

No. 612,473.

Patented Oct. 18, 1898.

L. W. WOODS.
EGG HOLDER.

(Application filed Jan. 28, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

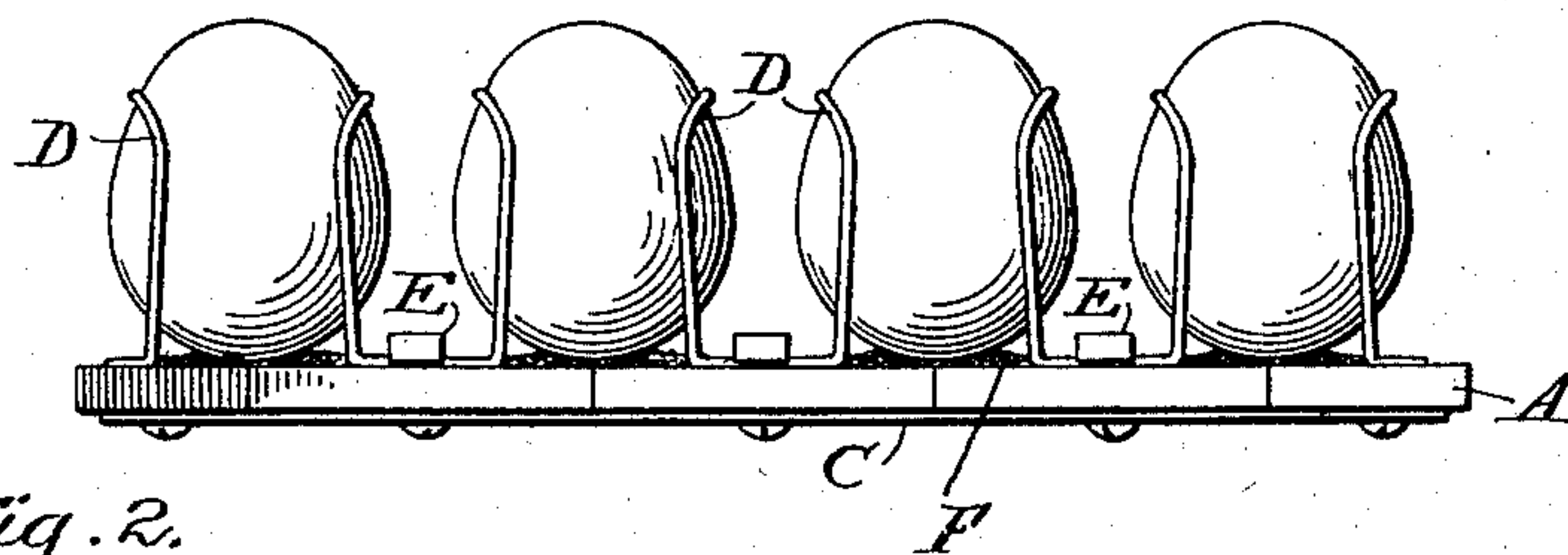


Fig. 2.

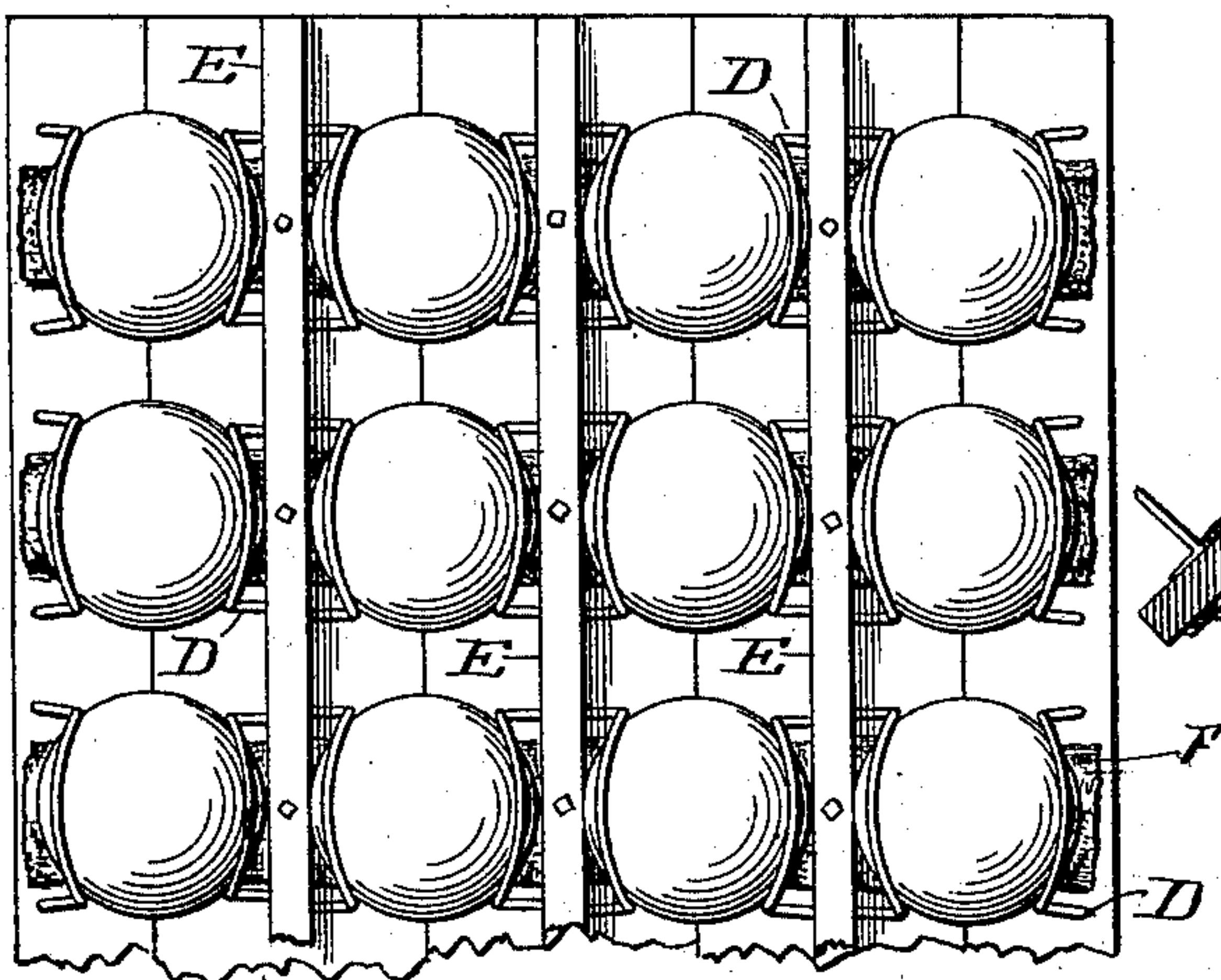


Fig. 3.

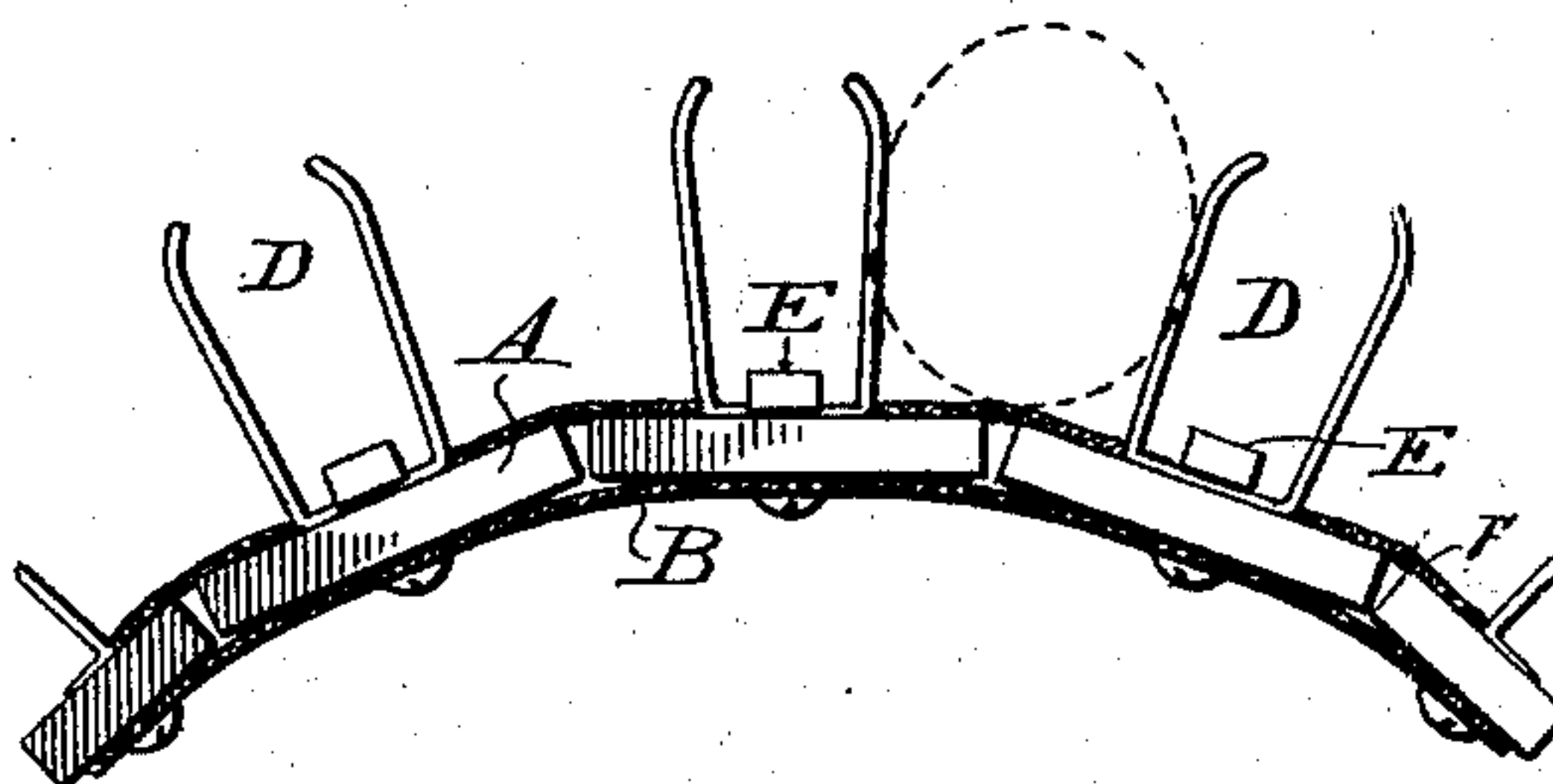
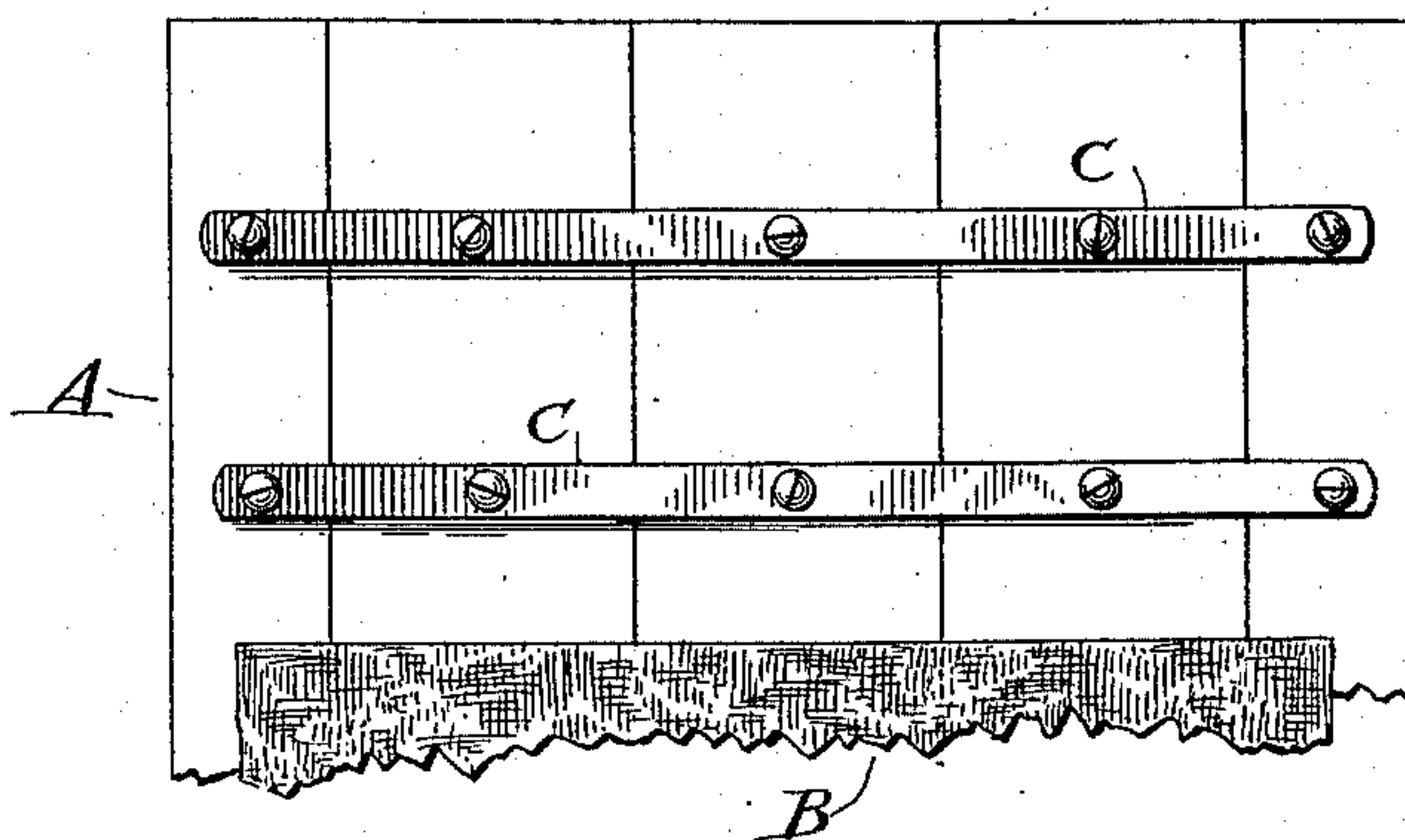


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEONARD WALDO WOODS, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

EGG-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 612,473, dated October 18, 1898.

Application filed January 28, 1898. Serial No. 668,295. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONARD WALDO WOODS, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in egg-holders, preferably combined in series of more or less number to form a cabinet.

My object is to provide means for the safe transportation of eggs, facilitate handling collectively instead of individually, maintain them in a position most favorable for their safe transportation, and effect their ready discharge from the individual holders.

To this end my improvements have reference to a series of spring-clips for an individual egg and a flexible support or base for the clips, have reference to a series of strips flexibly connected at their edges and forming such base or support, have reference to springs acting on said base tending to maintain it normally flat, but allowing it to be sprung out of the normal plane to release the eggs collectively from the clips carried by said base, have reference to a special cushion for the eggs, and have reference to other points hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, on which like reference-letters indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 represents an end view of the sectional base and clips thereon; Fig. 2, a plan view of the same; Fig. 3, a view showing the eggs maintained in their holders; and Fig. 4, a bottom view of the base, showing the spring-strips transversely arranged thereon.

The letter A designates the base or support, formed of strips of wood or other suitable material laid side by side and maintained in their normal position by suitable means which will connect them to each other flexibly, and thus provide the strips with a hinge action at their meeting edges. This connecting means may be of canvas, as at B, or in the preferred form such means consist of cross-strips C of spring metal, which hold the strips closely in their relative lateral position with respect to each other, yet allowing the base to be bent

backward and the strips to open along their meeting edges like a joint for the purpose presently to appear.

Upon each strip is secured a loop of spring-wire D like an inverted U, the upper part curved horizontally with a slight rise in the center to conform to the shape of the egg and the legs extending downward and then bent horizontally and ending in a sharp turn or spur, by which each leg is secured to the base-strip. These clips are arranged facing each other in pairs on opposite sides of the meeting edges of the base A, so that the egg is placed endwise, preferably with the large end downward, between each pair of clips and directly over the edges of the strips, as shown in Fig. 1. These clips are arranged in series, as indicated by the drawings, and the preferred construction is to secure them firmly to the base-strips by bars E, which are fastened above them along the middle of the strips, as shown. They are thus rigidly held by their feet, while their resiliency as clips to embrace the eggs interposed between them is unimpaired. The top of the clip extending up beyond the middle of the egg, as shown, and the spring of the clips combined with the back springs C, hold the egg so firmly that the set may be reversed without danger of falling out. The back springs C are preferably secured to each strip by a screw or rivet at the middle of the base-strips, as indicated in Fig. 1.

A cushion F is also provided for the eggs. Any form of cushion may be used; but I prefer to employ a flexible yielding cloth, such as eider-down, which will stretch when the strips are bent backward, and will then rise in a little ridge above the meeting edges instead of becoming clamped therein. Any other suitable material may be used; but I have found by careful experiment that this eider-down material is especially adapted for this purpose, as it will stretch and the fullness then rise in ridges, which avoids the meeting edges on their return to their normal flat position and also affords a cushion for the egg. I have also arranged this cushioning-strip across the upper surface of the base and secured it by the bars E as my preferred construction.

When the eggs are inserted in their respec-

tive holders, they tend to shape the base in a convex or cylindrical curve, as shown in Fig.

3. The spring-back strips C on the under side of the base resist this tendency and aid the clips in holding the eggs. Thus a set of a dozen eggs, for instance, may be mounted and handled all in one piece, as it were. A number of such sets can be packed in boxes or barrels or other receptacles and much more safely transported than when there is more or less movement of the individual eggs or when they contact with each other. It will be seen that each egg is placed on end and provided with a cushion, thus resting on its strongest portion and cushioned besides.

When it is desirable to release the eggs, the lower side may be liberated at once by reversing the set and springing the strips backward, thereby opening the clips D and allowing the escape of the eggs upon a guarded or sand-covered table adapted to receive them.

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

1. A series of spring-clips arranged in pairs, and a flexible base for said strips adapted to allow the opening of the clips to release the eggs.

2. A series of spring-clips arranged in pairs, a series of strips supporting said clips and having their adjacent edges located between the clips of each pair, and means securing said strips transversely in a flexible manner, substantially as described.

3. A series of strips arranged side by side constituting a base, transverse spring-metal strips secured to the under side of said base, and a series of spring-clips mounted in pairs on the upper side of said base adapted to em-

brace the eggs located above the adjacent edges, substantially as described.

4. A base consisting of a series of strips, transverse spring-strips on the lower side of the base secured at the middle of each base-strip, spring-clips consisting of inverted-U-shaped loops having a spur and horizontal strip, a longitudinal bar fastening said feet to the base-strip, and a cushion for the eggs interposed between the pairs of clips, substantially as described.

5. In an egg-holder the combination with a flexible base and clips mounted thereon, of a cushion of flexible, yielding material adapted to stretch and forming a ridge for the eggs, substantially as described.

6. In an egg-holder, the combination with a base consisting of strips having a hinge action along their adjacent edges, spring-clips carried by said base-strips and a cushion of yielding material secured to the upper side of the base-strip, and adapted to stretch and then rise above the joints of the base-strips, substantially as described.

7. In an egg-holder, the combination with base-strips having a hinge action along their adjacent edges, clips carried by said base-strips in pairs, and eider-down material transversely arranged across said strips and forming cushions for the eggs, and bars to secure said clips and cushioning-strips to the base-strips, substantially as described.

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

LEONARD WALDO WOODS.

Witnesses:

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B. M. CLIFTON.