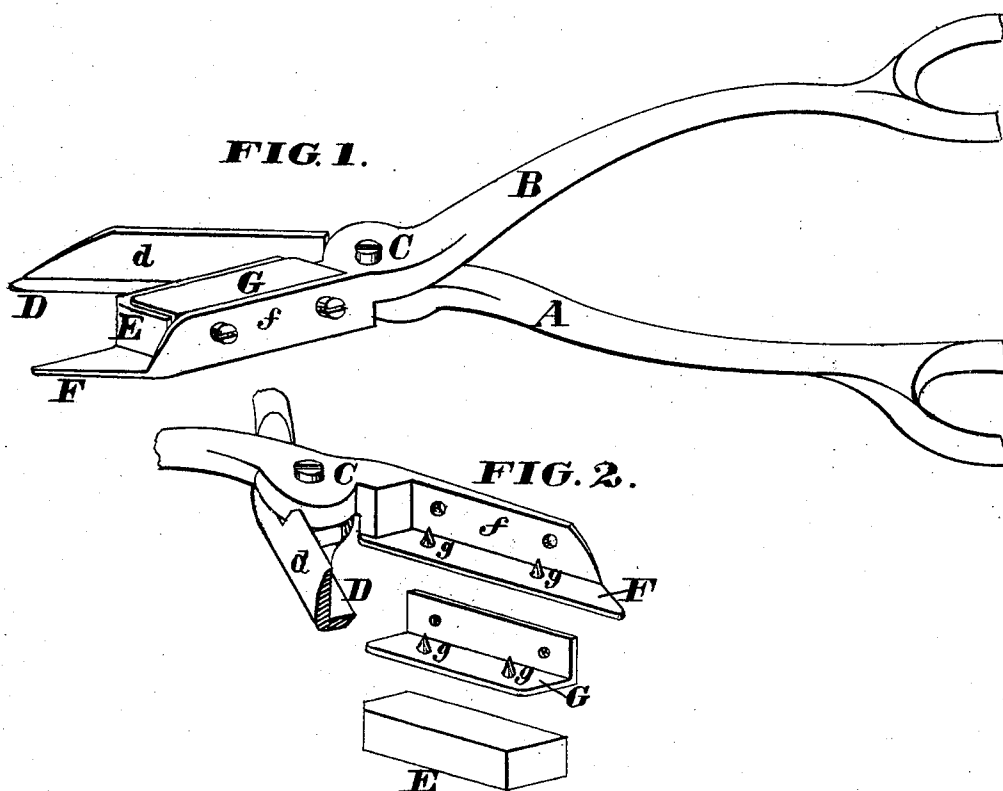


C. W. H. DELANO.
Grape and Flower-Pickers.

No. 144,837.

Patented Nov. 25, 1873.



WITNESSES.

Walter Allen
H. J. Tanner.

INVENTOR:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES W. H. DELANO, OF CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN GRAPE AND FLOWER PICKERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **144,837**, dated November 25, 1873; application filed May 23, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. H. DELANO, of Cedar Rapids, Lee county, Iowa, have invented a certain Improvement in Grape and Flower Pickers, of which the following is a specification:

My improvement consists in the manner of constructing the instrument, which has a pair of shears, one jaw of which carries a flange projecting at right angles to the face of the jaw. The other jaw has a recess for a block of india-rubber. The recess is made by securing an angle-plate to a flange extending at right angles from the face of the jaw. This construction enables the easy introduction and removal of the rubber pad and its firm hold in the recess, as described—hereafter more fully explained.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement. Fig. 2 is a perspective view with parts of the jaws detached.

A B are the handles, that may be made of any form that will give the proper hand-hold. C is the pivot. D is one of the jaws, which has a flange, *d*, at its rear edge to press against one side of the severed stem of the bunch or flower, the other side of the stem being pressed into the india-rubber pad E, which is secured to the lower jaw F in the following manner: At the back edge of the jaw is a flange, *f*, extending at right angles to the face of the jaw, and to this flange is secured (preferably by screws, so as to render it removable) an angle-plate, G. On the opposite sides of the jaw F and plate G may be spurs *g*, as shown, to prevent the movement of the rubber under strain. The flange *d* may be roughened or corrugated on the inner side to hold the stem more securely.

If double rubber lips or pads were used the

hold would be insecure, owing to the flexibility of the rubber being great in all directions, and allowing the stem to be drawn by the weight of the bunch from the holder. If both holding-surfaces were metallic they could not be made to suit the various sizes of stems, as the larger stems would remain unsevered, and the smaller ones would be severed before the seizure by the holder; but with rubber on one side and metal on the other side of the holder, the lips take hold of any size of stem before it is severed, and yet allow the cutters to cut off the stem, even if of considerable size. The metallic lip forms a fixed holding-surface on one side, while the rubber serves as a spring to hold it firmly against the rigid lip. Without the spurs *g* the rubber would be liable to creep out gradually.

The improvement is suitable for gathering bunches of fruit, and also for gathering flowers, particularly those of a thorny kind.

In using the instrument, the lips first come in contact with the stem, which is pressed into the rubber more or less, according to its size, and it is then cut off by the shears and retained by the holding-lips until they are again separated.

I claim as my invention—

The grape and flower picker herein described, consisting of the jaw D provided with the metallic flange *d*, the jaw F provided with the flange *f*; the removable angle piece G, and rubber pad E, the plate G and jaw F being provided with spurs *g*, all combined and arranged substantially as and for the purpose shown and described.

CHARLES W. H. DELANO.

Witnesses:

L. O. COTTLE,
H. J. HARVEY.