

G. W. SHAFFER.

TRACK-LIFTER.

No. 171,957.

Patented Jan. 11, 1876.

Fig. 1

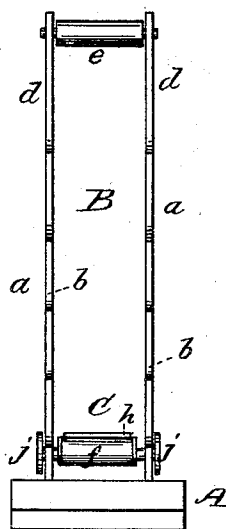
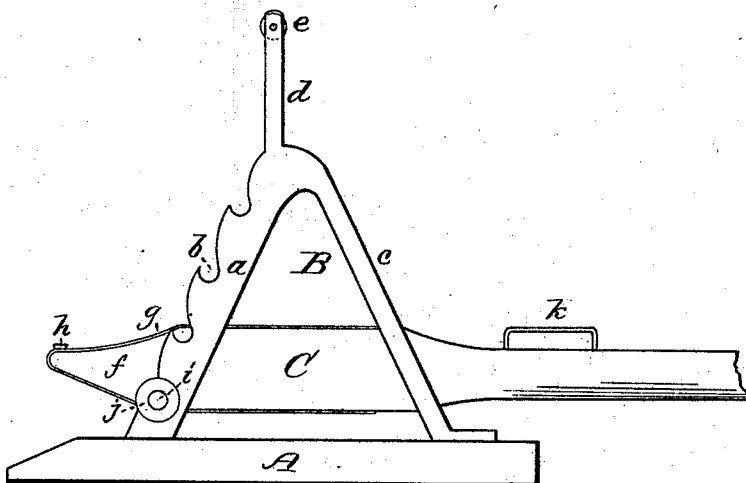


Fig. 2



WITNESSES

Wm. E. Ripphart.

Chas. G. Campbell

INVENTOR

George W. Shaffer.

per Chas. H. Fowler.

Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. SHAFFER, OF SYRACUSE, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRACK-LIFTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,957**, dated January 11, 1876; application filed November 29, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. SHAFFER, of Syracuse, in the county of Kosciusko and State of Indiana, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Track-Lifters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of an end or front view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side view of the same.

This invention has relation to devices to be used for lifting railroad-tracks; and its object is to provide a simple, cheap, and effective track-lifter, that may be easily transported by hand from place to place, and accomplish its purpose in elevating the track without the necessity of employing expensive machinery; and my invention consists in the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, and subsequently pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, A represents the base or platform of my improved track-lifter, to which is bolted or otherwise secured a skeleton-frame, B, composed of any suitable metal best adapted to the purpose. The frame B consists of inclined plates *a*, formed with steps *b* and brace-rods *c*, at the upper end or termination of which are bars *d*, forming bearings for a roller, *e*, to serve as a handle or bail in facilitating the ready transporting of the device from place to place. The lever, as represented at C, has a curved end, *f*, and around its upper and lower sides a strengthening-plate, *g*. Upon the end of the lever C is secured a projecting plate, *h*, of steel or other hard metal, and its purpose is to prevent the lever C from slipping when the same is placed under the

track. To the under side of the lever C, near the curved end *f*, is journaled a rod, *i*, its ends projecting outward from each side of the lever, to admit of its being readily placed within the steps *b* of the plate *a*.

The great strain necessarily coming upon the plates *a* when the power is brought down on the lever would tend to injure the plates by spreading them laterally. To remove the danger from such a cause the rod *i* is formed upon each end with an annular or other form of disk, *j*, acting as bearing plates or stays, against which the sides of the plates *a* are pressed, if at any time they should spread or be forced outwardly by the strain thereon.

The lever C is provided with a handle, *k*, which, with the roller or handle *e*, are in such location upon the frame and lever that each, when carried in the hands, will be balanced, thereby greatly facilitating their transportation by a single person.

A device constructed according to my invention may be manufactured at a greatly-reduced cost over those now in use, and it is always ready for immediate use, saving time as well as expense in the employment of several persons to operate it.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The frame B, consisting of the plates *a*, with steps *b*, and the brace-rods *c*, and handle *e*, in combination with the lever C, rod *i*, disks *j*, and projecting plate *h*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE W. SHAFFER.

Witnesses:

JACOB P. PRICKETT,
S. L. KETRING.