

No. 858,291.

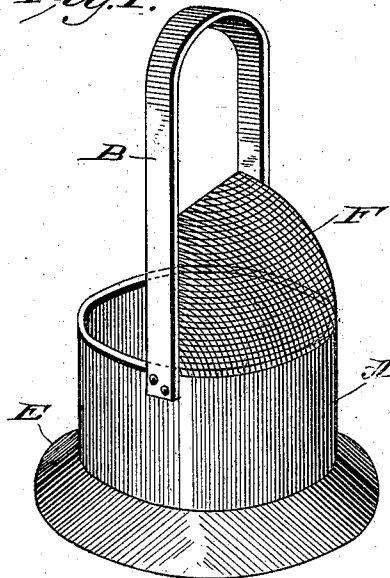
PATENTED JUNE 25, 1907.

J. F. IRBY.

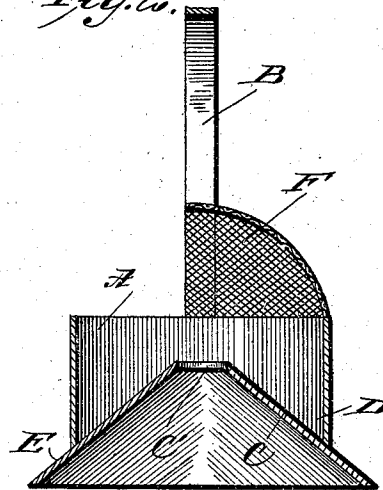
SKIMMER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 14, 1906.

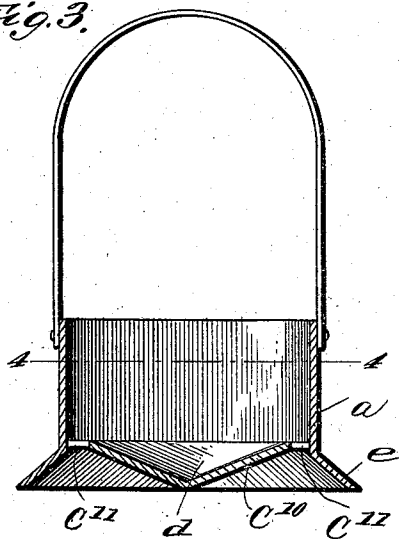
*Fig. 1.*



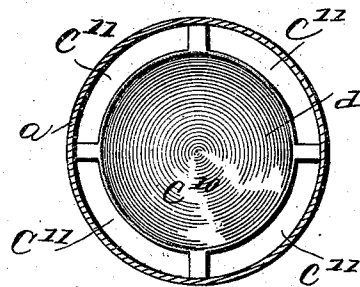
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. IRBY, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## SKIMMER.

No. 858,291.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 25, 1907.

Application filed December 14, 1906. Serial No. 347,809.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES F. IRBY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented an Improvement in Skimmers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in skimmers, designed especially for use in skimming the grease from the top of soups; and the invention consists in certain novel constructions and combinations of parts as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 is a vertical section of a skimmer embodying my invention. Fig. 3 is a vertical section, and Fig. 4 is a cross section on about line 4—4 of Fig. 3 of a somewhat different form of skimmer.

By my invention I provide the skimmer with a dished bottom, and at the upper portion of the dished bottom with an opening through which the grease and other surface portion of the soup may pass to flow into the dished bottom and be retained by the body portion or rim of the skimmer in the use of the device. In connection with the dished bottom, I prefer to provide a bell shape flange at the base of the body portion or rim, and extending outwardly therefrom to increase the surface acted upon by the skimmer at each operation or depression thereof.

In the construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2, I employ a cylindrical body portion or rim A, supplied with a suitable handle B. The bottom C fits within the cylindrical body A at the lower end thereof and projects upwardly into the bottom, having its concavity on its lower side and dished on its upper side to form an annular space D, to which the grease, scum and the like, on the top of the soup, will pass through the opening C', in the upper portion of the bottom C, such upper portion being at the apex of the conical bottom C, and preferably arranged centrally within the body A, as best shown in Fig. 2 of the drawing. The bell shape flange E projects outwardly from the lower end of the body A, and forms a prolongation of the bottom C, increasing the area of the surface of the soup acted upon by the skimmer as it is depressed in the soup to cause the grease and other floating particles to discharge through the opening C' in the bottom into the space in the body A provided for such purpose.

A suitable strainer F which may be of wire gauze, as shown, is provided at the upper end

of the body A, and extending between one side thereof and the handle B for the purpose of separating the scum from the skimmed material whenever desired, as some cooks like to pour the grease back into the soup, and this facilitates the separation of the grease as desired.

In Figs. 3 and 4, I show a somewhat different construction from that presented in Figs. 1 and 2 but within the broad principles of my invention. In this construction the body portion or rim *a* has at its lower end the laterally projecting bell shape flange *e* similar to the corresponding parts in Figs. 1 and 2, and the bottom *c*<sup>10</sup> is dished downwardly toward its center forming the space *d* for the substance skimmed from the soup, and at the upper portion of this dished bottom *c*<sup>10</sup> I provide inlet openings *c*<sup>11</sup> through which the grease, etc. may pass from the surface of the soup into the body *a* and thence into the space *d* provided for it. This construction is used like that shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The construction is simple, can be easily and cheaply manufactured, and will efficiently serve the purpose for which it is intended.

I claim:

1. A skimmer substantially as herein described, having a body portion or rim, a handle projecting upwardly therefrom, a bell shape flange projecting outwardly and sloping downwardly from the lower edge of the body or rim, a conical bottom inclining upwardly within the body or rim, and forming an annular space within the body or rim and below the apex or point of the conical bottom, and having an opening at its point or apex for the passage of grease and the like into the body or rim, and a strainer extending between one side of the body or rim at the upper edge thereof and the handle, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A skimmer comprising a body portion or rim, a conical bottom sloping upwardly thereinto, and provided at its apex with an opening for the passage of grease and the like, and a bell shape flange projecting outwardly and downwardly from the lower end of the body portion or rim, substantially as set forth.

3. A skimming device comprising a body portion or rim, a handle fixed to and projecting upwardly therefrom, a strainer extending between said handle and one side of the body

or rim at the top of the latter, said strainer  
extending up along the handle and being  
fixed to the skimmer whereby it will form a  
permanent strainer at one side of the handle,  
5 the upper end of the body or rim being un-  
obstructed at the other side of the handle,  
and a bottom for said body or rim having an  
opening through which grease or the like will

pass from the surface of the soup, and slop-  
ing downwardly from said opening forming 10  
within the body a space for the reception of  
grease and the like, substantially as set forth.

JAMES F. IRBY.

Witnesses:

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