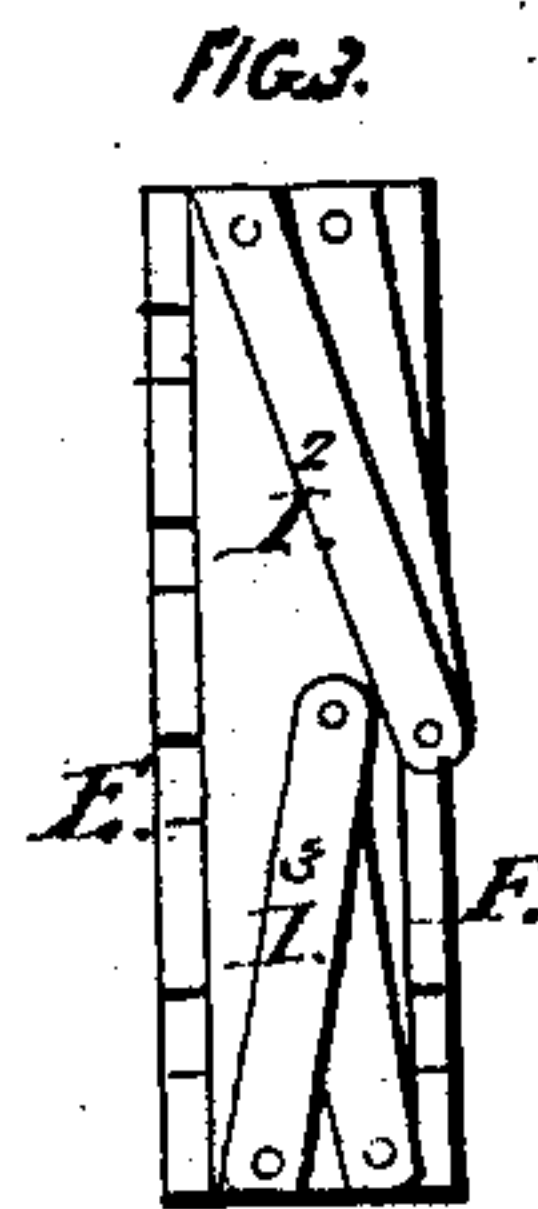
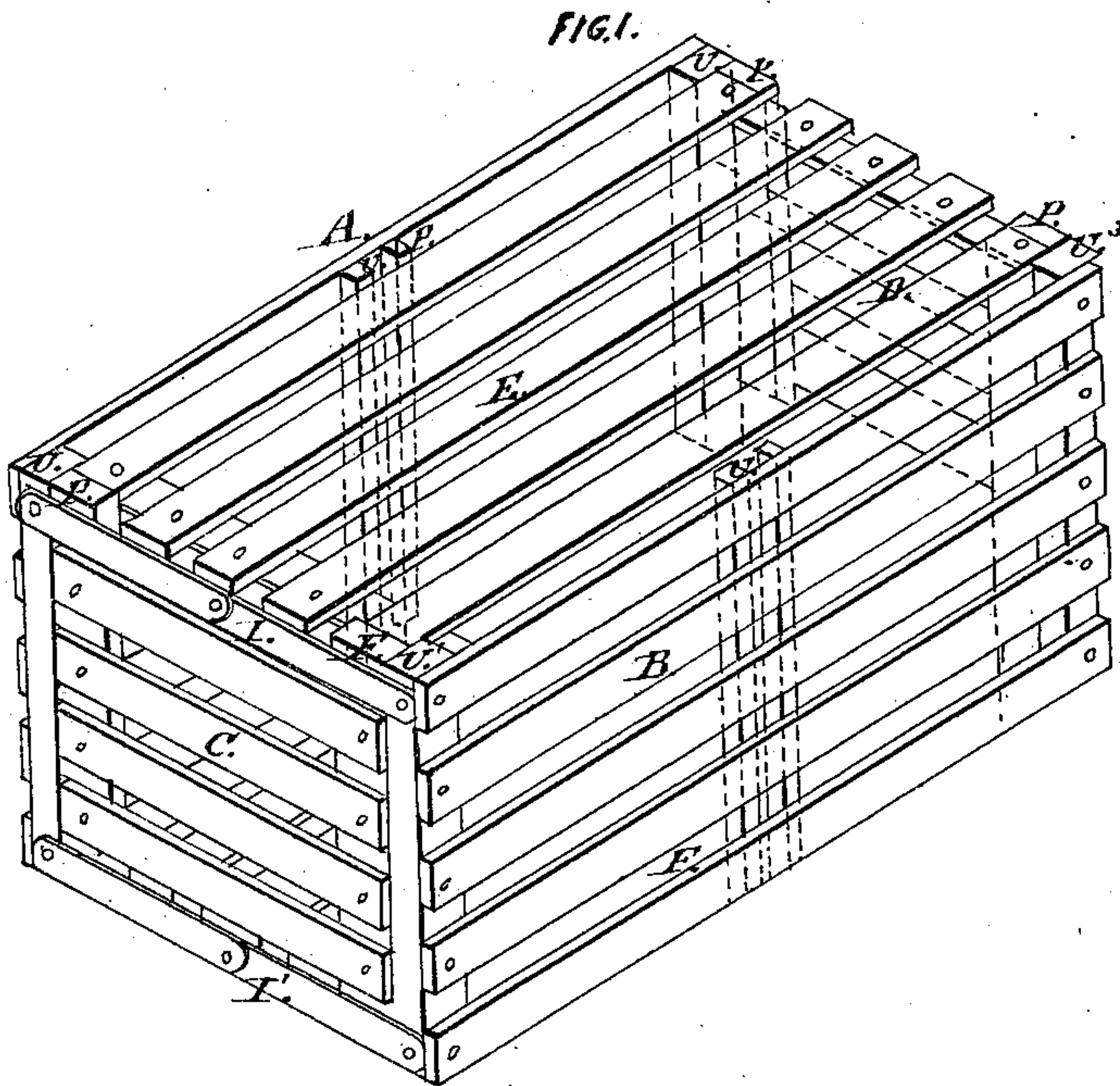


J. H. Hollingsworth,

Fruit Crate.

No. 86157.

Patented Jan. 26. 1869.



WITNESSES:

Charles H. Evans.
Wm. R. Catford.

INVENTOR:

James H. Hollingsworth

United States Patent Office.

JAMES H. HOLLINGSWORTH, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 86,157, dated January 26, 1869; antedated January 11, 1869.

IMPROVED FOLDING FRUIT-BOX

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. HOLLINGSWORTH, of the city of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and improved "Folding Fruit-Box;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my fruit-box when extended.

Figure 2 is a side view when folded.

Figure 3 is an end view when folded.

The object of my invention is to provide a folding box for the purpose of shipping fruits or commodities to market, and after the contents of the same are removed, the box can be folded up in a small space and returned to the shippers, at a small expenditure for freight.

The arrangement of the box is such that access is had to the contents, without destroying or breaking it apart, and it can be used any number of times.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation.

The sides A and B of my box consist of four uprights, V, V¹, V², and V³, of any length, secured to which is a series of slats placed a short distance apart. The said sides are connected together at the ends by means of iron straps I, I¹, I², and I³, hinged in the centre.

The ends C and D of the box are made of slats of the same size as the sides, with the ends secured to cross-pieces P, P¹, P², and P³.

The top, E, and bottom, F, are similar in construction, with the exception that the cross-pieces to which the slats are secured are placed a short distance from the ends of the slats. The ends of the centre slats, forming the bottom, F, project out and rest on the iron straps I¹ and I².

When desired, a partition can be placed across the centre of the box, the uprights V P being secured to the sides of A and B on the inside, into which the partition slides.

In arranging the box to receive fruits or other commodities, the sides A and B are extended out to the length of the iron straps I, I¹, I², and I³, and the ends C and D inserted, so that the pieces P, P¹, P², and P³, fit between the uprights V, V¹, V², and V³. This keeps the sides A and B extended.

The bottom, F, is now inserted, the ends of the two outer slats being formed so as to fit closely against the lower part of pieces P, P¹, P², and P³, and thus preventing the ends of the box from being forced inward at these points.

The two outer slats of the top, E, are cut in a similar manner to outer slats of bottom, F, and thus securing the upper part of the pieces P, P¹, P², and P³, in proper place.

One edge of the top, E, may be held in place by means of cleats or pins placed at the upper part of the uprights V and V¹, or V² and V³, as desired, the opposite edge being secured to the sides A or B by means of straps, hooks, ropes, or any other contrivance which may be easily adjusted.

In folding the box, the top, E, and bottom, F, and the ends C and D, are removed. The sides A and B are then drawn together, and will assume the position as shown in figs. 2 and 3. Owing to the thickness of the uprights V, V¹, V², and V³, a space is left between the slats of the sides, into which the ends C and D are inserted. The top, E, and bottom, F, are placed against and on the outside of the sides A and B, and are fastened by means of ropes or straps. In this position the box occupies very little space, and is readily handled.

Having thus described my invention, its construction, and operation,

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement of the sides A and B, ends C and D, top, E, and bottom, F, in combination with the hinged iron straps I, I¹, I², and I³, in the manner and for the purpose specified.

JAMES H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

Witnesses:

CHARLES H. EVANS,
ISAAC B. OAKFORD.