

(No Model.)

R. F. PETREE.
PORTABLE FRUIT DRIER.

No. 300,121

Patented June 10, 1884.

Fig. 1.

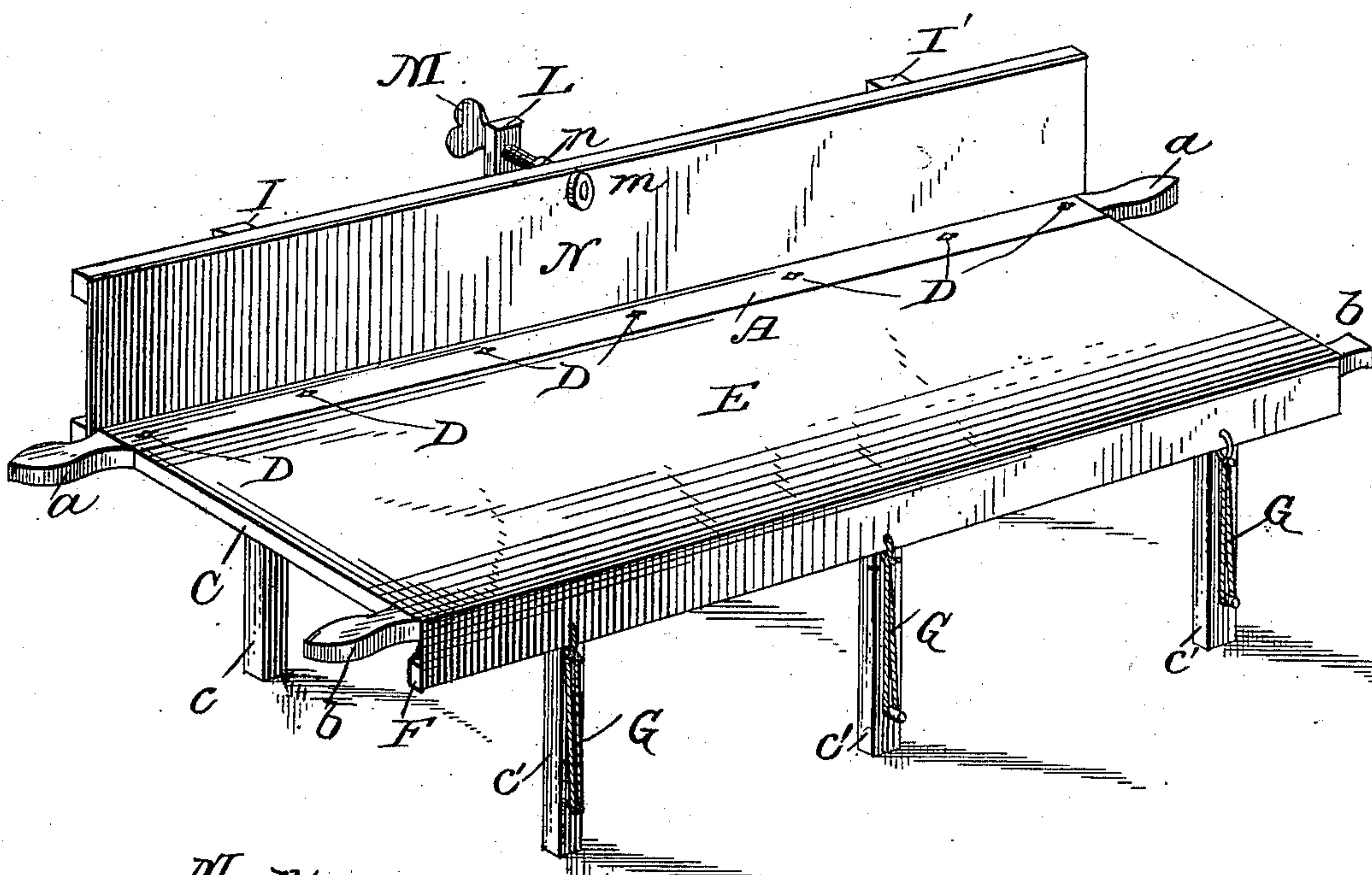
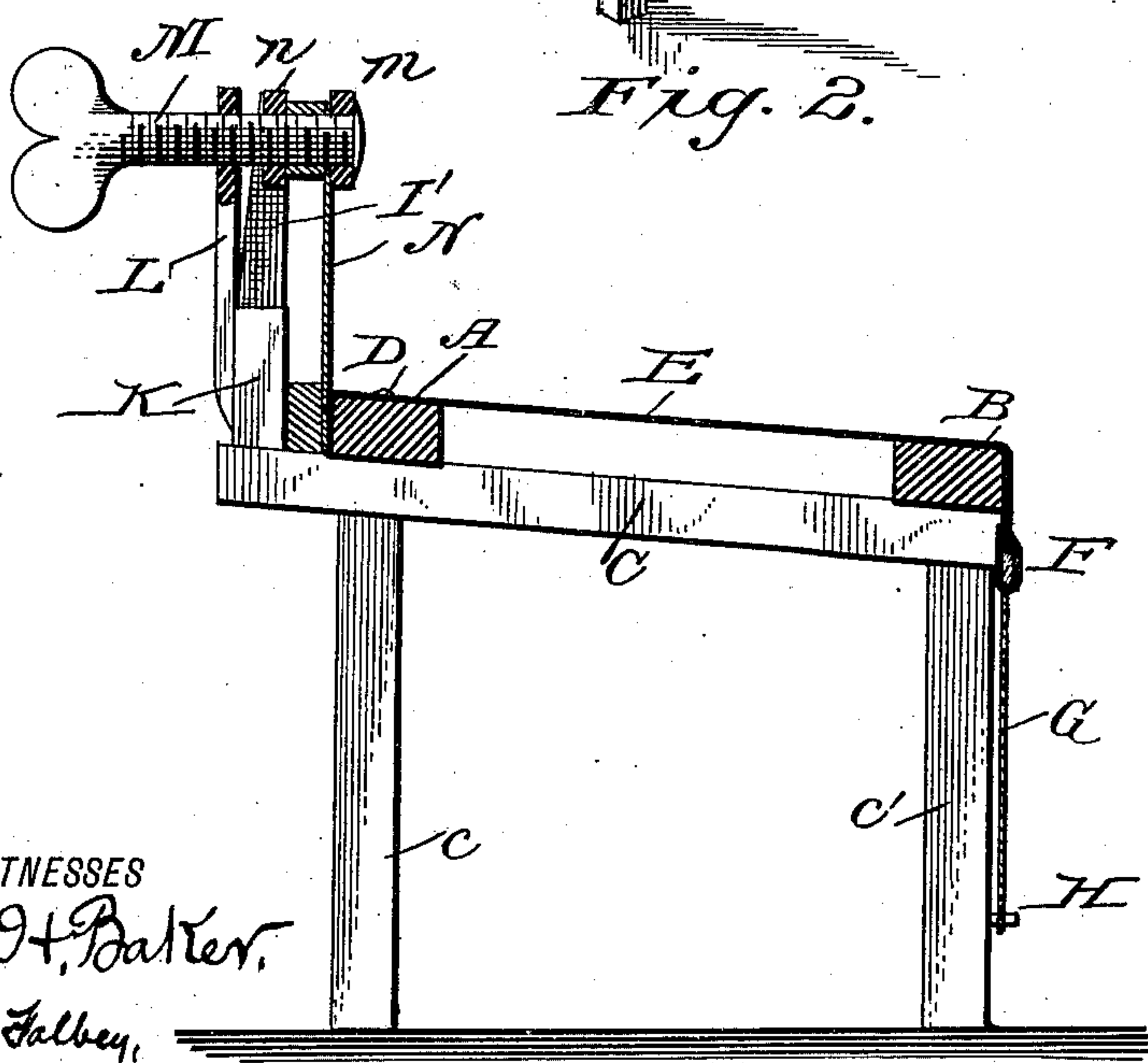


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES
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PORTABLE FRUIT-DRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,121, dated June 10, 1884.

Application filed December 10, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, R. F. PETREE, a citizen of the United States, residing at German-
ton, in the county of Stokes and State of
5 North Carolina, have invented certain new
and useful Improvements in Portable Fruit-
Driers, of which the following is a specifica-
tion, reference being had therein to the ac-
companying drawings.

10 My invention has relation to fruit-driers;
and its object is to provide a simple, cheap,
and efficient portable device for farm and
household use; and to that end the novelty
consists in the construction of the same, as
15 will be hereinafter more fully described, and
particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings similar let-
ters of reference indicate the same parts of
the invention.

20 Figure 1 is a perspective view of my im-
proved fruit-drier as it appears ready for use,
and Fig. 2 is a central cross-section of the same.

A B are longitudinal rails, provided with
handles *a a b b*, and said rails are suitably se-
25 cured to the series of cross-bars C, having
legs *c c'*, which form the frame-work of the
machine, the front legs, *c'*, being shorter than
the rear ones, *c*, which gives the top an in-
cline forward.

30 D D are a series of pegs projecting from the
rail A, and E is a sheet of thin muslin se-
cured to said pegs, and its opposite side has a
bar or slat, F, to which is secured elastic straps
G, removably secured to the pegs H in the
35 legs *c'*, by means of which the muslin sheet is
tightly drawn across the rails A B.

I I' are guards secured to the cross-bars C,
and K is a standard provided with a metal
arm, L, through which passes an adjusting-
40 screw, M.

N is a reflector, its lower end resting on the
cross-bars C, and its upper end held in an ad-
justably-vertical position by means of the set-
screw M. This reflector may be made of look-
45 ing-glass or any polished or planished metal,
and in practice I have used sheet-tin, and find
it answers the purpose, as it reflects the sun's
rays in the form of light and heat equally well.

The end of the set-screw is provided with a
50 washer, *m*, on one side of the reflector, and a

similar washer, *n*, on the other side, so that as
the screw is turned in the arm L the angle of
the reflector may be varied with respect to the
inclined screen E.

The fruit or other vegetable substance to be 55
dried, being first cut into thin slices, is then
spread on the muslin screen E, and, by means
of the handles *a b*, the drier is lifted and
placed in the sun, with the reflector facing it.
The surface of the screen being inclined al- 60
lows a full exposure of the fruit to the heat
and light of the direct rays of the sun, and
those rays which fall on the reflector are re-
flected directly upon the fruit also, while the
heat generated by the combined effect of the 65
direct and reflected rays caused an upward
current of air through the screen, which is
open or porous, and said air-current, in con-
nection with the heat-rays, rapidly and effect-
ually evaporate the aqueous elements of the 70
fruit, and thus dry and preserve it, and in this
condition it may be packed in dry packages
for home consumption or transportation, as
desired.

Having thus fully described my improved 75
fruit-drier, what I claim as new and useful,
and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the
United States, is—

1. The combination, with an inclined sup-
porting-frame, of the screen E, secured to said 80
frame at one side by means of the pegs D,
and to the other by means of the elastic straps
G, removably secured to the pegs H, as and
for the purpose set forth.

2. In a fruit-drier, the inclined porous screen 85
E, in combination with the supporting-rails A
B, and elastic connections for keeping the
screen taut across the rails, as set forth.

3. In a fruit-drier, the combination, with
the supporting-frame provided with the in- 90
clined screen E and arm L, of the reflector N,
having set-screw M, whereby said reflector
may be adjusted with reference to said screen,
substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in 95
presence of two witnesses.

RILEY F. PETREE.

Witnesses:

WM. CAMPBELL,
JAMES W. NEWSOM.