No. 705,815. Patented July 29, 1902.

G. N. BEECHING.

BARREL HOOK OR HANDLE.

(Application filed May 7, 1901.)

(No Model.)

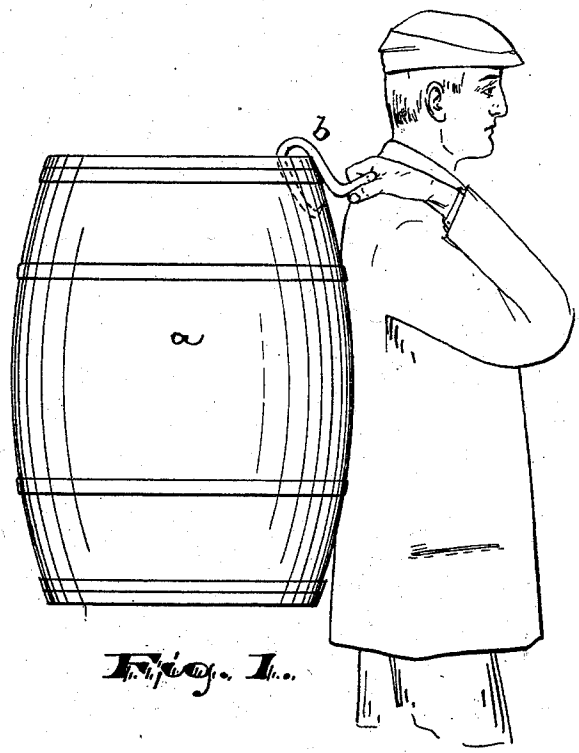


Fig. 1.

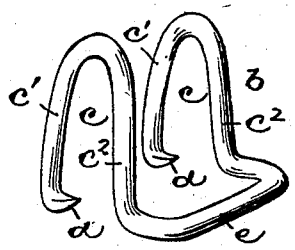


Fig. 2.

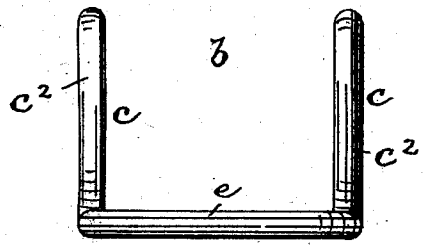


Fig. 3.

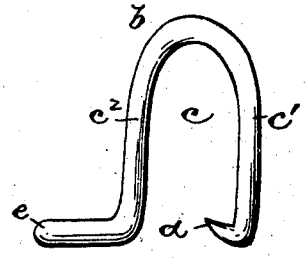


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

Henry Krug

Russell M. Everitt

INVENTOR:

George N. Beeching,

BY

Drake & Co.

ATTORNEYS.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE N. BEECHING, OF SUMMIT, NEW JERSEY.

BARREL HOOK OR HANDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 705,815, dated July 29, 1902.

Application filed May 7, 1901. Serial No. 59,092. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE N. BEECHING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Summit, in the county of Union and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Barrel Hooks or Handles; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The objects of this invention are to provide a hook which will form a detachable handle by means of which a barrel can be carried and to thus facilitate the handling of barrels; to provide such a handle which will not be displaced by an outward pull and which will be effective to permit the barrel to be carried upon the man's back or over his shoulder; to provide such a handle of simple construction and which can be cheaply bent out of iron rod, and to secure other advantages and results, some of which may be referred to hereinafter in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved barrel-hook and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth, and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several figures, Figure 1 is a side view of a man carrying a barrel by means of my improved hook. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the hook. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the hook, and Fig. 4 is an elevation looking at the handle of the hook.

In said drawings, *a* indicates a barrel, to which I have shown my improved handle *b* applied as it is most generally used. While said handle is primarily intended for barrels, however, and more particularly still for carrying a barrel over the shoulder, it will be evident that it can be used equally well upon boxes or similar receptacles.

It is customary in certain lines of business—as, for instance, in kindling-wood yards and around markets—to carry barrels of different articles upon the back, said barrel being grasped at its upper edge by the hands reached up over the shoulder. It will be evident, however, that this manner of carrying a barrel affords a very precarious hold upon the barrel, so that if the fingers slip the barrel is dropped upon the carrier's heels. By my improved hook, however, a barrel can be firmly held and carried upon the back with great security and ease by one man in places—as, for instance, up a flight of stairs—where two men grasping a barrel from opposite sides would have no room to move.

My improved barrel-hook is preferably bent out of a piece of iron, say, one-half inch in diameter, the two ends of the rod forming narrow U-shaped loops *c c*, lying in parallel planes at a distance of a few inches apart and adapted to set down over the edge of the barrel, with the arms c' c^2 of the loops lying adjacent to the inner and outer walls of the barrel. The extremities of the arms c', which lie inside of the barrel, are turned abruptly inward with respect to the other arms c^2 of the loops and pointed to form spurs *d*, which can be pressed into the inner wall of the barrel. The middle portion of the piece of rod from which my hook *b* is bent forms between the two loops *c c* a handle *e* lying in substantially the plane of the open lower ends of said loops and curving outward from said loops to stand away from the barrel in use.

It will be obvious that the construction described is very simple and can be readily and cheaply bent up out of common iron rod. Moreover, it is strong and not liable to breakage in any of its parts.

When my hook is applied to a barrel, as shown, any outward or upward pull upon the handle portion *e* above a horizontal plane throws the upper part of the loops *c c* inward against the edge of the barrel and throws the lower upward ends of the inner arms of said loops outward against the wall of the barrel, forcing the spurs into said wall. Obviously the greater the weight of the barrel the more deeply are the spurs *d* pressed into the barrel-staves and the more firmly is the hook held in engagement with the barrel. To detach the hook, only a slight downward move-

ment of the handle *e* is necessary to free the spurs *d*, when the loops can be slid upward off the edge of the barrel.

It will be noted that having two spurred loops *c c* adapted to lie side by side on the edge of a barrel distributes the strain, and, moreover, the arrangement of the handle *e* between said loops insures a stable draft on the barrel and prevents danger of upsetting or inadvertently disengaging the hook. Ordinary draft is, furthermore, directly in line with the spurs *d* and tending to seat them more firmly into engagement with the barrel.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. An improved barrel-hook, comprising a rod bent into two parallel loops *c*, *c*, the ends of one pair of arms having inward-projecting spurs *d*, and the ends of the other arms being connected by an outwardly-bent handle.

2. The herein-described barrel-hook, consisting of a piece of iron rod bent into parallel loops adapted to set down over the edge of a barrel, and each having arms of substantially equal length, one arm of each loop forming at its extremity an inwardly-turned spur, and the other two arms being connected by an integral handle bent out of the middle portion of the rod.

3. In a barrel-hook, the combination with a handle portion, of a U-shaped loop *c*, adapted to set down over the edge of a barrel, one arm of said loop having at its extremity an inwardly-projecting spur, and the other arm being of a length not less than the first said arm and connected at its extremity to said handle.

4. A barrel-hook comprising two parallel rigid loops of an inverted-U shape and adapted to set down over the edge of a barrel, one arm of each loop having at its end an inwardly-pointing spur and the other arms being connected to an outwardly-extending handle, said spurs and handle all lying substantially in a plane disposed at right angles to the loop.

5. A barrel-hook having parallel loops *c*, *c*, adapted to set down over the edge of a barrel at a little distance apart, said loops each having an inwardly-directed spur on one arm, and the other arms being connected by a handle bent outward to clear the curved side of the barrel.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of April, 1901.

GEORGE N. BEECHING.

Witnesses:

RUSSELL M. EVERETT,

C. B. PITNEY.