with short transverse middle slits, *d'*, alternating with transverse edge strips d^2—that is to say, each middle slit, *d'*, is located midway between the longitudinal edges of the strip and at its ends terminate short of such edges, while the slits d^2 commence at points along one edge of the strip and extend partially across the width of the same. These transverse slits d^2 also commence at points along the longitudinal edge that is opposite the edge whereat the transverse slits *d* commence, in which way the strip D is to some extent similar to the strip B, the points of difference being that in the strip B the transverse slits *b* somewhat outnumber the corresponding slits, d^2, in the strip D, and, further, that the strip last mentioned is provided with the middle transverse slits, *d'*, which are absent in the strip B.

Referring more particularly to Fig. 1, it will be seen that the two side strips, D, therein shown are of the construction shown in Fig. 4. It will also be understood that in the complete frame each of the four side strips consists of a like strip, D. The remaining strips which go to make up the body of the frame are arranged to constitute two series, with the strips of one series intersecting those of the other series. In this arrangement each series comprises a number of strips, B, like the strip shown in Fig. 2, and a number of strips, C, like the strip shown in Fig. 3, these said strips being in each of the two series arranged to alternate with one another. The slits *b* of the strips B receive the unslitted portions of strips C that are in line with the slits *c* of the latter, while on the other hand the slits *c* of the strips C receive like unslitted portions of the strips B, so as to provide ordinary joints at such points of intersection. After the strips B and C have been thus interlocked, so as to provide a partially-completed frame, the four side strips, D, are to be applied to bring the frame to a state of completion. When the side strips, D, are thus applied, these said strips D will interlock with the strips B along the lines of the slits d^2 in the former and the slits *b'* in the latter, while the tongues *c'* of the strips C will be inserted through the middle slits, *d'*, of the strips D. The four side strips, D, will also interlock with one another at the four corners of the frame, the interlocking of said strips being along the lines of their end slits, *d*. In this way the several parts of the frame will be held together and prevented from falling apart, it being seen that under such arrangement, first, the joints formed by reason of the slits *b'* in the strips B and the slits d^2 in the strips D are the reverse of the joints formed by the slits *b* of strips B and the slits *c* of the strips C; secondly, that the ends of the strips B included in one series of cross-strips engage one of the side strips, D, (shown in Fig. 1,) just the reverse of the engagement with the other side strip, D, of the strips B of the other series of cross-pieces; thirdly, that the rectangular tongues *c'* of strips C alternate with the strips B in engaging the side strips, D; finally, that the strips D engage one another just the reverse of the engagement of the strips B with said strips D.

It will be understood that by the feature of interlocking the strips by arranging some of the slits to commence, say, at the top longitudinal edges of the strips and others to commence at what may then be regarded as the bottom edges of the strips, greater security is attained than if the disposition of slits were uniform throughout, and that the features of the straight tongues of certain of the cross-strips engaging in straight slits of the four side strips serves to hold the parts of the frame se-

curely together, and at the same time to constitute an exceedingly simple and efficient means for so doing.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. An egg-carrier consisting of the side strips interlocking with one another at the corners of the frame, combined with the two series of cross-strips forming the main body portion of the frame and comprising strips which are slit transversely from their edges to interlock with the side strips at points where the latter are similarly slitted, and strips provided at their ends with straight tongues that are inserted through straight slits formed between the longitudinal edges of the side strips, substantially as shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. In an egg-carrier of the character set forth, the side strips, D, of the frame, each provided with transverse end slits, *d*, and transverse slits d^2 cut into the strips respectively from opposite longitudinal edges thereof, and further provided with middle slits, *d'*, terminating short of the said longitudinal edges, combined with the two series of cross-strips, each composed of strips B and strips C, whereof each strip B is provided with transverse end slits, *b'*, cut into the strip from one longitudinal edge, and intermediate transverse slits *b*, cut into the strip from the opposite longitudinal edge, and each strip C provided at each end with a straight tongue, *c'*, and between its ends provided with a series of transverse slits, said members being fitted together and organized substantially as described.

CHARLES L. KRUM.

Witnesses:
CHAS. G. PAGE,
L. S. LOGAN.