

No. 708,654.

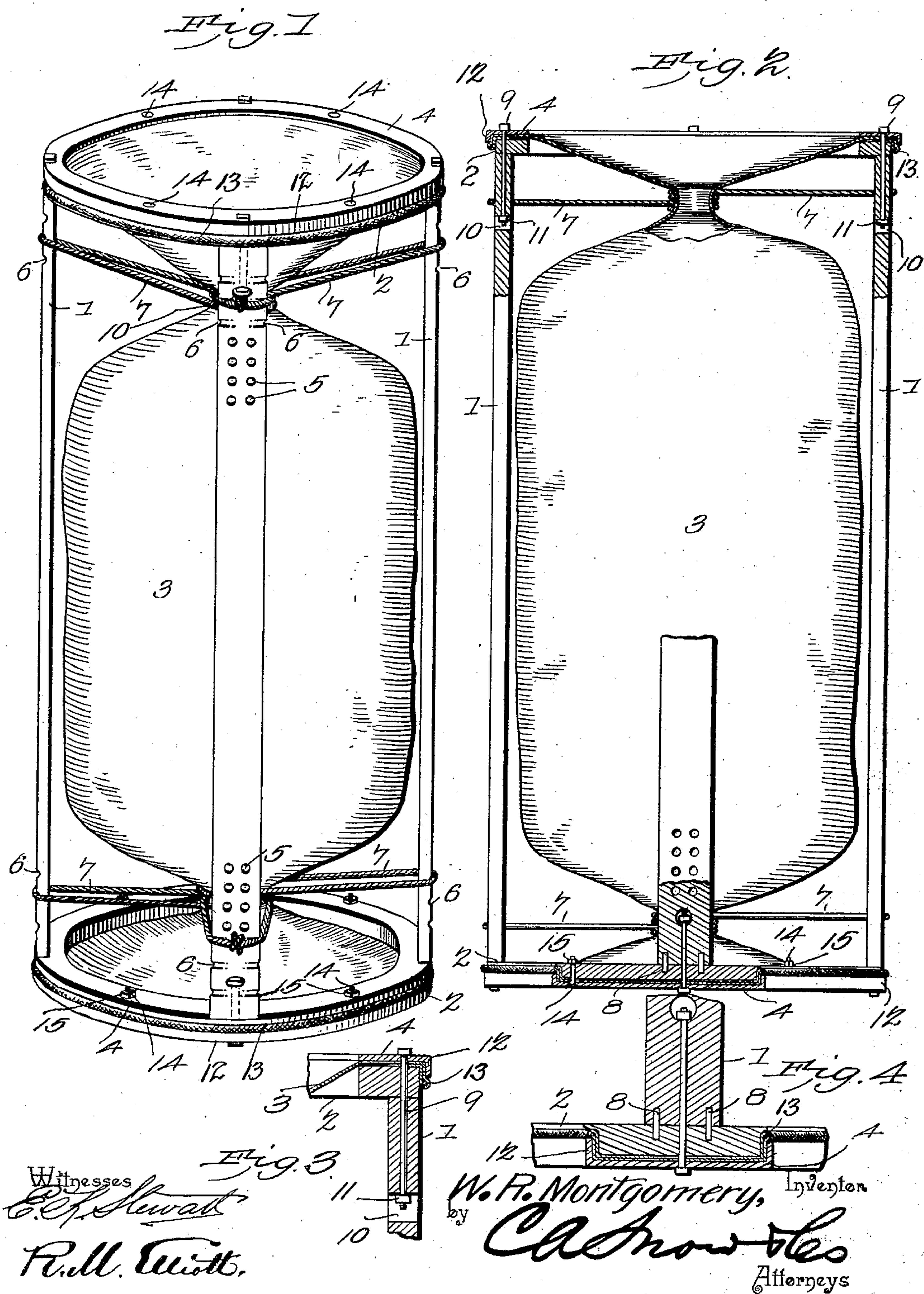
Patented Sept. 9, 1902.

W. R. MONTGOMERY.

BANANA CRATE.

(Application filed Jan. 24, 1902.)

(No Model.)



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BANANA-CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 708,654, dated September 9, 1902.

Application filed January 24, 1902. Serial No. 91,107. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER REGINALD MONTGOMERY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Shreveport, in the parish of Caddo and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Banana-Crate, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to banana-crates.

The object of the invention is to present a crate adapted to receive a bunch of bananas and to hold the same in suspension in a sack or covering in such manner as to present a perfect cushion to shield the contained fruit against injury when the crate is being handled, the sack to be associated with a framework in such manner, as while being positively supported thereby, it will be kept from contact therefrom, thereby obviating any danger of bruising or mashing the contained fruit.

A further object is to present a banana-crate which shall combine simplicity of construction, efficiency and durability in use, and readiness of manufacture and in which the parts shall be so constructed and assembled as mutually to brace each other against danger of collapse or breaking in use.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of a banana-crate, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts, there is illustrated a form of embodiment of the invention capable of carrying the same into practical operation, it being understood that the elements therein exhibited may be varied or changed as to shape, proportion, and exact manner of assemblage without departing from the scope of the invention, and in the drawings—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a crate characterizing the present invention. Fig. 2 is a view in vertical longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary detail view in section showing the manner in which the sack or holder is held associated with the crate. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing more particularly

the manner of assembling the staves or slats with the end hoops or bands.

The crate characterized by this invention comprises a plurality of staves or slats 1, end hoops or bands 2, a sack or holder 3, and clamping-bands 4 for holding the sack securely associated with the end hoops 2. The staves or slats 1, of which there are four employed in this instance, although it is to be understood that in actual practice a greater number may be employed, comprise each a strip of wood provided near its terminals with a plurality of pairs of openings 5 and transverse depressions 6, disposed adjacent to the ends of the staves, the said openings and depressions to be engaged by holding-cords 7 for securing the mouths of the sack 3 together, thus to hold the bunch of bananas securely therein. The sack has both ends open to permit insertion of the bunch of bananas at one end and its withdrawal at the opposite end, so that all danger of stripping the fruit from the stem when placing the bunches in the holder will be obviated. As shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the cords 7 engage with the depressions 6 and are thus held from slipping on the staves and also from being cut by striking against objects while in transit; but it is to be understood that, if preferred, the cords may be passed through the openings 5, and as this will be readily understood detailed illustration thereof is deemed unnecessary.

The hoops 2, which are by preference of wood, are held assembled with the staves by dowel-pins 8, (clearly shown in Fig. 4,) or, if preferred, as will be obvious, screws or nails may be substituted for the said pins, and the said hoops and the clamping-bands are securely clamped together and also held in position upon the staves by bolts 9, of which there is one for each stave, the shanks of these bolts being seated in openings provided in the staves for the purpose and having their lower ends projecting into lateral orifices 10, in each of which is housed a nut 11, to be engaged by the lower threaded ends of the bolts. When the material of the sack is clamped between the bands 4 and hoops 2 and the bolts 9 have been secured in position, it will be seen that disconnection

of the sack will be practically impossible; but to insure that accidental separation in use shall not take place and as a matter of further and specific improvement each clamping-band is provided with a downturned flange 12, adapted to fit over the periphery of the hoops, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and the edge of the mouths of the bag are corded, as at 13, and by this arrangement when the clamping-bands are in position their flanges will contact with the corded edges of the sack mouths, and thus positively hold the parts against separation. In order, further, to hold the band 4 and hoop 2 rigidly assembled, bolts 14 (clearly shown in Fig. 2) are disposed between the bolts 9 and project through the clamping-bands, sack mouths, and hoops 2, and carry at their inner ends nuts 15, by which to clamp the parts together. When a sack has thus been associated with the frame of the crate, it will be held there so long as it is in condition for use; but should it become torn or otherwise damaged a new one may be associated with the frame merely by removing the bolts 9 and 14, as will be readily understood by reference to Fig. 2.

When a bunch of bananas is to be placed in the sack, the cords 7 at both ends of the crate are loosened, and the stem of the bunch is projected through one end of the sack, after which the mouth portion thereof is securely tied around the stem, thereby holding the bunch suspended. The bottom end of the sack is then closed in like manner, and by bringing the cords into engagement with the appropriate openings or depressions 6 the sack may be adjusted to bunches of bananas of different lengths. In being handled or shipped the sack will occupy a vertical position, so that the bananas will be kept from contacting with the staves, and thereby be shielded against bruising. When a crate has reached its destination, it will only be necessary to loosen the cord at the stem end of the bunch, when the latter may readily be removed.

Having thus fully described my invention,

what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A banana-crate comprising a plurality of staves, hoops secured to the terminals of the staves, a sack having its ends turned over the hoops, and means for detachably clamping the sack ends against the hoops.

2. A banana-crate comprising a plurality of staves, hoops secured to the terminals of the staves, a sack having its ends turned over the hoops, clamping-bands disposed against the overturned ends of the sack, and bolts passing through the bands, sack ends and hoops and detachably secured in the staves.

3. A banana-crate comprising a plurality of staves, each provided near its terminals with an orifice, hoops secured to the terminals of the staves, a sack having its ends turned over the hoops, clamping-bands disposed against the overturned ends of the sack, bolts passing through the bands, sack ends, and hoops and having their ends projected into the said orifices, and nuts arranged in the orifices to engage the ends of the bolts.

4. A banana-crate comprising a plurality of staves provided near their terminals with orifices and transverse depressions, hoops secured to the ends of the staves, a sack having its ends clamped against the hoops, and holding-cords to engage either the orifices or depressions for securing the mouths of the sack.

5. A banana-crate comprising a plurality of staves, hoops secured to the terminals of the staves, a sack having its ends turned over the hoops and corded, clamping-bands having flanges to inclose the periphery of the hoops and engage the corded edges of the sack, and means for securing the clamping-bands to the staves.

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

WALTER REGINALD MONTGOMERY.

Witnesses:

A. J. EVANS,

S. J. WARD, Jr.