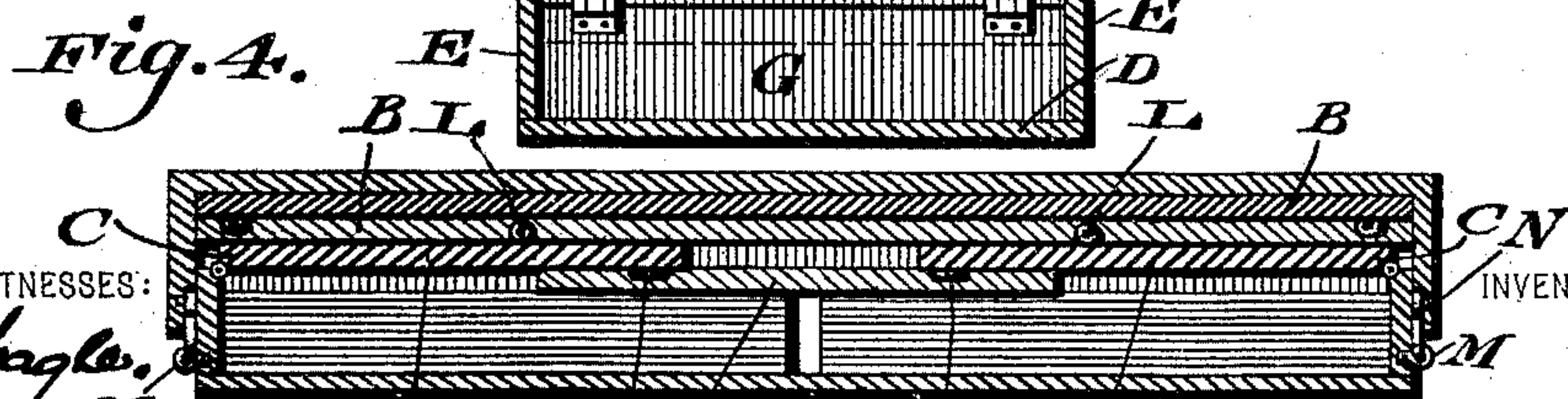
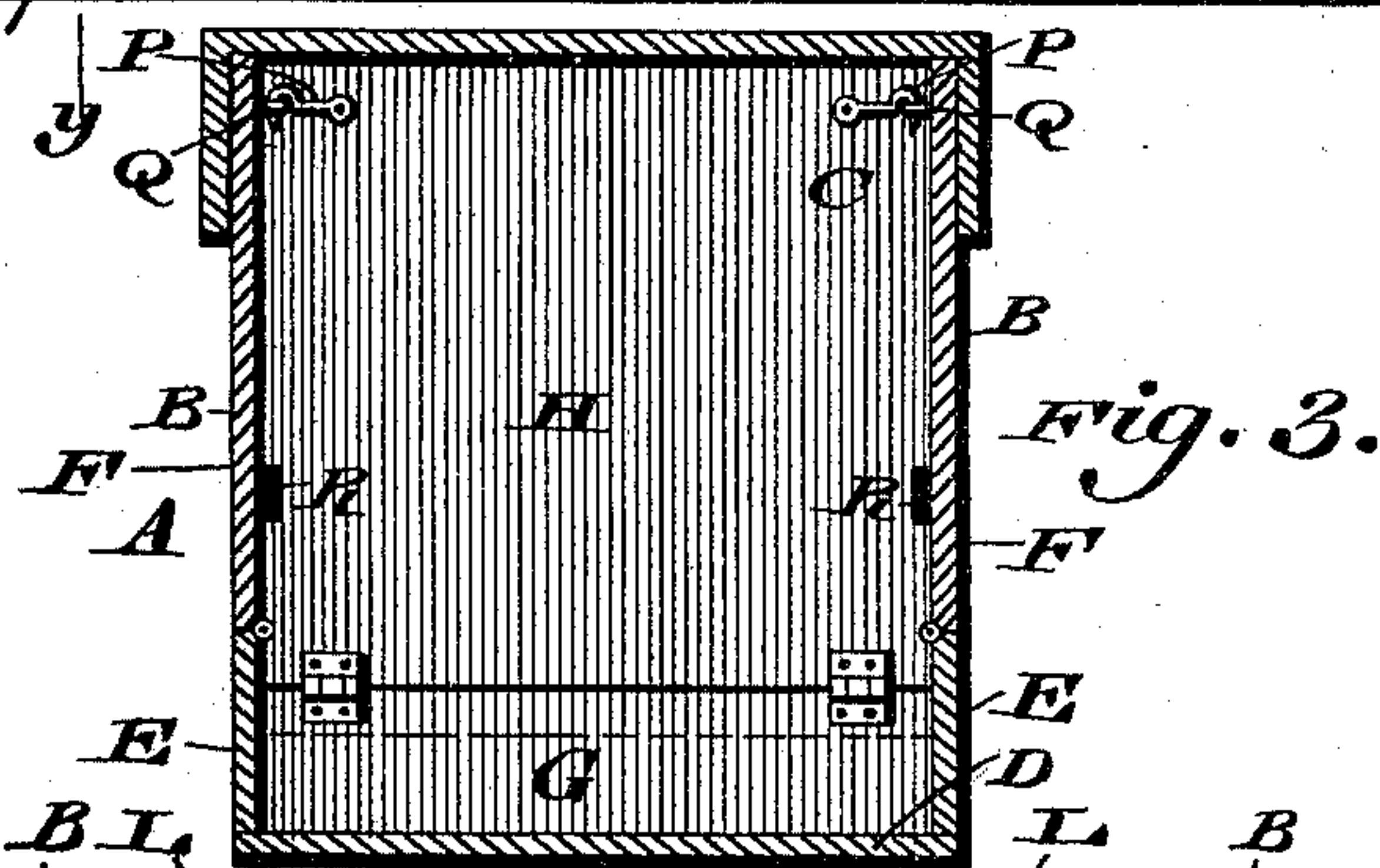
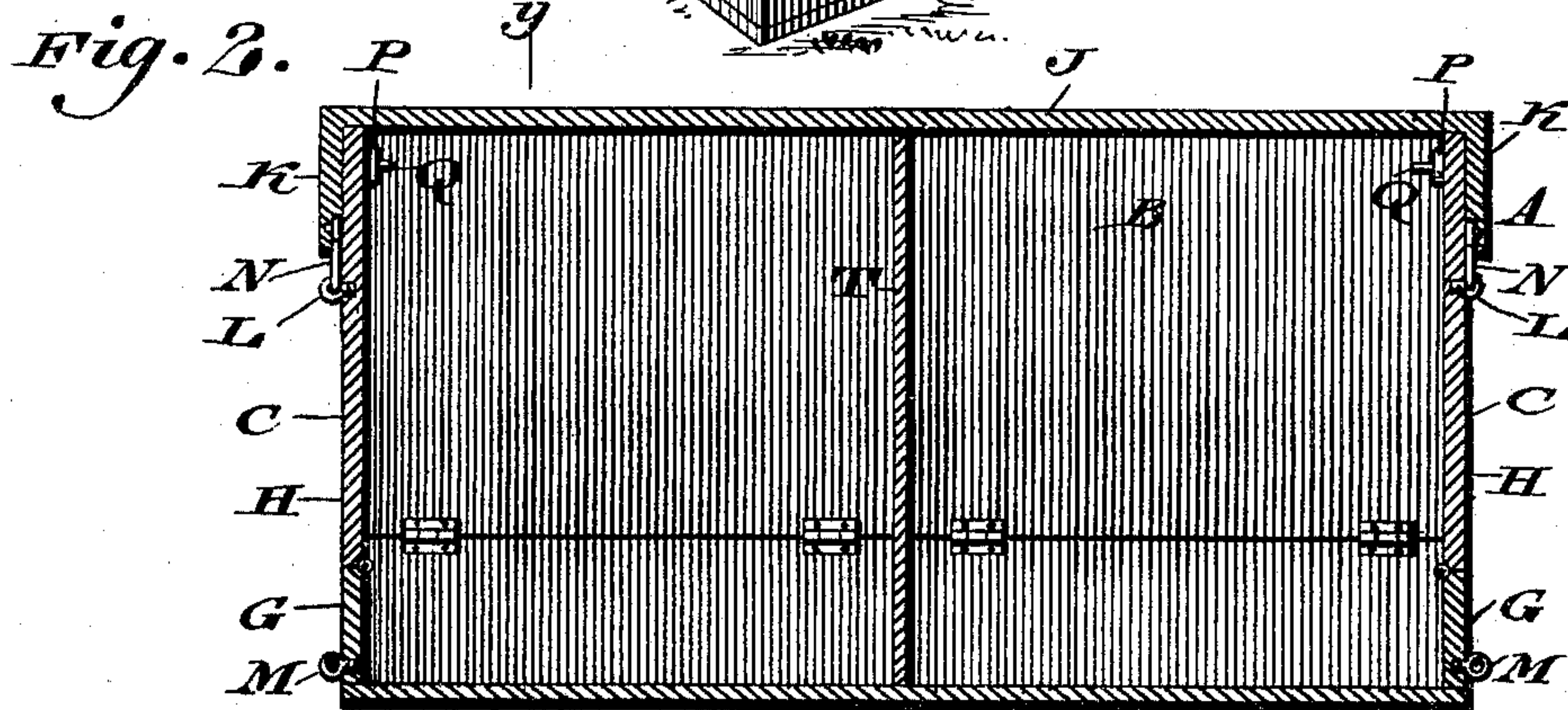
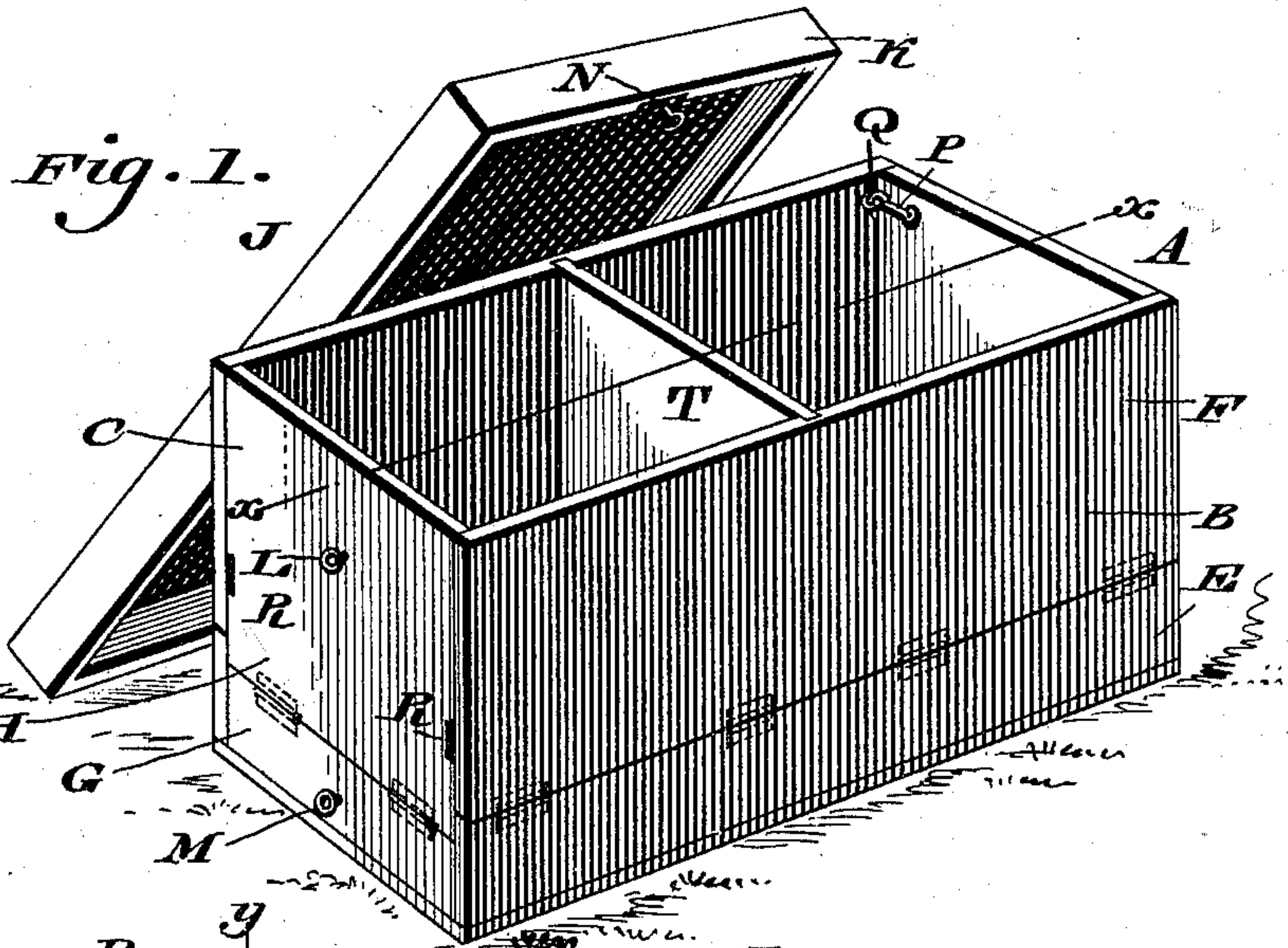


(No Model.)

L. PALMER.
FOLDING CRATE.

No. 591,005.

Patented Oct. 5, 1897.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LAFAYETTE PALMER, OF HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

FOLDING CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 591,005, dated October 5, 1897.

Application filed June 29, 1896. Serial No. 597,323. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAFAYETTE PALMER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Harrisburg, Dauphin county, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Folding Crates, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings.

My invention consists of a crate for eggs, berries, &c., the same being adapted to be folded, and having a lid which may be fitted on the body of the crate in either the folded or unfolded condition of the same and retained thereon, the construction of parts being hereinafter set forth.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a folding crate embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal vertical section thereof on line *xx*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a transverse vertical section thereof on line *yy*, Fig. 2. Fig. 4 represents a longitudinal vertical section of the crate in folded condition.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the body of the crate, the same consisting of the sides B, ends C, and bottom D. The sides B consist of the stationary parts E, which rise from the bottom D, and the swinging parts F, which are hinged to said parts E.

The ends C consist of the stationary parts G, which rise from the bottom D, and the swinging parts H, which are hinged to said parts G.

J designates the lid, which has a depending flange K, adapted to embrace the upper part of the body and depends below the top edge thereof.

On the sides of the swinging parts H of the end C are eyes L, and on the sides of the stationary parts G of said end are eyes M, which latter are located below the former and so spaced that the depending hook N on the lid J may engage with either of said eyes according to the folded or unfolded condition of the crate.

On the ends and sides and the corners of the body are catches P and eyes Q which connect said parts when the box is unfolded or in operative condition and prevent closing of the hinges or swinging parts H F of said sides.

It will be seen that the body of the box is in operative condition in Fig. 1, and it may be filled, after which the lid is applied and secured in position by the fastenings N and L.

When the box is empty and to be folded, the lid is unfastened and removed and the catches P and eyes Q are disconnected. The hinged end portions are then folded down and the hinged side portions folded thereover, as will be seen in Fig. 4. The lid is now fitted over the folded body and the latches N are engaged with the lower eye M, thus keeping the parts in compact form, preventing opening of the box, and placing the device in most contracted condition for transportation, storage, &c., and economy of space. In order to permit the side portions to fold down to full extent or comparatively flat, the sides of the end portions H are cut away or recessed, as at R, forming cavities which receive the hinges of said side portions F.

It will be noticed that the flange or rim K projects from the sides of the body N, so that its lower edge forms shoulders which may be engaged by the fingers as handles for the box in folded or unfolded condition.

It will also be noticed that the stationary portions of the ends and sides extend some distance above the bottom of the crate, those of the sides being higher than those of the ends, so that the former may be folded on the latter, and when the portions are folded a space exists below the same, forming a storage-chamber S for empty egg-racks, partitions, &c., it being noticed in Fig. 4 that the partition T, which is employed in Figs. 1 and 2 to separate the body of the box into compartments, has been removed and placed in the storage-chamber S, where the catches P enter recesses in said partition T, so that the ends C are permitted to fold flat on said partition and the latter is prevented from shifting and thus as said partition presses against the empty egg-racks the latter held firmly on the bottom of the crate; but when the same is in operative position it also serves as a brace for the sides of the body between the ends thereof to prevent the same from being forced in.

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

1. A folding crate consisting of a bottom, stationary side and end parts, folding side and end pieces hinged to said stationary parts, a lid and a removable partition, said stationary end parts being of less height than said side stationary parts, and said hinged end pieces having therein the recesses B adapted to receive the hinges of the side pieces when folded said partition having recesses for the catches of the folding side and end pieces.
2. A folding crate consisting of the bottom D, the sides B, a lid J and ends C, said sides being formed of the stationary parts E connected with said bottom and the folding parts F, hinged to said parts E, the ends C being formed of the stationary parts G connected with said bottom D and the folding parts H hinged to said parts G, the said parts E being of greater height than said parts G, and said folding parts H having recesses in their ends to receive the projecting portions of the hinges on the parts F when said parts are folded, hooks on the ends of said lid and eyes on the folding and stationary portion of said ends adapted to be engaged by said hooks as the box is in extended or folded position respectively in combination with a partition for said body, the same having recesses to receive the catches of the folding side and end parts of the body.

LAFAYETTE PALMER.

Witnesses:

GEORGE GERHART,
MARY E. HAUER.