

E. L. Pratt,

Siere-Holder.

N^o 50,160.

Patented Sep. 26, 1865.

Fig 1

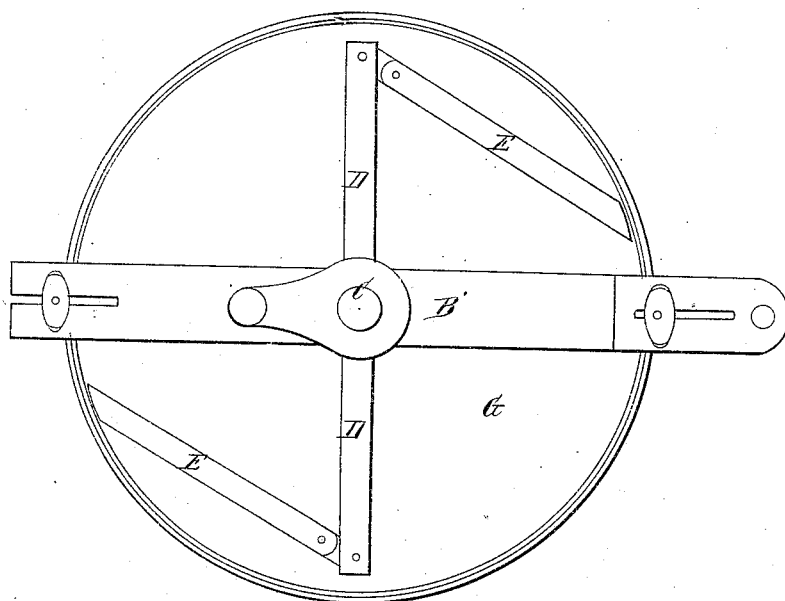
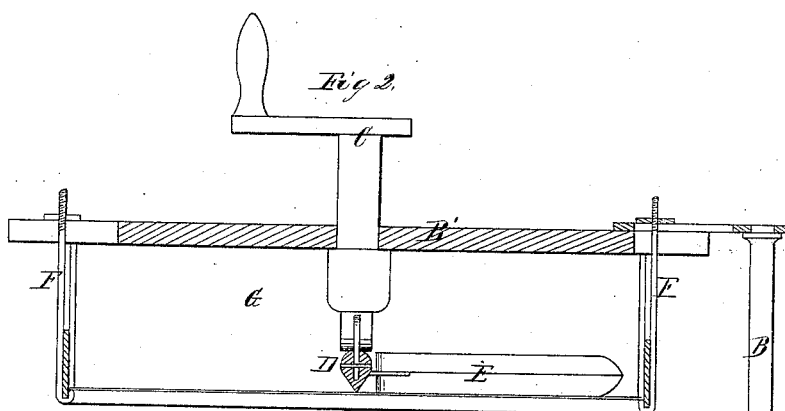
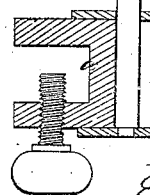


Fig 2



Witnesses.

*Wm W. Abbott
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

E. L. PRATT, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

FLOUR-SIFTER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,160, dated September 26, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, E. L. PRATT, of Boston, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Method of Holding and Manipulating Flour-Sieves; and I do hereby declare that the following description, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a full, clear, and definite description of my invention, sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to use or practice it.

This invention relates to the construction of stands for the better holding and working ordinary flour-sieves, whereby much more rapid and satisfactory results are obtained than by ordinary methods. The common sieve is too well known to need a description.

My improvement consists in so constructing a stand for ordinary sieves that it can be used for the double purpose of sustaining and manipulating the same.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents the top view of my improved sieve holder and operator; Fig. 2, a section of the same.

Letter A denotes the clamp for the purpose of conveniently attaching the stand to a shelf or table; B, the upright swinging support resting on clamp A; B', the horizontal portion of the upright support B; C, the crank and upright shaft passing through and turning in the horizontal portion of B'; D, a bar pivoted to the lower portion of upright shaft C; E E, two fingers pivoted to each end of bar D; F F, two hooks suspended in the horizontal portion of B', for hooking on or attaching the ordinary sieve G, as shown in the drawings.

My invention consists in attaching to a shelf or table a suitable device or clamp, A, provided with a socket or bore to hold and sustain the upright portion of B, said clamp A to be fastened by a set-screw or some suitable device for such purpose into the socket or bore of clamp A. The upright B is inserted and left free to turn or swivel, so as to stand or move in any desired direction. Through the horizontal portion of B a crank-shaft, C, is inserted, to the lower end of which the horizontal bar D is pivoted. To the outer end of bar D are pivoted two fingers, E E, so arranged and constructed that their points or ends are easily moved inward or outward, so as to readily adapt themselves to sieves of more than one size and to all the

variations from a true circle in the same sieve. Through the horizontal portion of B are made two slots to accommodate and hold two wire hooks, F F. These slots are made much longer than would be necessary for one size sieve, for the purpose of moving the hooks F F nearer together for a small sieve, or farther apart for a large one, thus making one sieve-supporter adapted to sieves of many different sizes. The fingers E E being in use always forced against the hook of the sieve G, are also by their inward and outward motion adjustable to sieves of as many different sizes as the wire hooks F F.

Having described the parts or pieces of my improved sieve-supporter and the partial purpose or use of each, I will now state my method of working or manipulating the same.

Having by means of set-screw in clamp A attached my sieve-supporter to a shelf or table, I then hang a common or ordinary sieve on the wire hooks F F, and fasten it in position by means of the nuts on the screw portion of the wire hooks F F. The sieve may then be filled with flour or any article to be sifted, when a few turns of the crank-shaft C, will be found sufficient to pass the same through the sieve.

Among the many advantages of my improved sieve-holder and manipulator may be mentioned the ease or readiness with which it can be attached to a table or shelf and held in any position desired. Having a swinging or revolving motion, it can be used directly over the table to which it is attached. A pan can be readily set under to receive the article sifted, or it may be readily swung from over the shelf or table and made to deliver the article sifted into a barrel or bucket standing on the floor or other support.

In ordinary sieves there is always when in use an unpleasant exposure of the hand to the meal or flour; rendering such labor disagreeable, especially in cold weather. All this is avoided in my improved method.

Attention is called to the adaptation of my improved sieve-supporter and manipulator to sieves of different sizes, and to the pivoted or rocker motion of the bar D, which is so pivoted to the lower end of shaft C that it can rock in either direction. This not only produces or insures a uniform bearing on each side of the sieve, but allows an adjustment to in-

equalities of the same. The rotary motion of the crank-shaft C and bar D attached to the same causes the article to be sifted to move rapidly toward the circumference of the sieve. Here it would mostly pile up and remain to such an extent as to reduce this method of sifting to little value were it not for my improved fingers E E, which as rapidly return the flour or article sifted again toward the center, giving it a rapid movement over the sieve.

It will be seen that the ends or points of the fingers E E easily and readily move inward or outward, and thus readily adapt themselves to sieves of different size or to the irregular shape of sieve-hoops.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of the clamp A and standard B B', made to operate substantially as described.

2. The rocker-bar D, when pivoted to the crank-shaft C, for the purpose set forth and described.

3. The vibrating fingers E E, when constructed to operate in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

E. L. PRATT.

Witnesses:

WM. W. ABBOTT,
CHAS. SMEAD.