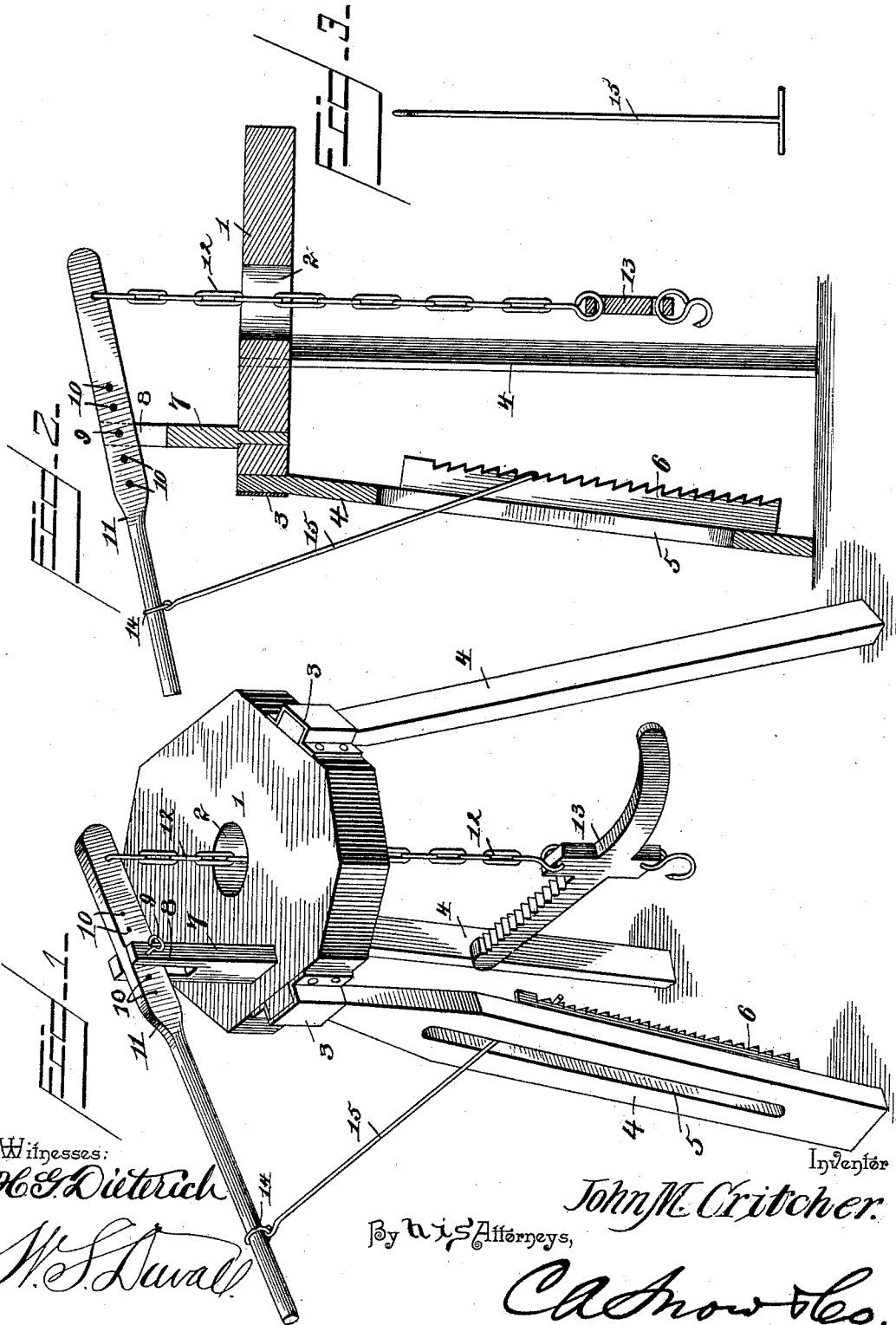


(No Model.)

J. M. CRITCHER.  
PORTABLE SCALE SUPPORT.

No. 465,837.

Patented Dec. 29, 1891.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. CRITCHER, OF BOLIVAR, MISSOURI.

## PORTABLE-SCALE SUPPORT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 465,837, dated December 29, 1891.

Application filed February 3, 1891. Serial No. 380,091. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN M. CRITCHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bolivar, in the county of Polk and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Portable-Scale Support, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a scale-support, the objects being to provide a portable support for scales of that class adapted for weighing heavy articles and to adapt said support to lower the scale and grasp the article to be weighed, and subsequently elevate the scale and article to the proper height for weighing.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a scale-support constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section thereof. Fig. 3 is an elevation in detail of the locking-bar.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates a suitable head of any desired shape in plan and formed of either wood or cast metal, as may be desired, and is provided at its center with an opening 2. At intervals of the periphery of the head has secured thereto or formed thereon sockets 3, in which are removably inserted the upper ends of a series of supporting legs or standards 4. In the present instance three legs are employed, but the number may be increased, as desired, and each of said legs has its upper end upon its inner side cut away, so that the series diverge toward their lower ends and constitute a stable secure base. One of the legs is made wider than the remaining legs of the series and is provided with a longitudinal slot 5, extending from a point below the head to near the lower end of the leg, and upon the inner side of the leg at the sides of the slot are secured toothed locking or ratchet bars 6. Above the leg thus provided there is mounted upon the head a standard 7, the upper end of which is bifurcated, as at 8, and has passed therethrough a removable bearing-pin 9. The pin also passes through one of a series of openings 10 formed transversely in a lever 11, the inner end of which terminates over the opening 2 in the

head and the outer end of which terminates in a suitable handle for operating the lever. From the inner end of the lever depends a chain 12, the lower end of which is below the opening 2, and connected to the end of the chain is a scale-beam, spring-scale, or other weighing device 13.

A ring 14 is mounted on the lever 11, in rear of the fulcrum of the same, and with the same is loosely connected one end of a T-shaped locking-pawl 15, the head of the pawl being located across the locking-bars or ratchets and the shank of the pawl extending through the slot into the standard.

The above completes the construction of the support, and the operation of the same is as follows: The support is moved over the object to be weighed and the pawl is disengaged from the ratchet or locking-bar, which permits the handle end of the lever to be elevated and the inner end lowered, so that the hook of the scale may engage with the object or a suitable sling placed around the same. It is now simply necessary to bear upon the handle portion of the lever, thus elevating the inner end of the same, the scale, and the object. When thus elevated, an examination of the scale will show the correct weight of the object, and it will be apparent that when the lever is released the pawl will have engaged with an adjacent notch of the locking-bar or ratchet, and thus the scale and its object will be held suspended in a locked position.

It will be observed that the support may be moved from place to place, which may be readily accomplished by withdrawing the legs from the sockets.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The herein-described portable scale-support, consisting of a head having an opening, supports for the head, a lever fulcrumed on the head and terminating over the opening, a chain depending from the lever, a weighing-device support connected to the chain, and means for locking the lever, substantially as specified.

2. The herein-described scale-support, consisting of a head centrally perforated and provided with peripheral sockets, a series of legs removably mounted in the sockets, one of said

legs being longitudinally slotted and provided at each side of its slot with ratchet-bars, a standard fulcrumed on the head above the slotted leg and bifurcated at its upper end, a  
5 lever having a series of adjusting-holes mounted in the bifurcation of the standard, a pin removably passed through the bifurcation and the lever, a T-shaped pawl passed through the slot of the leg, at its inner end engaging the ratchets and at its outer end loosely  
10 connected with the lever, a chain depending

from the inner end of the lever through the opening in the head, and a support for a weighing device connected to the lower end of the chain, substantially as specified. 15

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

JOHN M. CRITCHER.

Witnesses:

C. O. LYMAN,

T. O. CARY.