

No. 831,705.

PATENTED SEPT. 25, 1906.

J. W. CLARK.
PACKAGE CARRIER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 23, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

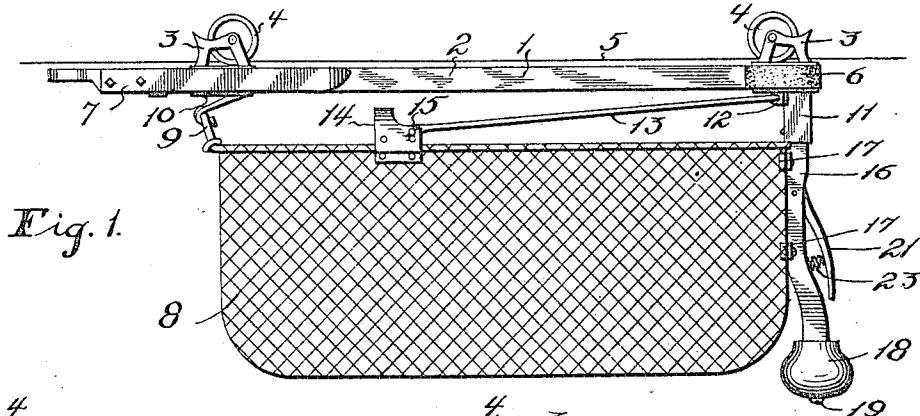


Fig. 1.

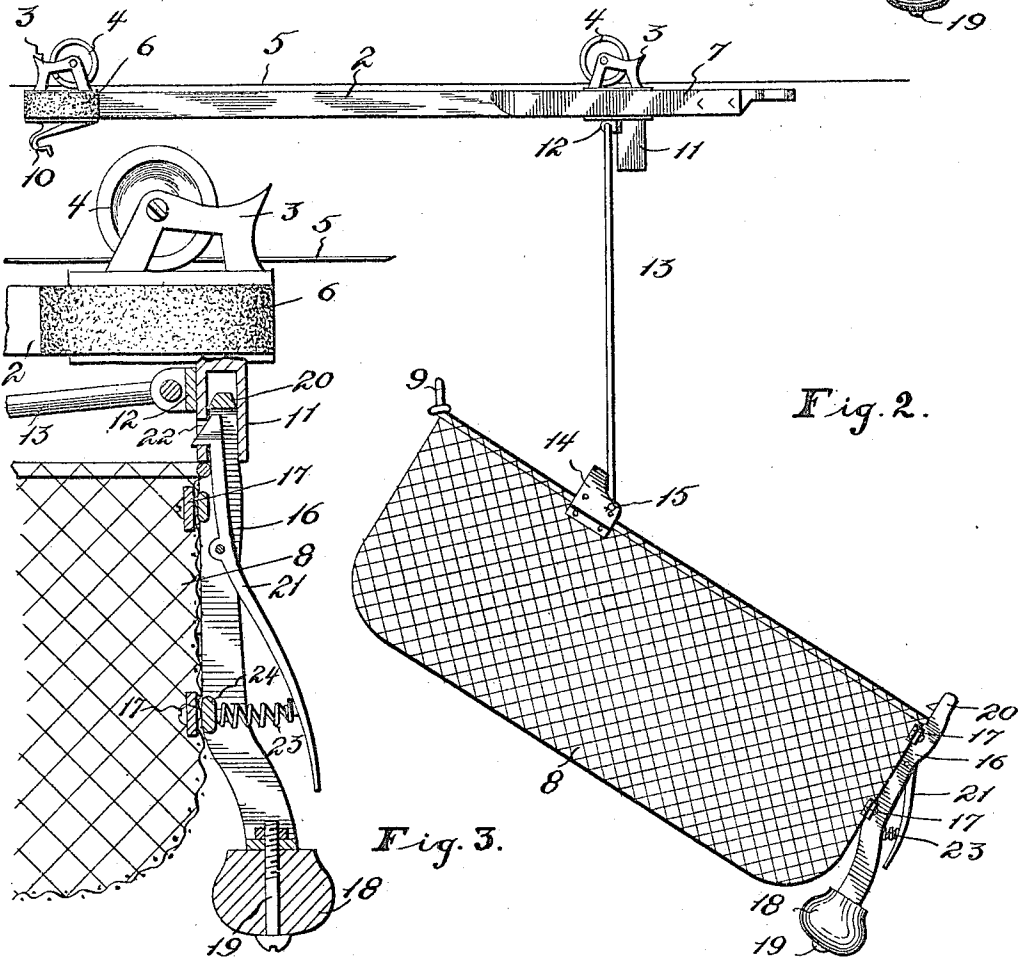


Fig. 2.

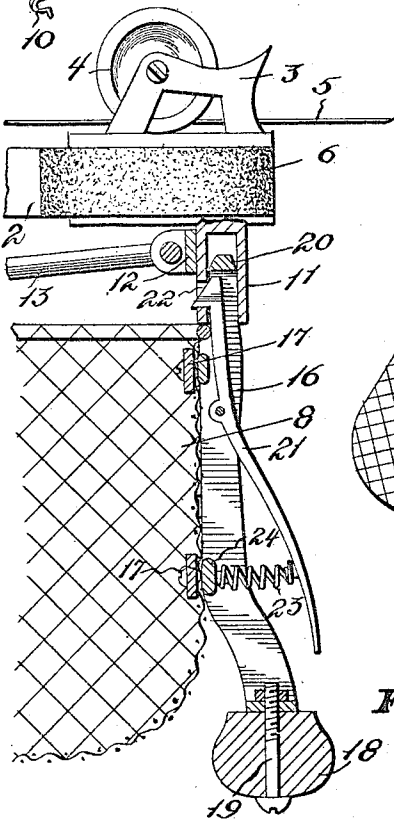


Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

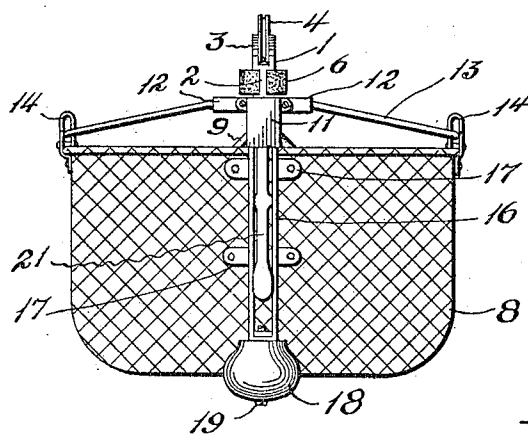


Fig. 4.

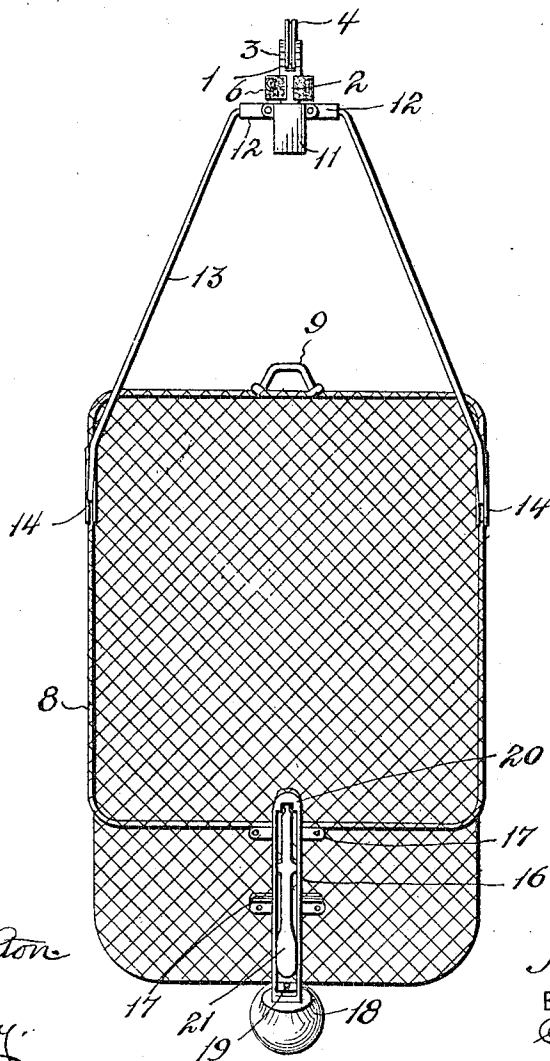


Fig. 5.

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. CLARK, OF JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN.

PACKAGE-CARRIER.

No. 831,705.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 25, 1906.

Application filed October 23, 1905. Serial No. 283,908.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Janesville, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Package-Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in store-service devices, and more particularly to package-carriers.

The object of the invention is to provide a package-carrier of the basket type which is constructed and arranged so that the basket may be instantaneously swung down from the carrier without lowering the carrier or moving the same from the wire on which it travels. By the provision of such a device the number of parts are reduced to a minimum and the basket permitted to swing down far enough to permit the clerk to remove or deposit the package without undue reaching or energy.

Finally, the object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described that will be strong, durable, efficient, simple, and comparatively inexpensive to make and one in which the several parts will not be liable to get out of working order.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of the novel details of construction and operation, a preferable embodiment of which is described in the specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the carrier and basket, showing one end of the carrier engaged in the buffer and the basket fastened in its elevated or loaded position. Fig. 2 is a similar view, the carrier having traveled to the opposite end of the line and caught in the buffer at that point and the basket being shown in its lowered or unloading position. Fig. 3 is an elevation of one end of the carrier and the basket in its elevated or loaded position, the basket and the fastening means being shown in vertical section. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the latch end of the carrier in its elevated or loaded position, and Fig. 5 is an end view showing the basket in its lowered or unloading position.

In the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the carrier, which comprises a longitudinal elongated bar 2, at each end of which bearing-supports 3 are provided. Grooved wheels 4 are mounted in the supports 3 and travel on a trolley-wire 5, which passes between the

wheels and the bar 2. Stops 6 are provided at each end of the bar 2 beneath the bearing-supports. These stops are preferably covered with a soft frictional material, so as to gradually arrest the travel of the carrier upon entering one of the buffers 7. The buffers 7 are of the usual construction, and, like the carrier, form no special part of this invention.

8 designates the basket, which is provided at one end with a wire loop 9, the latter engaging with a hook 10, projecting from the carrier at one end thereof. At the opposite end of the carrier a downwardly-projecting rectangular housing 11 is provided. To the side of this housing a bracket 12 is secured. A bail 13 is supported to swing in the bracket, while its free ends, which extend toward the opposite end of the carrier, are pivotally secured in clips 14 upon pins 15, the said clips being secured to the upper side edges of the basket a short distance from the loop 9. The basket at its end beneath the housing 11 carries a slotted or open latch member 16, which is mounted on the outside of the basket and secured to short transverse plates 17, arranged on the inside of the basket, as more clearly shown in Fig. 3. At its lower end the latch member is curved outwardly and carries a handle-knob 18, which is secured thereby by a screw-bolt 19. The upper end of the latch member 16 is reduced and tapered, as indicated at 20, so as to readily enter the housing 11, the lower end of which is open. Within the latch member a hook-latch 21 is pivoted, its upper end adapted to engage in an opening 22, provided in the housing 11, as shown in Fig. 3. The lower end of the hook-latch is curved outward, so as to project beyond the latch member 16, and supports the outer end of a coiled spring 23, which is secured at its inner end to a transverse bar 24, extending across the open portion of the said member. By means of the spring 23, which is tensioned, the lower end of the hook-latch is swung outward, thus forcing the upper end into the opening 22 of the housing 11, and thereby supporting the basket in its elevated or loaded position.

When it is desired to lower the basket for the purpose of loading or unloading, the operator has merely to grasp the handle-knob 18 and place his thumb on the lower end of the hook-latch 21. Then by pressing the hook-latch inward its upper end is swung outward or into the housing, being disengaged from the opening 22. The basket will now swing

downward with the bail 13 to the position shown in Figs. 2 and 5, the bail assuming a substantially vertical position and the forward or handle end of the basket tilting downward, so as to permit the package to be readily placed in or removed from the basket. When the hook-latch is first disengaged from the opening 22 and the basket swung downward, the loop 9 will remain in engagement with the hook 10, and the basket will swing thereon until it begins to swing forward and downward with the bail 13, when the loop 9 will be carried out of the hook 10 and the lowering of the basket completed. Owing to the fact that the clips 14 are secured to the basket considerably off the center thereof, the same will swing down some distance at one end, as is illustrated in Fig. 2. When it is desired to return the basket to its elevated or loaded position, the operator again grasps the handle 18 and swings the basket and the bail 13 upward, first engaging the loop 9 in the hook 10 and then swinging the reduced end 20 of the latch member 16 into the housing 11, the upper end of the hook-latch riding into the opening 22 and thus fastening the basket in place. Owing to the shape of the hook-latch, the same will readily ride into place without being manipulated from its lower end.

It is obvious that the bail will not in any way interfere with the contents of the basket or with the removing or placing of packages therein and likewise with the latch member and the handle-knob, which are arranged on the outside of the basket within easy reach of the clerk.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a carrier, of a basket having engagement with one end of

the carrier, a latch for securing the opposite end of the basket to the carrier, and a bail having pivotal connection with the latch end of the carrier and with the basket.

2. The combination with a carrier, of a basket having engagement with one end of the carrier, a latch for securing the opposite end of the basket to the carrier, and means having pivotal connection with the latch end of the carrier for swinging the basket downward.

3. The combination with a carrier and a basket having one end removably engaged with one end of the carrier, a latch for securing the opposite end of the basket to the opposite end of the carrier, and a bail having pivotal connection with the latch end of the carrier and with the sides of the basket.

4. The combination with a carrier, of a basket having removable engagement with one end of the carrier, a latch for securing the opposite end of the basket to the carrier, and a bail having pivotal connection with the latch end of the carrier and with the sides of the basket at a point beyond the transverse center of the basket with relation to the latch end.

5. The combination with a carrier provided at one end with a hook and at its opposite end with a latch-engaging part, of a basket having a projection adapted to engage the hook and a latch arranged to enter the latch-engaging part, and a bail pivoted adjacent to the latch-engaging part of the carrier and having pivotal connection with the sides of the basket nearer its hook-engaging end.

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

JAMES W. CLARK.

Witnesses:

E. I. McGOWAN,
MAGGIE C. SMITH.