

J. MATTHEWS.

Boxes for Holding and Transporting Bottles.

No. 139,722.

Patented June 10, 1873.

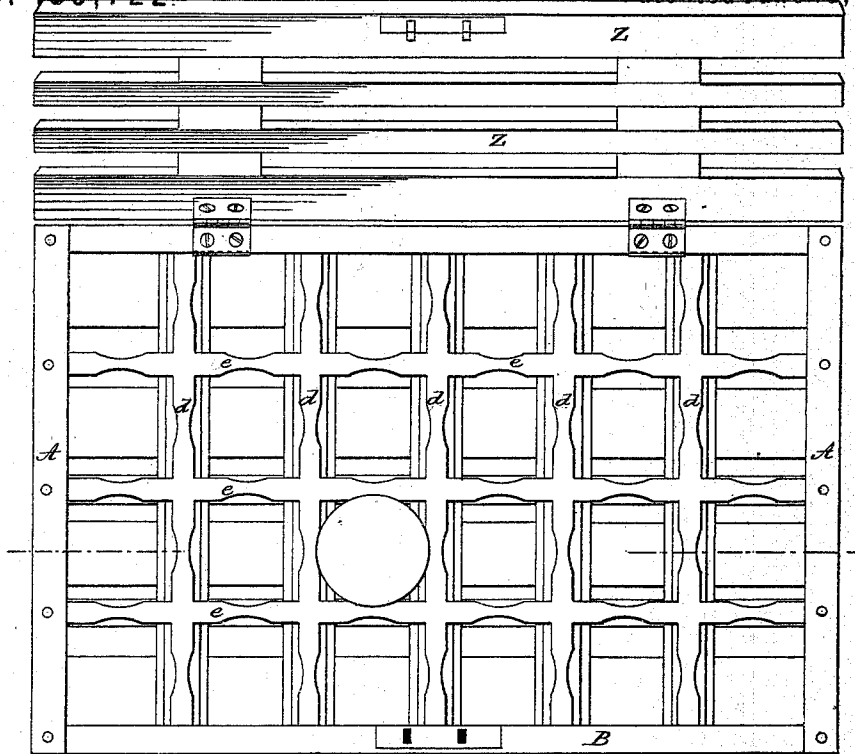


Fig. 1.

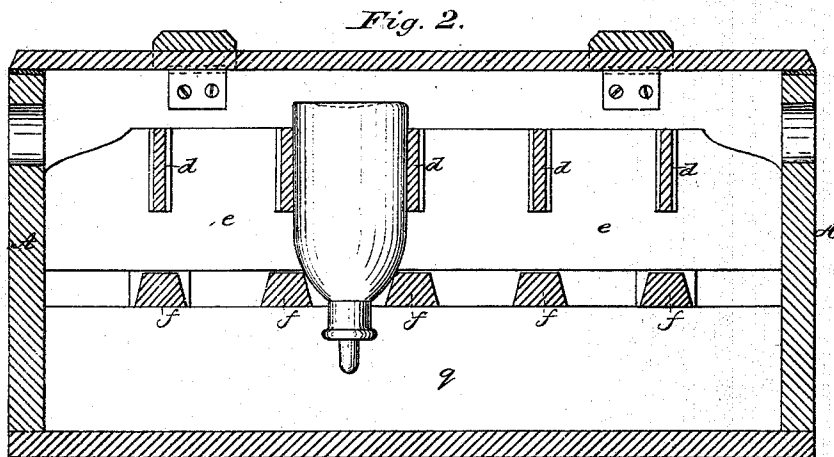


Fig. 2.

Witnesses:

B. J. Hall  
S. A. Curtis

Inventor:

John Matthews

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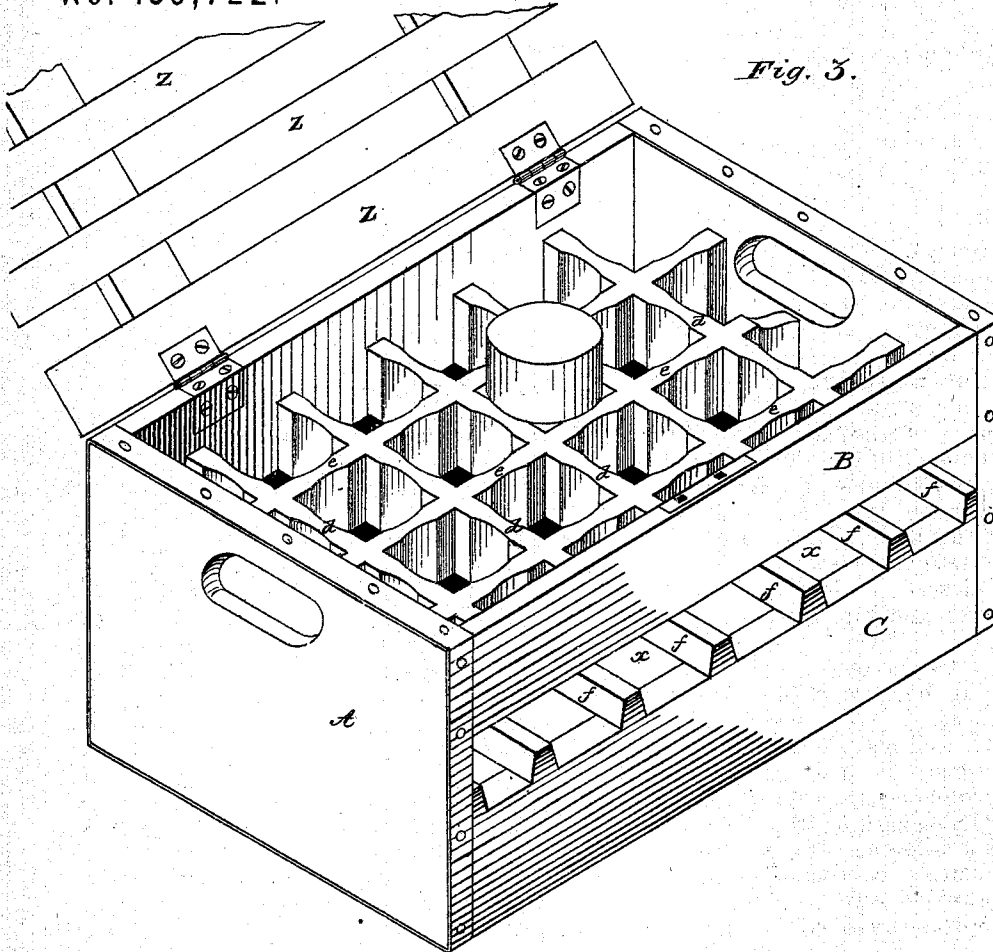
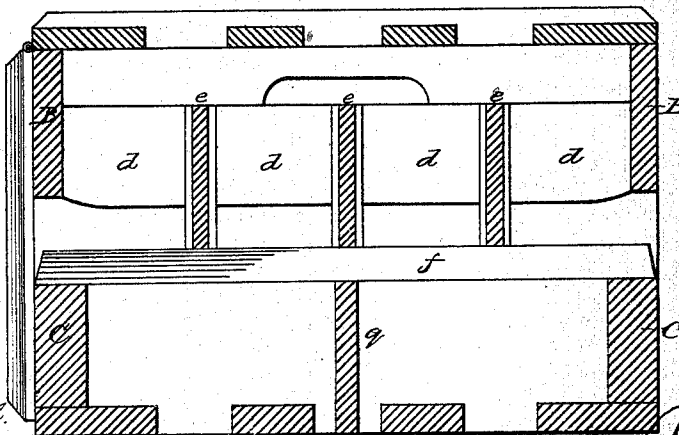


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MATTHEWS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOXES FOR HOLDING AND TRANSPORTING BOTTLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **139,722**, dated June 10, 1873; application filed May 16, 1873.

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN MATTHEWS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boxes or Cases for Holding and Transporting Bottles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 shows a plan view; Fig. 2, a longitudinal vertical section; Fig. 3, perspective view of the box; and Fig. 4 a vertical transverse section.

The object of the invention is to provide a box for carrying bottles containing mineral water, soda-water, ale, wine, and other liquids which are distributed or shipped in bottles; and consists of an open-slatted box-shaped frame, containing pigeon-holes or receptacles for holding each bottle separate from the others. When used as a shipping-case it is provided with an open slatted cover and bottom, the cover being provided with hinges and a lock. The sides are open so as to exhibit the bottles in the box.

The following description will enable others to make and use the invention.

A A represents the ends of the box; B C, the sides of the box; *x x*, opening between sides of box; *d d d*, the partitions running across the box and fitting into the partitions *e e e* running lengthwise of the box; *f f f*, transverse strips extending across the box beneath the partitions, and resting on the side C. The strips B and C, forming the sides of the box, are let into the ends A A. The longitudinal partitions *e e e* rest upon the strips *f f f*. The transverse partitions *d d d* are let into and rest in the longitudinal partitions *e e e*. The partitions, when locked together, are bored with a tubular saw, of a diameter slightly larger than the diameter of the bottle to be transported. The shoulders of the bottles rest upon the transverse strips *f f f*. Beneath the transverse strips is the center-bar *g* secured to the ends of the box, forming a guard to protect the necks of the bottles

while handling the boxes, when the bottom is not further inclosed by strips, as in the shipping-case, and also forming a longitudinal beam supporting the transverse strips *f f f*. It is evident that by this construction of the box great strength is attained, as the transverse strips *f f f* may be nailed or otherwise secured to the lower side C of the box. I make the lower side C, preferably, of somewhat thicker material than the upper side B, as by this means more security is afforded to the nails. The transverse strips may also be nailed or otherwise secured to the longitudinal strips *e e e*, thus enabling the transverse strips to be so nailed that each bottle is prevented from pressing the strips apart. The opening *x x* into the sides of the box serves the double purpose of exhibiting the bottles, makes the box lighter, and also permits the transverse strips to pass through the box and be secured to the lower side piece C. The partitions *d e* may be made thicker than the ordinary boxes without loss of space, as the boring out or fluting of the central part of the pigeon-holes does not weaken the partitions, but leaves them as strong as they are where joined together, that part being already somewhat weakened by the jointing or notching at the junctions.

When used to distribute soda-water, mineral water, ginger-ale, and the like, the slotted bottom and cover may be omitted, but when used as a shipping-case these should be added.

It will be seen that this case is very strong and comparatively light. All parts are thoroughly braced, so that it will bear rough usage without injury to the contents. The transverse partitions *d d d* being let into and resting on the longitudinal partitions *e e e*, the latter resting on the cross-strips *f f f*, which again are supported by the bar *g*, make a solid binding together and bracing of all the parts from top to bottom. I have shown only one bar, *g*, but if desired one may be placed under each of the longitudinal strips or partitions *e*.

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

1. The two series of partitions *e* and *d d*, ar-

ranged at right angles within the box, and bored or fluted, as described, so as to form receptacles for the bottles, as set forth.

2. The box-frame, composed of end pieces, four side pieces, B B and C C with space *x* between, and the transverse strips *f f*, all combined and arranged substantially as described.

3. The center-bar *p*, secured to the ends of the box and arranged so as to support the

cross-pieces *f f* and protect the necks of the bottles, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 14th day of May, 1873.

JOHN MATTHEWS.

Witnesses:

B. F. HALL,  
S. A. CURTIS.