(Model.)

S. W. KLINE.

EGG CARRIER.

No. 303,294. Patented Aug. 12, 1884.

Fig. 1.

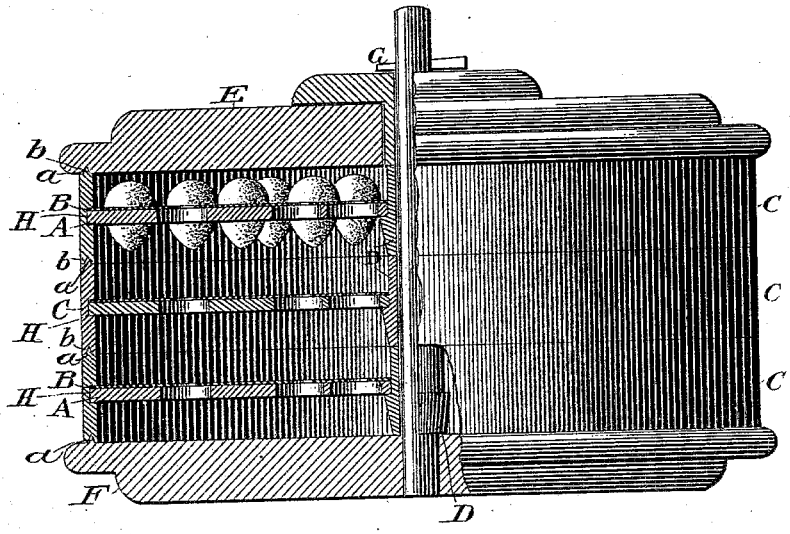
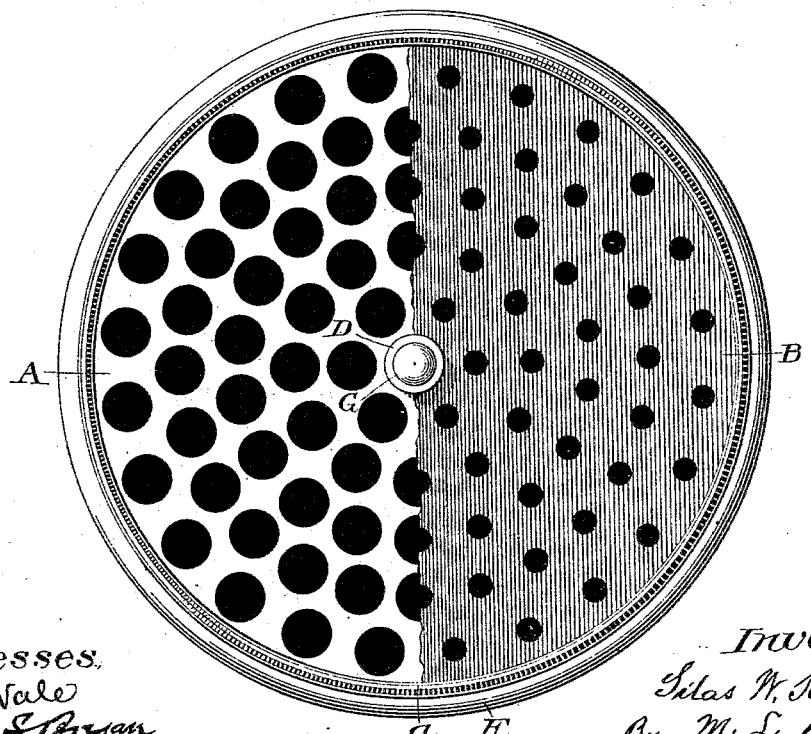


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SILAS W. KLINE, OF CONSTANTINE, MICHIGAN.

EGG-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 303,294, dated August 12, 1884.

Application filed October 16, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SILAS W. KLINE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Constantine, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Carriers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates, mainly, to the improved means employed for holding and sustaining the eggs in removable partitions or trays, whereby the eggs are securely held from contact with each other or with any hard substance, and the tray, with its contained eggs, may be removed and manipulated for "candling" or ascertaining the quality of the latter; and it consists in certain novel features of construction, as hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claims. I attain these objects by the devices illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is an elevation of my case, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of one of the sections of my case, the elastic cover being partly broken away to show the perforations in the wooden base.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several figures.

The case is composed of a bottom, F, having a bevel, *a*, and a central orifice, a post, *c*, seated in the orifice, and a series of superposed sections which are trays, and a cover, E, grooved at *b*, and of means—viz., a wedge—for locking the parts together. Each section consists of the perforated base A, of wood or other suitable material of any desired thickness, having the perforated elastic covering B rigidly attached thereto by cement or in any other suitable manner, and so arranged that the perforations in the elastic covering will be approximately concentric with the perforations in the base. Each section is surrounded by the rim C, and a central ferrule, D, is provided to closely fit over a post or support, G, when the sections are fastened together. One edge of the rim C is beveled, as shown at *a*, and the other edge grooved, as shown at *b*, to receive the corresponding beveled edge of the adjacent section. Both edges of the sections may be beveled or grooved, as the number or arrangement of the sections require. The base A and covering B are let into a groove, H, in the rim. These parts are thus supported at their outer edge, while near the center they are supported by resting upon a shoulder around the central ferrule, D. The ferrule D and the rim C are of the same height, that height being such that the eggs in one section will not come in contact with those in another or with the top or bottom, or with any hard substance. The elastic covering B may be placed on both the upper and under side of the base A in transporting some kinds of eggs; but I have generally found the covering on one side sufficient, and have shown that only in my drawings. The perforations in the base A are much larger than those in the elastic covering B, and somewhat larger than the diameter of the eggs to be packed or transported. The corresponding perforations in the elastic covering B should be regulated as to size by the size of the eggs to be packed or transported and elasticity of the material used, but always be smaller than the eggs to be packed or transported. The bottom F and cover E may be made of any desired thickness, the bottom having a post, G, rigidly fastened at its center, over which the ferrule D closely fits. A groove or a raised and beveled tongue is also necessary in both top and bottom to receive the beveled edge of the rim C or to fit into and hold the grooved edge *b* of the rim C.

To put the case in condition for use, place the trays in position, one on top of another, the central ferrules closely fitting over the post G, the groove of one tray engaging the beveled tongues of another, and the grooved edges of the under tray receiving the beveled tongue upon its bottom F. The cover E is then adjusted over the top of the upper section, there being a ferrule in the center of the top to fit over the post G, and the groove receiving the beveled upper edge of the upper section. The cover E is fastened and several sections are rigidly held in place by a pin inserted through the post G, or by a screw and nut on top of post G, or by other suitable and equivalent devices for fastening. When the sections are thus fastened together, the eggs, having been inserted, smaller end downward, in the perforations in the elastic covering B to such a point as will cause them to be securely held in place by the pressure of the elastic cov-

ering, may be safely transported and the package rolled and lifted about and otherwise handled without endangering the eggs. As the elastic pressure securely holds the eggs in place, a filled section may be held up to the light, so that all the eggs therein may be "candled" and their quality ascertained at the same time or by one operation.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In an egg-carrier, and in combination with a tray provided with a perforation for the reception of an egg, a layer of elastic yielding material provided with an opening less in diameter than either the egg or the perforation in the tray, whereby when the egg is forced through the said elastic material the latter will be stretched or distended and caused to grasp and hold the egg suspended, substantially as described.

2. In an egg-carrier, and in combination with the perforated tray or support, a superposed sheet or layer of elastic material provided with perforations through which the eggs are forced, whereby the latter are sustained by the contraction of the elastic material about them, substantially as described.

3. In an egg-carrier, the combination of the elastic perforated covering B, the non-elastic perforated base A, the perforations in the covering and the base being concentric, and the rim C and ferrule D, supporting said base, substantially as described.

4. In an egg-carrier, the combination of the elastic perforated covering B, the non-elastic perforated base A, the rim C, and the ferrule D, all operating as described, and for the purpose specified.

5. An egg-carrier consisting, essentially, of a top and bottom and one or more sections comprising a rim, a perforated diaphragm, and a ferrule, and a central post with suitable fastenings attached thereto.

6. In an egg-carrier, the combination and arrangement of sections, each comprising a rim, a perforated diaphragm, and a ferrule arranged one above the other about a post rigidly fastened to the bottom F and covered by E, substantially as and for the purposes described.

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

SILAS W. KLINE.

Witnesses:
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