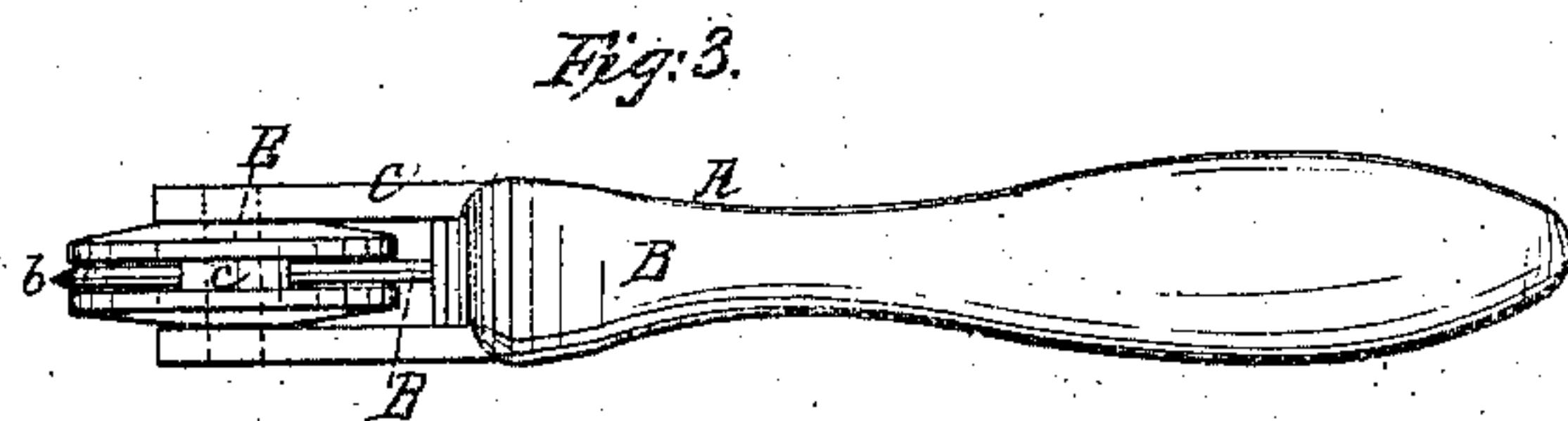
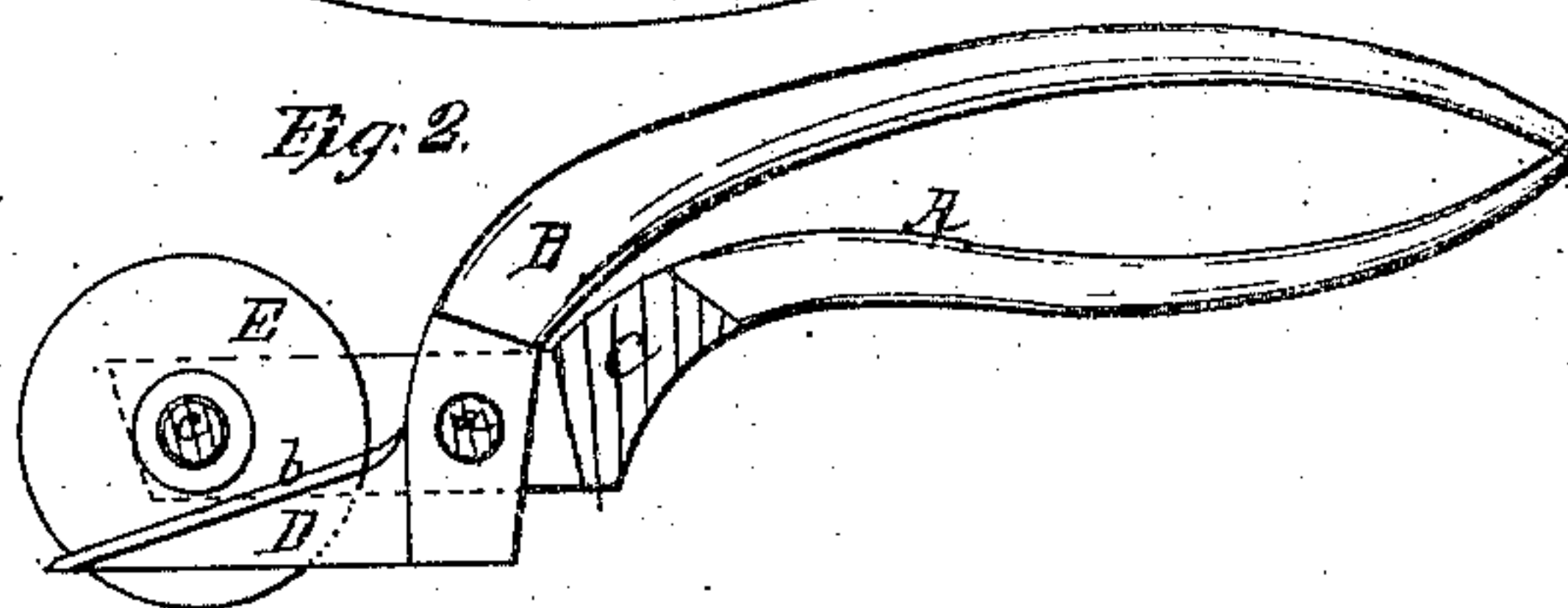
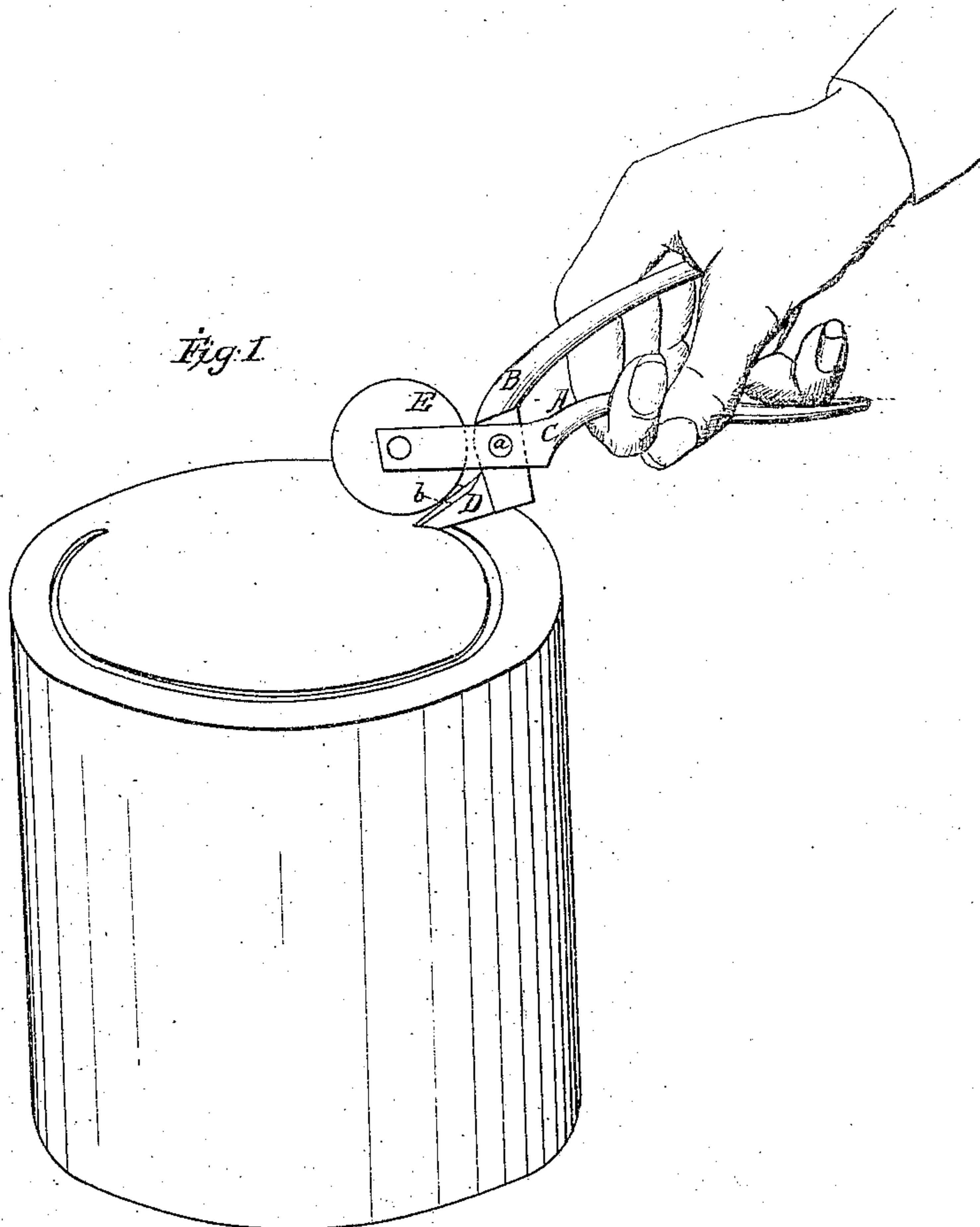


W. C. Dick,
Can Opener,

No. 44,856.

Patented Nov. 1, 1864.



J. P. Hall
Per S. M. Haman

Inventor:
William C. Dick.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM C. DICK, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVED TOOL FOR OPENING TIN CANS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 44,856, dated November 1, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM C. DICK, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Tool for Opening Tin Cans; 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, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my invention, showing its operation. Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a plan or top view of the same.

Similar letters of reference in the three views indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in the employment or use of a tool provided with a pointed cutting-blade applied to one shank or jaw of the same, and with a grooved jaw attached to its other shank, in such a manner that the pointed cutting-blade can be easily run through the top or any other part of a tin can, and by the action of its cutting-edge against the groove of the other jaw the sheet metal is readily and easily broken, and a hole can thus be cut in the pan large enough to give access to its contents.

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

A represents a tool composed of two parts or shanks, B C, which are connected by a pivot, *a*, in the manner of a pair of shears, pinchers, or other similar devices. One end of each of the shanks forms a handle, and the other end one-half of the cutting device. The shank B carries the cutting-blade D, which is pointed, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, so that it can be easily run through the top of an ordinary tin can. The cutting-edge *b* of this blade works against a grooved jaw, E, which is secured to the shank C. The grooved jaw may be either stationary or it may be made of two

disks of steel or iron, which are secured to the shank C by means of a pivot, *c*, so that they turn on the same like a wheel. After the point of the cutting-blade has been run through the top of the can, the disks E are pressed down upon said top, and the sheet metal can now be easily broken between the cutting-edge of the blade D and the groove between the disks E. By these means an opening can be made in the can large enough to obtain access to its contents.

This tool is of peculiar advantage for opening sardine-boxes or tin cans of that description, which are generally used for preserving fruit and other articles. Such boxes or cans have to be soldered up perfectly tight in order to prevent the access of the atmospheric air to their contents, and the operation of opening the same has hitherto been attended with great difficulty and has caused much labor, and sometimes the loss of a larger or smaller portion of their contents.

With my tool the opening of such boxes or cans is attended with no difficulty. The operation can be effected without the least danger to the contents of the can, and by the peculiar combination of the blade with the grooved jaw the sheet metal can be broken so easily that very little power is required to operate the same, and that a child is enabled to cut an opening in an ordinary tin box or can large enough to give access to the contents of the same.

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

A tool, A, provided with a pointed cutting-blade, D, and grooved jaw E, substantially as and for the purpose herein shown and described.

WILLIAM C. DICK.

Witnesses:

JAS. P. HALL,

WM. F. MCNAMARA.