

No. 621,609.

Patented Mar. 21, 1899.

C. E. LA FLEUR.
EGG CASE FILLER.

(Application filed Nov. 15, 1898.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1

(No Model.)

Fig 1.

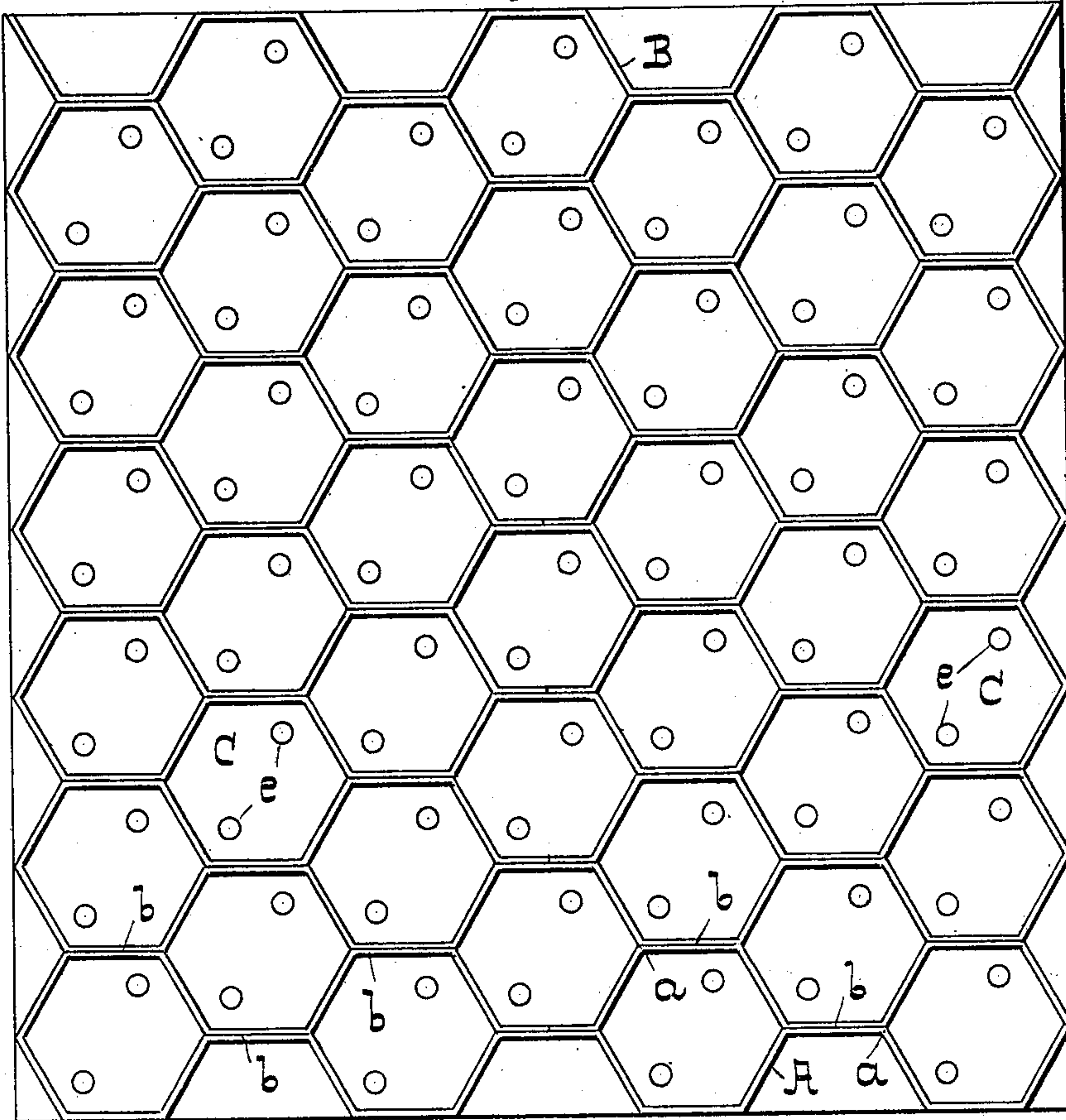
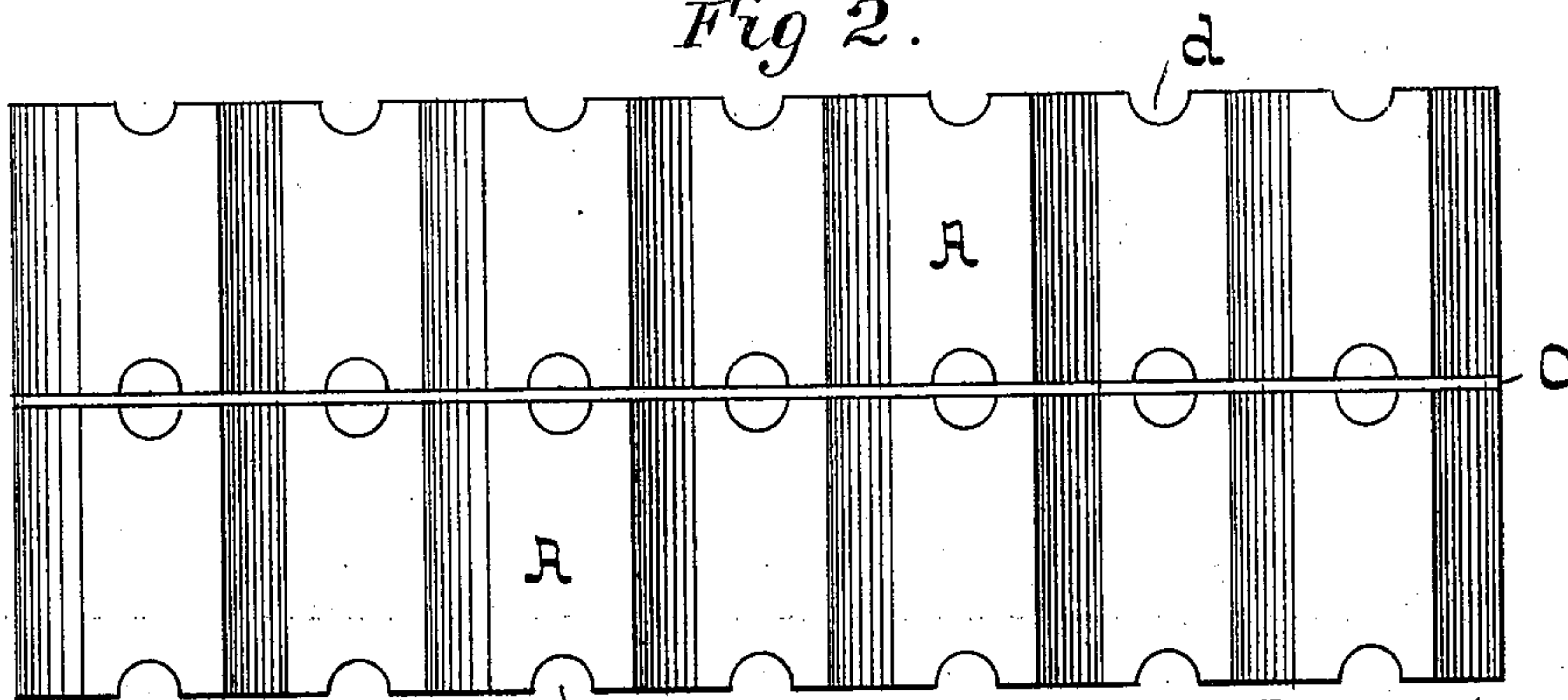


Fig 2.



Witnesses.

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Fig 3.

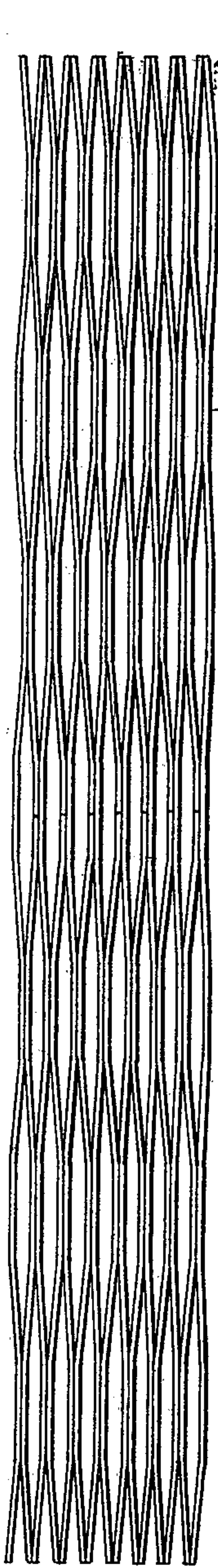


Fig 4.

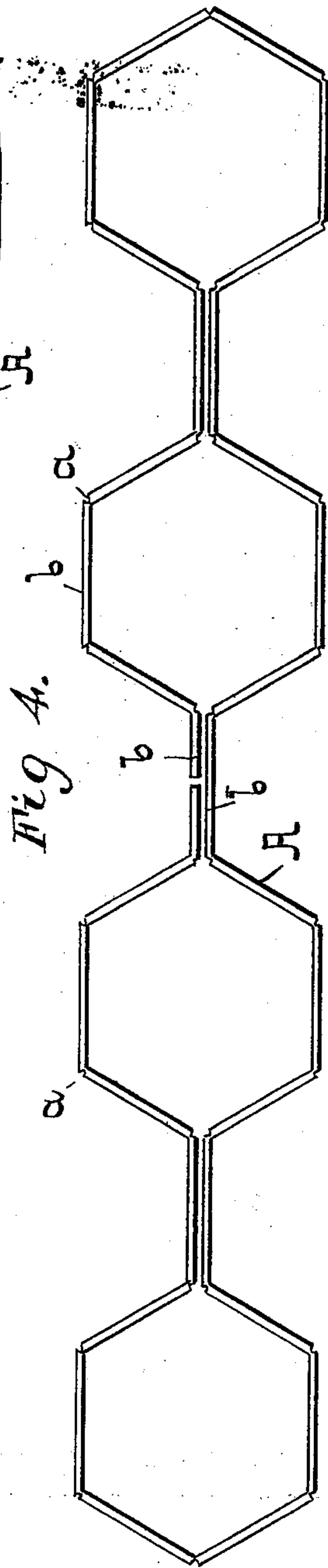
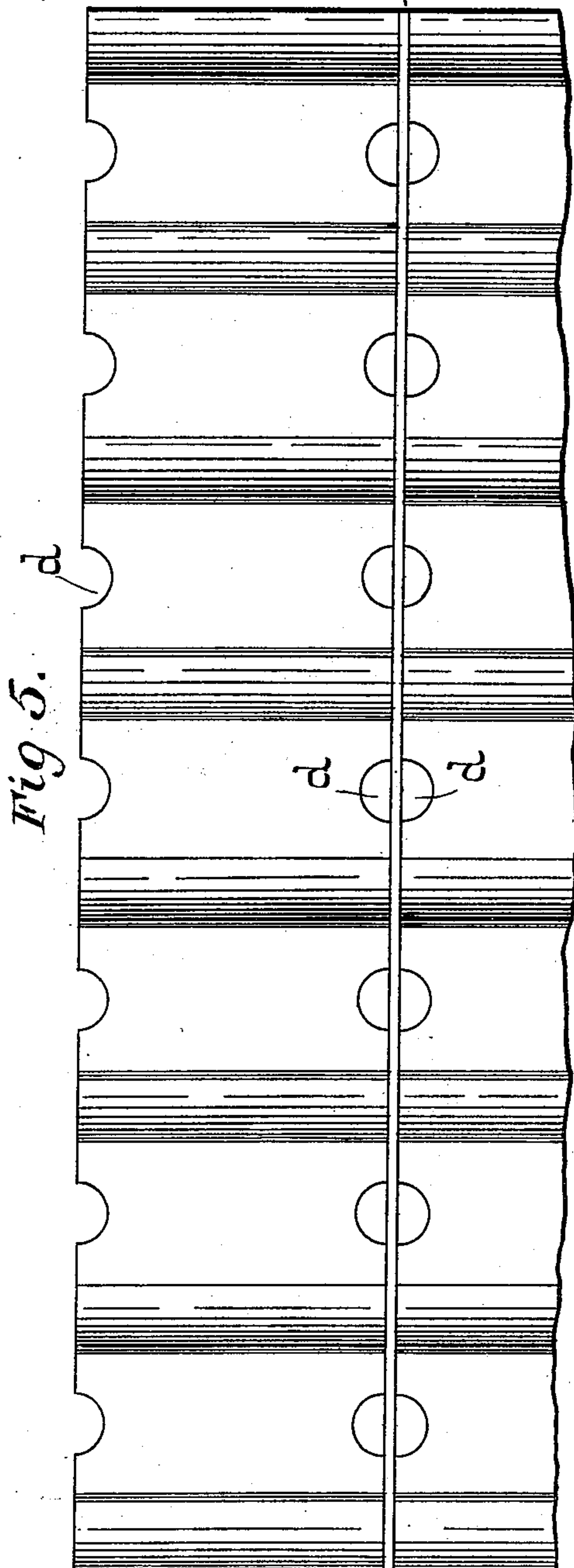


Fig 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES E. LA FLEUR, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

EGG-CASE FILLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 621,609, dated March 21, 1899.

Application filed November 15, 1898. Serial No. 696,507. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES E. LA FLEUR, of the city of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Egg-Case Fillers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved collapsible egg-case filler having hexagonal cells or pockets for the reception of eggs adapted to be used in connection with several others of a like character in a suitable packing or shipping box or case, as will hereinafter fully appear.

In the further description of the said invention which follows reference is made to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, and in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of the improved filler, showing the same as extended and laid upon a perforated board which separates it from a similar filler beneath. Fig. 2 is an edge view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a top view of the filler as it appears when nearly collapsed or closed for storage or transportation. Fig. 4 is an enlarged top view of a section of the filler before the two sides thereof are glued together. Fig. 5 is an edge view of Fig. 4.

In constructing a filler in accordance with my present invention I take a straw or wood pulp board A of suitable width and of a length equal to the aggregate length of the sides of, say, four hexagonal cells, and, in addition, twice the length of the spaces between them, and provide it with notches or incisions *a*, which extend transversely of the board and have a separating distance equal to the length of the sides of the cells. These notches or incisions constitute the corners of the cells and allow of the board being bent thereat without distorting the material between them from a straight line. The board is then susceptible of being given the form shown in Figs. 1 and 4, its ends meeting at the center of the device. Other folded boards, constructed as described, are then added to the first, the adjoining faces *b* being glued together when the last is provided with a half-board B. The united boards are then clamped until the glue is dry, when they are cut into strips of a width a little greater than the length of an egg.

From the foregoing description it will be

understood that each filler consists of a number (preferably six) of independent sections and a half-section glued together, each section having a continuous wall, and that the ends of the strips meet at the center of the device, where they are glued to the opposite face.

By folding the board so that its ends will meet at the center, as described, the manufacture of the filler is much simplified and more readily constructed by machinery, for the reason that the upturned ends have a common length.

It is well known that eggs when confined in closed places acquire a moldy taste, and I therefore provide the fillers with means whereby air may pass from one cell to another. This may be effected in many different ways; but I prefer to notch the wall of the cells and perforate the separating-partition between the fillers, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, in which the notches are denoted by *d* and the holes in the partition-board C by *e*.

The cases in which the fillers are placed are not air-tight. Consequently air entering the case may pass to all the eggs in the cells. While the circulation of air as described is not rapid or of a very pronounced character, it is sufficient to prevent for a considerable time the eggs from becoming musty.

In packing eggs for shipment a filler is laid on the bottom of the case and extended and its cells filled. A perforated partition-board is then laid over the eggs and another filler added and its cells filled, this process being continued until the requisite number of fillers are in place and the case filled.

I claim as my invention—

A square egg-case filler comprising a series of independent sections any two of which form an odd number of complete hexagonal cells, secured together with glue each section consisting of a sheet or strip folded upon itself with its ends united intermediate the ends of the section and made collapsible to admit of its being flattened and clamped to a corresponding and similar section, substantially as, and for the purpose specified.

CHARLES E. LA FLEUR.

Witnesses:

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A. L. HOMER.