No. 747,822. PATENTED DEC. 22, 1903.

S. H. WILSON.

FRUIT CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 21, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

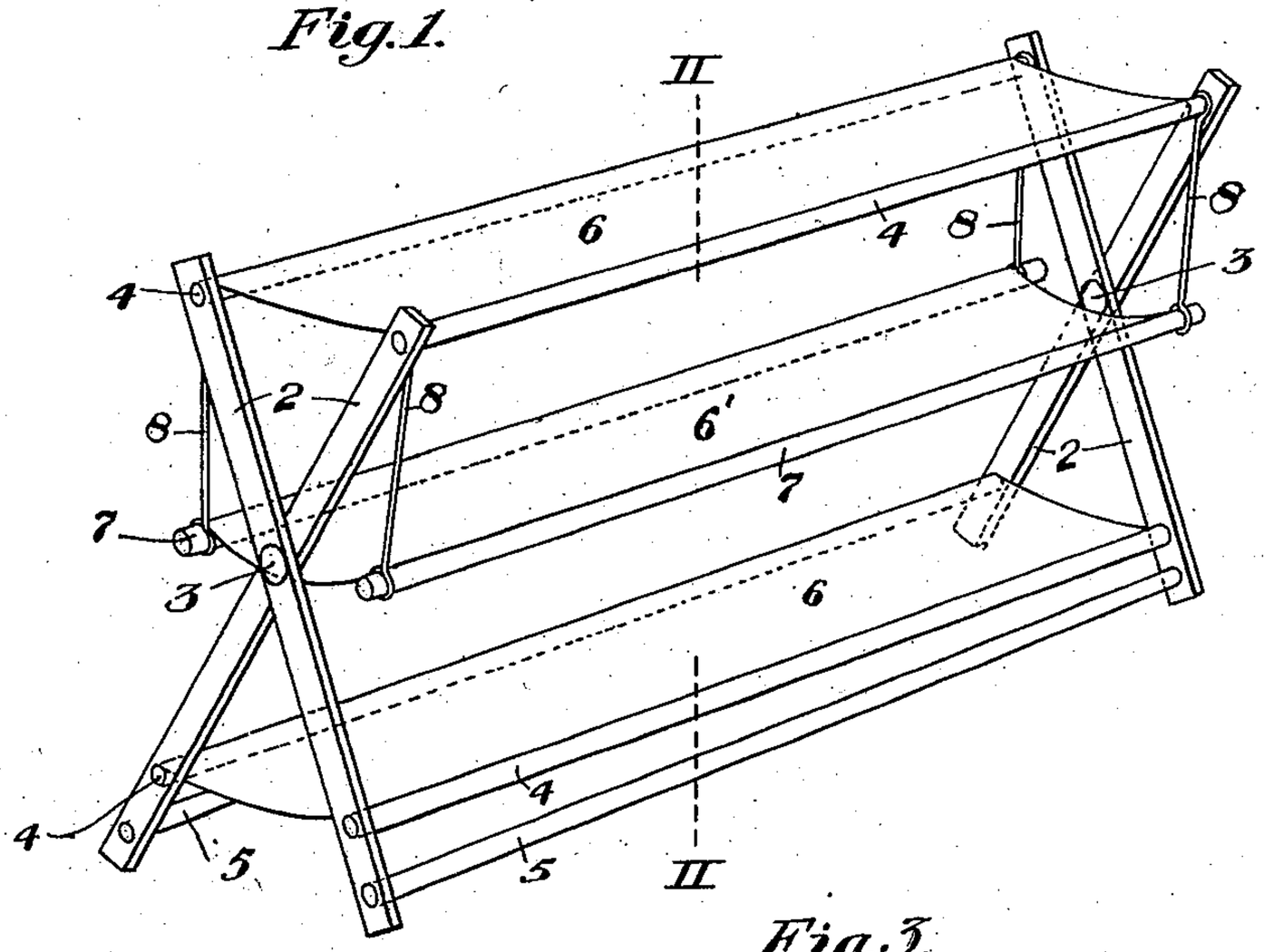
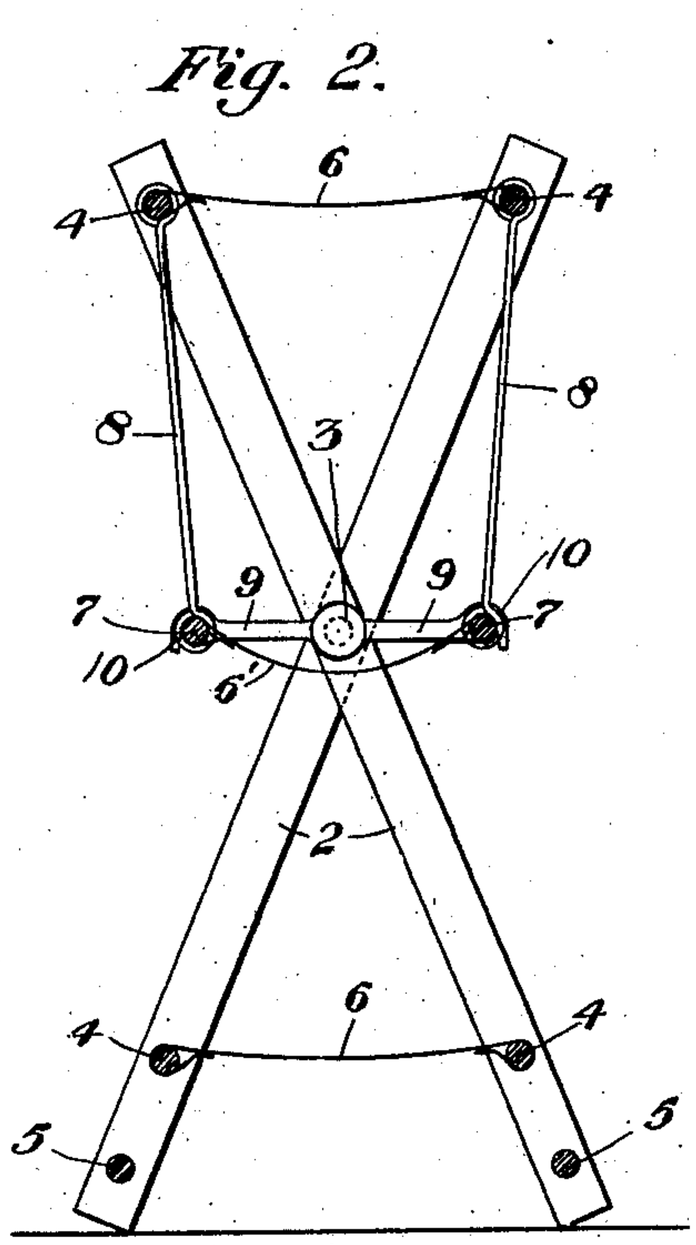


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.



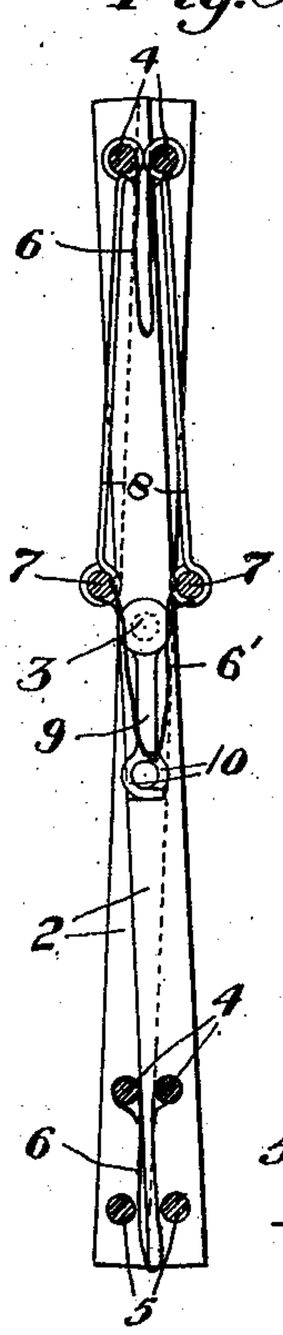


Fig. 4.

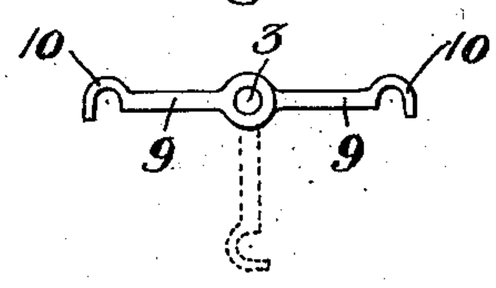
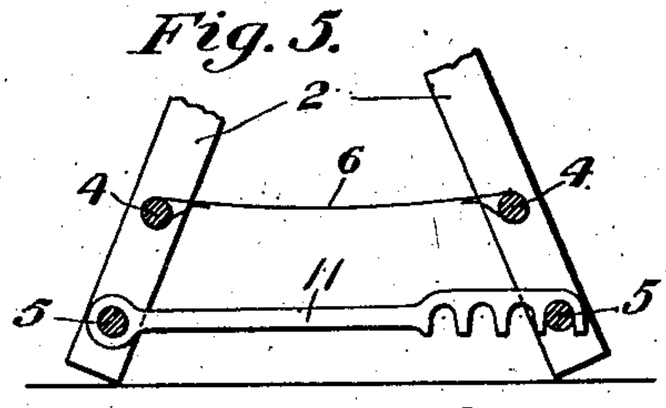


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

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No. 747,822. Patented December 22, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL H. WILSON, OF CORAOPOLIS, PENNSYLVANIA

FRUIT-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 747,822, dated December 22, 1903.

Application filed May 21, 1903. Serial No. 158,066. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL H. WILSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Coraopolis, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Carriers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved collapsible fruit-rack. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view, on an enlarged scale, indicated by the line II II of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the supporting-framework collapsed. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the pivoted bracing-arms. Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the leg adjusting and locking arms.

My invention refers to improvements in racks or supporting devices for fruit, vegetables, baskets, or other suitable articles or merchandise, being especially designed for the purpose of holding bunches of bananas.

The objects in view are to support and protect the fruit in such a manner as to prevent it from bruising or injury and in such a manner as to allow large quantities of fruit to be transported or stored in limited spaces and with numerous opportunities for ventilation.

Referring now to the drawings, 2 represents the main supporting-legs of the frame assembled in pairs at each end and pivotally connected at 3 by bolts or other suitable devices. The pairs of legs 2 are connected with each other at top and bottom by longitudinal rods 4, while supplemental bracing-rods 5 may be employed to further strengthen and brace the structure, as clearly shown. Secured to the rods 4 at top and bottom and extending across from one to the other are supporting stretchers or carriers 6, of any suitable material—as canvas, netting, &c.—adapted to support whatever articles may be placed upon them.

An intermediate carrier 6′, of suitable construction, is supported upon longitudinal rods or bars 7 between the upper and lower carrier, the rods or bars being carried by links 8, of any suitable metallic or other construction, depending from the upper rods 4 and by which the intermediate carrier is suspended. This carrier may be freely hung from the suspending-links, permitting the flexible structure portion to swing or sag under the weight of the supported articles. If it is desired to stretch the supporting member, so as to approximate a flat shelf-like surface, I have provided pivoted locking-arms 9, journaled at each end to the bolts 3 and provided with one or more hooks 10, adapted to engage the ends of rods 7, as clearly shown, whereby the rods may be rigidly held, so as to prevent sagging or swinging. If it is desired to allow the upper and lower supporting elements to sag likewise, I have provided the adjusting device shown in Fig. 5, wherein pivoted locking-arms 11 are journaled upon one of the rods 5 and adapted to engage the other one of the rods 5 at the opposite side and to hold it securely at the desired position relative to the other rod, thereby controlling the angles of the supporting-legs 2 and permitting the carrier to sag as much as desired, according to whatever is carried by it.

The device is particularly adapted to support and display ripe or delicate fruit, protecting it from injury by contact and permitting removal from both sides. It is also capable of being used in box-cars or other suitable transporting-carriages in which the racks may be closely assembled, while the feature of collapsibility permits of a large number of the devices being compactly stored for return shipment.

The invention is well adapted for the purpose of displaying fruit for sale, either loose or in baskets, and will be found to provide a convenient, durable, and suitable device for the purpose intended. It is cheap and easy to construct, not liable to get out of order, and may be adapted to a variety of uses.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A fruit-carrier consisting of pairs of crossed pivoted legs, pairs of upper and lower longitudinal supporting-rods connecting the opposite pairs of legs, flexible supporting-carriers secured to the rods, and an intermediate freely-swinging carrier suspended from the upper rods, substantially as set forth.

2. A fruit-carrier consisting of pairs of crossed pivoted legs, pairs of upper and lower longitudinal supporting-rods connecting the opposite pairs of legs with flexible support-

ing-carriers secured to the rods, and an intermediate freely-swinging carrier suspended from the upper rods, with means for holding it rigidly with relation to the supporting-legs, substantially as set forth.

3. A fruit-carrier consisting of pairs of crossed pivoted legs, pairs of upper and lower longitudinal supporting-rods connecting the opposite pairs of legs with flexible supporting-carriers secured to the rods, an intermediate carrier suspended by links from the upper rods, and holding-braces therefor pivoted to the pivotal leg-connecting devices, substantially as set forth.

4. In a fruit-carrier, the combination of oppositely-disposed pairs of crossed pivoted legs, upper and lower longitudinal supporting-rods connecting the opposite extremities of said legs, flexible supporting-webs attached to the upper and lower pairs of rods, and an intermediate swinging carrier consisting of parallel rods suspended from each of the upper rods, with a connecting flexible carrier attached to said suspended rods, substantially as set forth.

5. In a fruit-carrier, the combination of oppositely-disposed pairs of crossed pivoted legs, upper and lower longitudinal supporting-rods connecting the opposite extremities of said legs, flexible supporting-webs attached to the upper and lower pairs of rods, and an intermediate swinging carrier consisting of parallel rods suspended from each of the upper rods, with a connecting flexible carrier attached to said suspended rods, and pivoted arms adapted to engage each of said suspended rods, substantially as set forth.

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

SAMUEL H. WILSON.

Witnesses:
CHAS. W. V. FEIGEL,
C. M. CLARKE.