(No Model.)

F. W. HOEFER.

WIRE HANDLE.

No. 491,648. Patented Feb. 14, 1893.

Fig. 1.

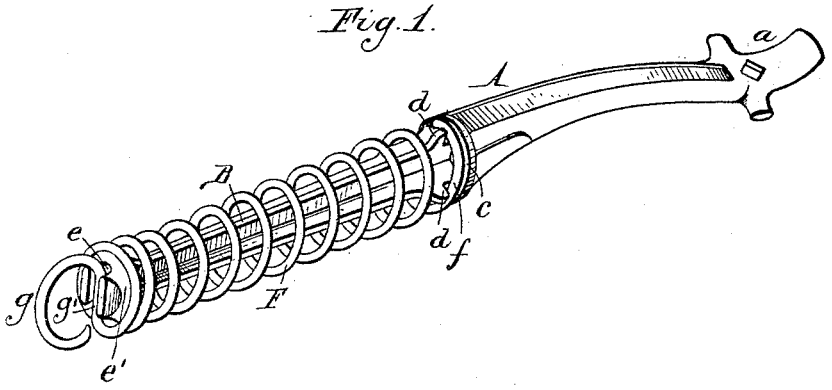


Fig. 2.

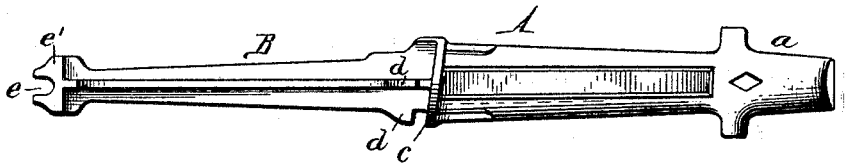
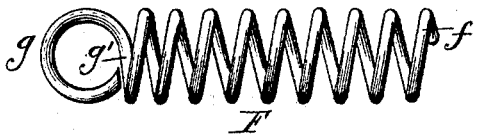


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK W. HOEFER, OF FREEPORT, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO CHARLES G. SHEPARD AND WALTER J. SHEPARD, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

WIRE HANDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 491,648, dated February 14, 1893.

Application filed November 12, 1892. Serial No. 451,746. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK W. HOEFER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Freeport, in the county of Stephenson and State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Wire Handles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a handle for stove lid lifters, stove pokers and similar implements which are liable to become heated and more particularly to handles of this character which consist essentially of a number of spiral coils.

The object of my invention is to provide a handle of this kind which can be cheaply manufactured and which is readily and securely attached to the shank of the implement without the use of separate fastenings or additional parts.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a stove lid lifter provided with my improved handle. Fig. 2 is a top plan view thereof with the wire handle removed. Fig. 3 is a detached side elevation of the handle.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents the body or main portion of the lifter which is formed at its front end with the customary foot *a* for engaging the socket of the stove lid.

B is the shank of the lifter extending rearwardly from the body, and consisting preferably of a number of radial ribs, as shown, so as to reduce the heat-conducting surface of the shank. The latter is provided at its junction with the body of the lifter with an annular shoulder *c* having preferably a spiral or inclined rear face, and at a short distance in rear of said shoulder with a number of lugs or stops *d* arranged in a spiral line around the shank and forming with the adjacent inclined face of the shoulder *c* a spiral groove or recess. The shank is provided at its opposite or outer end with a transverse seat or groove *e*, which is formed centrally in a head or enlargement *e'* of the shank.

F is the spirally coiled wire handle surrounding the shank of the lifter, and which has its inner coil or convolution *f* confined between the inclined shoulder *c* of the shank and the spirally arranged lugs or stops *d*, so that said coil is held against both inward and outward movement on the shank. At its outer end the wire handle is provided with a ring or loop *g* which is arranged substantially in the axial plane of the handle, and is seated with its inner bar or portion *g'* in the transverse groove *e* of the shank, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. This ring or loop serves as a means of suspending the lifter from a hook or other support, when not in use.

In attaching the wire handle to the lifter the handle is passed over the shank, and its inner end is engaged between the inclined shoulder of the shank and the outermost spirally arranged lugs or stops *d*. The handle is then turned on the shank in the proper direction to cause its inner end to engage between the inclined shoulder and the next lug or stop. By thus turning the flexible handle it is drawn inwardly on the shank, owing to the spiral arrangement of the shoulder and the lugs, and as soon as the inner bar of the loop *g* arrives in line with the transverse groove in the outer end of the shank it springs into the same, thereby preventing the handle from turning backwardly and becoming disengaged from the lugs *d*. In order to obtain the necessary tension of the handle to confine the loop in the groove of the shank, the handle is made of such size that when relieved from tension it is slightly shorter than the distance between the head of the inclined shoulder *c* and the grooved outer end of the shank. As the handle is held against turning by the loop, its inner coil is retained behind the lugs of the shank, and as the loop is in turn retained in its seat in the shank by the confinement of the inner coil of the handle the latter is reliably secured to the shank at both ends.

The shank with its lug is cast in one piece with the body of the lifter and the loop *g* is formed integrally with the wire handle, so that the implement consists of but two parts, thus simplifying its manufacture and rendering its cost comparatively small.

Although my improved handle is especially desirable for stove lid lifters and similar implements, it is equally applicable to utensils of various sorts.

I claim as my invention:—

1. The combination with the shank of a stove lid lifter or other implement provided at its outer end with a transverse groove, at its inner end with a shoulder and adjacent to said shoulder with a lug or stop, of a flexible handle composed of spiral coils surrounding the shank and having its inner coil arranged between said shoulder and said stop, and provided at its outer end with a bar or portion extending diametrically across the handle and seated in the transverse groove of the shank, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with the shank of a stove lid lifter or other implement provided at its outer end with a transverse groove, at its inner end with a shoulder and adjacent to said shoulder with spirally arranged stops or lugs, of a flexible handle composed of spirally coiled wire surrounding the shank and having its inner coil confined between the shoulder and the spiral lugs of the shank and provided at its outer end with a ring or loop arranged in the axial plane of the handle and seated with its inner portion in the transverse groove of the shank, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 7th day of November, 1892.

FREDERICK W. HOEFER.

Witnesses:
H. H. ANTRIM,
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