

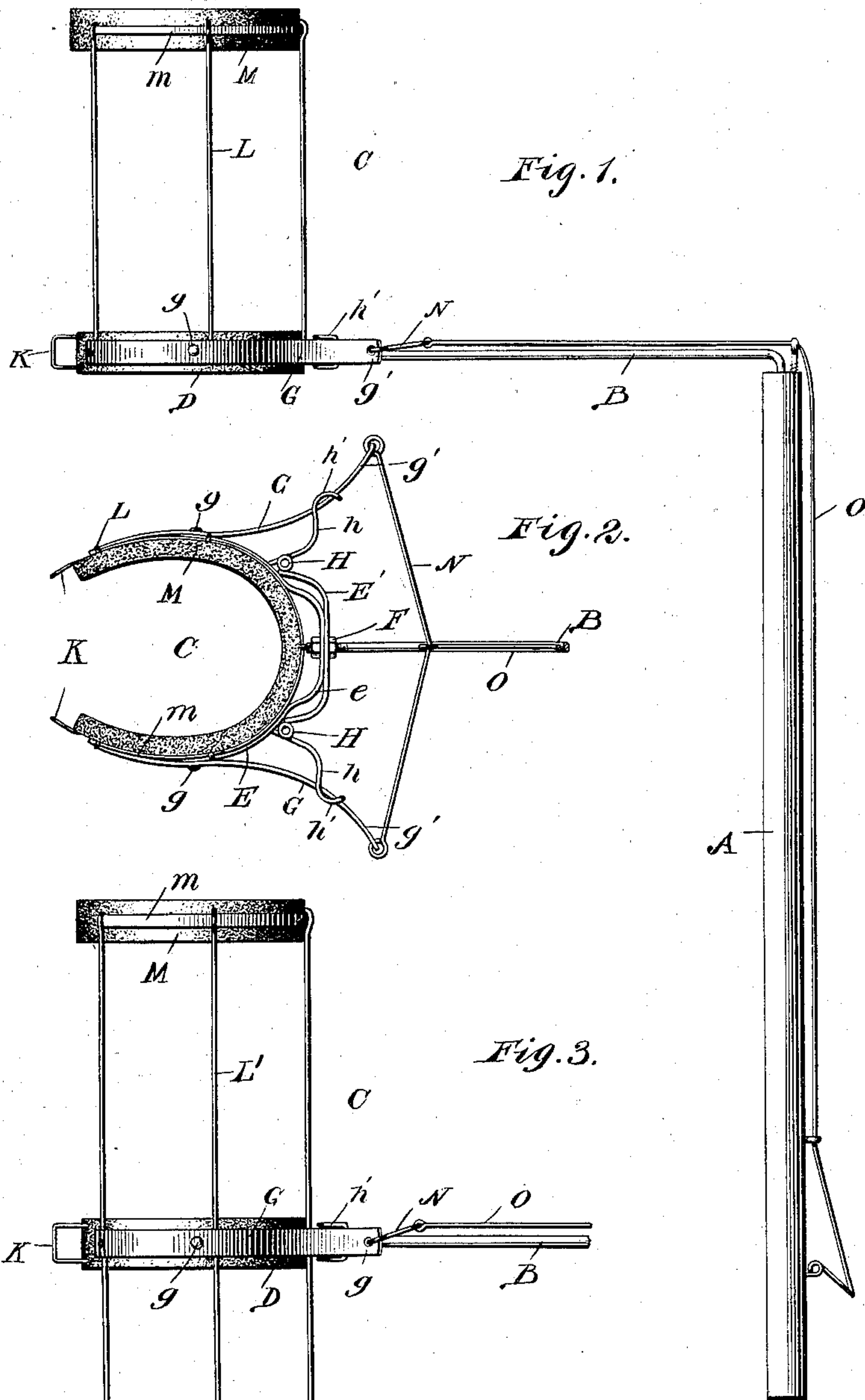
No. 609,013.

Patented Aug. 16, 1898.

J. DOWLEN & N. MICHAELSEN.
MERCHANDISE LIFTER.

(Application filed Apr. 15, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES DOWLEN AND NIELS MICHAELSEN, OF OCEANIC, NEW JERSEY.

MERCHANDISE-LIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 609,013, dated August 16, 1898.

Application filed April 15, 1898. Serial No. 678,199. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES DOWLEN and NIELS MICHAELSEN, citizens of the United States, residing at Oceanic, in the county of Monmouth and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Merchandise-Lifters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to an improvement in merchandise-lifters; and it is embodied in the construction and arrangement of parts presently to be described, and defined in the claims.

The invention, generally speaking, relates to improvements in that class of devices which are intended for use in business houses or stores for the purpose of lifting goods or articles, either to remove them or to place them in position above the reach of the attendant.

The object of the invention is to provide a device for the purposes above indicated, which will be easily operated, handled with convenience, and effective for the purposes designated.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein a convenient form of device is shown, it being understood, however, that we do not limit ourselves to the construction therein delineated.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the lifting-head, and Fig. 3 is a slightly-modified form of head.

A designates a handle member having secured in its upper end the curved arm B, the same extending out substantially at right angles to the handle and carrying on its outer end the lifting-head C. The head C consists of an embracing-pad D, substantially U-shaped and formed of any convenient or desirable material, such as rubber or textile material. This pad is carried by the metallic yoke E, which extends from opposite sides toward the rear of the pad, at which point it is bent rearwardly, as at *e*, away from the pad. The pad is fixedly secured to the yoke in any convenient or desirable manner.

E' designates a reinforcing-yoke having its ends loosely resting against the yoke E at

points midway the branches thereof. The two yokes are rigidly connected at their centers by the rod B, which passes therethrough and is clamped to the same by the lock-nuts F.

On opposite sides of the pad are curved arms G, the same being rigidly connected to the ends of the yoke E by the rivets *g*, their outer ends projecting outward to at or near the ends of the pads, while their inner ends *g'* are curved outward and project rearward to points sufficiently beyond the plane of the inner face of the yoke to afford a long leverage.

H represents coiled springs fixedly secured to the yoke E at or near the ends of the yoke E'. These springs H have outwardly-extending portions *h*, which are looped or fashioned at their outer ends into seats *h'*, in which the ends *g'* of the arms loosely rest. The ends of the pad are provided with loops K for convenience in forcing the ends between adjacent articles. The pad is also provided with standards L, which, as shown in Fig. 1, extend above the same and support at their upper ends a pad M, which corresponds substantially in shape with the lower pad. This upper pad forms a rest for the upper portion of the article to be lifted and is reinforced by a small spring *m*, to which the standards are secured.

To the inner ends of the portions *g'* of the arms are secured the flexible cords or wires N, the same being connected to an actuating-cord O, which latter extends from an eye on the upper end of the handle down the latter to a point where it can be conveniently grasped by the operator.

In Fig. 3 we have shown a slight modification of the construction of head, in which figure the standards L' are projected above and below the pad. This latter form is especially desirable for use in connection with the handling of canned goods, while the form shown in Fig. 1 may be conveniently used for handling lamp-chimneys and other elongated articles.

In operation, when an article is to be removed from an elevated shelf the operator draws down on the actuating-cord, compressing the ends of the two arms, bending out the jaws of the pad, and then slips the head for-

ward until the article is embraced by the jaws. The cord is then released and the springs immediately set the edges closely and snugly around the article to be removed. The latter can then be lifted from the shelf.

While we have shown and described the preferred form of device, we desire it understood that many changes in construction and arrangement of parts can be made without departing from the nature and principle of the invention.

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

1. In a merchandise-lifter, the combination with a handle, of an arm secured thereon, a head on the arm comprising a yoke, a substantially U-shaped pad connected to the yoke, arms connected to the ends of the yoke and to the pad, springs interposed between the arms and yoke and a connection between the yoke and the handle-arm, substantially as described.

2. In a merchandise-lifter, the combination with a handle, of a lifting-head secured thereon comprising a substantially U-shaped pad, a supporting-yoke to which the pad is secured having an offset or rearwardly-projecting portion, means for connecting the rearwardly-projecting portion with the handle, arms secured to the yoke and projecting beyond the ends of the same, springs interposed between the arms and yoke and a flexible actuating device connected to the rear ends of the arms

and extending to the handle, substantially as described.

3. In a merchandise-lifter, the combination with a handle, of a lifting-head comprising a substantially U-shaped pad, standards extending from the pad and having at their ends a suitable support, spring-actuated arms secured to the pad, a yoke for supporting the pad, springs interposed between the yoke and arms, means connected with the inner ends of the arms for compressing the springs and opening the pad and a connection between the head and handle.

4. The combination with the handle, of an arm extending out therefrom, a yoke having a rearwardly-extending central portion, a supplemental yoke on the said other yoke, a connection between the yokes and the arm, arms secured to the end of the main yoke extending beyond the same in opposite directions, a pad secured to the main yoke and arms, springs for normally compressing the ends of the pads and means for moving the outer ends of the arms outwardly against the tension of the springs, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES DOWLEN.
NIELS MICHAELSEN.

Witnesses:

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