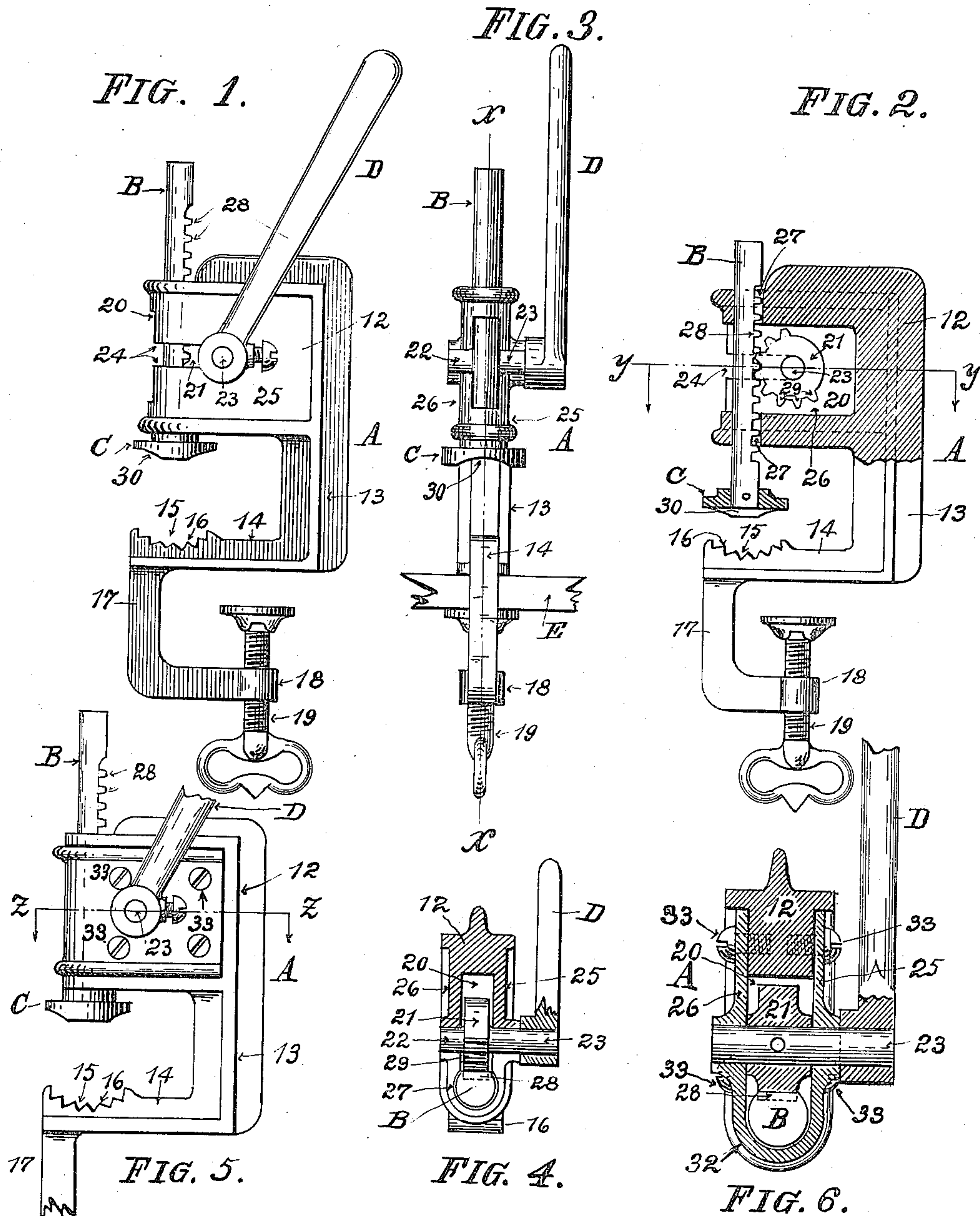


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NUTCRACKER.
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964,259.

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Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER HUBERTH, OF HAMMOND, INDIANA,

NUTCRACKER.

964,259.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 12, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER HUBERTH, of Hammond, in the county of Lake and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nutcrackers; and I do hereby declare that the following description of my said invention, taken in connection with the accompanying sheet of drawings, forms a full, clear, and exact specification, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has general reference to improvements in nut-crackers; and it consists, essentially, in the novel and peculiar combination of parts and details of construction, as hereinafter first fully set forth and described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings already referred to, which serve to illustrate this invention more fully, Figure 1 is a side-elevation of my improved nut-cracker. Fig. 2 is a similar view, partly in section, the sectional portion being on line *x x* of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is an end-elevation. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan on line *y y* of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a side-elevation of a nut-cracker slightly modified, a portion of the clamp being omitted. Fig. 6 is a sectional plan on line *z z* of Fig. 5, like parts being designated by corresponding characters of reference in all the figures.

The object of this invention is the production of an efficient, serviceable, and durable nut-cracker, that can be readily manufactured and sold at reasonable cost. It comprises a main body A, consisting of a head-portion 12, having on one end a downwardly-projecting bar 13, from the lower end of which projects a T-shaped bar 14, parallel with the head-portion 12, and having at its end a curved incision 15, provided with transversely-arranged serrations or teeth 16. From the forward end of this T-shaped bar projects downwardly a bar 17, the end of which is turned at right angles parallel with the bar 14, and terminating in an internally screw-threaded head 18, within which is located a clamping-screw 19, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, and 3.

The head-portion 12 is substantially rectangular in contour, and it has an internal cavity or chamber 20, wherein is located a gear-pinion 21, having journals 22, 23. These journals have their bearings in the semi-circular ends of slotted apertures 24, in the sides 25, 26, of the head-portion 12.

In this head-portion 12 there are vertically-disposed openings 27, wherein is placed a ram B. This ram B is, preferably, of substantially circular cross-section and it is provided with a series of teeth 28, meshing with the teeth 29 on the pinion 21. On the lower end of the ram B there is located a head C, the lower surface of which is curved at 30, the curvature being at right angles to the curvature in the T-shaped bar 14 for the object hereinafter to be referred to.

The cavity or chamber 20 extends through the forward end of the head-portion 12, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, so that the pinion 21 may be placed into this chamber 20 in an obvious manner. This pinion is retained in the chamber 20 by the ram B which is in front of the said pinion, and it has a convenient handle or lever D, by means of which it is oscillated and through it the ram B, said handle being suitably fastened upon the journal 23 on the pinion 21.

This device may be readily clamped upon any table or other suitable object E; a nut to be cracked is then placed in the curved and serrated incision 15, and the ram B brought down upon the said nut, (not shown) with sufficient force to break its shell.

It will be observed that the curvature of the serrated incision and the curvature 30 in the head of the ram, being at right angles to each other, the nut to be cracked cannot slip away from the device, a feature not inherent in any other nut-cracker with which I am acquainted.

It will be further observed that this device is capable of being produced at a very reasonable cost owing to the fact that the parts comprising this device are but few in number and can all be readily cast complete ready for assembling without more than a trifling machining, such as tapping the head 18 for the screw 19, the screw-threading of the latter, and several other minor manipulations.

I here desire to call attention to the fact that the head-piece with its downwardly-projecting supporting-bar and the clamping member with its curved and serrated incision on one of its bars are all produced integral in the process of casting in gray or malleable iron, thereby reducing the cost of this device to a minimum. When japanned, or plated with a non-ferrous metal, such as tin, zinc, copper or nickel, the device will be

extremely neat in appearance and very durable and effective in operation.

I have heretofore described this device as having its head-portion formed with the slotted apertures 24 in its sides 25, 26, and the recess 20 as extending through the forward part of said head to permit the insertion of the gear-pinion with its journals therein. This construction I may, however, modify by providing the head 12 with an opening similar to the recess 20, and by securing a separately-formed, U-shaped cheek-member 32, to said head and removably fastening the same by screws 33, as clearly illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6. This, and other minor details of construction may be resorted to, without departing from the scope of my invention.

Having thus fully described this invention, I claim as new and desire to secure to me by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. A nut-cracker comprising a substantially rectangular head, there being in said head a chamber extending through the front wall of said head to afford two side-walls, there being in said side-walls horizontally-disposed slots terminating in and passing through said front-wall, and a vertical, substantially circular passage intersected by said chamber and said slots in the side-walls; a downwardly pending supporting bar projecting from the lower end of said head; an upper, horizontally-disposed bar projecting from the lower end of the supporting bar forwardly, there being near the forward end of said upper horizontal bar an incision having serrations; a vertically-disposed front-bar projecting downwardly from the front end of the upper horizontal bar, and a lower horizontal bar projecting rearwardly from the lower end of the front bar and substantially parallel with the up-

per horizontal bar, the whole being formed integral; a mutilated pinion; journals projecting from the sides of said pinion; a lever secured to one of said journals, said pinion with its journals being adapted for insertion into the chamber through the slotted vertical and horizontal passages in said head; a plunger in said vertically disposed passage in said head and in operative engagement with said pinion, and a removable head on the lower end of said plunger, the lower face of said head being curved, the curvature being at right angles to the curvature of the incision in the upper horizontal bar, said pinion being prevented from being withdrawn from said head by said plunger, as described.

2. A nut-cracker, comprising a head-piece; a supporting-member, and a clamping-member formed integral, there being in said head-piece a chamber open at the forward end of said head-piece, and two oppositely-located slots in the sides of said head-piece; a gear-pinion in said chamber; said gear-pinion having journals engaging said slots; a vertically disposed ram in said head-piece and in front of said gear-pinion, and a lever on one of said journals for manipulating the gear-pinion and the ram, there being on the ram and the head-piece means for locating and retaining a nut to be cracked in proper position and preventing the same from slipping.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, at Chicago, Ill., this 19th day of October, 1909.

ALEXANDER HUBERTH.

Attest:

MICHAEL J. STARK,
A. G. PETERSON.