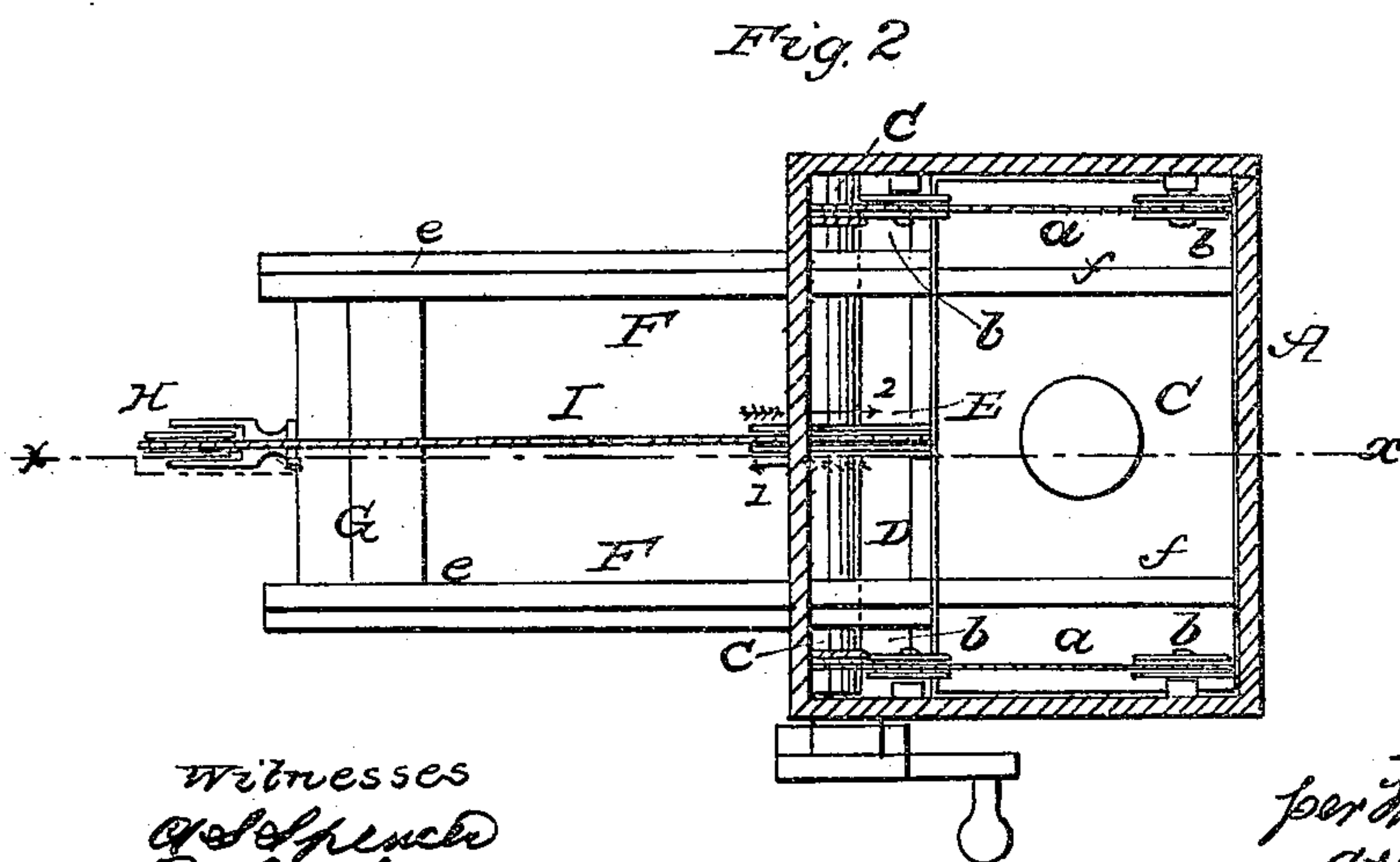
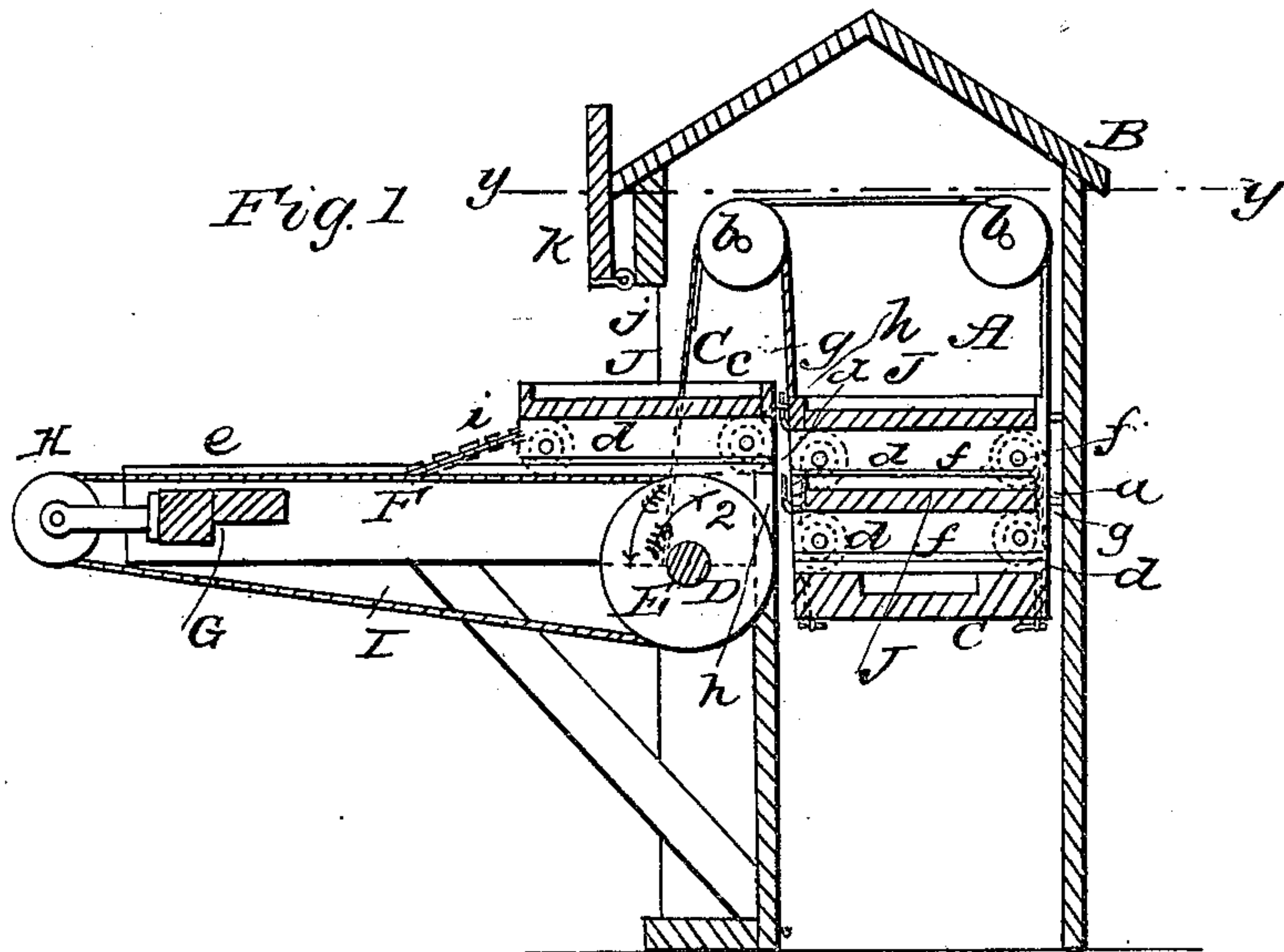


A. C. LEWIS.

Fruit Drier.

No. 29,390.

Patented July 31, 1860.



Witnesses
J. S. Spencer
J. W. Lewis

Inventor
per M. S. Merrick
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARBA C. LEWIS, OF BURLINGTON, MICHIGAN.

FRUIT-DRYING APPARATUS.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 29,390, dated July 31, 1860.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, A. C. LEWIS, of Burlington, in the county of Calhoun and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Fruit-Drying Device; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side sectional view of my invention, taken in the line *x, x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a horizontal section of the same, taken in the line *y, y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

The object of the invention is to facilitate in a very great degree, the labor of exposing the fruit to the sun in fair weather, and the moving of the same under cover during rains, and during the evening.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a house of suitable dimensions, and B, the roof, so applied that it may be readily removed at pleasure in order to render the interior of the house accessible. Within the house A, a platform C, is suspended by ropes or chains *a*, two at each side, which pass over pulleys *b*, within the house A, the ropes or chains *a*, at each side of the house being attached to a common rope or chain *c*, which ropes or chains are connected to a shaft D, at the front side of the house A.

On the shaft D, at about its center, there is placed a pulley E, and from the front side of the house, two parallel bars F, F, project, slightly inclined from a horizontal position. The front ends of the bars F, are connected by a cross tie G, to the center of which a pulley H, is attached; around the pulleys E, H, a rope or band I, passes.

J represents a series of fruit racks. These racks are of rectangular form, and they may be provided with flanged wheels *d*, to run on ways *e, e*, on the bars F, F, and also to run on ways *f*, on the racks and platform C, one rack fitting on another when housed or under cover, see Fig. 1. The back end of

each rack J, is provided with an eye *g*, and the front end of each rack is provided with hooks *h*, turning upward as shown clearly in Fig. 1. The front rack J is also attached by a cord or chain *i*, to the endless rope or band I.

The operation is as follows: The fruit to be dried is placed on the racks J, and when the fruit is entirely under cover, or within the house A, the racks J, are in a position, one over the other on the platform C, and the platform C, lowered within the house to its fullest extent. When it is required to expose the fruit, the shaft D, is turned in the direction indicated by the arrow 1, and the platform C, will consequently be raised by the ropes or chains *a*, *c*, and when the platform is elevated to such a height that the uppermost rack J will be on a level with the ways *e, e*, of the bars F, F, the rope or chain *i*, will be actuated by the endless rope or band I, and the uppermost rack J, will be drawn out on the ways *e, e*, the succeeding racks following as they reach the level of the ways *e, e*, the hooks *h*, of the several racks as they reach the level of the ways *e, e*, engaging with the eye *g*, of the one immediately in front of it. Thus all the racks are drawn out on the ways *e, e*, of the bars F, and when it is necessary to house or put the fruit racks J, under cover, the shaft D, is turned from left to right, in the direction indicated by arrow 2, and the racks J, will be successively moved back on the platform C, and the platform and racks allowed to descend by their own gravity.

It will be seen from the above description, that the movement of the platform C, and endless rope or band I, must have a relative proportionate speed, in order that the racks J, may be moved off and on the ways *e, e*, and platform C.

The platform C, may be loaded, so as to insure its descent by gravity, as the cords *c*, are unwound from the shaft D.

The opening *j*, through which the racks J, pass on the ways *e, e*, may be provided with a flap or door *k*, to cover said opening when necessary.

Having thus described my invention, what

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 The arrangement and combination in the manner herein shown and described of the elevating platforms C, fruit racks J, bars F, and endless band I, with the shaft D, pulleys E, *b*, *b*, lifting ropes *a*, *c*, and house A, so that by turning the shaft D, the fruit

will be raised and carried out of the house and exposed to the sun and air and on reversing shaft D, the fruit will be again deposited within the house all as set forth. 10

ARBA C. LEWIS.

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