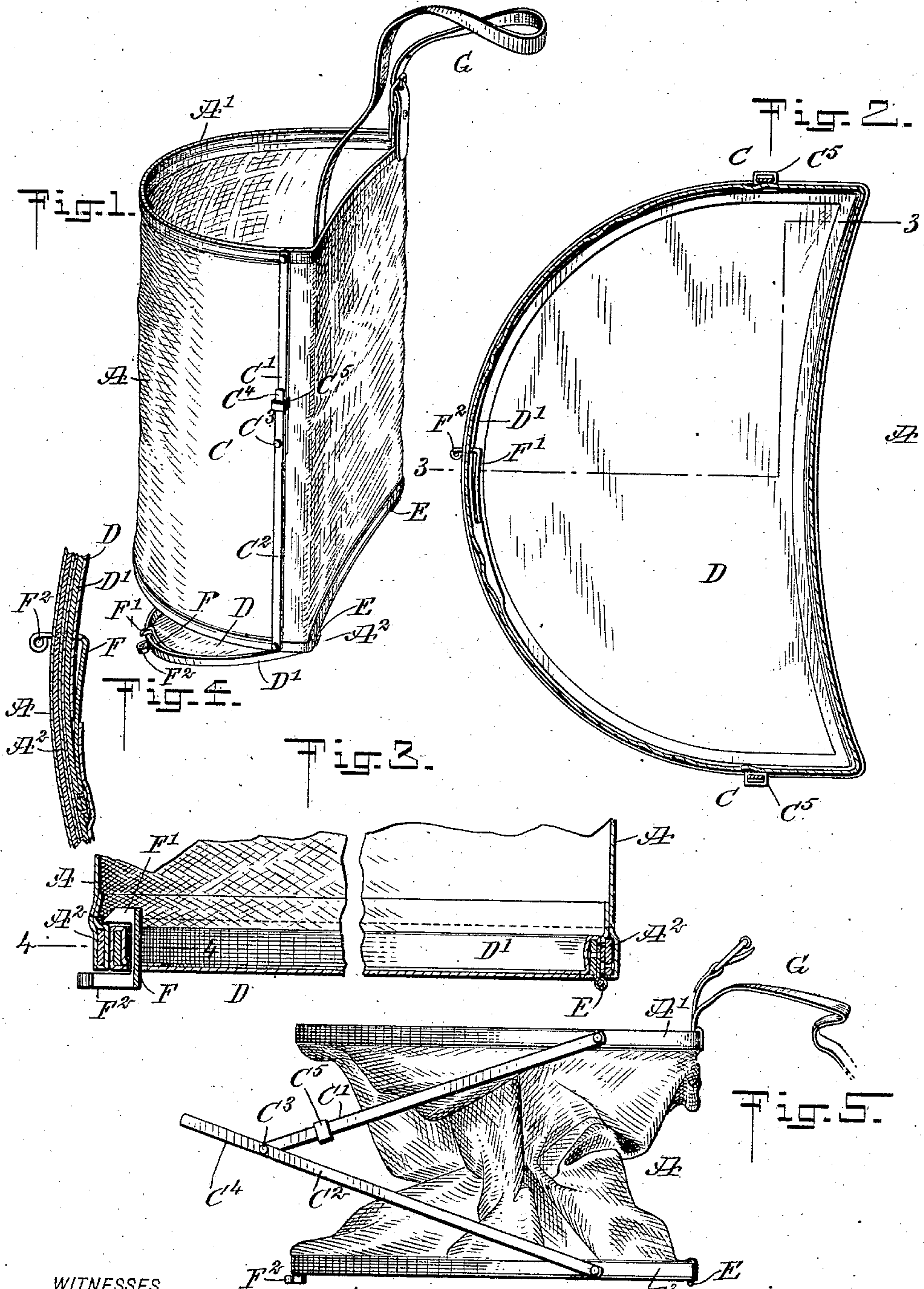


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F. CARTMEL.
FRUIT PICKER'S BASKET.
APPLICATION FILED DEC. 8, 1906.



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FRANK CARTMEL, OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

FRUIT-PICKER'S BASKET.

No. 849,976.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented April 9, 1907.

Application filed December 6, 1906. Serial No. 346,558.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK CARTMEL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Jacksonville, in the county of Duval and State of Florida, have invented a new and Improved Fruit-Picker's Basket, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved fruit-picker's basket arranged to permit the picker to conveniently empty the basket of its contents without danger of bruising or otherwise injuring the fruit and without requiring removal of the basket from the picker, the basket being collapsible and when collapsed takes up very little room, thus allowing convenient storing, handling, and shipping of empty baskets.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, which will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement in an extended position and the bottom and drop-door open. Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional plan view of the improvement. Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional side elevation of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view of the same on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3 and showing more particularly the fastening device for the drop-bottom, and Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the improvement in a partly-collapsed condition.

The body A of the basket is preferably made of canvas or other suitable and flexible fabric material, and the said body A is preferably semicircular in shape and is provided with a curved side to properly fit the picker's body. The upper and lower ends of the body A are open and connected with hoops A' A², preferably made of metal, and the body A is held in extended position in the direction of its length by stays C, pivotally connected with the top and bottom hoops A' A² at the sides thereof, each stay C being preferably made in sections C' C², hinged to the corresponding hoops A' A² and pivotally connected with each other by a pivot C³, so as to allow of swinging the sections C' C² into

an angular position relative to each other whenever it is desired to collapse the body A, as indicated in Fig. 5. Normally the sections C' C² of the stays C are in alinement and are locked in alined position, so as to hold the body A extended in the direction of its length, as indicated in Fig. 1. For the purpose described one of the sections—as shown, the section C²—is provided with an extension C⁴, adapted to be engaged by a collar C⁵, mounted to slide on the other section C' and adapted to be passed over the extension C⁴, so as to hold the sections C' and C² locked in an extended position, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1.

The lower end of the body A is adapted to be closed by a drop-door D, preferably made of canvas or a like fabric material, attached to a hoop D', fitting inside the bottom hoop A² of the body A, as plainly indicated in Fig. 3. The flat side of the hoop D' is connected by hinges E with the flat side of the bottom hoop A², and on the free side of the hoop D' is held a spring-catch F, having a lug F' adapted to engage the top of the hoop A², so as to hold the drop-bottom D locked in a closed position. The spring-catch F is provided at its bottom with an outwardly-extending handle F², adapted to be taken hold of by the picker to press the spring-catch F inward, so as to disengage the lug F' from the hoop A² to allow the bottom D to swing downward into an open position, as indicated in Fig. 1. The upper hoop A² of the body A is provided with a suitable carrying-strap G for conveniently attaching the basket to the picker.

Now when the basket is in use and the drop-door D is closed and the body A is held in an extended position, then the picker can conveniently fill the basket with fruit, and when the basket is filled and it is desired to empty the same it is only necessary for the picker to press the spring-catch F inwardly to unlock the bottom D, thus allowing the bottom to swing downward into an open position. Now when this takes place the fruit contained in the basket can easily roll out of the same through the open bottom into a suitable receptacle without danger of bruising or otherwise injuring the fruit and without detaching the basket from the picker's body. After the basket is emptied of its contents it is only necessary for the picker to swing the bottom into a closed position, in which it is locked by the spring-catch F.

When it is desired to ship, handle, or store the empty baskets, then they are collapsed, and for this purpose it is only necessary for the picker to slide the collar C⁵ upward out of engagement with the extension C⁴ to allow the sections C' C² of the stays C to swing into an angular position, (see Fig. 5,) whereby the flexible body A collapses and takes up very little room.

10 The fruit-picker's basket shown and described is very simple and durable in construction and is not liable to get out of order.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters
15 Patent—

1. A fruit-picker's basket comprising a flexible body open at the top and bottom and provided with hoops at the top and bottom, a hinged drop-door for the said open bottom,
20 a locking device for the said door, a carrying-strap connected with the top hoop, stays pivotally connected with the said top and bottom hoops and made in sections pivotally

connected with each other, one of the sections being extended beyond the pivotal 25 connection of the said sections, and a collar slidable on the stays for locking the same in an extended position.

2. A fruit-picker's basket, comprising a flexible body provided with hoops at the top 30 and bottom, a door forming the bottom of the basket, stays pivotally connected with the said top and bottom hoops and made in sections pivotally connected with each other, one of the sections being extended beyond 35 the pivotal connection of the said sections, and a collar slidable on the stays for locking the same in an extended position.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of 40 two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK CARTMEL.

Witnesses:

W. H. NALL,
A. R. CARTMEL.