W. H. BAGBY.

NUTCRACKER.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1919.

1,322,393. Patented Nov. 18, 1919.

Fig. 1.

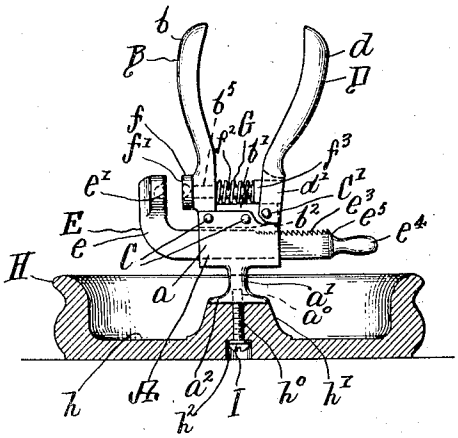


Fig. 2.

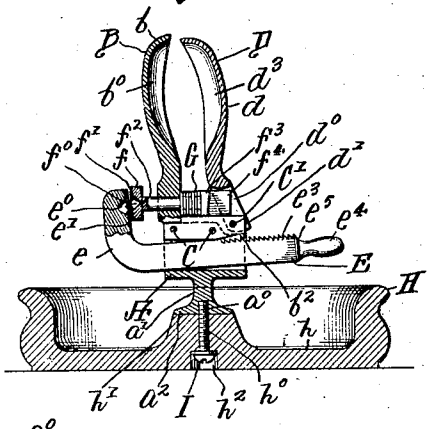


Fig. 3.

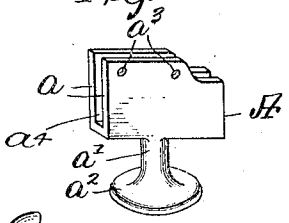


Fig. 6.

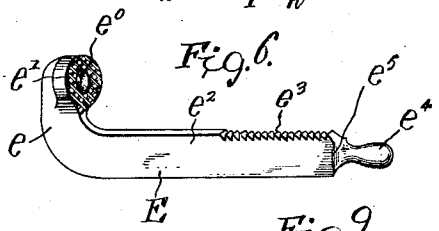


Fig. 4.

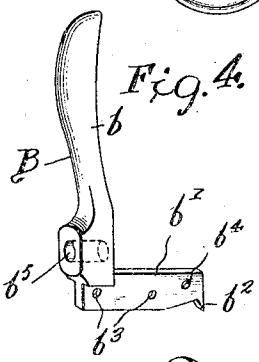


Fig. 7.

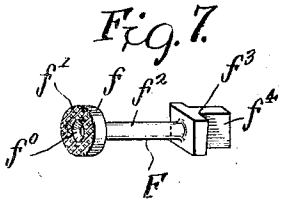


Fig. 9.

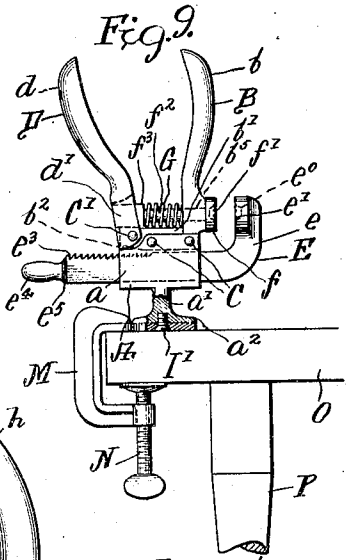


Fig. 5.

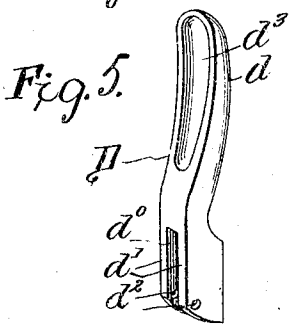
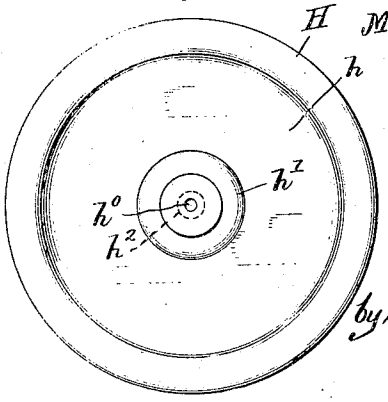


Fig. 8.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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NUTCRACKER.

1,322,393. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 18, 1919.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. BAGBY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nutcrackers; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My present invention relates to improvements in nut crackers, and it is intended to provide a simple and readily operated nut cracker which will be efficient in service, and can be manipulated by unskilled operators who would ordinarily have charge of this kind of work.

My invention will be more fully understood after reference to the accompanying drawings, in which like parts are indicated by similar reference symbols throughout the several views; and in which:—

Figure 1 shows a side elevation of the apparatus mounted on a supporting bowl, the bowl being shown in section, and the nut cracker being shown in the open position.

Fig. 2 is a similar view to Fig. 1, except that the nut cracker is shown in central vertical section, and in the closed position.

Fig. 3 is a detail showing the main frame to which the several movable parts are attached.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the fixed handle.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the pivoted handle.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the adjustable jaw member.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the movable jaw member.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of the bowl adapted to be used with the device; and

Fig. 9 shows the device as applied to a shelf or table without the bowl.

A represents the main frame which may be made of a single casting, having the side brackets a, the stem a', the flanged base a^2, the bolt holes a^3, the cut-away portion a^4, and the internal screw threads a^0 in the base.

B represents the fixed handle, which is provided with a grip piece b, and the arm b' adapted to fit between the brackets a and adapted to be secured thereto by bolts C passing through the holes b^3. This arm b' is provided with a catch b^2, with a hole b^4 for the pivot pin C', and with a hole b^5 for the stem of the movable jaw member F.

D represents the swinging gripping member which is provided with a handle d and with a slot d^0 between the side walls d', and with the holes d^2 to engage the pivot pin C'. The members B and D are preferably hollowed out and rounded as shown at b^0 and d^3, respectively.

E represents the adjustable jaw member which is provided with an arm e having the roughened engaging face e' surrounding the recess e^0. The other arm e^2 of this member E is provided with rack teeth e^3, and with a handle e^4. The part e^5 of the member E is preferably thickened somewhat so as to prevent the member E from being accidentally pushed entirely out of the machine.

The sliding jaw member F is provided with a head f, roughened as at f', and recessed as at f^0. Opposite the head f the member F is provided with a T-shaped heel f^3, having the web f^4 projecting between the side walls d' of the member D.

G represents a coil spring fitting over the neck f^2 of the member F and tending to automatically restore the nut cracker to the open position as shown in Figs. 1 and 9.

H represents a suitable bowl which may be made of wood or metal, preferably of wood, and forms a support for the nut cracker and also a receptacle in which the broken nuts may be allowed to fall after being cracked. This bowl is shown as provided with an annular chamber h surrounding the central boss h', which is perforated as at h^0 to permit the insertion of the fastening screw I, and said perforation h^0 is enlarged as at h^2 to mask the head of the screw I when the nut cracker is secured on the bowl, and thus the screw will not tend to scratch the surface of the table or other platform on which the device is mounted.

While I prefer to mount the nut cracker on a bowl as shown, whereby the device may be transported from place to place and used wherever desired, the bowl may be dispensed with, and the nut cracker may be mounted on a shelf or table as shown in Fig. 9, where M represents a clamp having the clamp screw N, which clamp may be secured to the shelf or table, such as the table O supported on the legs P. The nut

cracker may be secured to the clamp M in any convenient way, as by means of the screw bolt I'.

The same nut cracker may be used either with the bowl H or with the clamp M, but in the latter construction a shorter screw bolt is used.

The rack teeth e^3 on the arm e^2 of the adjustable jaw member E are so arranged, when the parts are assembled, that they will normally slide freely beneath the catch b^2, but when the arm e' is tilted somewhat, as happens when slight pressure is applied to the arm e, as in inserting a nut, one of these teeth will engage the catch b^2, thus holding the jaw member E as the sliding jaw member F is moved toward the nut being cracked.

The operation of the device is as follows: The adjustable jaw member E is slid in the frame A until the distance between the jaws is approximately the diameter of the nut to be cracked.

Then, or at the same time, insert the nut and with the grip of one hand press the swinging gripping member D toward the fixed gripping member B, cracking the nut.

When the nut has been sufficiently cracked, if the swinging member D be released the cracked nut will fall into the bowl H; or into any suitable receptacle, not shown, on the table or shelf to which the nut cracker may be secured.

It will be obvious that various modifications might be made in the herein described device, and in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts which could be used without departing from the spirit of my invention; and I do not mean to limit the invention to such details except as particularly pointed out in the claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. In a nut cracker, the combination with a frame provided with a base adapted to be secured to a suitable support, of an adjustable jaw member provided with an upwardly projecting arm adapted to engage the nut, and with a horizontal arm provided with rack teeth on its upper edge, a fixed gripping member secured to said frame and provided with an upwardly projecting handle, and with a catch adapted to engage said rack teeth, a swinging gripping member, and a sliding jaw member engaging said swinging gripping member and provided with a stem passing through said fixed gripping member, with a spring normally restoring the parts to the initial position, substantially as described.

2. In a nut cracker, the combination with a frame provided with a base adapted to be secured to a suitable support, an adjustable jaw member provided with an upwardly projecting arm adapted to engage the nut, and with a horizontal arm provided with rack teeth on its upper edge, a fixed gripping member secured to said frame and provided with an upwardly projecting handle, and with a catch adapted to engage said rack teeth, and with a horizontal arm, a second gripping member pivoted to said horizontal arm and also provided with a handle, and a sliding jaw member engaging said pivoted gripping member and provided with a stem passing through said fixed gripping member, with a coil spring mounted on said stem and normally restoring the parts to the initial position, substantially as described.

3. In a nut cracker, the combination with a frame provided with a base adapted to be secured to a suitable support, said frame being provided with side brackets, of an adjustable jaw member slidably mounted between said brackets and provided with an upwardly projecting arm adapted to engage the nut, and with a horizontal arm provided with rack teeth on its upper edge, a fixed gripping member secured to said frame and provided with an upwardly projecting handle, and with a catch adapted to engage said rack teeth, a swinging gripping member, and a sliding jaw member engaging said swinging gripping member and provided with a stem passing through said fixed gripping member, with a coil spring mounted on said stem and normally restoring the parts to the initial position, substantially as described.

4. In a nut cracker, the combination with a frame provided with a base adapted to be secured to a suitable support, said frame being provided with side brackets, of an adjustable jaw member slidably mounted between said brackets and provided with an upwardly projecting arm adapted to engage the nut, and with a horizontal arm provided with rack teeth on its upper edge, a fixed gripping member secured to said frame and provided with an upwardly projecting handle, and with a catch adapted to engage said rack teeth, a swinging gripping member, and a sliding jaw member engaging said swinging gripping member and provided with a stem passing through said fixed gripping member, and a spring for normally restoring the movable parts to the initial position, substantially as described.

5. In a nut cracker, the combination with a frame provided with a base adapted to be secured to a suitable support, said frame being provided with side brackets, of an adjustable jaw member slidably mounted between said brackets and provided with an upwardly projecting arm adapted to engage the nut, and with a horizontal arm provided with rack teeth on its upper edge, a fixed gripping member secured to said frame and provided with an upwardly projecting

handle, and with a catch adapted to engage said rack teeth, and with a horizontal arm also mounted between said brackets, a second gripping member pivoted to said horizontal arm and also provided with a handle, and a sliding jaw member engaging said pivoted gripping member and provided with a stem passing through said fixed gripping member, with a coil spring mounted on said stem and normally restoring the parts to the initial position, substantially as described.

6. In a nut cracker, the combination with a frame provided with a base adapted to be secured to a suitable support, said frame being provided with side brackets, of an adjustable jaw member slidably mounted between said brackets and provided with an upwardly projecting arm adapted to engage the nut, and with a horizontal arm provided with rack teeth on its upper edge, a fixed gripping member secured to said frame and provided with an upwardly projecting handle, and with a catch adapted to engage said rack teeth, and with a horizontal arm also mounted between said brackets, a second gripping member pivoted to said horizontal arm and also provided with a handle, and a sliding jaw member engaging said pivoted gripping member and provided with a stem passing through said fixed gripping member, and a spring for normally restoring the movable parts to the initial position, substantially as described.

7. The combination with a bowl, of a nut cracker provided with a frame connected to said bowl, and self-spreading vertical handles for operating said nut cracker connected to said frame, substantially as and for the purposes described.

WILLIAM H. BAGBY.