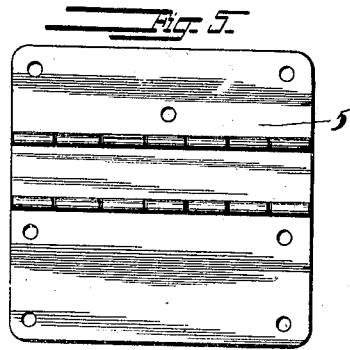
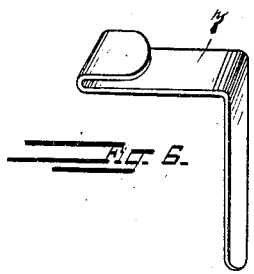
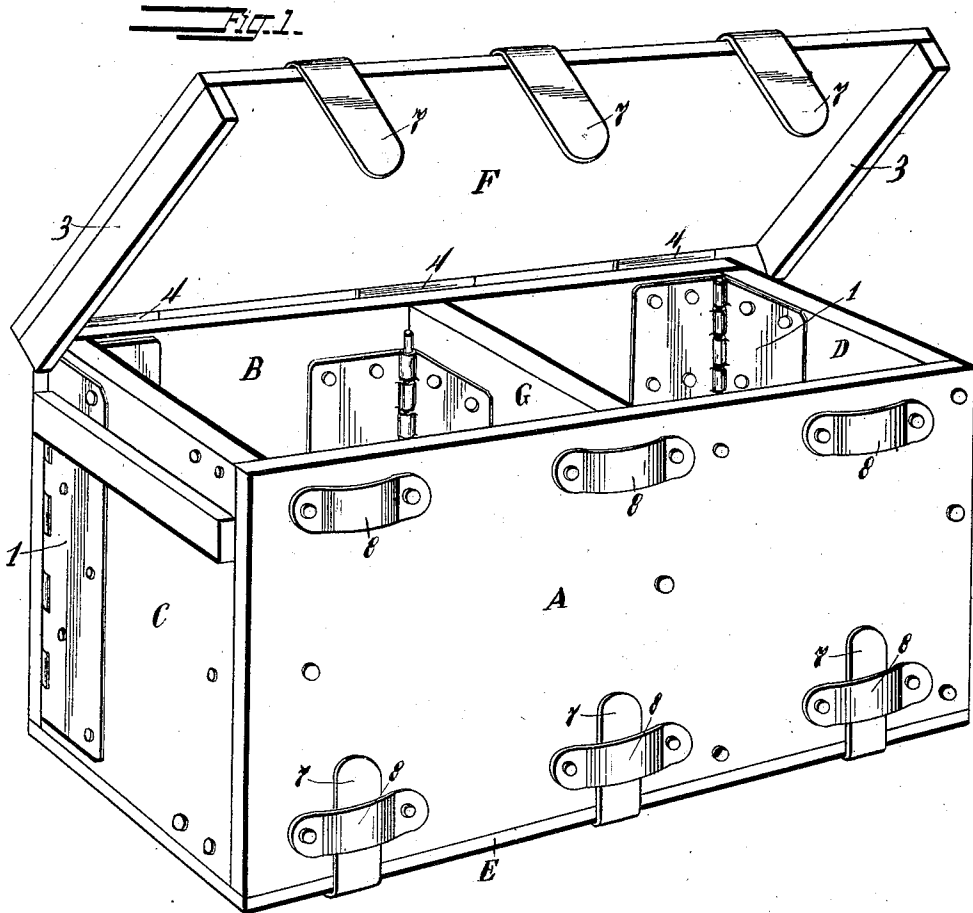


No. 868,214.

PATENTED OCT. 15, 1907.

J. S. McKIBBIN.
COLLAPSIBLE CRATE OR CASE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 3, 1906.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

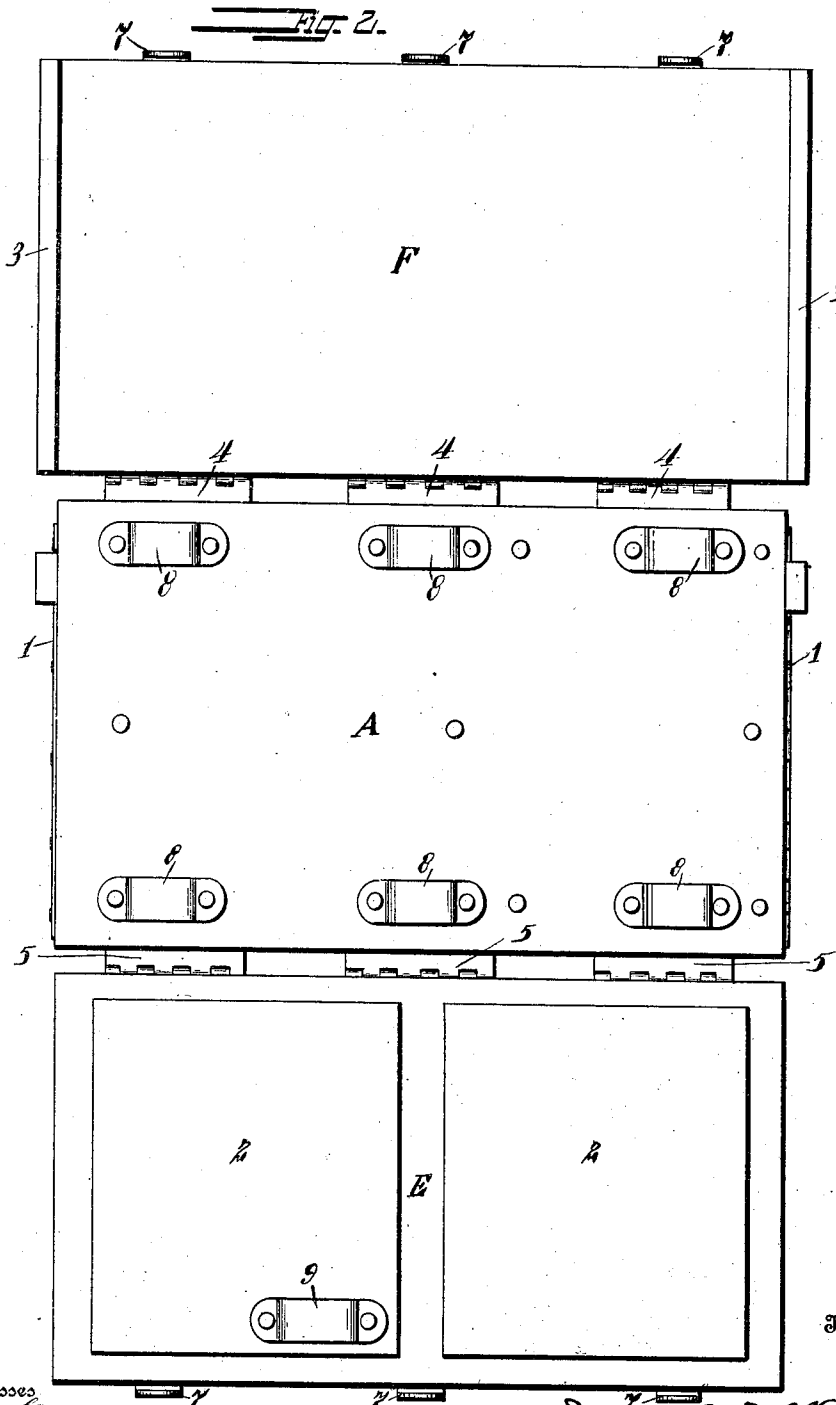


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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Inventor

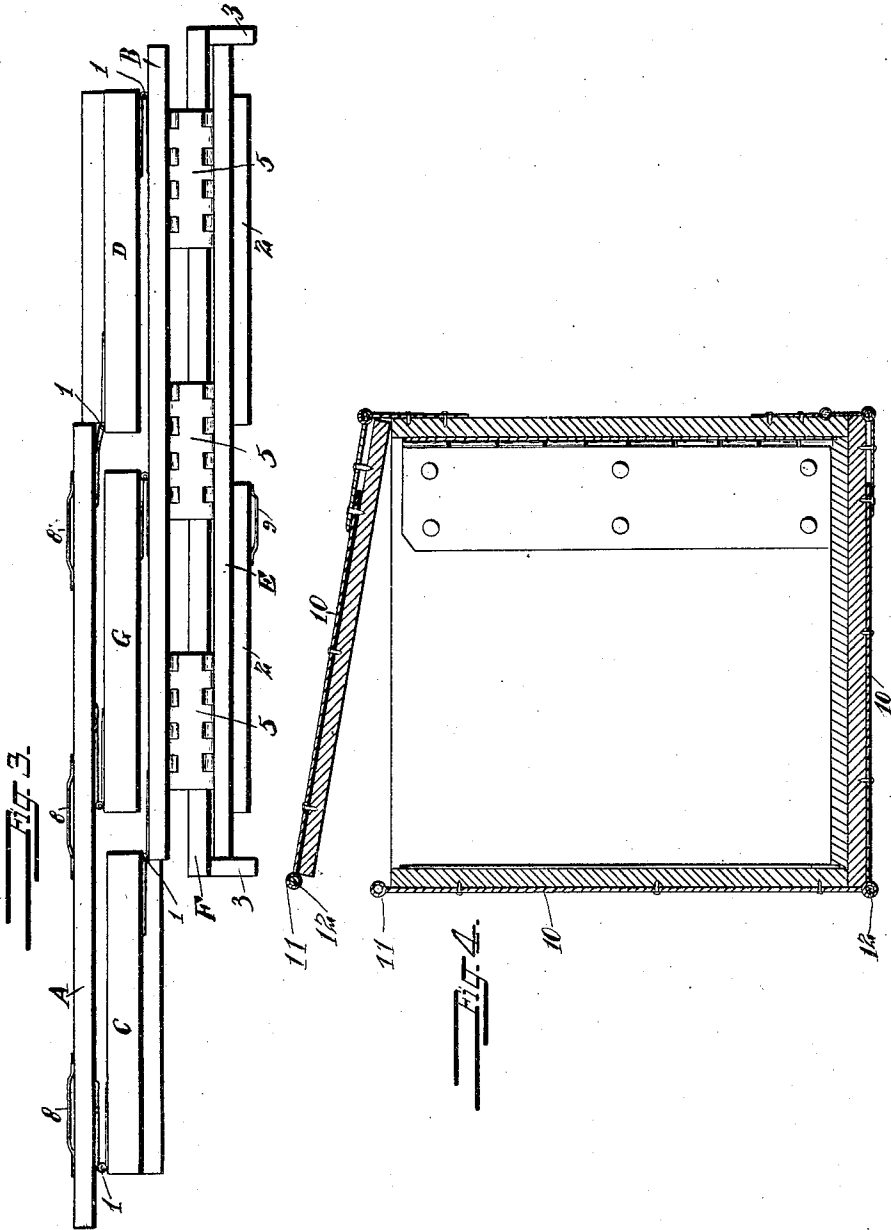
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN SIMPSON MCKIBBIN, OF ATLANTA, NEBRASKA.

COLLAPSIBLE CRATE OR CASE.

No. 868,214.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 15, 1907.

Application filed July 3, 1906. Serial No. 324,668.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN SIMPSON MCKIBBIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Atlanta, in the county of Phelps and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Collapsible Crates or Cases, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in collapsible crates or cases, of a type more especially adapted for the shipment of eggs, and the object is to economize space in the return shipment of the crates or cases and in the storage of the same.

With these objects in view, my invention comprises a crate or case in which the sides, ends and partitions, if there are to be any, are capable of being folded flat upon each other and the top and bottom, by being hinged at opposite edges of one of the sides, are capable of being folded flat upon each other when the crate or case is collapsed, whereby it is made to occupy about one-fifth of the space required when set up.

My invention further consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts which will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the crate or case in its normal position with the cover partly raised. Fig. 2 is a view with the top and bottom open. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the device collapsed. Fig. 4 is a section through the crate in its normal position. Fig. 5 is a detail of one of the three-part hinges. Fig. 6 is a view of one of the fasteners.

A, and B represent the two sides of the crate or case, and C and D the ends, while E indicates the bottom and F the top. The sides and ends are hinged together by means of hinges 1, 1, the hinges being so placed and arranged that when the hinges on one side open, those on the other side close in the operation of collapsing, and in the particular construction shown, the central partition G is similarly hinged to the two sides. This partition might not be made, or there might be more than one if desired. The edges of the ends and partition, if one or more, are used to form stops, by striking against the inner surfaces of the sides, and assist in bracing the crate when set up to help to make it more rigid. The bottom E is preferably reinforced by means of the fillers 2, 2, which by fitting the sides and ends of the crate or case when open, hold the same rigid in both directions, locking it as it were and preventing the accidental collapse of the crate or case.

The lid or cover is provided with overlapping cleats 3, 3, at the ends which also embrace the ends of the crate or case and thereby add to its rigidity, when set up and in use, this lid or cover being hinged at the upper edge of the side B by the hinges 4, 4, and the bottom is hinged to the lower edge of this same side by means of the compound or three-part hinges 5, 5, the

special function of which is to allow the bottom to fall over flat and inclose the lid or cover, when the crate or case is collapsed, and the cover is folded back against the side A, the central sections of these compound or three-part hinges resting over and upon the outer edge of the lid or cover.

Various kinds of fastenings might be used, but I have shown in one form of my invention short strips of sheet metal 7, 7, which are placed beneath the loops 8, 8, and the ends of which are adapted to be bent back to secure them in place. Several of these are preferably used for each folding part, namely the bottom, and the lid or cover, in other words, as many are used as are found necessary for the purpose.

When collapsed another fastener like those previously described only longer is adapted to be used to hold the crate or case in its collapsed condition, and a loop 9 secured on one of the fillers of the bottom is provided to receive one end of this fastener. In this way, I provide a very simple and efficient means for shipping eggs and the primary advantage of the whole thing is that the crate or case when returned is collapsible into a small fraction of the space required during shipment of the eggs, and I have calculated on reducing the actual size when collapsed to about one-fifth of the set up size. At the same time, the structure is easily and quickly fastened, and the members are perfectly tight and rigid and the articles carried in the crate or case are preserved and protected.

In the modified construction, which to all intents and purposes is practically the same as the crate or case hereinbefore described, in this form, I propose to use metal bands 10, 10 in addition to the hinges practically surrounding the case and the free ends 11, 11, are in the form of the knuckles of a hinge being arranged to interlock and receive removable pins 12, 12, whereby to secure them in place. In this form the crate or case collapses and is set up precisely as in the other form.

Slight additional changes might be resorted to in the form and arrangement of the several parts described without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, and hence I do not wish to limit myself to the exact constructions herein set forth, but:

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

1. A collapsible egg case comprising sides and ends hinged together and a top and bottom hinged to opposite edges of one of the sides, one of said parts by means of a compound or three-part hinge which admits of that part being folded over the other at the opposite edge of the said side when the case is collapsed.

2. A collapsible egg case comprising sides, ends and partitions hinged together whereby they may be folded flat and a bottom hinged at one edge to one edge of one of the sides and provided with reinforces which form fillers to brace and make the case rigid when set up with the bottom closed, and means for fastening the bottom in this closed position.

3. A collapsible egg case comprising sides and ends hinged together and collapsible and a top and bottom hinged to opposite edges of one of the sides and constructed and adapted to overlap each other and lie against the side when the case is collapsed.
- 5 4. A collapsible egg case comprising sides and ends hinged together and collapsible and a top and bottom hinged to opposite edges of one of the sides and constructed and adapted to overlap each other and lie against the side when the case is collapsed and means for fastening the parts either in the set up or knocked down position. 10

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN SIMPSON MCKIBBIN.

Witnesses:

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AGNES E. FISCHER.