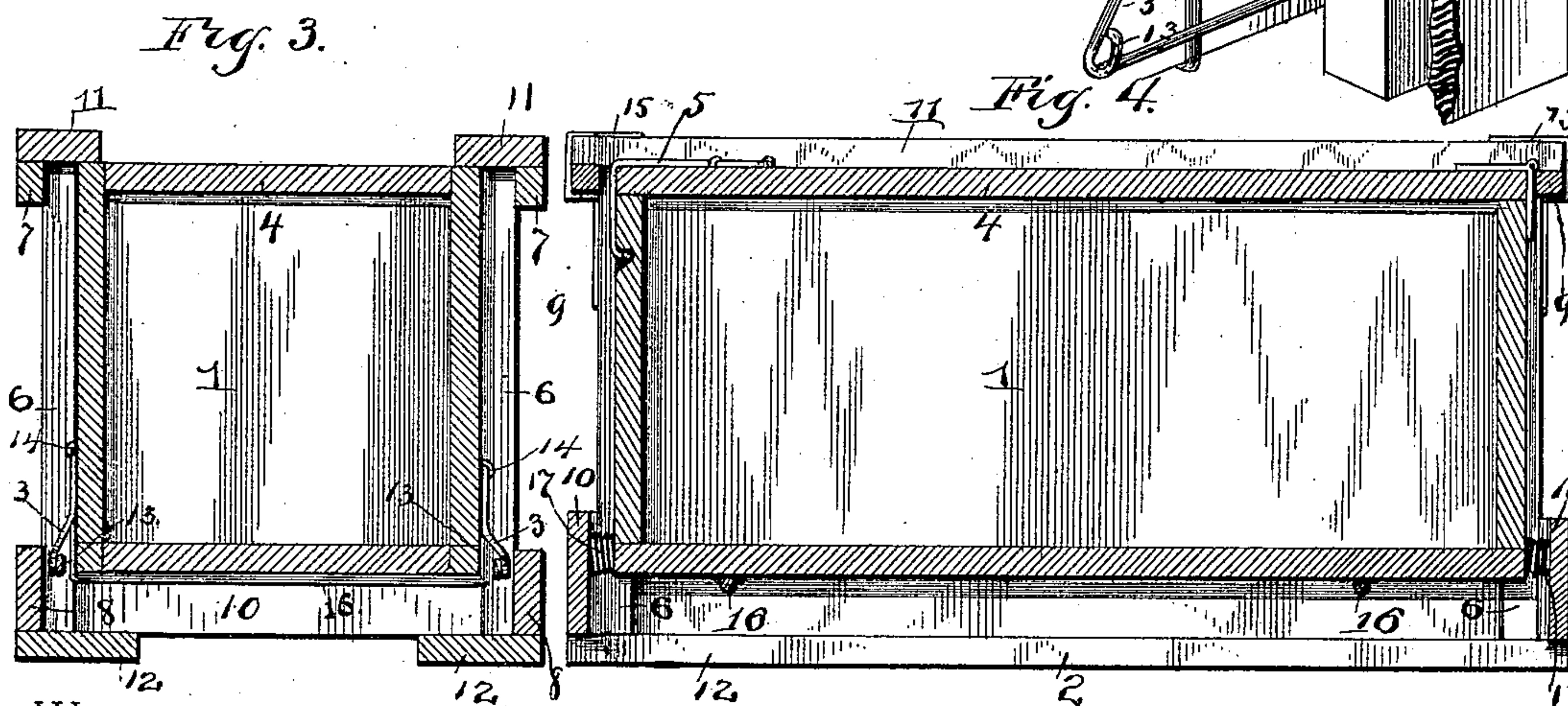
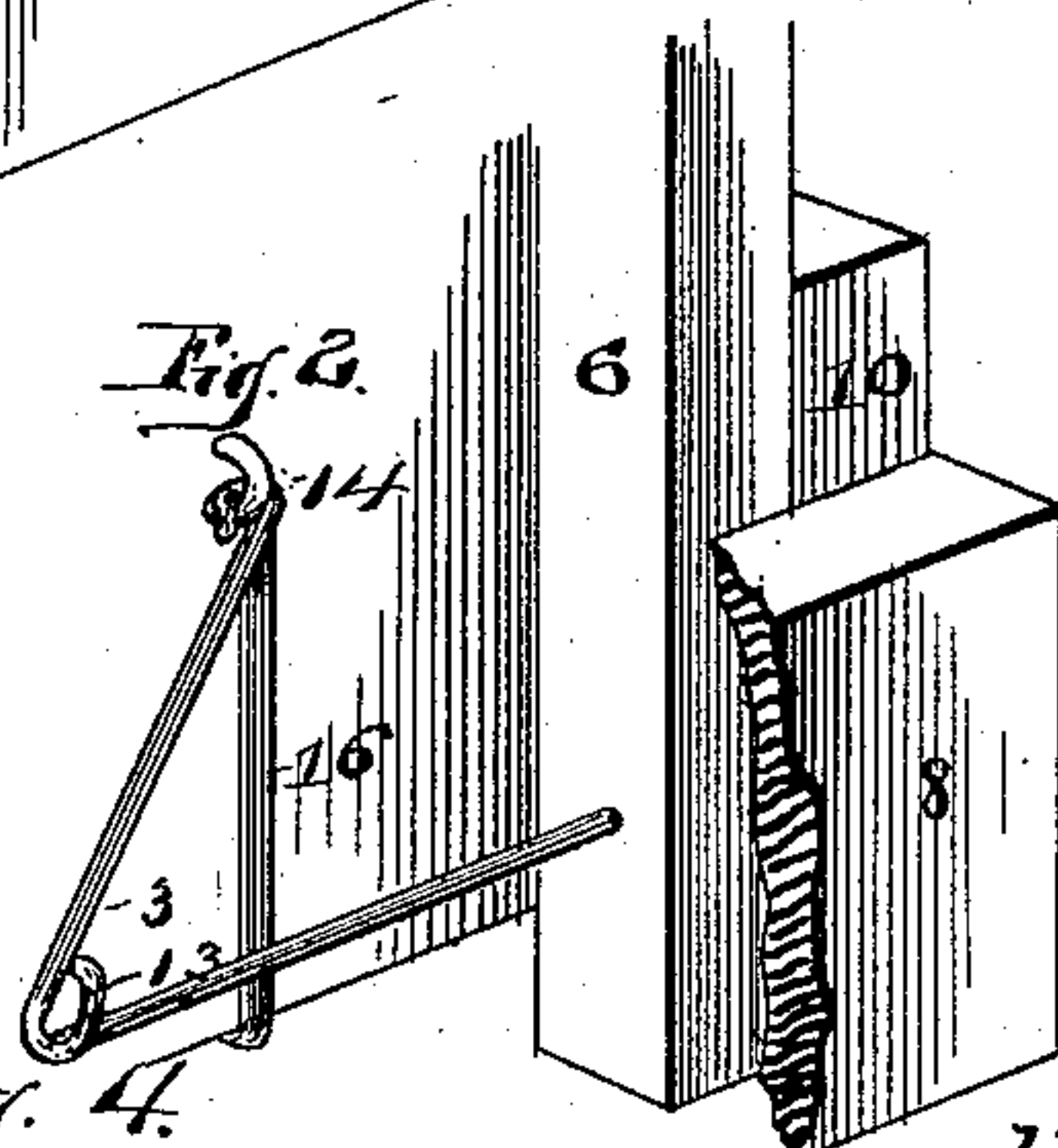
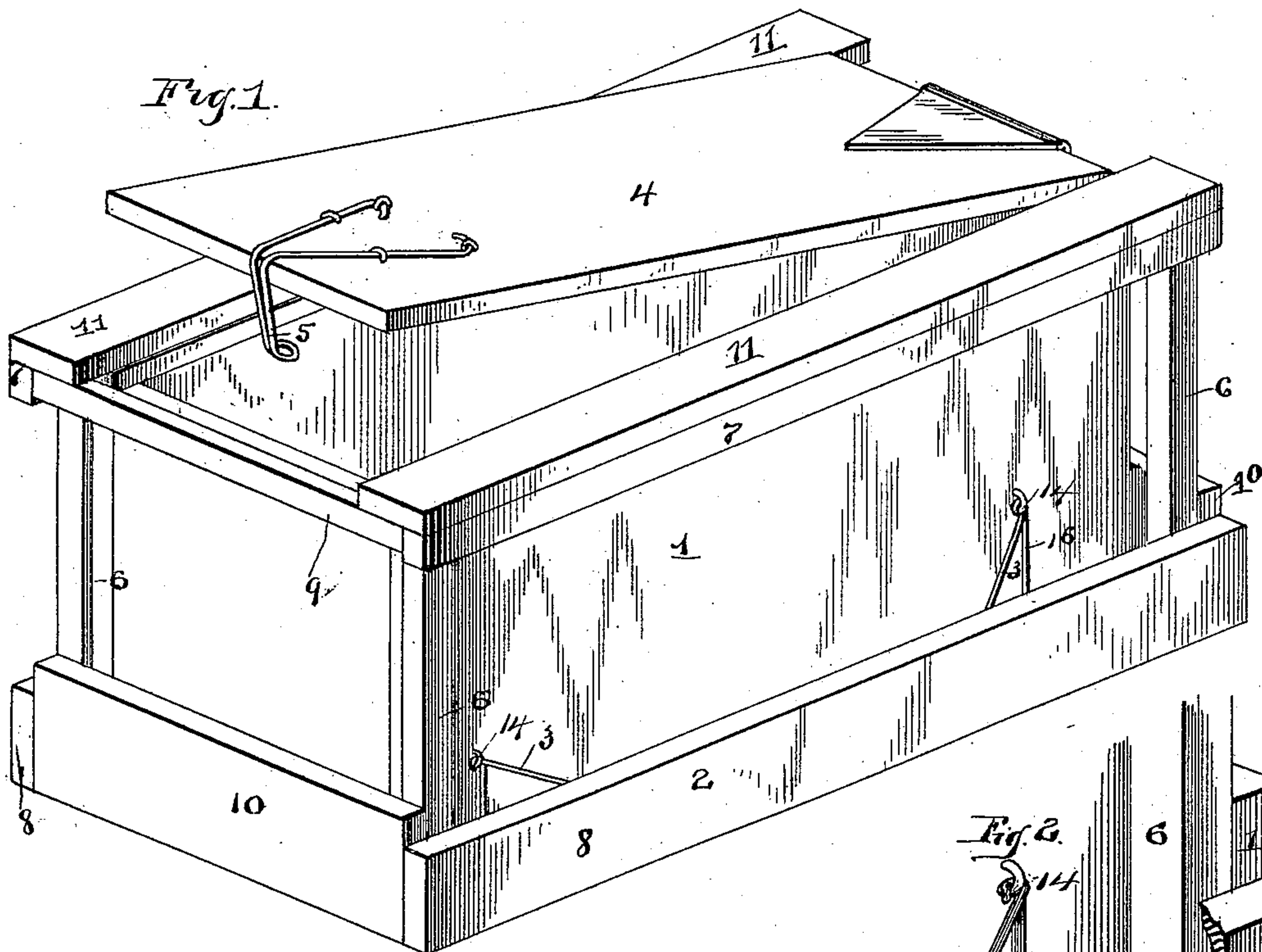


(No Model.)

J. L. REEVES.
CRATE.

No. 464,122.

Patented Dec. 1, 1891.



Witnesses

H. G. Seitz

H. P. Riley

Inventor

James L. Reeves.

By *his* Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES L. REEVES, OF COLLINSVILLE, ALABAMA.

CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 464,122, dated December 1, 1891.

Application filed June 25, 1891. Serial No. 397,453. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES L. REEVES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Collinsville, in the county of De Kalb and State of Alabama, have invented a new and useful Egg-Case, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in egg-crates.

10 The object of the present invention is to provide an egg-crate which will be cushioned and be capable of a limited vertical movement and a longitudinal swing to take up shocks and prevent its contents being injured.

15 The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

20 In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an egg-crate constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, the frame being partly broken away to show the disposition of the springs. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal sectional view.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates an egg-crate, which is suspended in a frame 2 by springs 3, and is adapted to move or oscillate vertically and horizontally to take up shocks to prevent its contents being injured, and it is provided with a cover 4, which has one end hinged and the other end provided with a spring-catch 5, adapted to lock the cover closed and arranged to engage a recess in the body of the crate.

30 The frame 2, which incases the crate and forms a permanent part thereof, is composed of four vertical corner-posts 6, longitudinal top and bottom bars 7 and 8, which have their ends secured to the posts 6, transverse top and bottom bars 9 and 10, and top and bottom cleats 11 and 12, extending longitudinally of the frame and secured to the top and bottom bars and extending inward opposite the top and bottom of the crate to retain the latter within the frame. The bottom cleats extend inward a considerable distance, while the top cleats extend inward and cover only the upper edges of the sides of the crate, thereby providing an unobstructed way for

the cover 4, which may be opened and closed, and the contents of the crate may be inspected without removing the crate from the frame, which construction is exceedingly more advantageous and convenient than those crates which are arranged within a supplemental frame or box and have to be removed or the lid of the supplemental box or frame has to be opened in order to inspect the contents of the crate proper.

The springs 3 may be of any desired construction; but they are preferably constructed as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which they are V-shaped, and are provided at their apexes with coils 13, and each has its upper leg provided with a hook and secured to a staple 14 of the body of the crate or hooked in an eye in the end of a wire passed around the bottom of the crate from the end of one spring to another on opposite side of crate and fastened in same way, and the other leg is arranged in the socket or opening of the adjacent vertical post 6 at or near the bottom end. These springs serve as cushions, and while the crate is being handled it has an easy swaying motion in the frame, and all shocks are cushioned and injury to the contents of the crate is prevented.

The parts are strengthened by metallic straps 15 and wires 16, the former of which are secured to the vertical posts and the top cleats, and the latter are secured to the body of the crate and extend across the bottom thereof and part way up the sides to the other end of springs and fastened to the same; but other straps may be employed, if desired and greater strength is required.

It will be seen that the crate is simple and inexpensive in construction, that its contents are cushioned against shocks, and that the frame forms a permanent feature and does not necessitate the removal of the crate in order to open the cover and examine the contents.

The cover and the bottom of the crate may be provided on their inner faces with suitable cushioning material, or such material may be interposed between the contents and the top and bottom of the crate and may form no permanent fixture thereof.

Spiral springs 17 are interposed between

the ends of the crate and the frame, and they are secured to the former or the latter, or both.

What I claim is—

1. The combination of the crate provided
5 with a cover, the frame receiving the crate and forming a permanent part and provided with an opening in its top arranged opposite the said cover to permit the cover of the crate to be opened and closed without removing
10 the crate from the frame, and cushioning-springs attached to the crate and the frame and supporting the former within the latter, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the crate having a
15 hinged cover, the frame receiving the crate and provided with top and bottom cleats projecting inward and confining the crate within the frame, the top cleats terminating over the upper edges of the sides of the crate, whereby
20 an opening or passage is formed for the cover

to enable the latter to be opened and closed without removing the crate from the frame, and suitable cushioning-springs, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the crate having a 25 hinged cover, the frame receiving and confining the crate within it and provided with an opening or passage for the cover of the crate, and the V-shaped springs provided at their apexes with coils and having their legs se- 30 cured to the crate and to the frame, substantially as described.

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

JAMES L. REEVES.

Witnesses:

B. A. NOWLIN,
W. A. WILBANKS.