(No Model.)

O. H. ROBERTSON.

NUT CRACKER.

No. 484,049

Patented Oct. 11, 1892.

Fig. 1

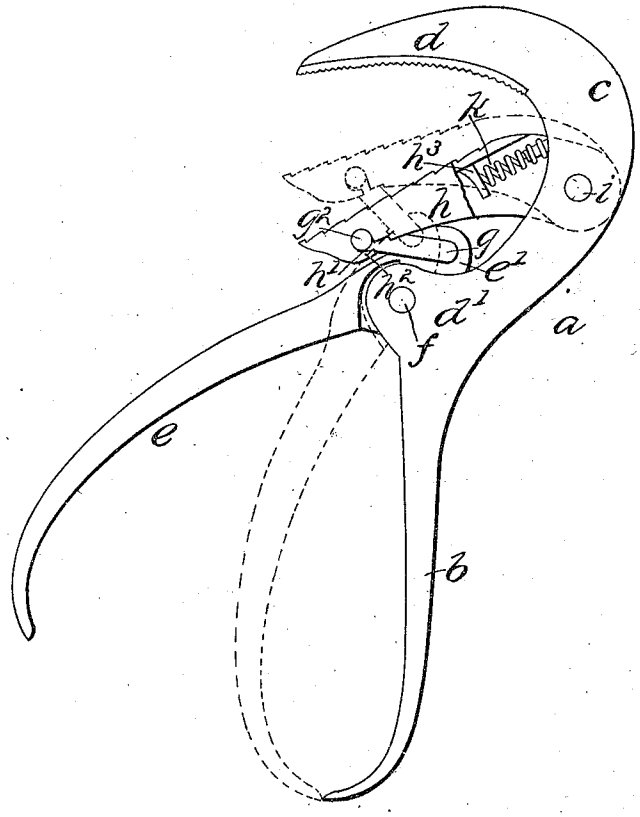


Fig. 2

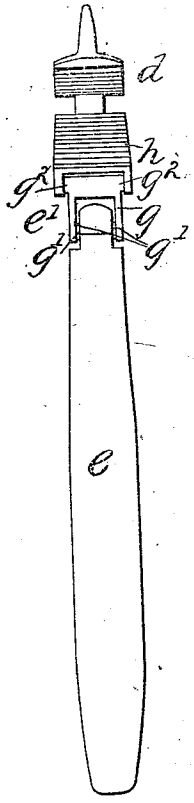
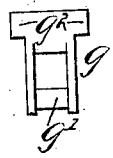


Fig. 3

Fig. 4



Witnesses
Chas. B. Chandler
A. B. Jenkins.

Inventor
Oliver H. Robertson.
By Chas. L. Burdett,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OLIVER H. ROBERTSON, OF FORESTVILLE, CONNECTICUT.

NUT-CRACKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 484,049, dated October 11, 1892.

Application filed April 15, 1892. Serial No. 429,307. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OLIVER H. ROBERTSON, of Forestville, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nut-Crackers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, whereby any one skilled in the art can make and use the same.

The object of my invention is to provide a device for cracking nuts that can be held in the hand of the user and operated with power sufficient to crack the strongest nut that may be inserted between the jaws.

To this end my invention consists in the details of the several parts making up the nut-cracker as a whole and in their combination, as more particularly hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a detail side view of the nut-cracker, showing in full line the jaws open and in dotted line the jaws as closed. Fig. 2 is a detail edge view of the nut-cracker with the jaws closed. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the end of the lever. Fig. 4 is a detail plan view of the link.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter *a* denotes the stock of the nut-cracker, that comprises a handle *b* and a head *c*, the latter being preferably curved in outline and terminating in a jaw *d*, that extends across the line of the handle *b*. A fulcrum *d'* is formed at about the junction of the head and handle, and to this fulcrum is pivoted a lever-handle *e*, as by means of a pin *f*. The fulcrum is preferably formed of two projecting ears having between them a socket, into which the edge of the lever-handle fits in such manner as to allow the head *e'* of the lever-handle to project beyond the fulcrum and in position to enable it to be connected to the link *g*. The end of the lever-handle as made has an open socket e^2, of rounded outline, to receive the pivot *g'* of the link, a projection e^3 on the end of the handle *e* being so formed that it may be turned over and caused to embrace the pivot, so as to securely hold the link and lever-handle together. A swinging jaw *h* is pivoted to the head *c*, as by means of a rivet *i*, the inner end of the jaw *h* being preferably bifurcated, so as to embrace the head at this point. The outer end of the jaw *h* is connected to the link *g*, the trunnions g^2 on the link fitting into sockets *h'* on the under side of the jaw, projections h^2 being so made that they may be bent down and close the otherwise open side of the rounded sockets and connect the link and jaw securely. The link is preferably made of a single piece of metal formed to shape, with the central portion cut away, leaving a pivot *g'*, and having at the other extremity the trunnions g^2. These parts are all preferably made of cast metal formed to the desired shape and of such proportions as to be readily assembled. It is desirable that the jaws should be normally held apart, as by means of a spring, and this is effected in the form shown by means of a spiral spring *k*, seated on the inner side of the head *c* and projecting outward, the outer end thrusting against a shoulder or partition h^3, formed on the jaw *h*, the spring being always held under compression. The seat of the spring against the head is out of a line drawn between the shoulder h^3 and the pivot *i*, and for that reason the jaw is normally held in an open position by the thrust of the spring. The opposing surfaces of the two jaws *d* and *h* are roughened or corrugated to make the device usable as a nut-cracker, and owing to the fact that the grasping-surface of the jaw *h* is placed at an angle with a line drawn from the outer end of the jaw through the pivot that surface is in the swinging movement of the jaw moved lengthwise as the jaw closes, thus tending to hold the nut instead of tending to thrust it outward from between the jaws in the operation of cracking the nut.

My invention is not limited to the particular method described of constructing the several connecting parts in the within-described tool; but it forms a manner of uniting the parts that is preferred on account of the cheapness of constructing such parts and the readiness with which they can be put together.

I claim as my invention—

1. In combination with the stock having a handle portion and an integral head portion terminating in an integral jaw arranged opposite the inner end of the handle and extending transversely across the line thereof, a swinging jaw pivoted to the head and having its grasping-surface at an angle with a line drawn from the outer extremity of the jaw through its pivot, the lever-handle pivoted to

the stock, and the link pivotally connecting the swinging jaw and the lever-handle, all substantially as described.

2. In a nut-cracker, in combination with a stock having a head *c* and handle *b*, a fulcrum *d'*, with the fixed jaw *d*, extending transversely of the line of the handle, a swinging jaw *h*, pivoted to the head and having its grasping-surface at an angle with a line drawn from the extremity of the jaw through its pivot, the open trunnion-socket formed on the under side of the jaw, with projections adapted to embrace the trunnion on the link, a lever-handle pivoted to the stock, and a link having the integral pivots formed at its opposite ends, all substantially as described.

3. In a nut-cracker, in combination with a stock having a fixed jaw arranged transversely of the line of the handle of the stock, a swinging jaw pivoted to the stock and with a grasping-surface arranged in operative relation to the fixed jaw, a lever-handle pivoted to the stock, a toggle-link connecting the end of the lever-handle and the outer end of the swinging jaw and connected to said parts by the downturned integral projections embracing the pivots on the link, and the jaw-opening spring, all substantially as described.

OLIVER H. ROBERTSON.

Witnesses:
F. B. NEWTON,
JAMES J. MCELROY.