M. J. SHACKMAN.

COMBINATION IRONING BOARD, STEP LADDER, AND DRYING RACK.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 15, 1918.

1,302,862.

Patented May 6, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

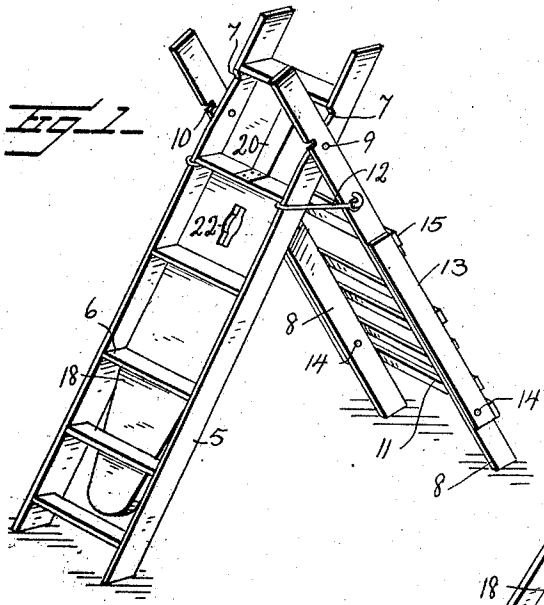


Fig. 2.

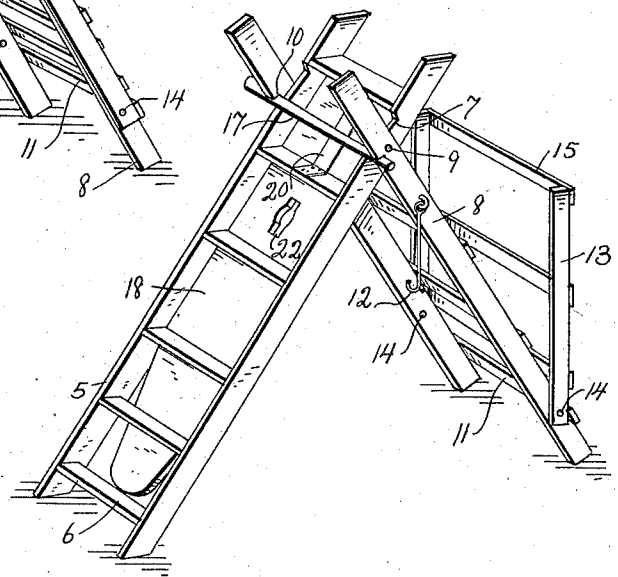
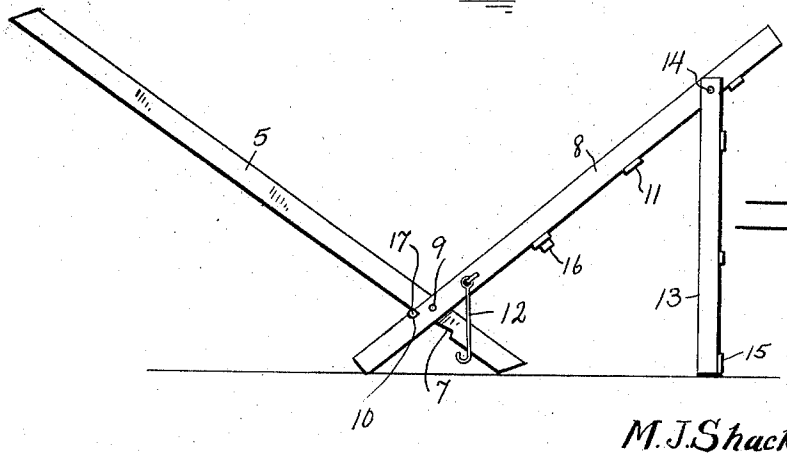


Fig. 3.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

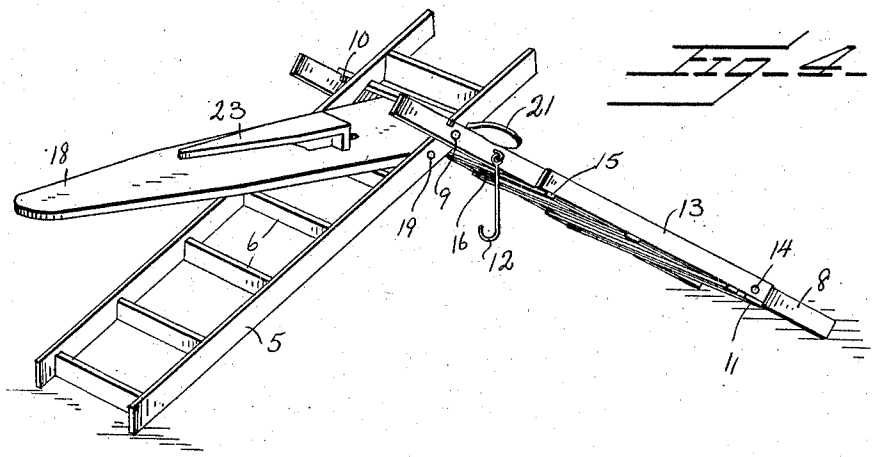


Fig. 5.

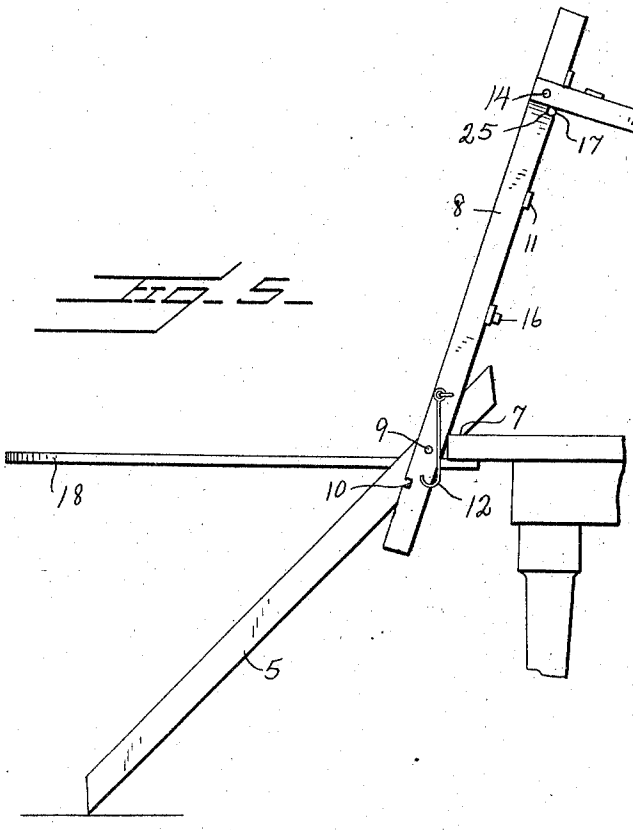
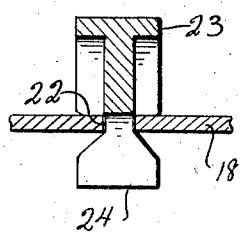


Fig. 6.



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MATHEW J. SHACKMAN, OF FLORA, ILLINOIS.

COMBINATION IRONING-BOARD, STEP-LADDER, AND DRYING-RACK.

1,302,862. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 6, 1919.

Application filed July 15, 1918. Serial No. 244,946.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATHEW J. SHACKMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Flora, in the county of Clay and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combination Ironing-Boards, Step-Ladders, and Drying-Racks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to an improved combination ironing board, step ladder and drying rack, and has for its primary object to provide a device which may be easily and quickly converted into any one of the three articles mentioned, and which is so constructed that when not in use the various parts can be compactly arranged so that the device may be stored in a relatively small space.

It is another and more particular object of my invention to provide improved means for mounting the ironing board upon the ladder proper, means to normally urge the board to a position between the side rails of the ladder and within the plane thereof, a prop for the ladder pivotally connected to one end thereof, and means to coact with the ladder, the prop and the ironing board to retain the latter in its operative position.

It is also one of the detail objects of the invention to provide a drying rack or frame pivotally connected to the ladder prop and movable to an angular position with respect thereto, and means for retaining the rack in its folded or collapsed position upon the prop.

And it is finally a general object of the invention to improve and simplify the construction of devices of the above character whereby the same are rendered very serviceable and convenient in practical use, strong and durable in construction, and capable of manufacture at relatively small cost.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the improved construction, combination and arrangement of the several elements as will be hereinafter more fully described, subsequently claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the device arranged for use as a ladder;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the device arranged in position for use as a drying rack;

Fig. 3 is a side elevation illustrating another arrangement of the device in the latter use thereof;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view illustrating the relative arrangement of the parts when the ironing board is in use, the drying rack being shown folded against the prop;

Fig. 5 is a side elevation illustrating still another arrangement of the device; and

Fig. 6 is a transverse section illustrating the manner of attaching the sleeve board to the ironing board.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 5 designates the parallel side rails of the ladder proper, between which the spaced steps or treads 6 are suitably fixed. These ladder rails adjacent one of their ends and in the corresponding longitudinal edges thereof are notched, as shown at 7.

To the rails 5 of the ladder and in spaced relation to the notches 7 therein, the props 8 are pivoted, as shown at 9. These props are likewise notched in one of their longitudinal edges at points in spaced relation to the pivots as shown at 10. The props are rigidly connected to each other and braced at points by the cross bars or slats 11, and to the outer side of each prop adjacent its pivoted end a hook 12 is loosely connected. The bills of these hooks are adapted for engagement over the edges of the side rails 5 of the ladder and beneath one of the steps or treads 6 thereof as clearly seen in Fig. 1 of the drawing whereby relatively separating movement of the ladder proper and the props will be prevented in the use of the device. One of the cross bars 11 of the support is extended beyond the outer side faces of the props 8 and serves as a stop for the side bars 13 of a drying rack or frame which are pivoted, as at 14, to the outer faces of the props 8. These side props 13 of the rack are connected by the cross bars or slats 15, upon which the articles to be dried are hung. The cross bars 11 of the props may also be used for a similar purpose. Upon one of these cross bars 11, a latch button 16 is pivoted and is adapted for engagement over the end slat or bar 15 of the drying rack to hold said rack in its folded or collapsed position with relation to the props.

When the device is to be used as a drying

rack, the parts are arranged as seen in either Fig. 2 or Fig. 3 of the drawing. The hooks 12 are first disengaged from the ladder rails, and the props and ladder separated. A rod or key 17 is engaged in the notches or recesses 10 in the props 8 and the engagement of this rod upon the upper edges of the side rails of the ladder prevents the complete collapse of the ladder and props so that they will be retained in the relative angular positions indicated. The drying rack or frame is then raised from its folded position upon the support to the angular position seen in Fig. 2. By simply inverting the device when arranged in this manner, the drying rack will extend downwardly from the upper end portions of the props 8 and engage upon the floor. In either arrangement, the device will serve as a very convenient holder or rack for the garments or other articles to be dried.

Between the side rails 5 of the ladder, the ironing board 18 is pivoted at its wider end, as shown at 19. This board is yieldingly urged to a position in parallel relation to the side rails of the ladder and between said rails by means of a leaf spring 20 which is fixed at one of its ends to one of the steps or treads of the ladder and bears against said board. In the use of the ironing board, the ladder proper and its props 8 are relatively disposed, as shown in Fig. 4, and the ironing board is lifted to a substantially horizontal position. A flat key or rod 21 is then engaged in the notches or recesses 7 on the side rails of the ladder and upon the upper side of the ironing board at its pivoted end, said bar contacting with the upper edges of the props 8. Thus, the ironing board will be held in its operative position against the action of the spring 20 which tends to return said board to its normal position with relation to the ladder.

The ironing board has a longitudinally extending slot 22 therein adjacent its pivoted end through which a T-shaped head 24 provided at one end of the sleeve board 23 is adapted to be inserted when said sleeve board is disposed above and at right angles to the ironing board. After inserting the head 24 through said slot, the sleeve board may be turned to a position longitudinally of the ironing board so that said head will then be disposed transversely of the slot 22 beneath the board 18. The sleeve board is thus securely connected to the ironing board while at the same time it may be easily and quickly removed therefrom when its use is not desired.

If desired, the ironing board and clothes rack may be arranged as seen in Fig. 5 of the drawing, wherein the ladder proper is disposed in an angular position at the edge of a table and the pivoted end of the ironing board is engaged beneath the table edge, the props 8 having been raised to an angular position extending over the table, said props 8 resting upon the edge of the table. The clothes hanging rack is then extended from the props to a substantially horizontal position. The props 8 are provided in their longitudinal edges, adjacent the pivots 14, with the additional notches or recesses 25 in which the rod or key 17 is adapted to be engaged to retain the hanger rack in its extended position. Thus, the articles after being ironed may be conveniently suspended from the transverse bars of the props and the rack.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the construction of the device and the several ways in which it may be used will be clearly and fully understood. When not in use, the props with the hanger rack collapsed thereon, may be folded upon the side rails of the ladder and the several parts of the device thus very compactly arranged, the ironing board being wholly disposed between the ladder rails. Thus, the article can be packed away or stored in a relatively small space. The ladder as well as its support and the hanger rack may be of any desired length and a greater number of the hanger bars may be provided than as herein indicated.

I claim:—

1. In combination, a ladder, props pivotally connected to the side rails of the ladder at one of their ends, means on the props to coact with the ladder and prevent the separating movement of the props and ladder when disposed in angular positions with respect to each other, an ironing board pivotally mounted at one of its ends between the ladder rails, and additional means simultaneously coacting with the props, the ladder rails, and the pivoted end of the ironing board to retain said board in an operative angular position with respect to the ladder.

2. In combination, a ladder, an ironing board pivotally mounted between the ladder rails and foldable to lie in a plane therebetween, props pivotally connected to the ladder rails to support the ladder in position for use, hooks attached to the props to engage the stiles of one of the ladder steps and hold the parts against separating movement, said ladder rails being provided with notches in one of their ends, and a removable key adapted to be engaged in said notches above the pivoted end of the ironing board to hold said board in its operative position.

3. In combination, a ladder, props pivotally connected to the ladder rails to support the ladder in position for use, a drying rack pivotally connected to the props and foldable thereupon, said props being provided

with notches in one of their longitudinal edges adjacent the pivots of the drying rack, and an additional key adapted to be engaged in said notches to retain the rack in an angular position with respect to the props.

4. In combination, a ladder, props pivotally engaged to the side rails of the ladder, an ironing board pivotally mounted at one of its end portions between the ladder rails, and means constantly urging the ironing board between the rails of the ladder.

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

MATHEW J. SHACKMAN.

Witnesses:
BEN. F. WINELAND,
H. T. PATTON.

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