E. DAVIS.

COMBINED STEP LADDER AND IRONING BOARD.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 21, 1911.

1,049,682.

Patented Jan. 7, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

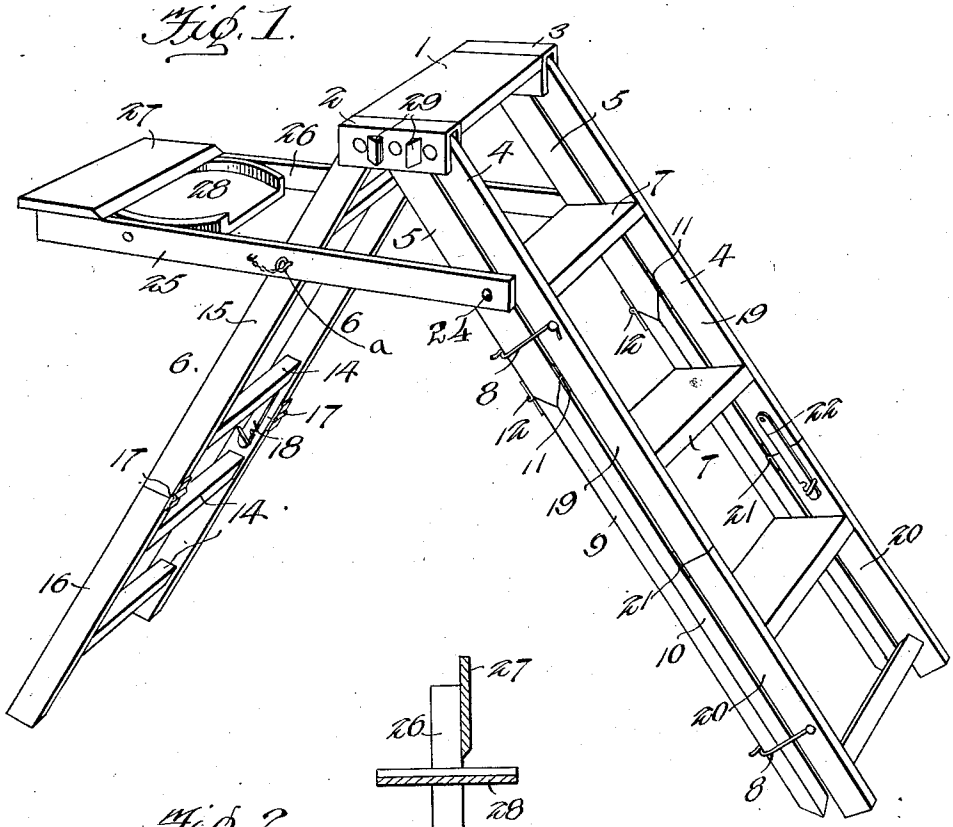
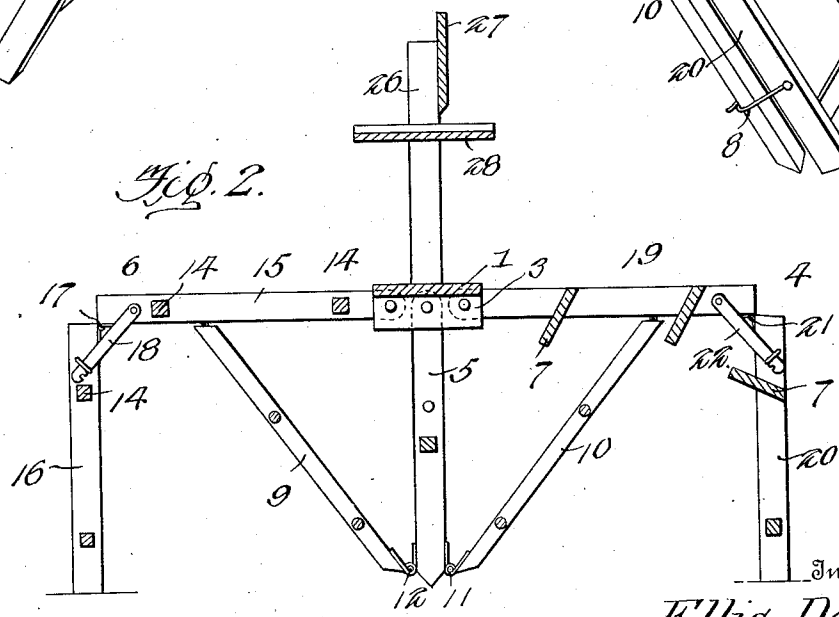


Fig. 2.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

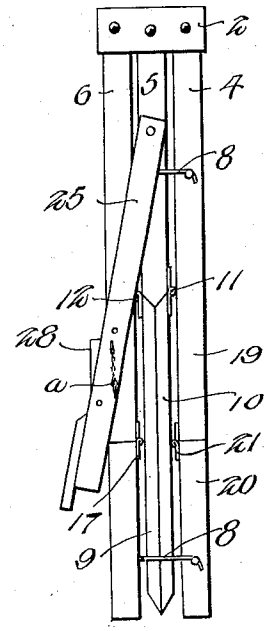
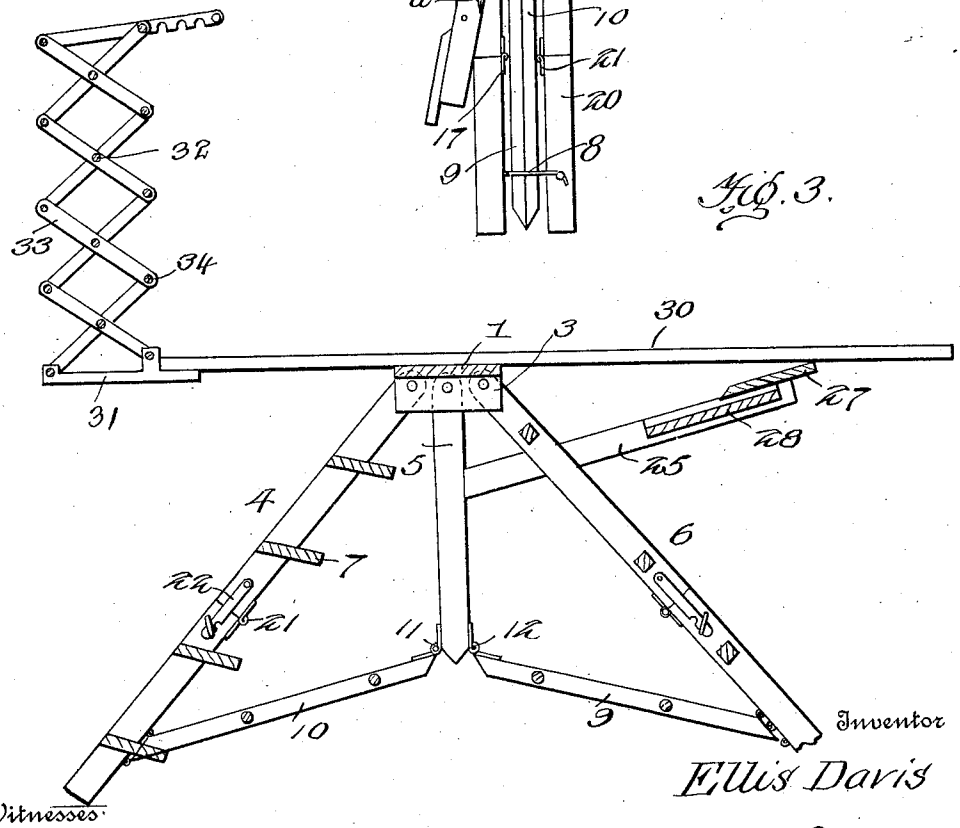


Fig. 3.



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ELLIS DAVIS, OF TIPPECANOE CITY, OHIO.

COMBINED STEP-LADDER AND IRONING-BOARD.

1,049,682. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 7, 1913.

Application filed March 21, 1911. Serial No. 615,854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLIS DAVIS, citizen of the United States, residing at Tippecanoe City, in the county of Miami and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Combined Step-Ladders and Ironing-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a combined article for household use, comprising a step ladder, ironing table and wash tub support, and the object of the invention is to provide an article of this character of simple construction, strong, and so arranged that the several elements may be compactly folded together when not in use and easily and quickly arranged in proper position when required for use.

With the above objects in view, and others which will appear as the nature of the invention progresses, the invention resides in the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the drawings accompanying this specification there has been illustrated a simple and preferred embodiment of the improvement, it being understood, however, that the showing therein is merely illustrative and that minor details of construction as to size, shape, proportion, etc., within the scope of the appended claims may be made if desired.

In the drawings—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device set up as a step ladder. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal sectional view of the device when employed as a wash tub supporting bench. Fig. 3 is a similar sectional view illustrating the device arranged to support an ironing board. Fig. 4 is a view of the device folded.

In the drawings, and referring particularly to Fig. 1 thereof, the numeral 1 designates a rectangular member which is employed as the top step of the device when set up as a ladder. This step has its opposite ends each provided with a substantially inverted U-shaped bracket designated respectively by the numerals 2 and 3. Pivotally secured between these brackets 2 and 3 are the leg members 4 of the ladder proper; the central reinforcing portion 5 and the prop or support 6. The leg members 4 are connected through the medium of a plurality of spaced steps 7, the same being supported in any desired or preferred manner. The legs 4, while entirely separable from the central reinforcing members 5 are connected thereto, in this figure of the drawings, through the medium of suitable spring catches 8. The members 5 have their lower portions bifurcated to provide, what I will hereinafter term, arms 9 and 10. The member 5 has its lower body portion substantially V-shaped and the upper portions of the arms 9 and 10 are beveled to agree with the shape of the extremity of the said member. The beveled ends of the arms are hingedly connected to the beveled extremity of the member 5 as at 11 and 12. The prop or support 6 comprises a pair of sections, each of said sections being connected through the medium of a plurality of bars 14, and the said sections designated by the numerals 15 and 16 are hingedly connected together as at 17. These members are provided with suitable catches 18, whereby they are sustained in a parallel plane with each other when the device is set up as a ladder or whereby the sections are sustained at right angles with each other, for a purpose presently to be set forth. The leg members 4 also comprise a pair of sections 19 and 20. These sections are hingedly connected together as at 21, and the sections are provided with suitable catch members 22, similar to the catch members 18, for sustaining the said members in parallel relation with each other as well as for retaining the sections at an angular relation to each other. Pivotally connected as at 24 to the upper section 5 of the central reinforcing member is a substantially rectangular frame, the latter comprising side arms 25 and 26 and a connecting board 27. The side arms of the frame are adapted to straddle the prop or support 6 and the frame is provided with suitable openings adapted for the reception of removable elements, such as pins *a* which are adapted to enter perforations within the member 15 of the support and whereby the elements are sustained in the set up position illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings. Pivotally connected between the arms 25 and 26 and below the board 27 is a member 28, the latter adapted to serve for sustaining tools or the like within easy access of the person using the latter, as well as for a second purpose which will be presently set forth.

In Fig. 2 of the drawings the device is illustrated in the form of a bench or support

for wash tubs or the like. In this structure the members 15 and 19 of the sections 6 and 4 are swung upon their pivots to a substantially horizontal plane. The hinge joints 17 and 21 are broken to allow the sections 16 and 20 to assume a substantially vertical plane. The catches 18 and 22 are adjusted to sustain the elements in these positions. The member 5 is swung downwardly to a vertical position, and the arms 9 and 10 are swung upon their hinges 12 and 11 until the lower portions or feet of the said arms are arranged at an angle and connected with the members 14 and 19 in any desired or preferred manner. This arrangement, it will be noted sustains all of the parts perfectly rigid and provides an effective table for supporting wash tubs or the like. In the said Fig. 2 the arms of the frame are swung upwardly until they assume a vertical position. The said arms are sustained in this position through the medium of spaced catch members 29 connected with each of the elements 2 and 3. The board 27 is employed for supporting a wringer, and the water from the said wringer, may, through the medium of the pivot member 28, be directed to a tub positioned upon the member 19 or to a tub positioned upon the member 15.

In Fig. 3 of the drawings the device is illustrated as set up to form a table for supporting an ironing board. In this figure the legs 4 and the props 6 are sustained in a position substantially similar to that illustrated in Fig. 1 of the drawings. These members, however, are spread farther apart than in Fig. 1. The central member 5 is swung downwardly in a vertical plane. The arms 9 and 10 are swung in opposite directions and have their lower extremities or feet connected with the lower members of the sections 16 and 20. The step 1 is thus sustained in a horizontal position, while the frame has its connection board 27 underlying the ironing board which is designated by the numeral 30. The board may be sustained upon the step 1 and the member 27 of the frame in any desired or preferred manner. The numeral 31 designates a collapsible drying frame which is connected with one of the ends of the board 30. This frame, as illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, comprises a plurality of toggle links, each having its opposite ends as well as its central portion connected through the medium of pivoted rods 32. The lower extremity of the frame is, as heretofore stated removably connected with the board 30, so that all the elements of the device may be collapsed and compactly folded for transportation, or when not in use, as illustrated in Fig. 4 of the drawings.

Having thus fully described the said invention, what I claim is:—

1. In a combined step ladder and wash bench of the class set forth comprising a platform, step legs pivotally connected with the sides of the said platform, central members also pivoted to the sides of the said platform, and prop members pivoted to the platform adjacent the central members, the step legs comprising each a pair of hinged sections, means for maintaining the sections in line with each other, the said means also adapted to maintain the sections at angles to each other, the central member having its lower portion bifurcated to provide a pair of parallel arms, the said arms being hingedly connected with the said central member, means for maintaining the central member from the step legs when the device is set up as a ladder, the prop members comprising a pair of hinged sections, means for maintaining the sections in line, said means also adapted to maintain the sections at an angle with each other, and a pivoted frame to serve as a means for maintaining the step legs, central members and prop in spaced relation with each other.

2. In a combined ladder and wash bench of the class set forth, comprising a platform having its ends formed with U-shaped brackets, step-carrying members pivotally connected to the U-shaped brackets, and intermediate members also pivotally connected with the U-shaped brackets, prop members pivotally connected to the U-shaped brackets to the rear of the intermediate members, the step-carrying members each comprising a pair of hinged sections, means for maintaining said sections in line, the intermediate sections having their lower extremities bifurcated to provide a pair of arms, the said arms being hingedly connected with the said central member, means for maintaining the intermediate carrying members and their arms upon the step sections, the prop members being constructed of a pair of hinged elements, and means for maintaining the elements in line with each other, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The herewith described construction of articles for household use comprising a rectangular platform having its opposite edges provided with longitudinally extending U-shaped brackets, a step carrying member pivotally connected between the arms of the U-shaped brackets, a central member pivotally connected between the arms of the U-shaped brackets, and a prop member also pivotally connected between the arms of the U-shaped brackets, the step carrying member comprising a pair of hinged sections, means for sustaining the sections in line, said means also adapted to sustain the sections at an angle to each other, the central member having its lower portion bifurcated to provide a pair of parallel arms, the said arms being hingedly connected with

the said central member, catch members between the feet of the arms and the sections of the step and prop members for retaining the said arms when the device is set up to provide a table or a support, the outer faces of the U-shaped brackets being each formed with spaced shoulders, a frame pivotally connected with the upper portion of the central member, means for detachably connecting the frame to the upper portions of the prop member, and the said frame adapted to engage between the shoulders of the step members when the device is folded to provide a table.

4. In a combined ladder and wash bench of the class set forth, comprising a rectangular platform having its opposite edges provided with longitudinally extending U-shaped brackets, a central member pivotally connected between the arms of the U-shaped brackets, and a prop member also pivotally connected between the arms of the U-shaped brackets, the step-carrying member comprising a pair of hinged sections, means for maintaining the sections in line, said means also adapted to maintain the sections at an angle to each other, the central member having its lower portion bifurcated to provide a pair of parallel arms, the said arms being hingedly connected with the said central member, catch members between the feet of the arms of the sections of the step and prop members for retaining the said arms when the device is set up to provide a table or a support, the outer faces of the U-shaped brackets being each formed with spaced shoulders, a frame pivotally connected with the upper portions of the central member, means for detachably connecting the arm to the upper portions of the prop member, and the said frame adapted to engage between the shoulders of the step member when the device is folded to provide a table.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ELLIS DAVIS.

Witnesses:
DAVID MASONS,
R. A. KERR.