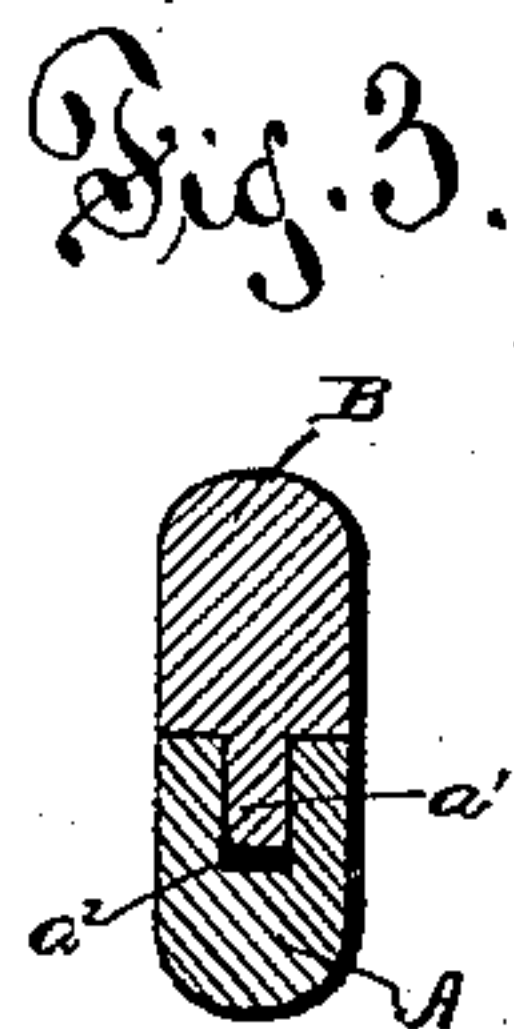
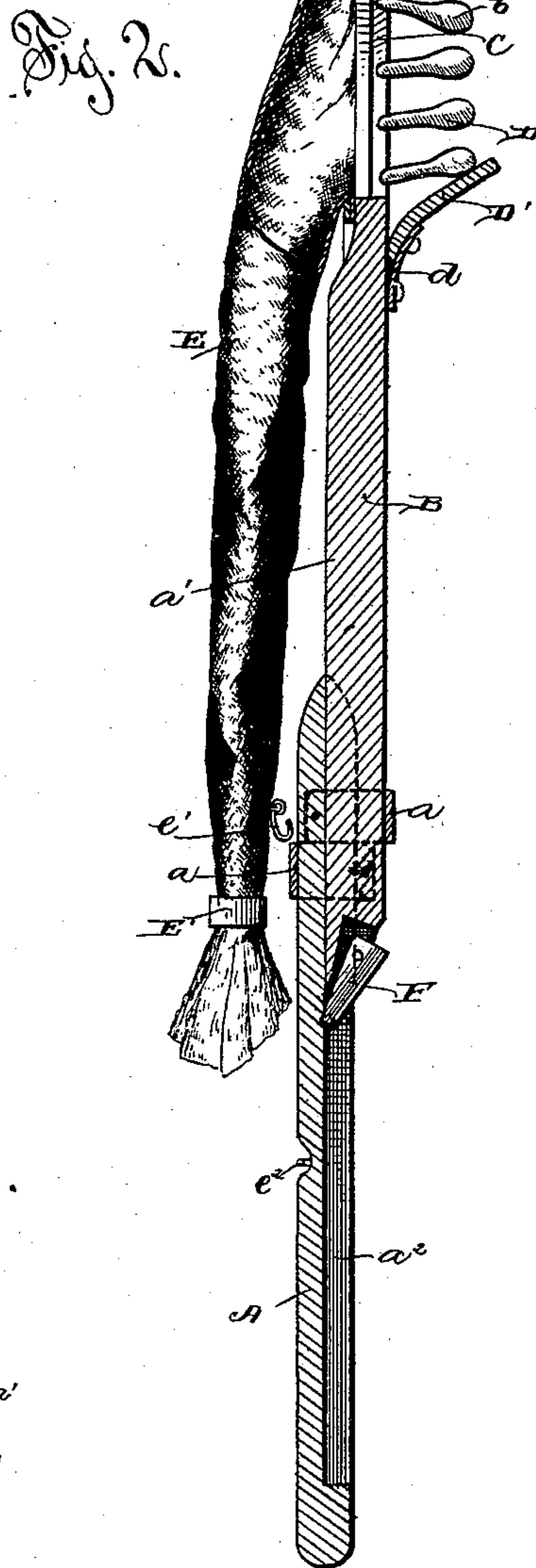
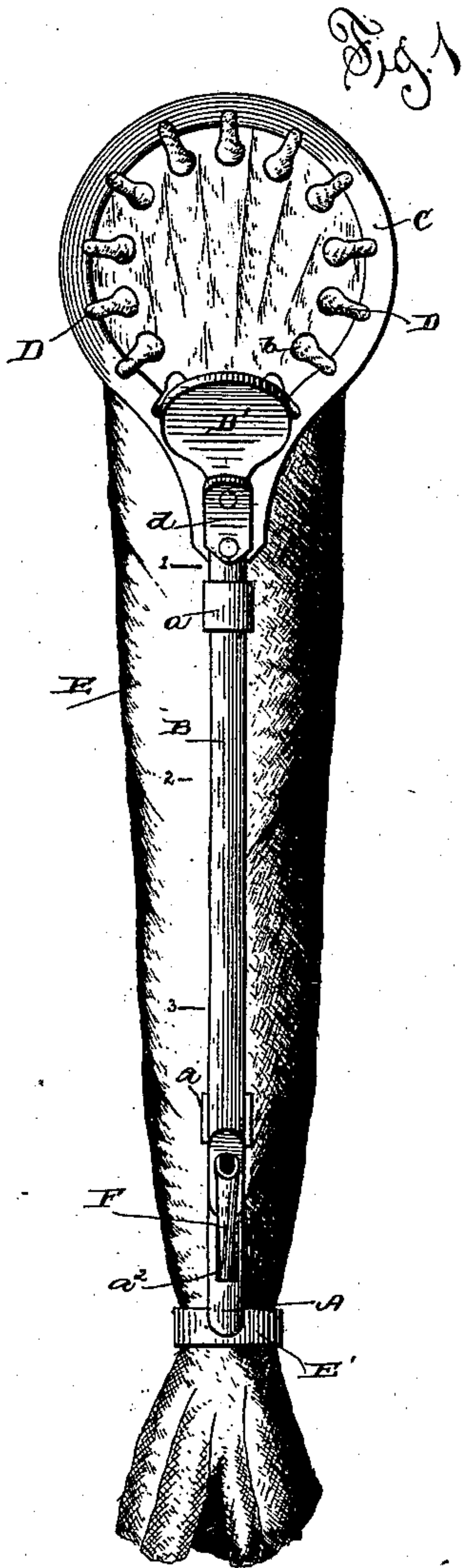


(No Model.)

H. WOODHURST.  
FRUIT GATHERER.

No. 362,475.

Patented May 3, 1887.



Witnesses:

John Enders Jr.  
John McMill.

Inventor:

Hazard Woodhurst  
By Munroe.

Attorneys:



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HAZZARD WOODHURST, OF PERRY, ASSIGNOR OF THREE-FOURTHS TO ELI WAYLAND, CYRUS M. SMITH, AND THOMAS E. CRIGLER, ALL OF MONROE CITY, MISSOURI.

## FRUIT-GATHERER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 362,475, dated May 3, 1887.

Application filed October 7, 1886. Serial No. 215,530. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HAZZARD WOODHURST, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Perry, in the county of Ralls and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Gatherers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 This invention pertains to certain new and useful improvements in fruit-gatherers; and it consists in the detailed construction, combination, and arrangement of the parts, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

15 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view thereof, showing a portion extended in dotted lines; and Fig. 3 is a view in cross-section of the handle.

20 In carrying out my invention I employ a handle or bar, A, to which is connected, by means of bands or straps  $a$ , a second supplementary handle or sliding bar, B, which has a tenon,  $a'$ , formed on one side, entering a correspondingly-shaped groove or recess,  $a^2$ , in the side of the handle or bar A, the purpose of which will appear further on. The straps or bands  $a$  are secured one by both of its ends to each of the handles or bars A B, and project outwardly in opposite directions in U shape, to permit each the sliding therein of the other handle or bar, which it inclasps.

25 To the upper end of the supplementary handle or sliding bar B are connected the ends of a hoop, C, the forward portion or surface of which is beveled from the outer edge inwardly, the purpose of which will appear further on.

30 D is a series of teeth or prongs secured in suitable apertures formed in the beveled portion of the hoop C, each of which projects forward at an angle with the plane of the said hoop, and the outer end of each tooth or prong is thickened, as at  $b$ . The ends of these teeth are sufficiently far apart to permit the passage of any two of the teeth or prongs around the stem of the fruit it is desired to pick or gather. A disk,  $D'$ , is secured to the supplementary

handle or sliding bar B, and normally rests 50 between the two opposite end teeth or prongs, and is held against the ends of said teeth or prongs by means of a small plate or elastic piece of metal,  $d$ , secured at one end to said supplementary handle or sliding bar, and the 55 other end connected to said disk, the object of which latter feature will appear further on.

By means of a metallic band,  $e$ , one end of a bag or receptacle, E, is, together with said band, secured by screws or nails to the rear 60 side of the hoop C, and the other end of said bag is open, the object of which will also appear further on. An elastic ring or band,  $E'$ , is passed on the bag or receptacle E, tightly clasp- 65 ing the same at whatever point it is located, and by means of this ring or band the exact quantity of fruit it is desired to secure in the bag or receptacle can be regulated, in connection with suitable marks of graduation on said bag or receptacle, by forcing said ring 70 or band to the desired point or mark of graduation, the same being retained thereat by reason of its impingement against the inclasped portion of said bag. To the bag or receptacle is secured a small hook,  $e'$ , designed for en- 75 gagement with an eye or staple,  $e^2$ , secured in a notch or recess formed in the rear side of the handle or bar A, by means of which said bag or receptacle is held in its proper position.

Within a slot formed in the extreme lower 80 end of the supplementary handle or sliding bar B is pivotally secured a latch, F, the lower end of which is designed to slide in the groove or recess  $a^2$  of the handle or bar A, by means of which the supplementary handle or sliding bar 85 can be held at any desired point. By pressing on the outer projecting end of the latch, the lower inner end will be raised from contact with the inner portion of the groove, and when the handles have been extended to 90 the desired extent they are held at that point by pressing on the lower end of said latch, the lower inner end of which will impinge against that portion of the supplementary handle over which it travels and prevent the same from 95 slipping.

In operation, the ring or band  $E'$  having been first adjusted on the bag or receptacle E and



the handles extended as may be desired, the teeth or prongs of the hoop C are placed along-side of the fruit it is desired to gather, and by causing the stem of said fruit to be inelased 5 by any two of said teeth or prongs, as afore-said, the fruit will of course be caused to drop, and, being prevented from falling out beyond said teeth or prongs by means of the spring-secured disk D', will enter the bag or recep- 10 tacle E. This operation can be repeated until the desired quantity of fruit has been obtained in the bag or receptacle, after which the same is emptied and the operation repeated as often as may be necessary.

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

1. The combination, with the handle or bar and the supplementary handle or bar secured 20 thereto, of the hoop secured to said sliding

bar and having a beveled face, the inclined teeth or prongs projecting from the beveled face of said hoop, the spring-held disk located at the lower end of said hoop, and the bag or receptacle, substantially as shown and de- 25 scribed.

2. The combination, with the sliding handles and the hoop, of the teeth or prongs secured to said hoop and having thickened ends, the spring-held disk secured to the handles, 30 bearing against the outer ends of the two lower teeth or prongs, and the bag or receptacle, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HAZZARD WOODHURST.

Witnesses:

J. GOODIER,

C. C. WAKEFIELD.