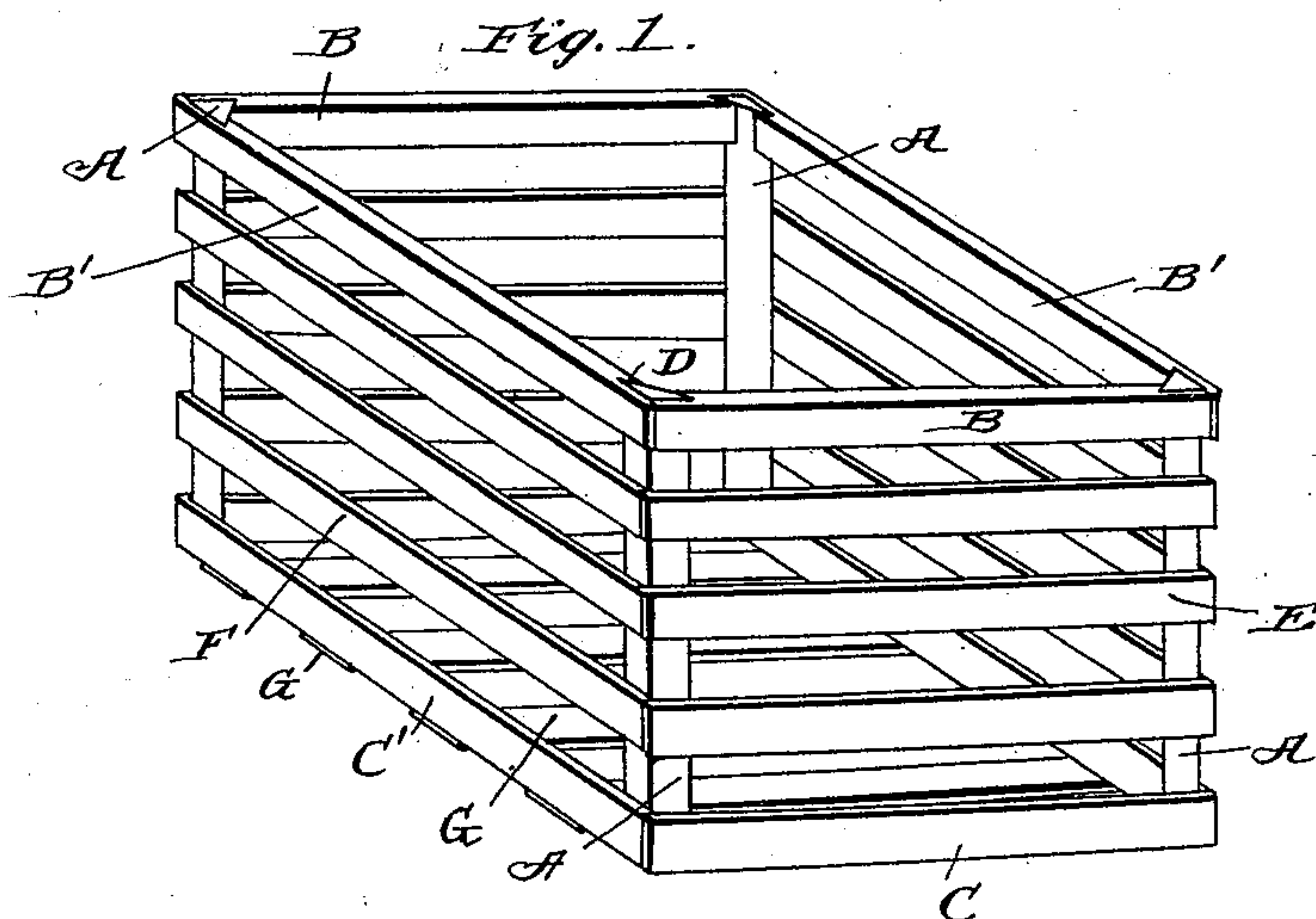


(No Model.)

A. S. SHERMAN.
LOCK JOINT CRATE.

No. 544,695.

Patented Aug. 20, 1895.



witnesses:

C. H. Rader

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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ASA S. SHERMAN, OF CANASTOTA, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
A. J. WARNER, OF SAME PLACE.

LOCK-JOINT CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 544,695, dated August 20, 1895.

Application filed August 12, 1893. Serial No. 483,030. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ASA S. SHERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canastota, in the county of Madison and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Crates for Shipping Fruits and Vegetables; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in crates for shipping fruits and vegetables, and it has for its general object to provide a cheap, simple, and light crate and one embodying such a construction that it is capable of withstanding the rough usage to which crates and the like are ordinarily subjected.

With the foregoing end in view the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claim, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved crate; and Fig. 2 is a detail top plan view, on an enlarged scale, illustrating the manner of connecting the upper rails and corner-posts of the grate.

Referring by letter to the said drawings, A indicates the upright corner-posts of the crate, which are solid and of a general triangular form in cross-section throughout their length.

B B' indicate the upper end and side rails, and C C' indicate the lower end and side rails. These several rails B B' C C' are provided in their inner sides at their opposite ends with the undercut recesses D to receive the upright posts A, and they are connected to said posts by suitable fastening devices, as shown.

E indicates the intermediate end slats, which are permanently connected to the corner-posts A at equidistant points between the upper and lower rails B C and are of a less length than said upper and lower rails, as shown, and F indicates the intermediate side slats, which are permanently connected by suitable fastening devices to the corner-posts at approximately equidistant points between the upper and lower side rails B' C'.

G indicates the bottom slats of the crate. These bottom slats are permanently connected by suitable fastening devices to the lower side and end rails C C' and the corner-posts A, and they serve in conjunction with the several rails B, B', C, C', E, and F, and the corner-posts A to form the crate illustrated in Fig. 1.

The triangular corner-posts A, let into the undercut recesses D of the upper and lower rails and permanently connected to said rails, will effect a strong and durable connection of the said rails and will effectually prevent sagging or casual disconnection of the same, no matter how roughly the crate is handled.

It will be observed from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, that the upper and lower side and end rails of the crate are engaged and held by the solid corners of the posts A, of triangular form in cross-section, and therefore are not liable to be torn away from the posts. It will also be observed that the triangular posts are comparatively small and cheap and easy to form and that they do not take up any material amount of the interior space of the crate; and, further, it will be noticed that the posts A may be readily placed in engagement with the upper and lower side and end rails of the crate. Again it will be noticed that by reason of the employment of the triangular posts A and the undercut recesses D in the upper and lower side and end rails, all of the said rails may be made of a greater thickness than the intermediate end and side slats E F, which is desirable; and yet the outer sides of said slats, which are connected to the sides of the posts A, will rest in the same vertical planes as the outer sides of the upper and lower side and end rails, which is desirable for obvious reasons.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The improved crate described comprising the upright corner posts solid and of triangular form in cross-section throughout their length, the comparatively thick upper and lower end and side rails having the undercut recesses D, in their inner sides at their opposite ends receiving the corners of the corner

posts, fastening devices permanently connect-
ing the said rails to the outer sides of the cor-
ner posts, the intermediate end and side slats
permanently connected by fastening devices
5 to the outer sides of the corner posts; said
slats being of a less thickness than the upper
and lower side and end rails so that their
outer sides will rest in the same vertical

planes as the outer sides of said rails, and a
suitable bottom, all substantially as specified. 10

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

ASA S. SHERMAN.

Witnesses:

A. J. WARNER,
CHAS. MILES.