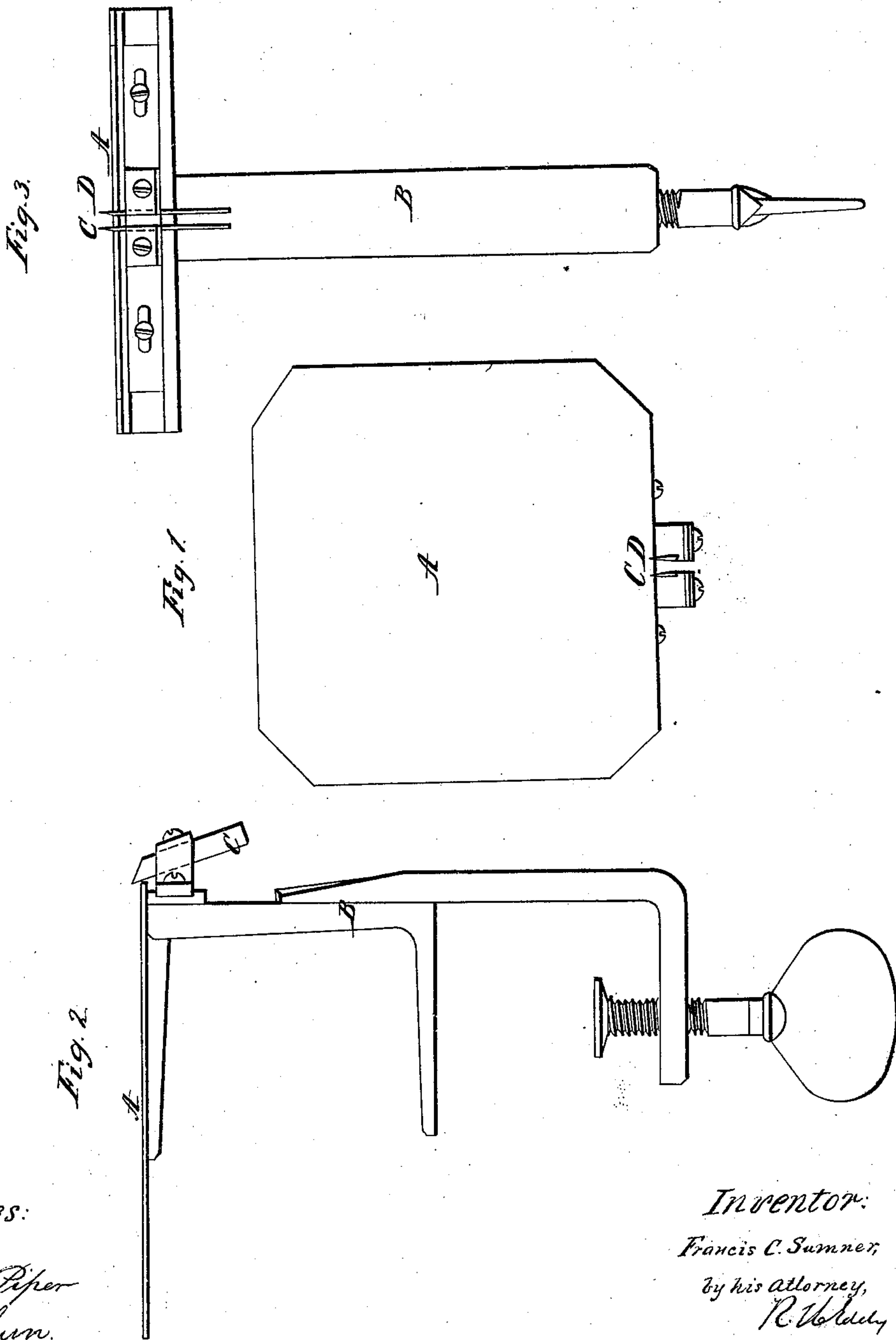


*F. C. Sumner,*

*Cutting Shoe Laces,*

*N<sup>o</sup> 52,620.*

*Patented Feb. 13, 1866.*



*Witnesses:*

*Samuel H. Piper*  
*G. B. Washburn.*

*Inventor:*

*Francis C. Sumner,*  
*by his attorney,*  
*R. H. Wadley*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS C. SUMNER, OF STOUGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVED SHOE-LACING CUTTER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 52,620, dated February 13, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANCIS C. SUMNER, of Stoughton, of the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Machine for Making Shoe-Lacings; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view, Fig. 2 a side elevation, and Fig. 3 a rear elevation, of it.

The purpose of my invention is to enable a person to reduce to a shoe-lacing a piece of leather of almost any form. By means of the machine scraps of leather which would otherwise be cast aside as waste can thus be utilized to good advantage whatever be their form.

In the drawings, A denotes a tablet or plate inserted on a stand or screw-clamp, B, for the fixation of such tablet to a bench. The said stand has devices projecting beyond the rear edge of the plate, and socketed for receiving and supporting two knives, C D, which are arranged parallel to each other and project above the upper surface of the plates, in manner as represented. These knives are so applied to the plate as to be capable of being adjusted either nearer to or farther apart from one another, as circumstances may require, for the formation of shoe-lacings of different thicknesses or widths.

In using the machine a person is to draw a piece of leather against the two knives or their cutting-edges, and to turn it about until they may pass through it in a spiral path.

It is not new to employ a single knife in this manner; but there is a great advantage gained by the use of two knives, as one of them not only serves as a gage for the other and enables the piece of leather to be easily or readily turned on the knives, but the two produce a strip or shoe-string of uniform width, which cannot easily be accomplished by a single knife.

Besides, with the two knives pieces of leather such as cannot well be worked up by a single knife can easily be reduced by employing the two knives in conjunction with the tablet.

I claim as my invention—

1. The above-described new or improved shoe-lacing cutter or machine, as composed of the two knives and the tablet or plate, arranged together substantially as described.

2. The combination and arrangement of the tablets, the two knives, and the screw-clamp, the whole being substantially as described.

FRANCIS C. SUMNER.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,  
F. P. HALE, Jr.