

S. MASON.
POCKET KNIFE.

No. 36,321.

Patented Aug. 26, 1862.

Fig. 1.

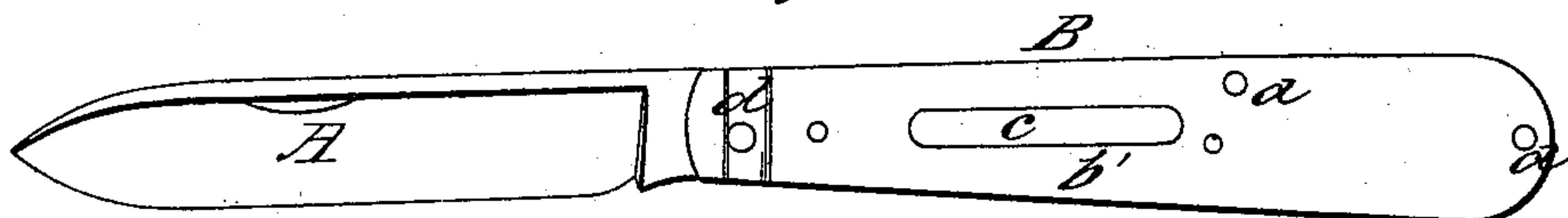


Fig. 2.

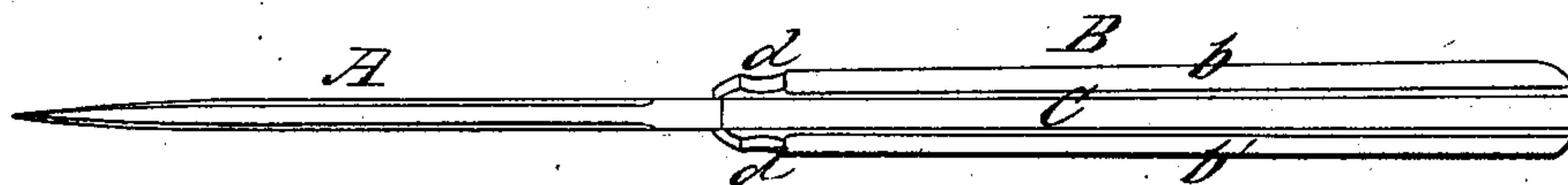


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL MASON, OF NORTHFIELD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE
NORTHFIELD KNIFE CO., OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN POCKET-KNIVES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 36,321, dated August 26, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL MASON, of Northfield, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pocket-Knives; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention; Fig. 2, a back view of the same; Fig. 3, a front view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

This invention consists in constructing the handle of the knife of malleable cast-iron and with a corrugated external surface in imitation of buckhorn, whereby a much more durable knife is obtained than any hitherto constructed, and one which may be manufactured at a less cost.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents the blade of the knife, B the handle, and C the spring, which is secured by rivets *a* between the two parts *b b'* of the handle, and bears against the pivoted end of the blade, as usual. The two parts *b b'* of the handle are of malleable cast-iron, their inner surfaces being smooth and their outer surfaces being rough or corrugated like buckhorn, the mold in which the parts *b* are cast being made in proper form to produce this result. One of the parts, *b'*, is cast with a smooth surface, *c*, for the name of the owner to be engraved on it, and a smooth surface, *d*, is also

cast at the ends of the parts *b b'* in imitation of a bolster, which is employed in the ordinary knife handles.

By thus constructing the knife it will be seen that the ordinary metal plates necessarily used as a lining are dispensed with, as well as the labor and expense of fitting the buckhorn thereto, while a very strong and durable handle is obtained.

Buckhorn forms the most desirable material for the handle of an ordinary pocket-knife, as it has a rough exterior and may be securely held in the hand. It is most generally used for the handles of large-bladed knives designed for hard service.

My invention possesses all the advantages of the buckhorn with the addition of being much stronger and incapable of breaking when used as a hammer, a function which the handles of coarse knives are frequently made to perform when carried by mechanics, farmers, laborers, &c. Ordinary gray or cast iron would be liable to break under this operation, but not the malleable cast-iron.

I do not claim, broadly, a knife provided with a cast-metal handle irrespective of the material used; but—

I do claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

As an improved article of manufacture, a pocket-knife having a handle of malleable cast-iron, with a rough or corrugated exterior, in imitation of buckhorn, as herein set forth.

SAMUEL MASON.

Witnesses:

JOHN CATLIN,
F. H. CATLIN.