No. 647,390. Patented Apr. 10, 1900.

S. FEASTER.

FOLDING CRATE.

(No Model.) (Application filed Nov. 15, 1899.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1.

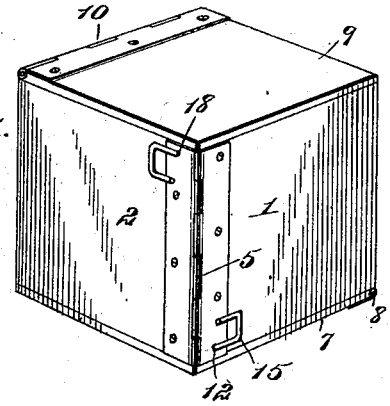


Fig. 2.

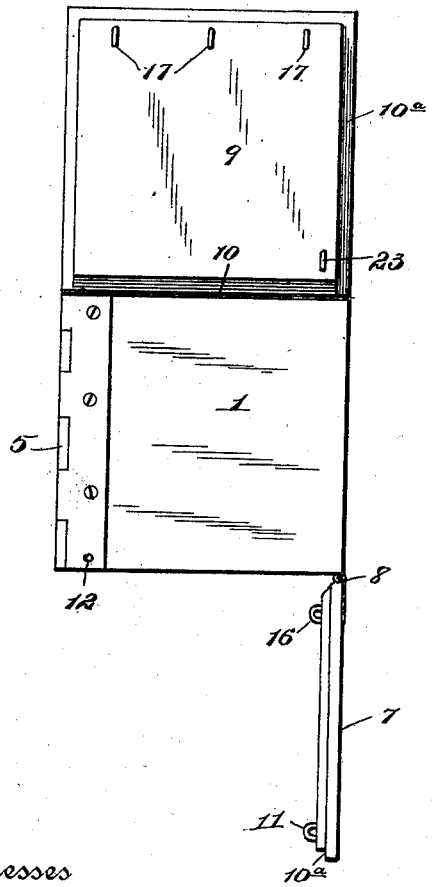


Fig. 3.

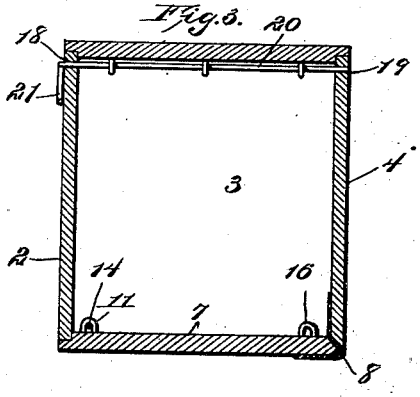
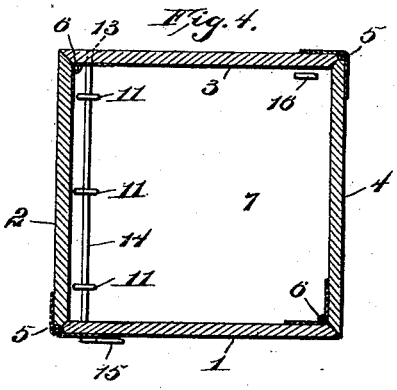


Fig. 4.



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No. 647,390. Patented Apr. 10, 1900.

S. FEASTER.

FOLDING CRATE.

(Application filed Nov. 15, 1899.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 5.

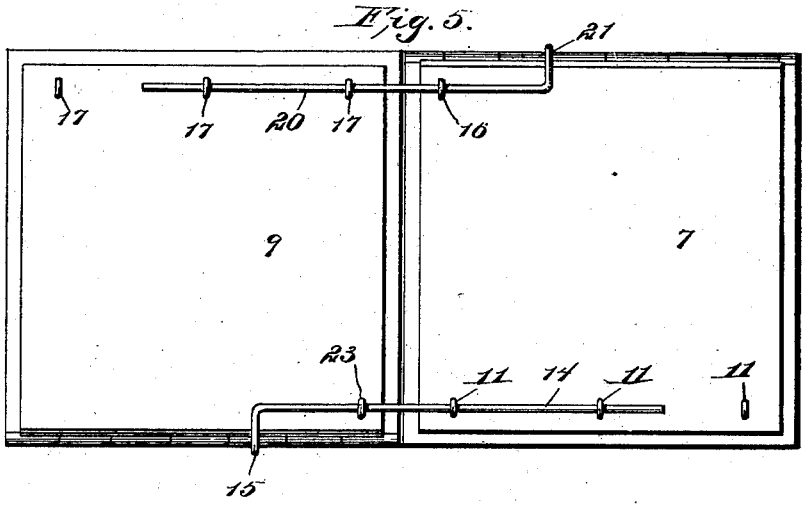


Fig. 6.

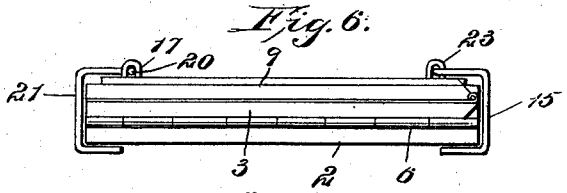
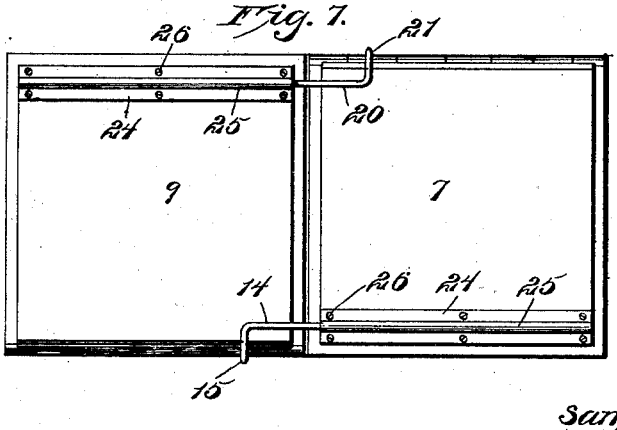


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SANFORD FEASTER, OF SEYMOURVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA.

FOLDING CRATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 647,390, dated April 10, 1900.

Application filed November 15, 1899. Serial No. 737,090. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SANFORD FEASTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Seymourville, in the county of Grant and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Folding Crates, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to folding boxes or crates; and one object is to provide a crate which may be compactly folded into small compass for return to the shipper and when so folded will have its parts firmly secured together.

A further object of the invention is to employ detachable rods for securing the crate in its unfolded position and to utilize the same rods for securing the parts of the crate together in their folded position.

The construction of the crate will be fully described hereinafter in connection with the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and its novel features will be defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a box or crate embodying the invention when in its unfolded position. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same with its top and bottom open. Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a horizontal section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a top plan view of the crate in its folded position. Fig. 6 is an end elevation of the folded crate, and Fig. 7 illustrates a modification.

The four sides of the box are designated by the reference-numerals 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively, and, as best shown in Fig. 4, are connected together by hinges 5 and 6. The hinges 5, arranged at diagonally-opposite corners, are external hinges, and the hinges 6, which connect the other diagonal corners of the box, are secured within the box, thus permitting the four sides to be folded together into flat position.

7 designates the bottom of the box, hinged to the lower edge of the side 4 by externally-secured hinges 8, and 9 designates the cover, secured by external hinges 10 to the upper edge of the side 3. The edges of the top and bottom are recessed to form shoulders 10^a, which fit against the sides of the box. The inner surface of the bottom 7 is provided near its free edge with a row of loops or staples 11, arranged in alinement with openings 12 and 13, formed, respectively, in the sides 1 and 3 of the box to receive a detachable locking-rod 14, formed at its outer end with a handle 15 of loop form. The bottom 7 is also provided near one of its hinges with another loop or staple 16 for a purpose hereinafter described. The inner surface of the cover is also provided with a row of depending loops or staples 17, which when the cover is in place to close the box or crate are in alinement with holes 18 and 19, formed in the sides 2 and 4. The cover is secured in closed position by a locking-rod 20, provided with a loop-handle 21. The cover 9 is also provided with a loop or staple 23, which is adapted to aline with the staples 11 of the bottom when the crate is folded.

It will be apparent that the parts of the box or crate when in unfolded position are firmly secured together by the locking-rods 14 and 20, and said rods also serve to secure the parts together when the same are folded together, as will now be explained by reference to Figs. 5 and 6. To fold the box, the locking-rods are withdrawn and the sides of the box are folded together so that the sides 3 and 4 will rest against the sides 2 and 1, respectively. The cover 9 is then turned back upon side 3 and the bottom 7 is turned over upon the side 4, which brings the loop 16 of the bottom into alinement with the loops 17 of the cover, and the loop 23 of the cover into alinement with the loops 11. After the loops are thus alined the rods 14 and 20 are inserted so that their bent ends embrace the edges of the sides 1 and 2 to lock the parts firmly together.

In lieu of the staples for the reception of the rods 14 and 21 continuous keepers may be used, each comprising a strip of sheet metal formed with a central longitudinal groove 25 to receive the rods and secured by screws 26 to the top 9 and bottom 7.

I claim—

1. A folding box or crate comprising two pairs of side pieces hinged together so that one pair will fold upon the other; a top hinged to one of said sides, and provided with a depending keeper; a bottom also hinged to one of the sides and provided on its inner face with a projecting keeper and removable lock-

ing-rods adapted to extend through said keepers and through openings in the sides alining therewith.

2. A folding box or crate comprising sides hinged together at their vertical edges; a hinged cover provided with a depending keeper at one edge; a hinged bottom provided with a projecting keeper near its free edge arranged at right angles to the keeper on the cover; and removable locking-rods adapted to extend through said keepers and through openings on the sides of the box.

3. A folding box or crate comprising hinged sides; a hinged cover; a hinged bottom; keepers projecting from the cover and bottom; and removable locking-rods provided at their outer ends with bent handles adapted to clamp the parts of the box or crate in their folded position.

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

SANFORD FEASTER.

Witnesses:
L. J. FORMAN,
W. C. MOOMAN.