

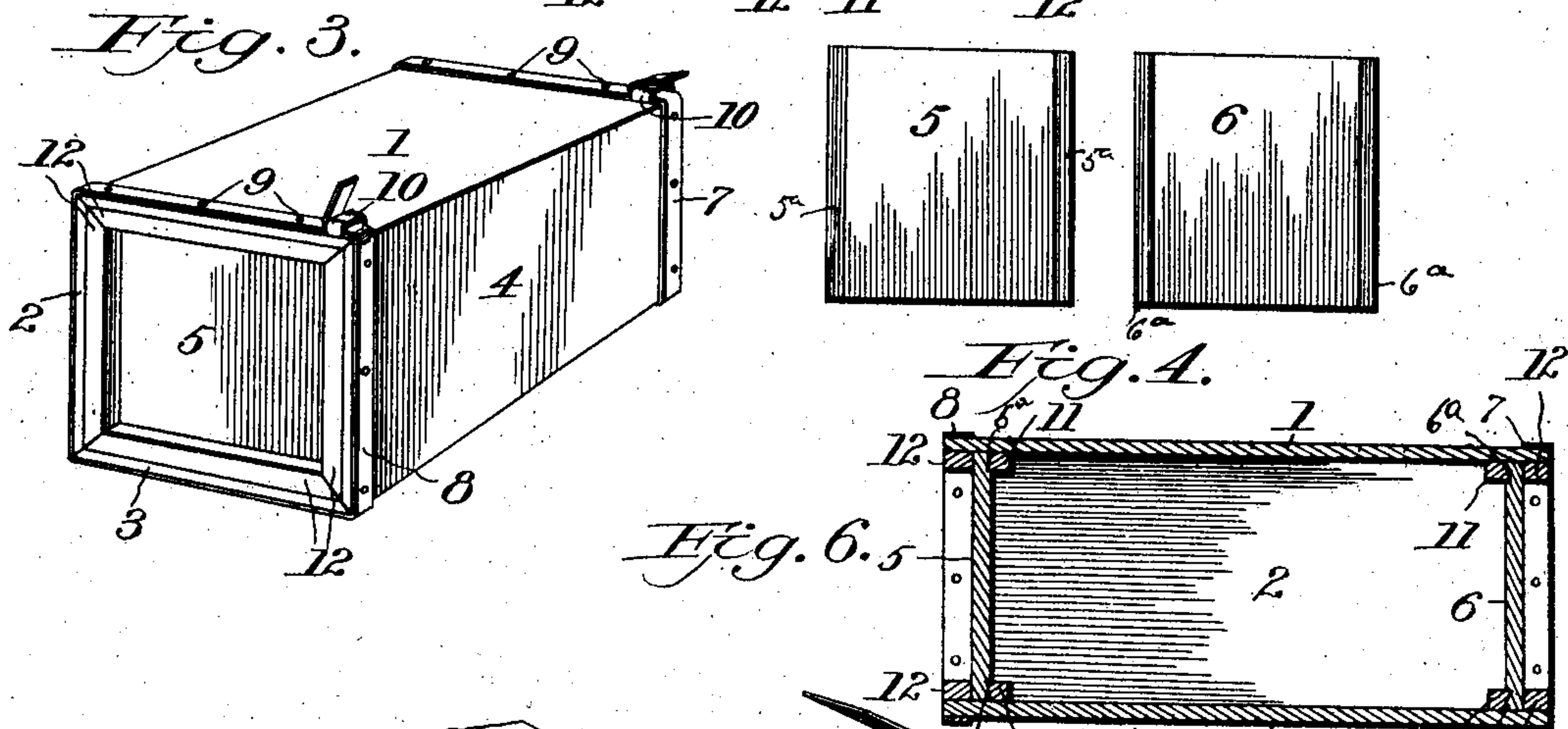
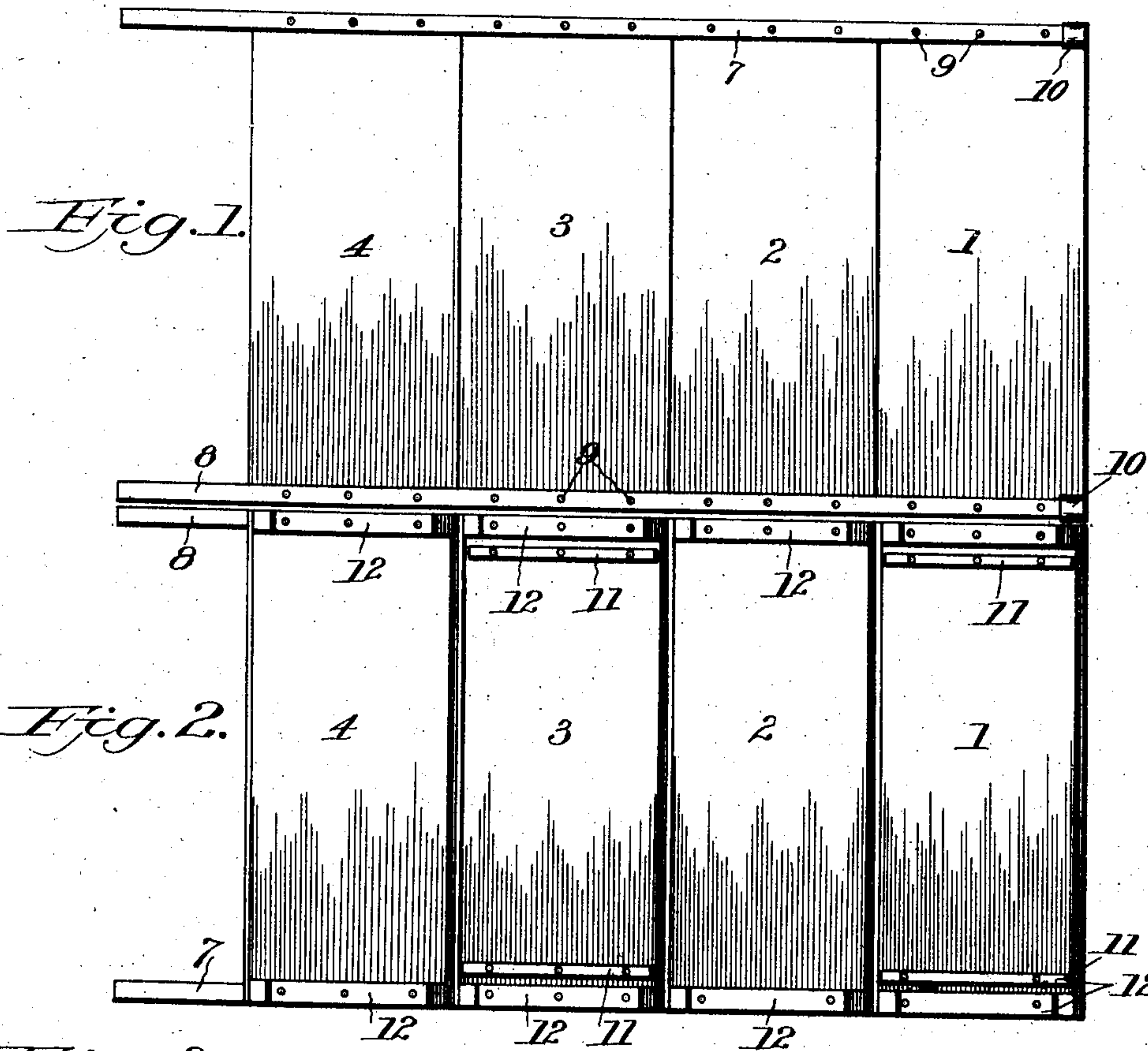
No. 768,123.

PATENTED AUG. 23, 1904.

P. J. HEALY.  
FOLDING BOX OR CRATE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 26, 1904.

NO MODEL.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP J. HEALY, OF EAST ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS.

## FOLDING BOX OR CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 768,123, dated August 23, 1904.

Application filed April 26, 1904. Serial No. 205,012. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PHILIP J. HEALY, a citizen of the United States, residing at East St. Louis, St. Clair county, Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Boxes or Crates, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of boxes or crates in which the sides are flexibly connected by means of straps, so as to be compactly folded when not in use.

The object of the invention is to provide a folding box or crate with flexible straps to which all four sides are connected at or near their ends, said straps having integral folded loops at one end, through which their other ends are adapted to be passed and then bent over to secure the box in its extended or operative position. Furthermore, the inner faces of the end portion of the sides are provided with cleats to hold the separate and independent ends in place. This object I accomplish by the construction shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan from the exterior of connected sides of the box or crate ready for folding. Fig. 2 is a like view of the interior. Fig. 3 is a perspective of the box or crate ready for use. Fig. 4 shows the end pieces. Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the formation of the strap-loop. Fig. 6 is a horizontal section through Fig. 3.

The box or crate is formed of the four sides 1 2 3 4, flexibly connected on their outer sides at or near their ends by the metallic straps 7 8, which are secured thereto by nails, rivets, prongs, or screws, as shown at 9, the straps at one end projecting beyond the side 4 and, at their other ends provided with integral loops 10. These loops are formed by first bending the strap over, as at 10<sup>a</sup>, and then folding the portion beyond the bend around the strap several times to form the loop. When the box is set up, the free ends of the straps are passed through the loops 10 and then bent back, as shown in Fig. 3.

In order to secure the ends 5 6 in place, I provide the inner faces of all the sides at their ends with cleats 12, those at each end being in longitudinal alinement, but spaced apart to allow the sides to be properly set up, and the

sides 1 and 3 are further provided with inner undercut cleats 11 11, parallel with the cleats 12, so as to form dovetail grooves, in which the ends 5 6 are held against movement, the ends being provided at two edges with dovetails 5<sup>a</sup> 6<sup>a</sup> to interlock with the undercut or dovetail grooves between cleats 11 and 12.

To set up the box or crate, it is simply necessary to raise the sides 1 and 3 perpendicular to side 2 and then slip the dovetail edges of ends 5 6 down into the dovetail grooves formed by the cleats 11 12, (see Fig. 4,) when the interlocking of these dovetails will hold the box or crate in position to have its top 1 folded over and secured by passing the strap ends through loops 10 and bending them back upon themselves.

The box or crate may be used without the ends when lard and paint in cans is to be shipped, as the cleats will prevent the cans from slipping out.

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

1. A folding box or crate comprising a series of sides or members, parallel flexible straps connecting said sides or members; one end of each strap being bent transversely and folded around to form box-loops of a width to allow the other ends of the straps to be passed through.

2. A folding box or crate comprising four sides or members, pairs of parallel cleats secured to the inner faces of two of said sides at or near both ends thereof and undercut to form dovetail grooves, end pieces having dovetail edges to fit said dovetail grooves and flexible straps secured to the said sides and formed at one end with box-loops of a width to allow their other ends to be passed through.

3. In a folding box or crate a flexible strap for connecting the members, provided at one end with a box-loop formed of a series of transverse folds and of a width to allow the other end to pass through.

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

PHILIP J. HEALY.

Witnesses:

GEO. D. PFEIFFENBERGER,  
SAMUEL W. BAXTER.