To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LAMBERT F. TOWNS, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shipping Crates or Containers for Hats, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a shipping crate or container for men's stiff or soft hats; and in such connection it relates to the construction and arrangement of the same.

The principal object of my present invention is to provide a comparatively simple, durable, and effective shipping crate or container for men's stiff or soft hats in which said hats are not only reliably protected therein, but also readily removed therefrom without soiling or marring the same in the removal thereof, and at the same time is provided a reliable and handy container for the storage of hats during season or out of season away from extraneous matter, such as dust or dirt.

My invention, stated in general terms, consists of a shipping crate or container for hats constructed and arranged in substantially the manner hereinafter described and claimed.

The nature and characteristic features of my invention will be more fully understood from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical central sectional view through a crate or container embodying characteristic main features of my said invention and showing the container filled with a series of hats; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the internal hat-holder of the container, showing the construction and arrangement thereof.

Referring to the drawings, a is the container or crate, of paste or card board, of rectangular form, provided with a removable flanged cover α.

b is the internal hat-holder in cube form, having a series of circular openings β in the walls of the holder and having the meeting ends of the walls constituting the holder reinforced with strips or fillets of tough flexible material γ to strengthen the same about the union of the parts that constitute the holder with each other.

c is a series of stiff men's hats inserted into the openings β with the brims resting against the outer walls, respectively, of the holder within the container α for the said holder b, and thus showing the manner in which the hats in position in the container are held and protected thereby for shipping or storage of the hats.

In order to remove the hats from the container α, the lid α' is removed, the hat in the top of the holder liberated from its position in the opening β of the holder b, and the holder then drawn upward, with the remaining hats in the respective sides and ends of the holder removed therewith, while the hat at the bottom of the holder in position in the container when the holder is removed therefrom will be freed in the raising of the holder by its weight from the same and can then be removed from the container by hand when the holder has been entirely freed from the container.

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

A shipping crate or container for hats, comprising two four-sided boxes adapted to be closely nested one within the other, the outer box being provided with a detachable lid or cover and the inner box being provided with openings in the sides, top and bottom for inserting the crowns of hats therethrough so that the flat brims of the hats rest close against the surface of said inner box adjacent to the openings thereof.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my signature in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LAMBERT F. TOWNS.

Witnesses:
GEORGE M. HARKNESS,
C. G. DU LAUX.