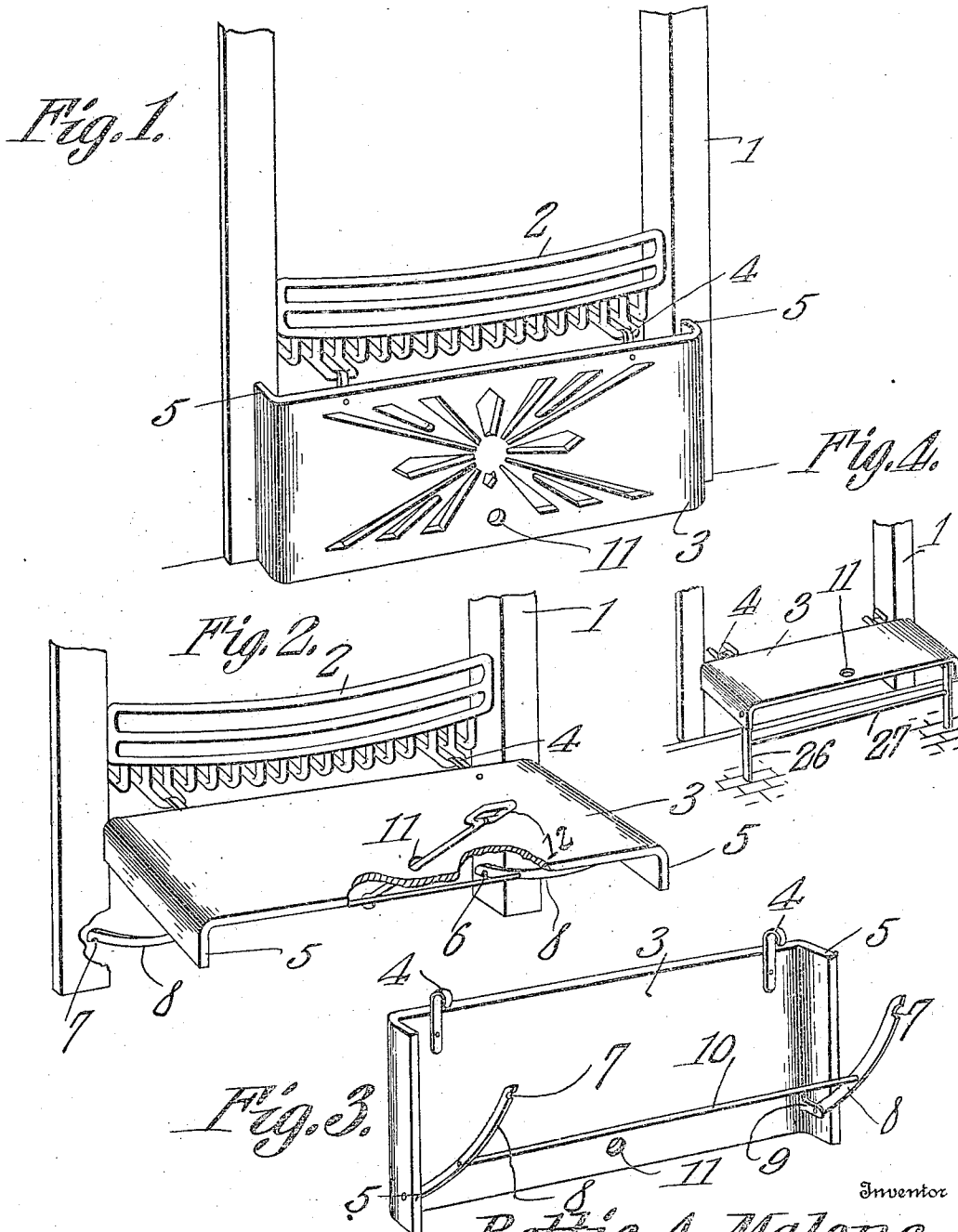


B. A. MALONE.
ASH SCREEN.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 15, 1909.

948,591.

Patented Feb. 8, 1910



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ASH-SCREEN.

948,591.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 8, 1910.

Application filed October 15, 1909. Serial No. 522,839.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BETTIE A. MALONE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Franklin, in the county of Franklin and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Ash-Screen, of which the following is a specification.

The objects of the invention are, generally, the provision in a merchantable form, of a device of the above mentioned class, which shall be inexpensive to manufacture, facile in operation, and devoid of complicated parts; specifically, the provision of a shield which is adapted to be removably assembled with a grate, to hang vertically pendent therefrom, so that the ashes falling from the grate may not find their way outward upon the hearthstone, the shield being adapted to be disposed in a substantially horizontal position, to serve as a shelf for the support of pots, fuel and the like; means being provided whereby the shield may be held in a horizontal position; other and further objects being made manifest hereinafter as the description of the invention progresses.

The invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, delineated in the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in that part of this instrument wherein patentable novelty is claimed for certain distinctive features of the device, it being understood, that, within the scope of what hereinafter thus is claimed, divers changes in the form, proportions, size, and minor details of the structure may be made, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to denote corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings,—Figure 1 shows my invention in perspective, assembled with a grate, and hanging in a vertical position, the device when so disposed, being adapted to prevent the ashes from finding their way outward upon the hearthstone; Fig. 2 shows my invention in perspective, the shield being disposed in a substantially horizontal position, and there retained, the device, in such instance, being adapted to serve as a shelf, as hereinbefore mentioned; Fig. 3 is a detail perspective of the shield; Fig. 4 is a detail perspective of the grate whereby it is normally supported; and Fig. 5 is a per-

spective, showing a modified form of the invention, the shield being disposed in a substantially horizontal position, in accordance with the showing of Fig. 2.

In the accompanying drawings, an open fire place is shown, surrounded by a casing 1, within which is located the grate 2. A shield 3 is provided, preferably fashioned from metal, and ornamented in any design to suit the taste of the user. The inner edge of the shield 3 is provided with outstanding hooks 4, which are adapted to engage the grate 2, so that the shield 3 may hang vertically pendent therefrom, as shown in Fig. 1, the ends 5 of the shield being bent inwardly toward the casing 1, so that there may be no opportunity for the ashes beneath the grate to find their way out upon the hearthstone. Owing to the wide diversity in the construction of grates, it is desired that the hooks 4 may be fashioned in any form to suit the exigencies of the particular case, and I wish to bind myself to no specific form of hook.

The adjacent faces of the casing 1, are provided with outstanding lugs 6, which are adapted to register in notches 7 located at one end of arms 8, which, at their other ends, are pivotally supported upon retaining members, which at one end are mounted in the ears 9, disposed relatively near to the ends 5 of the shield, and, at the other end mounted in said end 5. The ears 9 may be fashioned integrally with the shield 3, and the arms 8 are connected by a rod 10, which is adapted to be engaged by a hook 12, arranged to be inserted in an opening 11 in the shield 3, the hook 12 being adapted to be used, if desired, as a poker.

The operation of the device will be rendered clear upon an examination of the drawings, it being obvious that when the shield is disposed as shown in Fig. 1, the ashes will be prevented from finding their way out upon the hearthstone. The arms 8 rest normally upon the lugs 6, and by raising the shield into the horizontally disposed position of Fig. 2, the notches 7 in the arms will engage the lugs 6, holding the shield in the position shown in Fig. 2. When the shield is thus disposed, it may be used as a shelf, and, likewise, the ashes may readily be removed from beneath the grate. When it is desired to lower the shield from the position shown in Fig. 2, to that shown in Fig. 1, the hook 12 may be inserted

through the opening 11 in the shield and made to engage the rod 10, whereby the notches 7 may be lifted free from their engagement with the lugs 6, the shield, after such manipulation, falling into the position shown in Fig. 1.

The novelty of the invention consists in attaching the screen to a grate, and providing means for utilizing the shield as a shelf, upon which pots, sad-irons, and the like may be placed, to be heated, so that the burning fuel in the grate may be utilized, not only for heating the room, but, as well, for heating the articles which are superposed upon the shield when the same is disposed as shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

It is to be clearly understood, that the specific means for supporting the shield in a horizontal position may be varied greatly, the specific supporting means employed, being dictated by the form of the grate and by other circumstances connected with the employment of the device. Large latitude is desired in the means whereby the shield is supported. I have shown one form of supporting means in Fig. 2 of the drawings, and, in order to demonstrate clearly, that the showing of Fig. 2 may be departed from without sacrificing the advantages of the invention, I have shown, in Fig. 4, a modification of the invention. In this form, the curvilinear legs 8 of Figs. 2 and 3 have been replaced by straight legs 26, adapted to depend from the shield 3 to engage the hearthstone, the legs 26 being connected by a rod 27, it being understood that the legs 26 are pivotally mounted, so that they may be upturned, into close relation with the shield 3, when the same is disposed as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

The invention, indeed, need not be limited, so far as the supporting means are concerned, to the showing, either of Figs. 2 and 3, or that of Fig. 4. Many modifications of the means for supporting the shield in a

horizontal position, will readily suggest themselves, and I reserve the right to alter the form of the supporting means to any desired degree, within the limits of the novelty of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a device of the class described, a shield; means for removably assembling the shield with a grate to hang vertically pendent therefrom; support-engaging legs pivoted at one end to the shield; a rod connecting the legs; and a hook adapted to engage the rod to lift the legs, there being an opening in the shield to receive the hook.

2. In a device of the class described, a shield; means for removably assembling the shield with a grate to hang vertically pendent therefrom; fixed-support engaging means pivotally assembled with the shield for holding the shield in a horizontal position; and means removably insertible through the shield and supportable thereby for manipulating the support-engaging means.

3. A device of the class described comprising a casing; a grate located therein; lugs outstanding from the adjacent faces of the casing; a shield; means for removably assembling the shield with the grate to hang vertically pendent therefrom; spaced legs pivoted at one end to the shield and at the other end provided with notches to engage the lugs; a rigid connection between the legs; and a hook arranged to engage the rigid connection to lift the legs; there being an opening in the shield to receive the hook.

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

BETTIE A. MALONE.

Witnesses:

ELLIS MALONE,

Mrs. R. L. ASPLEY.