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PATENTED MAR. 26, 1907.

H. N. BACKUS.
DELIVERY CRATE.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 19, 1904.

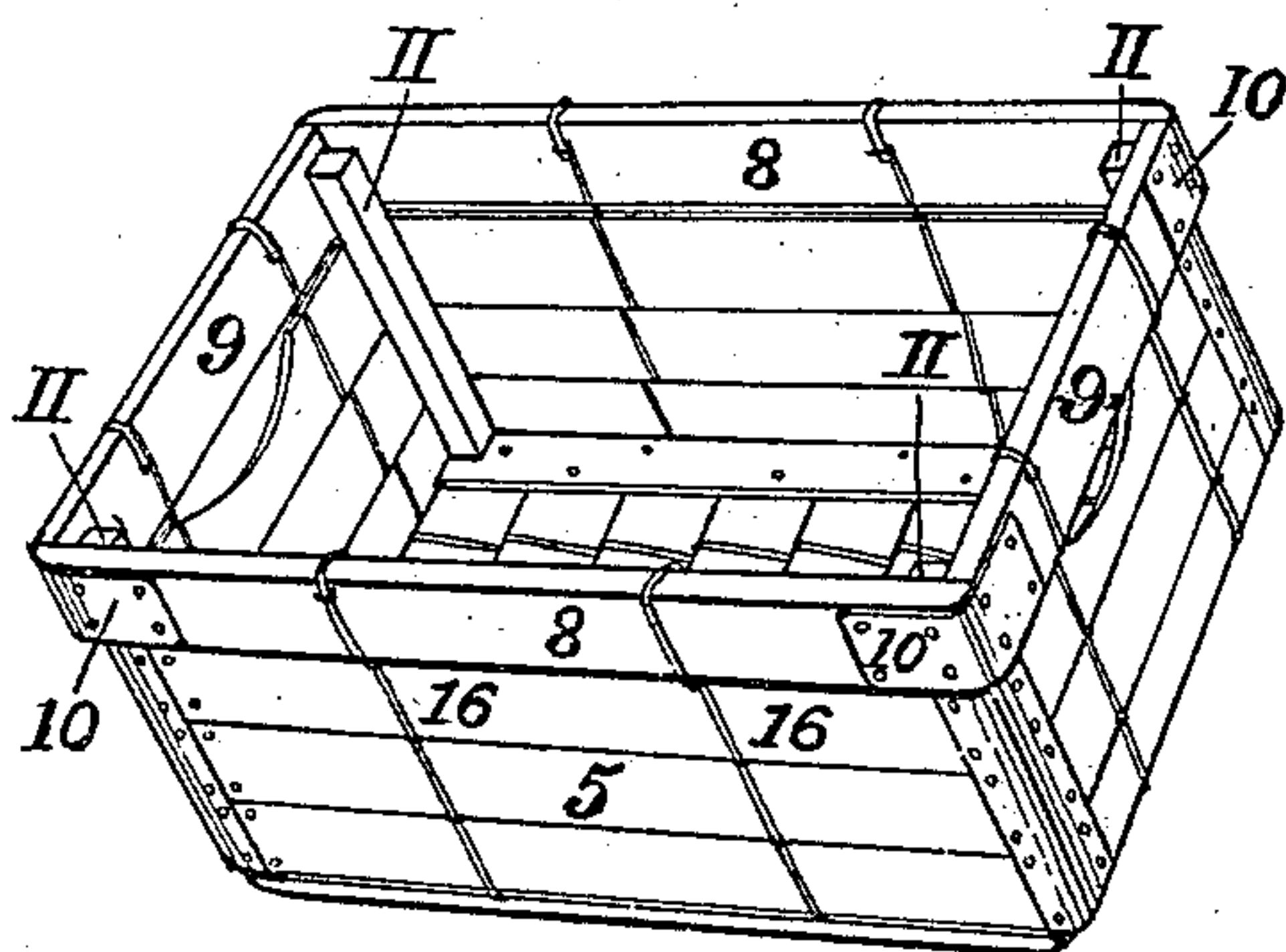


Fig. 1.

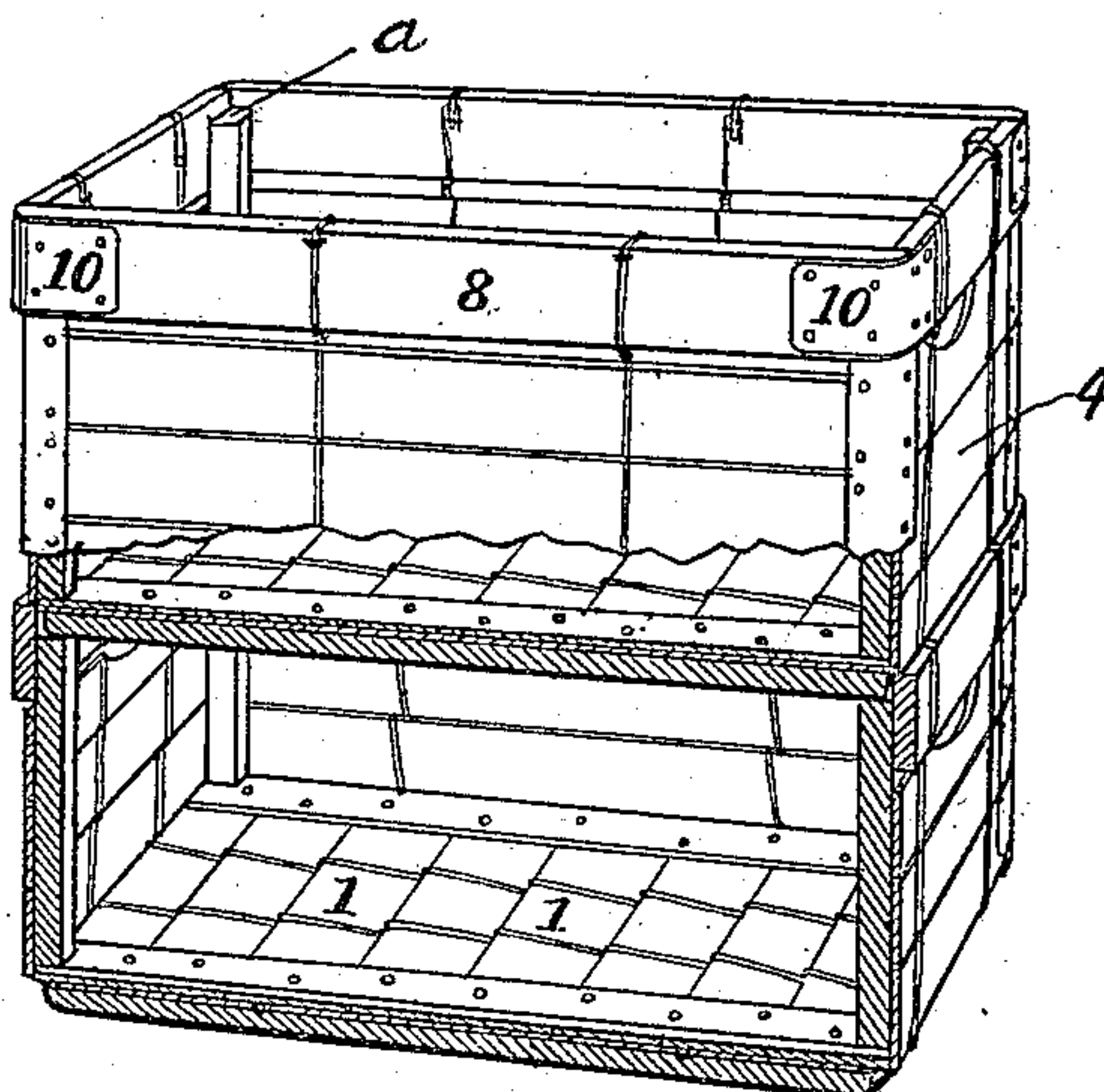


Fig. 2.

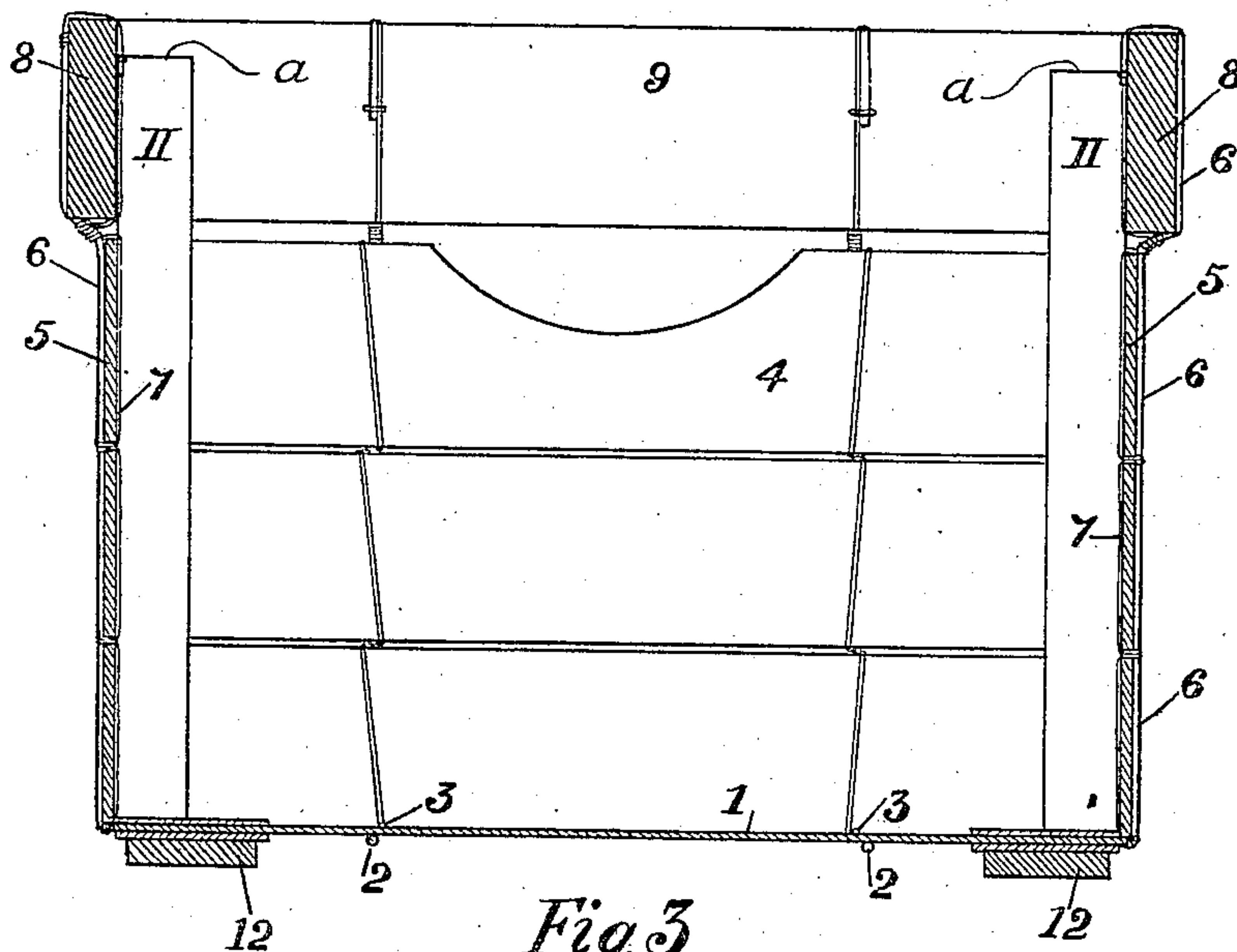


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES.

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HENRY N. BACKUS, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

DELIVERY-CRATE.

No. 848,336.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 26, 1907.

Application filed April 19, 1904. Serial No. 203,824.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY N. BACKUS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne, State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Delivery-Crates; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to delivery crates or packages, and consists in the construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully set forth.

The object of the invention is to provide a crate or package of the character described in which the arrangement is such as to produce a strong and durable package and afford a structure which will allow the packages to be nested together in a manner to retain them in position one upon the other and hold them against lateral and longitudinal movement with respect to each other and at the same time prevent injury to the contents of the package.

The above object is attained by the construction and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one of my improved packages. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of two of the packages nested, parts being broken away and other parts shown in section to illustrate the construction of the packages. Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse section through a single package.

In packages designed for delivery purposes it is essential that they be made light for ease in handling and very strong to withstand the rough use to which they are subjected. The bottom of the package must be well guarded to protect it from being broken out along the margins of the bottom, and the corners must be well braced and strong to maintain the package in shape, while the top or rim of the package should possess unusual strength to prevent racking.

The above essential features are embodied in the package illustrated herein, which I will proceed to describe by referring to the reference characters indicating the various parts in the several views.

The bottom and walls of the package are preferably formed of wooden slats woven between binding strands or wires which unite them into a fabric. The slats in the bottom 1 preferably extend transversely of said bottom and are bound together by the exterior wires 2, extending longitudinally of the bottom and transversely of the slats, and the interior wires 3, which bind the slats to the outer or stay wires 2. The fabric of the bottom is preferably made continuous with the ends 4 of the package by bending upwardly the end portions of the fabric of the bottom, so that the wires 2 and 3 are continuous, extending from end to end of the package and longitudinally of the bottom. The sides 5 of the package are formed in like manner of slats woven between the stay-wires 6 and the binding-wires 7, which unite the stay-wires to the outer face of the fabric of the sides. The mouth of the package is formed of heavy slats 8 at the sides and similar slats 9 at the ends, which are united to the fabric of the ends and sides by the wires and form a strong and rigid rim for the mouth of the package, said top slats being united at their ends by the metal corner-plates 10.

The corners of the package are strengthened by the corner-posts 11, which are placed upon the interior of the package and rest upon the bottom thereof. It will be seen at *a a* that the upper ends of the corner-posts terminate below the top of the package, for purposes hereinafter explained.

To protect the bottom of the package, thick runners or guards 12 are employed, which extend longitudinally of the bottom along each side. These runners are so positioned as to bring their outer edges within the plane of a vertical line touching the inner face of the side strips 8 at the top, while said runners are of such length as to lie between the top slats 9 at the ends when the packages are placed one upon the other, as shown in Fig. 2, the bottom of said runners at the ends resting upon the top of the corner-posts 11, whereby said runners serve in conjunction with the corner-posts and the top slats of the crate to form interlocking members that maintain the nested crates in position and protect the contents from the weight of the superimposed packages.

This form of delivery-package enables the packages with their contents to be stacked or piled one upon the other without injury to the contents of the packages and in a man-

ner that secures the several packages against displacement. At the same time a package is produced of unusual lightness and strength and of great durability, especially with respect to the formation of the bottom, which is protected by the longitudinal runners that also serve as one of the interlocking elements of the packages.

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

The herein-described open-topped crate, the same comprising a bottom and ends and sides of woven material consisting of slats and wires, runners secured beneath the bottom transverse to the slats thereof and of such size and location that their outer sides and their ends shall stand just inside the

planes of the inner faces of the sides and ends of the crate, and upright posts within the corners of the latter terminating short of the upper edge thereof by just the distance of the thickness of said runners; whereby when two crates are nested the lower edges of the sides and ends of one will rest upon the upper edges of the same members of the other, the runners will prevent lateral movement in any direction, and the extremities of the runners of the upper crate will rest upon the upper ends of the posts of the lower crate.

In testimony whereof I sign this specification in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY N. BACKUS.

Witnesses:

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