

No. 691,376.

Patented Jan. 21, 1902.

E. HARTER.
FRUIT PICKING SACK.

(Application filed Mar. 26, 1901.)

(No Model.)



Fig. 1

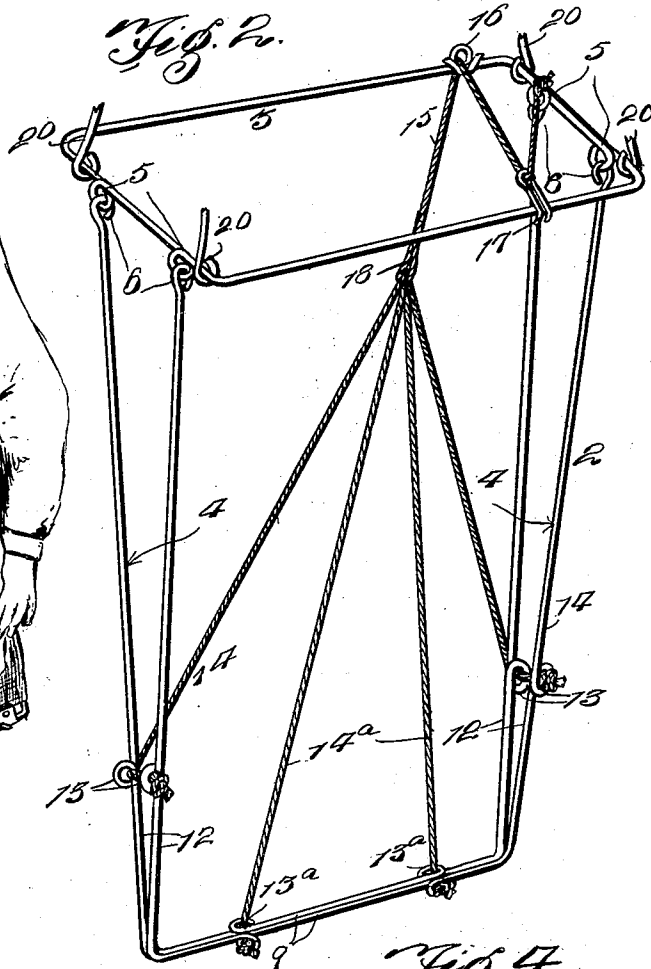


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

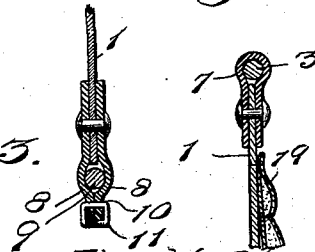


Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELAM HARTER, OF ARLINGTON STATION, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO VIRGIL O. HARTER, OF ARLINGTON STATION, CALIFORNIA.

FRUIT-PICKING SACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 691,376, dated January 21, 1902.

Application filed March 26, 1901. Serial No. 52,996. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELAM HARTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Arlington Station, in the county of Riverside and State of California, have invented a new and useful Fruit-Picking Sack, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in fruit-picking sacks.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of fruit-picking sacks and to provide a simple, strong, and inexpensive one designed to be suspended from the neck or body of a person and adapted to readily receive and hold a large quantity of fruit without liability of bruising the same and capable of being opened by the weight of the fruit to enable the latter to be discharged into a suitable receptacle.

The invention consists in the construction and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a fruit-picking sack constructed in accordance with this invention and shown applied to a person. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the supporting-frame. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view illustrating the construction for securing the bottom of the sack to the frame. Fig. 4 is a detail sectional view illustrating the arrangement of the pad.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a sack constructed of any suitable material, such as canvas or other heavy fabric, and open at its top and bottom and connected at those points with a frame 2, composed of a rectangular top 3 and approximately U-shaped sides 4, hinged to the top and connected at their bottoms with the bottom of the sack, at the inner and outer sides thereof, and adapted when arranged as illustrated in Fig. 2 of the accompanying drawings to close the bottom of the sack to retain fruit therein and capable of being readily opened by the weight of the fruit when it is released by the means hereinafter described. The top of the frame 2, which is constructed

of wire, is provided at its ends with eyes 5, formed by coiling the wire and linking it into eyes 6 of the upper ends of the sides of the frame, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. By this construction the sides of the frame are hinged to the top 3 and are adapted to swing inward and outward to open and close the bottom of the sack.

The upper edges of the sack are secured to the top 3 at the inner and outer sides thereof by binding-strips 7, preferably constructed of stout leather and riveted or otherwise secured to the sack. The sack is provided at its bottom at its inner and outer sides with reinforcing-strips 8, of stout leather, riveted or otherwise secured to the sack at the inner and outer faces of the said sides thereof and projecting beyond the lower edges of the sack and receiving the transverse bottom portions 9 of the sides of the frame 2. The lower portions of the bottom strips 8 are provided with eyelets 10, receiving laces 11, of leather or other suitable material, rove through the eyelets and detachably securing the bottom of the bag to the sides 4 and stiffening and reinforcing the bag and the frame and enabling the sack or bag to be positively operated to open and close it. Also by this construction the fruit-picking sack may be compactly arranged for shipping and storing. If one of the sides of the bottom of the sack be detached from the transverse connecting portion 9 of the adjacent side of the frame, the top of the frame may be turned down in substantially the same plane as the sides 4, and the bag or sack will then collapse.

The sides of the frame, which consist of transverse bottom portions 9 and upright rods 12, are provided with eyes 13 and 13^a, receiving branches 14 and 14^a of an operating-cord 15. The branches 14 of the operating-cord pass through the eyes 13 of the inner side 4 of the frame and are secured to the eyes 13 of the other side, preferably by knotting their terminals, as indicated in Fig. 2. The eyes 13 are located between the ends of the upright rods 12, near the transverse connecting portions 9, and the latter are provided with the eyes 13^a, which receive the said branches 14^a, and the latter are arranged similar to the said branches 14, being passed through the eyes

of the inner side of the frame and secured to the eyes of the outer side. By this construction the sides of the frame will be held firmly closed, and sacks may be constructed of a large size for holding a full box of oranges or other fruit without liability of the weight of the fruit opening the sack. With smaller sacks the branches 14^a may be omitted. The operating-cord extends upward at the inner side of the frame on the exterior of the sack and passes through an eye 16 of the top 3 of the frame. The eye 16 is arranged at the inner side of the top of the frame, and the cord is provided with a hook 17, adapted to engage the outer side of the top of the frame for holding the cord taut, whereby the bottom of the sack is locked in its closed position. The upper terminal of the operating-cord is secured to the top of the frame at one end thereof at one of the eyes 5, and the hook, which detachably engages the outer side of the top of the frame, is provided at its shank with an eye to receive the cord, and it is loosely arranged on the same. The branches 14 preferably consist of a single piece of cord or the like, and it is passed through an eye 18 of the operating-cord 15; but the branches and the upper portion of the operating-cord may be constructed in any suitable manner.

The sides of the frame are arranged on the exterior of the sack and do not come in contact with the fruit. The rectangular top of the frame holds the mouth of the sack open, and the operating mechanism, which is connected with the sides 4 of the frame, holds the bottom of the bag closed. When the hook is disengaged from the outer portion of the top of the frame and the operating-cord is slackened, the weight of the contents of the sack will automatically open the same and fall by its own weight therefrom. The sack may be provided with a quilted pad 19, arranged at the inner side of the sack, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The pad may be duplicated and arranged at each side, or it may be entirely omitted.

The frame is provided at the ends of the top portion 3 with bails 20, provided at the terminals of its sides with eyes and having upper eyes 21 for the attachment of a strap 22 for enabling the sack to be suspended from the body of a person, as indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The sack when in use is suspended from the right shoulder and is arranged at the left side. The fruit is deposited in the open mouth of the sack, and after a sufficient quantity accumulates it is deposited in a suitable receptacle by releasing the operating-cord. The sack is adapted for all kinds of fruit and will discharge the same without bruising or otherwise injuring the fruit. It possesses all the advantages of a basket, and it will collapse when one of the connecting bottom pieces of the sides 4 is detached from the bottom of the sack.

Instead of lacing the bottom of the sack to the frame it may be secured to the latter in

any other suitable manner, and I desire it to be understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size, and the minor details of construction within the scope of the appended claims may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

What I claim is—

1. A device of the class described comprising a sack open at the top and bottom, a frame having upright separable sides connected with the bottom of the sack at opposite sides thereof and arranged to swing to and from each other to close the bottom of the sack and to permit the same to open and operating mechanism connecting the sides of the frame and adapted to hold the same closed, substantially as described.

2. A device of the class described comprising a flexible sack open at the top and bottom, and a frame secured to the sack at the top thereof and adapted to hold the latter open and provided with upright sides hinged at their tops and connected at their bottoms with the sack at opposite sides of the bottom thereof and arranged to swing to and from each other to close the bottom of the sack and to permit the same to open, substantially as described.

3. A device of the class described comprising a sack open at the top and bottom, a frame composed of a top portion holding the mouth of the sack open, and sides hinged at their tops to the top portion and connected with the sack at opposite sides thereof and adapted to swing to and from each other to close the sack and to permit the same to open, and operating mechanism connected with and adapted to close the sides, substantially as described.

4. A device of the class described comprising a sack, a frame composed of a top portion holding the mouth of the sack open, and the exterior sides hinged to the top portion of the frame and secured to the sack at the bottom thereof, and operating mechanism connected with the hinged sides, substantially as described.

5. A device of the class described comprising a sack, a frame composed of a top portion secured to the sack at the mouth thereof, and sides hinged to the top portion of the frame and secured to the sack at the bottom thereof and adapted to permit the same to open and close, and an operating-cord connected with the sides of the frame and extending upward to the top portion, and having means for engaging the same, substantially as described.

6. A device of the class described comprising a sack, a frame composed of a top portion arranged at the mouth of the sack, and sides hinged to the top portion of the frame and connected with the bottom of the sack and provided with eyes, an operating-cord passing through the eyes of one side of the frame and secured to the eyes of the other side and extending to the top of the frame and secured to the same, and a hook loosely mounted on

the upper portion of the operating-cord and adapted to engage the top of the frame to hold the cord taut, substantially as described.

7. A device of the class described comprising a sack provided at its bottom with projecting strips having eyelets in their outer portions, a frame comprising a top portion, and approximately U-shaped sides hinged to the top portion of the frame and having their transverse portions arranged between the said strips, laces rove through the eyelets and securing the sides of the frame to the bottom of the sack, and operating mechanism connected with the sides of the frame, substantially as described.

8. A device of the class described comprising a sack, a frame composed of a rectangular top portion secured to the mouth of the sack, the approximately U-shaped sides hinged to the top portion and secured to the bottom of the sack, and bails connected with the top

portion, means for holding the sides in their closed position, and a strap or band secured to the bails, substantially as and for the purpose described.

9. A device of the class described comprising a sack, a frame composed of a top portion located at the mouth of the sack, and sides hinged to the top portion of the frame and provided with side and bottom eyes, and the operating-cord having the branches 14 and 14^a passing through the eyes of the inner side of the frame and secured to the eyes of the outer side of the frame, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ELAM HARTER.

Witnesses:

VIRGIL O. HARTER,
GEO. A. SKINNER.