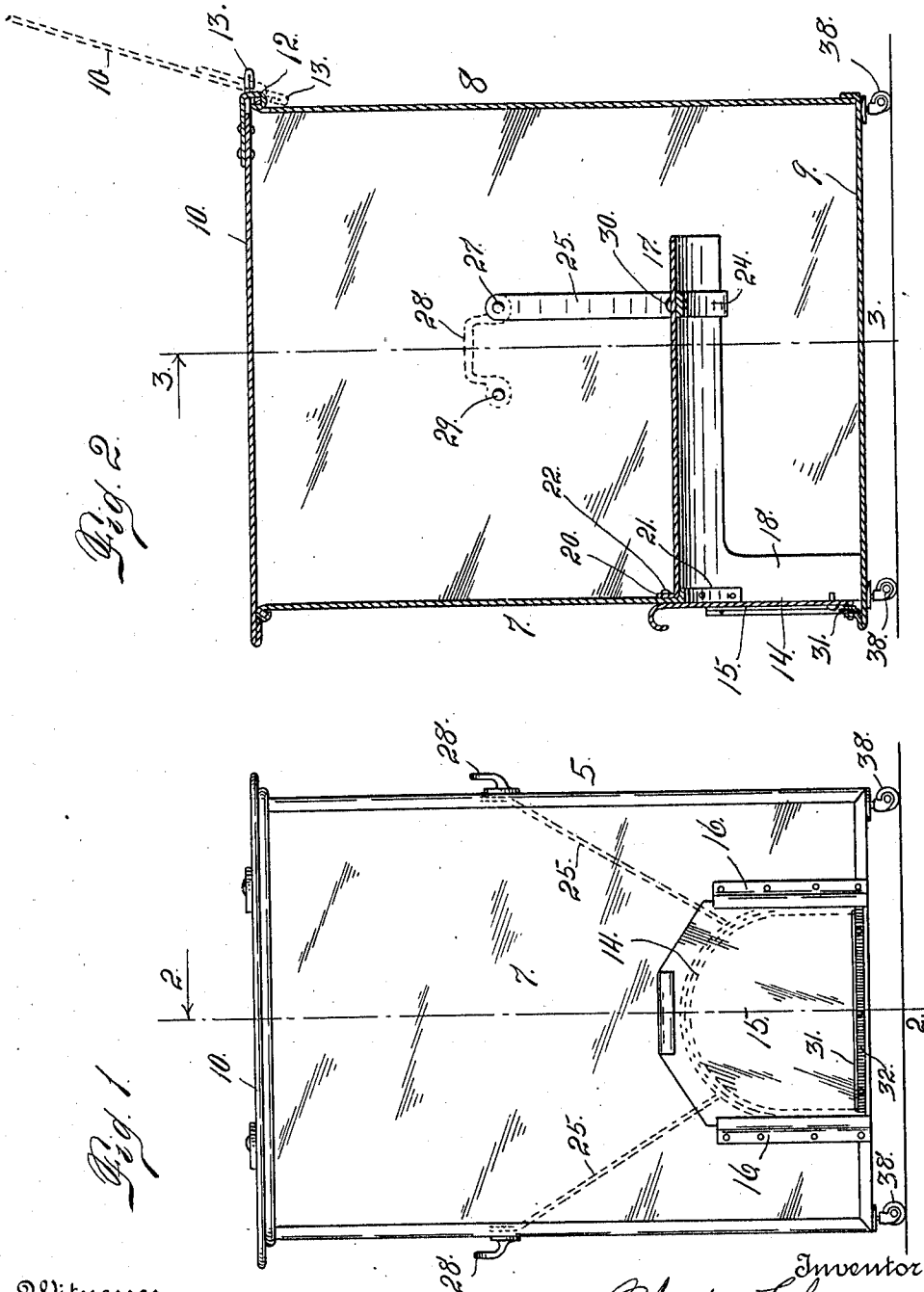


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FAMILY COAL BOX.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 13, 1910.

988,932.

Patented Apr. 4, 1911.

3 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

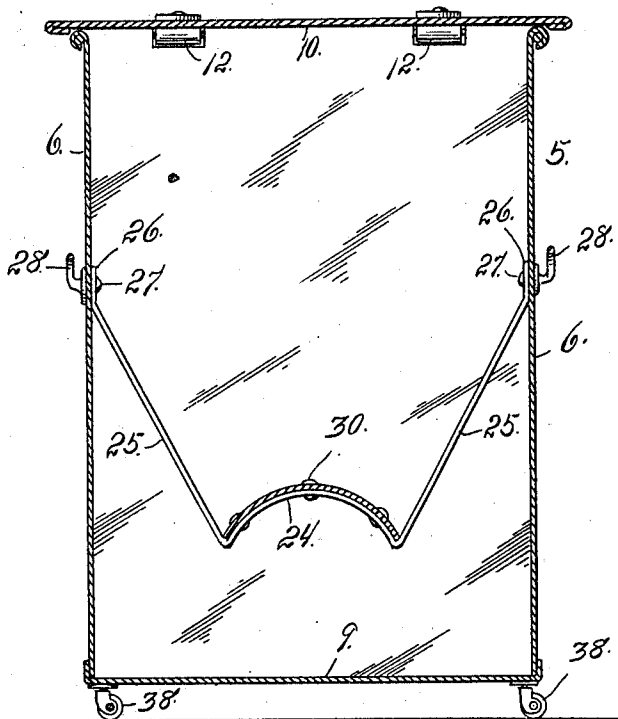


Fig. 3.

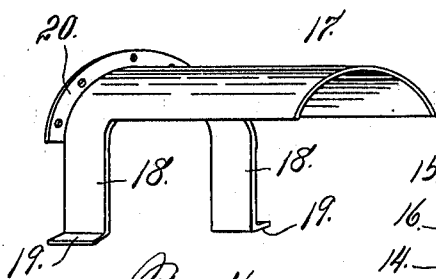


Fig. 4.

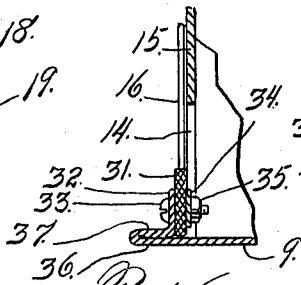


Fig. 6.

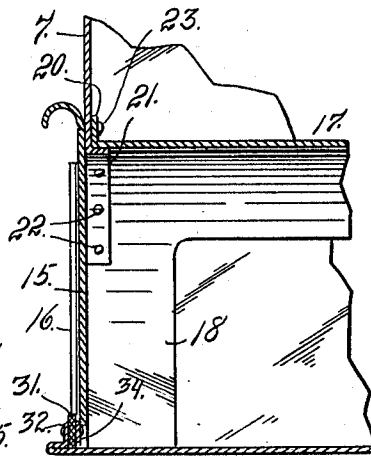


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE EBERMAN, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

FAMILY COAL-BOX.

988,932.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 4, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE EBERMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Denver and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Family Coal-Boxes; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the characters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in coal boxes adapted for family use, and therefore of such size as to be conveniently placed in the house in the vicinity of a stove where coal is used.

My object is to provide a receptacle of this character adapted to hold a reasonable quantity of coal and in which the coal may be conveniently accessible, while at the same time it is prevented from escaping from the box when the door is open or removed.

An important feature of my improved construction consists in a hood arranged above the door or opening in the front wall of the box and extending rearwardly therefrom, the hood being preferably arch-shaped and adapted to prevent the coal from falling directly in front of the door upon the bottom of the box. This protecting hood causes the coal to enter the space directly in front of the door from each side, thus preventing the space in front of the door from filling and on this account making it convenient to insert a shovel for coal removing purposes.

Another novel feature consists in the fact that the forward extremity of the hood is provided with supporting legs which occupy positions on opposite sides of the door and extend rearwardly a short distance, thus preventing the coal which enters the space directly in front of the door, from rolling out through the opening when the door is open.

In order to remove the dust from the bottom of the shovel as the coal is removed from the box, a piece of flexible material, as felt, is supported at the bottom of the opening so that as the shovel with its contents is removed from the door, it is convenient for

the bottom or lower surface of the same to drag upon the felt cleaning device.

Still another feature consists in the manner of supporting the arch-shaped hood at its rear extremity, which consists of a metallic band bent upwardly to conform to the shape of the hood, and terminating at its opposite extremities in upwardly projecting arms whose upper extremities are secured to the opposite sides of the box. The rear extremity of the hood rests upon the upwardly curved portion of this device, which affords an efficient support. The hood may be secured to this support by suitable fastening devices, though but little fastening will be required in view of the particular construction and arrangement as will be readily understood.

Having briefly outlined my improved construction, I will proceed to describe the same in detail, reference being made to the accompanying drawing in which is illustrated an embodiment thereof.

In this drawing: Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved coal box. Fig. 2 is a vertical section taken on the line 2—2 Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a vertical cross section taken on the line 3—3 Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a perspective detail view of the hood. Fig. 5 is a fragmentary vertical section similar to Fig. 2, but shown on a larger scale. Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view similar to Fig. 5, but shown on a still larger scale.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the views.

Let the numeral 5 designate my improved box considered in its entirety and composed of side walls 6, front and rear walls 7 and 8, a bottom 9, and a top 10, the latter being hinged as shown at 12 to swing upwardly to the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2. This top has a rearwardly projecting part 13 which is adapted to engage the rear wall of the box near the top when the top is lifted, and whereby it is supported in the raised position.

The front wall of the box is provided with an opening 14 adapted to be closed by a vertically sliding door 15 whose opposite edges engage guide members 16 which are secured to the box by the use of suitable fastening devices.

Located within the box and extending rearwardly from the opening therein is an arch-shaped hood 17 whose forward extrem-

ity is provided with depending members 18 located on opposite sides of the opening 14 and serving both to prevent the coal from escaping through the opening and also serving as a support for the forward extremity of the hood. The lower extremities of these members 18 are provided with outwardly turned flanges 19 which rest upon the bottom of the box and may be secured thereto if desired. As illustrated in the drawing, the forward extremity of the hood is provided with an upturned flange 20 which engages the front wall of the box on the inside. This front wall is also provided with an inwardly turned flange 21 upon which the forward extremity of the hood rests and to which it may be secured by suitable fastening devices 22. The fastening devices for securing the flange 20 to the front wall of the box are designated 23. The rear extremity of the hood is supported by an arch-shaped member 24 whose opposite extremities merge into supporting arms 25, whose upper extremities are secured to the sides of the box as shown at 26 by suitable fastening devices 27, which also serve in part to connect exteriorly located handles 28 to the opposite sides of the box. These handles are further secured by fastening devices 29. The arch may be secured to the member 24 of the support by rivets or other suitable fastening devices 30.

The forward part of the box at the bottom of the opening 14 is provided with a member 31 composed of felt or other suitable or similar material adapted to clean the bottom of the shovel (not shown) employed in removing the coal from the box. This device, as illustrated in the drawing, consists of a piece of heavy felt which is fastened to the upbent part 32 of the forward extremity of the bottom of the box by means of screws 33, which are also passed through a plate 34 engaging the felt in the rear. These screws are secured by nuts 35 applied to their inner extremities.

As illustrated in the drawing, the bottom 9 of the box extends forwardly beyond the front wall of the box as shown at 36, and is bent back upon itself as shown at 37 forming a ledge extending forward of the front wall of the box. The part 32 extends upwardly from the rear edge of the part 37. It is, of course, evident that the felt or cleaning member 31 may be secured to the box in any suitable manner.

When the device is in order it may be filled with coal by opening the top 10. The coal will then occupy a position above and resting on the hood 17, and will also occupy the bottom of the box on opposite sides of the hood. A space, however, directly beneath the hood and directly in front of the opening 14, will contain a comparatively small amount of coal only. In other words,

this space will always be sufficiently clear to make it convenient to insert a shovel for removing the coal, and as that is removed directly beneath the hood, the coal above and from opposite sides will automatically take its place and this will occur as long as there is any coal in the box, or at least any in the box above the hood.

The box may be mounted on casters 38 for convenience in moving it about. The handles 28 may be employed in moving it from place to place upon its casters, or these handles may be used for carrying the box if desired.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A coal box having an arch-shaped hood extending rearwardly from the front wall of the box, which is provided with an opening for the removal of the coal, and means for supporting the rear portion of the hood comprising an arch-shaped member upon which the rear part of the hood rests, the said member merging into upwardly extending arms which are secured to the opposite side walls of the box, for the purpose set forth.

2. A coal box having an opening in its front, a hood provided at its forward extremity with depending legs engaging the bottom of the box in front on opposite sides of said opening for the removal of the coal and a support for the rear extremity of the hood comprising a suspended member bent to conform to the shape of the hood, the said member merging into upwardly extending arms which are secured to the opposite sides of the box, substantially as described.

3. A coal box having a closable opening in its front wall adjacent the bottom of the box, and a hood arch-shaped and horizontally disposed from front to rear, whose forward extremity occupies a position above the said opening, the hood occupying a central location in the box, and having depending members extending downwardly on opposite sides at its forward extremity, the depending members engaging the bottom of the box, for the purpose set forth.

4. A coal box provided with an opening in front for the removal of coal, and a transversely curved hood horizontally disposed from front to rear, occupying a central position in the box above the space in front of the opening, the hood serving to prevent the coal from falling directly from above into the space in front of the opening, but allowing it to enter from opposite sides, substantially as described.

5. A coal box having an opening for the removal of coal, and a flexible member occupying a position at the bottom of the said opening and entirely outside of the receptacle and adapted to engage the lower sur-

face of a shovel as the latter is removed from the box, substantially as described.

6. A coal box provided with a front opening and having a shovel cleaning device extending across the lower part of the opening and entirely outside of the receptacle, substantially as described.

7. A coal box provided with a front opening and having a flexible device for shovel cleaning purposes, two opposing

members between which the flexible device is clamped, the said device projecting above the said members and located entirely outside of the box, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature 15 in presence of two witnesses.

THEODORE EBERMAN.

Witnesses:

F. E. BOWEN,
HORTENSE UHLRICH.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."
