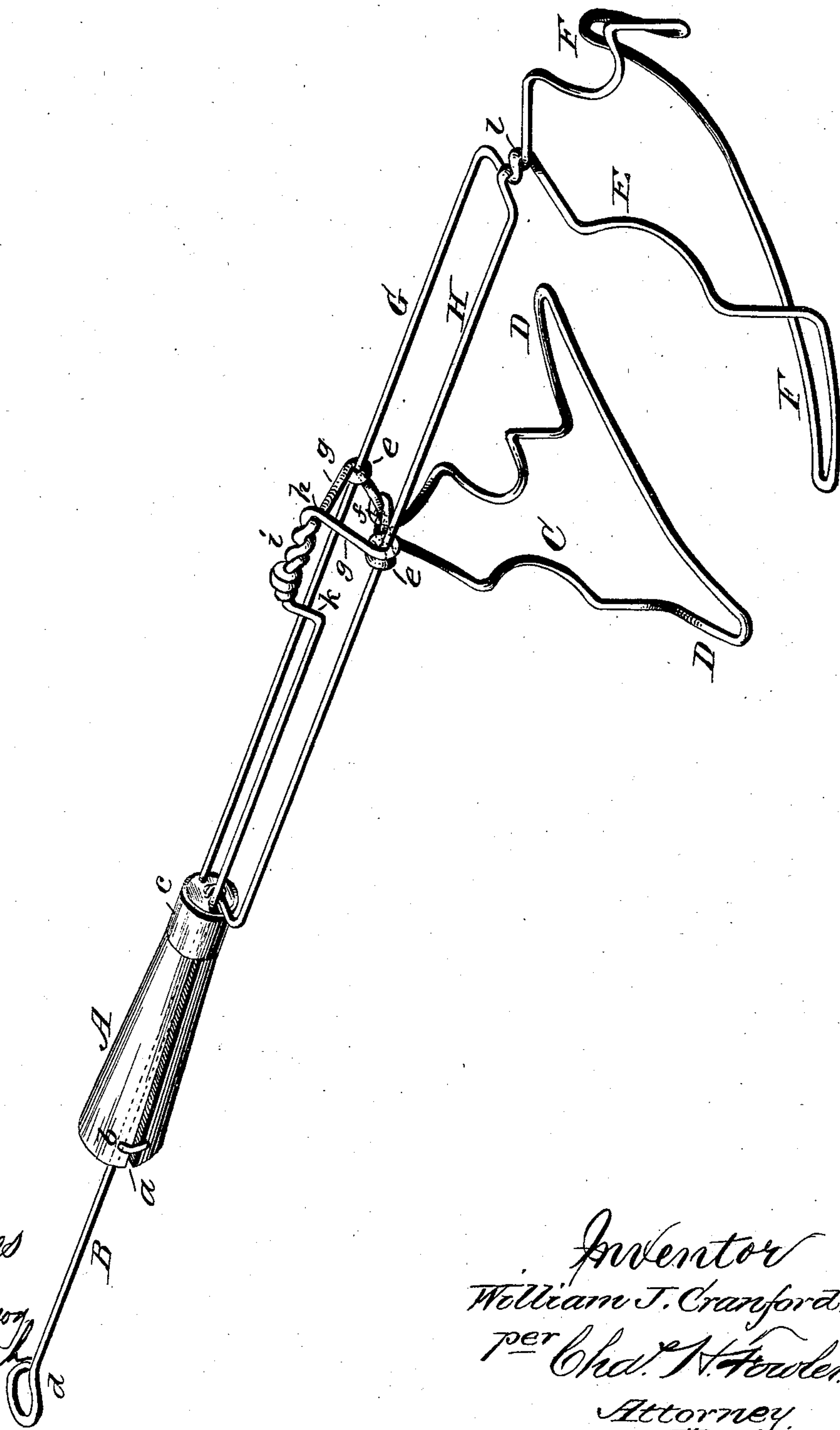


(No Model.)

W. J. CRANFORD.
PLATE LIFTER.

No. 557,255.

Patented Mar. 31, 1896.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. CRANFORD, OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

PLATE-LIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 557,255, dated March 31, 1896.

Application filed September 30, 1895. Serial No. 564,239. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. CRANFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Lifting Pie-Plates, Pans, and other Like Articles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has for its object to provide a simple and practical device for lifting and removing from an oven the usual culinary vessels, such as pie-plates, pans, and other like dishes used in cooking.

The invention consists in a device constructed substantially as shown in the drawing and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, which represents a perspective view of my invention, A designates the handle of the device, which is constructed of wood and has a longitudinal groove *a* extending the entire length of the handle. This groove *a* is to allow the insertion of the adjusting-rod B in the handle A from the side thereof, and when engaged with the groove the handle is prevented from spreading at the sides of the groove by means of the fastening device *b* and the ferrule *c* at the outer and inner ends of the handle respectively. The adjusting-rod B has a hook or ring *d* at its outer end for convenience of handling, said rod being of any suitable length and the wire from which it is formed of any desirable thickness. In forming and constructing the rod and its connections a wire is provided of suitable length, which is first bent to form a grasping-frame C with laterally-extending jaws D. From the upper portion of the frame the wire is bent in such shape as to form the two eyes *e*, the wire forming the sides being previously twisted upon each other, as shown at *f*. After the eyes are formed in the wire the wire from each eye extends up at an angle to provide braces, which braces *g* join at *h*, and the wire twisted together to form a twisted shank *i*. At the outer end of the twisted shank one of the wires terminates, while the other wire is bent

to form an elbow *k* and terminates in the adjusting-rod B hereinbefore described. The opposite grasping-frame E is similar in form and construction to the frame C and has similar jaws F, the jaws of both frames projecting under the plate or pan and supporting it, and when the plate or pan is very deep the frames will grasp it around its sides and prevent it from slipping off the supporting-jaws when tipped at an angle.

The wire forming the grasping-frame E is twisted together, as shown at *l*, and the wire terminates in guide-arms G H, the extremities or ends thereof being suitably fastened to the end of the handle. The arms G H form guides for the grasping-frame C, the eyes *e* passing around the arms and moving thereon as the rod B is adjusted to bring the frame C nearer to or farther from the frame E to securely grasp the dish or pan which the device is to lift.

A very strong, simple, and durable device is provided that may be used in lifting various forms of kitchen utensils, and it should be noticed that only two pieces or lengths of wire are used in the construction of the device.

Any suitable thickness of wire may be used, and the device may be made of various sizes to adapt it to the various uses to which it may be applied.

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

1. A device for lifting pie-plates, pans and other like articles, consisting of a suitable handle, parallel guide-arms secured to the handle, a grasping-frame upon the outer ends of the arms which are provided with supporting-jaws, a slidable grasping-frame with supporting-jaws, and an adjusting-rod connecting with the frame for moving the slidable grasping-frame, said rod extending loosely through the handle whereby the handle forms a guide therefor, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A device for lifting pie-plates, pans and other like articles, consisting of a suitable handle having a longitudinal guide-groove, parallel guide-arms connected to the handle and terminating at their outer ends in a grasping-frame and supporting-jaws, an adjusting-

rod extending into the guide-groove of the
handle and terminating in eyes through which
the guide-arms extend, the wire forming the
adjusting-rod and eyes terminating in a grasp-
5 ing frame and jaws, substantially as and for
the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have

hereunto subscribed my name in the presence
of two witnesses.

WILLIAM J. CRANFORD.

Witnesses:

G. W. STOCKER,

G. M. NETHERCUTT.