

J. Merritt.

Knife & Fork-Cleaner.

N^o 72067

Patented Dec. 10, 1867.

Fig 1.

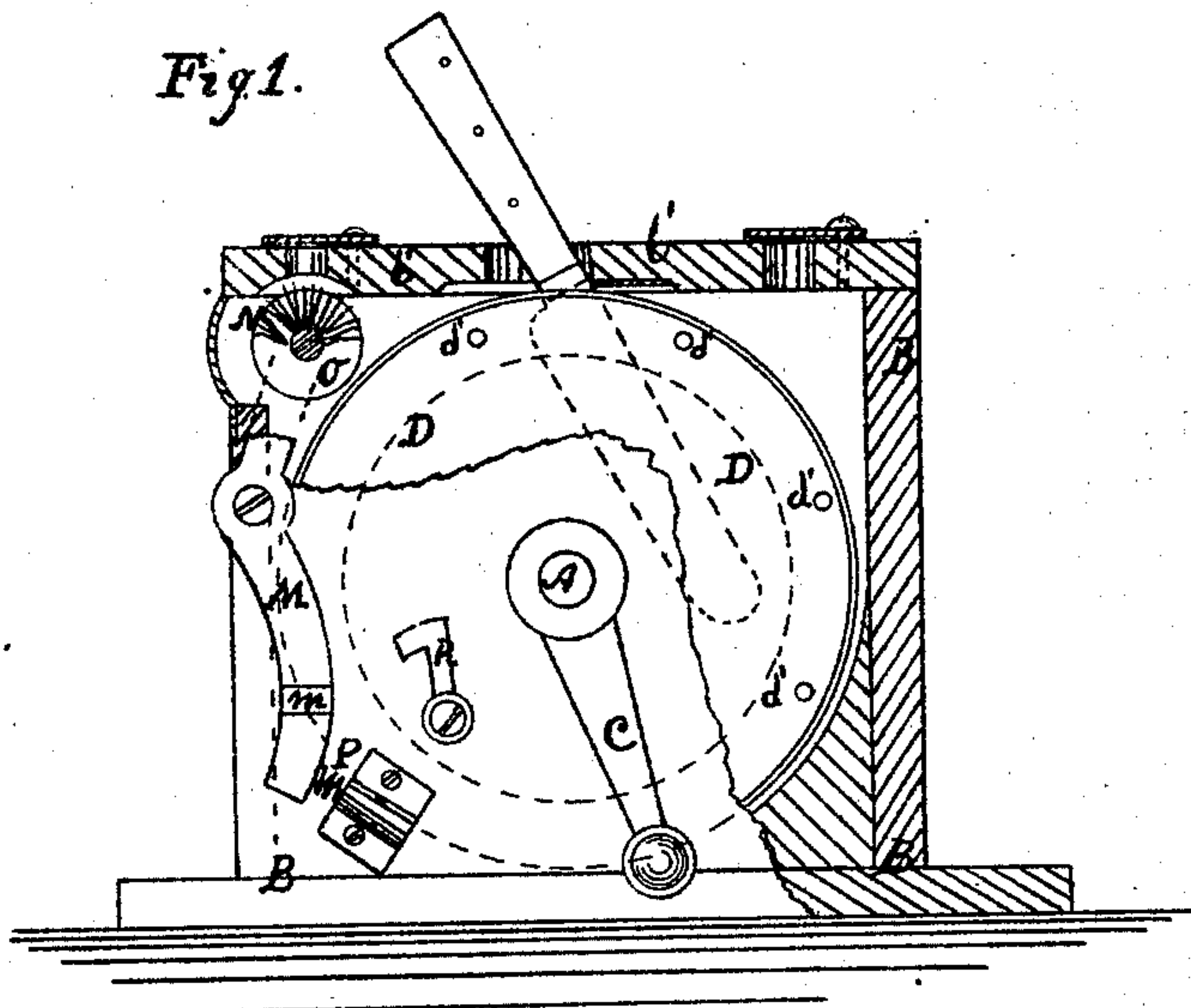


Fig. 2.

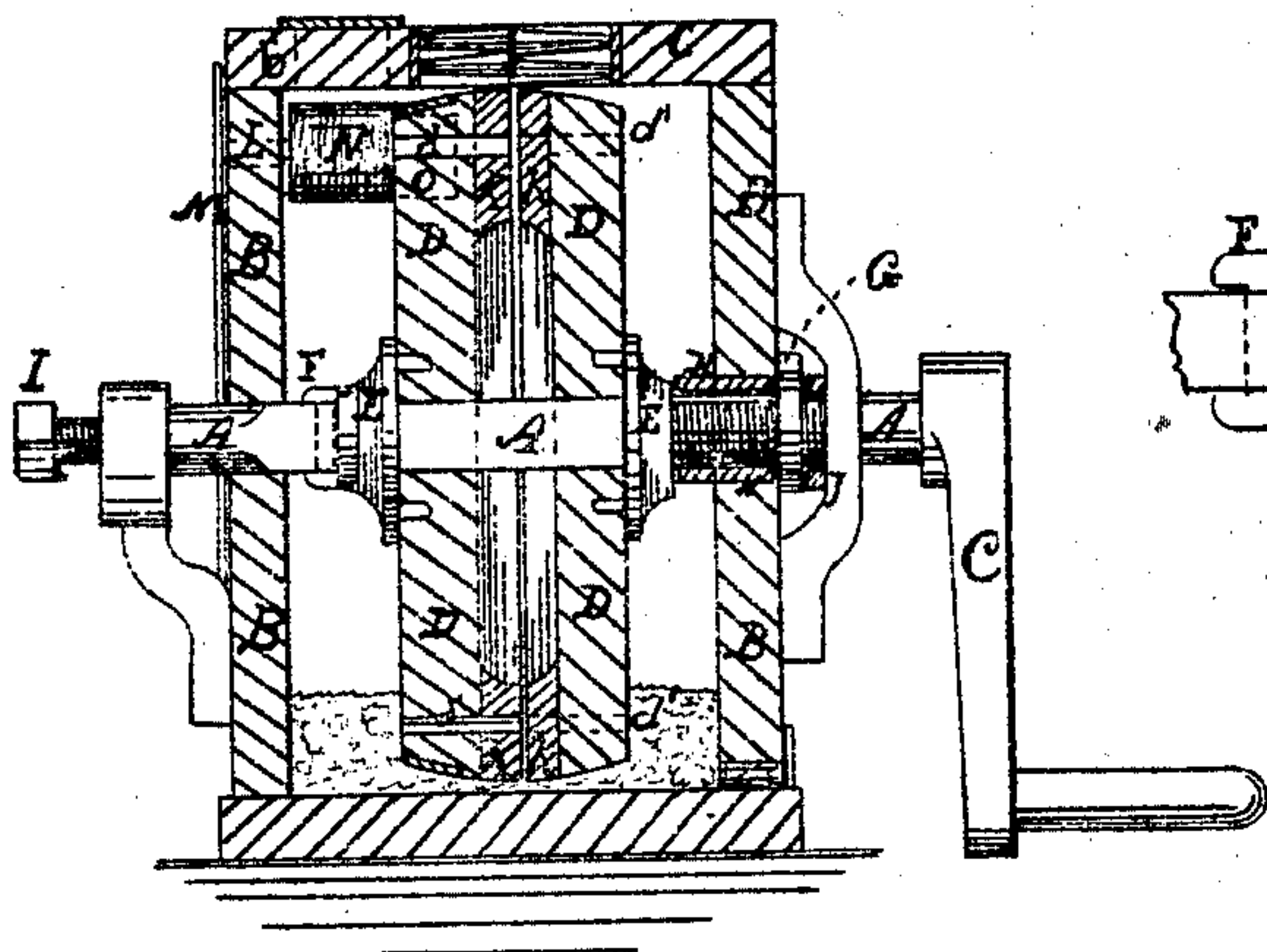
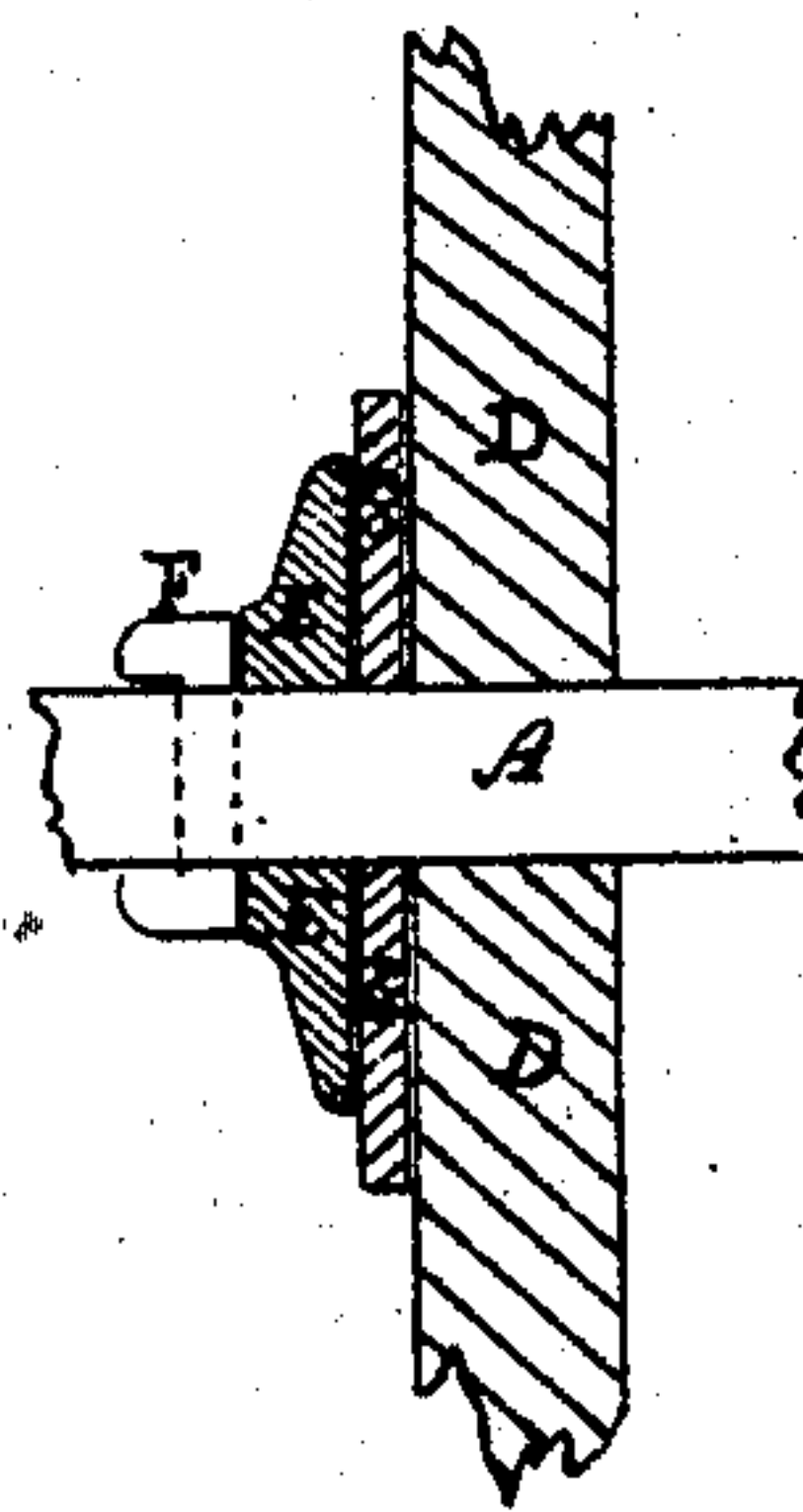


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
Thos. C. Tinsche
Wm. T. Tinsche

Inventor
John Merritt
Per *Merritt & Co.*
Attorneys.

United States Patent Office.

JOHN MERRITT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 72,067, dated December 10, 1867; antedated December 4, 1867.

IMPROVED KNIFE AND FORK-CLEANER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN MERRITT, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Knife and Fork-Cleaner; 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 make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved machine, part being broken away to show the construction.

Figure 2 is a vertical central cross-section of the same.

Figure 3 is a detail sectional view, showing the rubber blocks or springs between the disks and plates.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention has for its object to furnish an improved machine by means of which knives and forks may be quickly and thoroughly cleaned; and it consists in the combination of the circular disks, the leather or equivalent rubbers, shaft, holding-plates, adjusting-nut, and adjusting-screw, with each other and with the box of the machine; in the combination of the friction-wheel, brush, and shaft, with the circular disk and box of the machine, and in the combination of the lever, spring, and hook, with the brush, shaft, and box, the whole being constructed and arranged as hereinafter more fully described.

A is the shaft, which revolves in bearings in the sides of the box B, and to one end of which is attached the crank C, by means of which the machine is operated. D are circular disks, which may be made of wood, or any other suitable material. The disks D are placed upon the shaft A, and are made to revolve with it by the plates E E', which have projections or arms formed upon them, which enter holes in the disks D, as shown in fig. 2. The plate E is held in place by a key, F, passing through a slot in the shaft A. The plate E' is held forward by the hand-nut G, which works upon a screw-thread cut upon the shaft A, and which presses against the outer end of the tubular washer H, the inner end of which rests against the plate E', holding it in place, and pressing the disk to which it is attached forward against the other disk. This enables the disks to be adjusted to compensate for the wear, and also to regulate the pressure of the disks upon the knife being cleaned. This pressure is further regulated by rubber blocks or springs S, placed between the disks D and plates E E', which, by their elasticity, hold the rubbers K close up against the blade of the knife, whether a thinner or thicker part of said blade is being operated upon. I is an adjusting-screw, passing in through the bearing, with its end resting against the end of the shaft A, so that the shaft A and disks D may be so adjusted that the line of contact between the disks may always be directly beneath the hole in the cover b', through which the knives are inserted. J is a washer, placed upon the shaft A, between the hand-nut G and the bearing, to prevent any longitudinal movement of the shaft when the machine is adjusted. K are the rubbers, which may be made of leather or some similar material, and which are attached to the faces of the disks D, extending inward a short distance from their outer edges, as shown in fig. 2. L are brushes, attached to the sides of the opening in the cover b', through which the knives are inserted to wipe off the said knives as they are withdrawn from the machine. The corner spaces at the bottom of the box are filled up with triangular blocks, so as to diminish the amount of vacant space in the lower part of the box B. d' are holes formed through the disks D, and through the rubbers K, which, as the disks are revolved, scoop up the emery or other polishing-powder placed in the bottom of the box, and introduce it between the disks D and rubbers K.

In using the machine, if the knife-blade is passed in and withdrawn from the disks with a steady motion, all parts of the blade will be polished equally; and, by checking the movement at any desired part, that part will be polished more than the others, so that the amount of polishing done to any one part may be regulated as may be desired.

L is a shaft, one end of which revolves in bearings in the side of the box B, and the other end in bearings in the end of the lever M, which is pivoted to the side of the box. To the shaft L is attached a brush, N, for cleaning the forks, which are inserted through a hole in the top, b', of the box. Motion is given to the shaft L and brush N by bringing the friction-wheel O attached to the shaft L in contact with the disks D by operating the lever M. P is a spring attached to the side of the box B, and pressing against the free end of the lever M, holding it out, and thus holding the friction-wheel against the disk. R is a hook, pivoted to the side of the box B, which, when hooked into a catch, m, attached to the lever M, holds the friction-wheel O away from the disk.

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

1. I claim the combination of the circular disks D, leather or equivalent rubbers K, shaft A, holding-plates E E', adjusting-nut G, and adjusting-screw I, with each other and with the box B, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.
2. The combination of the friction-wheel O, brush N, and shaft L, with each other and with the disk D and box B, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.
3. The combination of the lever M, spring P, and hook R, with the brush-shaft L and box B, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me, this 30th day of April, 1867.

JOHN MERRITT.

Witnesses:

WM. F. McNAMARA,
JAMES T. GRAHAM.