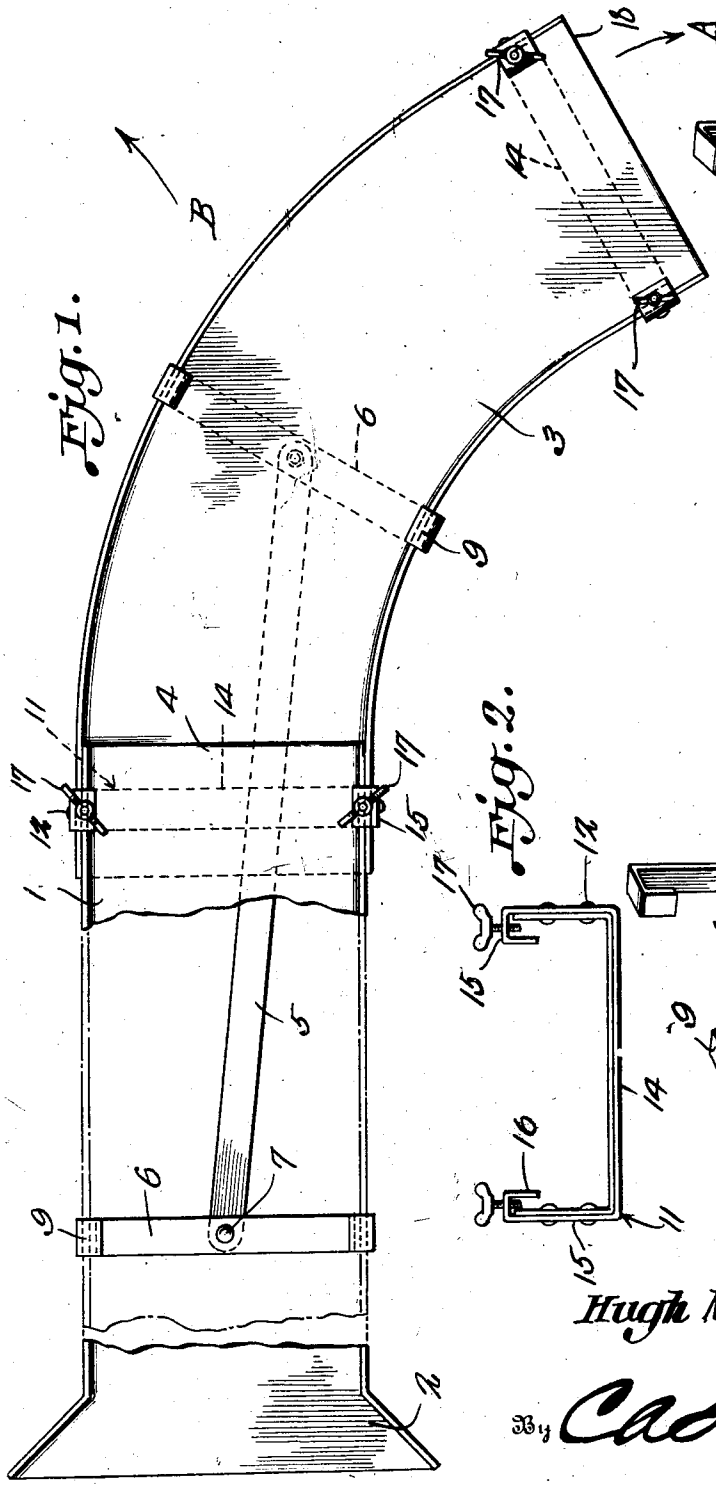
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COAL CHUTE

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COAL CHUTE.

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This invention aims to provide novel means whereby a chute may be braced adequately, the construction being such, withal, that the laterally inclined end portion of the chute may be turned end for end, so as to point laterally in opposite directions.

It is within the province of the disclosure to improve generally and to enhance the utility of devices of that type to which the invention appertains.

With the above and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed, may be made within the scope of what is claimed, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 shows in plan, a device constructed in accordance with the invention, parts being broken away;

Figure 2 is an end elevation showing one member of the chute;

Figure 3 is a perspective view showing the reinforcing or bracing mechanism.

The chute forming the subject matter of this application includes a trough-shaped main member 1 which may be broadened at one end, as at 2, so that it may be shovelled into conveniently. The numeral 3 marks a laterally inclined auxiliary trough-shaped member, which is wide enough so that the end of the main member 1 can be inserted into either member of the auxiliary member 3, in overlapped relation, as shown at 4.

A bracing and reinforcing structure is provided, the same being shown in Figure 3 of the drawings and including a rigid link 5 and holders pivoted to the ends of the link. Each holder is of U-shape, as shown at 6, and the intermediate portion of its bottom bar is connected by a pivot element 7 to one end of the link 5. The side portions 8 of each holder have inwardly extended arms 9 provided with depending fingers 10. The side walls of the main member 1 are received beneath the arms 9 and between the parts 8 and 10, and the auxiliary member 3 is assembled in a similar way with the other holder, the holders being slidable on the members 1 and 3, longitudinally thereof, and the link 5 extending along the bottoms of the trough-shaped chute members 1 and 3. A clamp 11, shaped like the holder 6, is secured at 12 to each end of the auxiliary chute members 3, the clamp 11 comprising a bottom bar 14, side portions 15, corresponding to the elements 8, arms 15 represented in Figure 3 by the parts 9, and depending fingers 16 corresponding to the fingers 10. The side walls of the main member 1 of the chute are received between the parts 15 and 16, below the parts 9, at the place where there is an overlap, as at 4, between the members 2 and 3. Set screws 17 or similar tightening devices, may be threaded into the arms 15 to bear upon the upper edges of the side walls of the trough-shaped main member 1.

In Figure 1, the member 3 discharges in the direction of the arrow A. If it is desired to cause the member 3 to discharge in the direction of the arrow B in Figure 1, then the member 3 is pulled out until there is no overlap at 4, then the member 3 is turned end for end, the end designated by the numeral 18 in Figure 1 being overlapped on the end of the chute 1, the holder 6 which is on the chute member 3 turning on its pivotal connection at 7 with the link 5. The link 5 and both of the holders 6 can be slid lengthwise of the complete chute, so as to provide strength where strength is most needed.

What is claimed is:—

1. In a device of the class described, an auxiliary chute and a main chute having overlapped ends, the auxiliary chute being laterally inclined; holders on the chutes, and a link, one chute being slidable in its holder, and the holders being pivoted to the link, whereby the overlapped ends of the chutes may be disengaged to provide for an end for end reversal of the laterally inclined auxiliary chute.

2. A device of the class described, constructed as set forth in claim 1, and further characterized by the provision of clamps on each end of the auxiliary chute, each clamp being adapted to engage the main chute when the corresponding end of the auxiliary chute is overlapped on the main chute.

3. In a device of the class described, an auxiliary chute and a main chute having

overlapped ends, the auxiliary chute being laterally inclined, and being reversible so that either end of the auxiliary chute may be engaged with the main chute, thereby to change the lateral inclination of the auxiliary chute, and clamps on either end of the auxiliary chute, for engagement with the main chute, when either end of the auxiliary chute is overlapped on the end of the main chute.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature.

HUGH McDONALD.