To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Emery E. Barton, a citizen of the United States, residing at Jetmore, in the county of Hodgeman and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Well-Pipe Lifter; 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.

The object of the invention is to provide simple and efficient means adapted to be operated by one man unassisted, for raising or lowering well tubing such as a drill rod, pump rod, or the like; and with this object in view the invention consists in a construction, combination and relation of parts of which a preferred embodiment is shown in the drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side view of an apparatus embodying the invention.
Figure 2 is a plan view of the same.
Figure 3 is a front view.
Figure 4 is a detail view of one of the grappling jaws and connections, and
Figure 5 is a detail view of the clamp jaws.

The device consists essentially of hand levers 10, preferably fulcrumed at 11 upon the uprights 12 of a supporting frame 13, and braced as indicated at 14 to afford the necessary stability, said levers being thus spaced apart so as to permit of an operator standing therebetween and grasping the grip portions thereof respectively in his right and left hands, and said levers are flexibly connected as by means of the rods or links 15 with the grappling jaws 16, each of which is forked to provide arms 17 to straddle the pump rod or tubing 18 and carries a gripping pin or rod 19, spanning the interval between the arms 17 and adjustable with relation thereto, to suit the diameter of the rod or tube 18, by means of suitable openings 20. In order to provide for the disengagement of the grappling jaws from the rod or tube as the hand levers are alternatively used either in raising or lowering said rod or tube, a release chain 21 is connected with each grappling jaw and is attached to the end of a release rod 22 extending longitudinally of the hand lever and adapted to be operated by a trip lever 23 arranged within convenient reach of the grip of the lever.

Also each hand lever operates in relation with a toothed segment 24 and carries a dog 25 for engagement therewith to lock the lever in its adjusted positions, said dog being connected with a trip lever 23 also located within convenient reach of the grip or handle of the operating lever.

Supported by the frame, which in addition to the base and upright above described includes an upper cross bar 27, is a clamp 28 for engaging a tube or rod to hold the same against vertical and rotary movement as in attaching or detaching the couplings by which the sections are united, said clamp having jaws 29 carried by arms 30 and connected by a feed screw 31 having a terminal hand wheel 32. The arms of the clamp are pivotally mounted upon the upright 12 by means of staples 33 or the equivalent thereof.

Also supported by the frame above the plane of the clamp 28 is a bracing and aligning ring 34, adapted to loosely receive a rod or tube to steady the same as a coupling is being made or disconnected, said ring being supported by a suitable bracket arm 35.

With the assistance of an apparatus described, a single operator can raise or lower well or pump tubing or rods without excessive effort, due to the fact that the movement may be effected step by step, and at the same time without risk of accidentally releasing or dropping the tubing inasmuch as the engagement of the grappling jaws is effected alternately and is entirely within control of the hands of the operator grasping the grips or handles of the operating lever.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. An apparatus for the purpose described having spaced parallel hand levers adapted for actuation by a single operator, tilting grappling jaws connected respectively with said hand levers, locking means for the hand levers and releasing means for the grappling jaws provided with operating or trip levers located adjacent to the grip portions of said hand levers.

2. An apparatus for the purpose described having spaced parallel hand levers adapted for actuation by a single operator, tilting grappling jaws connected respectively with said hand levers, locking means for the hand levers and releasing means for the grappling jaws provided with operating or trip levers...
located adjacent to the grip portions of said hand levers, the grappling jaws each consisting of a forked lever carrying a transverse grip rod for engagement with a rod or pipe straddled by the fork.

3. An apparatus for the purpose described having spaced parallel hand levers adapted for actuation by a single operator, tilting grappling jaws connected respectively with said hand levers, locking means for the hand levers and releasing means for the grappling jaws provided with operating or trip levers located adjacent to the grip portions of said hand levers, a supporting frame being provided for said hand levers, and an aligning ring being supported by the frame for the reception of a rod or tube above the plane of operation of said grappling jaws.

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

EMERY E. GARTON.

Witnesses:
H. A. HART,
E. H. ANDREWS.