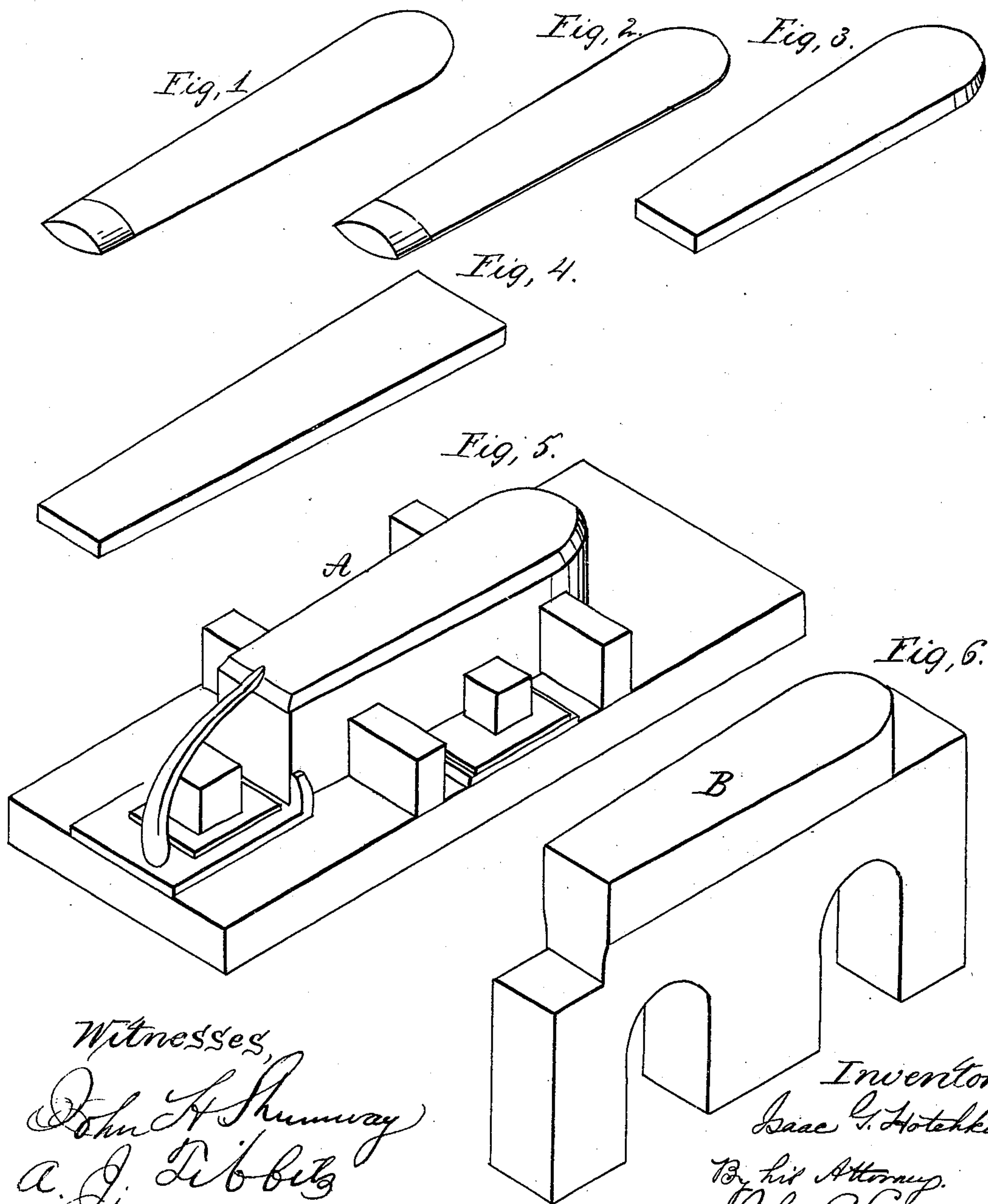


*I. G. Hotchkiss.*

*Blank for Cutlery Handles.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 86,983.*

*Patented Feb. 16, 1869.*



*Witnesses,  
John H. Shumway  
A. J. Libbitz*

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Isaac G. Hotchkiss  
By his Attorney,  
John C. Case*



ISAAC G. HOTCHKISS, OF NAUGATUCK, CONNECTICUT.

*Letters Patent No. 86,983, dated February 16, 1869.*

**IMPROVEMENT IN BLANKS FOR CUTLERY-HANDLES.**

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, ISAAC G. HOTCHKISS, of Naugatuck, in the county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Cutting Cutlery-Handle Coverings; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a perspective view of one of the scales completely covered;

Figure 2, a perspective view of the scale without the covering;

Figure 3, the covering as prepared by my improvement;

Figure 4, the covering, as heretofore prepared, to be placed upon the scale; and in

Figures 5 and 6, perspective views of the two parts of the die for cutting my improvement.

This invention relates more particularly to covering handles of pocket-cutlery.

Heretofore the blank has been cut into the form seen in fig. 4, for a scale of the form seen in fig. 2. The blank thus cut is secured to the scale, then trimmed by hand. This, it will be observed, involves no small degree of labor.

My improvement, whereby the greater portion of this labor is obviated, consists in cutting the blank, by dies or other process, into the proper form before placing upon the handle.

To enable others to fully understand my invention, I will proceed to describe the same as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

I first form a die, A, seen in fig. 5, of the form required for the handle, that is, the form of the scale upon which the handle is to be placed, and provide this with a follower, B, seen in fig. 6; then place the ma-

terial from which the coverings are to be formed, between the dies, and cut therefrom, as seen in fig. 3.

The covering thus cut is placed upon the handle, and the labor heretofore required in shaping the covering, after it is placed upon the scale, is entirely obviated, the cutting of the blanks being comparatively no cost, and the work thus produced is far superior to the old, and the blanks thus cut become an article of manufacture, and may be distinct and separate from that of the manufacture of the metal portion, it being only necessary for the manufacturers of the coverings to know the shape of the scale upon which the covering is to be placed.

It is not to be understood that the covering is entirely finished by the process claimed, but only shaped so far as it can be as an article of manufacture; that is to say, the covering is made of the exact form required by the manufacturer, so that after the covering is fixed to the scale, the manufacturer has only to finish the surface; whereas, when as heretofore manufactured, that is to say, with the ends square, it is necessary, after such a covering has been fixed to the scale, to shave or cut off the extra material, in order to bring the covering to the shape of the scale. This last labor, which is no inconsiderable portion of the labor upon the handle, is, by my improved coverings, entirely avoided, and it is to this improved article of manufacture that I make my claim.

Having thus fully described my invention,

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

The blank for cutlery-handles, cut and formed in the manner described, as an article of manufacture.

ISAAC G. HOTCHKISS.

Witnesses:

A. J. TIBBITS,  
JOHN H. SHUMWAY.