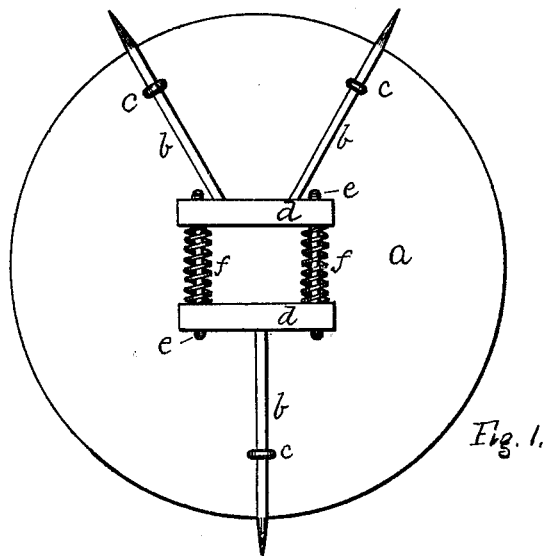


M. MORIARTY.  
Meat and Pickle Weight.

No. 206,745.

Patented Aug. 6, 1878.



WITNESS

*John R. Mason*  
*J. S. Seary*

INVENTOR

*Mathew Moriarty*  
*by Wm. Franklin Seary Atty*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHEW MORIARTY, OF BANGOR, MAINE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN MEAT AND PICKLE WEIGHTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 206,745, dated August 6, 1873; application filed December 21, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MATTHEW MORIARTY, of Bangor, in the county of Penobscot and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Devices for Keeping Meat, &c., Under Pickle; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, that will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompany drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which the figure shows a plan view of my invention.

My invention consists of an improved device for keeping meat, &c., under pickle or brine. It possesses several advantages not found in the ordinary "meat-weights," so called, as it is capable of being held in any desired position in the barrel, and when made of wood, as I prefer, does not sink to the bottom when released. Its lightness renders it easy to handle and remove from the barrel when necessary, and it may be secured at the surface of the pickle or brine, so that the hands need not be wet when removing it.

My invention consists of a disk of a size to enter easily the head of the barrel in which it is to be used, and is provided with prongs extending beyond its periphery, held out by springs, and also a handle, by which said prongs may be withdrawn. Reference to the accompanying drawing will explain it fully.

At *a* is the disk, preferably of wood, as I

have stated, although slate or other material may be used, if desired. *b b b* are prongs running in guides *c*, and secured at their inner ends to handles *d d*, also guided by rods *e e*. These handles, and consequently the rods, are kept extended by springs *f*.

When the device is to be used the handles are pressed together, drawing the prongs inward and admitting the disk to the barrel. It is then placed in the desired position and the handles released. The springs force them violently apart, driving the prongs outward and into the wood of the barrel. It is unnecessary to say that the prongs, when extended, must be long enough to extend across and enter the wood of the barrel at the bulge in order to be effective at that point.

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

1. In a device for keeping meat, &c., under pickle, the combination of the disk and holding-prongs with extension-springs and retracting-handles, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the disk *a*, prongs *b*, guides *c c*, springs *f f*, and handles *d d*, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of December, 1877.

MATTHEW MORIARTY.

Witnesses:

WM. FRANKLIN SEAVEY,  
JOHN R. MASON.