

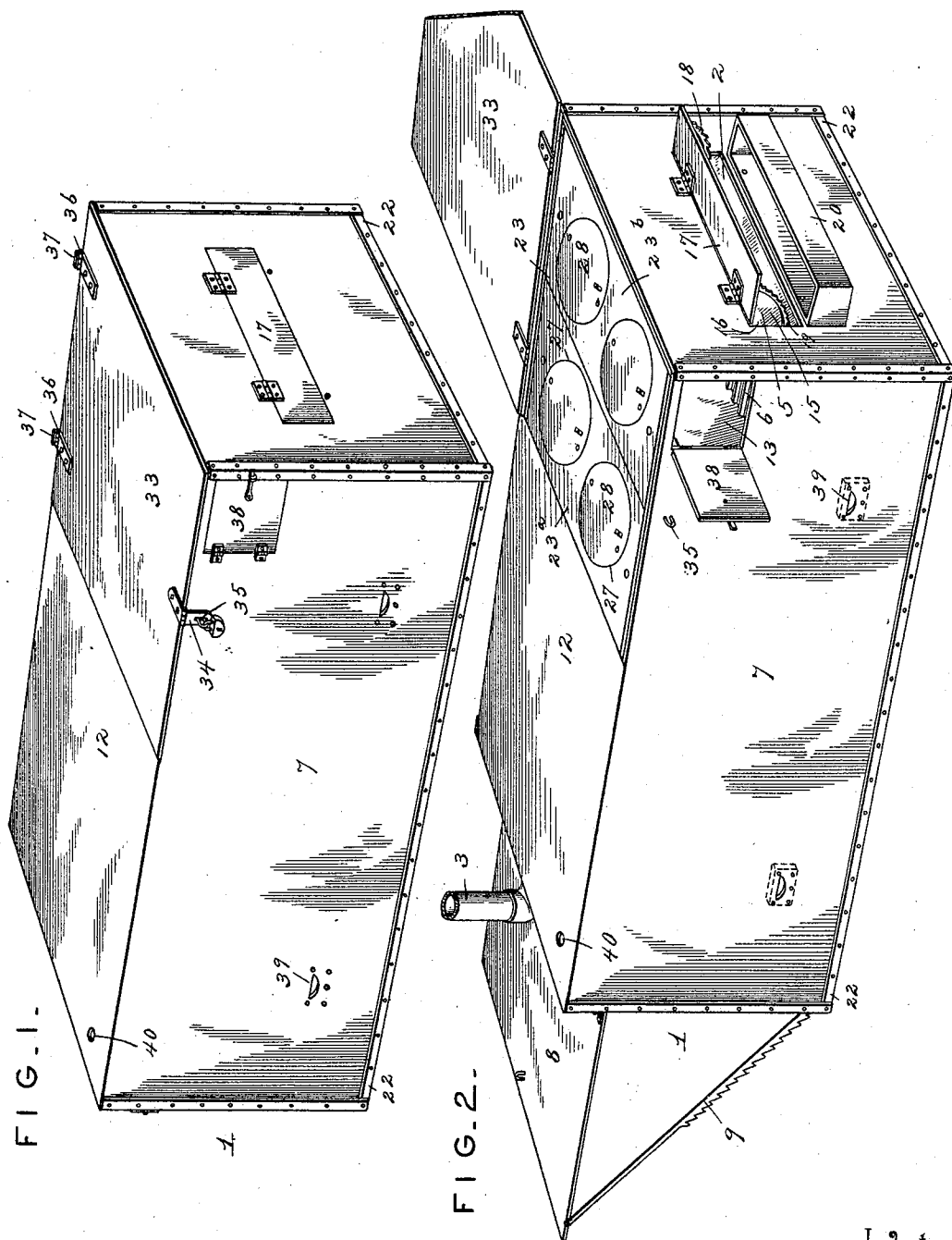
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. A. H. MYERS.
COMBINED MESS CHEST AND STOVE.

No. 582,363.

Patented May 11, 1897.



Inventor

Joseph A. H. Myers,

By *his* Attorneys,

Chas. Snow & Co.

Witnesses

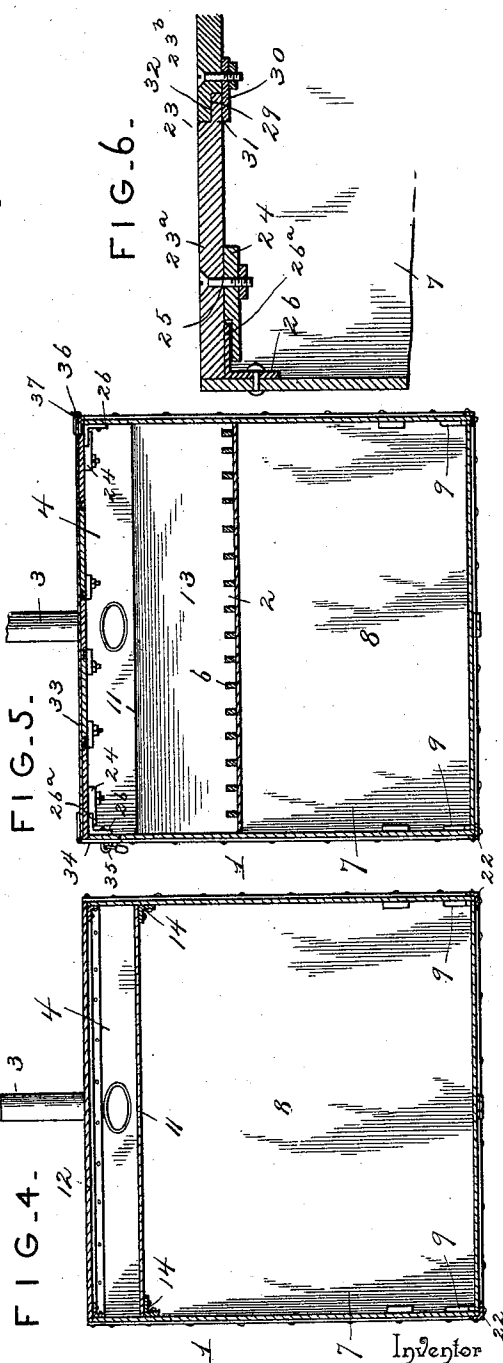
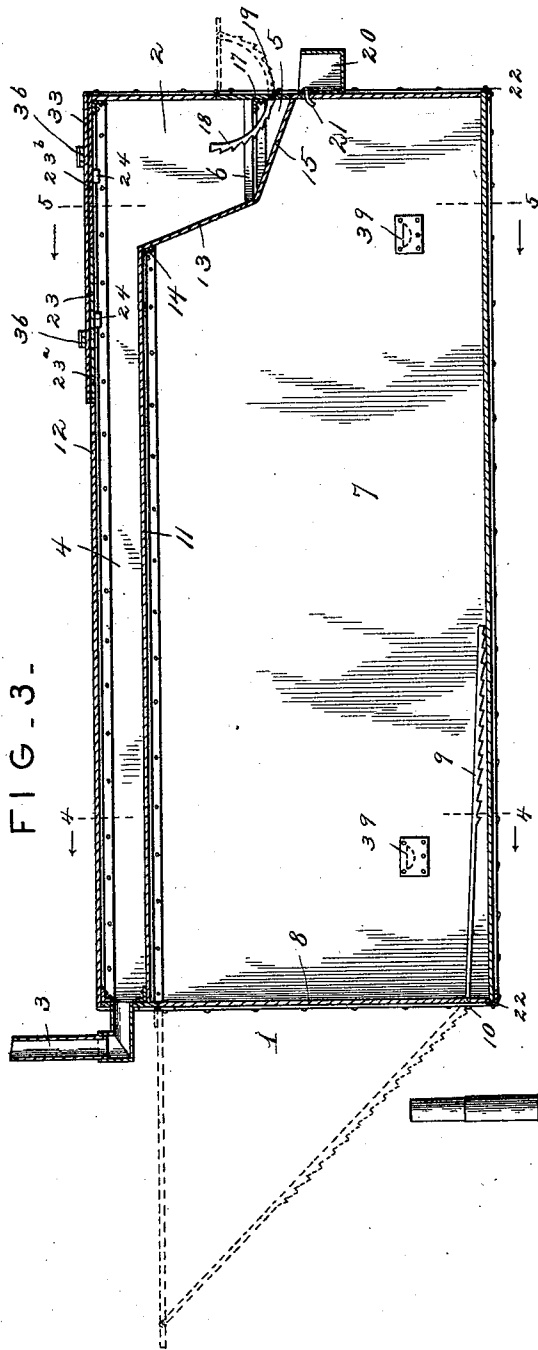
Harry L. Ames.

O.E. Hoff

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[Signature]

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH A. H. MYERS, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

COMBINED MESS-CHEST AND STOVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 582,363, dated May 11, 1897.

Application filed January 8, 1896. Serial No. 574,731. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH A. H. MYERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Combined Mess-Chest and Camping-Stove, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a combined mess-chest and camping-stove designed for the use of militia and camping parties when in the field, and also adapted for indoor use, the objects in view being to provide a receptacle for containing and transporting camp cooking utensils and equipage and so constructed as to perform the functions of a cooking-stove with top plates, oven, warming-shelves, ash-receivers, and other features common to cooking-stoves.

Further objects and advantages of this invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a mess-chest embodying my invention as seen when closed ready for transportation. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the device open and ready for use as a cooking-stove. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal central section of the apparatus as seen in Fig. 1, the end warming-shelf and door of the oven being shown open in dotted lines. Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a transverse section on the line 5 5 of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a detail transverse section of a stove-lid and the contiguous portions of the stove top or plate.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The casing or shell 1 of the chest embodying my invention may be of any desired shape and size, that shown in the drawings being oblong in plan with a fire-box 2 at the front end near the top, a telescoping smoke-flue 3 at the rear end rising vertically above the top, a conductor or passage 4, extending from the fire-box to the smoke-flue parallel with the top of the receptacle, an ash-chute 5, located under the fire-box and separated therefrom by a grate 6, and an oven and packing-recep-

tacle 7, extending from the front to the rear of the shell or casing under the smoke conductor or passage 4.

The rear end of the oven and packing-receptacle 7 is closed by a hinged door 8, which is adapted when open to occupy a horizontal position, as shown in full lines in Fig. 2 and in dotted lines in Fig. 3, the same being held in this open position by means of a toothed or rack brace 9, the teeth of which are adapted to engage a detent 10 at the bottom of the opening at the rear end of the shell, said brace being designed to close or fold into the oven or receptacle 7 when the door is closed, as shown in full lines in Fig. 3.

The sheet-metal plate 11, by which the smoke conductor or passage 7 is separated from the body portion of the receptacle, is arranged parallel with the top plate 12 and terminates short of the front end of the stove to form the fire-box 2, the rear wall 13 of said fire-box being connected at its front edge to said horizontal partition 11 by means of an angle-iron 14, (shown in Fig. 3,) said rear wall 13 being extended below the plane of the grate 6 to form the downwardly and forwardly inclined bottom 15 of the ash-chute 5. The front of this ash-chute is provided with a draft-opening 16, closed by a draft or ash door 17, also provided with a segmental rack 18, adapted to engage a detent 19, whereby the door may be held open at any desired inclination.

In order to catch the ashes and cinders dropping through the grate into the ash-chute, particularly when the apparatus is used indoors, I provide an ash box or receptacle 20, which is temporarily secured to the front side of the shell or casing by means of hooks 21, engaging suitable openings in the front wall of the shell. Obviously when the device is packed for transportation this ash box or receptacle may be detached and arranged within the shell or casing, preferably in the fire-box.

The sides, bottom, and ends of the shell or casing are preferably formed of sheet metal and are connected at the angles by angle-irons 22, the portion of the rear angle-iron which is arranged transversely at the bottom of the opening in the rear end of the shell or casing forming the detent 10 for engagement by the teeth of the rack-bar 9.

The top 12 may also be of sheet metal from the rear end of the shell or casing to a point near the front, the remainder of the top being formed by a stove-plate 23, of cast metal or its equivalent, formed in sections 23^a and 23^b, but I preferably, as shown, construct the entire top of cast metal. The stove-plate sections are secured in the shell or casing by means of rabbeted clip-plates 24, bolted, as at 25, to the sections and engaging the horizontal flanges of angle-irons 26, which are secured to the side walls of the shell or casing below the plane of the upper edges of said walls. Said horizontal flanges of the angle-irons 26 are designated in the drawings as 26^a and form ledges upon which the stove-plate sections rest, as shown clearly in Fig. 5.

The stove-plate sections are provided with stove-holes 27, in which are fitted the stove-lids 28, the contiguous edges of the stove-lids and plate-sections being rabbeted, as shown at 29, and the stove-lids being provided with clips 30 to engage the under surfaces of the stove-plate sections and hold the lids in place. The projecting extremities of these clips 30 are adapted to pass down through notches 31 in the inwardly-projecting ledges 32, upon which the stove-lids rest, said ledges being formed by the rabbets 29, above described.

The protecting-plate 33 is hinged to one side wall of the shell or casing and is adapted to cover and conceal the stove-plate sections and stove-lids, the same being provided at its free edge with a hasp 34 to engage a staple 35, and I preferably employ stop-hinges 36 to connect the protecting-plate to the shell or casing, whereby when the plate is opened to expose the stove-lids it is held in a horizontal position by means of the shoulders 37 of said hinges to form a warming-shelf. A fire-box door 38 is formed in one side wall of the shell or casing to give access to the fire-box, and suitable handles 39 are arranged in the side walls to facilitate the carrying of the device. These handles are preferably arranged flush with the surfaces of the side walls and are formed by openings in said walls closed at the inner side by castings constructed in the form of handles, said castings being riveted to the inner surfaces of the walls.

When the device is packed for transportation, the telescoping stovepipe, the ash box or receptacle, and the various cooking utensils necessary for carrying on the culinary operations are packed in the main compartment 7, which when the device is in use as a stove forms the oven, after which the doors 8 and 17 are closed, and the protecting-cover 33 is secured in place to prevent the displacement of the movable parts of the device. When thus arranged, the apparatus is in the form of a trunk or chest which may be loaded upon a vehicle without the risk of injury to its parts, the same occupying a comparatively small amount of space.

A socket 40 is formed in the top plate 12,

preferably near the rear end, for the reception of the standard of a lantern to give the necessary illumination when cooking at night.

From the above description it will be seen that by reason of the specific arrangement of the interior of the chest, with the roof or upper side of its main compartment or oven formed by a partition which constitutes the lower wall of the smoke-conductor and fire-box, the stove mechanism is arranged compactly and in such a position as not to interfere materially with the packing of the camping utensils in the main compartment, while at the same time said stove apparatus is arranged within the contour or rectangular lines of the chest.

Various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A combination mess-chest and camp-stove of exteriorly rectangular construction having an interior partition forming the upper wall of a main compartment or oven and the lower wall of a smoke-conductor and fire-box, while the upper side of the chest forms the upper wall of said smoke-conductor and fire-box and is provided over the latter with stove-holes fitted with removable lids, and doors closing openings in the walls of the chest, respectively in communication with the fire-box and the main compartment or oven, substantially as specified.

2. A mess-chest having a fire-box and a smoke conductor or passage, a downwardly and forwardly inclined ash-chute located below the grate of the fire-box and having an opening in the front of the chest, and a draft and ash door closing said opening and provided with means whereby it may be secured in its open position to allow ashes to escape, substantially as specified.

3. A mess-chest having a fire-box and a smoke-conducting passage, an ash-chute arranged below the grate of the fire-box and having a downwardly and forwardly inclined floor, a draft and ash door closing an opening at the front of the ash-chute, and an ash box or receptacle detachably secured to the front of the chest below said opening to receive ashes from the chute, substantially as specified.

4. A mess-chest having a fire-box and a smoke-conducting passage separated from the main compartment by an interposed partition and provided with draft and fuel doors, a hinged door fitting an opening in the wall of the chest in communication with the main compartment, and a toothed or rack brace connected to said hinged door and adapted to engage a fixed detent whereby the door may be held in a horizontal position to serve as a warming-shelf, substantially as specified.

5. A mess-chest having a fire-box and a

smoke-conducting passage, the top of the fire-box being fitted with removable stove-lids, and a warming-shelf hinged at one edge to the chest in the plane of its top and adapted when
5 not in use to be folded parallel and in contact with the top of the chest to cover and secure said stove-lids against displacement during transportation, said shelf being provided with fastening devices to secure it in
10 its folded position, substantially as specified.

6. A mess-chest having a fire-box and a smoke-conducting passage, the top of the fire-box being fitted with removable stove-lids, a warming-shelf hinged at one edge to the chest
15 in the plane of its top, and provided with stop-hinges to hold it in a horizontal position ap-

proximately in the plane of the top of the chest when extended, said shelf being adapted to be folded parallel and in contact with the top of the chest to cover and prevent displacement of said stove-lids during transportation, and locking devices for securing the warming-shelf in its folded position, substantially as specified.

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

JOSEPH A. H. MYERS.

Witnesses:

C. E. SMITH,
DALLAS V. HALVERSTADT.