W. May.

Hand-Truck.

No 74107 Patented Feb. 4, 1868.

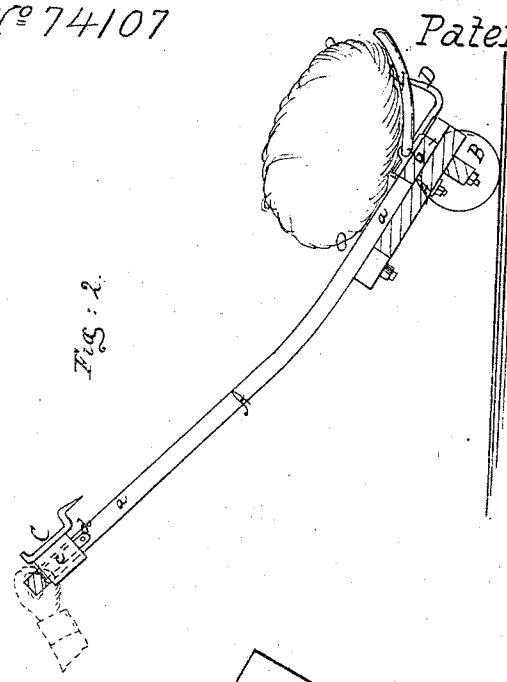


Fig: 2.

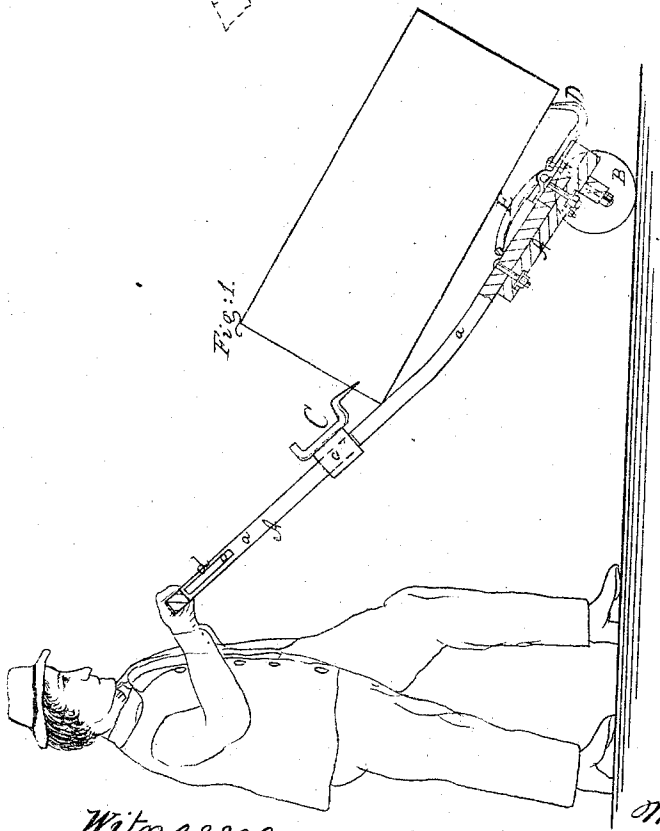


Fig: 1.

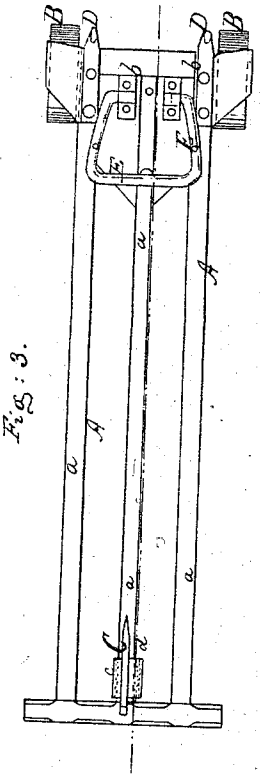


Fig: 3.

Witnesses
W. G. Ashkettle
Theo. Tusche

Inventor
Wm May
per Munn & Co.
Attorneys.

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM MAY, OF BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 74,107, *dated February* 4, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-TRUCK.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MAY, of Binghamton, in the county of Broome, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Hand-Truck; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side view, partly in section, of my improved hand-truck, showing it adapted for taking hold of and conveying boxes, barrels, &c.

Figure 2 is a similar view of the same, showing it adapted for taking hold of and conveying bags.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to a new hand-truck, which is so arranged that it can easily take hold of boxes, packages, &c., and that it can be readily handled.

The invention consists, first, in arranging on a truck, the frame of which may be of ordinary or suitable construction, a sliding hook, which slides on one of the handles of the truck, and which, in combination with two or more fixed hooks that project from the lower end of the truck, is sufficient to take hold of and hold any suitable kind of package. The invention consists, second, in the use of a bale or bent bar, which is hinged to the frame of the truck, and which can be folded down, so as to rest upon and cover the hooks at the lower end of the truck, for the purpose of adapting the device to the carrying of bags and other articles which might be injured by the hooks.

A, in the drawing, represents a truck-frame of ordinary or suitable construction, resting upon two or more wheels, B B, and having one or more handles, *a a*, which project in the required curved or straight line from the cross-bar *b*, to which the wheels are secured. Around one of the handles *a* is arranged a sliding sleeve, *c*, to the upper face of which a hook, C, is secured, the prong of which is pointing downward towards the cross-bar *b*, as is clearly shown in figs. 1 and 2. Instead of being attached to a sliding sleeve, the hook C may also be otherwise arranged, sliding on one of the handles *a*. From the face of the cross-bar *b*, or from the lower parts of the handles *a*, project upward two or more hooks, D D, as is clearly shown in figs. 1 and 2. To the upper end of the handle *a*, on which the hook C is arranged, may be secured a spring, *d*, or other equivalent device, for locking the hook C to the upper part of the handle. E represents a bent bar or a plate, hinged to the lower part of the truck-frame in such a manner that it can be folded over the hooks D, to cover the points of the same, as in fig. 2, or it may be folded back, so as to rest upon the truck-frame, as in figs. 1 and 3.

The operation of the device is as follows: For picking up a box or package, the truck is brought in a nearly upright position against the side of the box or package, so that the hooks D will catch into the sides of the same. The hook C is then forced down, so as to catch into the top of the box or package, and the truck can then be tipped and moved, as the box or package will be firmly held on it. The heavier the box or package is, the more firmly will it be held on the hooks D. For carrying baskets and bags, the bar or plate E is folded over the hooks D, and the article then placed upon it, as in fig. 2.

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

1. Providing a hand-truck with a hook, C, which slides on the centre brace of the truck, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. The arrangement and combination with each other, on a hand-truck, of the hook C, sliding on the centre brace, and of the hooks D D, fixed to the lower part of the truck, substantially as herein shown and described, all made and operating as set forth.

3. The hinged plate or bar E, in combination with the hooks D D, substantially as herein shown and described.

WM. MAY.

Witnesses:

WM. F. MCNAMARA,

ALEX. F. ROBERTS.