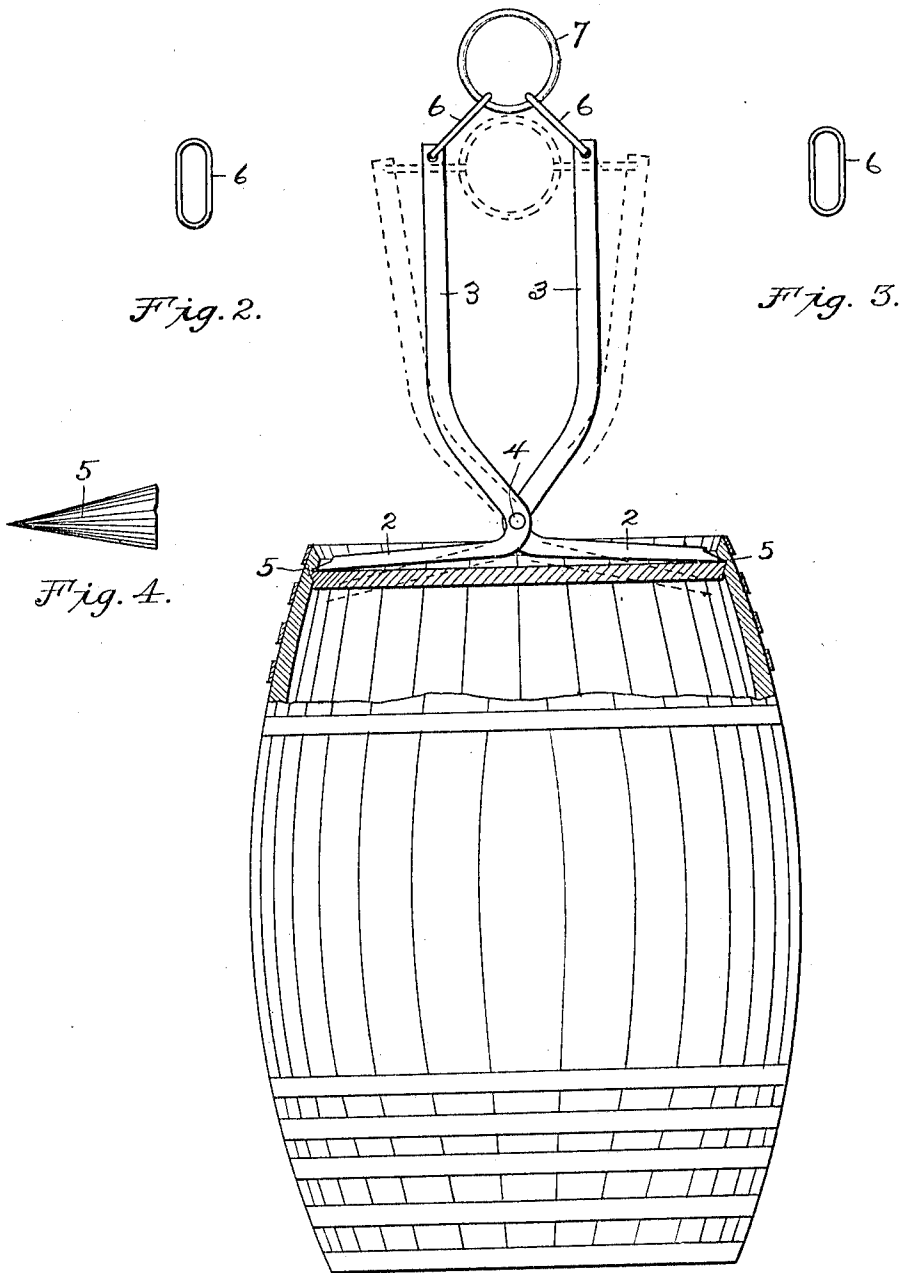


S. L. COLEY.
 BARREL TONGS.
 APPLICATION FILED AUG. 4, 1905.

950,437.

Patented Feb. 22, 1910.



WITNESSES:

K. M. Inubodew,
 Ernest S. Bennett.

Fig. 1.

INVENTOR,

Samuel L. Coley,
 by Higdon & Higdon,
 atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL L. COLEY, OF LEES SUMMIT, MISSOURI.

BARREL-TONGS.

950,437.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 22, 1910.

Application filed August 4, 1905. Serial No. 272,780.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL L. COLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lees Summit, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Barrel-Tongs, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a lifting, grappling, or lowering device for lifting, grappling or lowering barrels and kegs, and more especially for barrels and kegs containing liquors, paints, paint leads, etc., which kegs and barrels are made very heavy and strong, so as to stand rough handling and not be burst open by their heavy contents.

This device is especially adapted for lowering and lifting kegs or barrels through an opening which is not much larger than the diameter of the keg or barrel, or which is barely large enough to pass the keg or barrel. In my own business I find this device very useful for lowering and lifting barrels of liquor through a small trap-door in the floor, and this is the only simple, practical device of which I am aware, by which this can be accomplished.

The utility of this device is not limited to lifting and lowering the kegs or barrels in a vertical direction. It is equally well adapted for lowering and drawing up the barrels and kegs upon inclined skidways, which are extensively used for transferring the packages to and from the basements of buildings.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of the device as in position with a barrel suspended thereby, the supporting rope being omitted; Figs. 2 and 3 are detached views of the two links, respectively. Fig. 4 illustrates my preferred form of the grappling points of my lifting device.

Briefly stated, the invention consists of a pair of grappling hooks, peculiarly formed and pivotally connected by a bolt or rivet, two links connected to the shanks of the grappling hooks, and a ring or its equivalent, connecting the links.

2 and 2 designate the lower portions of the grappling hooks, 3 and 3 being the upper portions or shanks thereof. 4 is a rivet or bolt, by which these members are pivotally connected together. The upper portions, or shanks 3, normally occupy ver-

tical positions, with the lower ends thereof bent toward one another until they meet; and at the meeting point, the rivet 4 passes through the two shanks, and from thence the lower portions 2 are bent outward in approximate horizontal planes; and thus each member 2 is on the same side of the pivot point, as is the corresponding shank 3; or, in other words, the members of the device do not cross one another. The ends of the lower portions 2 are preferably pointed, and rounded (conically) so that they will not tear the fibers of the wood of the chime when the barrel or keg swings suspended or is dragged along by the tongs, whereas if the ends of the hooks were formed with chisel edges, such injury to the chime of the kegs or barrels might occur. This preferred form of the points is illustrated in Fig. 4 of the drawing.

The shanks 3 of the hooks are preferably of about the form shown, but this precise form is of course not essential to the operation of the device. Holes are punched or drilled in the upper ends of the shanks 3, and through these holes two links 6 are passed. The links are made open in the first place, and are then passed through the holes in the shanks. They are also passed through a bail-ring 7, and are then welded together forming solid links. Said ring forms a supporting member for the links and hooks, and also draws the upper ends of the shanks 3 the more tightly together, the greater the weight of the barrel or keg which is supported. Before inserting the hooks into the chime of a barrel or keg, the shanks are spread apart, as indicated by dotted lines, thereby drawing together the ends of the hooks. After the ends of the lower portions 2 of the hooks are properly engaged on a barrel, the ring 7 is elevated by suitable hoisting means; and, as the upper ends of the shanks 3 are drawn together, the outer ends of the portions 2 are correspondingly spread, thus engaging the barrel and carrying the same upward as the hoisting mechanism is operated.

This device may be made in any number of different sizes, adapted for handling any and all sizes of kegs and barrels.

Having described my invention, what I

claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

The herein described barrel tongs comprising a pair of hooks pivoted together, each of which is bent outwardly and upwardly from their pivotal centers, thence straight upwardly to form a shank and bent downwardly and outwardly from their pivotal centers to form horizontal arms,

links connected with the upper ends of the shanks, and a link connecting the links carried by the shanks. 10

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

SAMUEL L. COLEY.

Witnesses:

ERNEST S. BENNETT,
K. M. IMBODEN.