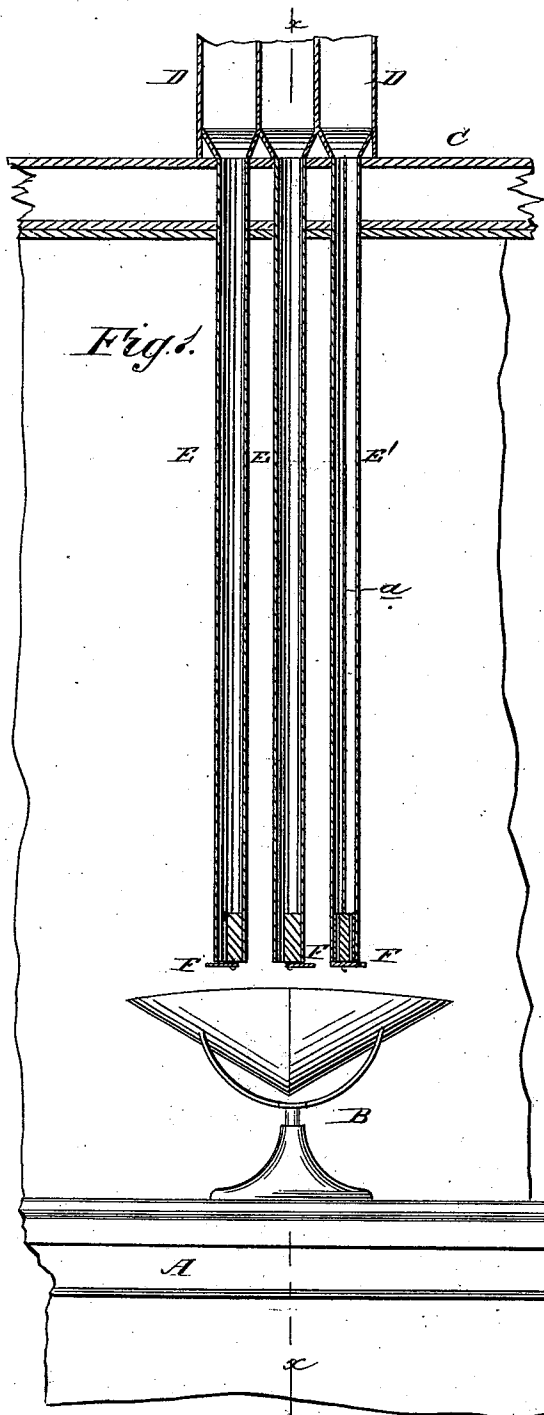
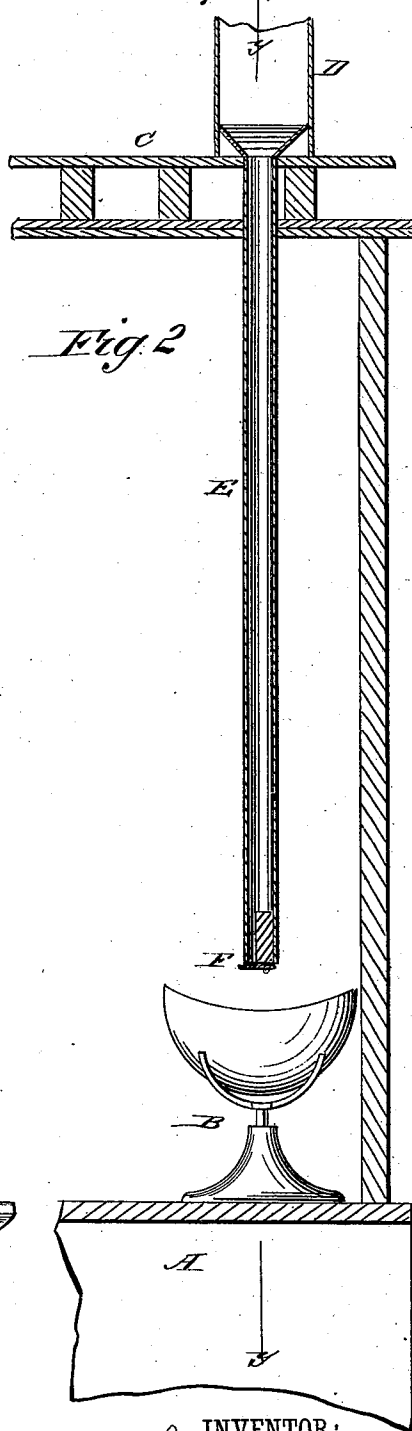


(Model.)

J. T. HODGE.

Device for Delivering Groceries to Counter-Scales.  
No. 227,780.

Patented May 18, 1880.



WITNESSES:

*Francis McArdle*  
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INVENTOR:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN T. HODGE, OF CARTER'S DEPOT, TENNESSEE.

## DEVICE FOR DELIVERING GROCERIES TO COUNTER-SCALES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 227,780, dated May 18, 1880.

Application filed April 3, 1880. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN T. HODGE, of Carter's Depot, Carter county, and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and Improved Device for Delivering Groceries, &c., to Counter-Scales, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a convenient and simple device for containing and delivering groceries and other articles to scales to be weighed, thereby avoiding the necessity of keeping such articles in boxes and barrels under and about shop-counters, and avoiding also the inconvenience and labor of frequently handling such boxes and barrels.

The invention consists of a series of hoppers or equivalent receptacles placed on the floor of the room above the shop-counter, and of pipes or tubes leading from each one of said hoppers or receptacles down to within a short distance of the counter, so that the scales can be placed under the mouths of these pipes to receive the contents therefrom, said pipes being provided with gates or slides to regulate the delivery of articles from them.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the device, partly in section, on line *y y*, Fig. 2; and Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the same on line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

In the drawings, A represents the counter; B, the scales set thereon; C, the floor above the counter. D D is a series of hoppers set on the floor C; and E E' are the pipes or tubes connecting with said hoppers D, and passing perpendicularly down through the floor C, and terminating a short distance above the

scales B, said tubes or pipes being provided at their lower ends, and within easy reach of the operator, with gates or slides F to regulate the delivery of articles through them.

In order to avoid the frequent opening of boxes and barrels containing groceries that is necessary in a retail grocery when serving customers, it is designed to empty the contents of said boxes or barrels at once into the series of hoppers D and their connecting-pipes E E'. Sugar, coffee, tea, rice, and many other articles can be so disposed of in the single tubes E E, while the double tube E', which is divided longitudinally by a partition, *a*, is designed, for instance, for two sizes of shot or for two other articles of different kinds. These tubes terminating just above the counter A, the scales B can be easily moved under any one of them, a gate or slide, F, opened, and any required portions of the contents of the tubes discharged into the scales to be weighed. The gate can then be closed to shut off any further discharge of the article.

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

The improved device for delivering groceries and other articles, constructed substantially as herein shown and described, consisting of hoppers D, set above the counter A, and having pipes or tubes E E', provided with gates or slides F depending therefrom, as set forth.

JOHN T. HODGE.

Witnesses:

A. P. HART,  
H. C. HART.