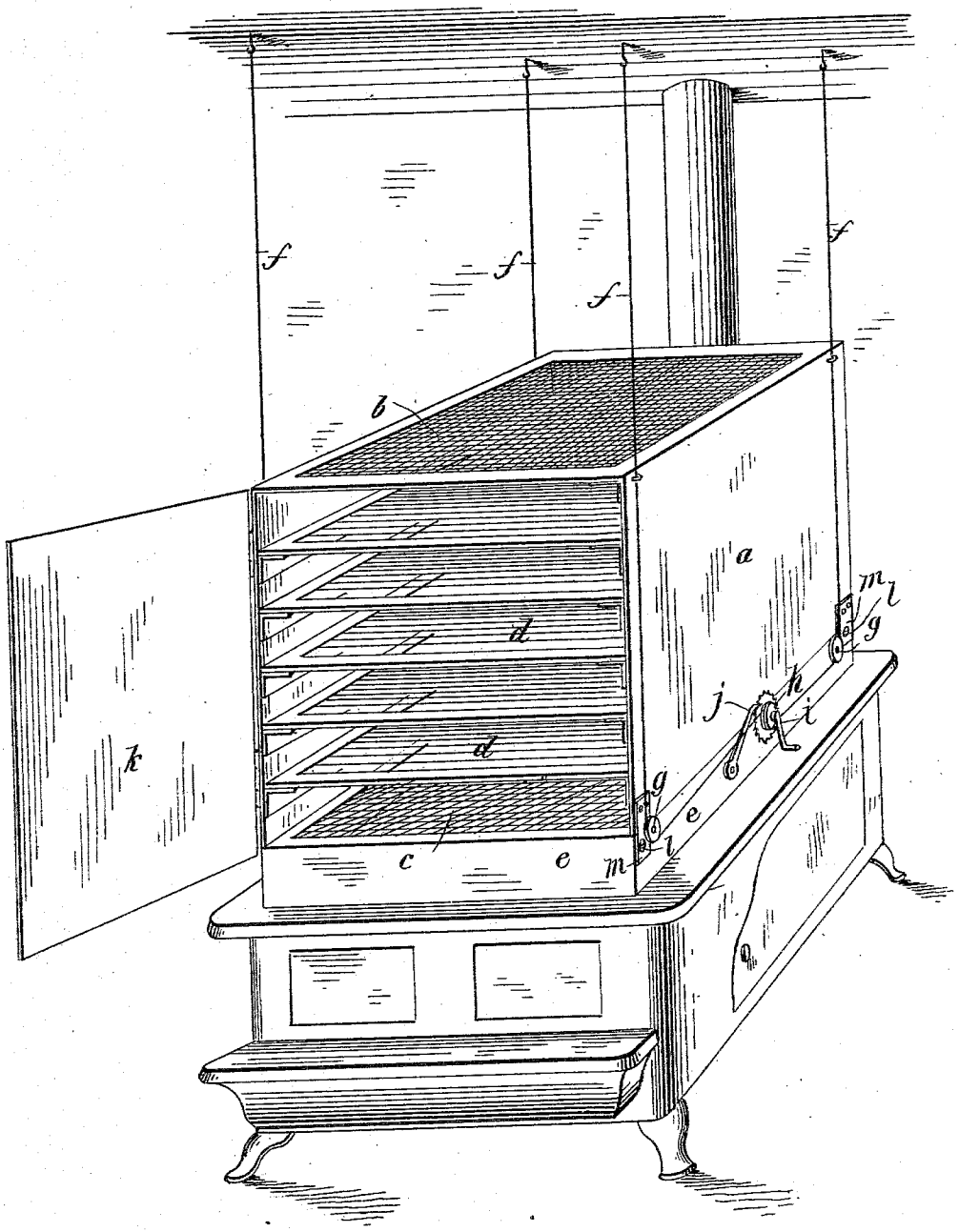
(No Model.)

W. F. HALE.

FRUIT DRIER.

No. 281,057. Patented July 10, 1883.



WITNESSES:

J. D. Garfield

C. Bedgwick

INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. HALE, OF JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK.

FRUIT-DRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,057, dated July 10, 1883.

Application filed March 2, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. HALE, of Jamestown, in the county of Chatauqua and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Fruit-Drier, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention consists of a metallic box with wire-gauze top and bottom, and containing fruit-racks, and having a hot-air chamber below the wire-gauze bottom, adapted to rest on or be suspended over the top of a cook-stove for being heated and being suspended from the ceiling by cords which are attached to drums on the sides of the drier, so that by turning a crank the drier can be quickly raised up and suspended above the stove, when the latter is wanted for cooking-purposes, without wholly suspending the drying process, all as hereinafter fully described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, forming part of this specification, in which the figure is a perspective view of my improved fruit-drier applied to a cook-stove as I propose.

I make a rectangular box, *a*, of sheet-metal sides and ends, with wire-gauze top *b* and bottom *c*, and having fruit-racks *d*, as required, and also having a base, *e*, to rest on the top of the stove and form a hot-air chamber under the racks, from which the air will ascend through the racks with more or less activity, according to the heat and space for admission of air under the edges of the base *e*, which may either rest directly on the top of the stove or may be suspended above it more or less by means of the cords *f*, attached to the ceiling and connected to the drier by the pulleys *g* and drums *h*, the drums being attached to a crank-shaft, *i*, by which they are to be turned for raising and lowering the drier, and having a ratchet and pawl, *j*, to hold them in any required position. One end, *k*, of the box is suitably hinged for opening it to put in and take out the racks; and in practice the base *e* will be made detachable by taking out the pins or screws at *l* to detach the base from short legs *m* of the box, so that the base, which consists of a tray with a wire-gauze bottom, may be used for bleaching the fruit before drying, if preferred, and so that when the drier is not required for drying purposes it may be suspended in the pantry for a pastry-safe for the protection of the pastry from flies and other insects.

It will be seen that with this kind of a drier the ordinary cook-stove may be utilized for the heater without material interference with the cooking operations, and that the cooking operations will not materially interfere with the drier.

I propose to employ a sheet-metal slide that may be inserted under the trays to protect the fruit from the steam that may sometimes rise up from the stove when cooking, and for the purpose of placing over the trays to prevent the escape of hot air at times when it may be desired to do so.

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

The combination, with the drier, of the ropes *f*, fastened at one end above the drier, the pulleys *g g*, the drums *h*, the ratchet and pawl, and the crank-shaft *i*, as and for the purpose specified.

WILLIAM F. HALE.

Witnesses:
FRANK L. GRIFFITH,
HENRY H. STILSON.