

(No Model.)

J. J. McINTIRE.
EGG AND FRUIT CARRIER.

No. 251,617.

Patented Dec. 27, 1881.

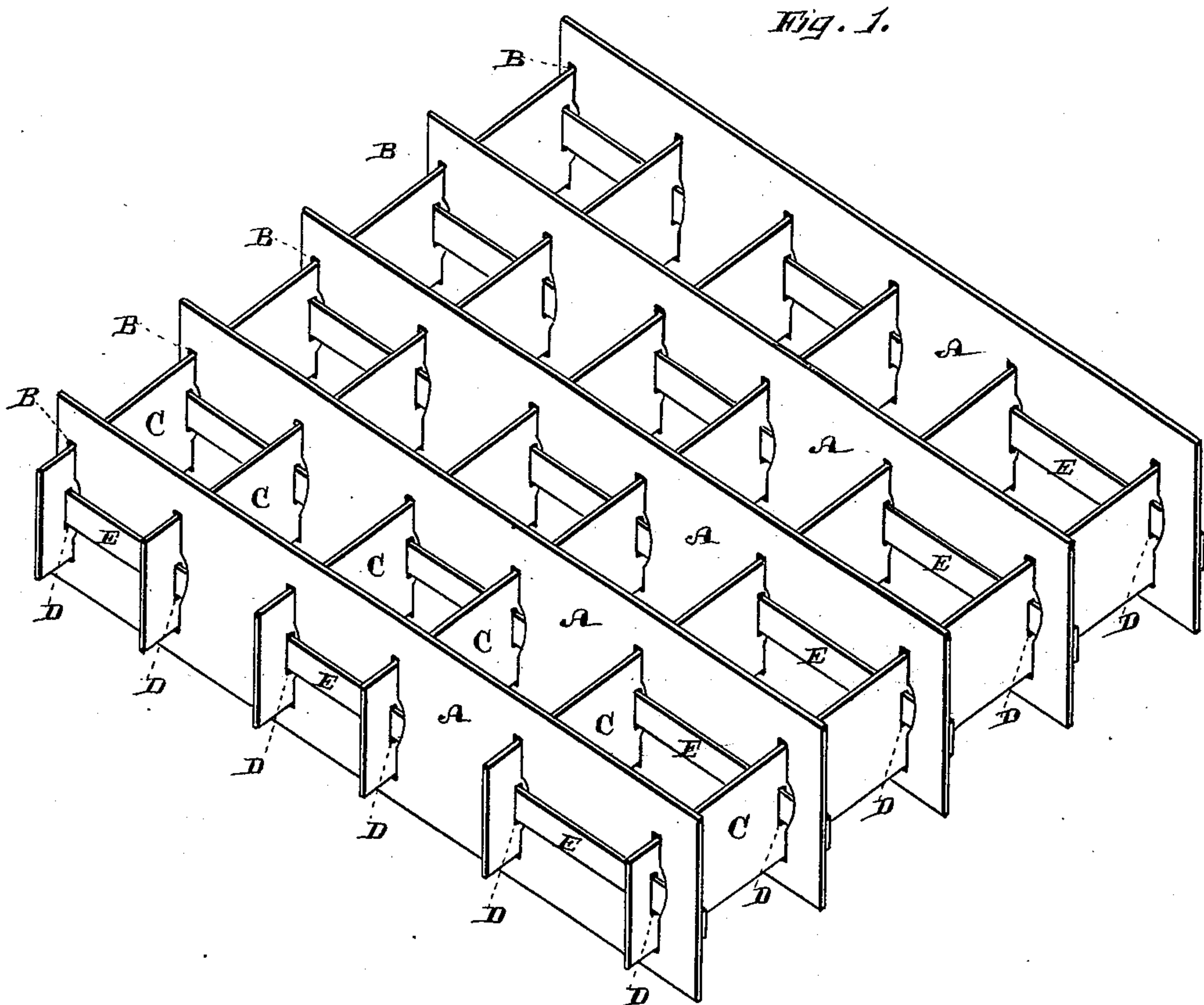
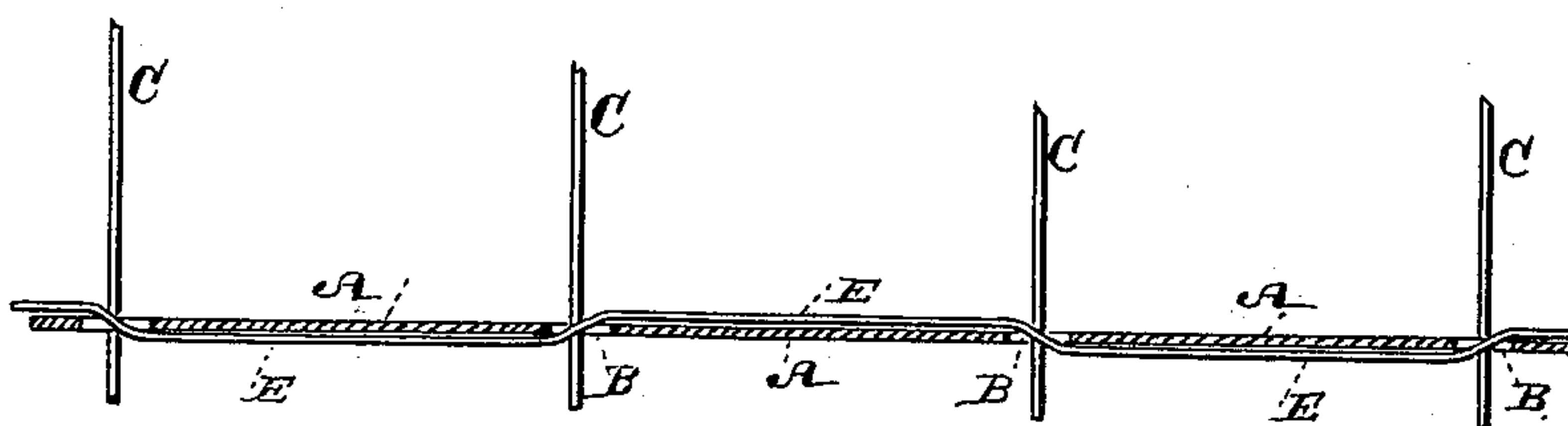


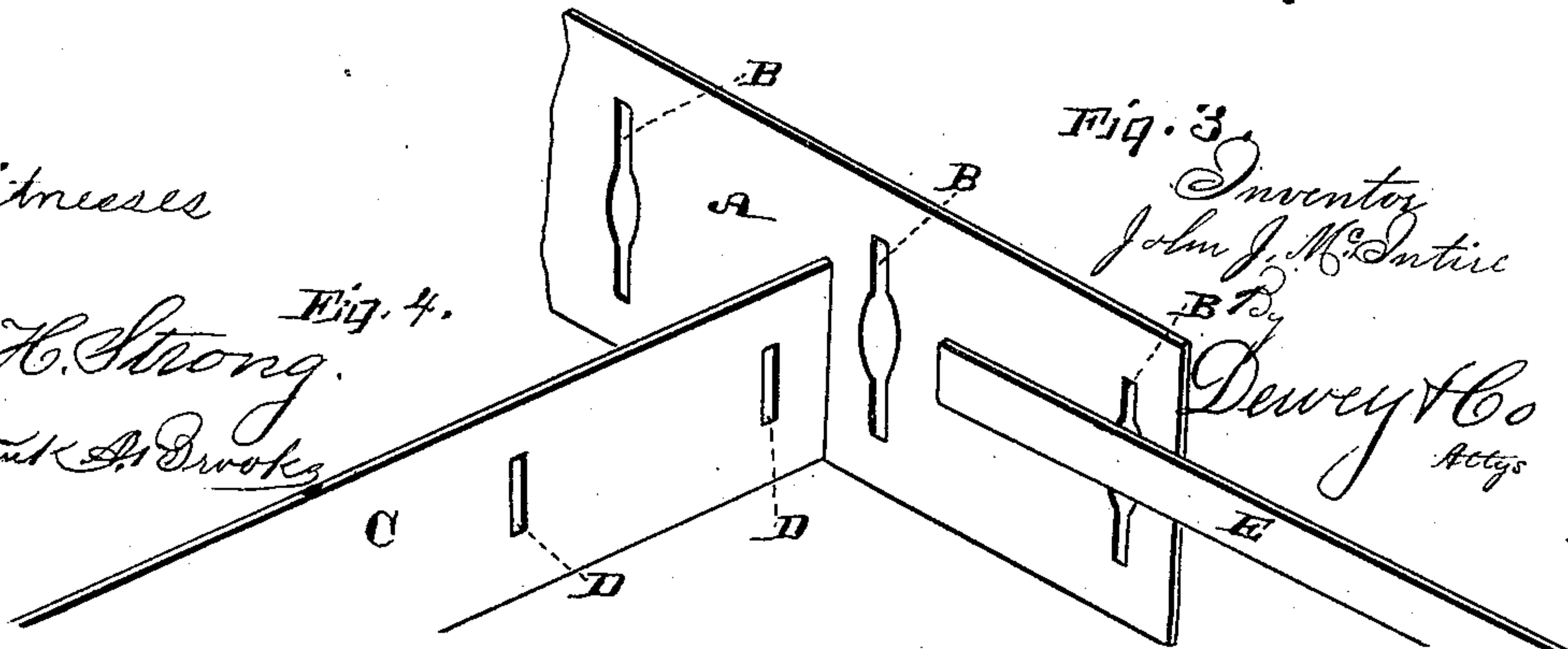
Fig. 2.



Witnesses

Geo. H. Strong.
Arthur A. Dwyer.

Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. MCINTIRE, OF OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA.

EGG AND FRUIT CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 251,617, dated December 27, 1881.

Application filed October 18, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. MCINTIRE, of Oakland, county of Alameda, State of California, have invented an Improved Egg and Fruit Carrier; and I do hereby declare the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to certain improvements in cases for transporting eggs, fruit, or other similar articles; and it consists in a novel method of cutting, uniting, and locking the strips which form the compartments that contain and separate the eggs, and that are placed in tiers one above the other in suitable cases, each tier having a loose bottom or diaphragm interposed between it and the next set of compartments.

Many forms of compartment-cases have been constructed, most of which have one or both of the sets of transverse strips notched upon the edges, and as these strips are usually made of pasteboard, for economy, these cut edges are easily folded down or destroyed by handling and the breaking of eggs, so as to soon render them useless.

My invention contemplates the use of two sets of strips, those running in one direction having slots extending transversely across the center, but not extending to the edges. The other set of strips are sufficiently wide to just pass through and fill these slots, and they have small central slots just where they meet the other set of strips, through which a narrow strip of material passes alternately to one side and the other of the first-mentioned strips, so as to form a lock.

Referring to the accompanying drawings for a more complete explanation of my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a top view, showing the position of the locking-strips. Figs. 3 and 4 are views of the separated strips.

A A are a series of strips, which may be made of thin veneers of wood, of metal, or of pasteboard or other suitable material. These strips are made of the width required for the depth of the compartments. Each strip has slots B made at intervals to receive other strips, C, which pass through them transversely to form the compartments. The slots B are made

across the strips A, but do not extend to the edges, which are thus left unbroken, and the strips are much stronger than if cut or notched at the edges. The strips A are made exactly alike from end to end. The strips C are of a width which just permits their passing through the slots B. Each strip C has short slots or holes D made through it at the points where the strips A and C cross when in place. These slots or holes D are intended to receive the locking-strips E, which are made of a size and shape to fit the holes, so that between the first two of the strips C they will lie upon one side of the strips A. Then they pass through the holes or slots D and extend between the next two of the strips C upon the opposite side of the strips A, and so on through the set of compartments, passing alternately from one side to the other of the strips A at their points of junction with the strips C, in the manner of weaving, as shown in Fig. 2. This forms a perfect lock, holding the parts firmly in place and allowing the sets of compartments to be folded up for transportation when taken out of the case.

All of the strips A are made precisely alike from end to end, and all of strips C are also alike from end to end, so that any of them will fit together to form a set of compartments; and, if desired, they might be cut or punched with their slots from long strips and afterward cut off to the proper lengths, as there is no necessity to form the ends of the strips in a different manner from the central portion to form a lock. The spaces above the edges of the strips C give a perfect ventilation around the contained eggs or other articles, while at the same time the center, where the eggs most nearly approach each other, is protected by the thickness of the material of which the strips are formed. The edges, not being in any way cut or notched, will not be easily broken down if the material becomes dampened in any manner.

The compartment-strips are easily made, and may be rapidly put together, and the lock is simple and efficient.

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

1. In combination with the strips A, having
slits to receive the cross-strips C, the narrow
locking-strips adapted to pass through the per-
forations of both the strips A and C and hold
5 such strips in place.

2. In combination, the strip A, having slits
extending for nearly its width, the strip C, with
narrow slits at substantially the point where it
intersects with the strips A, and the locking-

strip D, passed through both strips at their 10
intersection and extending alternately on op-
posite sides of the strip A.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand.

JOHN J. McINTIRE.

Witnesses:

ISRAEL LAWTON,
HENRY A. LEAKE.