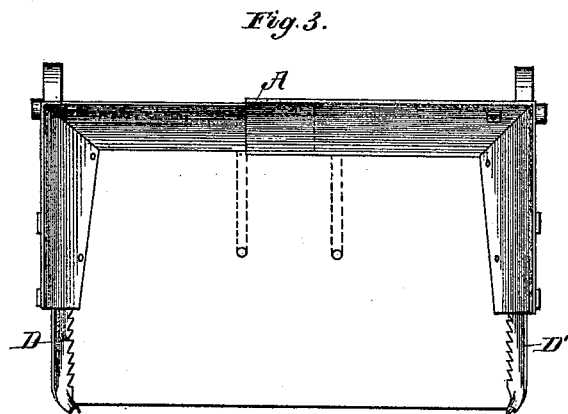
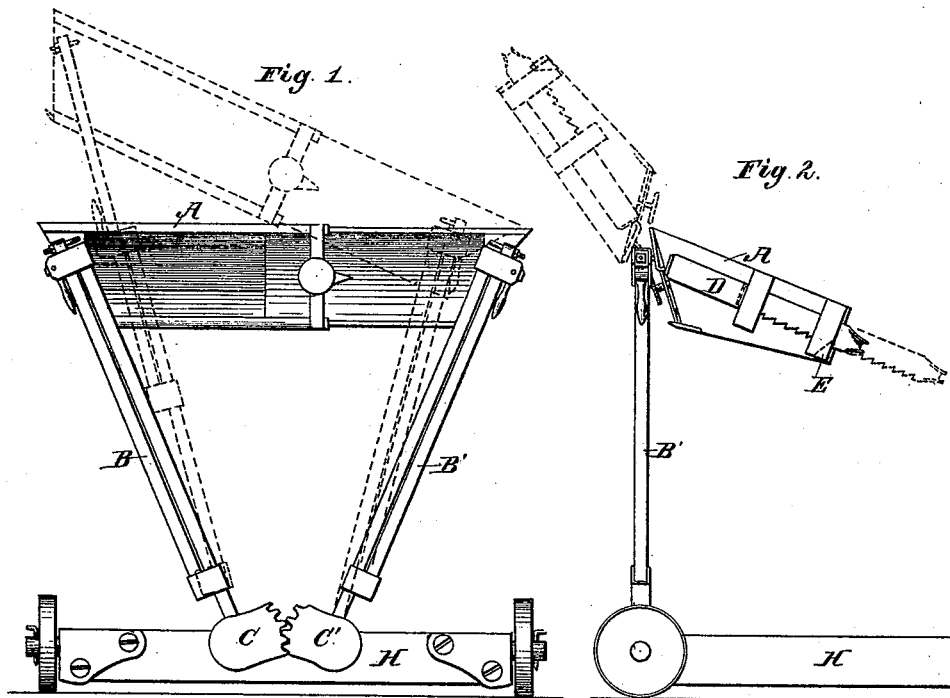


B. J. C. HOWE.
BAG-HOLDER.

No. 187,277.

Patented Feb. 13, 1877.



Witnesses.
J. H. Kaiser.
Alex. Scott.

Inventor.
Benjamin J. C. Howe.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN J. C. HOWE, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BAG-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 187,277, dated February 13, 1877; application filed January 30, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, B. J. C. HOWE, of Syracuse, of the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented new and useful improvements in Bag-Holders, which improvements are fully set forth and described in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to provide a convenient machine for distending the mouth of a sack or bag, and holding it in a suitable position for filling.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan. Fig. 2 is a side elevation. Fig. 3 is an end view.

The machine is composed of a hopper, A, resting upon two posts, B B', which are attached to a platform and to each other by means of the segments of the cog-wheels C C', having their axis within the platform H. The hopper is composed of three sides of a rectangular funnel-shaped frame, capable of expansion in both its width and length, and is hinged to the top of the posts. Attached to each end of the hopper are the slides D D', with teeth on the lower edge, so arranged as to take hold of the catch E, when the slides are pressed downward. The back side of the hopper is composed of two plates, so constructed that one of them will slide in the grooves on the edges of the other, thereby making the length of the hopper adjustable to the size of the mouth of the bag. The posts B B' are each composed of two sliding rods, provided with a cam or other suitable locking device for holding them at any required length. They are firmly fastened to

the segments of the cog-wheels C C', by which means they are kept at equal distances from the center of the machine. If one post is drawn away from the center, the other must move an equal distance in the opposite direction, thus expanding the hopper and always holding it exactly over the center of the platform.

In operating the machine the height is first adjusted to the length of the bag; the length of the hopper is adjusted to the width of the mouth of the bag, and clamped in that position by a set-screw. The mouth of the bag is then placed around the lower edge of the hopper, the slides D D' are drawn out against the inside of the bag until its mouth is sufficiently distended, when the teeth of the slides are locked against the catches E. The bag is thus held open and in position more firmly and certainly than it would be by the use of a spring, until it is filled. The bag is released by raising the teeth of the slides off from the catches E, and pushing them back. The hopper can then be turned back out of the way of tying and removing the bag.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of the hopper A, posts B B', segments C C', with the platform H resting upon wheels, as shown and described.
2. The combination of segments C C', with posts B B', of an extensible bag-holding hopper, substantially as described.

BENJAMIN J. C. HOWE.

Witnesses:

J. H. KAISER,
ALEX. SCOTT.