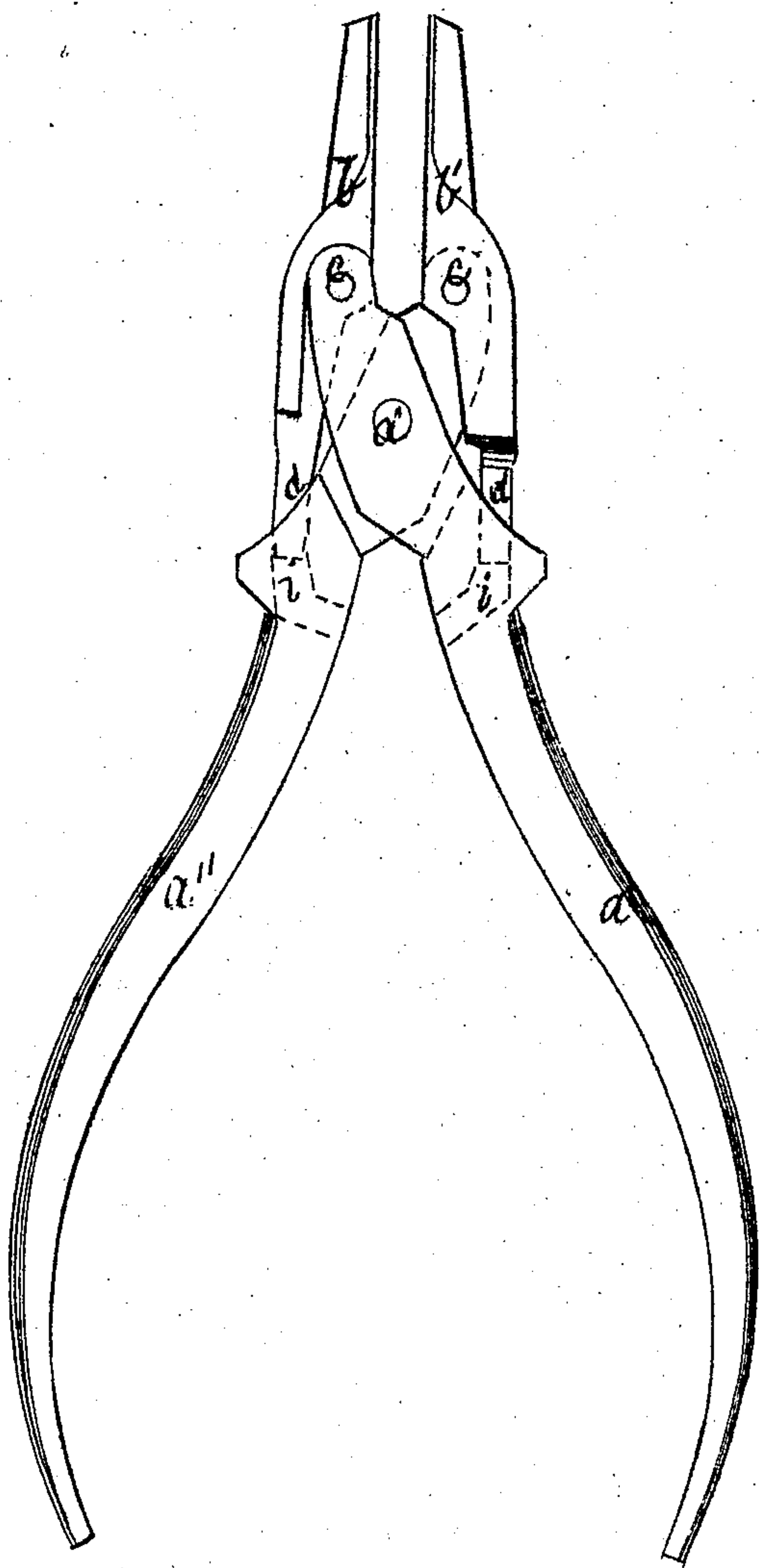


Board Gripping Tools

72712

Fig. 1.



PATENTED
DEC 31 1867

Ernest C. Smith }
Jerry W. Bliss } *Witness*

Inventor
Edward A. Albee

United States Patent Office.

EDWARD A. ALPRESS, OF BRISTOL, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 72,712, dated December 31, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAND-GRIPING TOOL.

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, EDWARD A. ALPRESS, of Bristol, county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tongs, Pincers, or, more properly speaking, Hand-Griping Tools, for holding articles while being wrought upon by the artificer; and to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, I will proceed to describe by referring to the drawings, in which the same letters indicate like parts in each of the figures.

The nature of this invention consists in making each handle and its respective jaw in two distinct pieces of metal.

The nature of this invention further consists in connecting the two handles together, with the jaws arranged and secured relatively thereto, so that, by opening and closing the handles, the jaws will thereby be actuated to open and close parallel with each other.

In the use of this class of tools heretofore, the workmen have been greatly annoyed by the work or article (being held thereby) swaying or turning in the jaws out of a true line or position, in which he is desirous to hold it firmly, in order that he may perform the desired labor thereon. To prevent this annoyance, and produce a good efficient tool, is the object of this invention. In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a plan view of this improvement, showing how these tools are constructed, so that the jaws will close in parallel lines upon the article to be wrought upon, and thus hold it firmly in a true line or position, as described.

a and *a''* are handles, fitted together much in the form of the common pliers, and secured together by a fulcrum-pin, *a'*. The outer ends are nearly of a true circle from the centre of the fulcrum-pin holes, by which they are secured to the jaws. The outer ends of said handles are fitted into recesses in the jaws, milled out or otherwise prepared therefor, so as to form a good joint, and bring the handles and jaws flush with each other. *b* and *b'* are the jaws, the outer ends of which are much like those of the common pliers. The jaw *b* is depressed on each side thereof to receive the split end of the handle *a'*. The jaw *b'* is provided with a socket to receive the outer end of the handle *a''*. These jaws are secured to the outer ends of the handles by pins *c*. The handles *a* and *a''* are also provided with sockets *i*, or their equivalents, just back from the fulcrum-pin *a'*, in which the rear end *d* of the jaws and operate, so that, as the handles open or close, the jaws will be actuated thereby to open or close in parallel lines, and so that, if a round or flat piece of metal be placed between the jaws, it will be griped and held firmly in any desired position.

I am aware that the same result can be produced when the tool is constructed of different sizes, form, or shape, therefore I do not wish to be restricted to this particular form of construction.

I believe I have thus shown the nature, construction, and advantage of this invention so as to enable others skilled to make the same therefrom.

I am aware of the patent of C. W. Sikes for improvement in pliers. I do not intend to claim his mode of construction; but

What I claim, is—

As a new improved article of manufacture, tongs or pliers, the handles *a* pivoted together at *a'* their outer ends pivoted to the jaw *c c*, while the rear ends *d d* of said jaws work in sockets *i i*, to produce the opening and closing of said jaws parallel to each other, substantially as described.

EDWARD A. ALPRESS. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

ERNEST C. SMITH,
JEREMY W. BLISS.