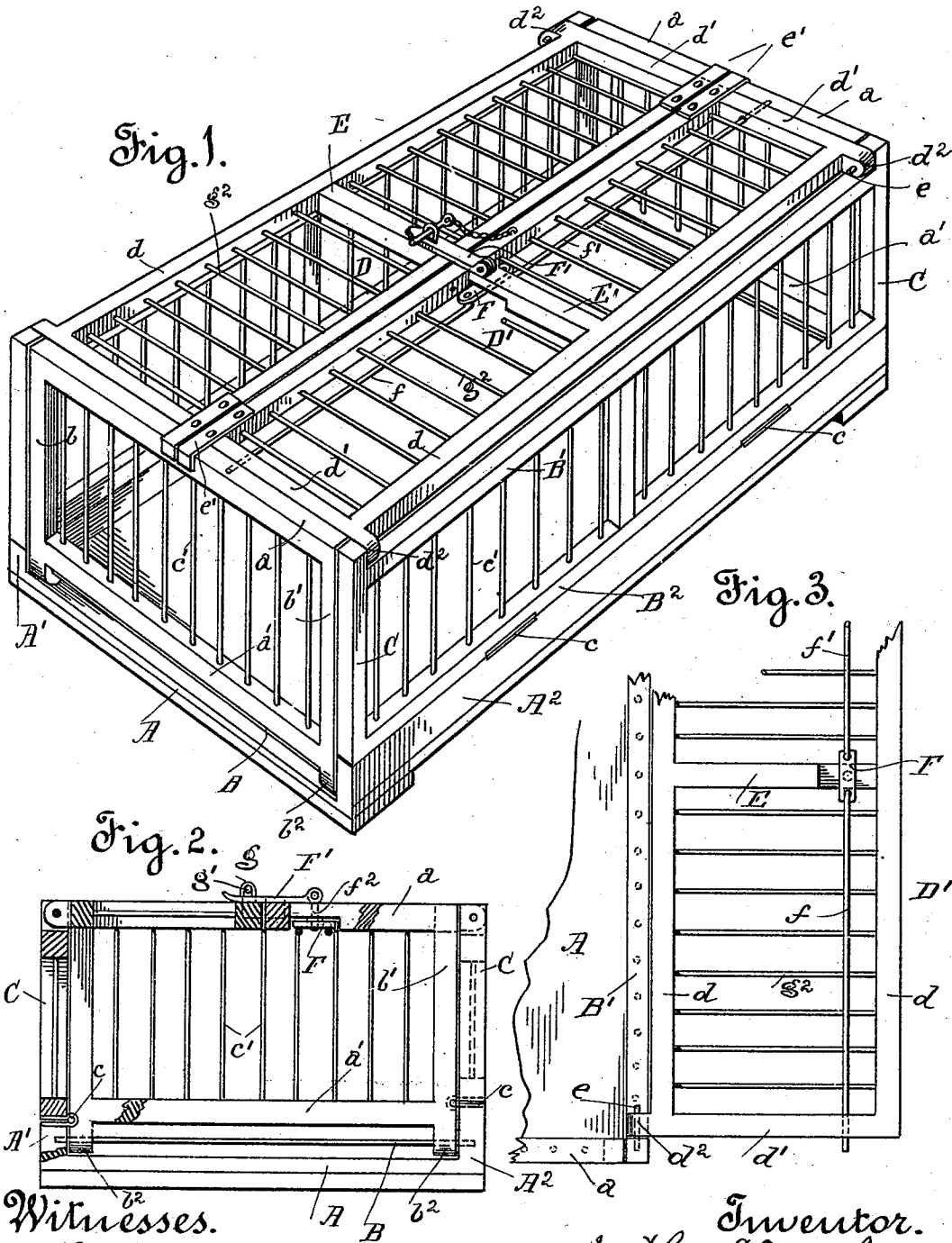


(No Model.)

I. E. MARSHALL.
SHIPPING CRATE.

No. 512,731.

Patented Jan. 16, 1894.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

IANTHUS EMLEN MARSHALL, OF MARTINEZ, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF
ONE-HALF TO ALBERT Y. WERNER.

SHIPPING-CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 512,731, dated January 16, 1894.

Application filed May 26, 1893. Serial No. 475,551. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IANTHUS EMLEN MARSHALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Martinez, in the county of Contra Costa and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping-Crates; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of said invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it most nearly appertains to make, use, and practice the same.

The present invention relates to an improved shipping crate for poultry, which consists in the arrangement of parts and details of construction as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and described.

The object of my invention is to provide a shipping crate which may be quickly and easily folded together or closed when not required for the transportation of poultry, thus permitting the same, when empty, to be folded together and packed one upon the other in order that they may occupy the least amount of room, thus creating a great saving in freight, when the crates are reshipped to the owner thereof, from the commission merchant, for the reason that a greater number may be placed in the car.

Referring to the drawings forming a part of this application, wherein similar letters of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the entire specification and several views, Figure 1, is a perspective view of the crate. Fig. 2, is a cross-sectional view taken on line *x-x*—Fig. 1; and Fig. 3, a broken detail view, showing one of the covers raised.

The letter A, indicates the bottom of my crate, to which are fastened the upwardly projecting longitudinal side sills A', A². Between these sills I movably secure, by hinges or otherwise, the ends of the crate, which consists of an open frame composed of top and bottom strips, *a*, *a'*, united by side pieces or strips *b*, *b'*, the lower ends of the side strips projecting below bottom strip *a'* so as to form ears *b*², through which passes the rod B, the ends of which project within holes formed in ends of the sills A', A². This rod B, forms the fastening for the movable ends of the crate, although the same may be hinged to the bottom A. To

the side sills I fasten the open side frames, composed of the strips B', B² connected by vertical pieces C. The upper ends of said vertical pieces project beyond strips B' B², as shown. These side frames are connected to the sills by inwardly swinging hinges *c*. The open end and side frames are strengthened by means of the wire or iron rods *c'*, which rods are placed such a distance apart as will prevent the escape of fowls therebetween. If so desired the open frames may be closed by wire gauze, instead of wire or iron rods. The crate is closed by two covers, D, D', each consisting of longitudinal and end pieces, *d*, *d'*. The end pieces project beyond the longitudinal pieces, thus forming ears *d*², which are movably secured between projecting ends of vertical pieces C, by means of the pins or bolts *e*. However, if so desired the covers may be hinged directly to strips B'. These covers when closed as shown in Fig. 1, fit between the hinged ends of the crate and prevent the same from moving inward. In order to prevent the downward movement of the covers, I secure to ends of longitudinal pieces *d*, the plate *e'*, the outer end of which is flanged downward so as to clasp the cross or top piece *a*, of the ends, as shown. The covers I strengthen by placing between the longitudinal pieces the block E, E'. When the covers are closed the crate is locked by means of the cam F, fastened to under face of block E'. From this cam projects the rods *f*, *f'*, which extend the entire length of the crate, passing through end strips *d'*, of cover D', and into sockets cut within top piece *a*, of the ends. From this cam projects the pin *f*² which extends through block E', and is held in place by hasp F', which fits over staple *g*, and is secured thereon by key *g'*, although a pad-lock may be used for this purpose. This hasp as thrown to the right or left causes the cam to turn likewise, which moves the rods *f*, *f'*, in or out of locked engagement with the ends of the crate.

When it is desired to ship the crate empty, the same is packed in a knock-down condition. For this purpose the covers are thrown over or raised, which permits the ends to fall inward and lie upon the bottom. The sides

are then turned inward until they rest upon the ends, and the cover D, swung over upon its connected side, after which cover D', is allowed to fall thereover. The folded crate
5 is then locked or tied together.

It will be noticed that each part of the crate is connected to the other. Consequently no one section thereof is liable to become lost or separated. The covers D, D', have the bars g^2 ,
10 run therethrough similar to the ends and sides.

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

15 1. The combination with a crate of the character described, of a cam having its fulcrum pin mounted in and extending through one cover thereof, locking rods pivoted to the ends of the cam and adapted to engage the ends of
20 the crate, a hasp pivoted to the upper end of the fulcrum pin of the cam and adapted to engage over a staple on the opposite cover, and

a locking pin inserted through said staple above said hasp.

2. In a crate, the combination of the bottom 25 having longitudinal side sills, the ends arranged between the side sills and having depending ears on their lower edge, pivot rods inserted transversely through said ears and the ends of the side sills, open sides hinged 30 to the upper edges of the side sills, resting against the ends and provided with ears on their upper edges, open covers pivoted to and between said ears and bearing against the inner faces of the sides at the top thereof, and 35 clasp plates secured to the ends of the covers and engaging over the upper edges of the ends and holding the same.

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

IANTHUS EMLÉN MARSHALL.

Witnesses:

ISIDOR SELIG,
WILLIAM S. WELLS.