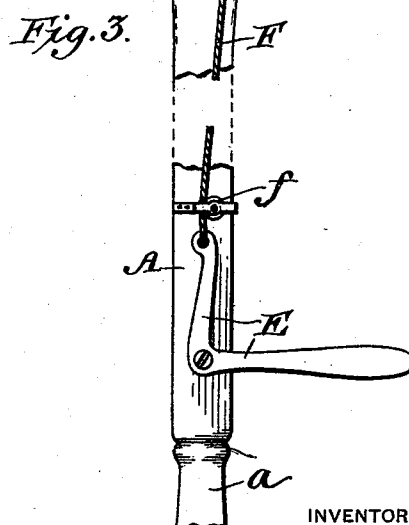
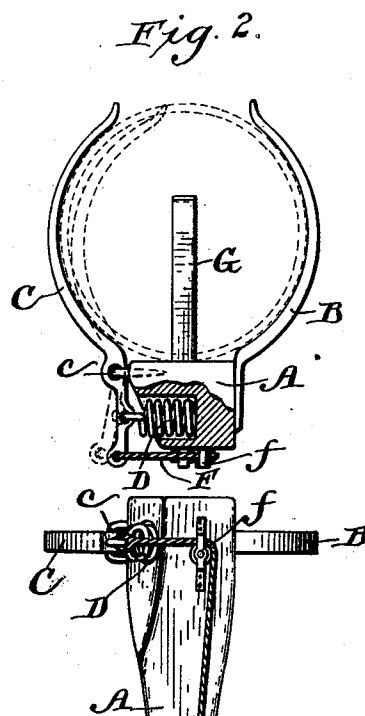
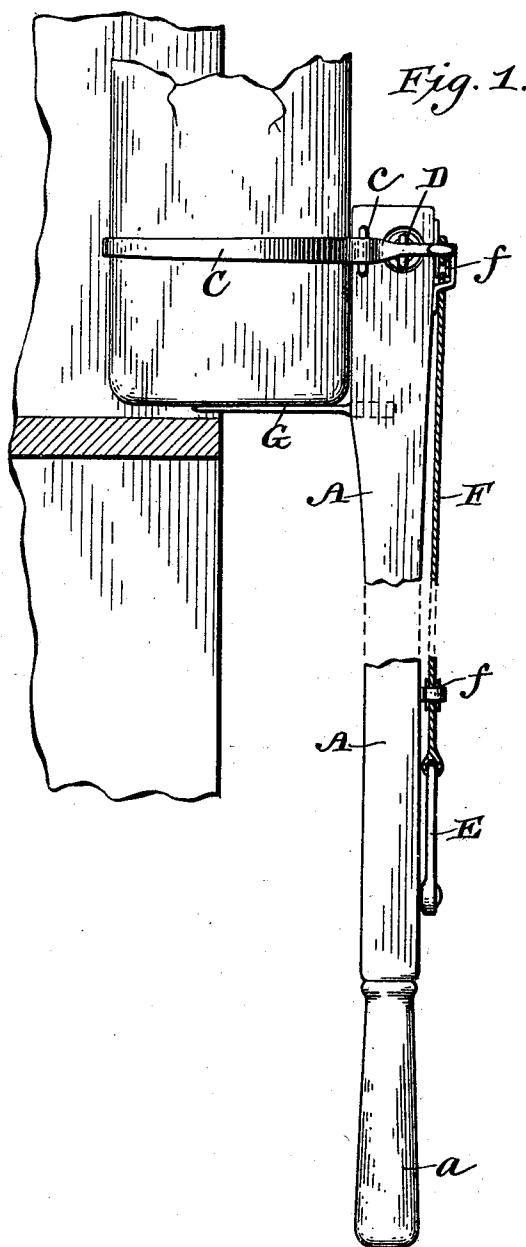


(No Model.)

R. P. ADAMS.
DEVICE FOR HANDLING PACKAGES IN STORES.

No. 544,555.

Patented Aug. 13, 1895.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT PEYTON ADAMS, OF LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

DEVICE FOR HANDLING PACKAGES IN STORES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 544,555, dated August 13, 1895.

Application filed May 22, 1895. Serial No. 550,199. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT PEYTON ADAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lexington, in the county of Fayette and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Handling Packages in Stores; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to a portable hand operating device for placing packages on high shelves in stores and removing them therefrom; and it consists in certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter described and specifically claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my package-handling device and also of a portion of a shelf and a can, the latter being grasped by the package-handling device and in a condition to be removed from the shelf. Fig. 2 is a top plan view, partly in section, of the can-handling device, a can being shown in the dotted lines and the closed position of the movable jaw also being shown in dotted lines; and Fig. 3 is a rear view of the package-handling device, portions of the handle being broken away.

A in the drawings represents a suitable operating-rod, which is provided with a hand-hold *a*, and is made of suitable length to reach to the highest shelf in a store.

B represents a rigid jaw, which is secured at the upper end of the rod, and which, when the device is to be used for handling cans or other cylindrical packages, would be of outwardly-curved form with its outer end preferably turned slightly outward.

C represents a clamping-jaw, approximately the same shape as the jaw B, and which is pivoted at *c* to the upper end of the operating-rod. A coil-spring D is interposed between the operating-rod and the rear end of the pivoted jaw and has its ends

secured to the same, the outward pressure of the spring tending to keep the jaw normally closed.

E represents an angular lever, which is pivoted on the operating-rod at a point near the hand-hold, so that the hand-hold can be held in one hand and the lever operated by the thumb of the same hand. A cord F passes through guiding-eyes *f* and connects the upper end of the angular lever and the rear end of the pivoted jaw.

G represents a flat narrow plate, which has its outer end beveled or sharp to facilitate its being passed under a can or other package when it is desired to remove it from a shelf and prevents the package from slipping down between the jaws.

The operation of the device is very simple. When it is desired to remove a can or other package from a shelf, the operator holds or grasps the rod in one hand and with his thumb bears down on the lever, which spreads the pivot-jaw and enables the jaws to inclose the object to be handled, the flat bottom plate having been simultaneously slipped under the bottom of the can, and by removing the thumb the pivoted jaw will close upon and firmly grasp the can.

My package-handling device will be found much more convenient than similar devices which require two hands to operate them, and which have rigid connection attached to the pivoted jaw which has to be forced upward in order to spread said jaw, and also more practicable and desirable than such a device, the jaws of which are normally open, and also more desirable than a device which only clamps the parcel on the top and bottom.

What I claim as my invention is—

A portable hand operated device for removing a package from a shelf comprising in its construction an operating rod of suitable length and shape, an approximately semi-circular jaw rigidly secured to the upper end of the rod at right angles thereto, another approximately semi-circular jaw pivotally secured to the upper end of the rod at right angles thereto and having a rear extension,

5 a horizontally arranged coiled spring connected by its respective ends to the rod and to the pivoted jaw at a point in rear of its pivot, an angular lever pivoted on the rod, a cord passed through guiding eyes on the rod and secured to the lever and to the extension of the pivoted jaw, and a flat horizontal immovable bottom plate secured to the rod

at a suitable point below the jaws, substantially as described. 10

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT PEYTON ADAMS.

Witnesses:

F. T. BARTLETT,
CHAS. P. ROGERS.