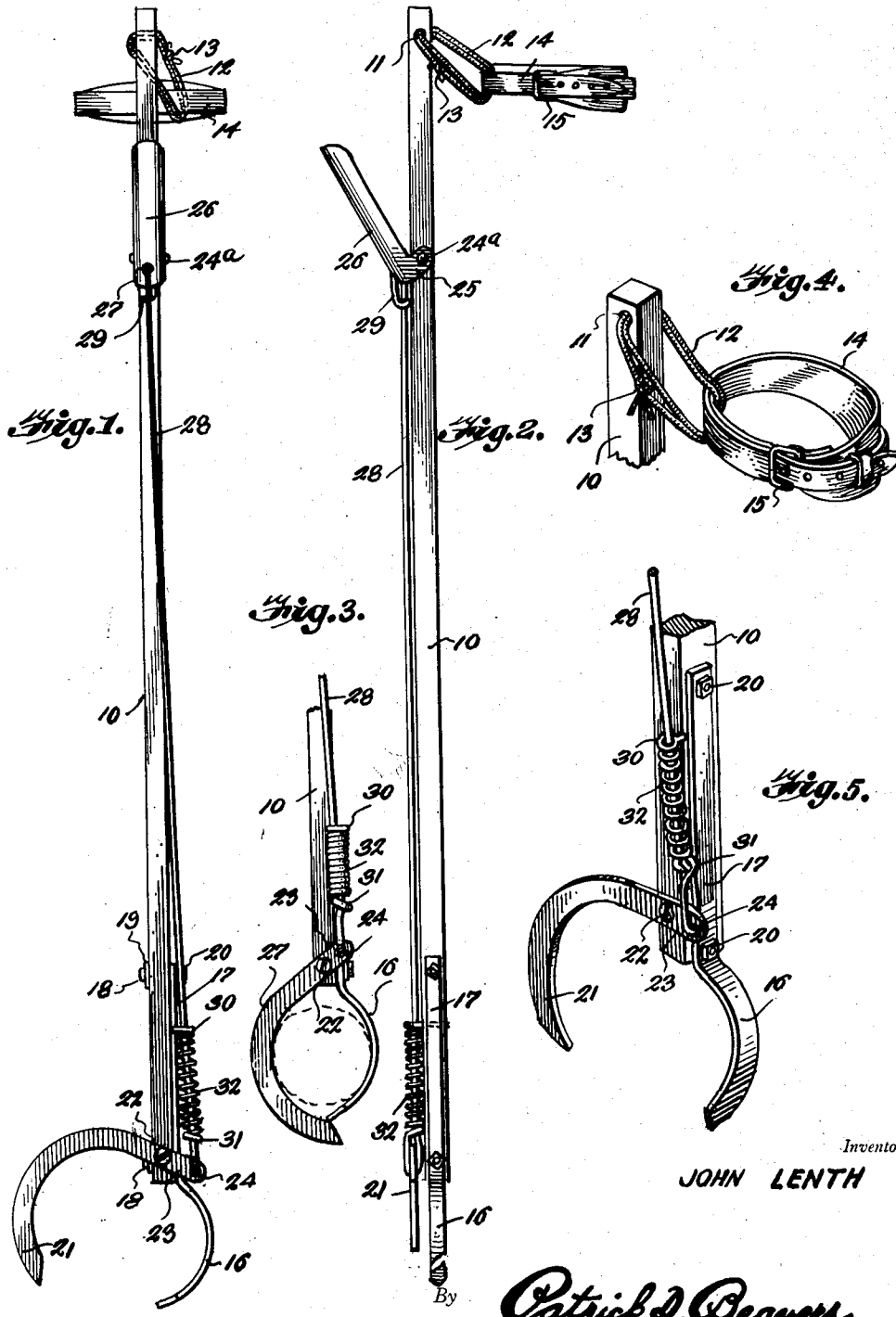


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J. LENTH
CORN PICKER

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Inventor

JOHN LENTH

By *Patrick D. Beavers*

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CORN PICKER

John Lenth, Rochester, Minn.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 294—50.9)

1 The present invention relates to a corn picker and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements of parts herein described and claimed.

Generally there is provided a corn picker having an elongated shaft at one end of which is attached flexibly a wrist engaging strap and at the other end of which there is affixed a permanently positioned curved hook or jaw. Pivotally mounted in cooperative relation to the fixed jaw there is a movable jaw which is actuated by a rod which is connected, in turn, to an actuating handle pivotally mounted upon the shaft adjacent the wrist-engaging strut. A spring is provided for normally holding the movable jaw away from the fixed jaw. The device is designed for the picking of corn particularly but may be, of course, used for many other purposes. In corn picking, the device permits the operator to work a great deal faster and at the same time eliminates the necessity for stooping and thus eliminates to a great degree a common complaint among farmers engaged in this work—backache.

It is accordingly an object of the invention to provide a device of the character set forth which is simple in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and yet effective and efficient in use.

Another object of the invention is to provide, in a device of the character set forth, a novel means for attaching the same to the wrist of the user.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a device of the character set forth having means whereby objects may be picked up at a distance from the operator.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of novel means, in a device of the character set forth, for holding out of engagement a movable jaw from a fixed jaw, both jaws forming a part of the invention.

Other and further objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following specification taken in conjunction with the drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 2 is an end elevational view thereof,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary elevational view similar to Figure 1 but showing certain elements of the invention advanced from their position shown in Figure 1,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating a wrist engaging member forming a part of the invention, and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary perspective view il-

2 lustrating the means by which the movable jaw is normally held in a position away from the fixed jaw, which jaws likewise form a part of the invention.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, there is shown therein an elongated shaft 10 having an opening 11 extending therethrough adjacent the upper end thereof and through which opening extends a flexible member, preferably a leather thong which may be looped two or more times through such opening 11 and have its ends tied together, as indicated at 13.

The thong 12 encompasses a wrist engaging strap 14 which is provided with a buckle 15.

A curved fixed jaw 16 extends below the lower end of the shaft 10 and is provided with an integrally formed shank 17 which is affixed to the shaft 10 by means of bolts 18 provided with washers 19 and nuts 20.

A movable jaw 21, likewise curvular is pivotally mounted upon a screw 22 or the like adjacent the lower end of the shaft 10 and is provided with an integrally formed extension 23 having an opening 24 adjacent the outer end thereof.

Adjacent the upper end of the shaft 10 there extends therethrough a pin 24a pivotally mounted upon each outer end of which is an ear 25 which ears are integrally formed with an operating handle 26 the lower end of which is provided with an opening 27.

A rod 28 at its upper end extends through the opening 27 and is secured to the handle 26 by bending its upper end over the main body of the rod, as indicated at 29. The lower end of the rod extends through an eye 30 screwed into the shaft 10 adjacent the shank 17 and thence extends through the opening 24 and upwardly to form an eye 31 which encircles the main body of the rod 28, the eye 31 forming an abutment for the lower end of a compression spring 32 which encircles the rod 28 and the upper end of which spring 32 abuts against the under side of the eye 30.

In operation, it will be apparent that the user of the device may first encircle his wrist with the strap 14 and thereafter buckle the same upon his wrist by means of the buckle 15. The thong or other flexible connection 12 will then permit the device to hang from the wrist of the user without the use of his hand. When it is desired to grasp an object by means of the jaws 16 and 21, it is only necessary to grasp the upper end of the shaft 10 with the fingers of the hand associated with the wrist upon which the strap 14 may be mounted. Thereafter, the jaws 16

and 21 are placed about the object, such as an ear of corn, and the handle 26 brought into close contact with the shaft 10 by either the thumb or fingers of the user. The action causes the rod 28 to move upwardly thus moving the extended portion 23 of the jaw 21 in an upward direction against the action of the spring 32 which is at the time compressed, as shown clearly in Figure 3 of the drawing. The user may now lift the entire device, including the object thus grasped by the jaws 16 and 21 until he may manually remove such object with his other hand, it being apparent that when the handle 26 is released that the spring 32 will again force the jaw 21 away from the jaw 16. It will also be apparent that the strap 14 and its flexible connection 12 will allow the user of the device to use both of his hands for other purposes when the device is not needed while at the same time returning the device constantly in a position for immediate use.

While but one form of the invention has been shown and described herein, it will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art that many minor modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A device of the character described comprising an elongated shaft, a fixed jaw at the lower end of the shaft, a movable jaw pivotally connected to the lower end of the shaft in cooperative relation to said fixed jaw, an operating handle pivotally mounted upon said shaft adjacent the upper end thereof, a rod interconnecting the handle and said movable jaw, said rod ex-

tending through said movable jaw in the form of a loop, an eye formed integrally with the free end of said loop and encircling the body of said rod, an eye mounted in said shaft in spaced relation to and above said first-mentioned eye and encompassing said rod, and a spring for urging said movable jaw away from said fixed jaw, said spring surrounding said rod and bearing at each of its ends against one of said eyes, and said operating handle being movable in a plane perpendicular to the plane of movement of said movable jaw.

JOHN LENTH.

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