

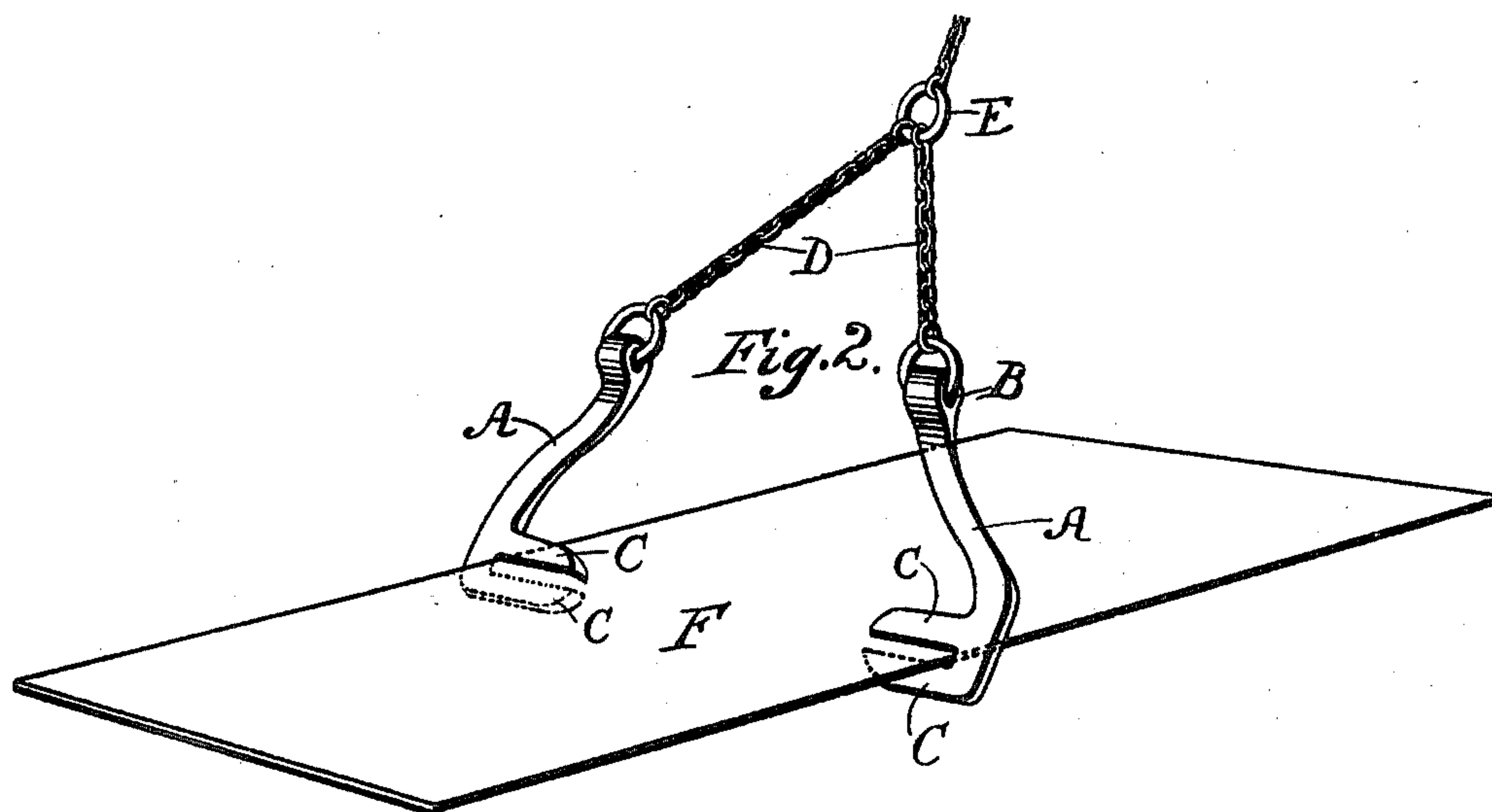
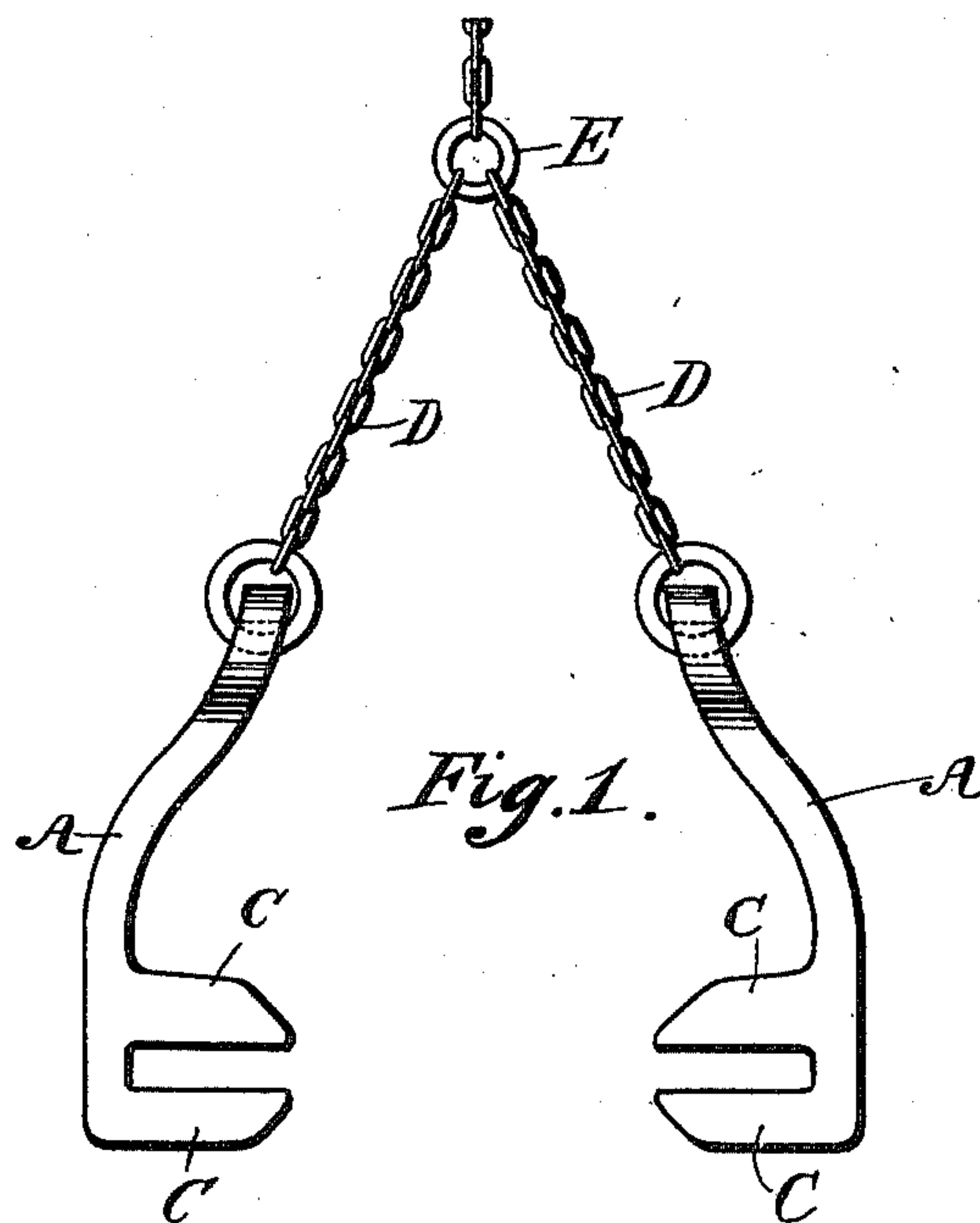
No. 626,350.

Patented June 6, 1899.

C. M. TIFFANY.
STEVEDORE'S LIFTING HOOKS.

(Application filed Jan. 26, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES M. TIFFANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO
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STEVEDORE'S LIFTING-HOOKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 626,350, dated June 6, 1899.

Application filed January 26, 1899. Serial No. 703,438. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. TIFFANY, a citizen of the United States, residing at the borough of Brooklyn, in the city and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stevedores' Lifting-Hooks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the drawings accompanying and forming a part of the same.

The device which forms the subject of my present application is primarily intended as a tongs or hooks for stevedores' use in lifting heavy steel or iron plates when loading or unloading vessels; but from the nature of the improvement and the special use of the same hereinafter described it will be seen that it has a wider range of usefulness as a ready and convenient means of securing similar heavy bodies to the ropes or chains of hoisting mechanisms.

The usual method of handling heavy steel or iron plates on docks and railroad-platforms is to lift the plate, pass around it a chain with a hook or ring at its end, and run the free end of the chain through the hook or ring before suspending it from the pulley-block of a derrick or hoisting mechanism. This primitive plan not only involves considerable manual labor, but is unsatisfactory in that it is difficult to get a good grip on the plate with the chain, while the plate or the chain is liable to injury unless some special means are employed to prevent slipping or the cutting of the links. To overcome this and to provide a safe, ready, and simple means of attaching the heavy plates to the pulley-block or hoisting-chain, I use two metal hooks of peculiar conformation, which are suspended either directly or by short lengths of chain from a ring attached to the hoisting-chain and which when slipped over the opposite edges of a plate and raised by the hoisting-chain will securely grip and hold the plate. This device is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the two hooks and connections. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing the method of using the device.

A A are heavy iron or steel castings or forgings, each having at one end an eye B and at

the other end a deep notch or recess between stationary horizontally-projecting jaws C C. The shank of the hook thus formed is inwardly bent or bowed over and in the plane of the jaws, so that the eyes or suspension-rings are about on a line with the ends of the jaws. These latter are formed, preferably, with square edges in order to get a firmer grip on a plate placed between them.

The two hooks are suspended generally by short chains D D from a ring E, which is attached to the hook of a pulley-block, a hoisting-chain, or the like. In using the device a workman raises slightly the edges of a plate F with a crowbar and simply passes the jaws of the hooks over the said edges, as shown in Fig. 2. When a lifting force is exerted through the chains D, the hooks, unless the plate be exactly balanced on them, will tightly grip the edges of the latter and permit it to be raised, lowered, and handled without danger of its becoming detached.

The plate is as readily detached from the hooks when the lifting force is not exerted.

Having now described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A lifting-tongs for heavy sheet-metal plates, comprising in combination two hooks and suspension-chains to which they are attached, the lower ends of said hooks having horizontally-extended jaws, adapted to pass over and grip the edges of a metal plate, and the shanks of the hooks being bowed or bent inwardly over and in the plane of the jaws, as herein set forth.

2. The lifting device herein described, comprising the two hooks each having an eye B at the upper end, the suspension-chains D, D, connected with said eyes, the ring E to which said chains are attached, the said hooks having rigid horizontally-extended jaws C, C, at the lower end, adapted to pass over and grip the edges of a metal plate, and shank A, bowed or bent inwardly over and in the plane of the jaws, as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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