

L. A. Lindsey,

Fruit Crate

No. 100,299.

Patented Mar. 1. 1870.

Fig. 1

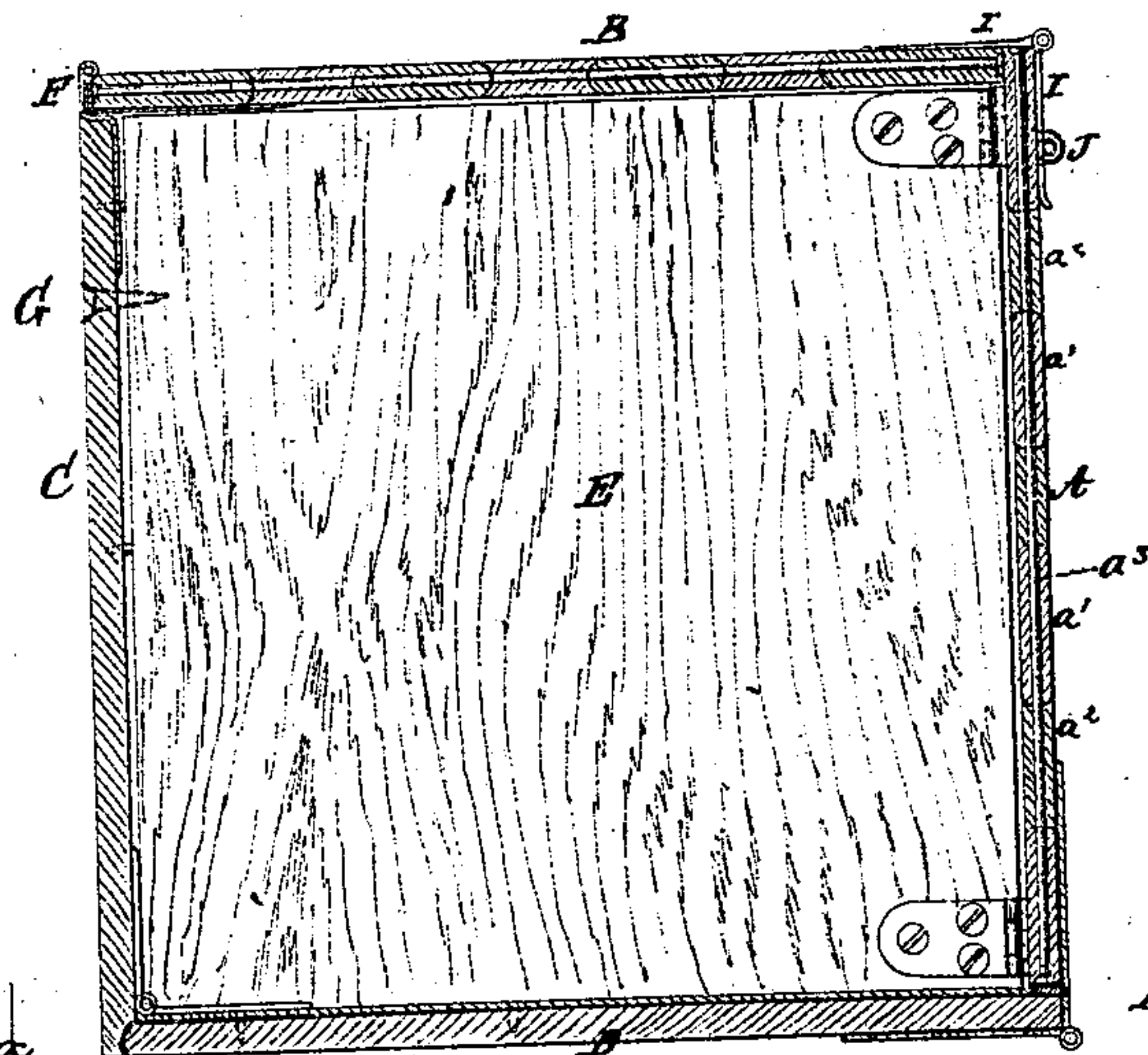


Fig. 2

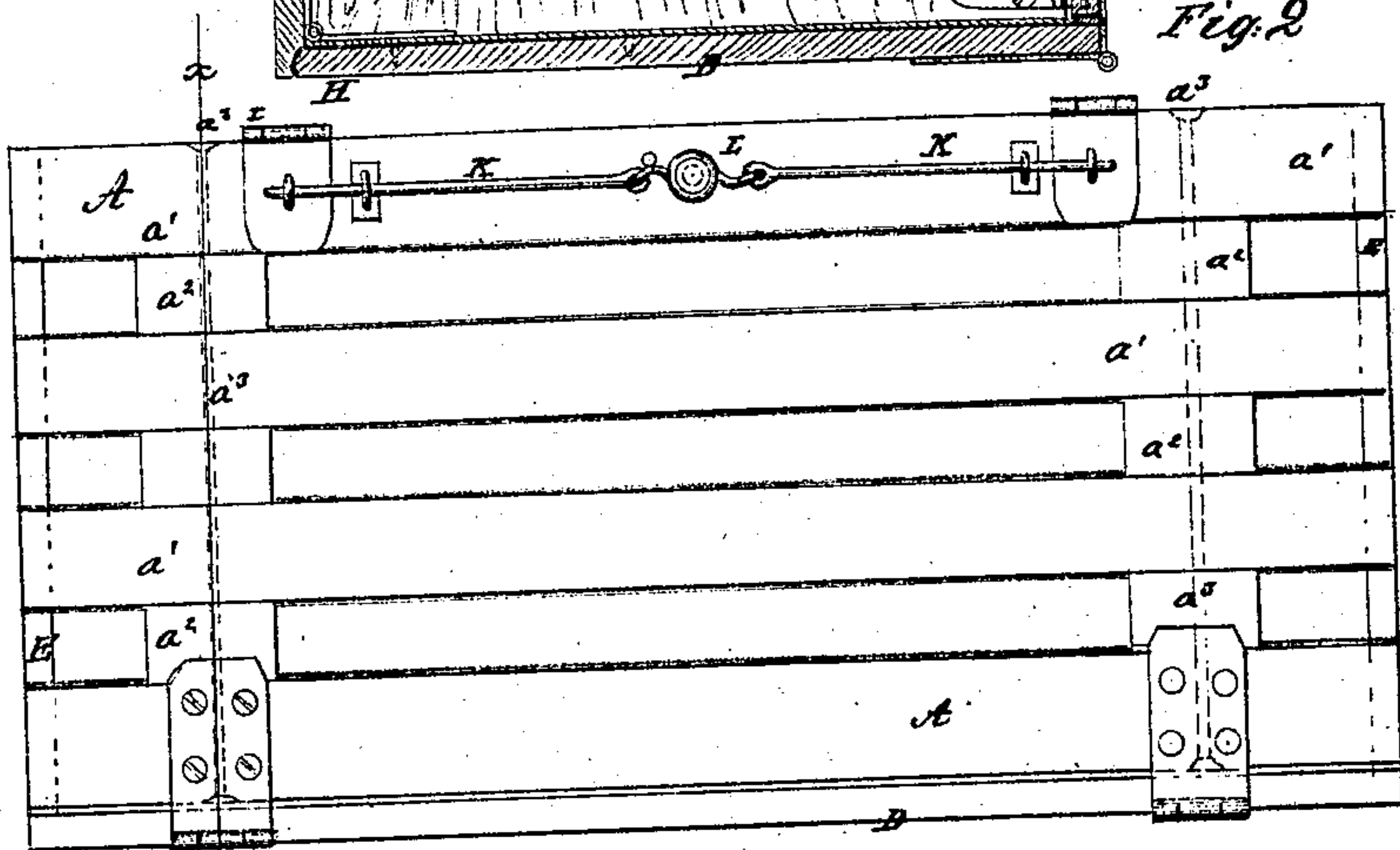
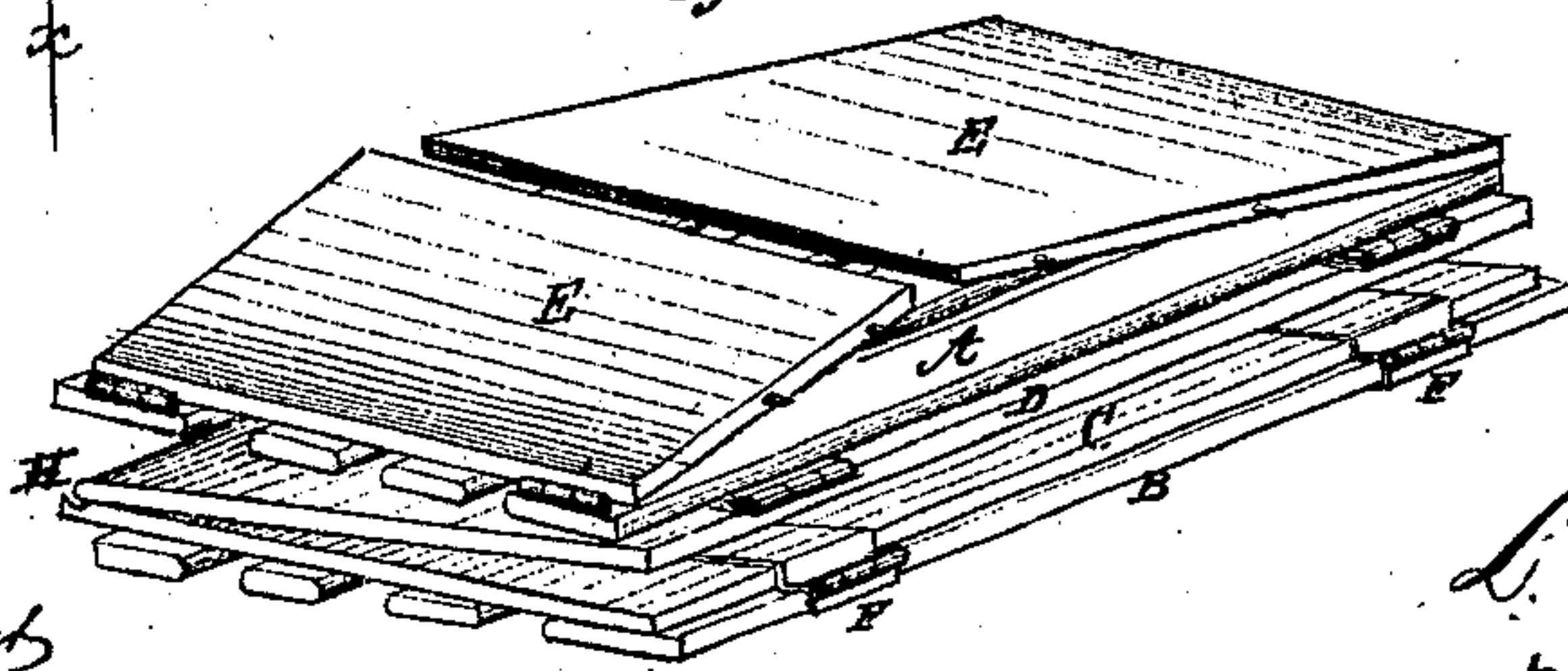


Fig. 3



Witnesses

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LANDY A. LINDSEY, OF JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.

Letters Patent No. 100,299, dated March 1, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN FOLDING-CRATES

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, LANDY A. LINDSEY, of Jackson, in the county of Hinds, and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding-Crate, Box, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a vertical cross-section of my improved folding-crate or box, taken through the line *x x*, fig. 2.

Figure 2 is a front view of the same.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the same partially folded.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved crate, box, chest, or trunk, which shall be so constructed and arranged that it may be conveniently and quickly folded into a compact form for storage or transportation, and which, when opened for use, will be strong and serviceable; and

It consists in the construction and combination of the various parts, as hereinafter more fully described.

A is the front;

B, the top or cover;

C, the rear side;

D, the bottom; and

E, the ends of the crate.

All or part of these parts may be made close, or all or part of them may be made of slats, as may be desired, according to the purpose for which the crate is to be used.

When made of slats, they may be formed by attaching longitudinal and cross strips to each other, each being let into the others one-half its thickness.

But I prefer to round the edges of the longitudinal strips *a*¹ and to place between them short strips *a*², having grooved edges, the whole being securely connected together by long rivets, rods, or bolts *a*³, as shown in figs. 1 and 2.

The rear edge of the top B is hinged to the top edge of the rear side C by the hinges F, constructed as shown in figs. 1 and 3; that is to say, the lower strap of said hinges is attached to the inner side of the side C, is bent outward across the top edge of said side, and is then bent upward for the thickness of the top B.

The upper strap of said hinge is attached to the under side of the top B, is bent upward across the edge of the top B for the thickness of the said top, and is pivoted to the other strap.

This allows the top, when shut down, to rest upon the upper edge of the part C, and when folded, to be turned back to lie closely along the side of the said part C.

The bottom D is hinged to the rear side C in such a way that it may be folded up to lie closely along the inner side of the rear side C.

The front A at its lower edge is hinged to the forward edge of the bottom D, so that the said front A may be folded down to lie closely along the lower side of the said bottom D, the four sides thus all folding up to lie parallel with each other, as shown in fig. 3.

The ends E are hinged at their forward or rear edges to the ends of the front or rear sides, so as to fold up and lie closely along the one or the other of said sides.

The lower edges and the side edges that are not hinged of the ends E are provided with dowel-pins, which enter the bottom and side of the crate and support the said ends against outward or inward pressure.

The crate, when folded, may be held together by screws passing between adjacent edges of the ends and screwing into the opposite outer side of the folded crate.

These screws, when the crate is opened up for use, may be passed through the side into which the dowel-pins of the ends E enter and screwed into the edges of said ends, as shown at the point G, to support the said side against outward pressure when the top or cover of the crate is turned back for filling or emptying the crate.

When a close box is required the one of each two adjacent edges may be rounded off, to enter a groove in the side of the other adjacent edge, as shown in fig. 1, at the point H, or a rubber packing may be interposed between the adjacent edges.

I are hinged straps, one end of which is secured to the top B, and their other ends overlap the front A, and are slotted to pass over the staples J attached to the said front, and which receive the forward ends of the long bolts K.

The other ends of the bolts K are pivoted to the ends of the short lever L, which is pivoted at its central point to the said front A, so that by turning the short equal-armed lever L upon its pivoting-point the said bolts K may be pushed out or drawn back, as required.

The crate may also be further fastened with a lock or seal when required.

It should be observed that the hinges and fastenings of the crate or box should all be let into its wood-work, so as to be flush with the surface of said

wood-work, to allow the parts to lie closely together when the crate or box is folded.

Having thus described my invention,

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

The combination of front A, cover B, rear side C, bottom D, and ends E, each of said parts being constructed and arranged, with respect to the others,

in the manner specified, for the purpose of forming a fruit crate.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 26th day of July, 1869.

L. A. LINDSEY.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. MABEE,
JAMES T. GRAHAM.