M. G. FAGAN.

Coal Scuttle.

No. 79,564. Patented July 7, 1868.

Fig. 1.

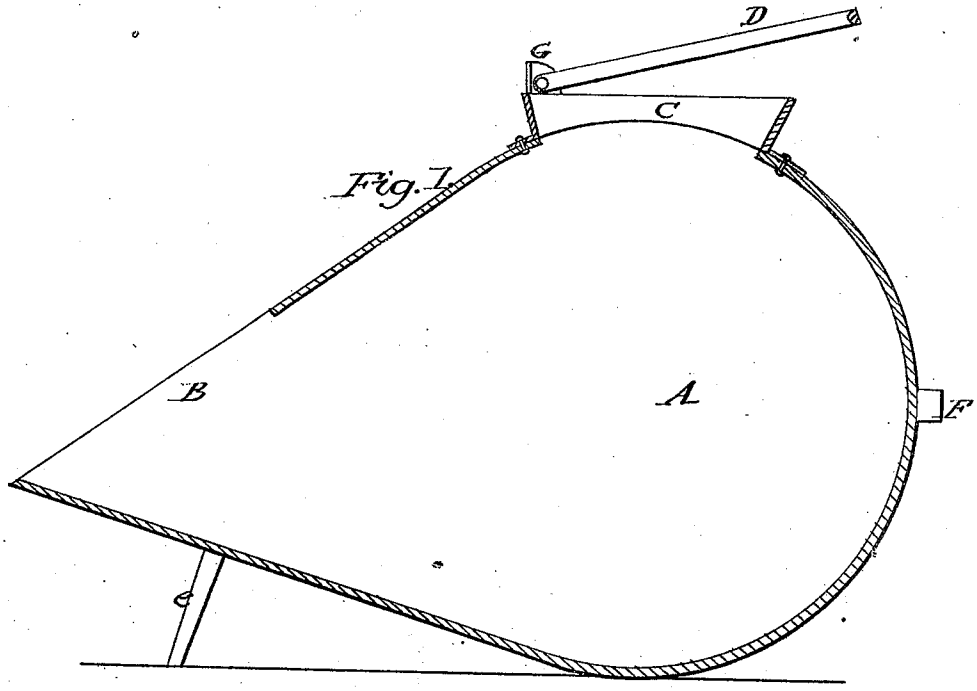
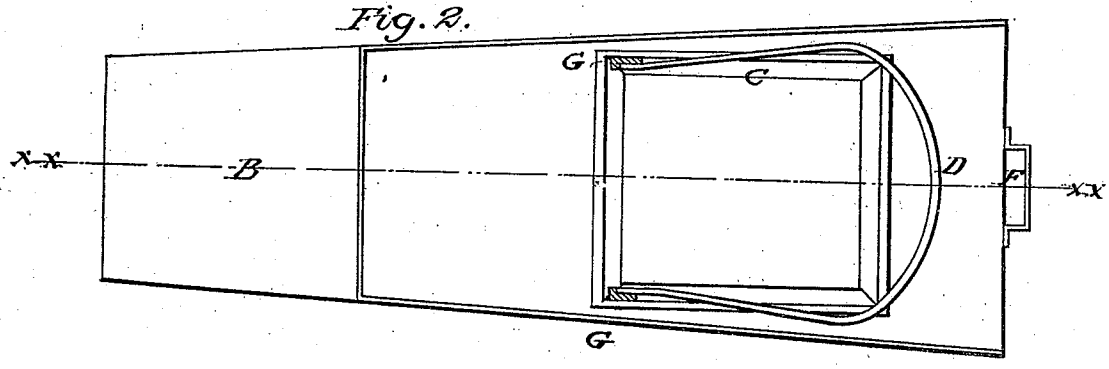


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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United States Patent Office.

MICHEL G. FAGAN, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 79,564, *dated July* 7, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN CONSTRUCTION OF SHEET-METAL COAL-HODS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, MICHEL G. FAGAN, of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Coal-Hods; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, like letters representing like parts.

My said invention relates to improvements in hods or scuttles for supplying coal to parlor-stoves. As heretofore generally constructed, they have been of a form somewhat resembling a tapering bucket, in most cases oval on the top, the small end being the bottom, and supported by a rim or hoop, a bail hinged on the centre of the sides, close to the top, the front part being generally bent square, and carried a little higher up, forming a sort of a mouth-piece. The form of those hods or scuttles makes it very inconvenient to discharge coal from them, for the reason that, in raising up the back end after the front is inserted in the door-opening of a stove, they strike the front of the stove before there is elevation enough to the back end to allow it to discharge itself. You are obliged to have recourse to a jerking motion to fill the stove. The result is the dropping of more or less coal upon the floor. An attempt has heretofore been made to avoid such defects, by making the scuttle or hod in the form of a frustum of a cone; but they fail, in a great measure, to accomplish it, for this reason: a coal-hod or scuttle, for convenience of carriage, cannot exceed a certain length. They are, therefore, to enable them to hold the amount of coal other scuttles or hods do, obliged to make them of about three times the diameter at the large or closed end that they are at the small or open end. The result is, when the hod is tipped up from the back, the coal wedges, and you are obliged to shake or jerk the hod, as in the old style.

As scuttles or hods are generally made, they are what is called "wired in the flat," and then formed by the workman, each one as near like the other as he can judge by his eye; and, when it becomes necessary to make one scuttle hold more than another, and preserve the same shape, an entire new set of patterns have to be cut out, which is attended with such expense that, unless a large number is wanted, it is seldom done.

By my improvements, I avoid all the defects incident to the modes of construction heretofore practised or suggested.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the side or head of the hod or scuttle, tapering to the front in the form of a wedge, with the back end circular. B is the opening for the discharging of coal into a stove; C, the opening to fill the hod; D, the bail; E, the foot or rest; F, the handle on rear end of hod, to assist in discharging from it; G, the ears and stops.

Figure 2 shows the centre-piece, that is seamed to the sides or heads, commencing on the under side, at the extreme front, thence around to the opening B, forming the back, bottom, and top in one piece.

The same shape in front could be secured by having the back ends of the heads or sides square, instead o circular, by allowing, on each side the heads, a width sufficient to be bent at right angles with it; but, on account of the taper, the waste of material would be greater. I prefer it as shown.

The advantages of this coal-hod are that it presents in front, both on bottom and top side, a perfectly flat and straight surface, and of such a form that, when inserted in the door-opening of a stove, the back end can be elevated some distance above the front end before the plane of the hod strikes the front of the stove, so that the contents leave it readily, and without any extra labor on the part of the person using it.

Also, in the making of this hod, it will be seen that the heads or sides determine the form of the hod itself, thereby saving to the workman all trouble of forming when once seamed together.

It will be seen this hod possesses another advantage above the ones in general use, in the facility with which different sizes can be made. Parlor-stove doors vary in width from four to seven inches, and hot-air furnaces as wide as twelve inches. To enable a person skilled in the business to make them suit any opening, all that is necessary is to cut the centre section or strip of the width required, while the same heads or sides can be made to answer all. They—I mean to say it, meaning the centre section—can also be made either straight, or, if

referred, wider at the front than back, by that means giving free passage to the coal, and preventing its becoming wedged in the hod.

I do not claim a hopper, combined with the body of a hod; neither do I claim a bail, when combined with the body of a coal-hod by hinged joints or stops, as such devices have been patented.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A coal-hod or scuttle, made in the manner and for the purpose set forth in this specification.

MICHEL G. FAGAN.

Witnesses:

LOUIS POTTER,

DAN'L E. PARIS.