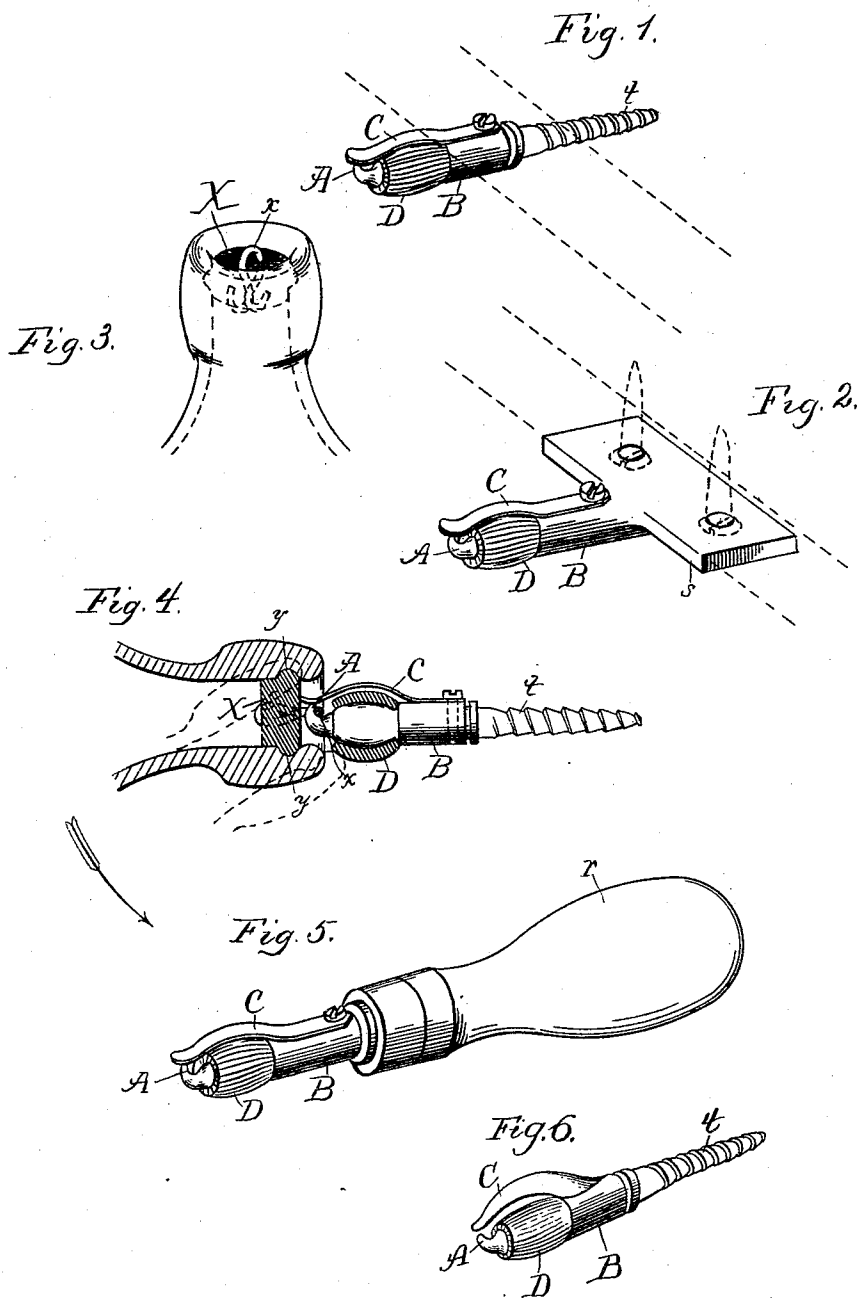


(No Model.)

R. PUCCINI.
STOPPER EXTRACTOR.

No. 480,414.

Patented Aug. 9, 1892.



Witnesses:
Chas. Burnap
H. J. Lahr.

Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REGOLO PUCCINI, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

STOPPER-EXTRACTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,414, dated August 9, 1892.

Application filed March 29, 1892. Serial No. 426,967. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, REGOLO PUCCINI, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Stopper-Extractors, of which the following is a specification.

Bottlers of effervescent beverages have recently adopted and brought into extensive use a peculiar form of bottle-stopper or "seal," as it is called, comprising a rubber disk, which is forced into the mouth of the bottle and held by expansion into an annular groove or recess provided on the inner surface of the neck of the bottle. Upon the rubber disk is a metal loop, and the seal or stopper is extracted by means of a suitable implement which is inserted through the loop. Hitherto an ordinary pointed, either straight or hooked, implement has been employed for this purpose, the implement being held by the operator in one hand and the bottle in the other. The effervescent quality of the contents of the bottle causes the stopper when withdrawn from its seat in the annular recess to be expelled from the bottle with more or less force. In the use of the implements hitherto employed the stopper when expelled from the bottle flies off, there being no means provided for preventing this occurrence. In its flight the stopper is apt to do injury to the person who operates the implement or to any object it may strike. Furthermore, the stopper, which is adapted for use over and over again, is apt to be lost when thus expelled.

My object is to provide an implement of an improved construction for extracting stoppers or seals of the character above described which shall afford a ready and convenient means for its purpose and operate to catch the stopper when expelled from the bottle, whereby the dangers incident to flight of the stopper are obviated.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved implement adapted to be screwed into the edge of a bar or counter, indicated by dotted lines; Fig. 2, a similar view of my improved device adapted to be fastened to the under side of a bar or counter; Fig. 3, a broken perspective view of the head portion of a bottle provided with a stopper or

seal of the kind which my improved implement is designed to extract; Fig. 4, a broken sectional diagrammatic view illustrating the manner of using the device; Fig. 5, a perspective view of my improved device provided with a handle, and Fig. 6 a modified form of the extractor.

The device is formed with a hook-shaped end A and shank B. Fastened upon the shank B is a guard C, preferably in the form of a spring-finger, which extends beyond the hook A and bears normally upon the end of the latter.

In the constructions shown in Figs. 1 and 4 the shank B is provided with an integral screw *t*, whereby the device may be screwed into the edge or side of a bar, counter, or other support.

In the construction shown in Fig. 2 the shank B is provided with an integral plate *s*, having screw-holes, through which the device may be fastened against a flat surface, as the under side of a bar or counter.

In employing either of the constructions described, the device being firmly secured in position to extract a stopper or seal X from a bottle, the loop *x* of the stopper is passed over the end of the hook, between the latter and the spring-guard C, and the bottle swung downward in the direction of the arrow in Fig. 4. The side of the mouth of the bottle bears against the shank portion B in the initial downward pressure of the bottle, and further pressure causes the stopper to be drawn from its seat. When the stopper passes beyond the annular recess *y* of the bottle, the effervescent contents of the latter causes the stopper to be expelled with more or less force. The guard C prevents the stopper when thus expelled from freeing itself from the hook A. To guard against injury to the mouth of the bottle where it engages the shank B while the stopper is being extracted I provide a cushion D upon the shank, which is preferably in the form of a rubber ring.

The extractors, constructed, as described, to be secured to a stationary support are adapted more especially for use in saloons, restaurants, or the like. In their use the operator grasps the bottle in one hand and may quickly pass the loop of the stopper over the hook and extract the stopper, as described, while

he holds a glass or tumbler in the other hand. When the stopper has been extracted from the bottle, it may be readily withdrawn from the hook A and saved.

5 The device shown in Fig. 5 is adapted more especially for family use. In this construction the extractor is fastened at its shank to a handle *r*. In the use of this device the operator uses both hands in extracting a stop-
10 per, one to hold the bottle and the other the implement.

In the construction shown in Fig. 6 a rigid guard C, integral with the shank, is substituted for the spring-finger. The finger E
15 extends at its forward end almost to the end of the hook A, leaving a narrow opening between the two for the insertion of the loop *x*. In the use of the device the finger will operate, like the spring C, to catch the stopper.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure 20 by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a stopper-extractor, the combination of a shank, a hook upon the end of the shank, a guard for the hook, and a cushion upon the shank adjacent to the hook, substantially as 25 and for the purpose set forth.

2. A stopper-extractor comprising, in combination, a shank B, having a threaded extension *t* at one end and provided at its opposite end with a hook A, a guard C for the 30 said hook, and a cushion D upon the shank adjacent to the hook, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

REGOLO PUCCINI.

In presence of—

J. NELLIS HANSON,
M. J. FROST.