(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

D. W. INMAN.

HOG SCALDING AND SUSPENDING APPARATUS.

No. 563,965. Patented July 14, 1896.

FIG. 1.

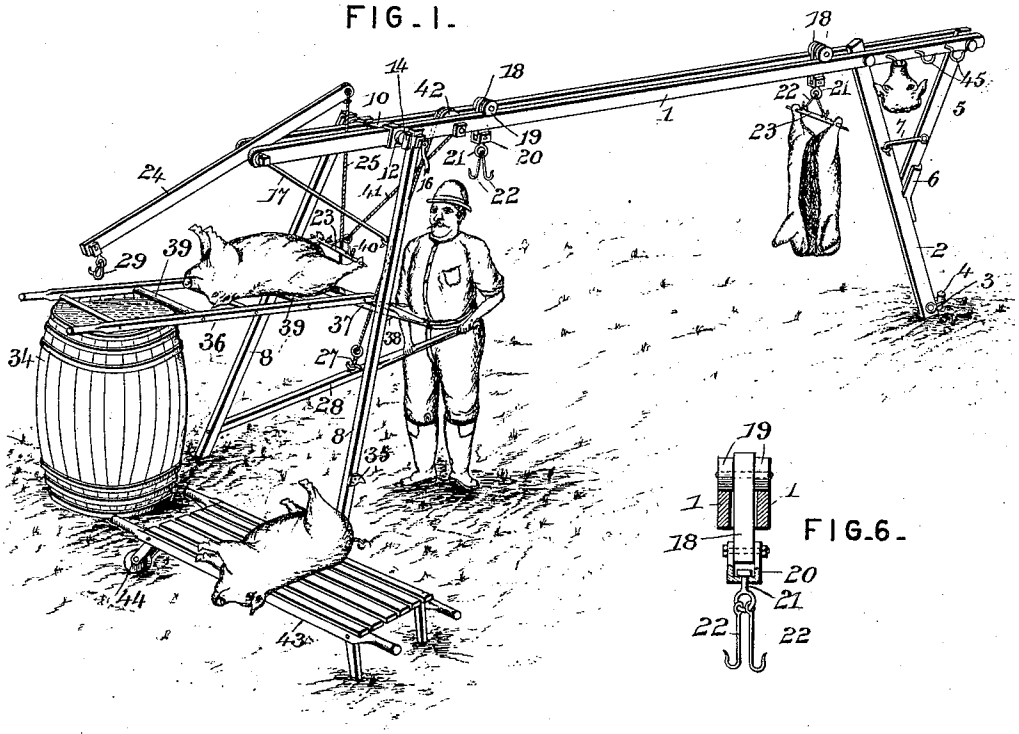


FIG. 6.

FIG. 4.

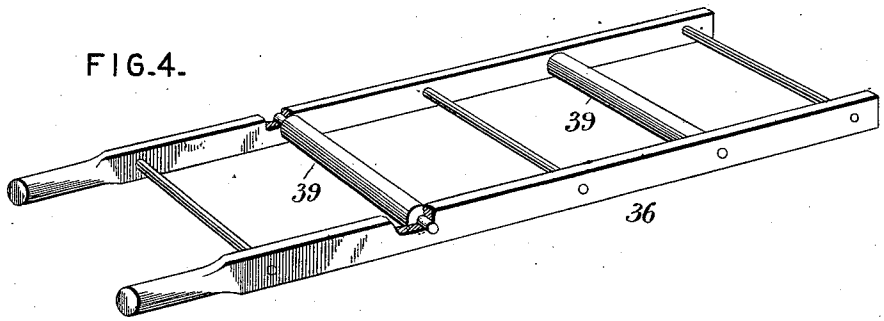
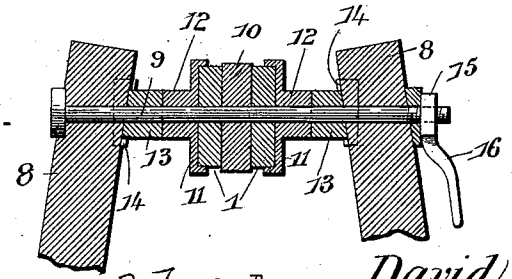


FIG. 5.



Witnesses

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R. M. Smith.

Inventor

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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HOG SCALDING AND SUSPENDING APPARATUS.

No. 563,965. Patented July 14, 1896.

FIG. 2.

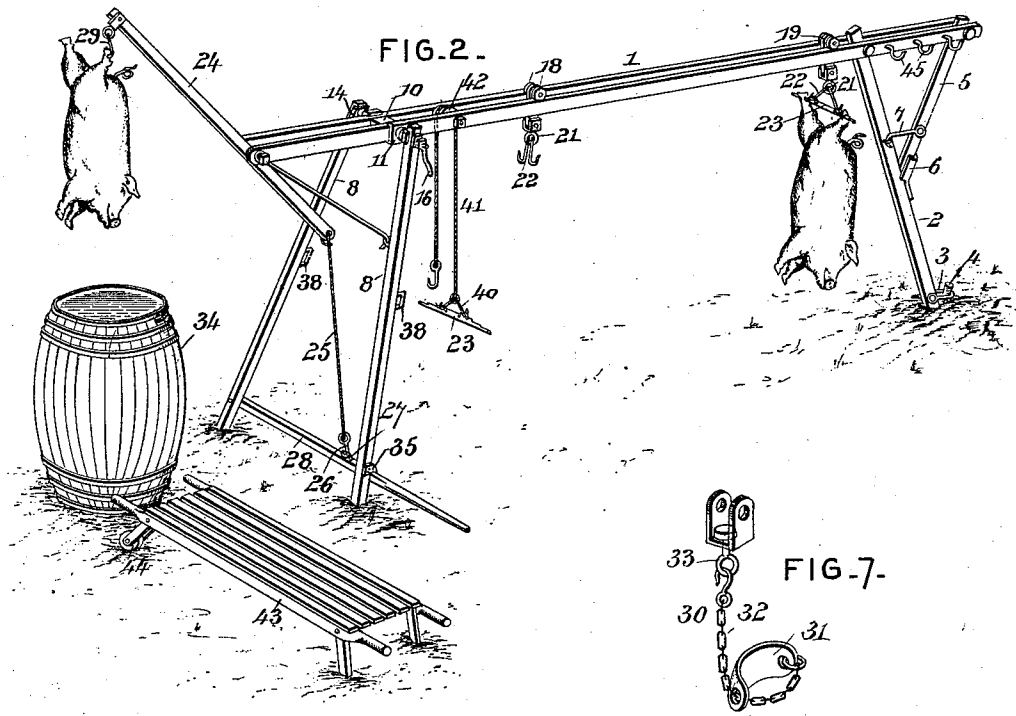
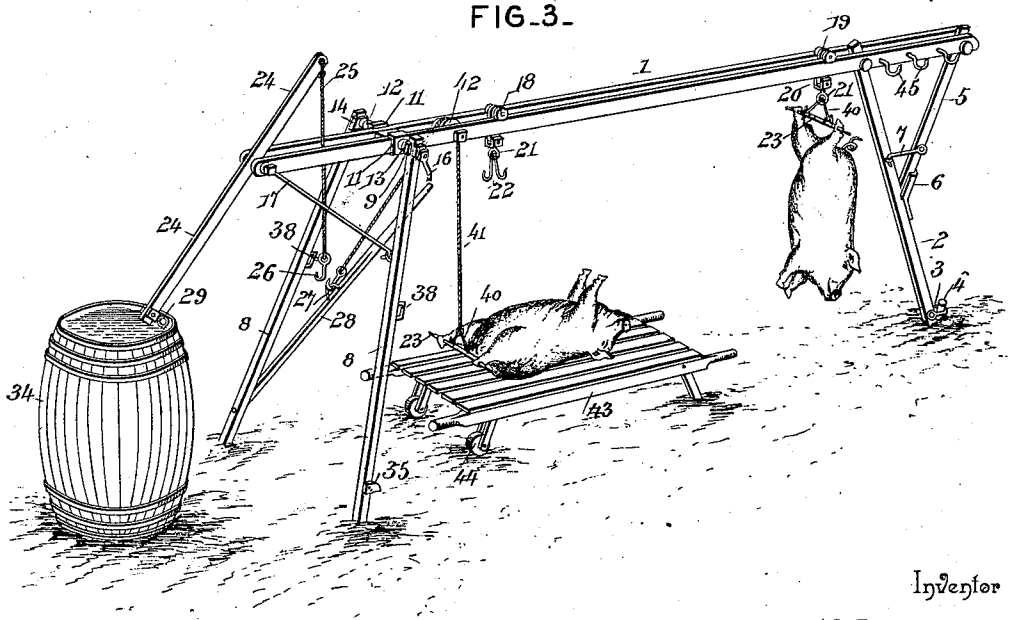


FIG. 7.

FIG. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID W. INMAN, OF VERSAILLES, OHIO.

HOG SCALDING AND SUSPENDING APPARATUS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 563,965, dated July 14, 1896.

Application filed September 25, 1895. Serial No. 563,654. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID W. INMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Versailles, in the county of Darke and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Hog Scalding and Suspending Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in apparatus for scalding and suspending hogs preparatory to the dressing of the same for market.

The object of the present invention is to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient device particularly adapted for farmers' use where a comparatively small number of hogs are handled, the said device being capable of being folded into compact shape, so as to be easily portable and capable of being stored in a limited space.

The purpose of the invention is to enable the farmer to handle the hogs after they have been butchered with ease and rapidity, submerging the hogs first in the scalding water for the purpose of loosening the hair or bristles and afterward elevating the hogs and suspending them from an overhead track or beam in convenient position to be scraped and cleaned and prepared for the market.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the course of the subjoined description.

The invention consists in certain novel features and details of construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the drawings, and finally pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete apparatus illustrating the manner in which a hog, after the scalding operation, is elevated and suspended from the overhead track or beam. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing how the hog is suspended above the scalding tub or vessel preparatory to transferring the same to the track or beam. Fig. 3 is a similar view showing the parts in position to elevate the hog. Fig. 4 is an enlarged detail perspective view of the roller-frame upon which the hog is placed after the scalding operation. Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail section showing the pivotal connection between the overhead track or beam and the forward supporting-legs. Fig. 6 is a detail section through the track or beam, showing the traveling carrier and the swiveled suspension-hooks. Fig. 7 is a detail perspective view of the hopple or grapple used in connection with the lifting-lever or traveling carriers.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, 1 designates an overhead beam or track, which is composed of two equal longitudinal bars or joists arranged in parallelism and spaced a sufficient distance apart to receive the vertical bars of a series of traveling carriers or hangers, as hereinafter described. This beam or track is supported at its rear end by means of an inclined leg 2, the upper end of which is pivotally mounted between the side bars of the beam, the lower end thereof being provided with a pivoted loop or staple 3, through which an anchor or stay-pin 4 may be inserted and driven into the ground. 5 indicates an inclined brace, which has its upper end pivotally arranged in the beam 1, the lower extremity of said base being chamfered to rest against the adjacent edge of the inclined leg 2, and such lower extremity is received within a metallic socket and stop 6, secured in any convenient manner to the rear edge of the inclined leg 2. This socket prevents the further downward movement of the lower end of the brace 5, and the side flanges with which said socket is provided prevent the lateral movement or displacement of said brake. A connecting-hook 7 is connected with either the leg or brace referred to, and engages at its hooked end an eye in the member opposite to that to which the hook is pivoted. This construction admits of both the leg 2 and the brace 5 being disconnected and folded upward into the space between the separated bars of the overhead track or beam 1 for transportation and storage.

The front legs 8, which support the beam or track 1, are two in number, and are arranged upon opposite sides of said beams and pivotally connected therewith by means of a common through-bolt 9. At the point where these legs are pivotally connected with the beam a block 10 is interposed between the

side bars of the beam, and upon the outer opposite faces of the side bars at the same point are arranged two similar brackets 11, having upper and lower flanges embracing said side bars and also comprising outward and oppositely extending hub portions 12, against which abut the inner ends of the hub portions 13 of a pair of clips 14, embracing the inner faces of the forward legs 8. The horizontal pivotal bolt 9 passes through the several parts just referred to and receives upon its threaded extremity a nut 15, having an operating handle or lever 16, by means of which the parts may be securely clamped and held together. By loosening the nut 15 with the aid of the handle 16 the legs 8 may be loosened sufficiently to adapt them to be swung upward into the plane of the beam 1. The several legs or supports of the overhead beam or track are thus capable of being folded into the plane of the beam, and this facilitates the transportation and storage of the apparatus. When in operative position, the forward legs 8 are made rigid by means of suitable inclined and hooked braces or rods 17, preferably connected pivotally with the beam at one end and engaging eyes on the legs at their opposite or hooked ends.

18 designates a series of traveling carriers or hangers, which consist each of a vertically-disposed bar or shank extending upwardly between the side bars of the beam or track 1, and having thereabove a transverse shaft or spindle upon which and on opposite sides of the bar or shank 18 are mounted rollers 19, which travel on the upper edges of said side bars. To the lower end of this bar or shank 18 is pivotally secured a U-shaped hanger or yoke 20, having swiveled therein a pendent eye 21, to which are secured a pair of suspension-hooks 22. The hooks 22 are intended to engage the eyes or staples of a gambrel-stick 23, upon which the hind feet of the hog are impaled, as illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, and 3. This construction admits of the hog being moved to any point longitudinally to the track or beam 1, and also of said hog being turned upon the swiveled hanger into any desired position, so as to admit of the hair or bristles being removed and the hog cleaned and prepared for market.

24 designates the hoisting-lever, which is pivoted at a point intermediate its ends between the front ends of the side bars of the overhead beam or track 1. To the rear end of this lever is attached a rope 25, which extends downwardly and is provided at its lower terminal with a hook 26, which is adapted to be engaged with an eye 27 arranged intermediate the ends of a hand operating-lever 28, arranged within convenient reach of the attendant, who by depressing such hand-lever may lift the outer free end of the hoisting-lever 24. The outer end of the lever 24 carries a pair of hooks 29, which may be engaged with the eye-sockets of a hog, and also carries a hopple 30, the same comprising a curved plate 31 and a suspending-chain 32, secured at one extremity to one end of the curved plate 31 and passing through an enlarged opening in the other end of said plate and hooked at its opposite extremity into a swivel-eye 33 on the end of the lever 24, the form of said hopple being particularly shown in Fig. 7. With the aid of this hopple either of the hind legs of the hog may be grappled for suspending the animal head downward. The hog can thus be lowered and submerged in the tub 34 of hot water for the purpose of scalding it and loosening the hair or bristles so that the same may be easily removed. If by reason of the size of the hog it is impractical to entirely submerge the same, the said hog may be let down upon a suitable rest and the hooks 29 engaged with the eye-sockets of the hog, thus enabling the latter to be suspended from the lever 24 in inverted position.

After the hog has been scalded, the hand-lever 28 is depressed and engaged beneath a stop 35 on one of the legs 8, thus holding the animal suspended above the scalding-tub. A roller-frame 36 is now placed beneath the hog, one end of said frame being rested upon the scalding-tub and the other end upon a transverse bar 37, removably inserted through staples or loops 38, secured to the forward leg 8, above described. This roller-frame is made substantially in the form of a short ladder and comprises several revoluble rungs 39, as shown in Fig. 4, for facilitating the dragging of the hog longitudinally of the frame. The hog is lowered onto this frame and disengaged from the hoisting-lever 24. A gambrel-stick is now inserted into the hog's hind legs, after which the pendent hooks 40 of a hoisting-rope 41 are engaged with the eyes of said stick preparatory to hoisting the animal. The hoisting-rope 41 runs over a pulley 42, pivotally mounted between the side bars of the beam 1 adjacent to the front legs 8, and the opposite end of said rope is provided with a hook, which may be engaged with the eye 27 of the hand-lever after the hook 26 of the hoisting-lever has been disengaged therefrom. Upon operating the hand-lever the hog is now drawn from off the frame 36 and elevated until the hooks 22 of one of the traveling carriers 18 may be engaged with the eyes of the gambrel-stick. After the hooks 22 have been thus engaged, the hooks 40 of the hoisting-rope are disengaged from said eyes, thus leaving the hog suspended upon one of the traveling carriers. The hog may now be moved longitudinally of the overhead track or beam to the desired point and the operation repeated until the desired number of hogs have been scalded and elevated and suspended from said beam. In this position, and by means of the swivel-eye of the traveling carrier, each hog may be independently turned or revolved, thus

greatly facilitating the scraping and cleaning necessary to put the hog in marketable condition.

If desired, a hand-truck 43 may be employed, having rollers or casters 44, for carrying the hogs to and from the scalding-tub, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, or carrying the same to the desired point under the beam 1 preparatory to hoisting the same after the scalding operation has been completed. After the heads of the hogs have been removed, they may be impaled and hung upon a series of hooks 45, projecting from the beam 1, as shown in the several figures of the drawings.

The apparatus above described is extremely simple in construction, may be manufactured and sold at a very reasonable cost, within the means of the average farmer, will greatly facilitate the operation of scalding and preparing hogs for the market, and when out of use may be folded into compact form and stored until needed at a future time.

Changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. In an apparatus for handling hogs, the combination with an elevated beam comprising parallel bars extended at one end beyond their support, of a lifting-lever pivotally mounted between the extended ends of said beam-bars and having means for grappling a hog, and a hand operating-lever pivotally connected with one of the leg-supports of said beam and connected with said lifting-lever by an interposed flexible device which is detachably connected with said hand operating-lever, substantially as described.

2. In an apparatus for handling hogs, the combination with an elevated track, comprising parallel bars or rails, of a pair of hinged supporting-legs arranged upon opposite sides of the track, an independent bracket for each leg, said bracket being made in two sections one of which is formed to embrace the track and the other to embrace its respective leg, and a pivotal bolt passing through the beam-legs and bracket and having provision for tightening the same, whereby the legs may be loosened and folded into the plane of the beam, substantially as described.

3. In an apparatus for handling hogs, the combination with an elevated beam or track comprising parallel bars spaced apart, of an inclined leg pivotally mounted between said bars and having intermediate its ends a metallic socket, of a brace also pivotally mounted between said bars and having its lower extremity formed to enter said socket, and a connecting-hook interposed between said leg and brace, substantially as described.

4. In an apparatus for handling hogs, the combination with an elevated track, a lifting-lever fulcrumed thereon and the leg-supports thereof provided with horizontally-alined staples or eyes, of a removable bar inserted therein and forming a support for the skid, and a hand-lever located beneath the plane of said bar and operatively connected to the lifting-lever, substantially as specified.

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

DAVID W. INMAN.

Witnesses:
E. G. FRANKMAN,
L. L. LEHMAN.