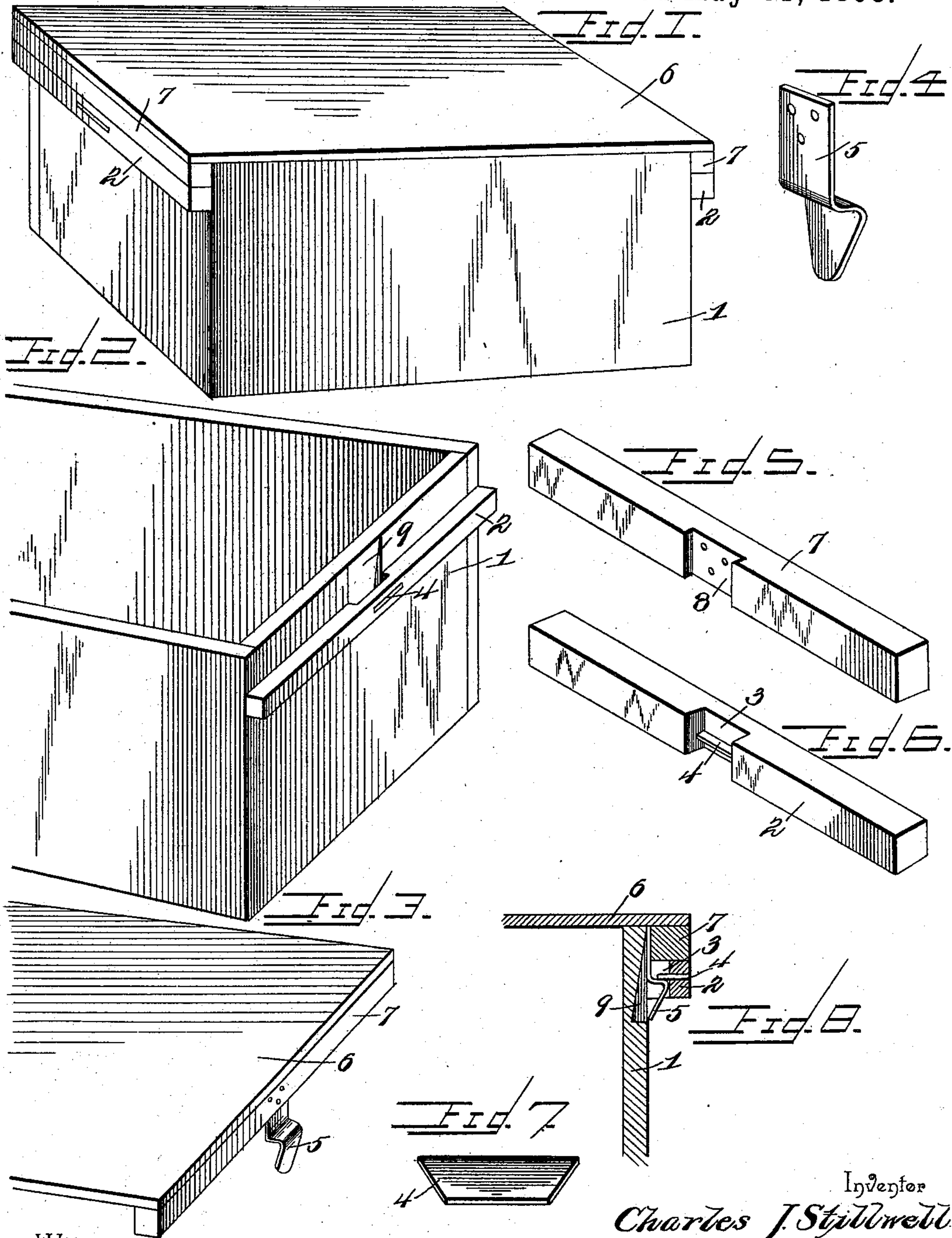


(No Model.)

C. J. STILLWELL.
BOX FASTENER.

No. 604,922.

Patented May 31, 1898.



Witnesses

R. A. Shepard
J. F. Riley

By *his* Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

Inventor
Charles J. Stillwell

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES J. STILLWELL, OF WINFIELD, KANSAS.

BOX-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 604,922, dated May 31, 1898.

Application filed November 10, 1897. Serial No. 658,103. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. STILLWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Winfield, in the county of Cowley and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Cover-Fastener for Egg Crates, Boxes, &c., of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in cover-fasteners for egg crates, boxes, &c.

10 The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of cover-fasteners for egg crates, boxes, and analogous receptacles, and to provide a simple and comparatively inexpensive device which will be strong and
15 durable, adapted to enable a cover to be readily removed and quickly replaced, and capable of securely locking a cover on a box or crate.

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

25 In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a crate provided with a cover-fastener constructed in accordance with this invention, the cover being in place. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the body of the crate, the cover being removed. Fig. 3 is a perspective
30 view of one end of the cover. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the catch. Figs. 5 and 6 are detail views of the cleats of the cover and the body. Fig. 7 is a detail view of the keeper-plate. Fig. 8 is a detail vertical sectional view
35 of the locking device.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

40 1 designates a box or crate provided at each end with a horizontal cleat 2, arranged a short distance from the upper edges of the crate or box and provided at its inner face with a central vertical recess 3, in which is arranged a
45 keeper-plate 4, adapted to be engaged by a catch 5 of a cover 6. The recess 3 is rectangular, and the plate 4, which is horizontal, is tapering and adapted to be readily driven into the front wall of the recess. The larger
50 end of the plate projects into the recess, forming a stop to be engaged by the catch 5, and the shape of the plate 4 enables it to be readily driven in place and prevents it from be-

ing forced entirely through the cleat during the use of the crate.

The cover is provided at each end with a 55 transverse cleat 7, secured to its lower face and provided at the inner face with a recess 8, in which the shank of the catch 5 is secured. The catch, which is constructed of
60 spring metal, is bent to form a shoulder, and its lower end is disposed at a slight inclination, whereby it is adapted to engage the keeper-plate automatically when the cover is placed on the crate. The inclined end pre-
65 sents a beveled face to the keeper, and the shoulder is adapted to spring under the same to lock the cover on the crate.

The end of the crate is provided opposite the recess 3 with a vertical recess 9, tapering in depth and adapted to afford space for the 70 operation of the catch, so that the same may be readily depressed to release the cover. The invention has the following advantages: The locking device is simple and comparatively inexpensive in construction. It is 75 strong and durable and adapted to be readily applied to various shipping crates and boxes, and it is capable of permitting a cover to be quickly placed on and readily removed from a crate and of securely fastening it thereon. 80 The tapering keeper-plate is readily mounted on the cleat of the body of the crate, and its shape prevents it from being forced entirely through the same in the use of the crate. By
85 arranging the recess at the inner face of the cleat the latter receives and conceals the greater portion of the catch and protects the same from the weather, thereby increasing its durability.

Changes in the form, proportion, and minor 90 details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What I claim is—

1. In a device of the class described, the 95 combination of a crate provided with a tapering recess 9 extending downward from the upper edge of the crate at one end thereof, the cleat 2 extending across the end of the crate and provided at its inner face with a 100 vertical recess disposed opposite the tapering recess of the crate, the cover, the resilient catch secured thereto and having a lower engaging portion adapted to be depressed into

the recess 9, and the horizontal tapering plate 4 embedded in the front wall of the recess of the cleat from the inner side thereof, and having its rear edge terminating short of the rear face of the cleat, said plate being located at a point between the upper and lower faces of the cleat and having its inner or rear portion projecting from the front wall of the recess of the cleat and engaged by the catch, substantially as described.

2. In a device of the class described, the combination of a crate, a horizontal cleat secured to the crate and provided at its inner face with a recess, the outwardly-tapering

plate 4, located at a point between the upper and lower faces of the cleat and embedded in the front wall of the recess and having its inner or rear portion projecting from such front wall, and a catch mounted on the cover of the crate and having a lower portion engaging the plate, substantially as described.

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

CHARLES J. STILLWELL.

Witnesses:

J. M. SPOON,

J. E. CONKLIN.