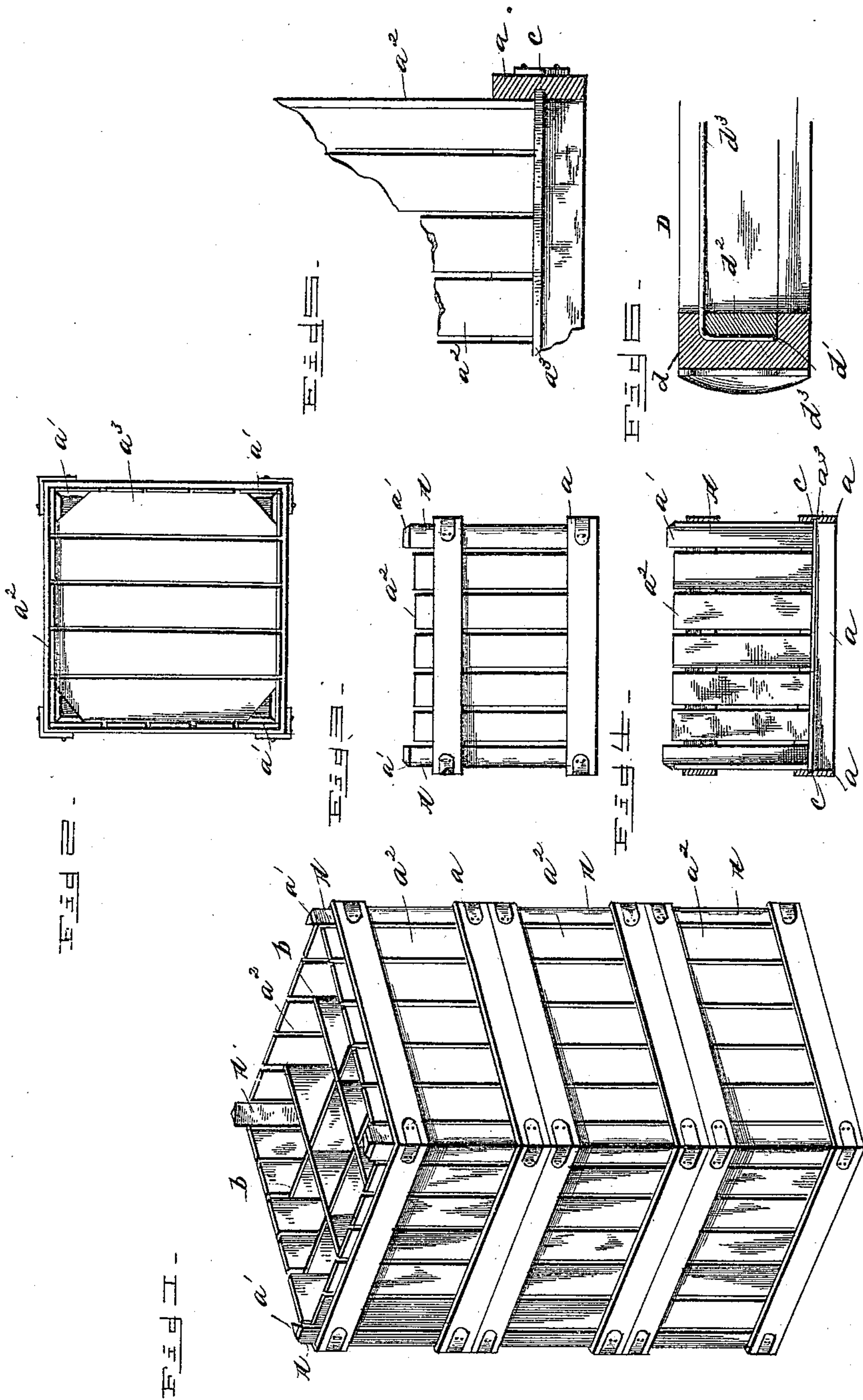


(No Model.)

D. A. ROSS.
CRATE.

No. 426,858.

Patented Apr. 29, 1890.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DUANE A. ROSS, OF ILION, NEW YORK.

CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 426,858, dated April 29, 1890.

Application filed December 17, 1889. Serial No. 334,133. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DUANE A. ROSS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Ilion, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Crates, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention pertains to an improvement in crates or cases designed chiefly for shipping, transporting, displaying, and storing market vegetables, fruits, or other commodities; and it consists in the peculiar construction, combination, and arrangement of the parts, substantially as hereinafter more fully shown and described.

The object of my device is to produce a light, attractive, strong, durable, and ventilated receptacle for purposes above indicated, affording the greatest possible convenience in handling and displaying contents and economizing space occupied in transportation or storage, the crates or cases being so constructed as to interlock firmly when tiered one upon another to any height.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of three of my crates secured one upon the other, the cover of the top one being removed. Fig. 2 is a plan view of one of my crates, the partitions being removed. Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the same. Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation thereof. Fig. 5 is a detail showing more particularly how the bottom is secured. Fig. 6 shows the wire-gauze applied as a cover.

In constructing my crate or case the vertical staves a^2 , spaced apart, are fitted flush against the horizontal bottom slats a^3 , which latter, suitably spaced, are lodged in recesses c , formed in the clamps a a short distance above the lower edge thereof, thus raising the bottom of the crate above the reach of dirt or dampness, and providing an interlocking space to receive the top of the crate, onto which it may be tiered. The ends of these clamping-pieces are secured to each other by nails and metallic clasps to form the securing-band, to which the vertical posts and staves are preferably secured by clinched nails. The upper band, which forms a continuous handle around the crate or case, is in like manner rigidly secured to the vertical pieces at proper distance below their top, al-

lowing them to project into the space beneath the bottom of the crate above in tiering or to receive a cover. Vertical corner-supports a , preferably in form of triangular posts, beveled slightly at the top at a' on their outer sides, are disposed in the corners of each case or crate, the beveled portion a' rising above the tops of the staves to serve as guides and supports in tiering the crates or retaining a cover. Light vertical partitions of wood b or other suitable material are inserted when desired, extending from side to side, the ends being sustained within the spaces between the staves. These, with suitable spaced cross-partitions, divide the crate or case into such number of compartments as may be at any time required.

The lid or cover of the crate consists of horizontal slats spaced apart and nailed to the side pieces which form the inclosing-band, the corners being secured by metallic clasps.

It will be observed that the bottom of my crate or case is firmly secured into the channels or recesses in its inclosing-band, and in tiering up rests at each corner upon the top of the corner-supports of the crate next beneath it, while the inclosing-band also rests upon the upper or handle band below, inclosing the tops of the vertical staves and supports. By thus interlocking the tops and bottoms my crates may be securely disposed one upon another to any desired height for convenience in transportation or economy of space in storing.

In constructing my wire-gauze cover D , I employ the side strips d , on the inner side of which I form recess d' , in which is designed to fit a strip or fastener d^2 , the edges of the wire-gauze d^3 being secured or clamped in said recess d' by the strip d^2 . Thus constructed, a complete, efficient, and inexpensive crate or case is produced.

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

1. In a crate, the lower inclosing-band channeled to receive the horizontal slats or bottom above its lower edge, in combination with the side or perpendicular staves, the upper clamping-band, and the triangular corner uprights, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a crate, the combination, with the

lower inclosing-band channeled above its lower edge, the horizontal or bottom slats, the vertical side slats, and the triangular corner uprights projected above the upper inclosing-band to serve as a guide, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a crate, the lower band or frame recessed about the center thereof for reception of the horizontal bottom slats, in combination with the side or vertical slats, the upper clamping-band, and the triangular corner uprights or posts beveled on their upper ends to serve as a guide for the cover, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a crate, a cover having its frame channeled above its lower edge, the securing-strips designed to fit therein, and the wire-gauze covering having its edges clamped in the channel in the frame by the securing-strips, in combination with the crate-body having the corner guide-posts and the upper clamping-band, substantially as shown and described.

5. In a crate, a cover having its frame channeled above its lower edge, the securing-strips designed to fit therein, and the wire-gauze cov-

ering having its edges clamped in the channel in the frame by the securing-strips, in combination with the crate-body having the upper clamping-band, and the triangular corner guide-posts projected above said upper clamping-band and beveled on their upper ends to serve as a guide for the cover, substantially as shown and described.

6. In a crate, the lower band or frame channeled above its lower edge, the horizontal bottom slats fitted therein, the vertical side slats, the upper clamping-band, the triangular corner-posts having their ends projected above the upper clamping-band, and the cover consisting of the wire-woven top having its edges secured in the channeled frame by the clamping-strips, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

DUANE A. ROSS.

Witnesses:

S. A. TERRY,

PAUL W. STEVENS.