(Model.)

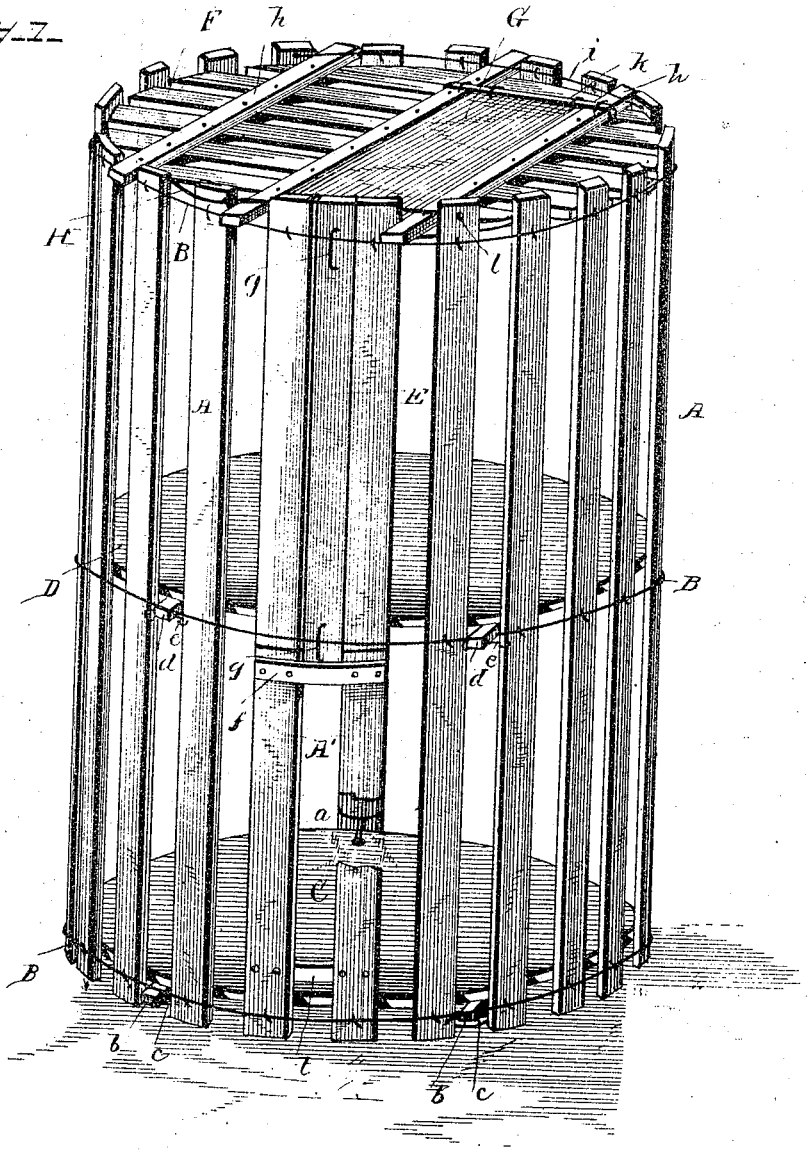
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

S. G. TRAVIS.

FOLDING SHIPPING CRATE.

No. 385,972. Patented July 10, 1888.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses,
Albert Spurden.
W. B. Hodson

Inventor,
Samuel G. Travis.

By his Attorney
Chas. H. Fowler

(Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

S. G. TRAVIS.

FOLDING SHIPPING CRATE.

No. 385,972. Patented July 10, 1888.

Fig. 2.

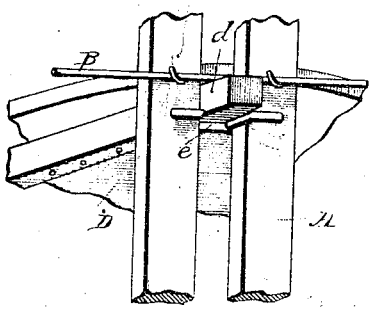


Fig. 4.

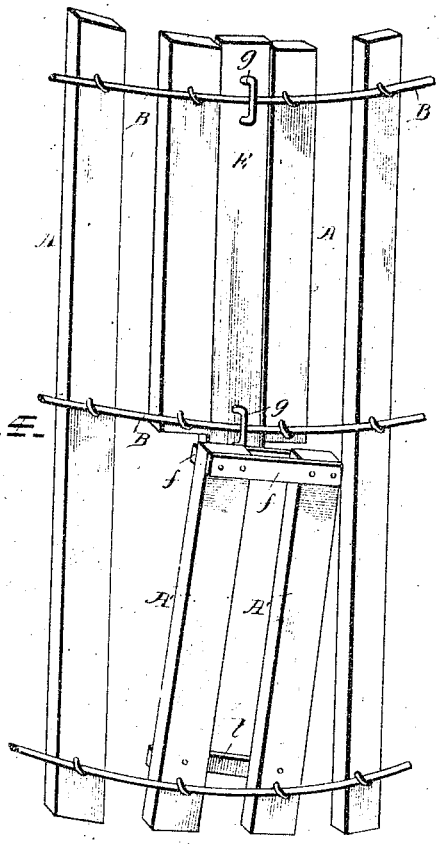


Fig. 3.

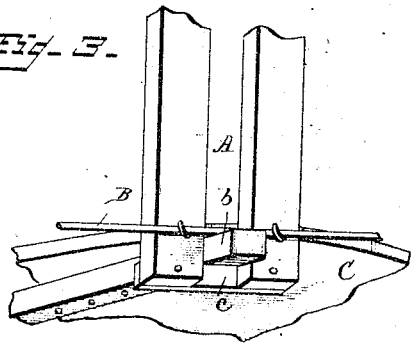


Fig. 5.

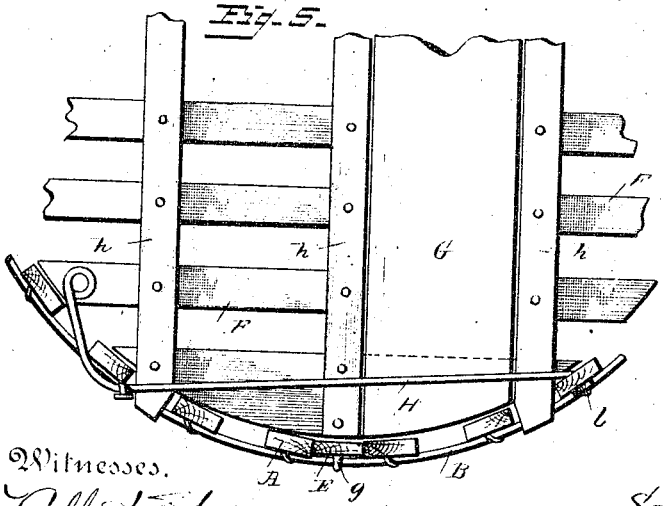
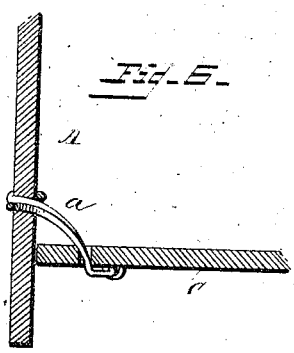


Fig. 6.



Witnesses.

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E. H. Bond.

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By his Attorney.

Chas. H. Fowler.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL G. TRAVIS, OF LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

FOLDING SHIPPING-CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,972, dated July 10, 1888.

Application filed January 31, 1888. Serial No. 262,548. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL G. TRAVIS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Leavenworth, in the county of Leavenworth and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Shipping-Crates; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in shipping-crates of that class designed to be folded, as hereinafter described, into small compass for the purpose of transportation or storage; and the invention consists in the peculiar combinations and the novel construction, arrangement, and adaptation of parts, all as more fully hereinafter described, shown in the drawings, and then particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a crate constructed in accordance with my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are detail perspective views, more particularly hereinafter referred to. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the door in the lower portion of the crate slightly open. Fig. 5 is a detail plan of a portion of the top, showing the keeper and clamp. Fig. 6 is a sectional detail showing the hinge-connection of the bottom.

The body of the crate is composed of slats A, connected together at their ends and also near the center of their length by the cords or wires B (or webbing or other like material, if desired) in such a manner that it can readily be folded for shipment or other purposes. The bottom C of the crate is hinged at one side to one or more of said slats by means of a wire connection, *a*, as shown, and is provided with cross-bars *b*, which engage keepers *c*, secured to the slats to keep the same in position. When it is desired to disengage the bottom from the keepers, the slats carrying the keepers on one side can be pulled out sufficiently to release the cross-bars at that side, when the bottom can be pushed upward into the crate.

When used for poultry or the like, where a partition is needed, I provide a removable central partition, D, which is provided with cross-bars *d*, designed to rest upon keepers or supports *e*, which are secured to the slats A. Two of the slats marked A′ are separated just below their center and connected by two cross-pieces, *f*. Between the upper portions of these two slats works the bar E, which is slidingly connected with the upper and central wires, B, by means of the elongated eyes or loops *g*. The lower end of the bar E extends sufficiently far to engage between the cross-pieces *f*, as shown.

The top F is preferably slatted, as shown, and is provided with cross-bars *h*, which upon one end engage between the top wire, B, and the wire *i*, secured to the top of the slats. This top is provided with a door, G, hinged at *k*, and is designed to be locked in its closed position by means of a keeper, H, pivoted at one end, as at *l*, to one of the slats A, and extended across the door outside one of the slats, with its end bent in and secured back of the next slat. When it is desired to place articles in or remove them from the lower compartment, the slide E is raised to disengage from the pieces *f* of the slats A′, when the said slats can be turned on their hinge, as shown in Fig. 4. The lower ends of the slats A′ are connected by a bar, *t*, to strengthen them. When the crate is to be shipped empty, the body of the crate is pressed flat, the bottom being turned on its hinge so as to lie flat within the body, and the top and central partition are placed within the body against the bottom. When the crate is to be set up, the body is made to assume a cylindrical shape, the bottom is pressed into place, the central partition put in, as shown in Fig. 1, and the top is then placed on and the keeper and clamp secured, as shown in the same figure.

While I have shown my crate as circular, I do not wish to be confined to such shape, as it is evident that they may be made square, octagonal, or other shapes, if desired.

What I claim as new is—

1. The combination, in a crate, of the slatted body, the removable top provided with cross-bars engaging keepers on the slats of the body, the keepers secured thereto, and the bottom hinged to said body, and the cross-bars secured to said bottom and engaging said keepers, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the slatted body and the wire B, connecting the tops of the slats thereof, of the wire *i*, secured to the tops of the slats, the top provided with cross-bars resting on said wire and having a hinged door, and the clamp and keeper H, pivoted to one of said slats, substantially as described.

3. The folding shipping-crate described, consisting of the folding body A, the bottom hinged thereto, the removable central partition having cross-bars engaging keepers on the body, the removable top having cross-bars and a pivoted door, the wire *i*, secured to the tops of the slats of the body, and the clamp and keeper H, pivoted to one of the slats of the body and extended across the door of the top, all substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL G. TRAVIS.

Witnesses:

WHITSED LAMING, Jr.,

D. B. OAKS.