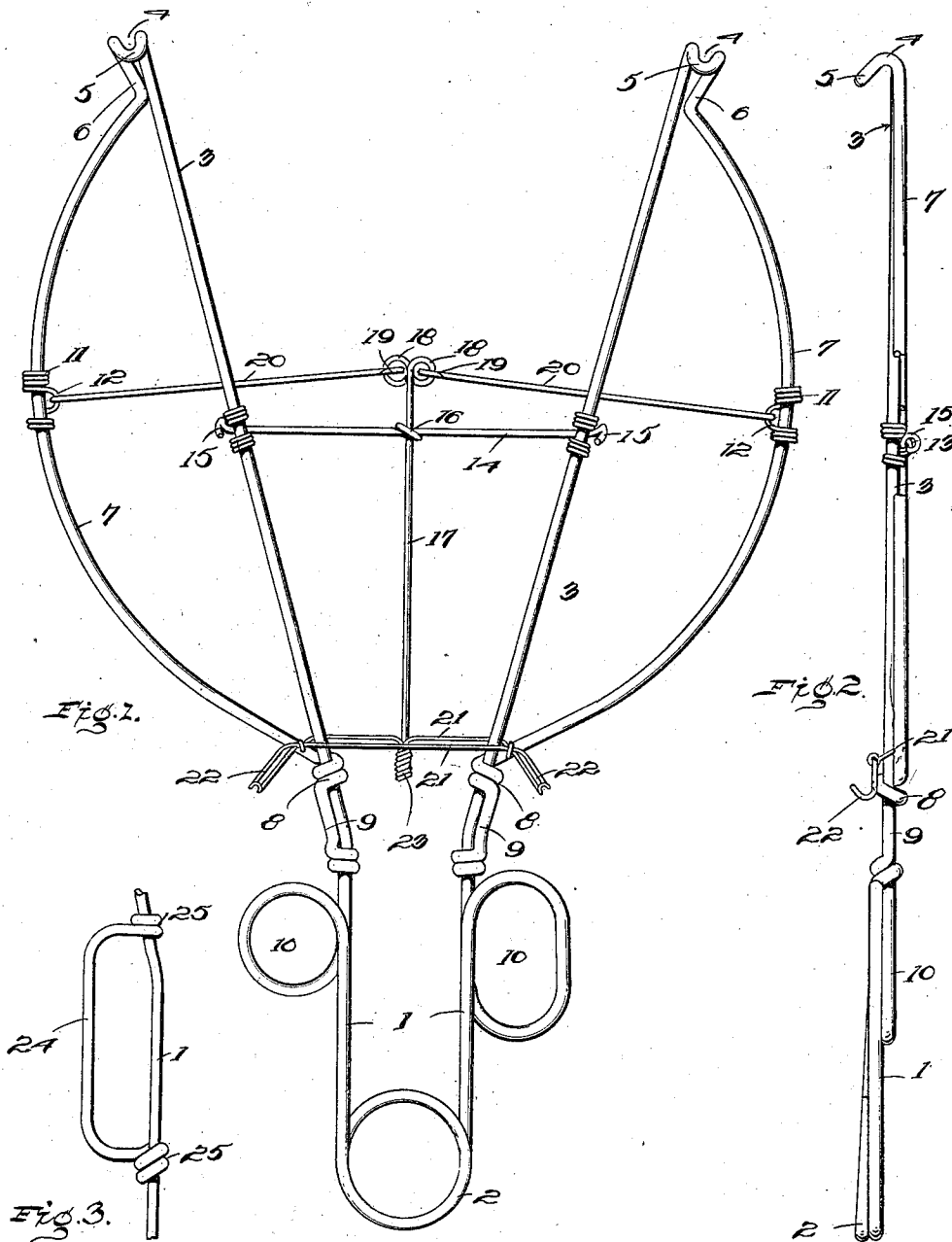


996,407.

Patented June 27, 1911.



Witnesses
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H. Jones

Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. HALL, OF GOODING, IDAHO.

PLATE-LIFTER.

996,407.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 27, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. HALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gooding, in the county of Lincoln, State of Idaho, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Plate-Lifters, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to lifters for use in connection with plates or other flanged utensils, and the principal object of the same is to provide novel flange gripping means therefor that will adjust themselves to the utensil to be lifted so that danger of said utensil slipping or being otherwise accidentally released is obviated.

In carrying out the objects of the invention generally stated above it will be understood, of course, that the essential features thereof are necessarily susceptible of changes in details and structural arrangements, one preferred and practical embodiment of which is shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a bottom plan view of the improved lifter. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary view showing a modified finger grip on the handle.

Referring to the accompanying drawings by numerals, it will be seen that the improved lifter comprises a body portion that is preferably formed of a single length of resilient material, such as wire, that is shaped to provide a pair of parallel handle members 1 which are connected at their outer ends by the coiled spring 2. Divergent arms 3 project from the opposite ends of said handle members and terminate in the angularly projecting flange-engaging claws 4 that are provided with inwardly projecting lips 5. Short arms 6 extend from said claws 4, said arms having the outwardly bowed braces 7 projecting therefrom and which are twisted about the inner end portions of arms 3 as indicated at 8 and from thence extend to and are twisted about the handle members 1 to form reinforcements 9 for said arms 3 and members 1. Intermediate their lengths, the handle members 1 are provided with the rings 10 for the fingers of the user. Said rings may be formed by coiling said members, or in any other suitable or convenient manner. At intermediate points, the braces 7 have wires 11 twisted thereon from which the eyes 12 depend.

Arms 3 are similarly provided with eyes 13 in which a guide rod 14 is slidable. Said rod has its ends provided with angular abutments 15 that prevent the rod being displaced from said eyes. At its center, rod 14 is twisted to provide an eye 16 through which a rod 17 is slidable. The forward end of rod 17 is twisted to provide a pair of oppositely disposed eyes 18 which are engaged by the end hooks 19 of the links 20 that are swiveled to the eyes 12 of braces 7.

Adjacent the junction of arms 3 with handle members 1, said arms are slidably embraced by the loop formed by the parallel bars 21. Said bars are preferably formed of a single length of resilient material that is looped to provide said arms and has the end of the loop shaped to provide the claws 22 which are of the same type as the claws 4. The end of said piece of material meets at the longitudinal center of the loop and are twisted or otherwise rigidly fastened to the rear end of rod 17, as is indicated by the numeral 23.

In use the lifter is placed over the top of the plate or other utensil to be lifted and the claws 4 are engaged over the flange thereof. The handle members 1 are then drawn toward each other by pressure of the hand of the user which causes the links 20 and rod 17 to move the bars 21 longitudinally of arms 3 so that the claws 22 will also engage the flange of the utensil, but at points opposite the claws 4. By this arrangement it will be seen that the utensil is engaged at four points. To release the utensil, the pressure upon the handle is removed which causes the arms 3 to spread so that the claws 22 are drawn away from the flange.

In Fig. 3, the finger rings or loops 25 are formed by extending the braces 7 and fastening the same to the handle members by the twists 25.

What I claim as my invention is:—

1. A utensil lifter comprising parallel handle members, divergent arms projecting therefrom and terminating in downturned flange engaging claws, outwardly bowed braces connecting said claws to the inner portions of said arms, claws slidable on said arms, a rod for sliding said claws, and means connected to said braces for operating said rod.

2. A utensil lifter comprising a body portion formed of a single length of material bent to provide spring connected handle

members, arms which diverge from said members and terminate in utensil engaging claws, and braces which connect said claws to the inner portions of the arms, claws slidable on said arms, and means actuated when pressure is applied to said handle members for adjusting said claws.

3. A utensil lifter comprising a pair of handle members provided with laterally projecting finger grips, a spring connecting the same and normally retaining them in spaced parallel relation, divergent arms projecting from the forward ends of said members; depending claws at the outer ends of said arms, brace connections between said claws and the inner end portions of said arms, adjustable claws slidable on said arms, and means actuated by pressure applied to said handle members for adjusting said slidable jaws.

4. A utensil lifter comprising a handle, arms projecting therefrom, utensil engaging

means carried by said arms, braces connecting said engaging means with the inner portion of said arms, adjustable claws slidable on said arms, an operating rod for said claws, means carried by said arms for guiding said rod, and links pivotally connecting the forward end of said rod to said braces.

5. A utensil lifter comprising a handle, arms carried thereby and provided with utensil-engaging claws, a brace connection between said claws and said handle, a transverse rod carried by said arms, and provided with a guide eye, utensil engaging claws slidable in said arms, an operating rod carried by said slidable claws and projecting through said eye, and links carried by said brace connections and pivotally connected to said operating rod.

WILLIAM S. HALL.

Witnesses:

WARD MEYER,
HERBERT MEYER.