

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. W. PALMER.

EGG CARRIER.

No. 285,429.

Patented Sept. 25, 1883.

Fig. 1.

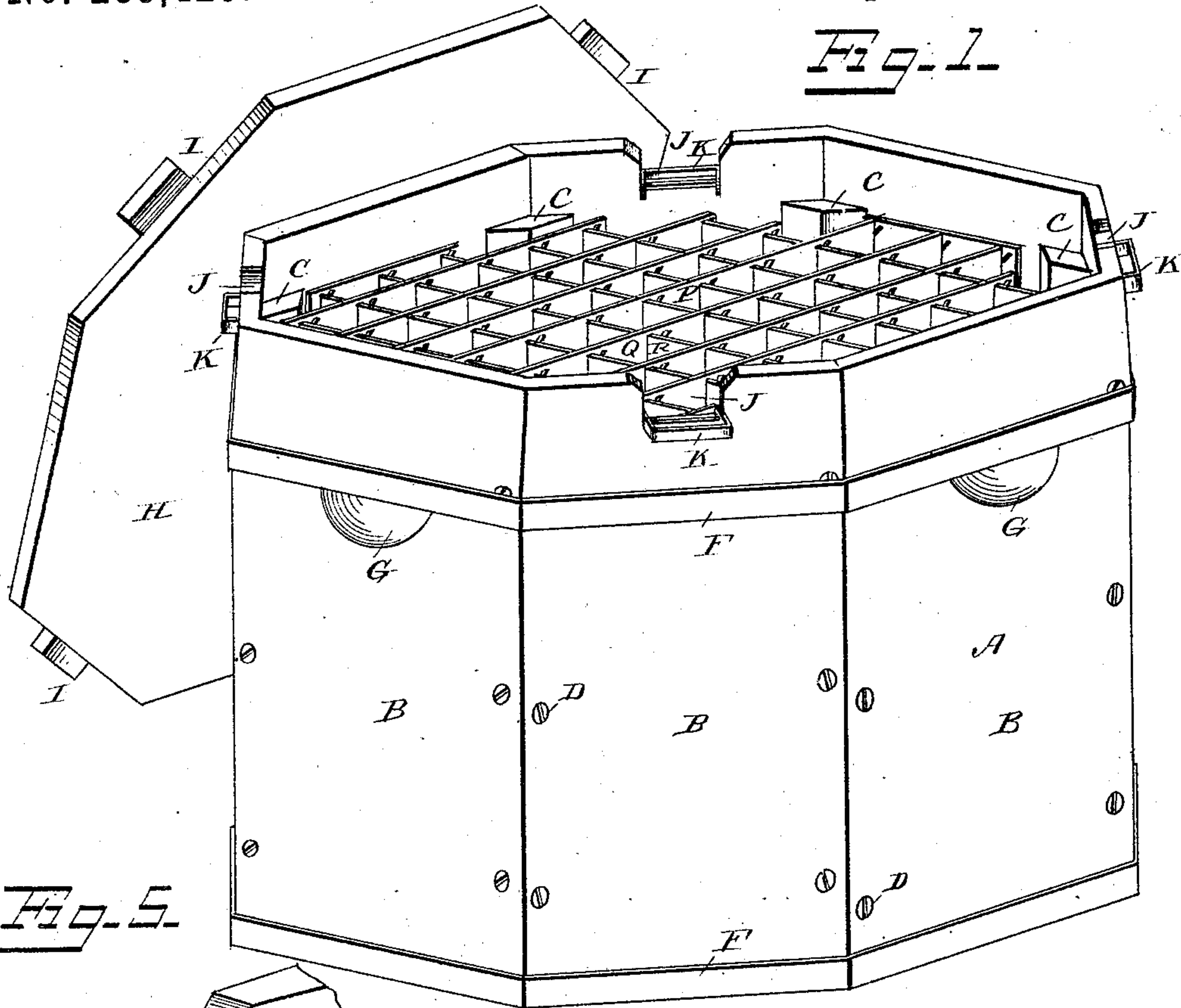


Fig. 5.

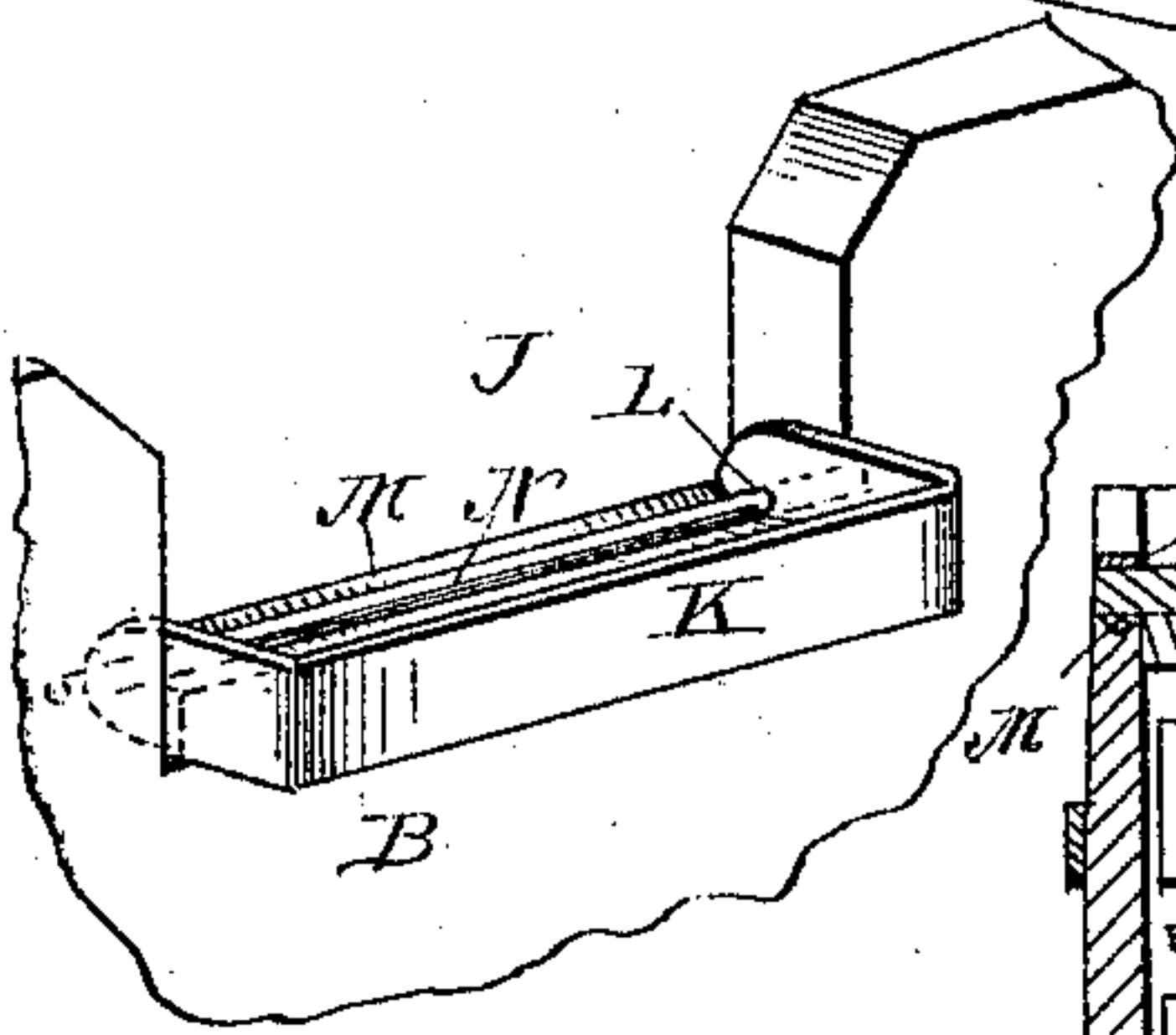
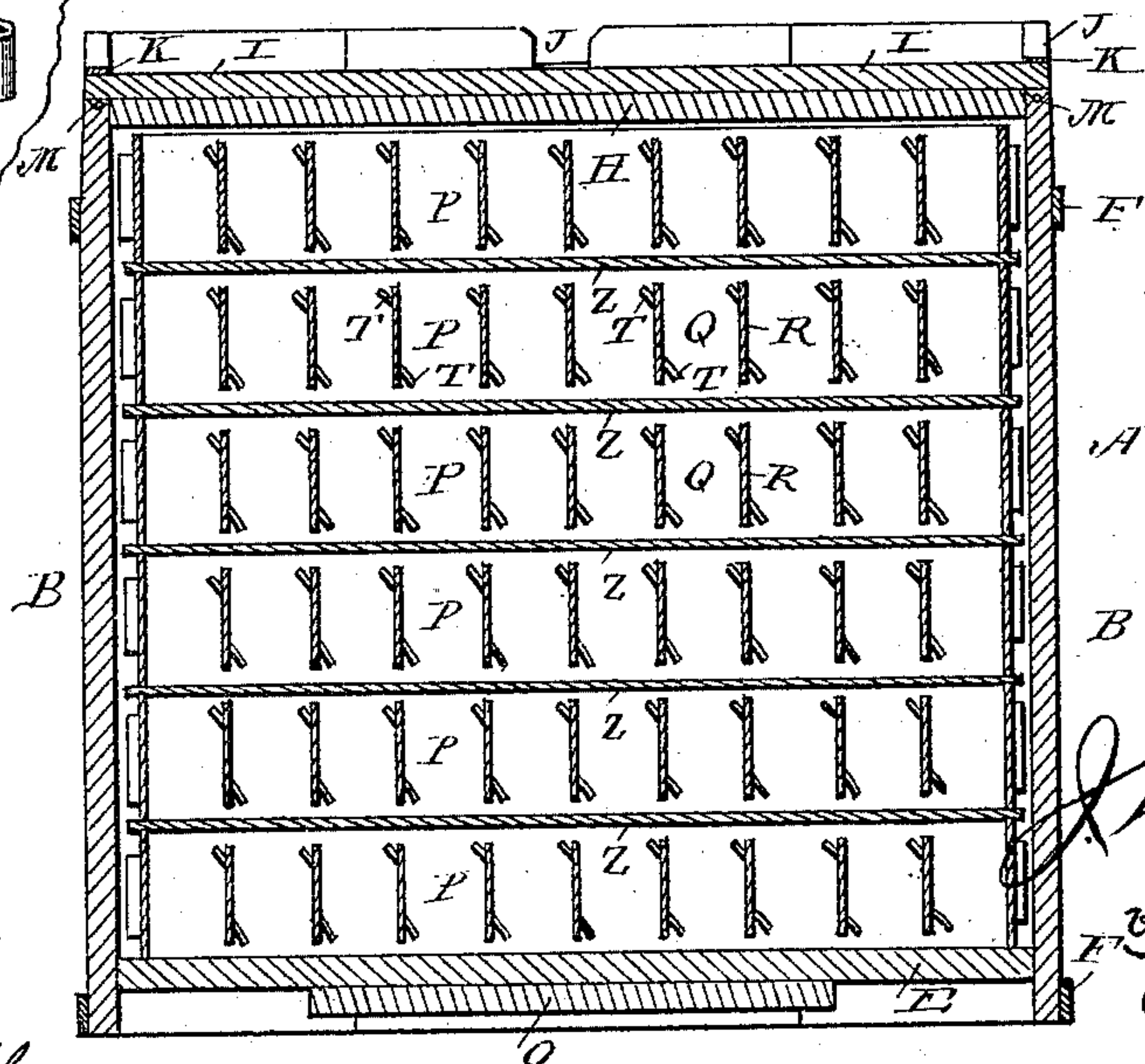


Fig. 3.



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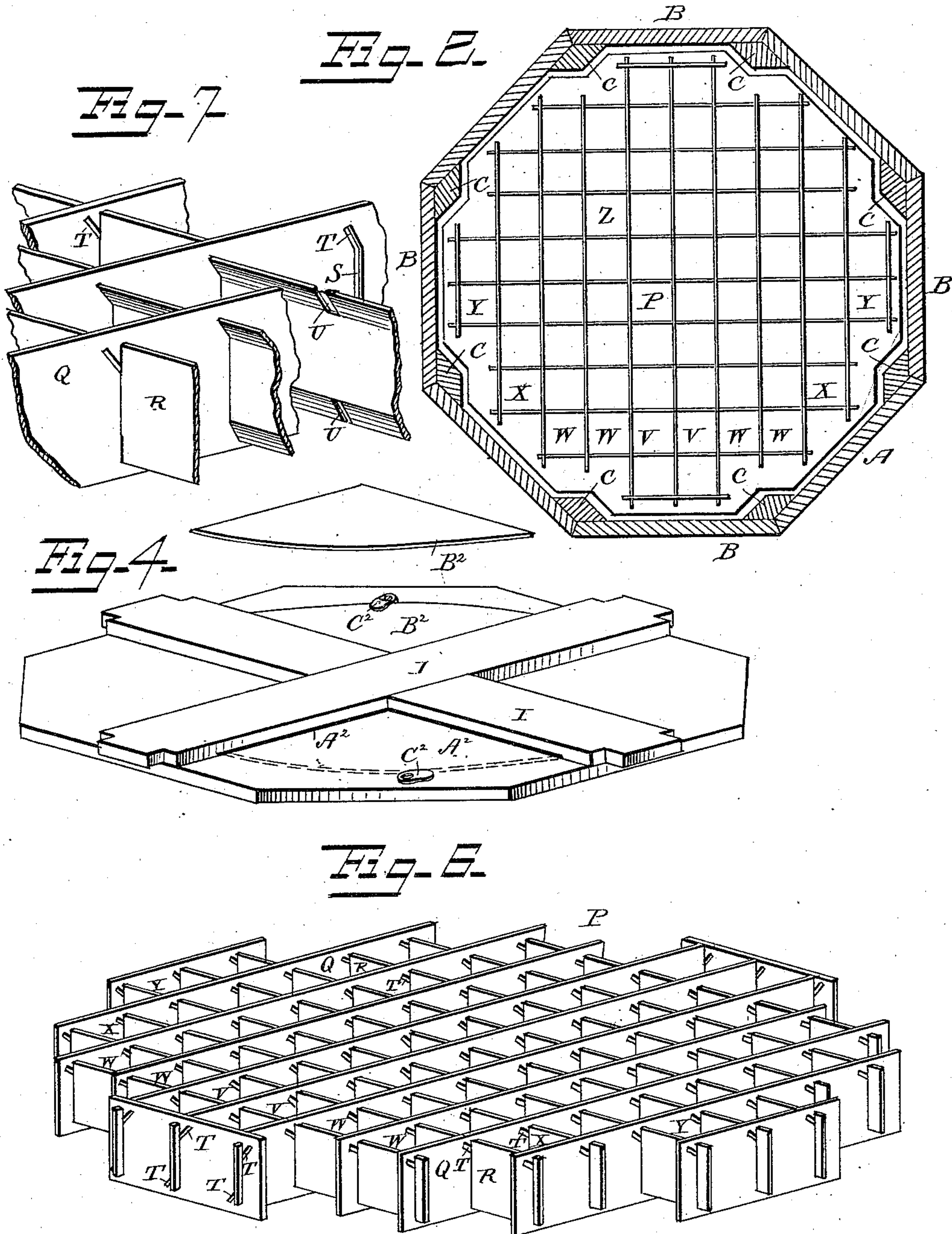
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. PALMER, OF PORT REPUBLIC, VIRGINIA.

## EGG-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 285,429, dated September 25, 1883.

Application filed July 27, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN W. PALMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Port Republic, in the county of Rockingham and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Egg-Carrier, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to egg crates or carriers, and has for its object to produce a crate or carrier which shall possess superior advantages in point of strength, durability, inexpensiveness, and general efficiency, and which may be more conveniently handled than the square boxes which are ordinarily used.

To this end my invention consists in the improved construction and arrangement of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing my improved egg-crate with the cover removed. Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the cover detached from the crate. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the fastening. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of one of the cell-cases; and Fig. 7 is a detail view, showing the construction of the same.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A in the drawings designates the box or crate, which is octagonal in shape, its sides being equal, as shown. The sides B B are connected by means of the diamond-shaped cleats C C, which are placed in the angles formed by the adjoining sides, which are secured by means of nails or screws D. The cleats C terminate a short distance from the upper and lower ends of the sides B, and to their lower ends the bottom E is secured, while their upper ends support the top or cover, as will be presently described. The upper and, if desired, also the lower ends of the sides B are made somewhat tapering. This may be done by beveling the outside of said sides. Bands F F are placed at the bottom and near the top of the box, and these bands may, in case of shrinkage, be driven upon the box, so as to bind the sides securely together. Two or four of the sides B, located diagonally opposite each other, are provided with recesses G, directly below the

upper band F, which serve as handles, by means of which the crate may be readily lifted or manipulated.

H designates the cover, which is adapted to fit in the box and rest upon the upper ends of the cleats C. Said cover is provided with cross bars or braces I I, which project slightly beyond the sides, as will be seen in the drawings. Four of the sides B, forming the crate, are provided with recesses J at their upper ends, to receive the projecting ends of the cross-bars I. In these recesses are placed the fastenings, which consist of strips of sheet metal, the ends of which are bent so as to form bails K, the ends of which have perforations L. The bottoms of the recesses J have grooves M.

N are hinge pins or rods, of wire, which are driven through the perforations L into the sides of the recesses J, said hinge-pins being accommodated in the grooves M. In this manner the fastening-bails are hinged in the recesses J in such a manner that when the cover is placed in position the said bails may be turned up over the projecting ends of the cross-bars I, thereby retaining the cover securely in position. It will also be seen by this construction that the cover, when in place, rests not only upon the cleats C, but is additionally supported by the ends of the cross-bars I, resting in the recesses J.

Under the bottom of the crate E is secured a brace-plate, O, which serves to prevent the bottom from cracking, or to connect the parts, if it should be made of more than one piece.

The box or crate A contains the cell-cases, which in the drawings are designated by letter P. These are composed of longitudinal strips Q Q and transverse strips R R. The former are provided with equidistant vertical slits S S, the upper and lower ends of which have diagonal or curved extensions T T, extending in opposite directions. The transverse strips R are provided at their upper and lower edges with equidistant notches U U. To build up or put together the cell-case the notched upper and lower edges of the strips R R are bent in opposite directions, so as to enable them to be passed through the slits S T in the strips Q until the several strips Q register with the notches U in the edges of the strips R. The edges of the latter are then



straightened out, thereby bending them away from the extensions T of the slits S, and thus locking the strips firmly together and forming the desired square cells. By this joint, which  
 5 is simple and easily constructed, the cell-cases are made in a simple and durable manner, capable of being folded when desired and incapable of being broken down by ordinary usage. In order to make the cell-cases conform to the shape of the box or crate, I construct them, as will be seen in the drawings, with two central rows of cells, V V, of such length as to fit between directly opposite sides of the box or crate. Adjoining each side of  
 10 the central rows are two rows, W W, each made one cell shorter at each end. Adjoining each outer row, W, is one row, X, one cell shorter at each end, and adjoining the rows X are the end rows, Y, each made two cells  
 15 shorter at each end. I prefer to make the center rows, V, of ten cells each, the rows W of eight, the rows X of six, and the rows Y of two cells each. In this manner a symmetrical cell-case is formed, which completely fits my  
 20 improved octagonal box and leaves no waste space. Even the corners between the end cells are essential for the purpose of accommodating the cleats C at the angles of the box. Between the several cell-cases in the box or crate I  
 25 place diaphragms Z, which are cut, as shown, so as to conform to the interior shape of the box or crate.

The cross bars or braces I of the cover, on directly opposite sides, are provided with recesses A<sup>2</sup>, adapted to receive the edges of the  
 35 address or shipping card B<sup>2</sup>, which is preferably segmental in shape, substantially as shown in the drawings. The card (or cards) is secured in place by means of turn-buttons C<sup>2</sup> at  
 40 its outer edges. By this construction the edges of the cards are protected, and the cards may be conveniently reversed, so that

they may carry the address of the shipper on one side and of the consignee on the other, thus enabling the crates to be redirected by  
 45 simply reversing the cards.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. In an egg crate or carrier, the combination of the equal-sided octagonal case, the diamond-shaped cleats arranged in the angles between the sides of the same, the cover arranged to fit in the said case, and having cross bars or braces extending beyond its sides  
 50 or edges, and adapted to fit in recesses in the upper edges, of the sides of the case, and suitable fastenings, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of a packing-box the sides of which are provided with recesses at  
 60 their upper edges, with a cover adapted to fit in said box, and having cross bars or braces extending beyond its edges, and arranged to fit in the said recesses, and fastening-bails hinged in the said recesses by means of pins  
 65 accommodated in the bottoms of the said recesses, and extending through perforations in the sides of the fastening-bails into the sides of the said recesses, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with an egg-crate, substantially as described, of the cover having cross bars or braces, as set forth, said cross-bars being provided with recesses at their lower edges, and turn-buttons arranged upon the cover between the ends of the cross-bars,  
 75 substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN W. PALMER.

Witnesses:

WM. BAGGER,  
 EDWARD G. SIGGERS.