

JAMES W. HANKENSON.

Improvement in Box-Openers.

No. 127,342.

Patented May 28, 1872.

FIG: 1.

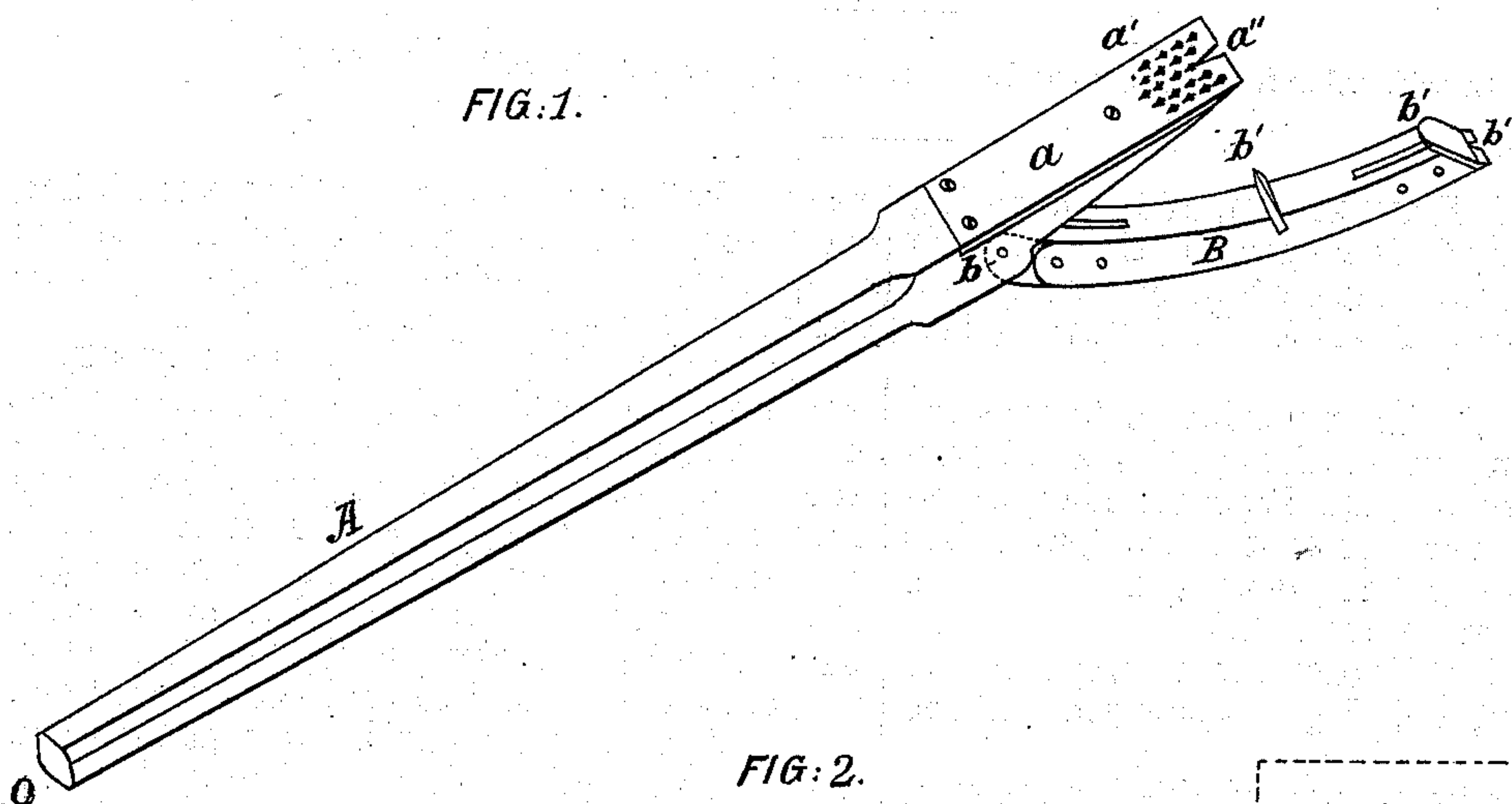
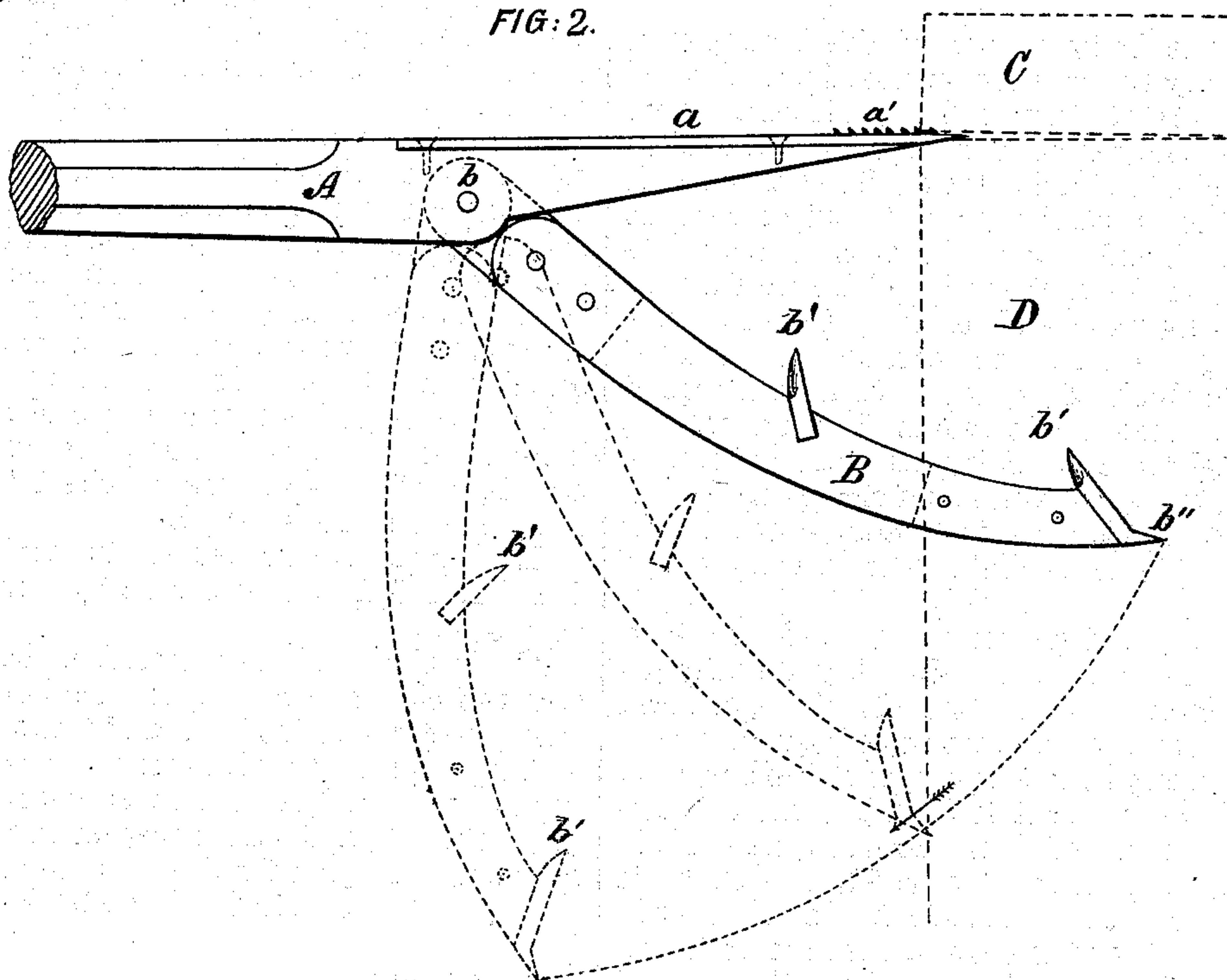


FIG: 2.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. HANKENSON, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOX-OPENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,342, dated May 28, 1872.

I, JAMES W. HANKENSON, of Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin, in the State of Minnesota, have made certain Improvements in Box-Openers, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to produce an improved implement for opening and handling packing-boxes; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of the parts that together make the implement, as will more fully hereinafter be described.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective of the implement, and Fig. 2 a side view of the same.

A is the body or bar of the box-opener, which may be of wood or metal; if of wood it has a metal plate, *a*, firmly attached at its forward end, which is brought to a thin edge by straight inclined sides at the extreme end, is serrated or roughened on its upper side, as seen at *a'*, and has a slit or cleft, *a''*, made centrally in the sharp end, which forms a claw for drawing nails, and forms a wedge in shape by being thicker as the distance is extended from the sharp edge; or, if made of metal, it has the same shape and conditions without the metal plate *a*. B is a curved arm hinged to lever or bar A, and has a sharp edge, *b''*, of metal at its extreme outer end, which makes it adjustable as to distance from the point of bar A.

By this construction, when used as a box-opener the thin edge of bar A will easily enter the joint between the body of the box and its cover, and the sharp edge of curved arm B is held firmly against the side of the box, and, as the lever or bar A is forced down, the edge of arm B is forced into the wood, and arm B becomes a fulcrum, by which the cover is raised from box D, as seen in dotted lines in Fig. 2; and, as the edge of the lever is forced further in between the cover and the body of the box, the point of the arm B may be adjusted higher on the side of the box, and con-

sequently the lever will raise the cover higher, while the roughened upper side of the bar will prevent any slipping back of the bar A in being used to lift the cover of the box.

In the handling of heavy boxes great advantage is had from having an implement that a purchase can be used in rolling or turning them; and to do this successfully the curved arm B is hinged to bar A at *b*, so that it will be capable of freely turning, as seen in Fig. 2 in broken lines. This arm B has two or more sharp metal projections, *b' b'*, placed on the inner curved side and toward the forward end of bar A, and at such an angle that they will embrace and take hold of a corner of a box, or will enter into and take hold of the side of the box when the implement is used as a "cant-hook" to turn over or around such boxes as may need this kind of movement. At the extreme outer end of the curved arm B is a sharp edge, with a slit, *b''*, centrally cut therein, and by which it becomes useful for pulling small nails or tacks when required, and is also of use in removing cards or tags that are frequently nailed upon the lids or tops of boxes.

This construction makes it useful both as a box-opener and box-handler, and will be desirable in all establishments where boxes are to be opened and handled.

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

The implement herein described, having the straight side *a*, serrated or roughened at *a'*, the opposite side inclined and terminating in a sharp edge, and cleft to form claws for pulling nails, the adjustable fulcrum-arm B having point *b''*, and sharp projections *b* and *b'*, in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

JAMES W. HANKENSON.

Witnesses:

BENJA. F. KINGMAN,
CHAS. H. WOODS.