



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## STORE-GOODS LIFTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 661,674, dated November 13, 1900.

Application filed January 8, 1900. Serial No. 671. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALBERT J. SNYDER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Store-Goods Lifters, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved device for removing merchandise in packages—such as cans, bottles, &c.—from shelves when located beyond the ordinary reach by hand, and has for its object to provide a device of this character that shall be of light weight, composed of few parts, convenient of operation, and inexpensive in construction. I attain these objects by the construction illustrated in the drawings and hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation. Fig. 2 is a top plan view. Fig. 3 is a side elevation.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate like parts, A designates the pole or handle of the lifter, preferably of wood and of any desired length, upon the upper end of which is secured a plate P, the upper end of the plate preferably projecting slightly above the end of the pole A. Pivotally secured to plate P are two bars K K' by means of a bolt or pin l. Bars K K' are bent outwardly from the pivotal point to their lower ends, their upper ends being bent at substantially right angles and curved circularly to form jaws h h', of a contour to grasp any desired form or shape of package of merchandise, and are preferably lined upon their inner sides with some non-abrasive material i i', rubber being preferred, as it assists in holding a smooth article, as glass or tin, frictionally and adhesively from slipping. Pivotally connected with the outwardly-bent lower ends of bars K K' are links H H', respectively, by bolts or pins m m', the lower end of the links being pivotally secured to the upper end G of a metal rod B by means of pin N, this connection of bars and links with rod B forming a toggle-joint of the lazy-tongs order by which the movement of rod B will open or close the jaws h h'.

Rod B is held in vertical alinement with pole A by means of keepers C, secured in the pole, and which loosely embrace the rod.

To the lower end D of the rod B is secured

by a pivot-pin O a lever E, the inner end of which is fulcrumed on the pole by means of a pin R, the lever E being normally held in a raised position, and thereby normally holding the jaws opened by means of a spiral spring D, secured to the pole and lever E, respectively.

The operation will be apparent. The jaws being held normally opened, the operator places the jaws in position to grasp the package of goods desired by extending the pole to the desired height, and by pressing downwardly upon lever E the jaws h h' are caused to approach each other by the action of the lazy-tongs and the package is grasped thereby and can be lowered, when upon releasing the lever E the package is released from the jaws automatically by reason of the action of the spring F, as it raises the lever and consequently elevates rod B, spreading the lazy-tongs and opening jaws h h'.

For handling ordinary shelf goods the lifter may be of sufficient rigidity and strength and yet of a weight to allow the operator to use the lifter with one hand, the thumb operating lever E.

It will be seen that the device is inexpensive of construction and without complication of parts.

What I claim is—

In a store-goods lifter, a pole, clamping-jaws pivotally secured to the pole at a point substantially at the center of their lengths, each jaw comprising a body part lying in planes parallel with the pole, and a clamping-jaw bent at right angles to the body portion, the lower portion of the body below the pivot-point being bent to form a section of lazy-tongs, a rod arranged in parallel relation with the pole, links connecting the rod and the lower ends of the clamping-jaws, a lever pivotally secured to the pole near its lower end, to which the lower end of the rod is secured, and a spring interposed between the lever and the pole, normally exerting an upward pull upon the lever.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALBERT J. SNYDER.

Witnesses:

MORTIMER A. JONES,  
E. T. SECHLER.