

Lindsey & O'Sullivan,

Fruit Crate.

No. 28647.

Patented Apr. 6, 1869.

Fig. 1.

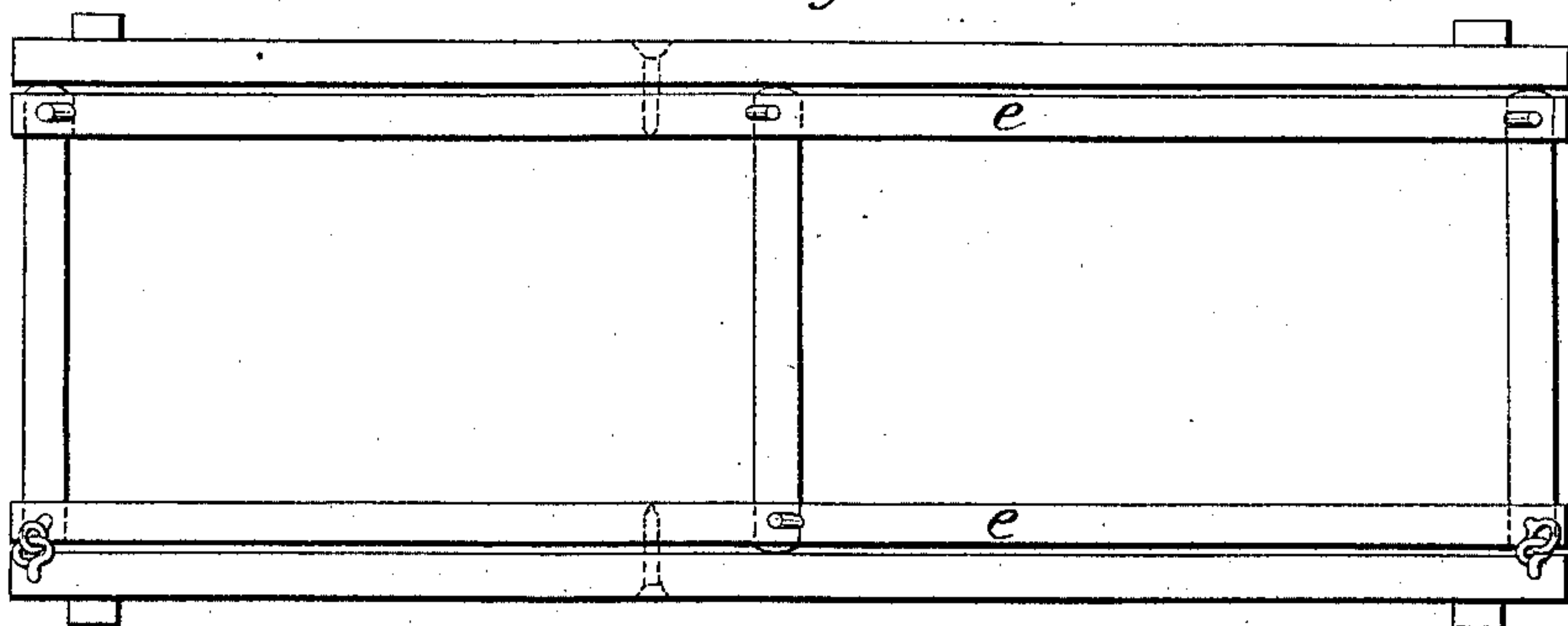
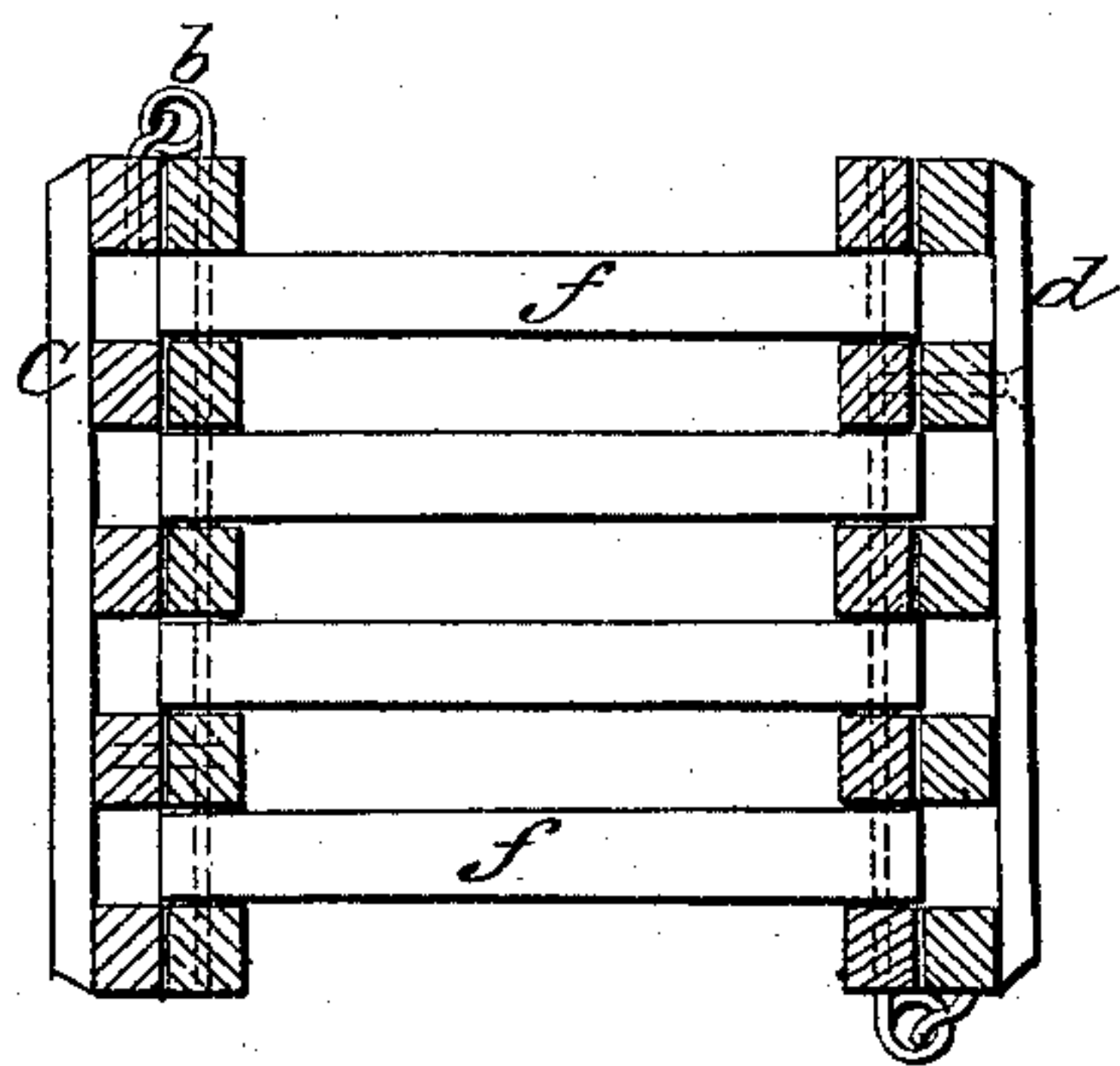
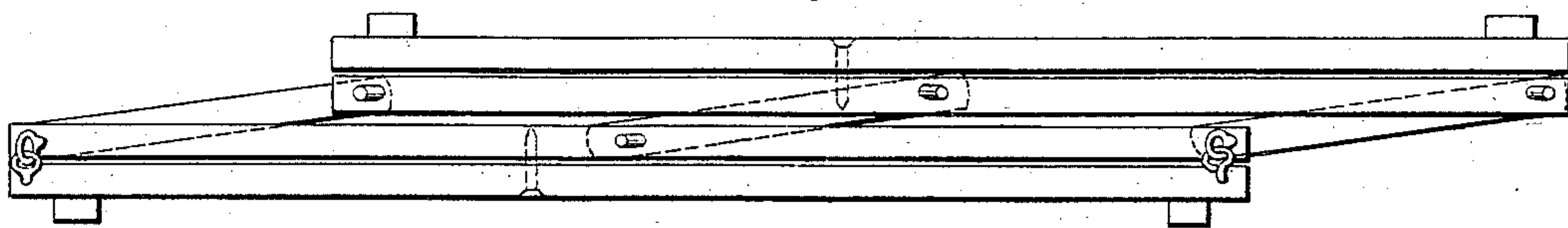


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
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L. A. LINDSEY AND J. F. O'SULLIVAN, OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

Letters Patent No. 88,647, dated April 6, 1869.

IMPROVED FRUIT-CRATE

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, L. A. LINDSEY and J. F. O'SULLIVAN, of Jackson, in the county of Hinds, and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Crates; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in packages for shipping fruit, vegetables, poultry, and for other purposes, whereby it is designed to provide crates of simple and cheap construction, which may be readily folded, so as to occupy but little space when it is desired to transport them empty or to store them.

Figure 1 represents a plan view of our improved crate, when partially folded;

Figure 2 represents the same, when completely folded; and

Figure 3 represents an end view of fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

We propose to form our improved crates wholly, except the metal fastenings, of rectangular bars of wood, and we build up the sides, ends, and dividing partitions of the said bars of suitable lengths, by laying the said bars across each other at the ends, alternately, as represented in fig. 3, except the partitions, which cross the side bars at suitable intervals from the ends, always beginning and ending with the side rails, using one more side rail than end rails.

We join these side and end rails by metallic rods, running entirely through from top to bottom, as represented in dotted lines, at *a*, fig. 3, so that when not otherwise prevented, the crate, as thus far formed, will have perfect liberty to be folded down, as represented in fig. 2.

The said rods *a* are provided, on one side of the crate, at the top of the same, with eyes *b*, and with similar eyes at the bottom thereof, on the other side, to which the tops *C* and bottoms *d* are respectively hinged.

The said tops and bottoms are formed of longitudinal rails, securely fastened to transverse bars, and are of sufficient width to fit fairly between the upper and lower longitudinal rails *e*, and rest on the upper and lower transverse bars *f*, in which position they effectually resist any tendency of the sides and ends to fold together, and, being fastened by screwing to the side rails, or to the transverse rails, in any suitable manner, constitute a rigid and substantial crate, the battens, or cross-pieces of the bottom and cover being arranged to fit snugly inside of the upper and lower cross-pieces of the ends.

It will be seen that this method of construction is very simple and cheap, and affords a collapsable, or folding crate, which may with facility be changed from one condition to the other.

The same screws, or fastenings which secure the cover and bottom in one condition, serve to secure them in the other, and the names of the shippers and receivers of the goods may be so marked on the cover that when in the folded state the return address will appear, and the other when in the other condition.

Having thus described our invention,

We claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The covers *c* and *d*, hinged to the same rods *a*, and arranged to fit between the side and end rails, and thereby maintain the crate in the condition for packing, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

2. The arrangement of the several parts, whereby the top and bottom may be folded and secured to the sides, and the whole folded into the form represented in fig. 2, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

L. A. LINDSEY.
J. F. O'SULLIVAN.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. SWANN,
R. H. WINTER.