(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

C. M. JOHNSON.

RACK FOR STORING AND AGING WHISKY.

No. 252,471. Patented Jan. 17, 1882.

Fig. 1.

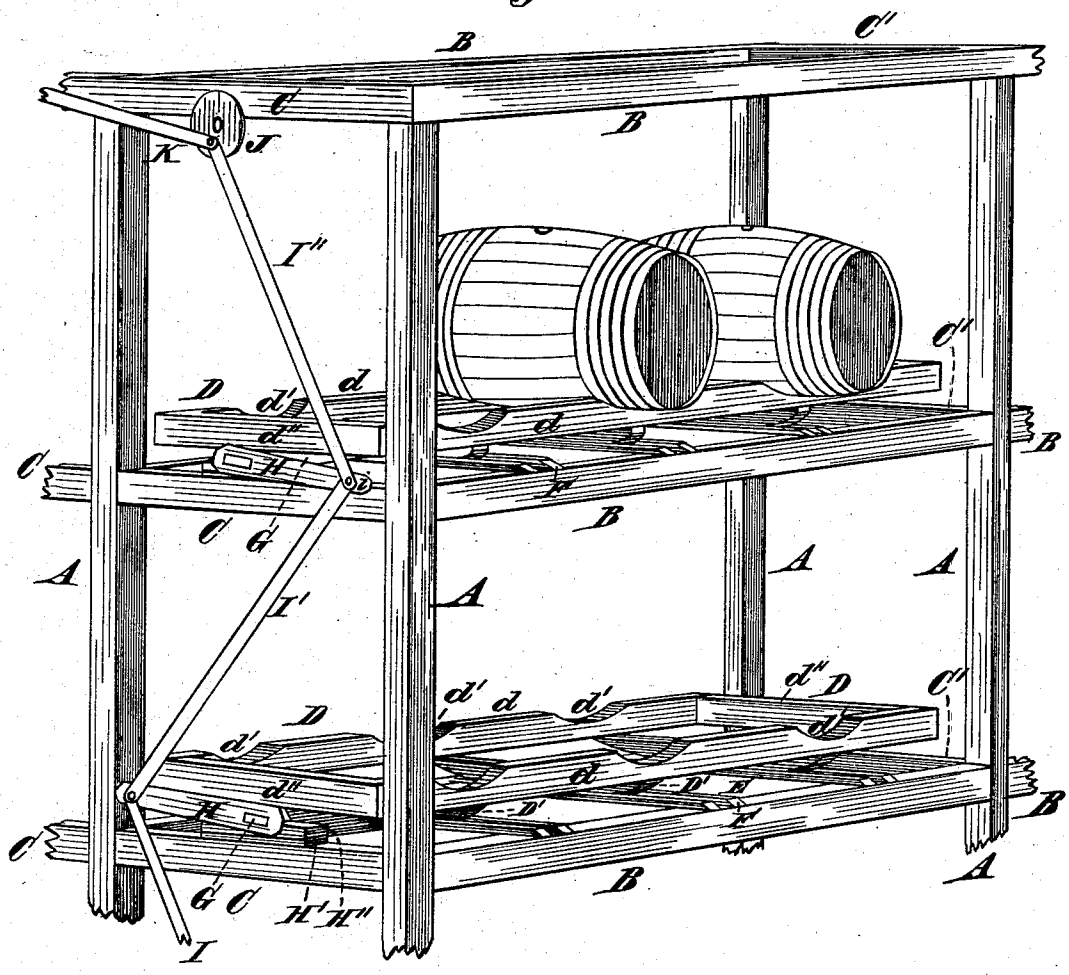


Fig. 2.

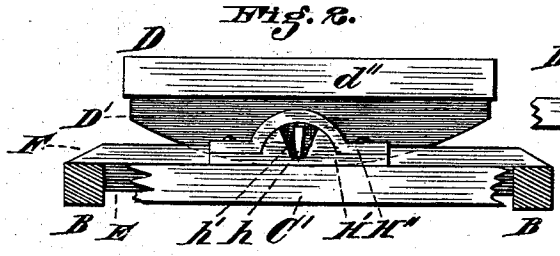
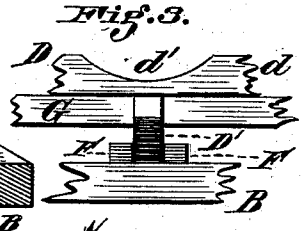


Fig. 3.



Attest

Jno. L. Jones

Jno. Ed. Wiles

Inventor

Claude M. Johnson,

By Wood & Boyd

His Attorneys.

N. PETERS. Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

(No Model.)

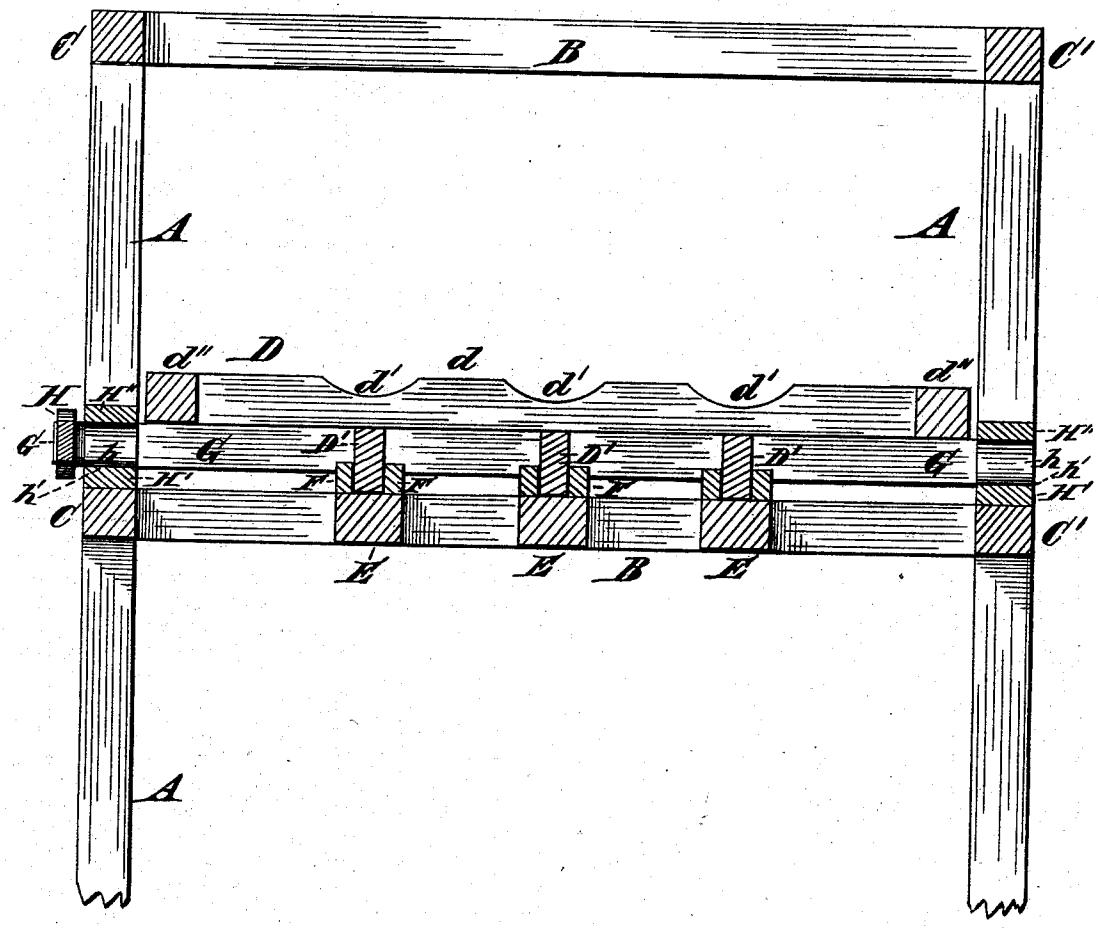
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLAUDE M. JOHNSON, OF LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

RACK FOR STORING AND AGING WHISKY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 252,471, dated January 17, 1882.

Application filed October 20, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLAUDE M. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Lexington, in the county of Fayette and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Racks for Storing and Improving or Aging Whisky, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in racks for storing whisky; and it consists, in the first part, in mounting the racks which hold the barrels in position on rockers, and connecting them by crank and pitman connections with a driving-pulley, so as to rock the rack on which the barrels are placed, and thereby age the whisky.

My invention consists, in the second part, in combining two or more tiers of rocking racks, mounted in the same frame, with crank and pitman connections, so that each alternate tier of barrels will rock in opposite directions. This feature is important, because if all the tiers of racks, being one above the other, were to rock in the same direction the shock or vibration would break the frame in which the racks are mounted, and these shocks or vibrations would seriously affect ordinary buildings in which the articles are desired to be stored.

Other features of my invention will be fully set forth in the following description of the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of several broken sections of a barrel-storing frame, showing my improved rocking racks and their driving-connections in position for operation. Fig. 2 is a rear end view, partly in section, showing the rocker-frame and its rocker-shaft, which is journaled in bearings on the main frame. Fig. 3 is a broken side elevation of the rocker-frame and the rocker-bed of the main frame. Fig. 4 is a central sectional elevation of Fig. 1, but showing but one tier of rocking frames and main frame.

A represents the uprights or posts of the main frame.

B C C′ represent girders or cross-beams. These parts should be rigidly attached together.

E represents cross-timbers, which form the floor of the rockers.

F F represent guides for the rockers to work between.

D represents the rocker-frame. It is composed of frame-pieces *d* and cross-pieces *d″*.

d′ represents segmental notches, in which the barrels rest.

In order to distribute the strain over the entire rocker-frame D, I provide a rocker-shaft, G, which runs longitudinally on the under side of the rocker-frame and is gained into the rockers D′, to which rockers this shaft is rigidly secured, so as to form a tie rod or brace. I provide a supplemental rocker-bearing at each end of the frame, in which the ends of the shaft G rock on knife edge or similar bearings *h*.

H″ represents a cap or plate to hold the rocker-frame down.

H′ represents a plate, upon which the ends of rocker-shaft G rest, preferably in V-shape bearings *h′*, whose side walls act as stops for the ends *h* of shaft G at each end of the rocker-stroke.

I I′ I″ represent pitmen or connecting rods.

J represents a driving crank-wheel, which may be driven by the pitman K or by belts, as preferred. The distance between the crank-pin of pulley J to the center being less than the distance from the crank pin *i* to the center of shaft G, oscillates the crank H, and with it the shaft G and rocker-frame D. It is important to have each alternate crank H move in opposite circular paths, so as to rock each alternate frame D in opposite directions.

It is obvious that other forms of bearings for the shaft G may be employed; but the form herein shown and described is preferred.

I am aware that a rocking platform has been supported by knife-edge bearings for the purpose of agitating the liquor in barrels arranged on said platform. I am also aware that chairs have been provided with rockers arranged to rock on a stationary base-frame. I am also aware that grain-shoes of grain-separators have been composed of two sections driven from a single crank-shaft, by which they are reciprocated in opposite directions; but such features do not constitute my invention, and are not broadly claimed by me, my invention comprising combinations of parts which are specifically set forth in the several clauses of claims.

I claim—

1. The barrel-rack D, having rockers D′, in

combination with the rack-frame A B C C′, provided with rocker-beds E, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The barrel rack D, having rockers D′, in combination with the rack-frame A B C C′, provided with rocker-beds E and rocker-guides F, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

3. In combination with the series of rockers D′, the transverse rocker-shaft G, supported in bearings at each end of the rack-frame, substantially as herein set forth.

4. The combination, with two or more rocker-frames, D, of shafts G, cranks H, connected with the latter and extending in opposite directions, pitmen I, and crank-wheel J, substantially as described, whereby each alternate rocker-frame will rock in a direction opposite to the other, as set forth.

5. The combination, with a stationary supporting-frame, of two or more rocker-frames, D, constructed to hold two or more tiers of barrels and arranged one above the other, and crank and pitman connections, substantially as described, whereby each alternate frame will rock in a direction opposite to the other, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CLAUDE M. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

CORNELIUS BYL,

JOHN E. JONES.