

(No Model.)

R. J. MORGAN.

FRUIT PICKER.

No. 288,096.

Patented Nov. 6, 1883.

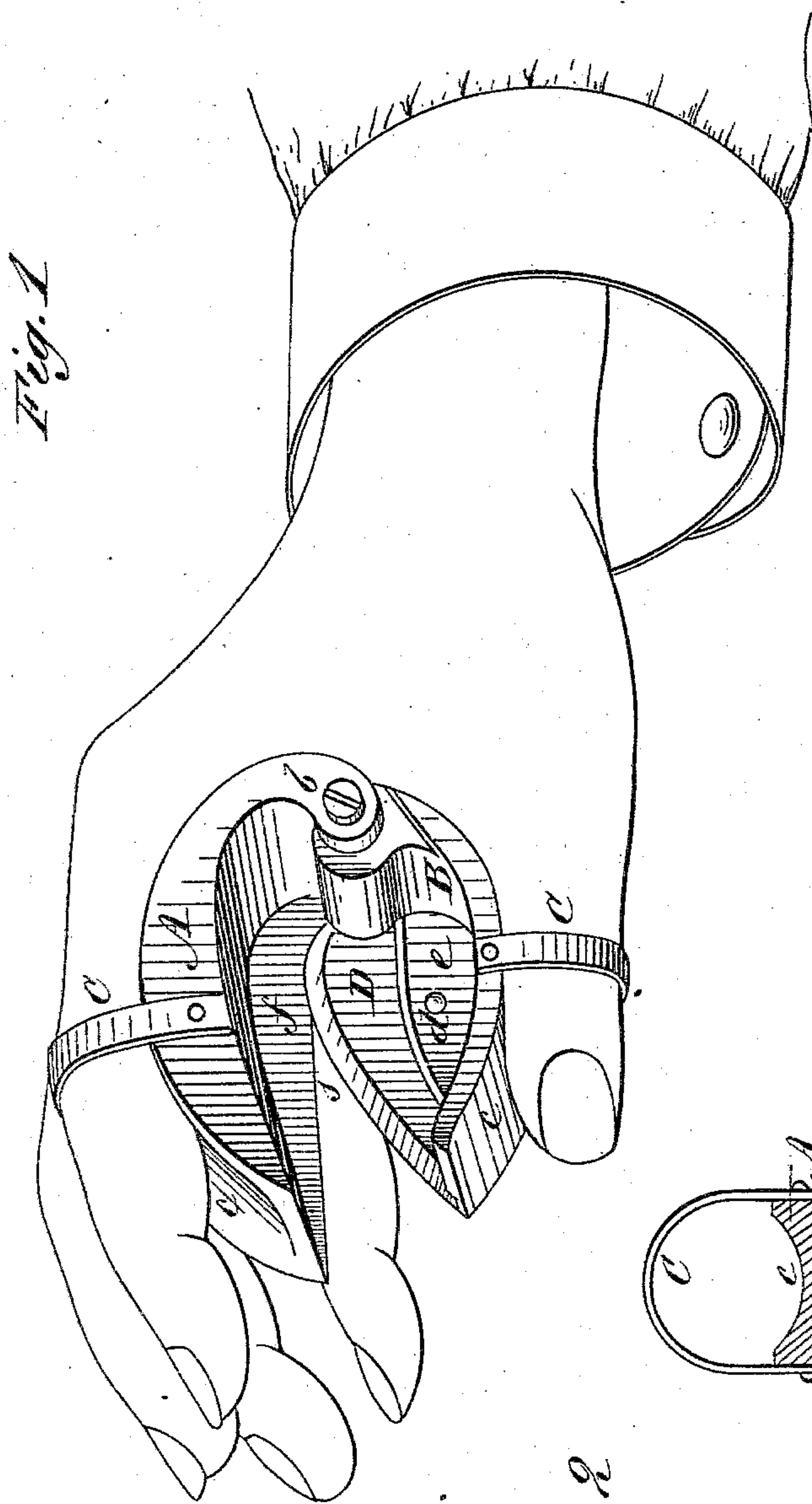


Fig. 1

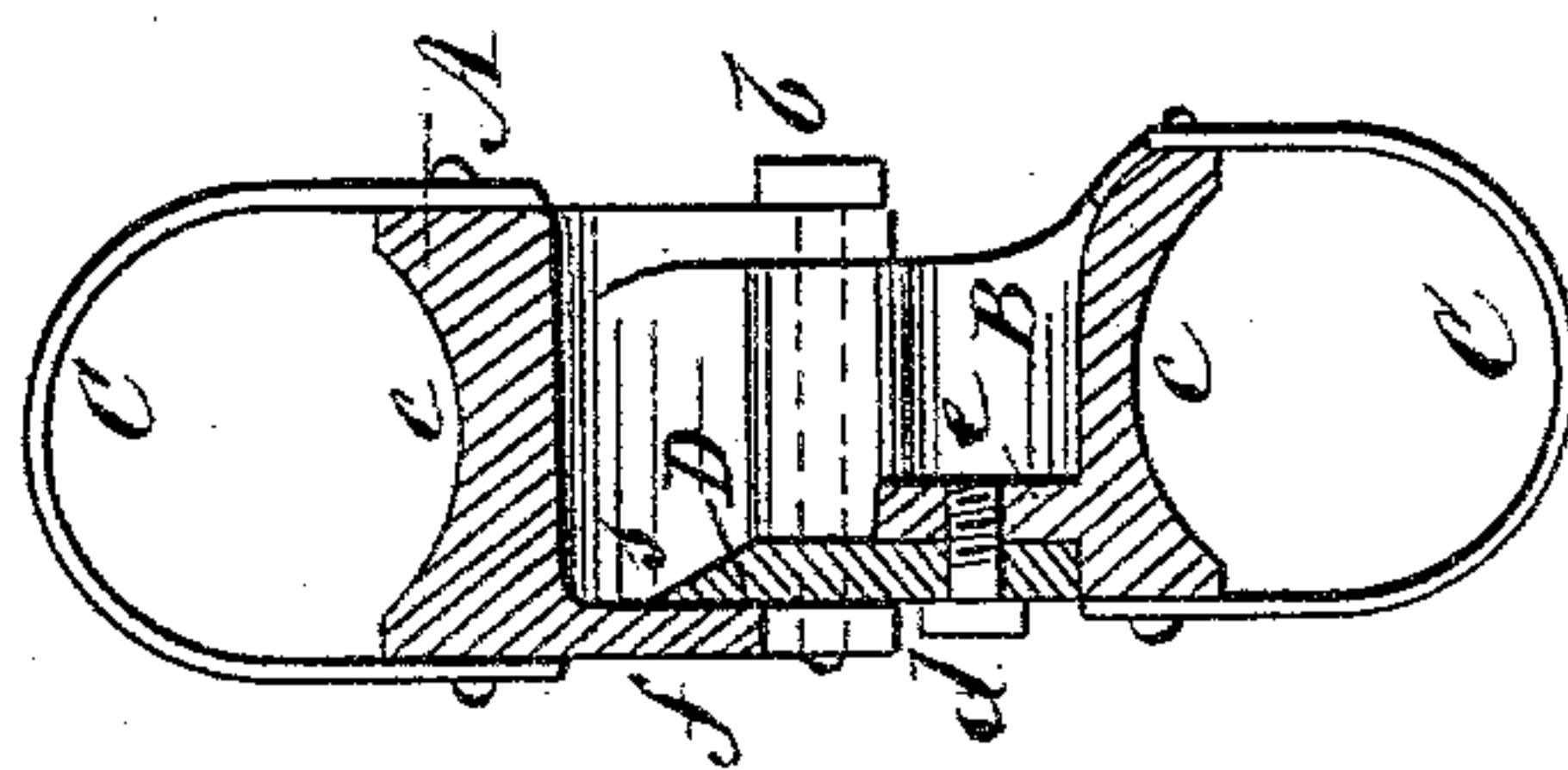


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

WITNESSES:

C. Nereux
E. Sedgwick

INVENTOR:

R. J. Morgan
BY *Munn & Co*
ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD J. MORGAN, OF ORLANDO, FLORIDA.

FRUIT-PICKER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 288,096, dated November 6, 1883.

Application filed July 24, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD J. MORGAN, of Orlando, in the county of Orange and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit Clippers and Pickers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention, although not restricted for use on any one kind of fruit, is more particularly designed for clipping or picking oranges; and it consists in a fruit-clipper of novel construction, whereby the same is securely held and made capable of operation by certain fingers of the one hand, while the remaining fingers of the same hand are at liberty to grasp the fruit, and the remaining hand is free to sustain the gatherer or operator on the tree, ladder, or other support, or for any other purpose that may be required, substantially as hereinafter described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of my improved fruit-clipper as held for use by the hand of the operator. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of said clipper, and Fig. 3 an exterior side view of the cutting-jaw of the clipper.

A and B in the drawings represent two jaws, made of any suitable metal or material, and hinged or pivoted together in their rear, as at *b*. These jaws, which may be of arched or curved form, both externally and internally, and of hollow or half-box like construction, so as to cut from the one side of them, are of convex form in direction of their length, and of fluted or concave shape, as at *c c*, transversely, externally, or on their backs, to conform to the shape and bend of the fingers by which the jaws are held and operated—that is, the thumb and forefinger of the one hand between which the device is worked—and by pressure of which fingers on the jaws it is closed in clipping. The jaws are opened, and the clipper is secured to the hand by straps C C, of leather or other suitable material, attached to the jaws, and arranged to pass around

the thumb and forefinger applied to the exterior of the jaws.

Secured to the one side of the thumb-jaw B, as by a screw, *d*, and inside supporting flange, *e*, is a cutter, D, made of steel or other suitable material, and formed with a sharp cutting-edge, *s*, in direction of its length, the same being fitted to work upon the inside of a cutting-flange, *f*, upon the corresponding side of the other jaw, A; or said jaw A may likewise be furnished with a sharp-edged cutter; or the cutter D may be applied to the jaw A and the cutting-flange *f* to the thumb-jaw B. By the separate attachment of the cutter D to the jaw which carries it, said cutter may be readily removed for resharpening or repair, when necessary. The cutting portions of the jaws being on the one side of them, the instrument may be held so as to cut close to the fruit.

The combined picker and clipper being held and worked by the thumb and forefinger of the one hand, as described, affords increased facilities for gathering the fruit over, or as compared with, other clippers requiring the use of both hands—that is, one hand to hold the fruit and the other hand to clip it—inasmuch as by my improved picker and clipper the same hand which holds and works the instrument may also be used to transfer the fruit to the basket, bag, or other receptacle designed to receive it, the thumb and finger securely carrying and working the device, while the remaining fingers of the same hand may be used to grasp the fruit. This leaves the other hand of the gatherer or operator free to support him on the tree or ladder, as the case may be.

I do not abandon or dedicate to the public any patentable features set forth herein and not hereinafter claimed, but reserve the right to claim the same either in a reissue of any patent that may be granted upon this application or in other applications for Letters Patent that I may make.

I am aware that two pivoted jaws provided with teeth at their front ends and operated by the thumb and forefinger have been used in corn-huskers; but

What I claim as new and of my invention is—

In a picker for oranges or analogous fruits, the combination of two rear pivoted jaws
5 having longitudinal cutting-edges D *f*, and adapted to be worked by the thumb and fore-finger, and straps C, whereby the remainder of

the hand is left to grasp and hold the fruit while its stem is being cut and afterward, as described.

RICHARD J. MORGAN.

Witnesses:

J. B. PARRAMORE,
CHAS. F. SHINE.