

R. M. MERRILL.
FLAT IRON HEATER.

No. 171,945.

Patented Jan. 11, 1876.

Fig. 1.

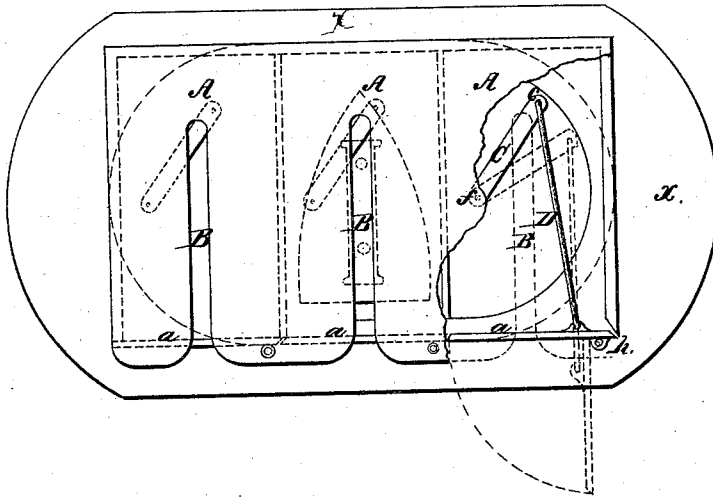


Fig. 2.

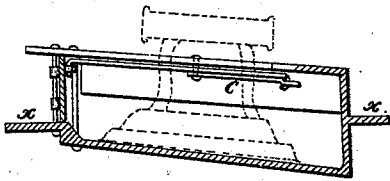


Fig. 3.

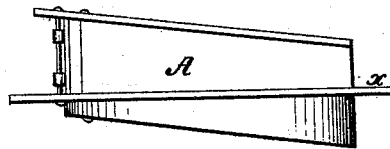
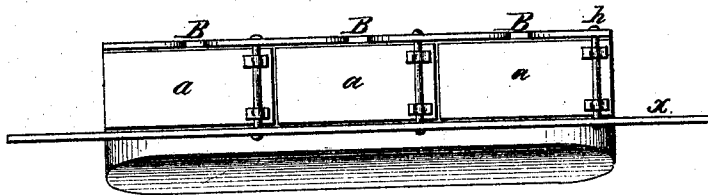


Fig. 4.



Witnesses.

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RUFUS M. MERRILL, OF ENGLEWOOD, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN FLAT-IRON HEATERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 171,945, dated January 11, 1876; application filed October 30, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUFUS M. MERRILL, of Englewood, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sad-Iron Heaters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the construction and operation thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference thereon, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents the top of the heater, with a portion removed so as to exhibit the arrangement of the internal parts. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, Fig. 3 an end view, and Fig. 4 a front view, of the heater.

The object of my invention is to produce a sad-iron heater in which the action of inserting the sad-iron therein and withdrawing the same therefrom will close and open the door of the heater automatically, thereby preventing waste of heat while the iron is being heated, and also assuring great saving in fuel and labor.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A is a hollow rectangular case or heater, inclosed on all its sides, and having a flange or rim, *x*, extending around it, so as to support the heater over the fire-box of an ordinary cooking-stove, that part of the heater which is below the flange being formed so as to fit into the openings of the top of the stove. The front part above the flange is provided with the door *a*, which is hinged to the heater, as shown at *h*, for the purpose of admitting a sad-iron to be placed therein. B is a slot, which extends from the front edge of the top plate of the heater back a sufficient distance to allow the sad-iron to be inserted in the

same with the handle projecting through the slot. C is a lever, having its fulcrum *f* at one end, by which it is secured to the under side of the top plate of the heater, and extends therefrom diagonally across the slot B, and terminates with an eye, *e*, through which one end of the rod D is bent, so as to form a hinge. The other end of the rod is hinged to the door *a*, as shown, at a point near the hinge *h*, thereby connecting the door with the lever C in such a manner that, when a sad-iron is placed in the heater, the handle of the iron presses or pushes against the lever, and by the action thereof through the rod D closes the door automatically. The action of withdrawing the sad-iron from the heater opens the door *a*, ready for the admission of another iron to be heated.

Any number of these receptacles may be combined and used as one utensil, according to the size of the stove-opening and number of irons required to be heated at one time. The drawing, Fig. 1, represents the combination for three irons.

I do not claim a hollow case provided with slots and having a door, and used for the purpose of heating smoothing-irons; but

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, in a sad-iron heater, of the lever C, the connecting-rod D, and door *a*, arranged and operating substantially as specified.

2. The slotted case A and parts C and D, in combination with the door *a* and hinge *h*, all constructed and arranged as and for the purpose specified.

RUFUS M. MERRILL.

Witnesses:

R. H. CRANE,
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