

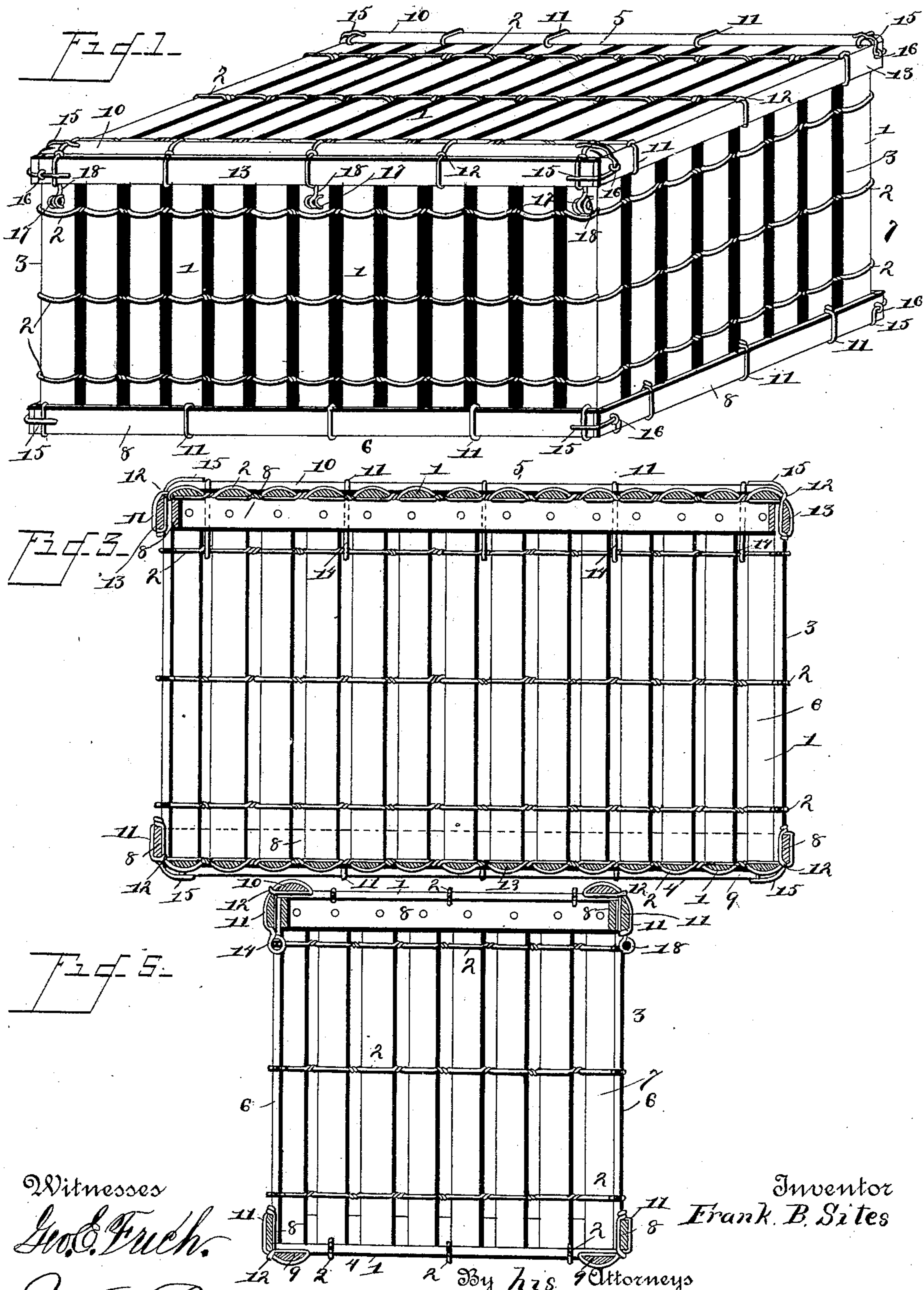
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

F. B. SITES.  
CRATE.

No. 428,642.

Patented May 27, 1890.



Witnesses

Geo. C. Fuch.

Wm. Baggers

Inventor

Frank B. Sites

By his Attorneys

C. A. Snow & Co.

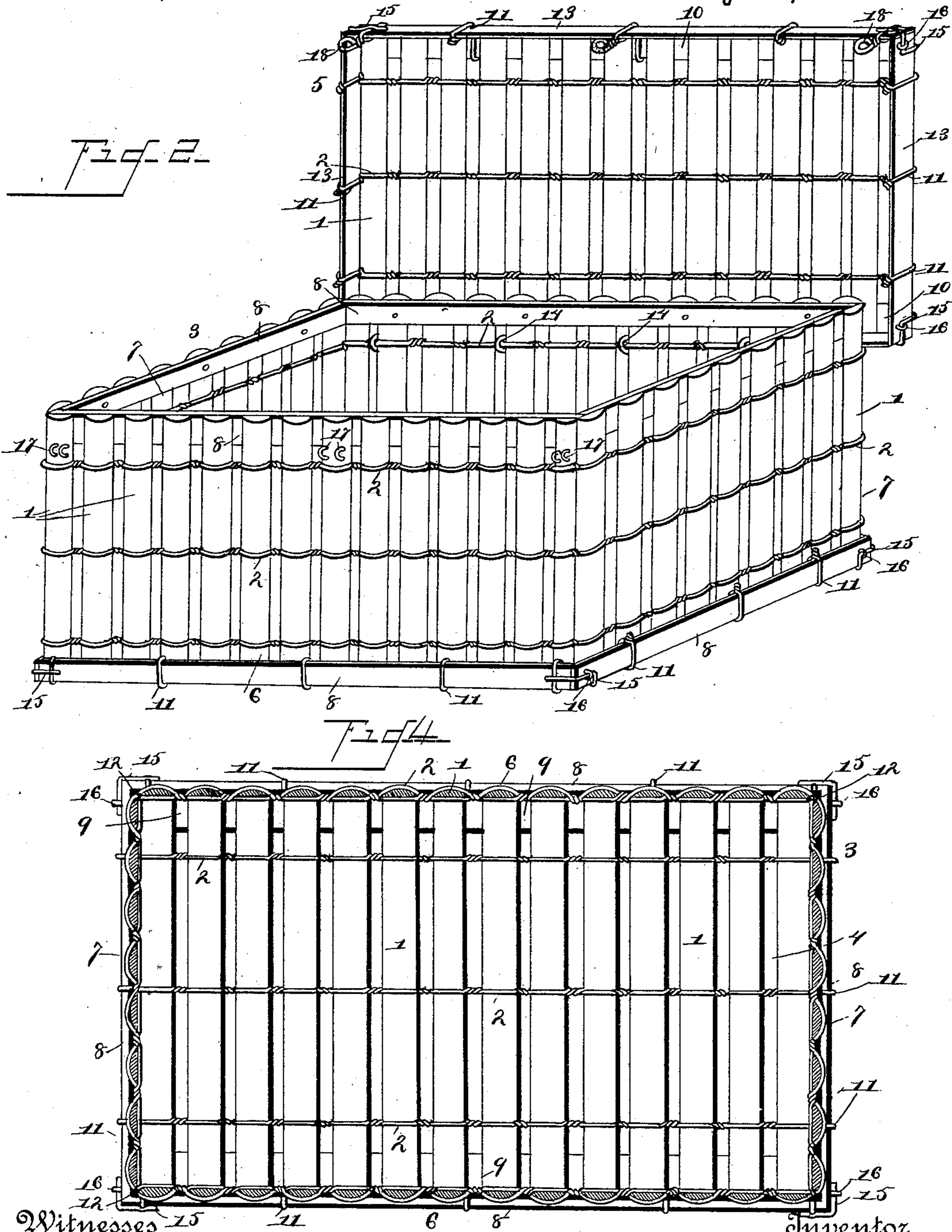
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK. B. SITES, OF DEFIANCE, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO HENRY  
D. BOKOP, OF SAME PLACE.

## CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 428,642, dated May 27, 1890.

Application filed March 5, 1890. Serial No. 342,777. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK. B. SITES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Defiance, in the county of Defiance and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Crate, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to crates for the transportation of fruits and other articles of merchandise and for the storage of such articles; and it has for its object to provide a crate which shall be simple in construction, durable, and inexpensive, and in which the contents shall be freely ventilated, thereby preventing deterioration and loss from lack of ventilation.

The invention consists, specifically, in a crate or packing-box constructed of a fabric composed of wooden slats and wire interwoven, the detailed construction of said crate being as will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a crate or packing-box embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the same with the cover open. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view. Fig. 5 is a vertical transverse sectional view.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures.

The fabric of which my improved crate or packing-box is constructed is composed of wooden slats 1 1, of suitable length, interwoven between pairs of strands 2 2, of ordinary wire. Of this fabric, in the construction of an ordinary packing-crate such as has been shown in the annexed drawings, three pieces of suitable dimensions are used to form, respectively, the body 3, the bottom 4, and the top 5. The body 3 is formed by bending a single strip of the fabric to form the sides 6 6 and the ends 7 7. Bracing-strips 8 8 are nailed or otherwise secured exteriorly at the lower ends and interiorly at the upper ends of the ends and sides to secure the latter against collapsing. The bottom 4 is likewise formed of a single piece of the fabric, to the edges of which on the outer or under side are nailed or otherwise secured the longitudinal bracing-strips 9 9. The top 5 is con-

structed, like the bottom, of a single strip or piece of the fabric, to the edges of which on the upper or outer side are nailed or otherwise secured the longitudinal bracing-strips 10 10. The several parts—namely, the body, top, and bottom—are of course to be properly proportioned, so as to fit neatly together. The bottom 4 is permanently secured to the body 3 by means of wires 11, looped around the bottom strips 8 of the body and around the bracing-strips 9 and end slats 1 of the bottom, said connecting-wires being twisted, as shown at 12, between the bottom and the body. The bottom being thus secured serves also to brace the body of the crate and to render it sufficiently stiff and rigid to withstand considerable rough usage without danger of being injured. To the sides and ends of the top are similarly wired the strips 13, which are adapted to fit around the upper edge of the body of the crate, thus forming a neatly-fitting and durable cover, which may be secured by hinge-wires 14 to the wires 2, connecting the slats 1 of one side of the box or crate. The corners of the crate are re-enforced by clamping-wires 15 15, which may be secured by means of staples 16 or in any other suitable manner, and the ends of which are bent around the corners of the crate and driven into the slats or the bracing-strips, as the case may be. The lid of the crate when closed may be secured by means of staples 17 and wire hasps 18, the latter being preferably secured upon the former by means of a wire provided with a metal seal of ordinary construction. This fastening-wire has not been shown in the drawings, however, as it forms no part of my invention.

The advantages of my improved crate will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed.

The construction, as will be seen, is exceedingly simple and the material employed is inexpensive, thus enabling my improved crates to be manufactured and placed on the market at a very small expense.

The crate will be found exceedingly useful for the storage and transportation of fruits and other like perishable articles of merchandise, which frequently are damaged or de-

stroyed from a lack of proper ventilation, and the crate admits of the convenient inspection of its contents, which is always shown off to best advantage.

5 The crate or package is strong and durable and may when properly handled be used an indefinite number of times.

I reserve the right to make crates or packages embodying my invention of all sizes and  
10 of different shapes to render them useful for all purposes for which such crates or packages may be profitably employed.

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

1. A crate or package constructed of wooden slats and wire interwoven and comprising the body constructed of a single piece of such fabric properly shaped, and having interior  
20 bracing-strips at its upper end and exterior bracing-strips at its lower end, the bottom composed of a single strip of the fabric having exterior longitudinal bracing-strips, and the top

composed of a single strip of the fabric having exterior longitudinal bracing-strips and provided with edge strips wired to the sides and  
25 ends thereof, the bottom being secured to the body by wires looped around and connecting the end slats and the bracing-strips of the bottom with the bracing-strips at the lower  
30 end of the body, substantially as set forth.

2. The crate the body of which is constructed of wooden slats and wire interwoven and having the interior bracing-strips at its  
35 upper edge, in combination with the cover constructed of like material and having the edge strips at its sides and ends, substantially as set forth.

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

FRANK. B. SITES.

Witnesses:

MARY H. WEINLAND,  
JNO. P. CAMERON.