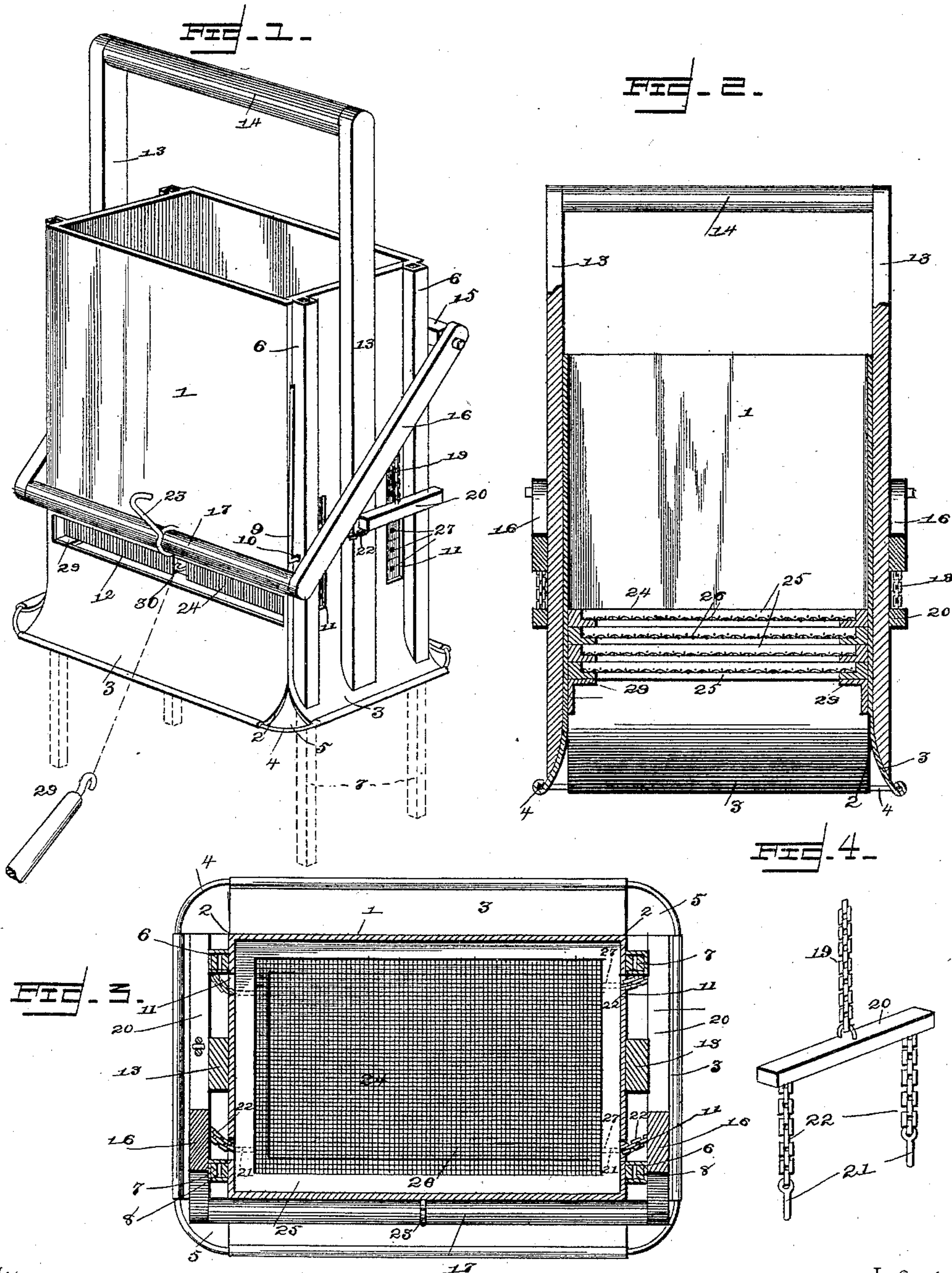


(No Model.)

E. STILLWELL.
EVAPORATOR.

No. 476,837.

Patented June 14, 1892.



Witnesses

E. S. Duwall Jr. By his Attorneys,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELIAS STILLWELL, OF DADEVILLE, MISSOURI.

EVAPORATOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 476,837, dated June 14, 1892.

Application filed April 15, 1891. Serial No. 389,063. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIAS STILLWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dadeville, in the county of Dade and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Evaporator, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of fruit-evaporators for family use which are adapted to be placed upon an ordinary stove or range; and it has for its object to provide a device of this class which shall be simple in construction, durable and efficient in operation, and which shall admit of various adjustments to enable the device to be successfully used.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved evaporator. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail of one of the bars and its links.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures.

The casing of my improved evaporator, which is designated by 1, is preferably rectangular in shape, and the corners of said casing are provided at their lower ends with slits 2, forming the flanges 3 3, which are bent outwardly and connected by the binding-wire 4. The said flanges thus form feet that support the casing, while openings 5 are formed at the corners of the casing between the flanges 3 3 for the admission of air. The corners of the casing are provided with vertical sockets 6 for the legs 7, which are mounted slidingly in said sockets and which are provided with recesses or perforations 8 to receive the points of the spring-catches 9, which are suitably secured to the sides of the casing and which are extended through perforations 10 in the sockets 6 to engage the recesses in the said adjustable legs. The latter may thus be lowered, so as to raise the casing to any desired height above the stove or range upon which it is placed. The sides of the casing are provided with vertical slots 11 11, and the front of the casing has a horizontal slot 12. The sides of the casing are also provided with

uprights 13, the upper ends of which are connected by a handle 14. The rear side of the casing has a cross-bar 15, to the ends of which are pivoted the arms or levers 16, the front ends of which are connected by a handle 17. The arms or levers 16 are provided with pivoted rods or links 19, carrying the bars 20, to the under sides of which the keys 21 are connected by means of chains 22. The cross-bar or handle 17 is provided with a hook 23, which, when desired, may be placed in engagement with the upper edge of the casing.

The trays which are used in connection with my device are designated by 24, each of said trays being composed of a frame 25 and a covering 26 of woven wire or other suitable material. The frames 25 are provided at their ends with openings 27, aligning with the slots 11 in the sides of the casing.

In operation the trays, with the fruit or material that is to be dried, are inserted at the top of the casing, and the keys or pins 21 are inserted in the openings 27 at the ends of said trays, which may thus be lowered nearly to the bottom of the casing, where interior flanges 29 are arranged just below the front opening 12 to support the bottom tray. The weight on the bottom tray may be removed by inserting the keys 21 into the end openings of the tray next above, when by operating the handle 17 all of the trays except the bottom one may be raised and supported by engaging the hook 23 with the top of the casing. The bottom tray may then be easily drawn out through the opening 12 by means of a hook, such as 29, adapted to engage a staple 30 at the front edge of the tray.

My improved fruit-evaporator, as will be seen in the foregoing description, is exceedingly simple in construction and may be manufactured at a very moderate expense. The construction of the casing with its outturned bottom flanges provides for the admission of air at the four corners of the casing, thus providing for the thorough ventilation of the contents and the carrying off of vapors and the like. The casing may also, when desired, be elevated above the stove or range upon which it is placed by means of the adjustable legs 7. The fruit which is to be evaporated being introduced at the top of the casing, is gradually dried as it approaches the bottom. The

greater portion of the vapors are thus carried off without passing through the body of the casing and the partially-dried fruit.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a fruit-evaporator, the rectangular sheet-metal casing provided at its lower edge with slits or ventilating-openings at each corner for the admission of air and having integral outturned flanges connected and stiffened together in their outturned positions by a wire binding to form feet for the casing to rest upon, substantially as set forth.
2. The combination, with the casing having the integral outturned bottom flanges forming feet, tubular vertical sockets secured to

each end of the casing and opening through the end flanges, and spring-catches having points extending through perforations in the said tubular sockets, of the supplemental and detachable legs vertically movable in said sockets and through and below said flange-feet and having recesses to receive the points of the spring-catches, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ELIAS STILLWELL.

Witnesses:

C. S. CANNADY,
JOHN N. LANDERS.