(No Model.)

J. L. FUGATE.

MEAT TENDERER.

No. 456,670. Patented July 28, 1891.

FIG. 1.

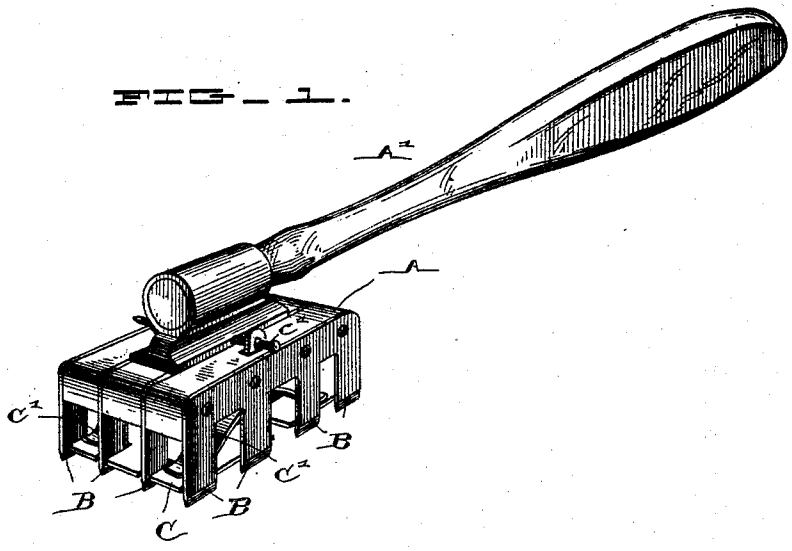


FIG. 2.

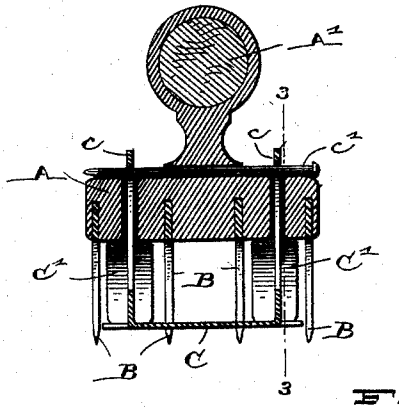


FIG. 3.

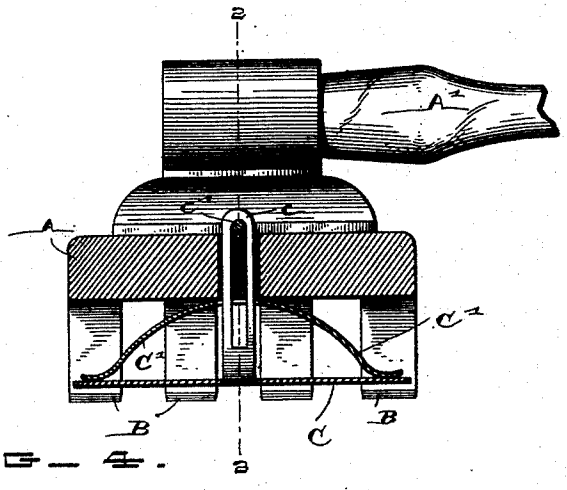
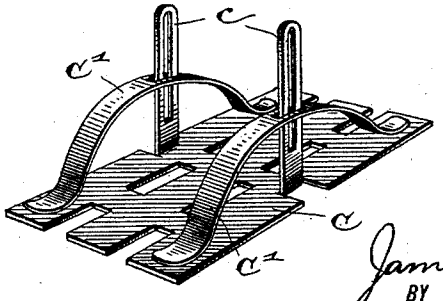


FIG. 4.



WITNESSES:

H. D. Mealy.

Frank A. Hood.

INVENTOR

James L. Fugate,

BY

Geo. E. W. Bradford

his ATTORNEY.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES L. FUGATE, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

MEAT-TENDERER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,670, dated July 28, 1891.

Application filed November 24, 1890. Serial No. 372,465. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES L. FUGATE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Meat-Tenderers, of which the following is a specification.

My said invention consists in various improvements in the details of construction of that class of devices known as "meat-tenderers," whereby a very efficient device for the purpose is provided, and also one which is of small cost to construct and very convenient in use, as will be hereinafter more particularly described and claimed.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device; Fig. 2, a cross-section on the dotted line 2 2 in Fig. 3; Fig. 3, a longitudinal section on the dotted line 3 3 in Fig. 2; and Fig. 4, a perspective view of the plunger, illustrating its form and construction.

In said drawings, the portions marked A represent the head of the device; B, the knives mounted in said head, and C the plunger for clearing said knives.

The head A preferably consists of a single casting, as shown in Fig. 2, formed with an eye on its top for the handle A′; but it may be made up of several parts riveted together, as shown in Fig. 1, if preferred. It is designed to make said head of sufficient weight to enable the operator to easily perform the work for which the tool is designed.

The knives B may be of any number desired, and are arranged in rows, as shown, each row being preferably formed from a single plate, the back being continuous and integral therewith and mounted in the head B. In the form shown in Fig. 1, where the head is made up of several parts, said knives are secured by rivets, which extend through said knives and the several parts of the head, thus securing the whole together. In the form shown in Fig. 2, said knives are secured in the head by being mounted in the mold in which said head is cast, the head being then cast around them, and this form is preferred because it is less costly, as will be readily seen.

The plunger C consists of a metal plate, mounted between the two outer rows of knives and provided with perforations of a form and arrangement to permit the intermediate rows of knives to extend through them. It is provided with an upright *c* on each side thereof, formed by bending up portions of the plate, each of which is slotted longitudinally and extends up through a perforation in the head A. A curved spring C′ is mounted on each of said uprights by means of a perforation at its center, through which the upright extends, said spring being arranged to bear against the under side of the head A and the top face of the plunger C and force said plunger down to a point near the edges of the knives. Said plunger is held in position by means of a pin *c′*, which extends through the top ends of the slots in said uprights and a transverse perforation in a raised portion on the top of the head.

In operation the springs operate to force the plunger downwardly, and thus at each blow it serves to automatically clear the knives from the meat. By this arrangement a positive action is secured, and a device is provided adapted to perform the work desired, which can be used very rapidly and efficiently without any danger of disarranging any of its parts, and one which after use can be readily taken apart for cleaning, it only being necessary to withdraw the pin *c′*, when the plunger and springs fall out, leaving the several parts separated, as will be readily understood.

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

1. In a meat-tenderer, the combination of the head A, provided with a handle for operating the device, knives B, arranged in said head, the plunger C, adapted to operate between said rows of knives and formed with uprights secured to slide in perforations in said head, a fastener extending through perforations in said uprights, and springs interposed between said head and said plunger, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in a meat-tenderer, of the head A, provided with the handle A′, the knives secured in said head and arranged in

rows, the plunger C, formed with uprights which are slotted longitudinally and extend through perforations in the head, a transverse pin extending through said slots, and springs C′, formed with perforations through which said uprights extend, whereby said springs are secured in position between said head and said plunger, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, in a meat-tenderer, of the head A, the knives B, arranged in rows and secured in said head by being cast therein, the plunger B, formed of a plate mounted between the outer rows of the knives and provided with perforations through which the intermediate rows of knives may extend and also formed with slotted uprights *c*, which uprights are formed by turning up portions of said plate, the springs C′, perforated and mounted on said uprights and secured in position by the pin *c*′, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 17th day of November, A. D. 1890.

JAMES L. FUGATE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
E. W. BRADFORD,
FRANK W. WOOD.