

No. 728,403.

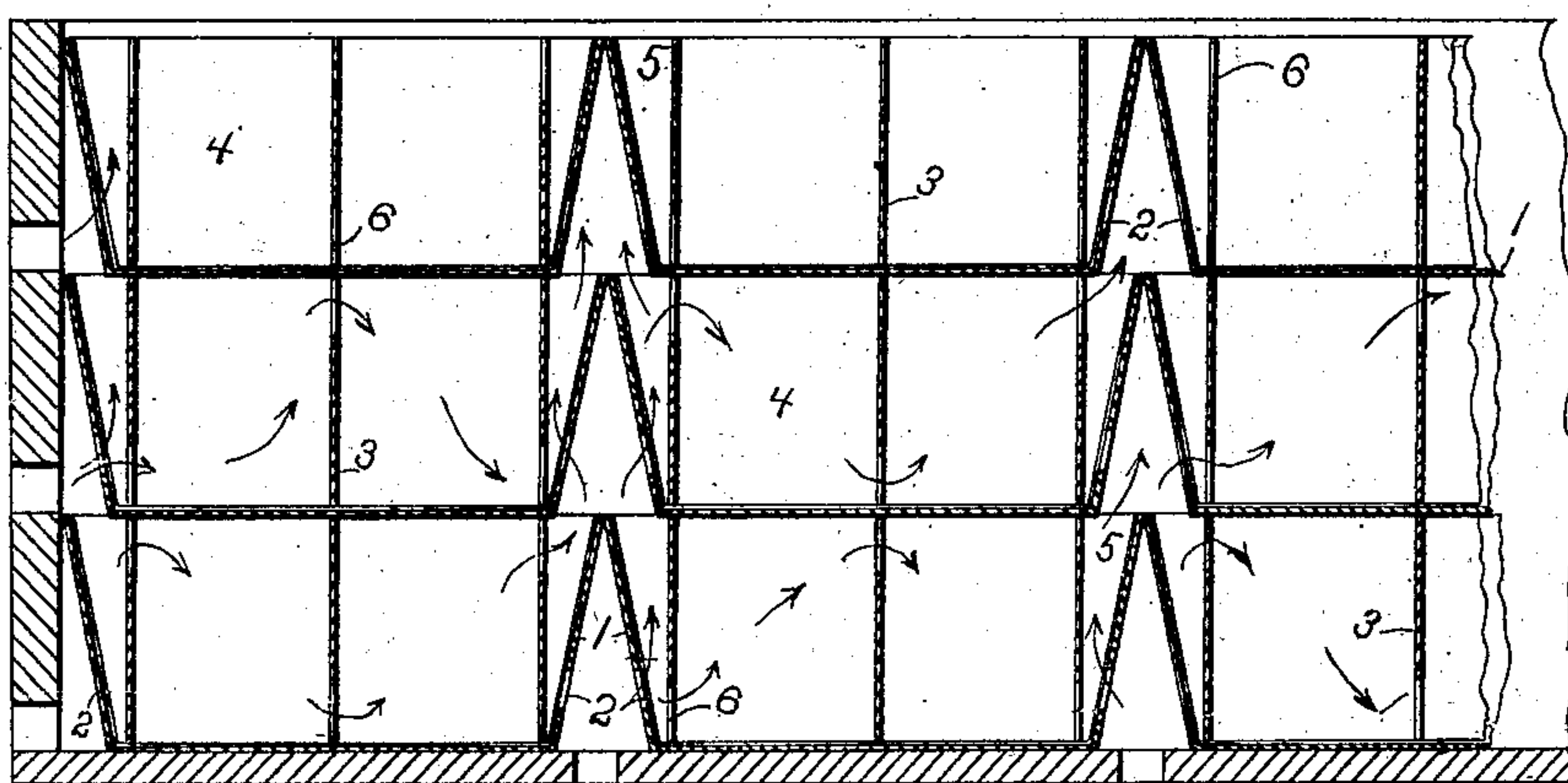
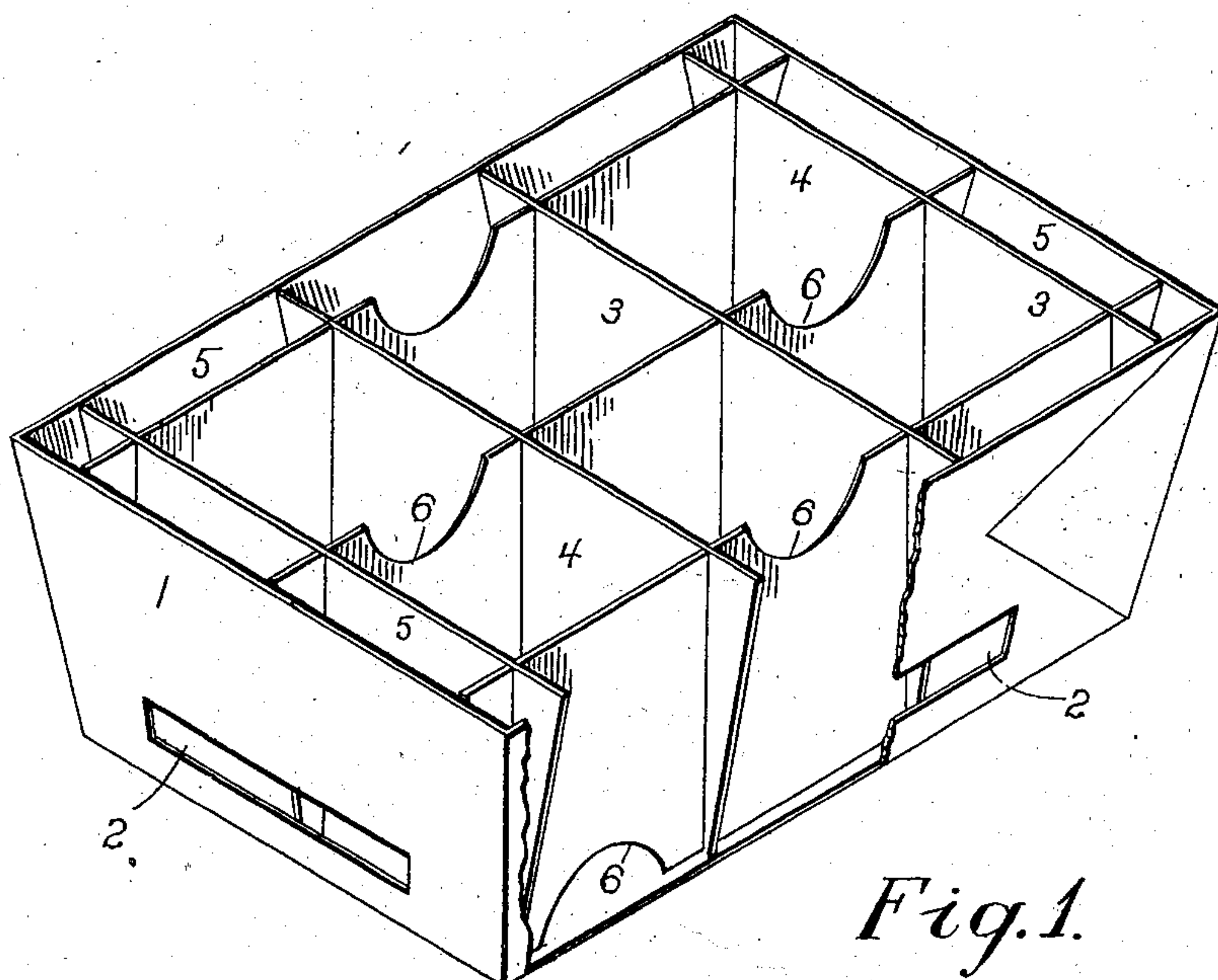
PATENTED MAY 19, 1903.

J. H. McGEHEE & L. J. LATHWESSEN.

CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 1, 1902.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 728,403, dated May 19, 1903.

Application filed July 1, 1902. Serial No. 113,991. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN H. McGEHEE and LOUIS J. LATHWESSEN, citizens of the United States, residing at San Jose, in the county of Santa Clara and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carriers; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

10 This invention relates to carriers for fruits, eggs, and other perishable or fragile articles.

The object of the invention is to provide a safe, simple, cheap, and convenient package for the storing and carrying of fragile articles of any description suitably constructed that when not in use they may be readily packed so that large quantities of them may occupy a small space. In this class of carrier one of the most essential requirements is that the articles carried therein shall be protected against the jar and impact incident to transportation. This is peculiarly the case when, as in the present instance, they are largely used for ripe fruit. Under these conditions of use also the circulation of air should be as complete as possible not only around the package, but also around each individual fruit. Thus another object of the invention is to provide a buffer-strip surrounding each package and to provide for circulation of air throughout not only the aggregation of a number of the individual packages within a crate or other receptacle, but also to and around the articles packed therein. These objects are accomplished by means of the devices illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of the complete carrier, a portion being broken away to more clearly illustrate it. Fig. 2 shows a sectional elevation, on smaller scale, of a number of carriers packed within a crate or box for transportation, showing by means of arrows the circulation of air throughout the interior of the carrier.

Referring to the drawings, 1 is a container or receptacle, of flexible sheet material, made either of permanent or collapsible form having its side walls sloping upward and being provided with perforations of any suitable character, shown in the present illustration as longitudinal slots 2 near the lower edge of

each side. The container 1 is divided by vertical cross-partitions 3 into series of rectangular cells 4 for the reception of fruit or other articles to be carried. The cross-partitions extend beyond the rectangular cells to the walls of the container 1, and thus form a series of wedge-shape protecting and ventilating spaces 5. The cross-partitions 3 are preferably made removable from the container 1 and may be constructed in any suitable manner and of any desirable material. Notches 6 are cut in the upper and lower edges, alternately, of the cells, as shown in the views.

When arranged for transportation, a number of these carriers are packed into a crate or box. The sloping character of the sides of the container 1 performs several valuable functions under these conditions. As will be observed from Fig. 2, only the upper edges of the containers are in contact, thereby constituting a resilient cushion or buffer between each carrier, thus permitting considerable lateral motion of the individual carriers or distortion of the cells adjacent to the edge of the container to take place, while preventing contact between the rectangular cells of adjacent carriers. The sloping sides also constitute wedge-formed conduits for the circulation of air around each of the carriers and by means of the perforations 2 and the space 5 constitute a continuous air-passage to the vertical series of carriers. The alternate positions of the notches 6 constrain the currents of air diagonally through each rectangular cell. Thus the sloping sides of the container perform the double function with a minimum amount of material of protecting the contained fruit and facilitating the circulation of air throughout the interior of each of the cells. Owing to the removable character of the cross-partitions 3 and the sloping form of the side walls of the container 1, they may be telescoped into each other when not in use, thus occupying a small amount of space, and the cross-partitions 3 may either be separated from each other or collapsed by diagonal pressure for the same purpose.

Though we deem it preferable for the purposes already stated of making the cell-forming partitions removable, we do not desire to confine ourselves to such removable character of partitions.

Having now described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A carrier of the character described comprising a container divided by partitions into cells for the reception of articles, and marginal relatively small air-spaces opening laterally through the sides of the container to the exterior, the walls of the cells being formed with passages to permit a circulation therethrough of the air from the air-spaces; substantially as described.

2. A carrier of the character described comprising a container having downwardly and inwardly sloping sides and divided by partitions into cells for the reception of articles and marginal relatively small air-spaces, the walls of the cells being formed with passages to permit a circulation therethrough of the

air from the air-spaces, and the sloping sides of the container having passages adjacent to their lower edges opening through the sides of the container to the exterior leading to said air-spaces; substantially as described.

3. A carrier of the character described comprising a container having downwardly and inwardly sloping sides and divided by partitions into cells for the reception of articles and marginal air-spaces surrounding said cells opening laterally through the side of the container to the exterior, substantially as described.

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