

J. L. STEVENS.  
Egg Carrier.

No. 201,568.

Patented March 19, 1878.

Fig. 1.

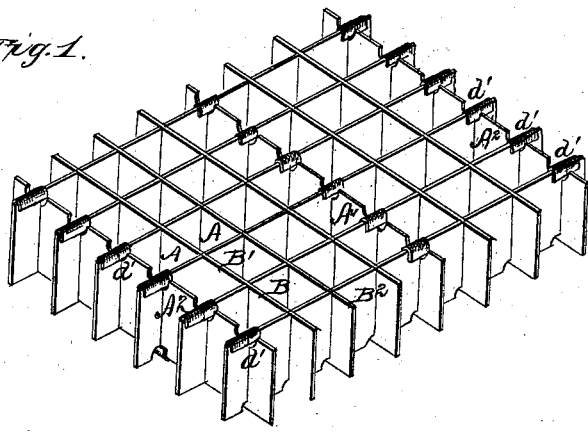


Fig. 2.

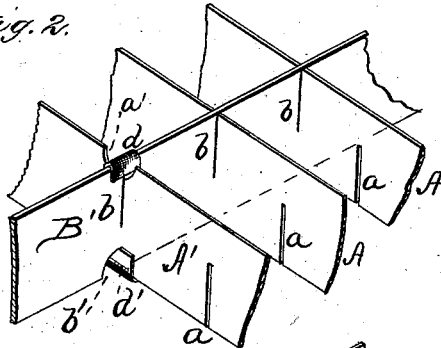
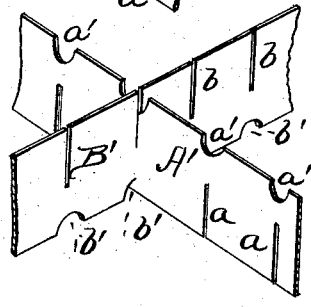


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN L. STEVENS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO NICHOLAS SCHRODER  
AND HENRY C. SEAVERS, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN EGG-CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,568**, dated March 19, 1878; application filed  
February 26, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN L. STEVENS, of New York, in the county of New York, and in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Egg-Carriers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention relates to trays for egg-carriers, made of two series of pasteboard strips, provided with slits to interlock with each other; and the nature of my invention consists in providing one of the center strips of each series and the outer or side strips of both series with semicircular or other suitably-shaped notches in the uncut edges, and corresponding to the slits in the opposite edges, and then fastening strips across the slits that project in said notches, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an egg-carrier tray embodying my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are detailed views of parts thereof.

The tray is composed of two series of strips, A and B, which are respectively provided with corresponding slits *a a* and *b b* at regular suitable intervals, so that the two series of strips can interlock with each other, in the usual manner for this class of egg-carrier trays.

The center strip or one of the center strips of each series (marked, respectively, A<sup>1</sup> and B<sup>1</sup>) is provided with a series of notches, (marked *a'* and *b'*), of semicircular or other suitable form. These notches are made in the uncut edge of the strip, and corresponding with the slits in the opposite edge.

When the strips are put together to form the tray, one slit, *b*, of each strip B has its end projecting into the notches *a'* of the strip A<sup>1</sup>, and in like manner one slit, *a*, of each strip A has its end projecting into one of the notches *b'* of the strip B<sup>1</sup>.

A small strip, *d*, of cloth, paper, straw-board, or any other suitable material, is then fastened across and over each and every slit

that thus projects into one of the notches, whereby the strips become so locked together that the strips A B cannot become separated.

In like manner the first and last strip of each series are provided with similar notches, said strips of the two series being marked, respectively, A<sup>2</sup> A<sup>2</sup> and B<sup>2</sup> B<sup>2</sup>. The small strips *d'* used at these points extend clear to the ends of the various strips, and thus answer the twofold purpose of locking the two series of strips together, and also strengthening and making the ends of the strip in a measure solid, so as to prevent said ends being broken off in using or handling the tray. The center locking device may, in such case, be dispensed with; but I prefer to use them together, as thereby the tray is materially strengthened, while at the same time it does not prevent the tray from being folded flat for return shipment.

In the construction of this tray I use colored straw-board, preferably black, as the eggs will thereby show to better advantage by the contrast. Even soiled eggs will, by the contrast, look as white as clean white eggs look in straw-colored trays.

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

1. In an egg-carrier tray composed of two series of strips, A and B, having interlocking slots *a* and *b*, the central strips A<sup>1</sup> and B<sup>1</sup>, provided with the notches *a'* *b'* in their uncut edges, and the locking-strips *d*, arranged over or across the slits, that project in said notches, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. In an egg-carrier tray composed of two series of strips, A and B, having interlocking slots *a* and *b*, the end or side strips A<sup>2</sup> A<sup>2</sup> and B<sup>2</sup> B<sup>2</sup>, provided with the notches *a'* *b'* in their uncut edges, and the locking-strips *d'*, arranged over or across the slits that project in said notches, and extending to the ends of the various strips, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of February, 1878.

JOHN L. STEVENS.

Witnesses:

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PAUL VON FRANKENBERG.