L. L. MORSE.

FOLDABLE TRAY AND RACK SUPPORT.

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Witnesses, A. Maynard. M. Cashberg.

Inventor, Lester I. Morse, By Geo. H. Strong, hie Atto.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LESTER L. MORSE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## FOLDABLE TRAY AND RACK SUPPORT.

956,399.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed November 29, 1909. Serial No. 530,307.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Lester L. Morse, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of San Francisco and State 5 of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Foldable Tray and Rack Supports, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stands or sup-

10 ports for display trays and racks.

A purpose of this invention is to provide a strong, light, portable support for card racks, seed trays, etc.; to provide an inexpensive article for gratuitous distribution to 15 retailers by wholesalers, or manufacturers; and to provide a stand or support, in combination with such racks or trays, that is adapted to be folded in to small compass to economize in freight expense.

The invention consists of the parts and the construction and combination of parts as hereinafter more fully described and claimed, having reference to the accompany-

ing drawings, in which—

25 Figure 1 is a perspective of the improved support. Fig. 2 is a perspective of a double support. Fig. 3 is a detail of a portion of a tray and support, showing the hanger.

It is customary for large manufacturers 30 to distribute to their customers trays, racks, holders, boxes, or the like, in which to display the articles or goods to be vended; and unless some device is furnished to support these trays in an advantageous, conspicuous 35 manner, the retailer will relegate the goods to some remote corner or shelf, or will be put to the expense of erecting a supporting device.

I have found it commercially practical 40 and advantageous to provide suitable trays A for holding goods, and a complementary support B for supporting the trays. The support B may be made of any suitable width or height, to accommodate a plurality 45 of trays A, and comprises a pair of vertical stanchions 2 connected by tie rods 3—3, upon the upper one of which is pivotally journaled an outside, inclined leg 4, and a parallel leg 5 pivoted between, but adjacent to 50 one of the stanchions. To enhance the appearance, and facilitate the manufacture of the support, the lower portions of the legs are slightly curved, and stand vertical on the floor, being rolled back to form feet 6, 55 the standards 2 and legs being preferably

made of flat, strip steel.

The stanchions 2 and legs 4—5, being relatively pivoted upon the upper tie 3, are therefore foldable into small compass for convenience in packing and shipping, and 60 when opened out in the standing position are braced by suitable knuckle-jointed braces 7—7 pivoted upon each stanchion and leg. At suitable points along the inclined legs 4—5 are secured small triangular plates 65 8, arranged in horizontal pairs having hooks or lugs 9 formed upon the upper outer end, and the upper ends of the legs 4—5 also are formed with similar lugs 10.

The display trays A are made with com- 70 plementary hooks or lips 11, punched in the back 12, and these hooks 11 are adapted to engage and hang upon those of the sup-

port B.

The support shown in Fig. 1 is constructed 75 to hold three trays, and in Fig. 2 I have shown a double support embodying two sets of the hook-carrying legs 4—5, dispensing with the stanchions 2, and capable of holding six trays. Obviously, these supports 80 may be made higher and broader to accommodate trays of different sizes, and are strong neat-appearing devices. When folded a number of them may be packed into a small easily crated pile.

The upper ends of the legs 4—5 are preferably bent for a short distance to form vertical extensions 13 parallel to the back 12

of the inclined trays A.

Having thus described my invention, what 90 I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

A rack and tray support consisting of inclined bars formed with the upper and lower ends bent at an angle to the intermediate 95 portion and to stand in approximately vertical position and parallel with each other and with the back of the tray, tie-rods uniting the upper and lower ends, one bar of each pair lying outside and the other in- 100 side of the contiguous bar, jointed flexible brace bars between the sides, and upwardlyopening forwardly-presented notched supports upon said side bars and at the upper extremity of said side bars.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing

witnesses.

LESTER L. MORSE.

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Witnesses:

ANNE B. SINNOTT, GEO. E. LAWTON.