

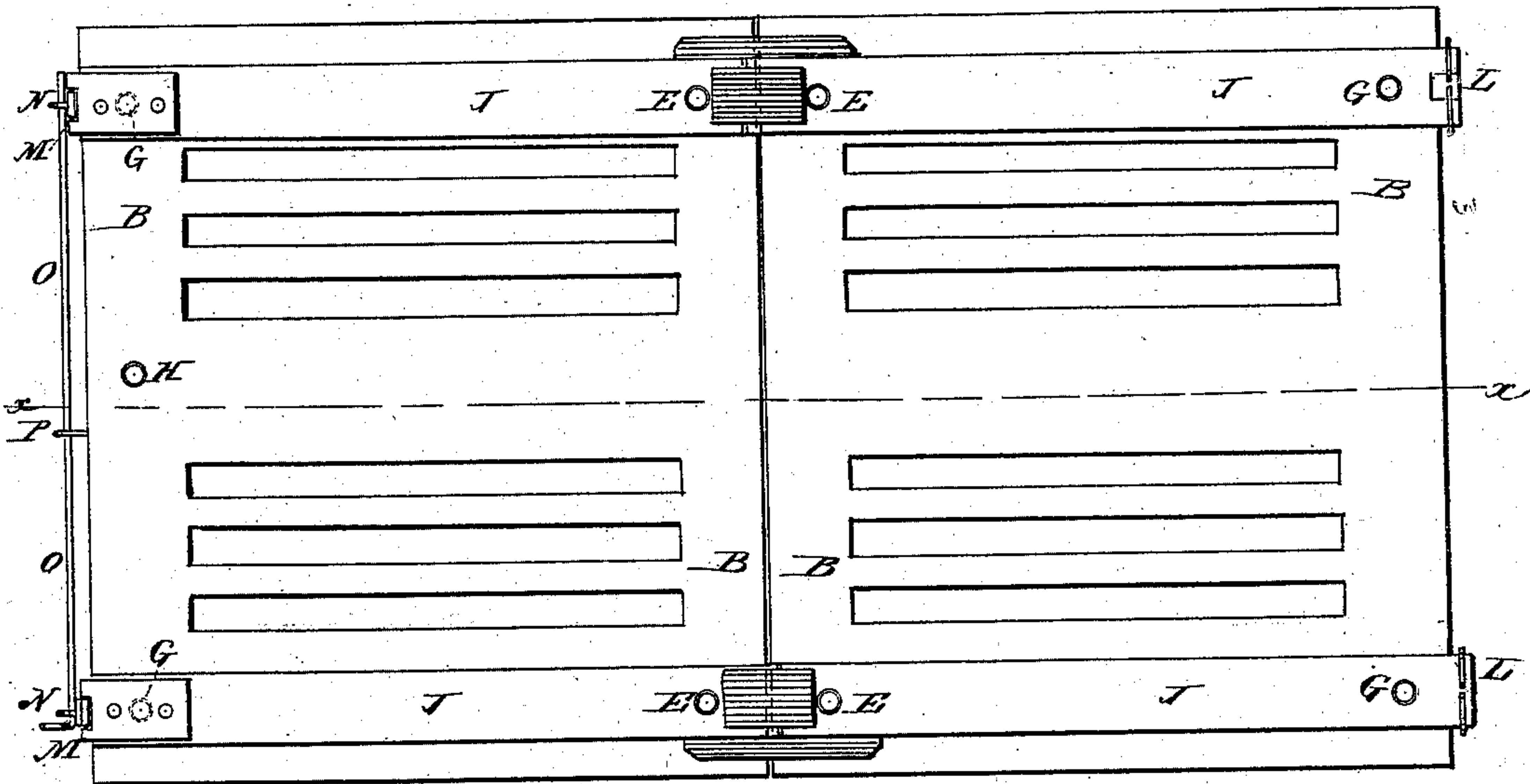
(Model.)

W. B. VAN HUTTON.  
Folding Crate.

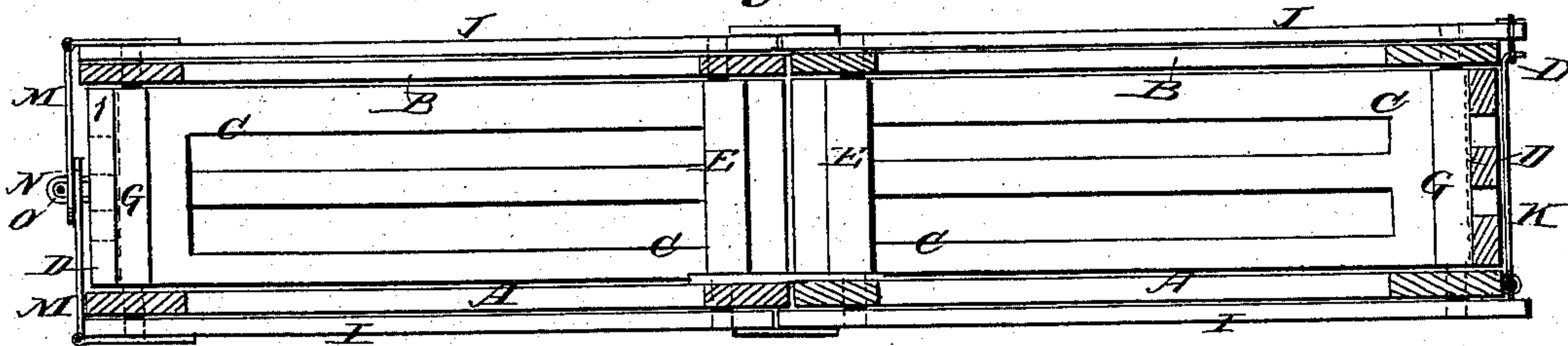
No. 237,215.

Patented Feb. 1, 1881.

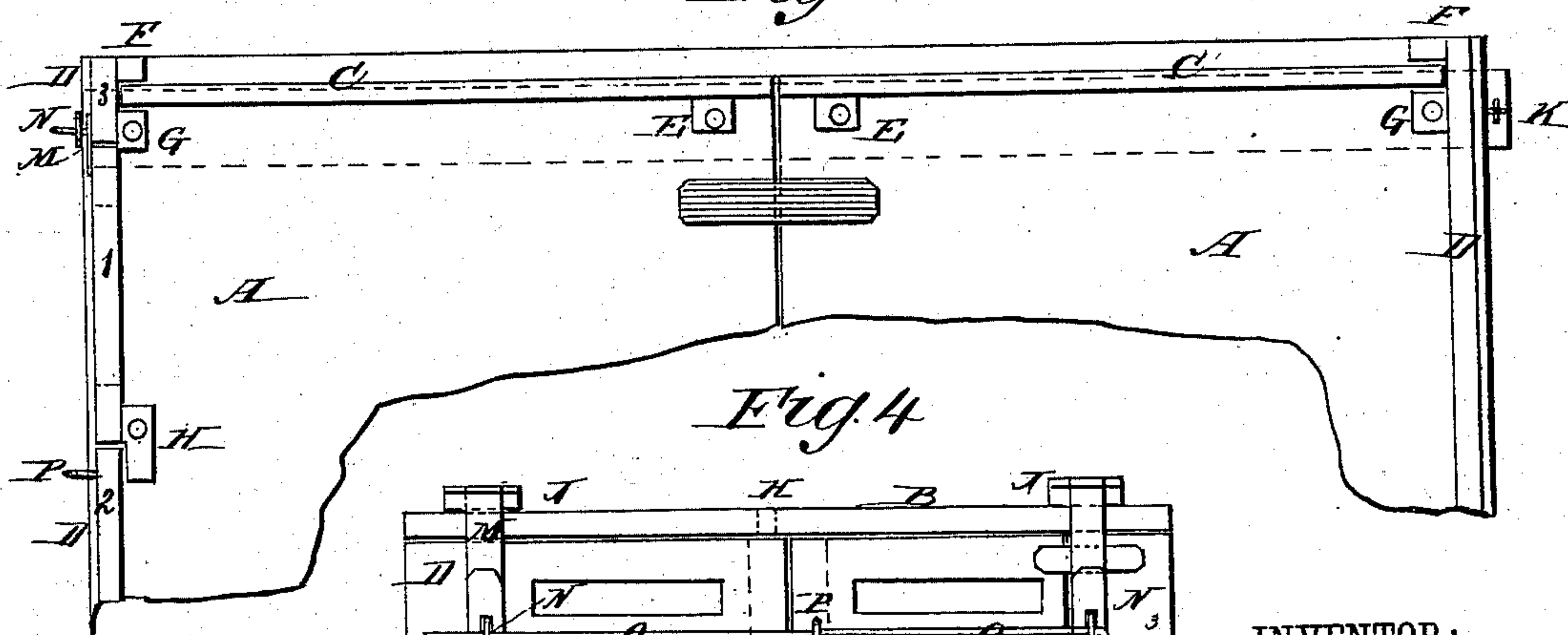
*Fig. 1.*



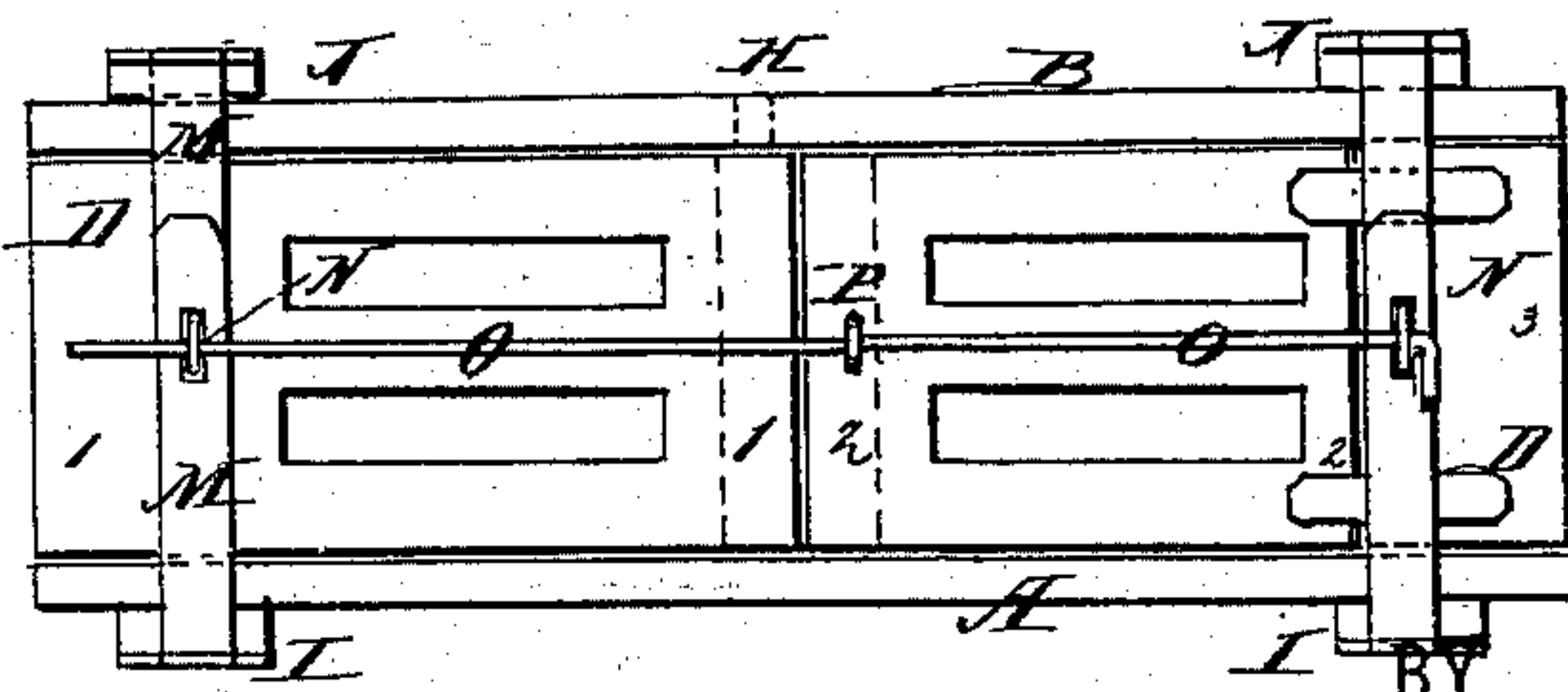
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM B. VAN HUTTON, OF LA BAHIA PRAIRIE, (BURTON P. O.,) TEXAS.

## FOLDING CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 237,215, dated February 1, 1881.

Application filed July 9, 1880. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BRUNO VAN HUTTON, of La Bahia Prairie, (Burton P. O.,) and county of Washington, State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Crates, of which the following is a specification.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the improvement. Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation taken through the line *x x*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view, the top being removed. Fig. 4 is an end elevation.

The object of this invention is to furnish crates for the transportation of poultry, small animals, fruits, and vegetables, so constructed that they may be compactly folded for reshipment, and which shall be firm, strong, and durable in use.

The invention consists, in a folding crate, of a closed bottom and open-work top and sides, each made in two parts, hinged to each other at their adjacent ends; the rear end; the forward end, made in three parts, forming door; the upright bars, having tenons upon their ends; the strengthening-bars, each made in two parts, hinged to each other at their adjacent ends; the hooks and eyes; the hasps and staples; and the rod and staple, whereby the crate is made strong and firm, and allowed to be folded compactly for reshipment, as will be hereinafter fully described.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the bottom, B the top, C the sides, and D the ends, of the crate.

The bottom A is close, but the top and sides are slotted, or are made of slats or lattice-work, or frames covered with wire-gauze, to admit light and air to the crate. The bottom A, top B, and sides C are each made in two parts hinged together at their adjacent ends, so that they can be folded together for reshipment.

To the inner ends of the parts of the sides C are attached upright bars E, which have tenons upon their ends passing through holes in the bottom A and top B, and projecting at the outer sides of the said bottom and top. The outer ends of the parts of the sides C rest in the spaces between the cleats F, attached to the ends of the inner sides of the ends D, and the upright bars G, attached to the said ends D at a little distance from the cleats F.

The ends of the bars G have tenons formed upon them, which pass through holes in the top B and bottom A, and project upon the outer sides of the said top and bottom.

The forward end, D, is made in three parts, 1 2 3, the middle part, 2, being hinged at one end to the inner end of one, 3, of the stationary parts, and at the other end shutting against an upright bar, H, attached to the inner end of the other stationary part, 1. The ends of the upright bar H have tenons formed upon them, which pass through holes in the bottom A and top B. The middle part, 2, of the end D thus serves as a door to the crate.

I J are bars, which are placed upon the side parts of the bottom A and top B, and have holes formed through them to receive the tenons of the bars E G, so that the parts of the crate may be held from longitudinal and lateral movement. At the rear end of the crate the ends of the bars I J are connected detachably by hooks K and eyes L.

To the forward ends of the bars I J are hinged hasps M, the slots of which are passed over staples N, attached to the end parts, 1 3, of the forward end, D, where they are secured in place by the rod O, passed through the staples N, and through a staple, P, attached to the free end of the door 2.

Upon the rear end of the rod O is formed an eye to receive the arm of a padlock, which arm is also passed through the staple N, locking the crate.

The strengthening-bars I J are made in two parts, hinged to each other at their adjacent ends, so that they can be folded together.

With this construction the crate will be strong and firm when set up for use, and can be compactly packed for reshipment.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. An improved folding crate, constructed substantially as herein shown and described, consisting of the close bottom A and the open-work top B and sides C, each made in two parts, hinged to each other at their adjacent ends, the rear end, D, the forward end, D, made in three parts, 1 2 3, forming door, the upright bars E G H, having tenons upon their ends, the strengthening-bars I J, made in two

parts, hinged to each other at their adjacent ends, the hooks and eyes K L, the hasps and staples M N, and the rod O and staple P, as set forth.

5 2. In a folding crate, the combination, with the bottom A, top B, sides C, and ends D, of the strengthening-bars I J, connected at one end by the hooks and eyes K L, and at the other end by the hasps, staples, and rod  
10 M N O, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby the various parts of the crate are held firmly together, as set forth.

3. In a folding crate, the bottom A, top B, and sides C, made in two parts, hinged to each  
15 other at their adjacent ends, substantially as

herein shown and described, whereby the bottom, top, and sides can be folded together for reshipment, as set forth.

4. In a folding crate, the combination, with the bottom A, of top B, sides C, ends D, and 20 strengthening-bars E G H, having tenons upon their ends, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby the parts of the crate are kept from moving upon each other, as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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