

R. M. ODELL.
EGG CARTON.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 15, 1908.

931,637.

Patented Aug. 17, 1909.

Fig. 1.

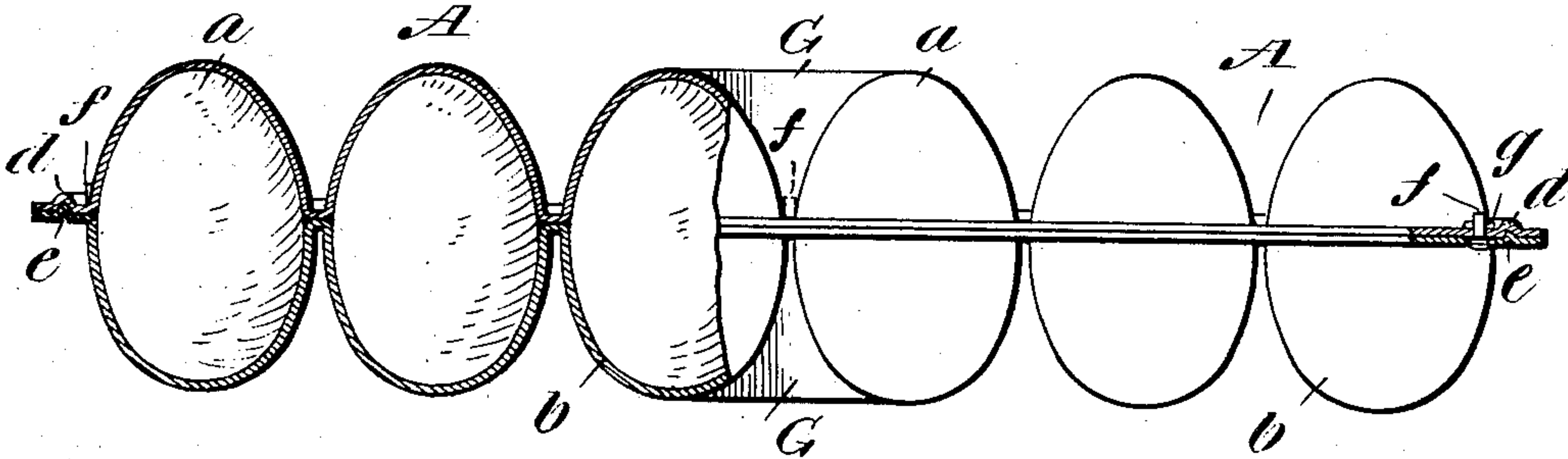


Fig. 2.

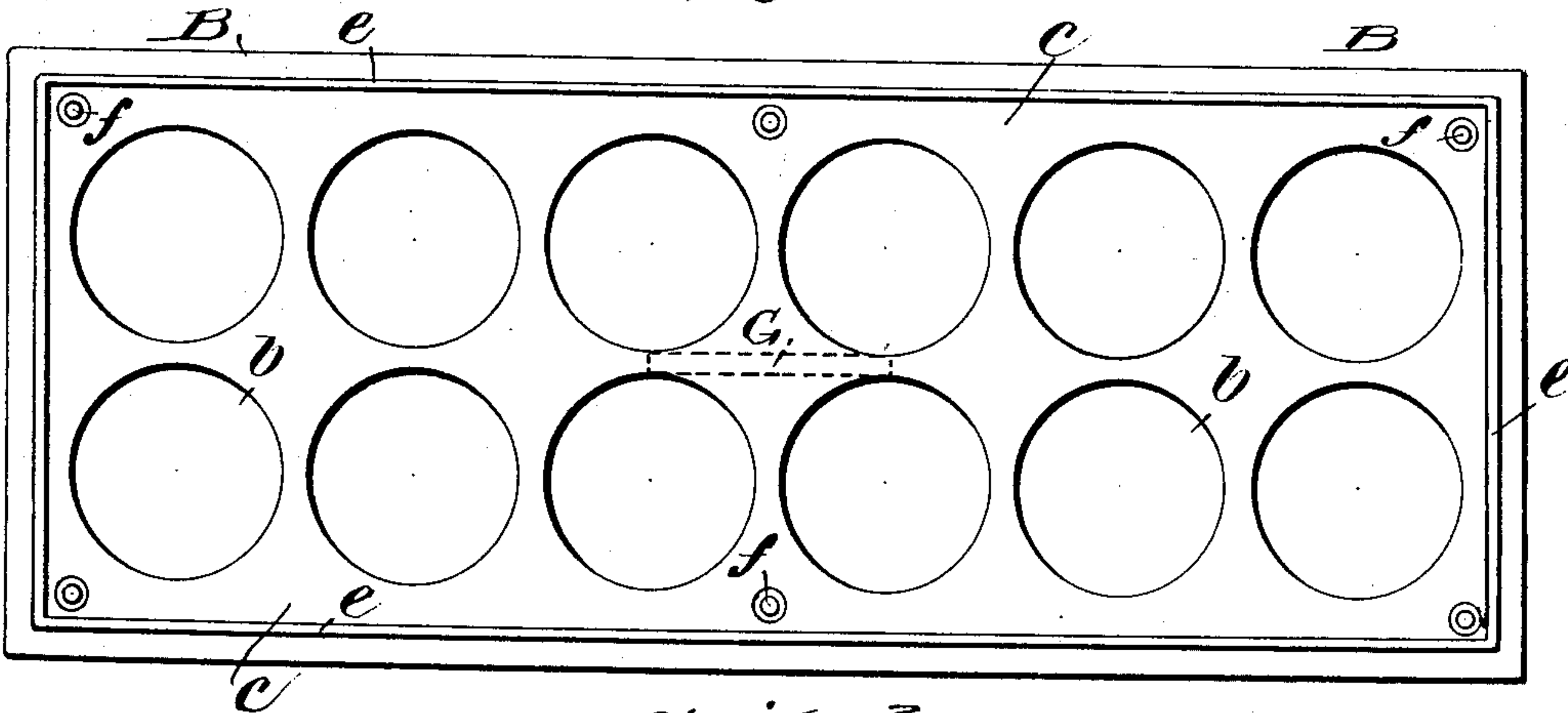


Fig. 3.

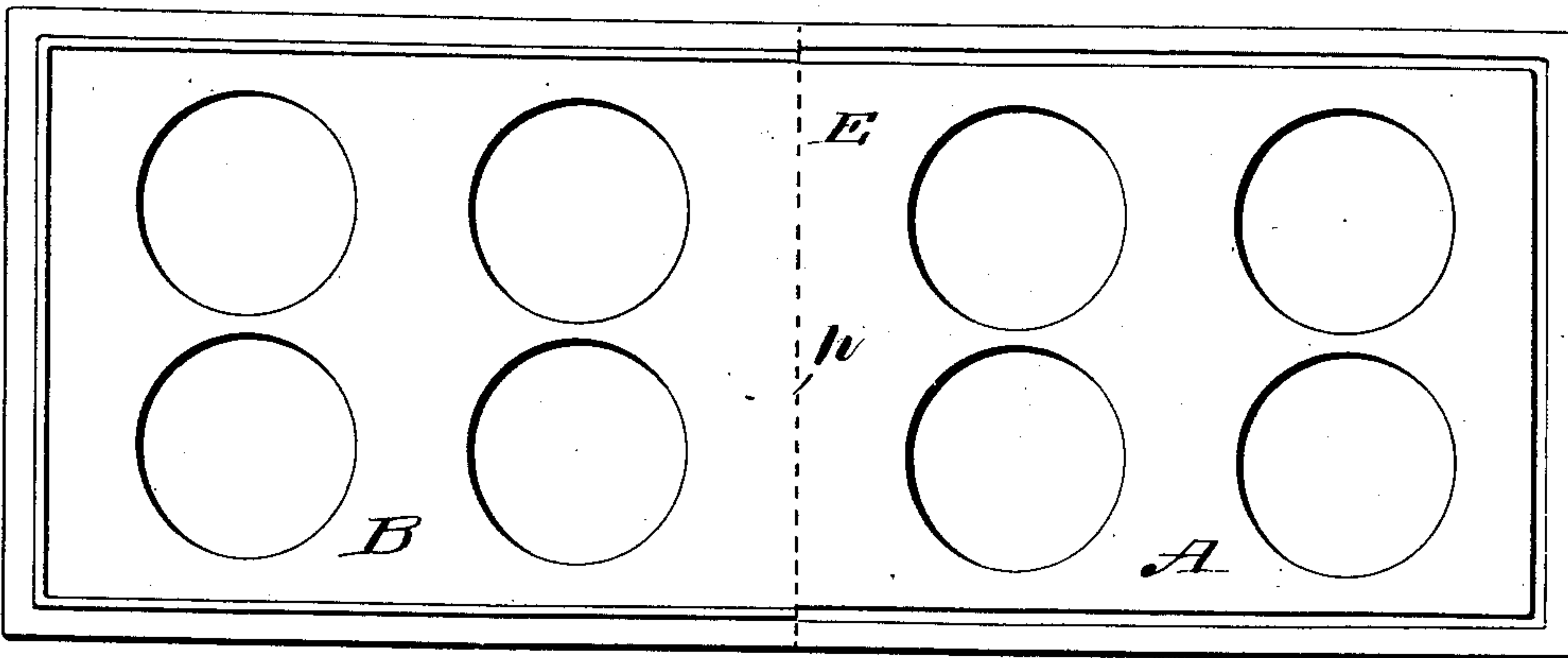


Fig. 4.

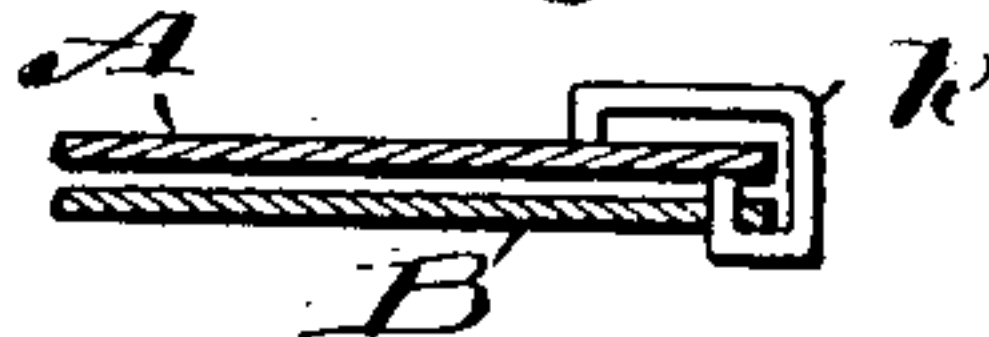
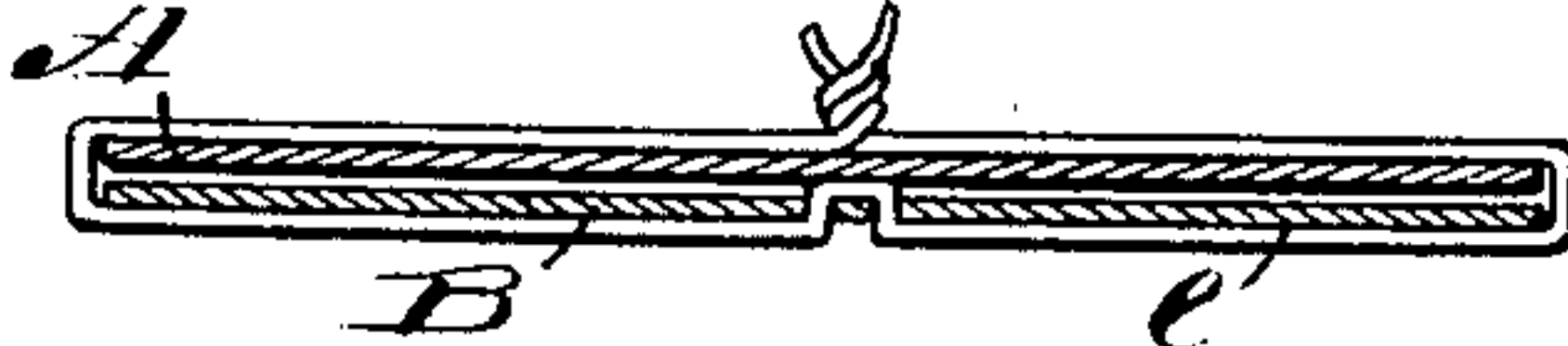


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

J. C. Barry
L. A. Stanley

INVENTOR

RISDON M. ODELL

BY Munroe & Co.

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RISDON M. ODELL, OF HOISINGTON, KANSAS.

EGG-CARTON.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RISDON M. ODELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hoisington, in the county of Barton and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Egg-Cartons, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in packages or cartons for shipping eggs, and it consists in the constructions, combinations and arrangements herein described and claimed.

The object of my invention is to provide a device by which eggs may be shipped without danger of breakage, in separate cells which are so joined together as to form a single package designed to be placed in a case, and when so placed, to form a rectangular body which will act as a brace for the case itself.

A further object of my invention is to provide a device in which light and heat or cold may be excluded from the eggs, thereby doing away with the necessity of putting them immediately into cold storage to prevent their spoiling.

A further object of my invention is to provide a package which is air tight and which while effectually preventing the entrance of moisture, at the same time may be readily opened, to take out or replace the eggs, and which may be fastened by simple means.

A further object of my invention is to provide a carton made up of single cells which will transport the eggs in such a manner that even if one egg is broken in transit, it may be kept from spreading to the other eggs and soiling them.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, and will be particularly pointed out in the annexed claims.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view partly in section of my improved carton in its closed position. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the lower half of the carton. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a modified form of strip for making the carton. Figs. 4 and 5 are views showing modified forms of fastening means.

Referring now to the drawings, I have shown therein a carton composed of two main parts, an upper part A, and the lower part B. These two portions are constructed in the following manner. Paper pulp which

is mixed with a jet black coloring matter is run over a series of hot impression rolls, which forms the semi egg-shaped cells *a b*, shown in the drawings. While I have illustrated in the drawings a carton composed of 12 of these cells, it is to be understood that any number of cells might be used without varying in the slightest from the principle of the invention; thus I may form a strip with two rows of 12 cells each or two rows of 6 cells each, or any number of cells. In one form of my improved carton I provide a rim *c* which projects laterally around the edge of the group of cells, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. The upper part of the carton is provided with a rim similar to the one thus described and has a groove *d* arranged to receive a tongue *e* in the laterally extending part *c* of the lower portion B. The two sets of similar cell portions together with their rims are designed to be placed together, so that the tongue of the lower half, is in the groove in the upper half around the set of cells, thus bringing the respective cell portions of each half in registration.

I may secure the upper and lower halves of the carton in any convenient manner. The means which I have illustrated is by a pin and slot connection. Thus the laterally projecting portion *c* of the lower half, is provided with a series of upwardly projecting integral pins *f*, arranged to enter corresponding slots, or holes *g*, in the upper half of the carton.

Instead of forming the upper and lower half of the carton of separate strips I may form a single strip of the requisite number of cell portions A B, having a central portion E, provided with a scoring line *h*, as shown in Fig. 3. The portion A may then be bent over upon the portion B at the line *h* thereby bringing the cell portions in the respective strips in registration, and the edges of the two strips may be joined as before described.

In place of the pin and slot arrangement for fastening the carton, I may provide a wire *k* stapled either in the upper or lower half of the carton, and adapted to be bent around the edge and to take over the adjacent part in the manner shown in Fig. 4, or I may provide a wire *l*, fastened in either of the two halves in the end of the carton, and adapted to be drawn around the edges of the lateral projections *c*, and to be tied in place as shown in Fig. 5. In lieu of this

I may also use a coating of mucilage around the edges of the carton, which would serve the same purpose.

G is a fingerhold or handle. It consists of a flat strip of paste-board secured to the surface C at right angles thereto between the cells as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. This strip may be of any extent but is preferably a short strip as shown by the drawing, being arranged centrally of the case so that when the case is lifted by the fingers, there will be no tendency for one end to swing downwardly. The strip also serves the purpose of strengthening the casing.

In preparing the carton, I render the package moisture proof, by coating the inside of each cell with a paraffin mixture, which also acts to exclude the air.

Having thus described the construction of the carton, its use will be immediately apparent. The eggs are placed in the various semi-cells of the lower strip, and the upper strip is then fastened down in the manner already described. The carton then forms a protecting envelop which excludes the air, the light, and the moisture, each egg being in a cell by itself, which very nearly conforms to the shape of the egg, and therefore takes up comparatively little room. The cells all being separate, provide means for preventing the breakage of one egg from soiling the remainder in the carton. The carton as a whole has considerable strength, owing to the peculiar formation of the cells themselves, and when placed in a case, serves to act as a brace for the case. The laterally projecting rim acts as a stiffening member all around the sides of the package, and thus insures the safe transportation of the eggs.

While I have shown cells of a shape con-

forming to that of the egg, it will be understood that I contemplate also the use of cells which may be cylindrical, round, oblong or square, or cells in which the upper and lower halves consist of sockets or depressions, conforming to the upper and lower halves of an egg cut longitudinally instead of transversely.

I am aware that other forms of the device based upon the same idea might be made, but I consider as my own and desire to claim all such modifications as fairly fall within the spirit and the scope of the invention.

I claim.

1. An egg carton comprising a sheet having cells impressed thereon, said sheet being provided with a groove, a second sheet provided with similar cells arranged to register with the first named cells, and having a tongue arranged to enter said groove, and fastening means for said sheets.

2. An egg carton comprising a sheet having cells impressed thereon and provided with a groove and slots, a second sheet having similar cells and provided with a tongue adapted to enter said groove and pins arranged to enter in the slots of said first named sheet.

3. An egg carton comprising a sheet having cells impressed thereon, a second sheet having similar cells, finger-hold for said sheets comprising flat strips arranged between the cells centrally of said sheets, and means for fastening said sheets together.

RISDON M. ODELL.

Witnesses:

EDWIN J. GRAVIER,
JOHN H. HARTMAN.