

(No Model.)

W. A. SCHREI.
REFRIGERATOR CRATE.

No. 547,185.

Patented Oct. 1, 1895.

Fig. 1.

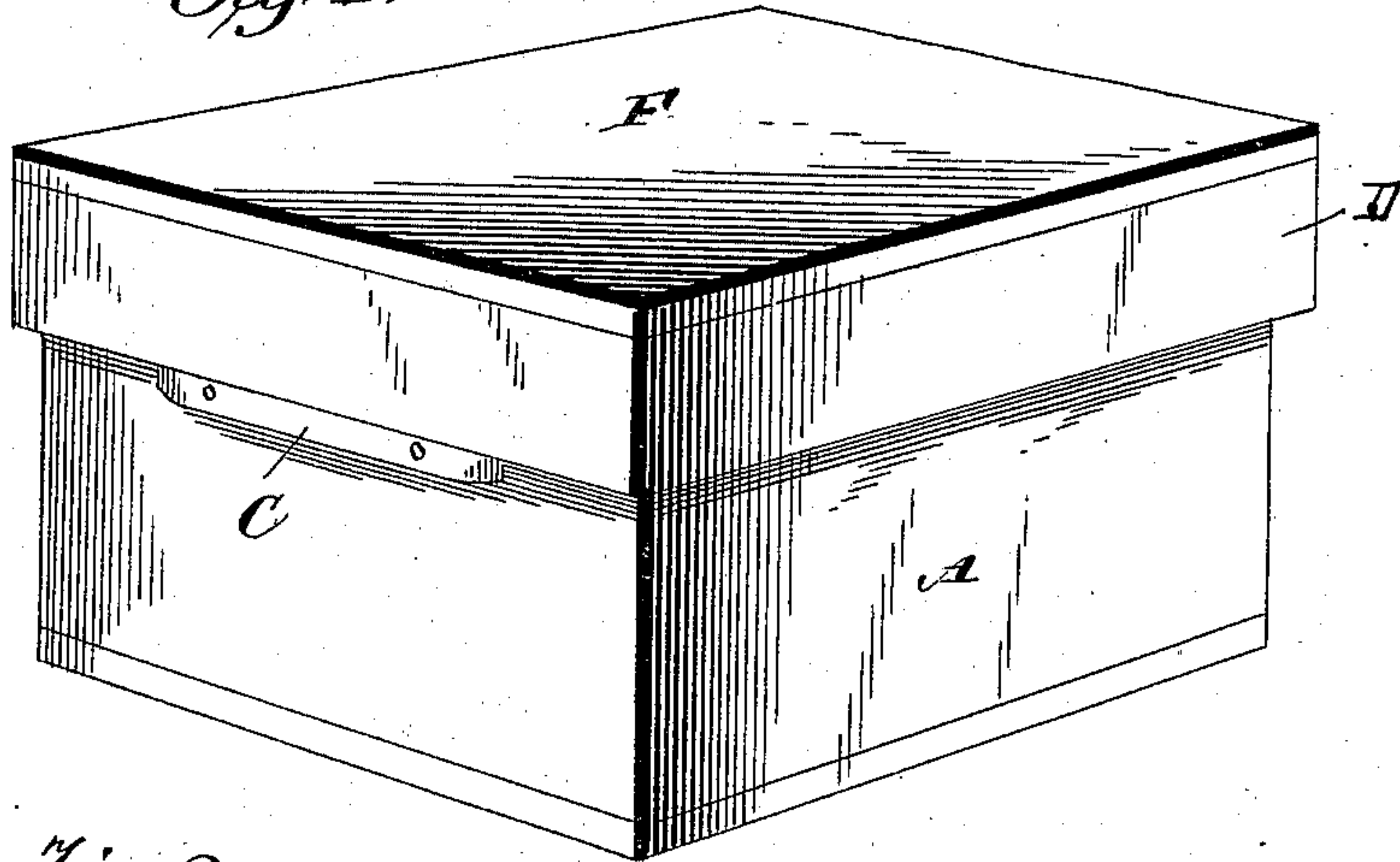


Fig. 2.

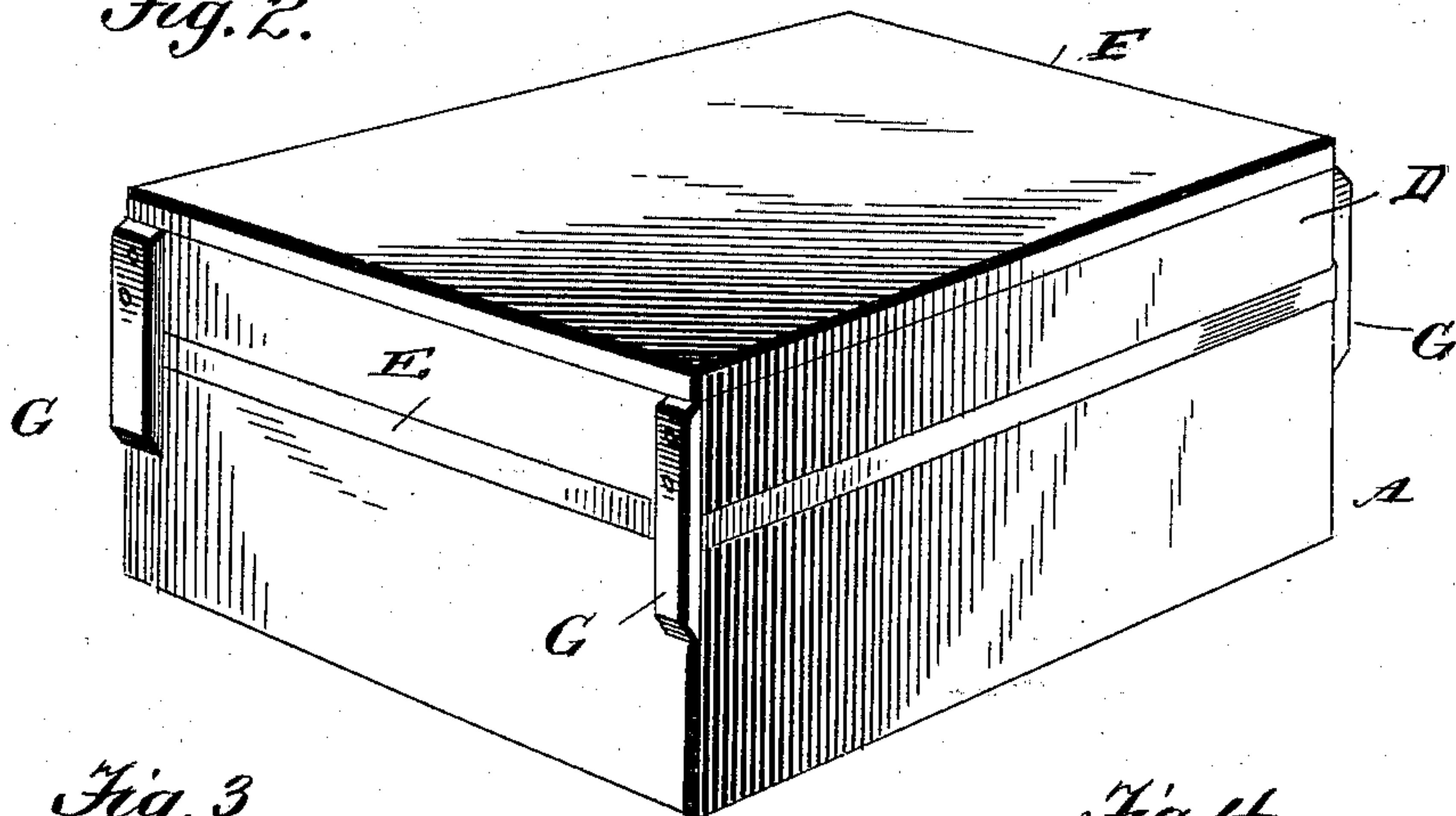


Fig. 3.

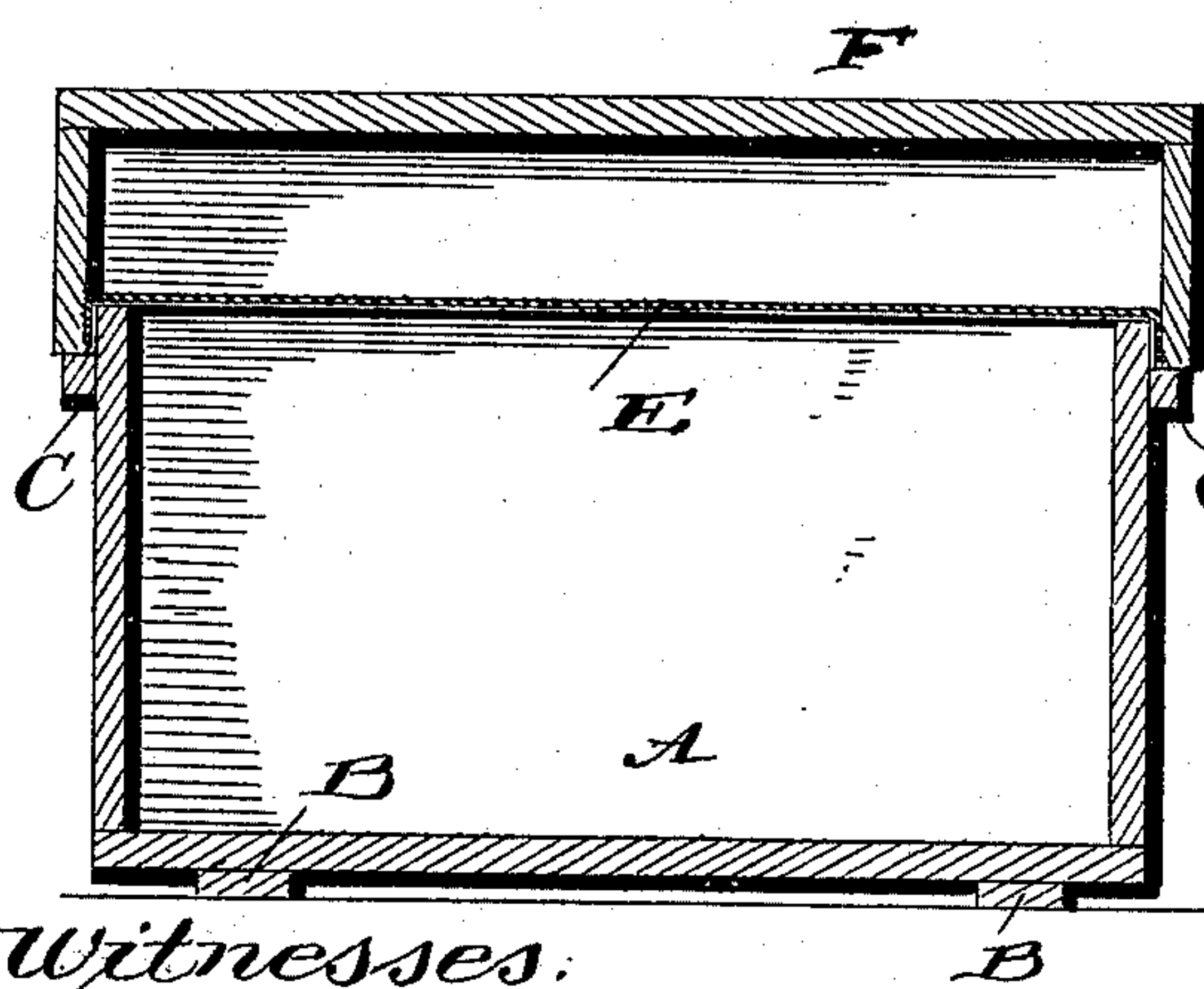
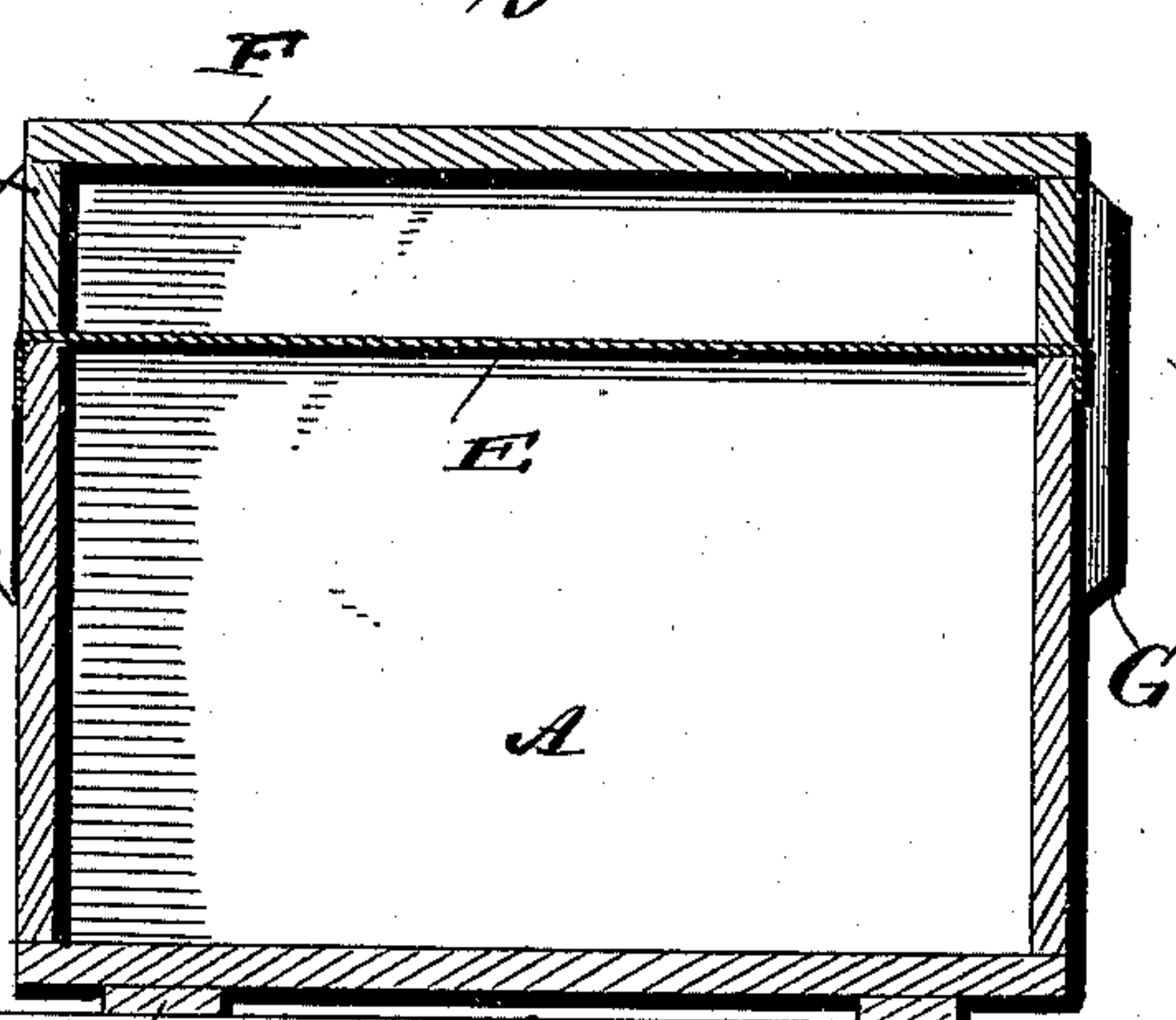


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. SCHREI, OF SOUTH OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

REFRIGERATOR-CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 547,185, dated October 1, 1895.

Application filed May 31, 1895. Serial No. 551,257. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. SCHREI, a citizen of the United States, residing at South Omaha, in the county of Douglas and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Refrigerator-Crates; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in refrigerator-crates which are designed for use in shipping perishable products, the aim of the invention being to produce a shipping box or crate for the purpose described which will be simple in construction, which may be used in one shipment of perishable goods, and then at its destination be destroyed to save the expense of its return to the shipper.

A further object of the invention consists in the provision of a water-tight cold-conducting separator between the perishable products contained in the box or crate and the ice receptacle above, the edges of the separator overlapping the edges of the box to prevent the water from the melting ice entering the receptacle containing the products being transported.

To these ends and to such others as the invention may pertain the same consists, further, in the novel construction, combination, and adaptation of the parts, as will be hereinafter more fully defined in the appended claim.

I clearly illustrate my invention in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which drawings similar letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the crate closed in shape for shipment with overlapping frame for ice-receptacle. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the crate closed in shape for shipment with cleats for fastening ice-receptacle to box. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal

section through the crate with overlapping frame for ice-receptacle. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section through the crate with cleats for fastening ice-receptacle to box.

Reference now being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates the box or receptacle designed to hold the perishable products to be transported, and on its under side is provided with the cleats B.

D is a framework which is provided to retain the ice and is adapted to rest on the cleats C at each end of the box A, the ice resting on the sheet-iron or metallic cover E, which has its ends bent down over the ends of the box, so as to allow the water melting from the ice to be conveyed off and not allowed to enter the box containing the perishable products.

F is a cover for the framework D and is designed to be nailed or otherwise secured thereto.

From the above it will be seen that the whole purpose of the invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive refrigerator shipping-crate, which can be constructed so cheaply that it would not pay to return the crate for a second shipping.

The ice-retaining frames may be securely held to the sides of the box or fastened by means of cleats G, which are perpendicularly secured at their upper ends to the outer corners of the ice-retaining frame, the free ends of said cleats extending down over the meeting edges of the frame, metallic cover, and box and adapted to be secured to the said box by any suitable means, and the ice contained within its inclosing sides and on the metallic separator will cause the contents of the box to be kept cool by the natural tendency of atmosphere to settle.

In Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings I have shown a slight modification in the form of the crate. In this modified form the vertical cleats G at the corners of the crate are dispensed with and the upper portion of the crate is fitted down over the upper edges of the lower portion, resting upon the horizontal strips C, as shown in the drawings.

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

As an improved article of manufacture a refrigerator shipping crate, having in combination with the box A, a metallic plate E with its edges bent over the upper edges of said box,
5 an inclosing frame D adapted to rest on said metallic plate, the cleats G secured at each corner of said frame, and their free ends extended down over the meeting edges of said

frame, plate and box, and of a cover F, all substantially as shown and described. 10

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

WILLIAM A. SCHREI.

Witnesses:

THOS. WHITTLESEY,
R. A. CARPENTER.