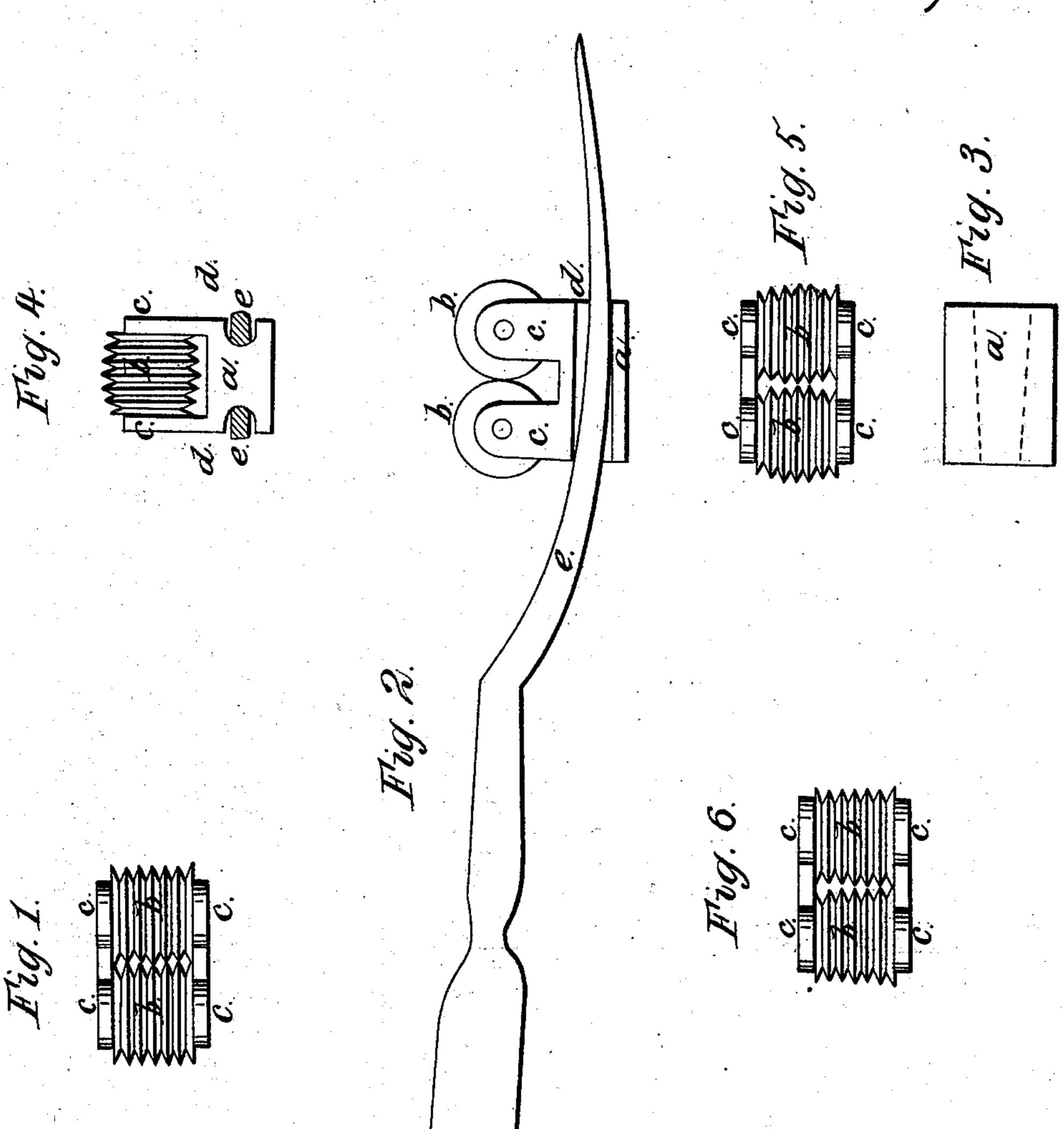
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## Anited States Patent Office.

## Z. C. ROBBINS AND H. A. ROBBINS, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Letters Paient No. 97,701, dated December 7, 1869.

## IMPROVEMENT IN KNIFE-SHARPENERS.

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

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, Z. C. Robbins and H. A. Robbins, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and improved Knife-Sharpener; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a portion of this specification,

Figure 1 being a top view, Figure 2, a side view, and

Figure 3, a bottom view of said sharpener, whilst Figures 4, 5, and 6, are views of modified forms of the same.

The sharpening portions of our improved knife-sharpener consist of two highly-tempered annularly-grooved rollers, b b, pivoted within the peculiarly-shaped body a c c c c of said sharpener, in such positions that the sharp ridges between the grooves of one of said rollers, will pass a short distance within the spaces between the sharp ridges of the other roller, as shown in fig. 1 of the accompanying drawings.

Instead of making the said sharpening rollers b b of the cylindrical shape shown by figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, we may sometimes make them of the barrel-shape, represented by figs. 4 and 5, or of the tapering shape shown by fig. 6.

And we also propose to sometimes add to the sharpening properties of the counteracting ridges of the grooved rollers, by filling the annular grooves in said rollers with a composition of emery or corundum.

The body of our improved knife-sharpener is clearly shown by figs. 2, 3, and 4, of the accompanying drawings.

Pairs of ears, c c, rise from opposite sides of the base a of said body, which ears serve as pivot-bearings of the sharpening-rollers b b of said sharpener, as shown in the drawings.

The grooves d d, formed in opposite sides of the

base a of the said body of our improved knife-sharpener, are so proportioned that they will receive the times of any and all two-pronged carving-forks, as represented by fig. 2.

It will thus be perceived that the body of our improved knife-sharpener is of a compact and ornamental shape, and also such a shape as enables it to be readily and securely placed upon the tines of a carving-fork; and when so placed, the said sharpener will be in the best possible position for using the same, whilst the fork will form the very best possible handle for holding the shapener whilst it is being used by the carver. And when the carver has sharpened his knife, he can readily withdraw the sharpener from the fork and place it beside the dish to be used again whenever it may become necessary.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The four-eared and laterally-grooved body a c c c c of our improved knife-sharpener, when the shape thereof is such as will enable it to be placed in a working position upon the tines of a fork, substantially as herein set forth.

Also, the combination of the annularly-grooved rollers b b with each other and with the peculiarly-shaped body a c c c c of our improved knife-sharpener, substantially as herein set forth.

Also, the combination of emery or corundum with the highly-tempered metallic ridges of knife-sharpeners, substantially in the manner herein set forth, by which the said gritty substance will act conjointly with the said metallic ridges in the reduction of knives, &c., to sharp-cutting edges.

Z. C. ROBBINS. H. A. ROBBINS.

Witnesses:

G. B. Towles, W. Burris.