E. A. FOSTER.

WHEELED LADDER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1919.

1,384,694. Patented July 12, 1921.

Fig. 1.

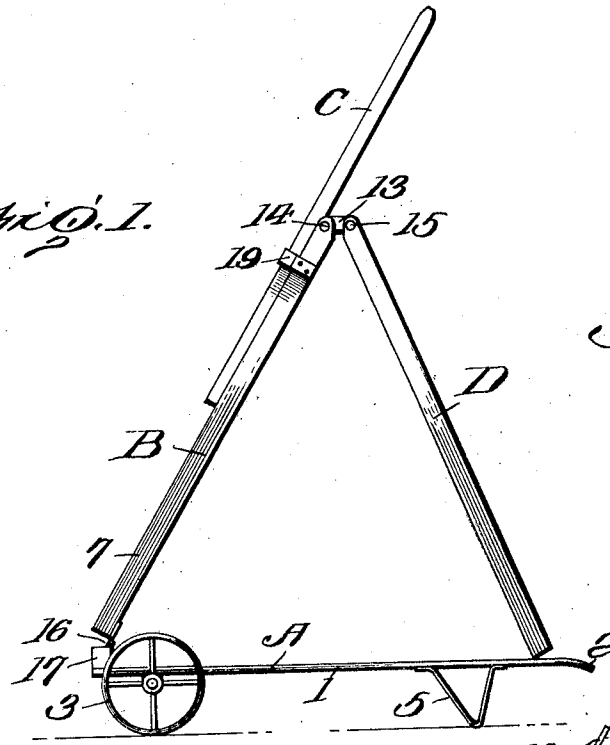


Fig. 4.

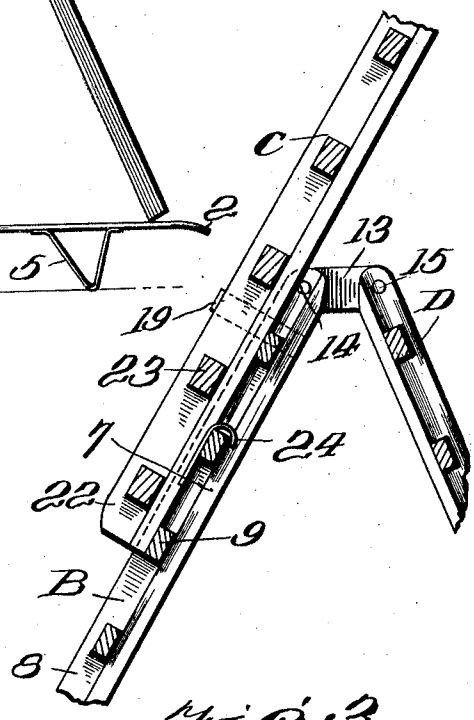


Fig. 2.

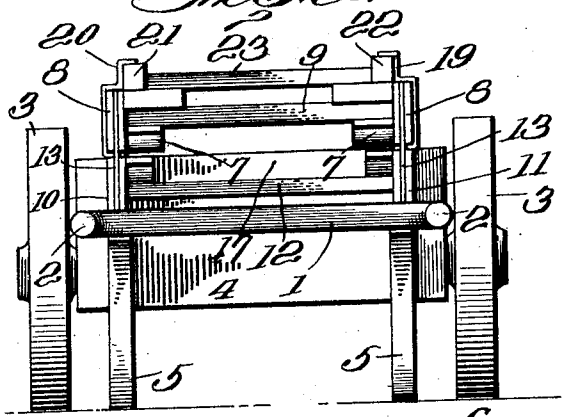
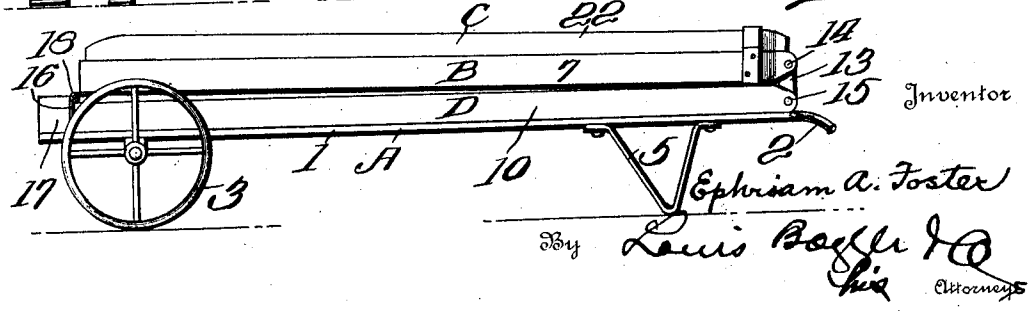


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WHEELED LADDER.

1,384,694. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 12, 1921.

Application filed February 19, 1919. Serial No. 277,916.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EPHRIAM A. FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sandusky, in the county of Erie and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wheeled Ladders, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to wheeled ladders, and more particularly to that class used in picking fruit from the trees, and which may be folded compactly for transportation.

The object of my invention is to construct a cheap and compactly-arranged portable ladder, which will be particularly adapted for the above-mentioned use, and yet be light enough for easy transportation.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a ladder constructed according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is a rear elevation thereof;

Fig. 3 is a side view of the device folded up; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged section through the ladder where the sections meet.

The ladder is composed of a base A, a main ladder section B, a top ladder section C, and a main ladder section prop D.

The base A consists of a platform 1 provided at one end with suitable handles 2, 2, and supported at the other end by a pair of wheels 3, 3, mounted upon an axle 4 secured to the under side of the platform 1. The opposite end of the base is supported in substantially a horizontal position by suitable feet or supports 5, 5.

The main ladder section B consists of side rails each of which are preferably constructed of two strips 7 and 8, one laid edgewise to the other and securely fastened together. These rails are spaced apart and provided with a plurality of rungs 9, laid transversely thereof, and suitably secured to the flat strips 7. The main ladder section is braced by a suitable prop D, which in construction is practically identical with the main section, consisting of the side rails 10, 11, and the usual rungs 12. The upper ends of the main section and the prop are slotted and adapted to receive hinge-members 13, 13, pivoted as at 14 and 15 in each of the sections. The lower end of the main ladder section B is preferably hinged to the base by suitable hinge-members 16, 16, secured to a block 17 arranged on the base and connected by a rod 18 extending transversely through both the hinge-members, thereby affording means for disengaging the ladder-sections from the base A, when desirable. The block 17 is of sufficient height to allow the support B to be folded under the main ladder section, as disclosed in Fig. 3.

Arranged at the upper end of the main ladder section are suitable guide-members 19 and 20, which are of such a construction as to confine the upper ladder section C within the side-members 8, 8, of the lower section B, these side members being of such a height as to form guides for the top section. The upper section is likewise constructed in a similar manner to the lower section B, consisting of the side rails 21 and 22 and the usual runs 23. The upper section is of sufficient width to snugly fit between the guide-rails 8, 8, of the lower section. The lower end of the upper section is provided with hangers 24, which are of such a construction as to fit over the rungs of the lower ladder section B, thereby providing a means for adjusting the height of the upper section relative to the lower section.

As will be seen, I have constructed a ladder which is very simple in construction and unique in design, and one which is well adapted for the use to which it is to be put.

I claim:—

A wheeled ladder including a base mounted on wheels at one end, a block upstanding at the wheel end of the base, a main ladder section hinged at one of the upper corners of the block, a prop hinged to the ladder section, the prop being of a thickness substantially corresponding to the height of the block whereby when the parts are folded together they will lie substantially parallel and in compact relation to one another.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EPHRIAM A. FOSTER.

Witness:

WILLIAM SENNET.