

917,539.

J. G. BYRON.  
COLLAPSIBLE CRATE.  
APPLICATION FILED MAY 7, 1908.

Patented Apr. 6, 1909.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

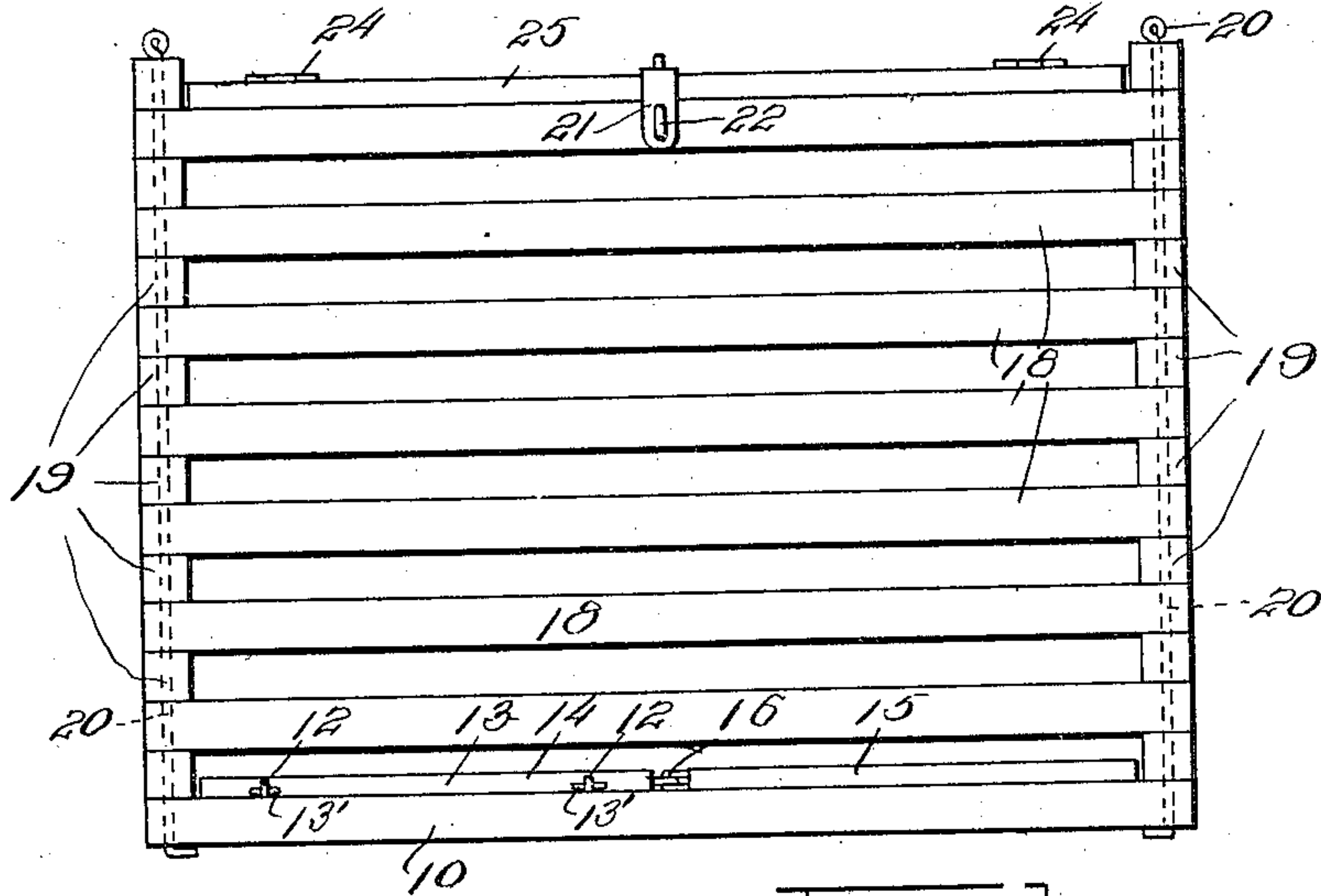


Fig. 1.

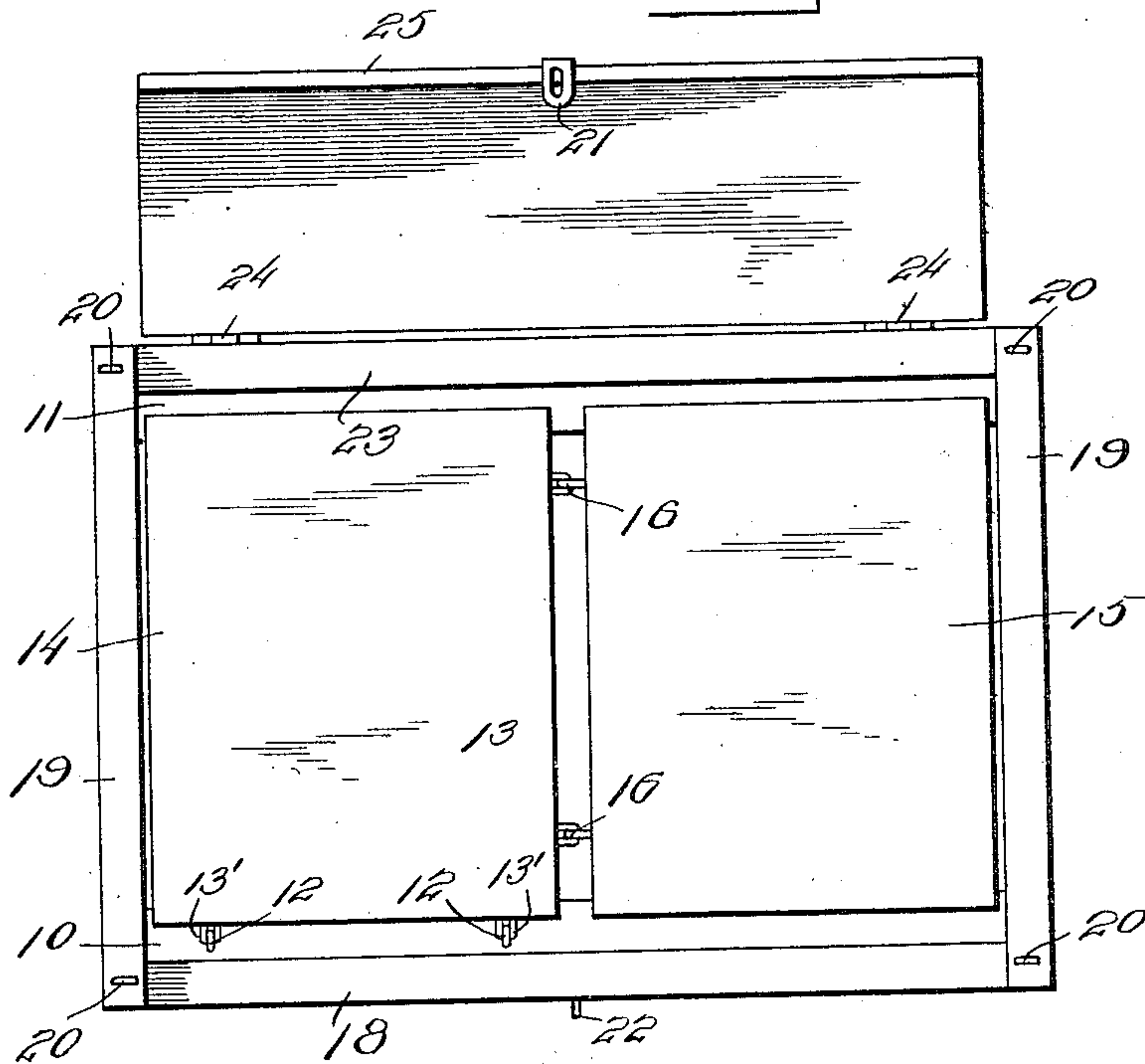


Fig. 2.

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Witnesses  
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Attorneys

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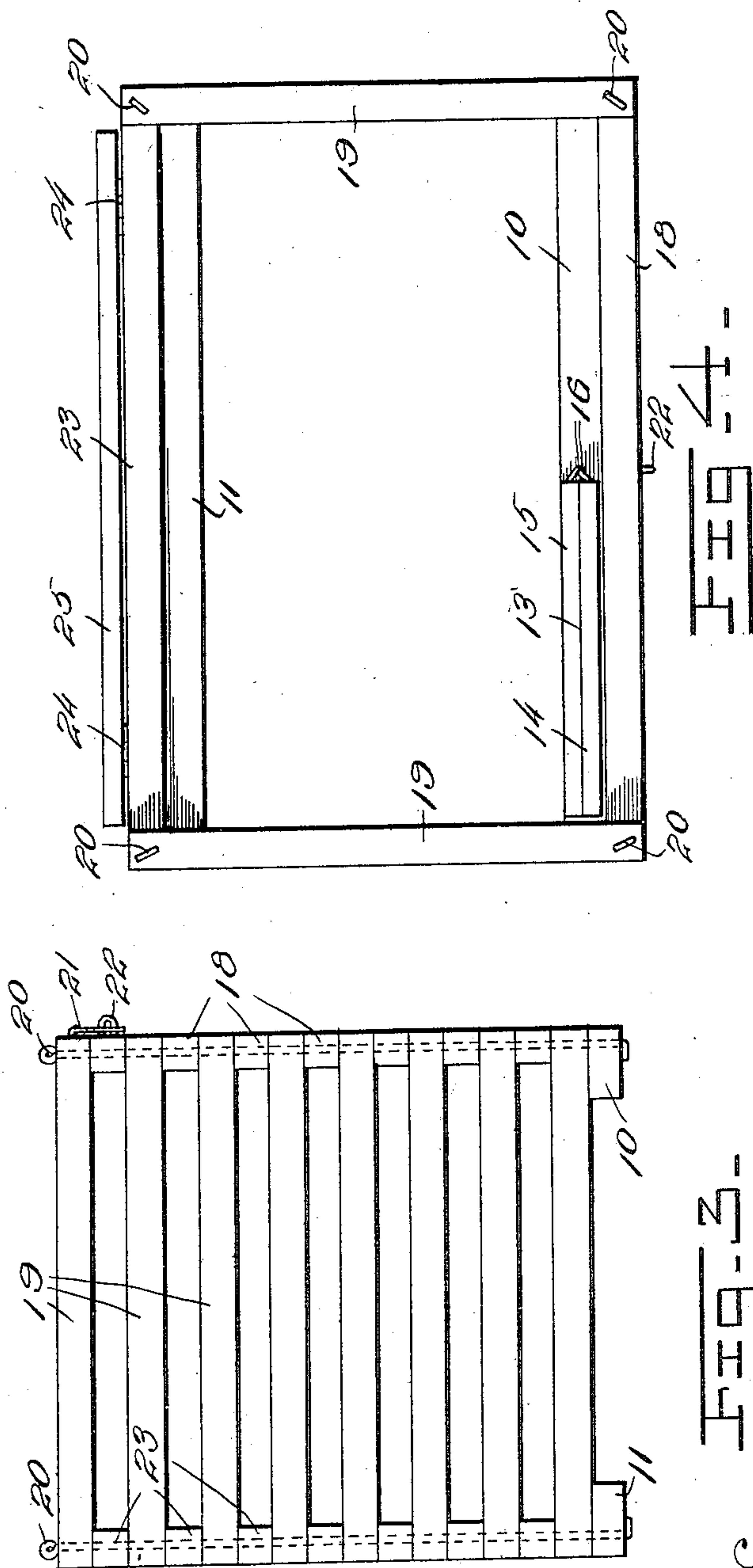


FIG. 2-

FIG. 4-

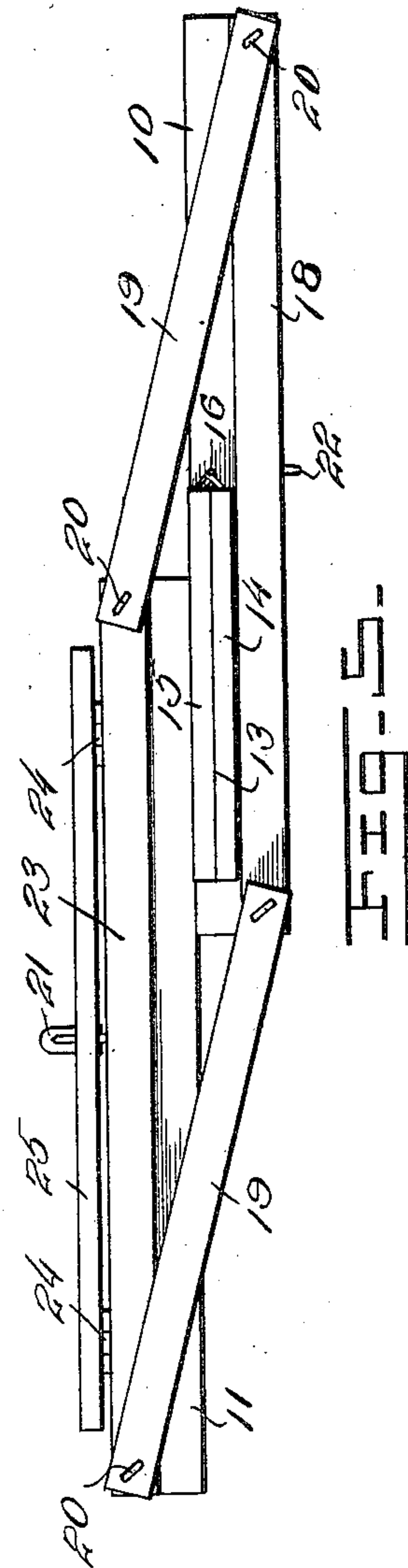


FIG. 5-

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES G. BYRON, OF FOSTERS MEADOW, NEW YORK.

## COLLAPSIBLE CRATE.

No. 917,539.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 6, 1909.

Application filed May 7, 1908. Serial No. 431,400.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES G. BYRON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fosters Meadow, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Crates, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to crates and especially to devices of this nature which are adapted to be folded to be returned to the packer and which are adapted to occupy less space when in folded position than when extended.

An object of this invention is to form such a device that can be folded easily without having to be separated in its parts from the body of the crate.

Another object is to provide a device of this character that can be taken apart in a short time and any broken parts substituted readily.

The invention has for a further object simplicity of construction and durability of all its parts, they being so arranged that they may be made of sufficient proportions to admit of more than necessary strength.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description and it will be understood that changes in the specific structure shown and described may be made within the scope of the claim and that any suitable materials may be used without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the crate in an extended position, Fig. 2 is a top plan of the same, the cover being raised, Fig. 3 is an end elevation, Fig. 4 is a top plan of the crate with the bottom and lid in position to be folded, Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the crate when folded.

Referring to the drawings, 10 and 11 designate the bottom strips upon which the whole crate is supported. The strips are longitudinally positioned at the front and back of the crate respectively. The front strip 10 carries at one end of its upper face two eye bolts or staples 12 which support the bottom 13 of the crate. The bottom 13 comprises two sections 14 and 15 which are hinged together at the center of the bottom 13 by the staples 16. The section 14 carries in its

front edge two staples 13' which are engaged by the staples 12 carried at the upper face of the strip 10. Sufficient movement is allowed at the hinge 16 to permit that section 15 to be folded over upon the section 14 when the crate is to be folded.

Arranged in a vertical plane with the strip 10 is a series of strips 18 the ends of which support a series of laterally disposed strips 19 alternately positioned upon said ends. Each end of the crate is composed of a series of laterally disposed strips 19 and are held in engagement upon said front strips 18 by pins 20 which pass down through the adjoining ends of said strips 18 and 19. The uppermost front strip 18 carries intermediate of its length on its outer face a staple 22 over which a hasp 21 is adapted to be engaged.

The back of the crate comprises a series of strips 23 corresponding to the front series of strips 18 and which support the rear ends of the laterally disposed series of strips 19 in secured position by the pins 20. The pins 20 are formed of pieces of wire having their upper end looped to engage the upper strips 19 which pass downward through the alternate ends of the strips 18 and 19 and extending beyond the under surface of the bottom strips 10 and 11. The portions of the pins which extend below the bottom strips 10 and 11 are bent upwardly, the under surfaces of said strips for the purpose of preventing the accidental displacement of said pins 20 and also to hold the said ends securely in position.

The uppermost strip 23 carries upon its rear face two hinges 24 which secure a lid 25 to said crate. The hinges 24 are of such a nature as to admit of the folding back of said lid 25 into the horizontal plane. The front end of the lid carries a hasp 21 which is adapted to engage the staple 22. The ends of the lid 25 and the bottom 13 are so positioned that their ends abut against the series of strips 19 and thus hold the two series of strips 18 and 19 in planes at right angles to each other.

When the crate is to be folded to be re-shipped the lid 25 is folded back upon the outer surfaces of the strips 23. The bottom 13 is then swung upward against the front strips 18 and the section 15 is folded over upon the section 14. When the lid 25 and the bottom 13 are in this position the strips are collapsed as the pins 20 act as hinges. The crate when folded may be secured in

that position by a wire, cord or any convenient means.

What is claimed is:

In a crate of the class described the combination of two series of longitudinal parallel strips, pins for engaging the interfitting extremities of said strips and an outwardly folding lid supported upon the upper of one of said series of strips, a section hinged to the lower extremity at one end of the lowermost of one of said series of strips, and a second section hingedly supported upon the

edge of said first section, said second section adapted to fold over upon said first section, said first section adapted to fold upwardly and inwardly against the inner wall of said crate.

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

JAMES G. BYRON

Witnesses:

HENRY C. RATH,  
GEORGE L. ADAMS.