(No Model.)

W. H. SMITH.

LIFTER FOR CUSPIDORS AND THE LIKE.

No. 388,083. Patented Aug. 21, 1888.

Fig. 1.

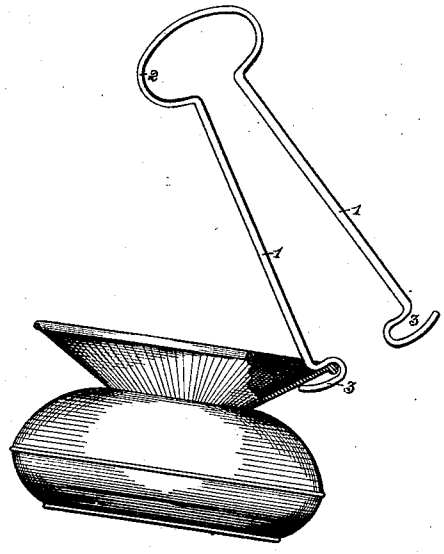
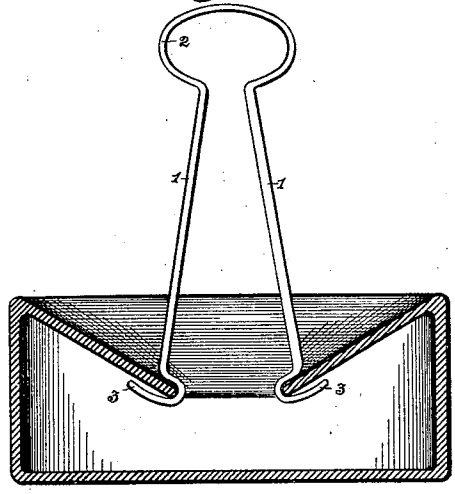


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LIFTER FOR CUSPIDORS AND THE LIKE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 388,083, dated August 21, 1888.

Application filed November 2, 1887. Serial No. 254,084. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Danbury, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lifters for Cuspidors and the Like; 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.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in lifters for cuspidors, spittoons, and other similar vessels, and has for its object to provide a device of this description which shall be cheap and simple in its construction, and whereby vessels of varied shapes may be grasped and lifted without the necessity of using the hand; and with these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements, which will be hereinafter fully and in detail set forth, and then recited in the claim.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may fully understand both how to make and to use my improvement, I will describe the same in detail, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 shows my device with an ordinary sheet-metal cuspidor held in one of its hooks; and Fig. 2, a similar view, but showing a large earthen spittoon upheld by means of both hooks.

Like reference-numbers denote the same parts in both figures.

1 represents a pair of leg-like members whose upper ends are resiliently connected by means of a spring, 2, whereby said legs may be caused to be capable of an opening and closing movement. Upon the end of each leg is formed or secured a hook, 3, the heel end whereof extends inward beyond the plane of the leg, and the point whereof extends outward parallel with the heel and projects beyond the plane of the leg, as shown in the drawings. The hooks I preferably make flat as to their grasping-surfaces. This peculiar shape of hook enables me to make use of my device in either of several ways—as, for instance, a sheet-metal cuspidor may be seized and carried by slipping the hook of one leg over the edge thereof, as shown at Fig. 1, the leverage of the cuspidor against the top edge of the heel of the hook holding it. By this method two cuspidors may be picked up and carried at once, one on each hook.

For raising and carrying heavy articles—as, for instance, large earthen or stone spittoons—which have no thin projecting flange over which the hook may grasp, I find it advantageous to employ both hooks by pressing them together against the action of the spring and inserting them within the hole, when the spring, pressure being released, causes them to engage and hold one upon either side of the opening, as seen at Fig. 2.

Not only may the articles heretofore enumerated and shown be lifted by means of my device, but almost any vessels of sheet metal or crockery which for any reason it is disadvantageous to handle may readily be grasped thereby.

I claim as of my invention—

The combination, with the spring-connected legs, of the hooks projecting from the ends of said legs, the points of said hooks extended outward beyond the plane of the legs, and the heels of said hooks extended inward beyond the plane of the legs, substantially as specified.

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

WILLIAM H. SMITH.

Witnesses:
JAMES D. COSTELLO,
DANIEL MAHONEY.