

No. 626,626.

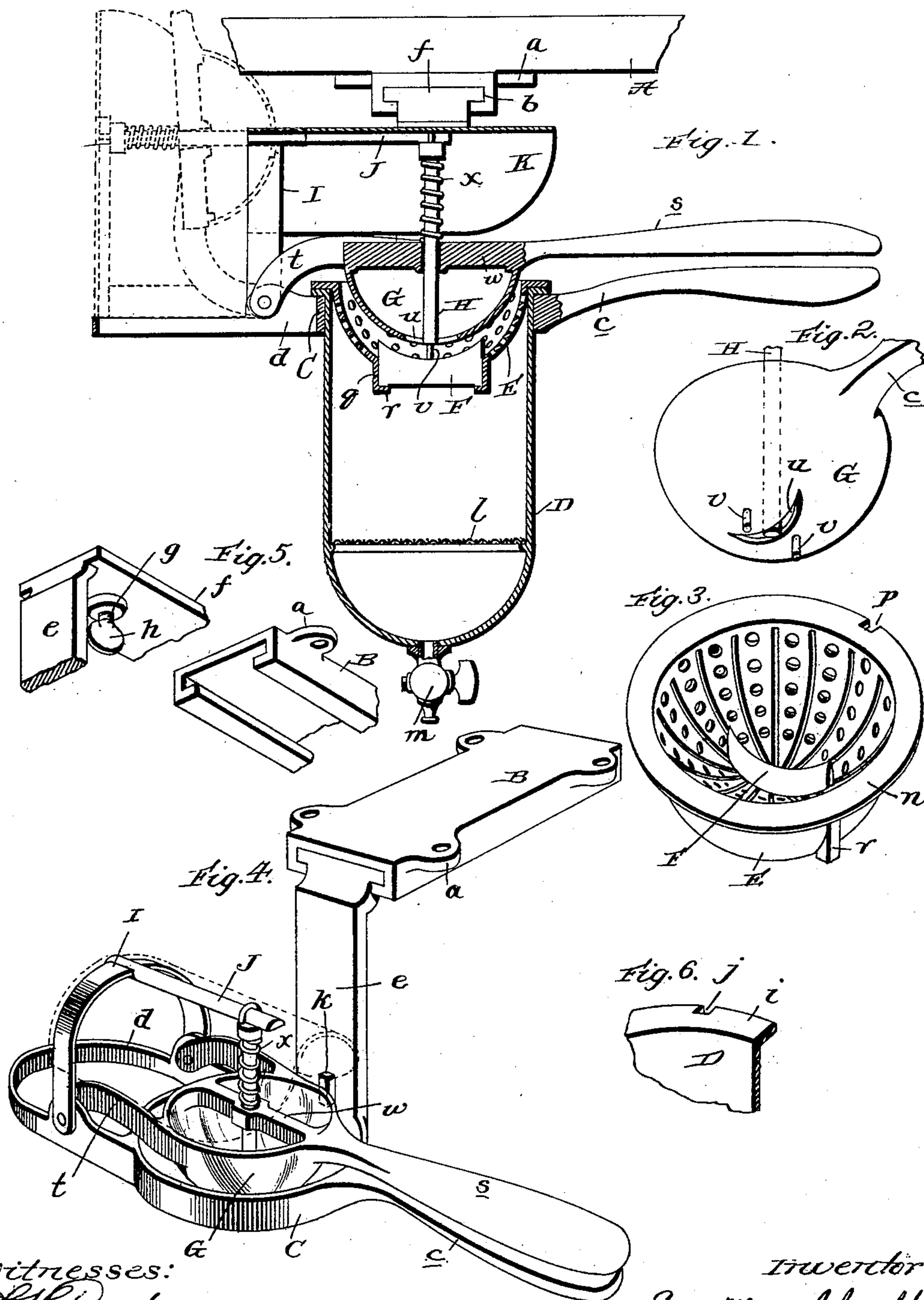
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E. D. MIDDLEKAUFF.

LEMON SQUEEZER.

(Application filed Jan. 12, 1898.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM E. HALL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

LEMON-SQUEEZER.

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

Application filed January 12, 1898. Serial No. 666,441. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLSWORTH D. MIDDLEKAUFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oakland, in the county of Alameda and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Lemon-Squeezers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to lemon-squeezers, and has for one of its objects to provide a lemon-squeezer which while very cheap and simple is adapted to cut lemons and express the juice therefrom at one operation, thus permitting of the lemon being placed in the squeezer while intact and avoiding the necessity of the operator handling the lemon after it is cut and before it is subjected to pressure.

The invention also contemplates the provision of a very simple connection between the lemon-squeezer and a counter or table, which will permit of the squeezer when not in use being pushed under the counter or table where it will be out of the way and will not be liable to receive foreign substances.

With the foregoing in view the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in conjunction with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of my improved lemon-squeezer with the plunger illustrated in one position by full lines and in another position by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a detail perspective view of a portion of the plunger. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the lemon-receiving cup. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the lemon-squeezer removed from the counter and with the hood in dotted lines. Fig. 5 comprises broken perspective views of the bracket and hanger-arm, through the medium of which the squeezer is connected to a counter or table; and Fig. 6 is a detail view of a portion of the juice-receptacle.

In the said drawings similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the several views, referring to which—

A designates a counter or table top, and B designates a bracket which is arranged below the counter, with one of its ends flush with the edge of the same, and is equipped with apertured lugs *a* for the passage of screws, which connect it to the counter. The said bracket B is provided in its under side with

a groove *b*, which extends its full length, and has its upper portion of a greater width than its lower portion for a purpose presently described.

C designates the body of the lemon-squeezer, which is in the form of a ring, and has a handle *c* and a U-shaped stop *d*, extending in opposite directions, for a purpose presently described. This body C is formed integral with an upwardly-extending arm *e*, which corresponds in width to the lower portion of the groove *b* in bracket B, and has an angularly-disposed branch *f* at its upper end conforming in shape and size to the upper portion of the groove *b* and adapted to be arranged and moved therein. The said branch *f* is provided, as shown in Fig. 5, with an aperture *g* to receive a screw *h*, which has for its purpose to bind against the bracket B, and thereby adjustably fix the body C of the squeezer.

In virtue of the construction thus far described it will be observed that the lemon-squeezer may be brought out beyond the edge of the counter and adjustably fixed in such position, so as to permit of it being conveniently used, and it will also be observed that when it is not desired to use the squeezer it may be pushed back to a position below the counter where it will be out of the way and will not be liable to receive liquids dripping from the counter.

The ring or body C is designed to receive and support a removable juice-receptacle D, said receptacle being provided with a flange *i*, which bears on the ring, and with a notch *j* in said flange, which is designed to engage a rib *k* on the arm *e*, so as to hold the receptacle against turning. Interiorly the receptacle D is provided with a gauze or foraminated diaphragm *l* to strain the lemon-juice and catch the seeds, and it is also preferably provided at its lower end with a cock *m*.

E designates the lemon-receiving cup, which is provided with slots and apertures, as shown, to permit a free passage of the expressed juice to the receptacle D. This cup E has a flange *n* to bear upon that of the juice-receptacle, and it also has a notch *p* in said flange to engage the rib *k* on the arm *e*, so as to hold it against turning and yet permit of it being readily removed when desired.

Said cup E is further provided with a slot *q* in its bottom to receive the removable lemon-cutting knife F, which in its operative position rests in said slot *q* and upon lugs *r* at the lower end of the same after the manner better illustrated in Fig. 1.

G designates the plunger of the squeezer, which has a handle *s*, extending in one direction, and arms *t*, extending in the opposite direction, the said arms being pivotally connected to the stop *d*, as shown. The plunger G is shaped in conformity to the interior of the cup E and is provided with a slot *u* for the passage of the knife F and studs *v* at opposite sides of said slot, the purpose of which is to hold the lemon so as to enable the plunger to raise the lemon or the debris thereof after the juice has been expressed therefrom. The said plunger G is further provided with a bridge *w*, having a central aperture, in which is arranged the lemon-removing rod H, said rod being arranged coincident with the slot *u* in the plunger, so as to enable it to take through said slot, and being normally held in the position shown by a coiled spring *x*, which surrounds it and is interposed between an enlargement at its upper end and the bridge *w*, as shown.

I designates a bail which is pivotally connected at its ends to the U-shaped stop *d*, and J designates an arm which is connected to the middle of and disposed at right angles to the bail, as shown. To this arm J the upper end of the rod H is connected after the manner shown in Fig. 4.

The bail I is designed when the plunger is raised to the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1 to engage the U-shaped stop *d*. This in virtue of the lemon-removing rod being connected to the arm J of the bail will cause the said rod to protrude through the slot *u* and push the lemon or lemon debris off the plunger, when the movement of the plunger is continued after the bail I engages the stop *d*.

K designates a hood of concavo-convex form in cross-section, which is suitably connected to the bail I and the arm J thereof. This hood K assumes a horizontal position when the plunger is in the cup E, and it is consequently enabled to prevent the juice from flying out of the squeezer when the lemon is subjected to pressure and is also enabled to prevent liquids or other drippings of the counter from entering the squeezer.

In the practice of the invention the lemon is placed intact in the cup E while the plunger is in its raised position. The plunger is then lowered to the position shown by full lines in Fig. 1 and is forced downwardly by the operator grasping the handles *c s*. When this is done, the lemon will first be forced against the knife F and cut and will then be pressed between the plunger and cup. The juice of the lemon will pass into the receptacle D or in the event of the cock *m* being

open through the receptacle and into a glass placed to receive it. After the juice is entirely removed from the lemon the plunger is thrown into the upright position shown in Fig. 1, when the rod G will remove the lemon or the debris thereof off the plunger in the manner before described.

In virtue of the construction of my improved squeezer it will be seen that the hand of the operator need not come in contact with the lemon except when he places the whole uncut lemon in the cup E and that therefore a large number of lemons may be squeezed without danger of the operator soiling his hands or person.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a lemon-squeezer, the combination of a body having a handle and a U-shaped stop, an apertured lemon-receiving cup supported by said body and having a knife in its bottom, a lever-plunger provided with a slot in its bottom and also provided with one or more barbs whereby it is enabled to raise a lemon from the cup after the juice is expressed therefrom, a spring-pressed lemon-removing rod carried by said plunger and adapted to take through the slot thereof, and the bail pivotally connected to and adapted to engage the U-shaped stop and having an arm connected to the lemon-removing rod, substantially as specified.

2. In a lemon-squeezer, the combination of a body having a handle and a U-shaped stop, an apertured lemon-receiving cup supported by said body and having a knife in its bottom, a lever-plunger provided with a slot in its bottom and also provided with one or more barbs whereby it is enabled to raise a lemon from the cup after the juice is expressed therefrom, a spring-pressed lemon-removing rod carried by said plunger and adapted to take through the slot thereof, the bail pivotally connected to and adapted to engage the U-shaped stop and having an arm connected to the lemon-removing rod, and the hood of concavo-convex form in cross-section connected to the bail and the arm thereof, substantially as specified.

3. In a lemon-squeezer, the combination of a body comprising a ring, a handle connected to the ring at one side thereof, a U-shaped loop connected to the opposite side of the ring, and the arm extending upwardly from the ring and adapted to be connected with a counter or table and having a rib *k*, a juice-receptacle arranged in the ring of the body and having a flange bearing on said ring and notched to engage the rib *k*, an apertured lemon-receiving cup arranged in the juice-receptacle and having a flange bearing on said receptacle and provided with a notch receiving the rib *k*, a knife arranged in the bottom of said cup, a lever-plunger provided with a slot in its bottom and also provided with one or more barbs whereby it is enabled to raise

a lemon from the cup after the juice is expressed therefrom, a spring-pressed lemon-removing rod carried by said plunger and adapted to take through the slot thereof, and
5 the bail pivotally connected to and adapted to engage the U-shaped stop and having an arm connected to the lemon-removing rod, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ELLSWORTH D. MIDDLEKAUFF.

Witnesses:

OTTO T. C. COLONIUS,
PHIL C. JONES.