To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JEFFERSON W. WAYNICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chariton, in the county of Lucas and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Wrench or Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in wrenches or holders, and more particularly to that class used upon round objects, as fruit-jars and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple instrument of this character, which may be readily applied to and held in close binding engagement with an object, so that the two will be held in fixed relation to each other and there will be comparatively small chance of slipping.

The invention is especially adapted for use as a wrench for turning on and off the screw-threaded caps of fruit-jars and like receptacles, and when used in this manner it can be firmly gripped upon a cap, so that the same can be readily removed without injury to the jar and without regard to the manner in which said cap and jar may be engaged.

In the following specification is described the construction and operation of the preferred form of device, and this construction is also illustrated in the accompanying drawings. It will be understood, however, that the form thus shown and described is capable of change and modification within the scope of the appended claims.

In said drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved wrench or holder. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 is a cross-section taken on the line X X of Fig. 2.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in the several figures of the drawings.

The improved article comprises, essentially, a clamping member and an adjusting member designated, respectively, 10 and 11. The clamping member 10 is preferably in the form of a loop 12, having at one side a shank 13, formed by the outstanding ends of said loop, which converge and are secured together to form a single solid end that is screw-threaded, as at 14. By this means there is practically provided a pair of oppositely-arranged side arms 15, which are adapted to be brought toward each other by means of the adjusting member 11, mounted upon the shank 13. This adjusting member 11, which also forms an operating-handle, is in the form of a tubular casing 16, the longitudinally opening 17 of which is adapted to receive the shank 13. In the end of this casing is seated a tapered bearing-sleeve 18, while the other end is provided with a fixed nut 19, preferably set into the end of said casing. The nut 19 receives the screw-threaded portion 14 of the shank, while the divergent or split portion bears against the sleeve 18.

The application and operation of the device will be readily apparent. The loop is arranged about the article to which the device is to be applied, and the adjusting element or handle is turned in a proper direction, so that it will be moved toward the loop. As the sleeve rides over the divergent or split portion of the shank, it will be evident that the side arms will be brought toward each other and the loop contracted, and thus brought into close binding engagement with the article. The inner surface of the loop is therefore preferably roughened in a suitable manner. By this means it will be seen that an extremely powerful grip is assured and there is exceedingly small liability of the device slipping. To release the wrench or holder, it is only necessary to rotate the handle in an opposite direction, and the loop being formed of suitable material will expand and disengage from the article.

In Fig. 1 the device is shown as applied to a fruit-jar, the upper portion of said jar being shown in dotted lines. When used in this connection, the loop is contracted until it is in close binding engagement with the same. The handle portion is then turned in the proper direction either to tighten or loosen it, as desired, and the cap will be correspondingly screwed down upon the jar or removed. It will be understood, however, that it is applicable to many different articles and that the construction may be varied to suit the same, provided such variations are within the scope of the claims hereto appended.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will
be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. In an article of the class described, the combination with a clamping element having side arms provided with convergent ends and a screw-threaded shank, of a handle rotatably mounted upon the shank and engaging the convergent ends, said handle being provided with a screw-threaded portion, which is rotatable therewith and engages the screw-threads of the shank, whereby upon the rotation of the handle the arms will be brought together or separated.

2. In an article of the class described, the combination with a clamping element, having arms provided with convergent resilient end portions and an integral screw-threaded shank, of a handle rotatably mounted upon the shank and engaging the convergent end portions, said handle being provided with a screw-threaded portion that is rotatable therewith and engages the screw-threads of the shank, whereby upon the rotation of said handle the arms will be brought together or separated.

3. In an article of the class described, the combination with a loop, having convergent end portions joined to form a shank, said shank being provided with a screw-threaded portion, of a hollow handle rotatably mounted upon the shank and engaging the convergent end portions of the loop, said handle being provided with a screw-threaded portion that is rotatable therewith and engages the screw-threads of the shank, whereby upon the rotation of said handle the loop will be contracted or expanded.

4. In an article of the class described, the combination with a resilient loop having end portions joined to form an integral shank, the end of which is screw-threaded, of a hollow handle mounted upon the shank, and provided at one end with a screw-threaded portion that is rotatable therewith and engages the screw-threads of the shank, said handle having a tapered portion at its opposite end which engages the converging end portions of the loop, whereby by rotating said handle the loop will be contracted or expanded.

5. In an article of the class described, the combination with a resilient loop having converging end portions joined to form a shank, the end of which is screw-threaded, of a hollow handle mounted upon the shank and having one end bearing against the converging portions of the loop, the other end being provided with an angular socket and an angular nut fitting in the socket, whereby it is rotatable with the handle, said nut being threaded upon the screw-threaded end of the shank.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JEFFERSON W. WAYNICK.

Witnesses:

JOHN G. SANGER,
E. H. STORIE.