

(No Model.)

C. G. WILSON.
FRUIT GATHERER.

No. 391,829.

Patented Oct. 30, 1888.

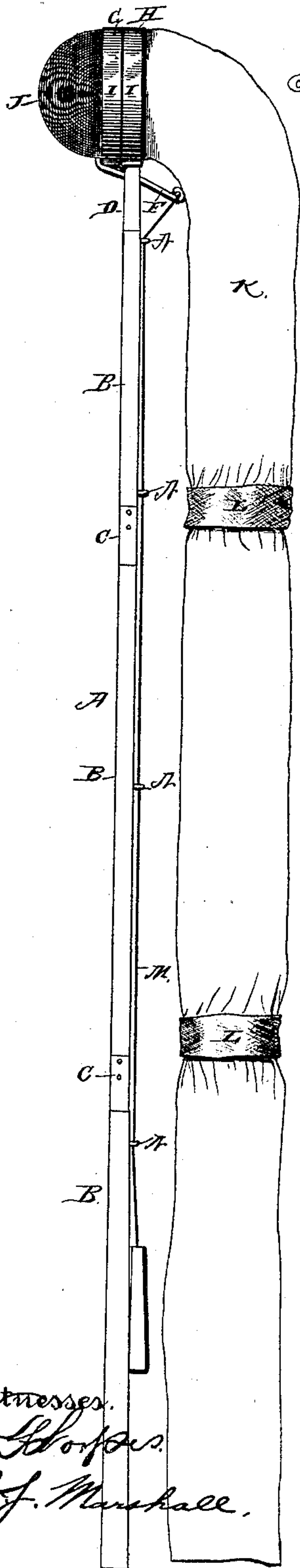


Fig. 1.

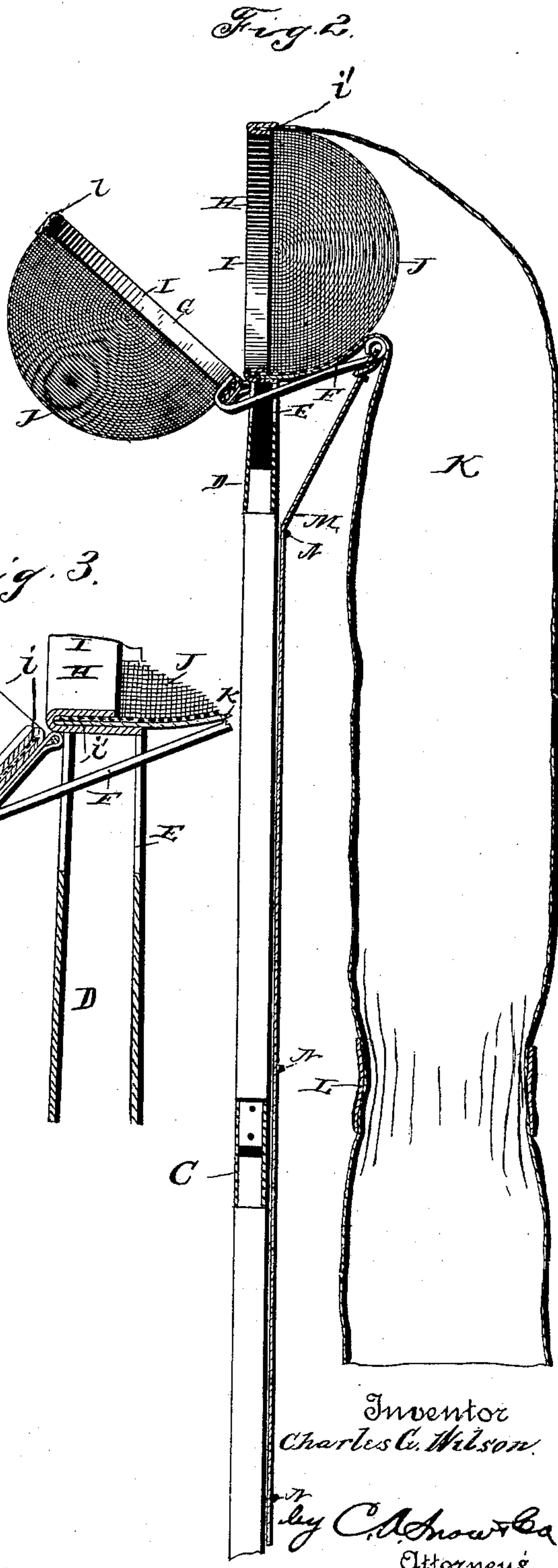


Fig. 2.

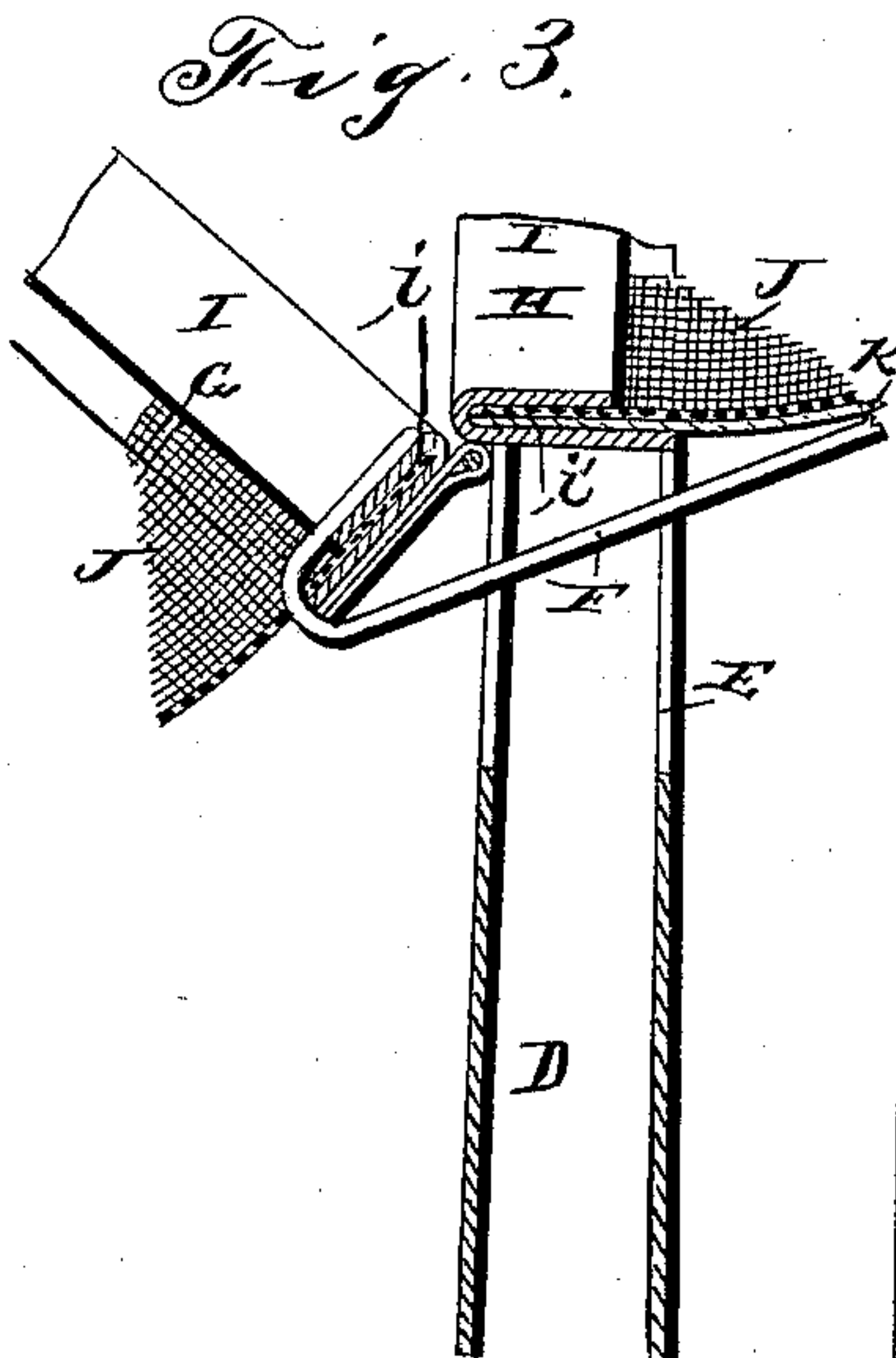


Fig. 3.

Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES G. WILSON, OF HORACE, KANSAS.

FRUIT-GATHERER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 391,829, dated October 30, 1888.

Application filed December 21, 1887. Serial No. 253,612. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES G. WILSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Horace, in the county of Greeley and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fruit-Gatherers, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in fruit-gatherers; and it consists in certain novel features, hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved fruit-gatherer. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged section of a fragment of the same.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the handle, which is made in a number of sections, B, as shown, connected by the sleeves C. The ends of the sections of the handle are reduced, and the sleeves C are fitted on the reduced portions, being secured permanently to the end of one section and adapted to fit snugly over the end of the adjacent section, as most clearly shown in Fig. 2. At the upper end of the top section of the handle is firmly secured a sleeve, D, having a longitudinal slot, E, in its upper portion, through which passes an arm or rod, F, secured to the swinging jaw G, which is hinged to the lower portion of the rigid jaw H, said rigid jaw being permanently secured to the upper extremity of the slotted sleeve D. These jaws G and H consist of the flat circular bands I, and have the woven-wire baskets J secured to said bands. The basket J of the jaw G is secured permanently to the band, while that of the jaw H is intended to be readily detached therefrom. To the flat circular band of the jaw H is riveted or similarly secured the upper end of the conveyer tube K, which is constructed of canvas or similar suitable material, and is provided at intervals along its length with the elastic bands L, which are secured permanently thereto and encircle the same, as shown. The conveyer-tube K is intended to be permanently secured to the band of the rigid jaw H, and will always be in operative position. Its upper end, however, will usually be closed by reason of the basket J; but the conveyer-tube is intended to be used only when it is desired to gather the fruit in large quantities, as for transportation.

The metal comprising the bands I is doubled to form grooves or openings *i* and *i'*, the former to receive the basket J and the latter to receive the conveyer-tube K and a basket, J. The groove or opening *i'* is about twice as wide as the groove or opening *i*, whereby sufficient space is left between the conveyer-tube K and the inner side of the groove or opening *i'* to receive the basket J, which is slightly compressed and inserted in the jaw H, and then fitted in the opening *i'*, where it is retained by wedging or other suitable means. The basket in this way will securely be fastened in the band, but can readily be detached therefrom.

To the free end of the rod or arm F is attached a cord or wire, M, which passes downward through suitable guides or eyes, N, secured to the handle to within convenient reach of the operator.

In practice the swinging jaw is normally away from the rigid jaw to permit the entrance of the fruit between the jaws, and when it is desired to gather fruit the jaws are brought together against the stems, as will be readily understood. The fruit then falls into the woven-wire basket, and the device is lowered to the ground and the fruit removed. If it is desired to gather a large quantity of fruit and have the same passed at once to the ground, the woven-wire basket of the rigid jaw is removed and the fruit allowed to pass through the conveyer-tube K, which is compressed at the several places of securement of the elastic bands, thereby hindering the descent of the fruit and consequently preventing its falling with such rapidity and force as to become bruised. The woven-wire baskets are of yielding nature in order that they do not bruise nor injure the fruit.

By making the handle in detachable sections I am enabled to adjust the length of the same to the height of the tree. The device is very simple, and its advantages are obvious.

Having described the invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a fruit-gatherer, the combination of a handle, a rigid jaw fixed thereon and having permanently secured to it a conveyer-tube, said rigid jaw having a groove or opening around it between the conveyer-tube and its

inner side to adapt it to receive a detachable
basket to fit therein and in the mouth of the
conveyer-tube, whereby the fruit-gatherer is
adapted to gather fruit in small quantities, and
5 a swinging jaw hinged to the rigid jaw and
provided with a permanently-secured basket,
substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my
own I have hereto affixed my signature in pres-
ence of two witnesses.

CHARLES G. WILSON.

Witnesses:

W. T. O'CONNOR,
S. DAILY.