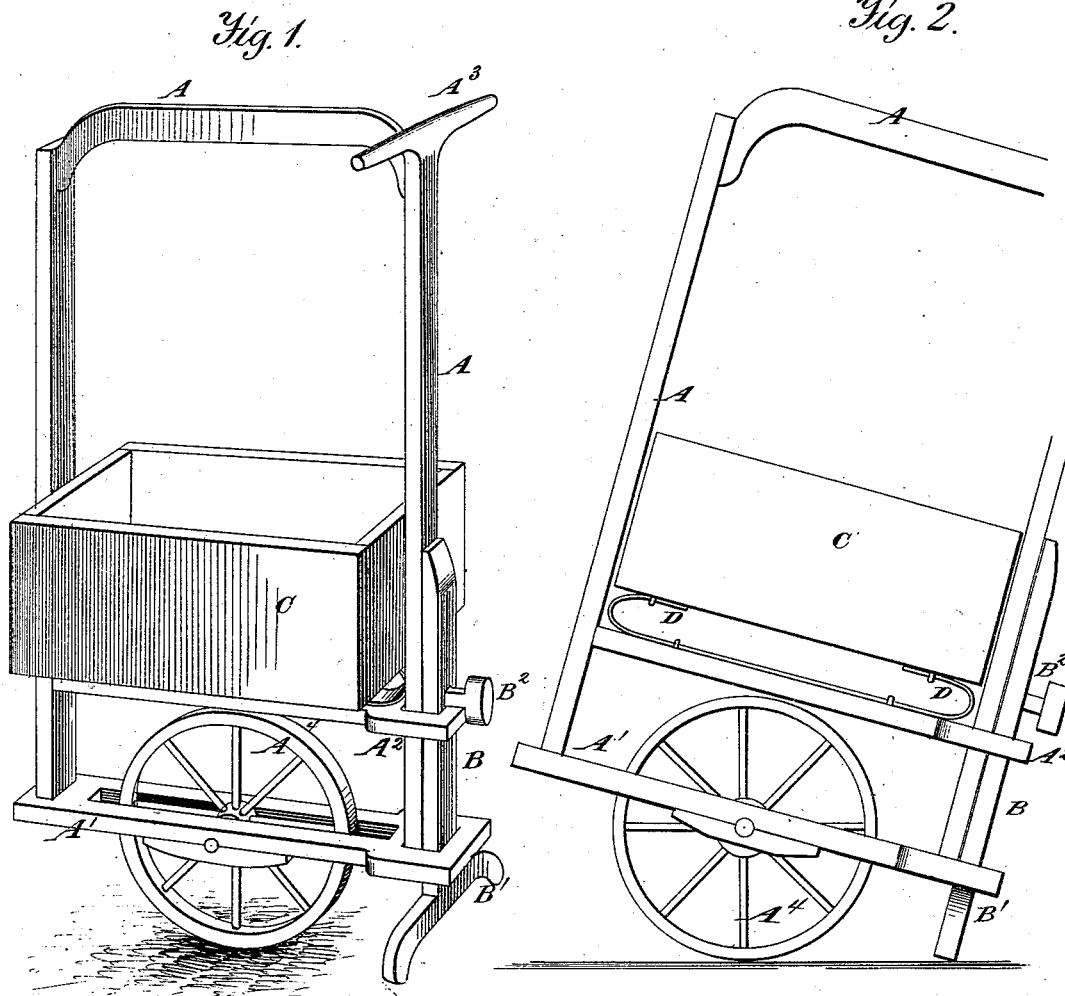


C. A. HARPER.
Hand-Truck.

No. 208,172.

Patented Sept. 17, 1878.



Witnesses.
A. Ruppert,
A. T. Maupin.

C. A. Harper
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Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. HARPER, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS HIS RIGHT TO JOHN W. RUSSELL AND F. A. POTTER.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-TRUCKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 208,172, dated September 17, 1878; application filed August 9, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. HARPER, of Jersey City, in the county of Hudson and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Carriers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the package-carrier, showing the wheel upon which the parts rest, the frame-work, the handles for moving and guiding the device, the basket or package receptacle, and a sliding bar provided with feet, upon which the rear end rests when not in use; and Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation, showing the wheel, the frame-work, the basket or package receptacle, springs upon which it rests, and the sliding bar.

Corresponding letters denote like parts in both of the figures.

This invention has reference to a device for conveniently transporting market-baskets, valises, or packages of any description; and it consists in providing for such purposes a carrier, furnished with one or more wheels, upon which the structure rests and is moved, and a box or other receptacle for baskets or packages, and in the combination and arrangement of certain of the parts of which the device is composed, as will be more fully explained hereinafter.

The inconvenience of carrying market-baskets and other large and heavy packages in the hands or on the arms is well understood; and the object of this invention is to provide a carrier for such packages that shall to a great extent remedy the defects of the present system, one that shall be cheap in construction, effective in operation, and that shall occupy but little space upon a sidewalk, street, or other place.

For the purpose of providing a device having the above-recited advantages, I form a frame-work, A, consisting of two or more posts, joined together at their upper ends, and made of such length as to cause handles A³, attached to said frame-work, to be at the proper dis-

tance from the ground to render them convenient for use in moving and guiding the structure. To the lower ends of the posts of frame A there is attached a longitudinal bar, A¹, which is slotted at its center, in order that a portion of a wheel, A⁴, may pass through it. The rear end of this bar is also provided with a transverse slot, through which passes a sliding bar, B, which extends upward therefrom and passes through a slot in another cross-bar, A², secured to the posts A of the frame at a point above the bar A¹. The slots in bars A¹ and A², through which the sliding bar B passes, are of such size as to permit bar B to move freely therein, so that the same may move up and down, according to the position in which it is desired to retain the carrier.

In order that the structure may be retained in a convenient position when not in use, there are attached to the lower end of the sliding bar feet B¹ B¹, which, when the carrier is at rest, will allow it to assume the position shown in Fig. 2, and when in use the one shown in Fig. 1.

To prevent the bar B from falling out of the bars A¹ A² when the carrier is lifted for any purpose, and also to prevent the feet B¹ B¹ from dragging on the ground when the device is being used, there is provided a stop, B², which rests upon the cross-bar A², and thus arrests the downward movement of the bar. If preferred, the stop B² may consist of a screw made to pass through the outer end of bar A² and come in contact with the sliding bar B, and thus said sliding bar may be adjusted in any desired position.

At the center of bar A¹ there is journaled one or more wheels, the upper portion of which, as above described, passes through a slot in said bar when only one wheel is used; but when two are preferred, one of them may be so placed upon the axle as to be upon one side of said bar and the other upon its opposite side.

In making provision for the reception of baskets or other packages, a box, C, is provided, which is of such length as to admit of its being placed between the posts A A, and may be of any desired width and length. This box is made to rest upon springs D D, of any desired form—spiral being preferred—which are se-

cured to the upper surface of bar A², the purpose being to provide for the carrying of packages containing glass or other like material without danger of their being broken.

I do not desire to be understood as confining myself to any particular construction of the parts constituting the device herein described, as it is apparent that they may be varied without departing from my invention. For instance, a basket may be substituted for the box C, and the journals of the axle to which the wheel or wheels are secured may rest in boxes or jaws attached to the bottom or sides of the basket, in which case the general features of the invention would remain the same as those shown in the drawings.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a vehicle for transporting market-baskets and other packages by hand, the combination of one or more wheels, a vertical framework having handles attached thereto, a receptacle for containing packages to be moved, and adjustable feet for retaining the structure in a proper position when not in use, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination of the adjustable bar B, having feet B¹ B¹, and the framework of a package-carrier, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

C. A. HARPER.

Witnesses:

L. H. RONAN,
LAWRENCE GARAHAN.