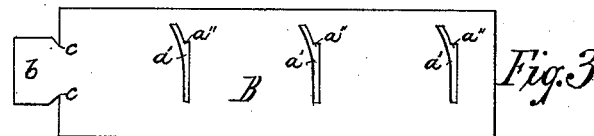
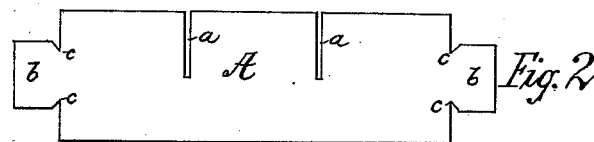
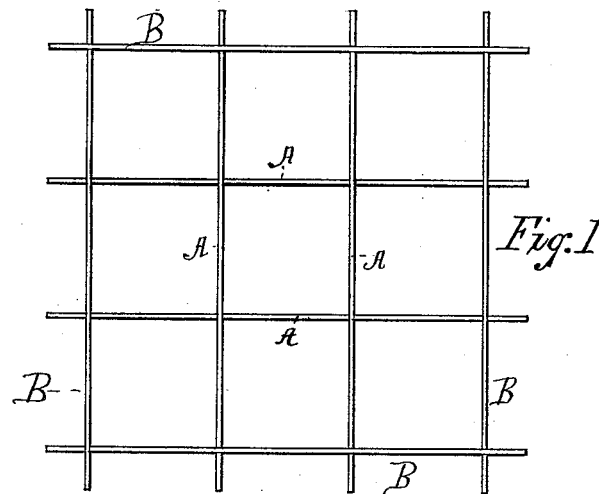


J. L. STEVENS.  
Egg-Carrier.

No. 213,850.

Patented April 1, 1879.



Witnesses  
G. R. Hoffman  
N. Cowles

Inventor  
John L. Stevens  
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Attys.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. STEVENS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO BILLINGS, COBURN & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN EGG-CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **213,850**, dated April 1, 1879; application filed February 15, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN L. STEVENS, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Egg-Carriers; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a top or plan view of a bottomless tray embodying my invention; and Figs. 2 and 3 represent side elevations of the outer and inner strips or partitions, respectively.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

My invention relates to that class of egg-carriers in which are employed a series of trays, each formed of a series of bottomless compartments or pockets and separating-diaphragms; and my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the partition-strips, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the trays as usually constructed, by the interlocking of the partition-strips, the strips are liable to be pulled apart upon lifting the tray from the box or case; and the object of my invention is to obviate this objection by securely interlocking the strips, so that they will not pull apart with ordinary handling or usage.

In the drawings, A represents an inner strip or partition, preferably of straw-board; but it may be made of any suitable material and cut into strips of the proper dimensions. These strips are provided with a series of notches or slots, *a*, cut into the upper edge thereof, and at right angles therewith, and extending downward to a depth of about one-half of the width of the strip. Both ends of the strips are narrowed or cut away in such a manner as to form a tongue, *b*, provided with notches *c c c c*, as shown.

B represents one of the outer strips or par-

titions, in length and width corresponding with the strips A, and it is provided with a series of slots or perforations, *a'*, formed wholly within the body of the strip, the upper ends of which terminate at obtuse angles and form shoulders *a'' a'' a''*, as shown. The straight or vertical portion of these slots *a'* is in length slightly greater than the distance between the inner ends of the notches *c c*, respectively, in one of the tongues *b*. The width of the tongues *b* is slightly less than the full length of slots *a'*. One end of the strips B is narrowed or cut away in a similar manner as the ends of strips A, and so as to form tongue *b* and notches *c c*.

In constructing the tray or series of bottomless pockets, a series of strips, A, are arranged vertically and parallel to each other, when a corresponding number are inverted and arranged at right angles therewith, and interlocked by means of slots *a*, and so that their respective edges are in the same plane and flush with each other. The outside strips, B, are then united or interlocked with each other, and with the projecting ends of the inner strips, A, by inserting their respective tongues *b* into the slots *a* until the strips A and B join each other at right angles, when the tongues *b* are pressed downward, and so adjusted as to allow both ends of the straight portion of the slots *a'* to rest in the notches *c c*.

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

In an egg-carrier, the combination of the strips or partitions A, provided with the slots *a*, and tongues *b b*, provided with notches *c c*, with the strips B, provided with the slots or perforations *a'*, formed within the body of the strip, tongue *b*, and notches *c c*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

JOHN L. STEVENS.

Witnesses:

G. R. HOFFMAN,  
N. COWLES.