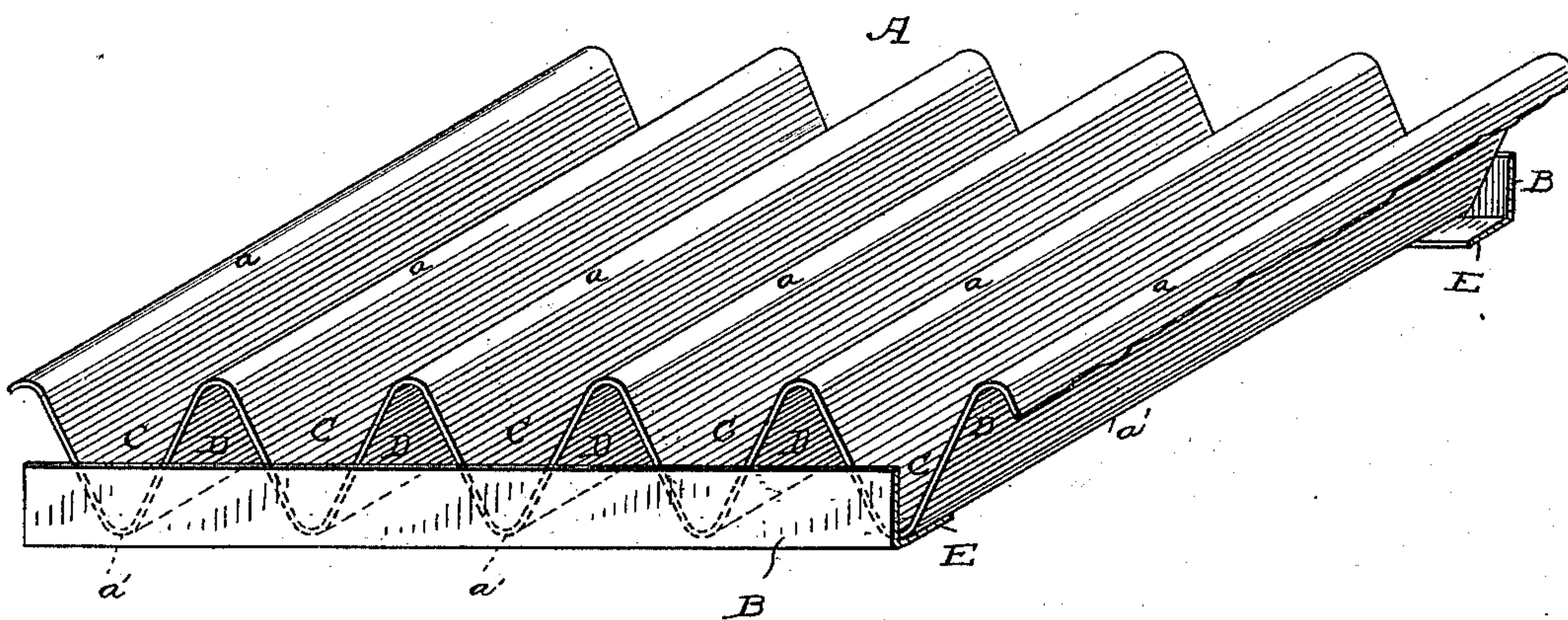


(No Model.)

T. C. LOUDEN.
PROVISION RACK.

No. 600,879.

Patented Mar. 22, 1898.



WITNESSES

H. F. Lamb.
S. V. Kelly

INVENTOR

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Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS C. LOUDEN, OF RIVERSIDE, CONNECTICUT.

PROVISION-RACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 600,879, dated March 22, 1898.

Application filed June 11, 1897. Serial No. 640,315. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. LOUDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Riverside, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Provision-Racks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention has for its object to provide a rack adapted for general use as a provision-rack—for example, in meat-carts, ice-chests, refrigerator-cars, &c.—the essential requirements being that it shall be made wholly of metal, of few parts, and in the least expensive manner possible; that it shall comprise a series of troughs closed at both ends, and that it shall be so constructed that every part may be easily reached in washing, and that air may circulate freely both sides of the bed, free circulation of air being an important feature when the racks are used in refrigerators or in cooling-chambers, and the closed-end troughs being an important feature when the racks are used in any place to support meat which is liable to drip—as, for example, when used as liver-racks—all drip being caught and retained in the troughs, so that the floor of a wagon or chamber is kept perfectly clean.

With these ends in view I have devised the simple and novel rack of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, reference characters being used to designate the several parts.

The drawing is a perspective of a section of my novel rack.

The rack comprises a bed A, which is made of corrugated sheet metal, ordinarily iron, galvanized—i. e., covered with zinc by electrodeposition. The essential features of the bed are the raised portions *a* and the depressed portions *a'*. At the edges of the bed are edge strips B, which extend from the bottom of the depressed portions part way to the apex of the raised portions—for example, half-way, more or less, from the bottom of the corrugated bed to the top thereof. The function of the edge strips B is to close the ends of the depressed portions of the bed, thus

forming troughs C, closed at both ends. It is important, however, that the edge strips should not extend to the top of the raised portions of the bed, so that passages D may be left under the bed at the raised portions for free passage of air. In the present instance I have shown the edge strips as formed integral with bottom strips E, the edge and bottom strips being, in fact, an angle-piece. By making the edge and bottom strips integral—i. e., using an angle-piece—the rack is made stronger and a firm support is formed at each end for the rack to rest upon, leaving the depressed portions slightly above the floor when the rack is placed upon the floor of a wagon or chamber. The edge strips may be secured to the bed in any suitable manner, as by soldering or riveting.

It will be understood from the drawing that my novel rack may readily be made in sizes to suit any possible requirement of the trade or may be made of various standard widths and in lengths which may be cut to suit the special requirements of use, it being obvious that the bed and edge strips may be cut transversely at any place.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A rack of the character described comprising a bed having raised portions and depressed portions and edge strips which extend part way from the bottom of the depressed portions to the top of the raised portions so as to close the ends of the depressed portions and form troughs C leaving the raised portions open at the ends to form air-passages D.

2. A rack of the character described comprising a bed having raised portions and depressed portions and an angle-piece at each edge of the bed consisting of an edge strip which closes the ends of the depressed portions forming troughs and leaving the raised portions open for air-passages and a bottom strip which strengthens the rack and provides a firm support for the end to rest upon.

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

THOMAS C. LOUDEN.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. BRUSH,
THOMAS O. LOUDEN.