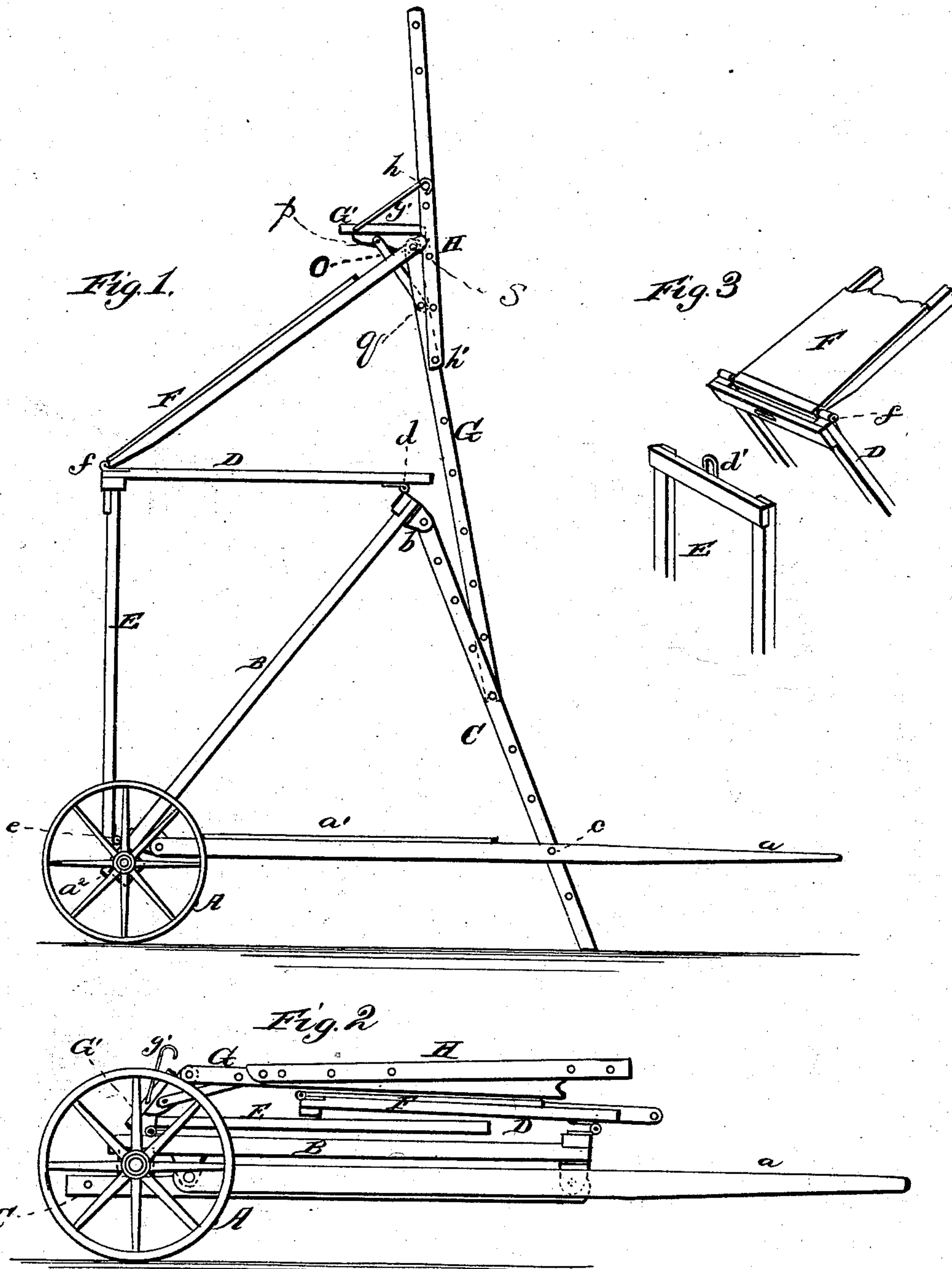


C. PARKINSON.
Fruit-Ladder.

No. 221,857.

Patented Nov. 18, 1879.



WITNESSES
Robert Everett
James J. Shuey

INVENTOR
Charles Parkinson
Gilmore Smith & Co.
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES PARKINSON, OF COLDWATER, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN FRUIT-LADDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,857**, dated November 18, 1879; application filed September 20, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES PARKINSON, of Coldwater, in the county of Branch and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Ladders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a side elevation showing the ladders raised, and Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the ladders lowered. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail view.

My invention relates to a device for gathering fruit from trees; and the novelty consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In carrying out my invention I employ two handles loosely connected to a running-gear, for convenient transportation, and carrying a platform, upon which baskets, &c., may be placed, or for other suitable convenience. Rigidly secured to the axle is a framing, which at its upper extremity carries, by a loose connection, a cross-frame, which at the other extremity is removably secured to a framing hinged at or near the axle, as shown. When in use the last-named framing is vertical and the other horizontal.

A ladder is secured near its foot by pins or otherwise to the handles, the lower ends thereof forming legs for the vehicle. This ladder is pivoted above to the framing, and forms a support for the same, braced as shown.

Describing the device as in operative position, a platform is pivoted or hinged to the upper portion of the framing near the upper extremity of the vertical frame, and serves either as a standing-place for the operator, or as a brace for an extension-ladder, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. Each standard or side of this supplementary ladder is provided at its lower end with a jaw or other device, by which it is removably secured to any rung of the brace-ladder at will. In such case the up-

per hinged platform is secured by pins or otherwise to the supplementary or extension ladder, and serves as a brace thereto.

To a step pivoted to the extension-ladder are secured two hooks, which connect with eyes or lugs upon a hand-ladder pivoted to the extension-ladder, as shown.

It will be observed from the construction shown that the entire device may be folded together, so as to be compact for storage or transportation.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the running-gear; *a*, the handles, and *a'* the platform thereon. Secured to the axle at *a*² is a framing, B, to which is pivoted at *b* a ladder, C, said ladder being secured to the handles *a* at *c*, as shown, the lower ends thereof serving as legs to the running portion or base of the device.

Pivoted or hinged at *d* to the framing B is a horizontal frame, D, which at the other extremity is removably connected to a frame, E, by a lock-bolt, *d'*. The frame E, when in operation, is vertical, and is hinged at *e* near the axle. Hinged or pivoted at *f* to the frame D is a platform-brace, F, which, when horizontal, serves as a standing-place for the operator in low trees, and as a brace for a supplemental or extension ladder, as shown in Fig. 1.

G represents the supplemental or extension ladder, having hinged step G', carrying hooks *g'*, adapted to engage in eyes or lugs *h* on a hand-ladder, H, pivoted at *h'* to the ladder G. The lower ends of the standards of the ladder G are jawed, or otherwise provided with means for engaging with the rungs of the ladder C, and may be placed at any desired height upon said ladder C.

The seat or step G' is connected to the ladder G by braces O, pivoted at *p* to cleats upon the under side of the step G', and to the sides of the ladder G at *q*. The forward ends of the cleats, the upper ends of the sides of the platform F, and the upper ends of the sides of the ladder G are perforated, and a rod, S, run through them to secure them together. This rod S needs to be removed when it becomes necessary to employ the combined ladders G and H as a hand-ladder.

The horizontal framing B being detached from the framing E, the whole may be readily folded in compact form, as is obvious.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination, with a running-gear, A *a'*, of the framing B, hinged ladder C, hinged frame D *d'*, standard-frame E, and platform F, as and for the purposes set forth.

2. The hinged platform F, constructed and adapted to serve relatively to the framing B D E and ladder C, and to a supplemental ladder, G, as set forth.

3. The extension-ladder G, having pivoted

seat G' and jaws or clamps, as shown, combined with the ladder C and platform-brace F, as set forth.

4. The combination of the framing B D E, ladder C, extension-ladder G G', platform-brace F, and hand-ladder H, as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES PARKINSON.

Witnesses:

A. J. MCGOWAN,

F. E. BELLAMY.