(No Model.)

W. B. WOODMAN,

CORKSCREW.

No. 344,556. Patented June 29, 1886.

Fig. 1.

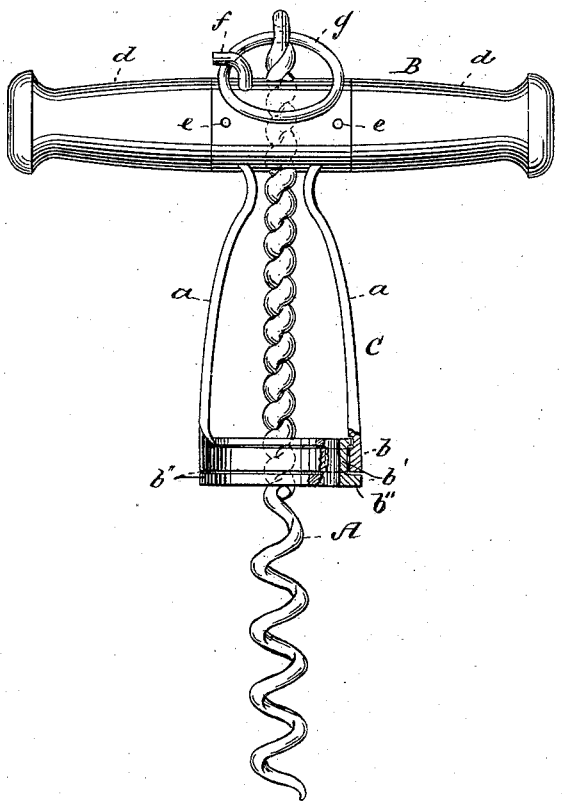


Fig. 2.

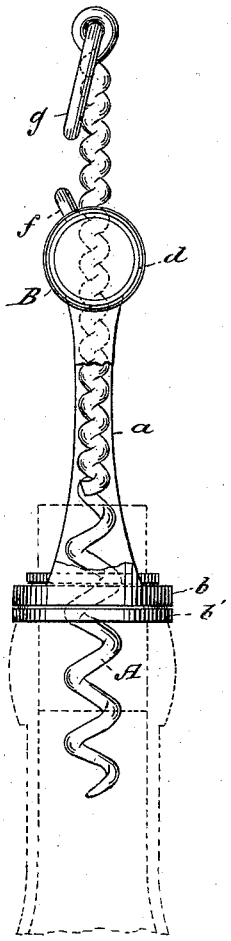
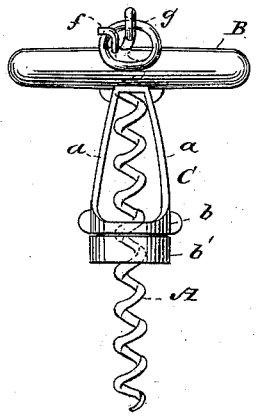


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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WILBER B. WOODMAN, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

CORKSCREW.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 344,556, dated June 29, 1886.

Application filed September 19, 1885. Serial No. 177,561. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILBER B. WOODMAN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corkscrews, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in corkscrews, the object being to provide a device of this character which shall be so constructed that a cork may be easily and readily withdrawn or extracted from a bottle, and obviate the awkward pulling operation, as is the case with corkscrews as now commonly constructed.

A further object of my invention is to provide a corkscrew which shall be simple and economical in construction, and at the same time durable and efficient in use; and with such ends in view it consists of a handle and frame and a screw so connected therewith that by simply continuing to turn the handle after the screw has been inserted in the cork the latter will be readily withdrawn from the bottle.

My invention further consists in the combination, with a suitable frame having a handle secured thereto, of a screw, the lower portion of which is adapted to enter the cork, and the upper portion thereof forming a screw and passing through the handle, and means for retaining the screw stationary with relation to the frame and handle.

My invention further consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of my improved device, the parts being in proper adjustment for inserting the screw in a cork. Fig. 2 is a similar view of my improvement, showing the position of the parts during the operation of withdrawing a cork; and Fig. 3 is a view of a modification.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the screw, B the handle, and C the frame. The screw A is preferably constructed of a single piece of wire, the lower portion thereof being twisted in the form of a screw, similar to that now commonly used for the same purpose. The upper portion of the wire forming the screw is, however, bent downwardly, forming two thicknesses of wire, which are bent or twisted around each other, forming a screw with a double thread and of smaller diameter than that of the lower portion adapted to enter the cork.

The frame C, cast from any suitable metal, consists, essentially, of the arms *a*, diverging toward and connected at their lower ends by means of the circular base or ring *b* and at their upper ends by means of the tubular head *c*, the latter being constructed with a vertical central opening, through which the upper portion of the screw A passes, said opening being provided with a female screw-thread, with which engages the double thread formed by the wire constituting the upper portion of said screw A.

Into the ends of the head *c* are inserted the ends of the handles *d*, the whole forming the handle proper, B, said handles *d* being permanently secured in the head by means of the pins *e*. To the head is also secured, or formed integral therewith, a hook or catch, *f*, with which is adapted to engage an eye or ring, *g*, secured in the bend of the wire forming the upper end of the screw A. It will be readily seen that when the ring is placed over the hook the screw A will be held stationary with the handle and frame, and by releasing the ring from the hook said handle and frame may, by being turned, be raised or lowered on the screw A, as desired.

Within the ring *b* loosely fits an inner ring, *b'*, the lower edge of which latter is provided with a flange, *b''*, the purpose of which is to form a bearing for the movable frame C when the latter is turned during the operation of withdrawing a cork, the upper edge of the ring *b'* being also provided with a flange, by means of which it is retained in its proper position within the ring *b*.

Having fully described the construction and arrangement of the different parts of my improved corkscrew, I will now proceed to set forth its operation. The ring *g* is first placed over the hook *f* for the purpose of holding the screw A stationary with the handle and frame, and the lower portion of the screw then inserted into the cork, as in the case of ordinary corkscrews now in common use. After the screw has been properly inserted in the cork,

the ring is released from the hook, and the handle B turned, and the the frame lowered until the ring *b'* rests on the neck of the bottle. By continuing to turn the handle B, the ring *b'* serving as a bearing for the revolving frame, the screw, by virtue of the thread formed in the head *c*, will be raised, together with the cork, until the latter is withdrawn from the bottle or becomes so loose that the screw will turn with the handle, in which case the said cork may be easily lifted from out the neck of the bottle. It will be readily seen that the screw is raised in a straight line and the cork thereby withdrawn from the bottle without the least turning or twisting. This form of corkscrew is very effective and simple, can be easily and readily operated, and can be manufactured at a small cost.

I would have it understood that I do not limit myself to the exact construction and arrangement of parts shown and described, as many slight changes might be made therein without departing from the spirit of my invention—as, for instance, instead of bending the wire and forming the double thread, as described, the upper portion of the screw might be formed of a single thickness of wire so twisted or bent as to form a single screw-thread. Again, instead of constructing the handle with the pieces *d*, it might be made of a single piece of metal, cast or formed integral with the frame C, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, and I therefore hold myself at liberty to make such alterations as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

I am aware that corkscrews have been constructed with a frame having the screw moving vertically through the same, and, also, that corkscrews have been constructed with a frame having a screw movably secured therein, and provided with a loose ring, on which the frame bears, such constructions being shown in Patents No. 32,396, granted to E. A. Burgess May 21, 1861, and No. 310,766, granted to B. Wilhelm January 13, 1885, and hence I make no broad claim to such; but

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

1. A corkscrew consisting of a revolving frame constructed with a handle, a screw extending through the handle and adapted, when the frame and handle are revolved, to move vertically through the same, and a ring movably secured to the lower end of the frame and adapted to rest on the neck of a bottle, substantially as set forth.

2. A corkscrew consisting of a revolving frame constructed with a handle, a screw passing up through the frame and handle and adapted, when the same are revolved, to move vertically through the latter, an annular bearing secured to the lower end of the revolving frame and adapted to rest stationary on the neck of a bottle, and a ring secured to the upper end of the screw and adapted to engage with a hook formed on the handle, substantially as set forth.

3. A corkscrew consisting of a handle, a screw, the lower portion of which is adapted to enter a cork and the upper portion to pass through the handle, a revolving frame constructed as described and rigidly secured to the handle, said handle and frame, when lowered, operating to raise or lower the screw, and a hook and eye secured to the handle and screw, respectively, for holding them stationary with each other, substantially as set forth.

4. A corkscrew consisting of a frame constructed substantially as described, a screw, A, passing through the frame, and a handle constructed stationary with the latter, a loose annular bearing secured to the lower end of the frame, and a hook and eye secured to the handle and screw, respectively, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

Signed at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, this 11th day of September, A. D. 1885.

WILBER B. WOODMAN.

Witnesses:

GEORGE COOK,

HERMAN GUSTON.