

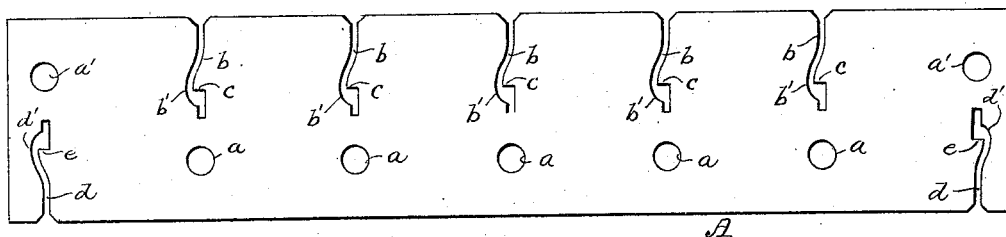
(No Model.)

E. C. BOWER.  
CELL CASE.

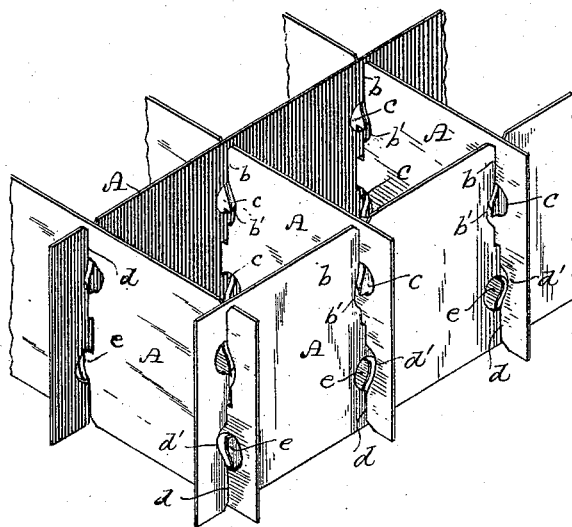
No. 456,353.

Patented July 21, 1891.

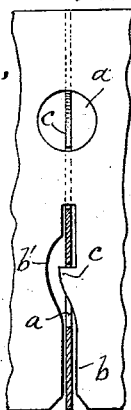
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIJAH C. BOWER, OF MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN.

## CELL-CASE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,353, dated July 21, 1891.

Application filed March 23, 1891. Serial No. 386,047. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELIJAH C. BOWER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee, and in the State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cell-Cases; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in the construction of cell-cases such as are used for packing eggs and other small articles which it is desirable to keep separate from each other.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, Figure 1 is a side elevation of one of the sections of which my improved case is composed. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a portion of my improved case. Fig. 3 is a detail view illustrating the manner of locking the sections together.

In said drawings, A indicates the sections from which the case is formed. These sections are made of straw-board or other suitable material, and, as shown more particularly in Fig. 1, a number of perforations *a a* are formed in said sections at a considerable distance from one edge of the strip or section. Slots *b b* are formed in one of the edges of the sections A A, said slots being preferably of the form shown in Fig. 1, in which said slots are formed with one margin cut away, as at *b' b'*, and with a projection *c* upon the opposite margin. Perforations *a' a'* are formed in said sections adjacent to each end thereof, said perforations being formed at a distance from the edge of the strip equal to the distance of the perforations *a a* from the opposite edge of said sections. Slots *d d*, similar to the slots *b b* before described, are formed in the end portions of the sections A A, said slots being formed in the opposite edges of the strips from the slots *b b*, said slots *d d* being provided with curved edges *d' d'* and projections *e e*, similar to the projections *c c* on the side margins of the slots *b b*.

It will be observed that all the sections of which the cell-case is composed are exactly alike in every particular, each of said sections

being formed with as many slots in its edges as there are to be partitions engaged with said section, and similar slots at the opposite ends of said section cut into the opposite edge of said section, as in Fig. 1.

In constructing cell-cases from the strips or sections of the construction above described I secure said strips together at right angles to each other, as shown in Fig. 2, the partition-strips being arranged at right angles to each other, and those running in one direction being arranged with their slotted edges uppermost, while the strips running in the other direction or at right angles to said first-mentioned strips, are arranged with their slotted edges downward. The slots in the edges of said strips will, when the strips have been placed together, embrace the solid or uncut edges of the opposite strips, and the projections *c c* will enter the apertures or perforations *a a* in said opposite strips, and vice versa. By the engagement of the projections *c c* with the apertures *a a*, as described, the said projections upon the two sets of strips being arranged with their squared edges or shoulders bearing in opposite directions against the walls of the apertures *a a*, as shown more particularly in Fig. 2, the sections are firmly held in engagement with each other and prevented from being accidentally displaced. The outer strips or binders are secured in position in the following manner: The said outer strips running in one direction are arranged with their slotted edges in the opposite direction from the slotted edges of the partition-strips which extend in the same direction. By this arrangement of the outer strips the slots in the middle portion of said strips are caused to engage the slots in the extremities of the partition strips or sections which extend in a direction at right angles to said outer strips. By this arrangement of said outer strips, also, it will be seen that the slots formed in the extremities of said outer strips will be brought upon opposite edges of the said strips, respectively, and, as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, said end slots are then interlocked in the manner before described with reference to the slots in the middle portion of said strips, the slots *d d* embracing the uncut edges of the opposing ends of the strips and the projecting should-

ders *ee* engaging the apertures *a' a'* in the same manner as before described.

As shown more particularly in Fig. 1, the shoulders *ee* on the margins of the slots *d d* 5 are directed toward the ends of the strips, so that in case the extreme end of one of said strips should become broken or damaged the projection or shoulder adjacent to said end will still be left, and the strips will still be 10 firmly locked together by the engagement of said projection or shoulder with the aperture in the other strip.

By the construction herein described the cell-case is rendered collapsible in either direction, and all liability of damaging or breaking the strips or sections in folding the cases together is avoided.

A very great advantage gained by the form of construction shown and described is that, 20 inasmuch as all the sections or strips are precisely alike, but one die is necessary for the manufacture of said sections or strips. This is a very great advantage over all other styles of cell-cases of which I am aware, from the 25 fact that in all such devices the outer or binding strips are formed differently from the partition-strips, and consequently necessitate the use of separate dies for their manufacture. It will thus be seen that by my improvements I am enabled to construct cell-cases of a very superior quality and at a very much less expense than the cost of the ordinary forms of such devices.

By reason of the described construction 35 whereby all the projections or shoulders on one strip enter the corresponding perforations in the transversely-arranged series of strips, while all the perforations in each strip receive the corresponding projections or 40 shoulders in the said transversely-arranged series of strips, it will be seen that there is

thereby formed a double lock on every strip throughout the entire cell-case, and hence none of the strips can be accidentally separated in lifting out the cell-cases or in placing 45 them in their box or crate.

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

1. The herein-described cell-case, comprising a plurality of strips or sections, each 50 provided with a series of slots in one of its edges and a slot at each of its ends formed in its opposite edge, and with a series of perforations adjacent to the inner ends of said 55 slots, each of said slots being formed with a projecting shoulder upon one of its edges, the shoulders in said end slots being formed upon the inner edges of said slots, said strips or sections being arranged in two series arranged transversely to each other, and the 60 projecting shoulders upon the edges of the slots in one series of strips being engaged with the perforations in the transversely-arranged strips, substantially as and for the 65 purpose described.

2. In a cell-case, a series of strips, each having a series of slots in one of its edges and at each end a slot extending from its opposite edge, with perforations in line with said end 70 slots, and a shoulder projecting from the inner edge of each end slot toward the adjacent end of the said strip.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Milwaukee, in 75 the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

ELIJAH C. BOWER.

Witnesses:

H. G. UNDERWOOD,

WM. KLUG.