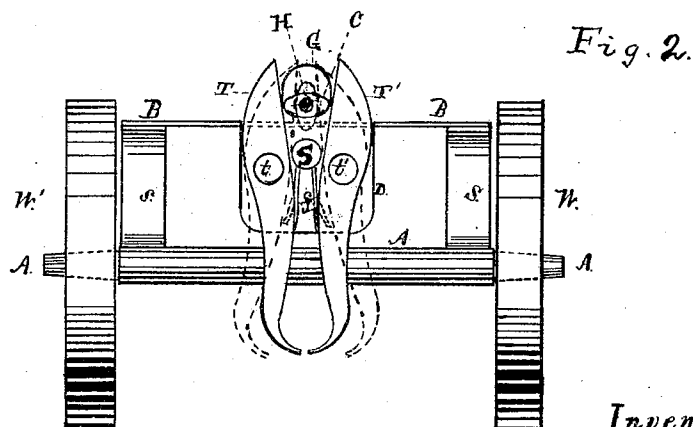
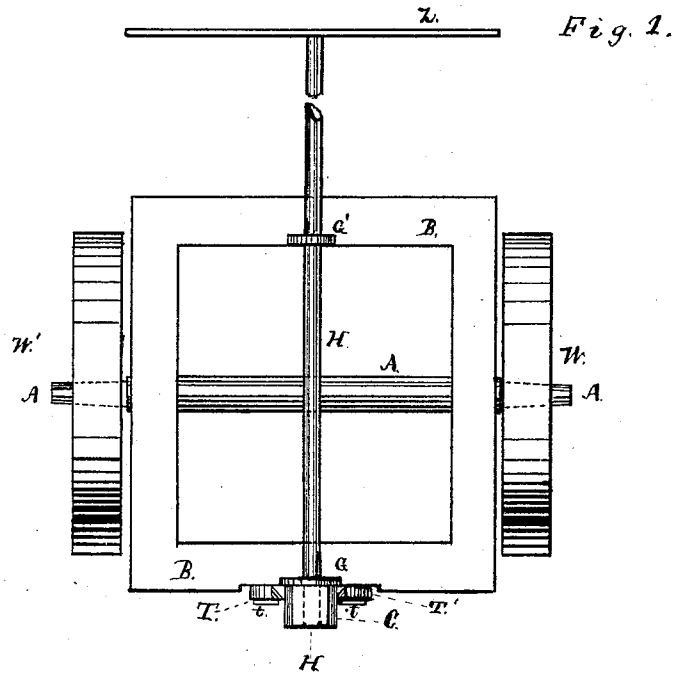


C. A. BALL.
Trucks for Transporting Railroad Rails,
Car-Axles, &c.

No. 142,759.

Patented September 16, 1873.



Witnesses:
A. D. Peck
Wm. F. McNamee

Inventor:
Charles A. Ball.
per. Wheeler W. Phillips
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. BALL, OF RIDGEWOOD, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH HIS RIGHT TO EDWARD WHRITNOEUR, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRUCKS FOR TRANSPORTING RAILROAD-RAILS, CAR-AXLES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **142,759**, dated September 16, 1873; application filed May 28, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. BALL, of Ridgewood, in the county of Bergen and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Trucks for the Transportation of Railroad-Rails, Car-Axles, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to facilitate the handling of railroad-rails, car-axles, and large pieces of bar, rolled, and wrought iron, &c.; and it consists in applying to the extended tongue of a truck an elliptical-shaped cam, which, by pressing against the limbs of a pair of suspended tongs, causes the points of said limbs to approach or recede by the rotation of said extended tongue, and, being closed around the material, allows of its being transported.

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved truck, and Fig. 2 is a rear view elevation of Fig. 1, showing the tongs open and shut.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

B represents the bed, body, or platform of the truck sustained upon the axle A by the supports S S. Upon the axle are the two wheels W W'. On the upper surface of the platform are the two boxes G G' containing the rotating tongue H, which has at one end the handle *h*, by which the tongue is rotated. At the other end of the tongue is the elliptical cam C, which is secured thereto, so that its plane surfaces and greater diameter are parallel to the handle. This cam presses against the limbs T T' of a pair of tongs, said limbs being pivoted to the back plate D by the pivots *t t'*, and all suspended so that their points are below the axle A. The back plate is suspended at right angles to the body, and strongly fastened thereto. The slight press-

ure necessary to keep the points of the tongs apart is furnished by the spring *f*.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The truck being placed over the material desired to be moved, the tongs are depressed by elevating the handle, which is at right angles to the floor, with the elliptic cam in the same position; consequently the tongs are open to their greatest width, and in a position to be closed around the material, which is done by the turning of the handle so that it is parallel to the floor; then, by depressing the handle until the material is clear of the floor and suspended, it can be moved to any convenient point.

Care should be taken to suspend the material so that one end rests against the axle, which can be done by suspending it so that the greater bulk is beyond the tongs and not under the truck. The advantage derived from thus suspending the material is that it enables it to be moved steadily and without swinging.

In case the material is of great length one end may rest against a support in front of the axle. The cam may be provided with two parallel faces at the extremities of the longer diameter to prevent any possible slipping when material is suspended.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The limbs T T' of a pair of tongs, attached to the body of a truck, and having the points thereof below the level of the axle A of said truck.

2. The limbs T T' of a pair of tongs, operated by the elliptical cam C attached to the rotating tongue H of said truck.

CHARLES A. BALL.

Witnesses:

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