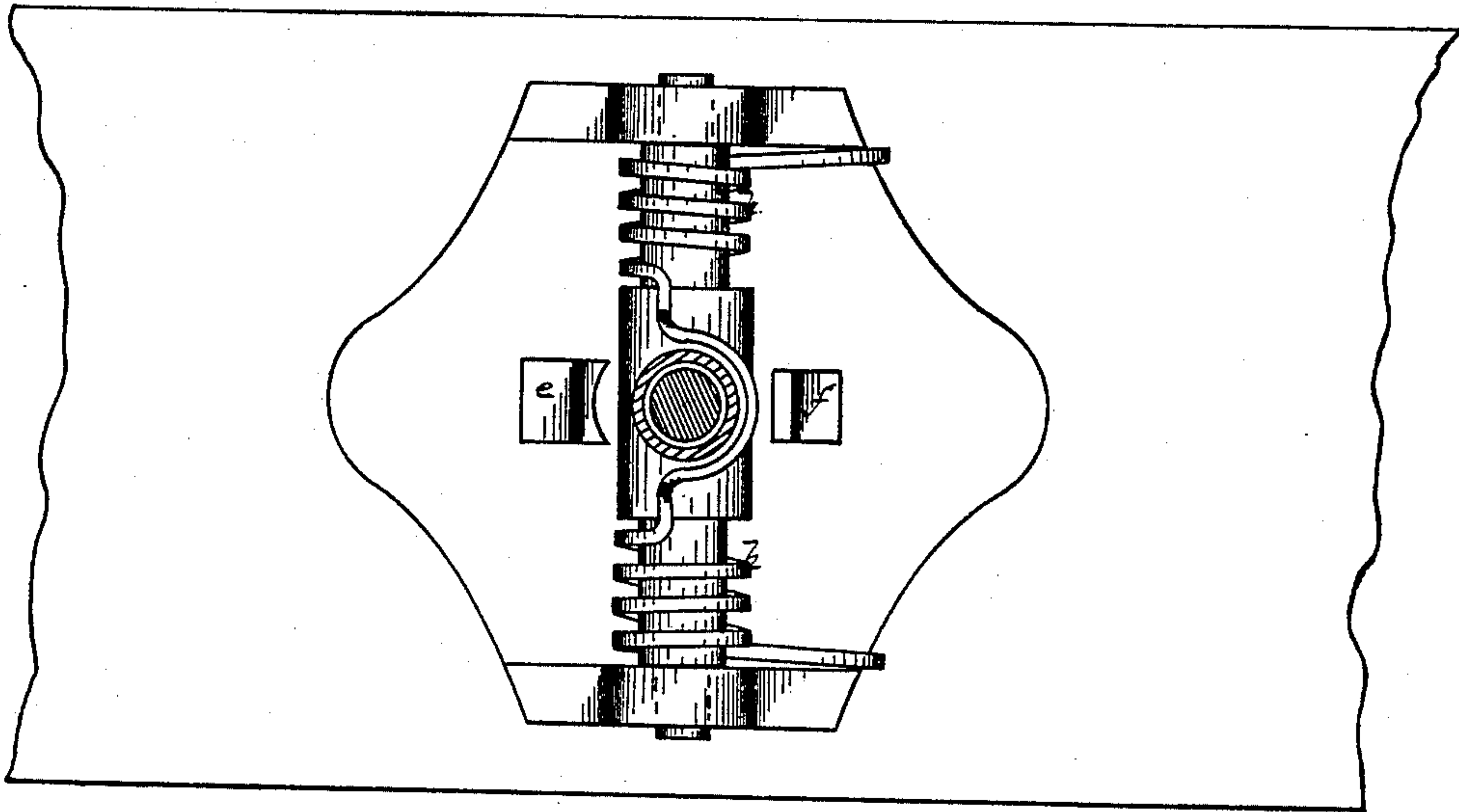
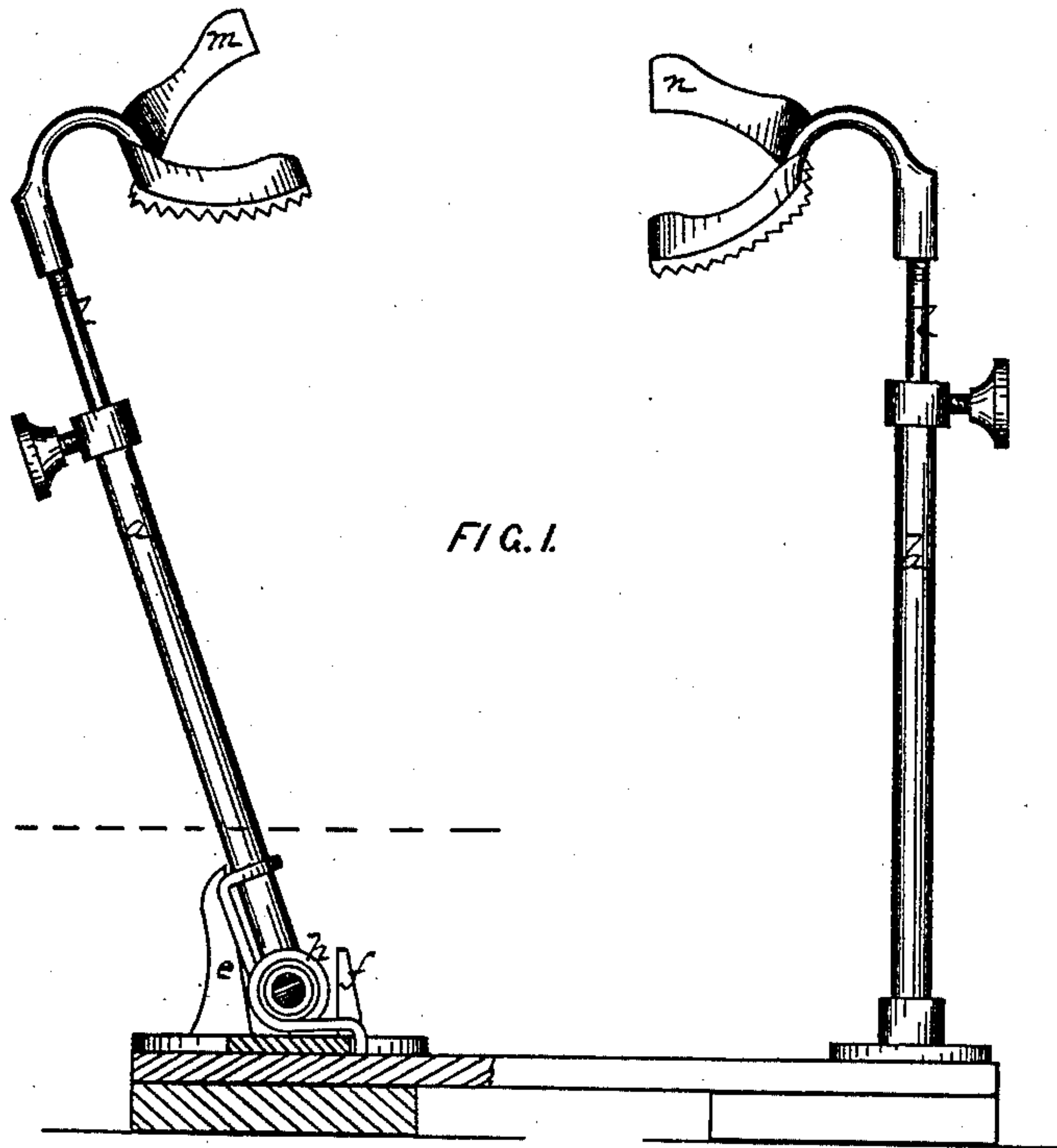


A. J. MOSHER.

BAG-HOLDER.

No. 177,540.

Patented May 16, 1876.



WITNESSES:

T. T. Snow  
Arthur S. Bird

INVENTOR:

Andrew J. Mosher.  
per Smith & Bird  
attys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW J. MOSHER, OF PORTLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT  
TO THOMAS J. SKILLIN, OF DEERING, MAINE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BAG-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 177,540, dated May 16, 1876; application filed  
April 15, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. MOSHER, of Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bag-Holders; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, that will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 a detail, showing a top plan of the spring.

The purpose of my invention is to provide a convenient means of holding bags while they are being filled.

The construction of my device is as follows: Two hollow standards, *a* and *b*, are secured to the floor or platform. One of these standards admits of no motion, while the other, *b*, having a joint near its lower extremity, is capable of movement in the plane of the other support *a*. When no provision is made by which the relative position of the standards can be adjusted they should be placed at a distance of about eighteen inches from each other—a distance to be varied according to the height of the standards and the width of the bags to be used. Stops *e* and *f* are placed on the either side of the standard *a*, as shown in the drawing, against one of which, *e*, the standard *a* is forced by means of the spring *h*. Within these standards may be placed the rods *l*, which should be but little shorter than the standards. To the upper ends of these rods are secured the jaws *m n*, which may be semicircular in shape, or angular, when that form best subserves the purpose. Upon the outer surface of these jaws are flanges *o*, provided with teeth, the jaws being so attached to the rods that one side is more elevated than the other. When the same size of bag is used the jaws may be attached directly to the standard.

In operating the device the rods *l* are raised or lowered until the distance between the jaws and the floor or platform is about equal to the height of the bag to be filled. In this position they are secured by the use of thumb-screws or a spring in a slot or similar device. One side of the bag is placed around

the jaw *m*. The standard *a* is then drawn toward the support *b* until the other side of the bag can be placed around the jaw *n*, when the standard is released. The jaws being pressed apart within the mouth of the bag by the spring, the substance to be placed in the bag can be readily poured in over the lower side of the mouth, the elevation of the other side preventing spilling during the process. When filled the bag may be released by pressure upon the standard *a*, as before.

The office of the stop *f* is to prevent abuse of the spring.

If found desirable to make use of the holder for bags of varying width, the foot of either of the standards *b* preferably may be so constructed as to move in a grooved channel, so placed relatively to the standard *a* that the standard may be moved to and fro in the plane of the other standard. In this way the distance between the standards may be adjusted for any width of bag, the adjustable standard being secured at any point desired by means of a set-screw, or similarly.

I do not, of course, confine myself to any particular form of spring to be applied to the standard *a*. The standard itself may be made of elastic material, and rigidly attached to the platform, or the springs may be reduplicated and applied in any of the various known methods.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination of the inclined jaws and the standards *a* and *b* with the spring *h* and stop *e*, as and for the purposes set forth.
2. The combination of the inclined jaws, rods *l*, standards *a* and *b*, spring *h*, and stop *e*.
3. The semicircular or angular jaws, having serrated flanges, said jaws being mounted upon standards, so constructed as to admit of being drawn toward each other, and to separate on the withdrawal of the force.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 10th day of April, 1876.

ANDREW J. MOSHER.

Witnesses:

MANASSEH SMITH,  
GEO. E. BIRD.