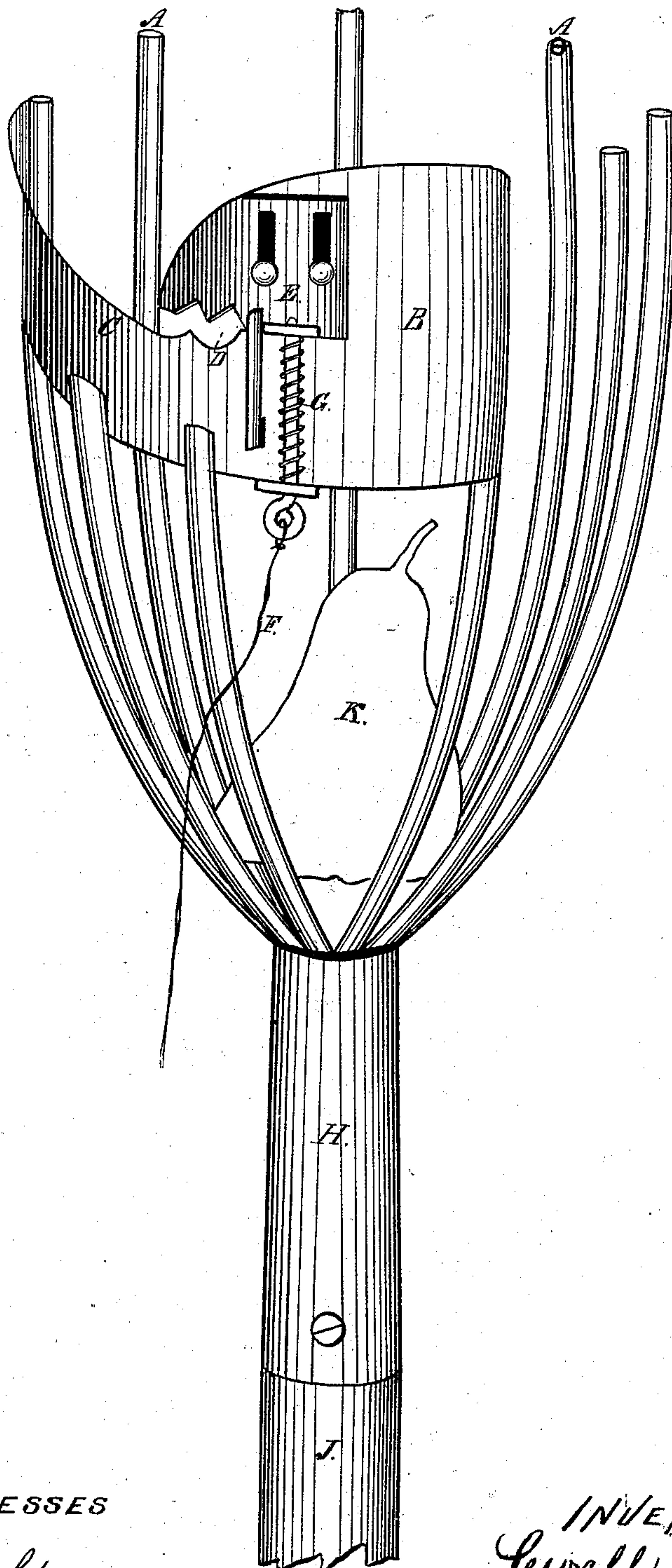


S. RICE.
Fruit-Gatherer.

No. 224,610.

Patented Feb. 17, 1880.



WITNESSES

E. A. Knight
W. F. Knight

INVENTOR.
Sewell Rice,
By His Attorney,
Jonas Luther,

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SEWELL RICE, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

FRUIT-GATHERER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 224,610, dated February 17, 1880.

Application filed December 16, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SEWELL RICE, of the city and county of Worcester, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fruit-Gatherers, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing.

This device relates to an improvement on the patent issued to Leonard M. Parker, dated February 19, 1861, No. 31,475, which consisted in a series of wires set in a socket and bent to form a holder for the fruit.

My improvement consists in having a slotted metal plate fastened to two or more of said wires, said slot being formed with a wide oval incline from the upper edge, ending in a lateral narrow slot having a cutting-edge for the stem of the fruit to pass into, by which the fruit can be detached from the branch and drop into the wire holder. To the metal plate, just above the narrow space for the stem, I attach a steel-toothed cutter operated with a cord and spring.

The drawing represents a perspective view of the holder with my improvement attached thereto.

In the drawing, A A designate the bent-wire holder. B represents my metallic plate fastened to the bent wires. C denotes the wide oval incline, and D the narrow lateral slot with cutting-edge; E, the steel-toothed cutter; F, the cord, and G the spring. H denotes the socket in which the wires are soldered, in the lower end of which the handle J is joined. K denotes fruit in the holder.

With this improvement of mine a single pear, apple, peach, or bunch of grapes can be picked from a branch without shaking other fruit which may be near.

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

In a fruit-picker, the combination, with the bent-wire holder A A, of the slotted metal plate B, having inclined cutting-edge C D, the toothed vertically-sliding cutter E, spring G, and cord F, as and for the purpose herein described.

SEWELL RICE.

Witnesses:

JONA. LUTHER,
GEO. A. KIMBALL.