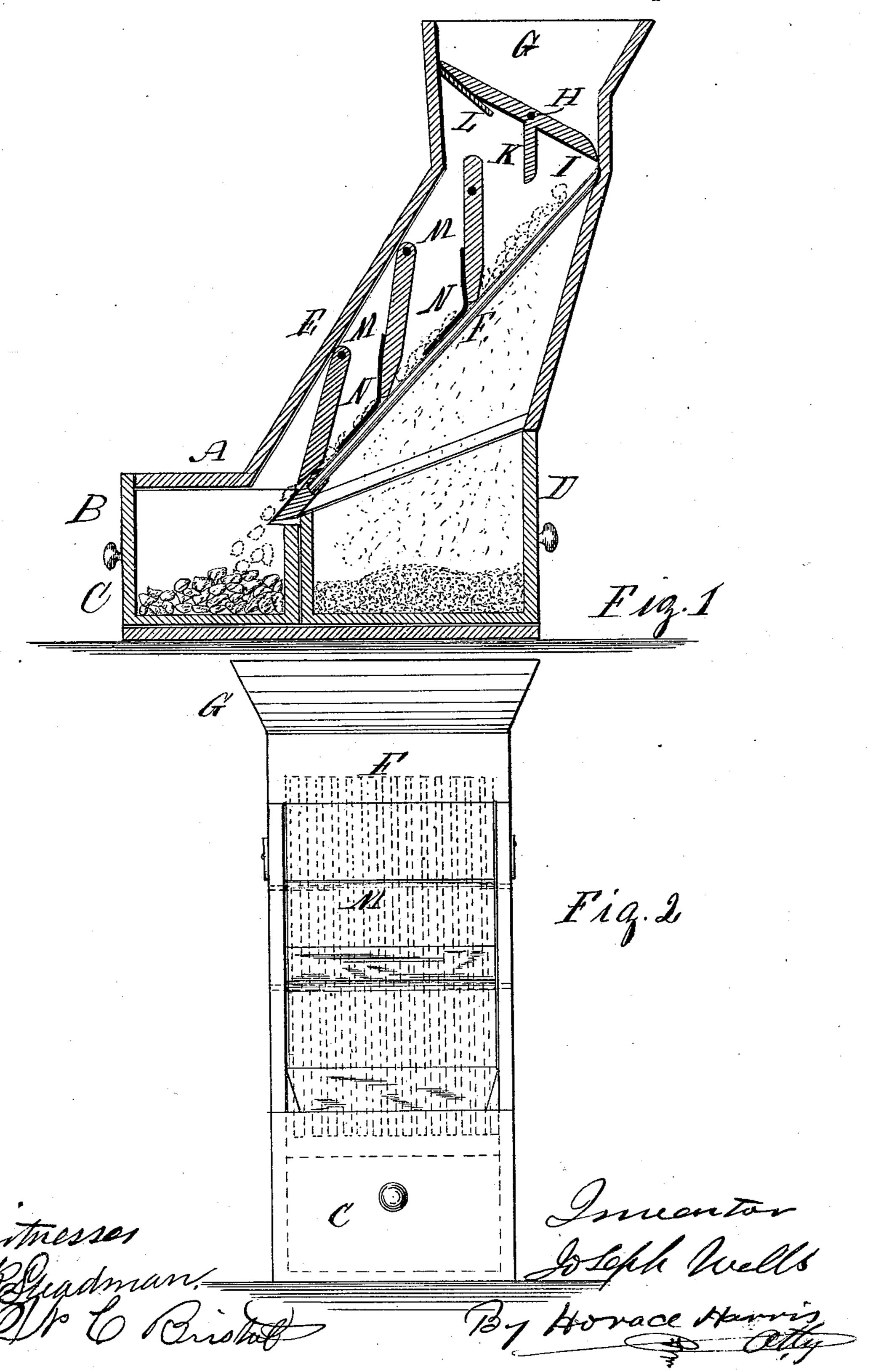
J. WELLS.
ASH SIFTER.

No. 256,086.

Patented Apr. 4, 1882.



## United States Patent Office.

JOSEPH WELLS, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

## ASH-SIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 256,086, dated April 4, 1882.

Application filed September 8, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Joseph Wells, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Im-5 provement in Ash-Sifters, of which the follow-

ing is a specification.

My invention relates to an ash-sifter that may be used in the house, where the ashes are taken up, which may be put directly through 10 the sifter and create no dust, and is made to act automatically as the ashes are passed through it in taking up; and it consists in a sloping screen, made of wires, all running in one direction, hung in a suitable frame in a 15 valve-hopper, and in swing-valves hung above the screen, as will be fully described, and set forth in the claims.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation. Fig. 2 is

a front elevation.

The case A is made with the base B to support the screen-section and receive the box C for the coal or cinders and box D for the ashes, one drawn out from each end; but they may be otherwise arranged.

From the base rises at an oblique angle the frame E, for holding the screen F, &c. This screen is made of single wires, which allow the ashes to run through more readily than when they are crossed; but I may sometimes 30 use an ordinary screen with wires crossed.

On the top of the frame is a hopper, G, in which is hung by pins H a valve-cover, I, having at the under side a projection, K, which serves as a weight to close the valve after any 35 ashes have passed through, and when any ashes are passing through it strikes up against a bar, L, and prevents the escape of any dust from the front side of the valve.

In the frame, above the screen, are hung a 40 series of swing-valves, M, so that by gravity

they will fall down upon the screen and prevent the ashes from going down and getting into the coal-box, for the ashes will rise and strike the valves and then be thrown back and work down into the ash-box.

To the lower edge of the valves I may also attach a flexible apron, N, made of cloth, rubber, or other suitable material, and these aprons, lying on the cinders as they pass down, together with the valves, almost entirely con- 50 fine the dust and ashes to that section, so that scarcely any will work in with the coal.

Instead of putting a hopper and valve on the top of the frame E, the front of the frame may be made to extend up to a line a little 55 above the bottom of the hopper, and then the ashes will be put directly in on the screens F, and the same general result be secured.

I claim—

1. In combination with the frame E and 60 screen F, the swing-valves M, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the frame E, screen F, valves M, and the aprons N, substantially

as and for the purpose named. 3. In combination with the inclined screen F, the hopper G, having a valve-cover, I, hung centrally and provided with the projection K, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

4. In combination with the hopper G, valve- 70. cover I, and projection K, the bar L, substan-

tially as and for the purpose named.

5. The combination of the base B, frame E, screen F, valves M, hopper G, and boxes C and D, substantially as and for the purpose 75 specified.

JOSEPH WELLS.

Witnesses:

HORACE HARRIS, S. R. STEADMAN.