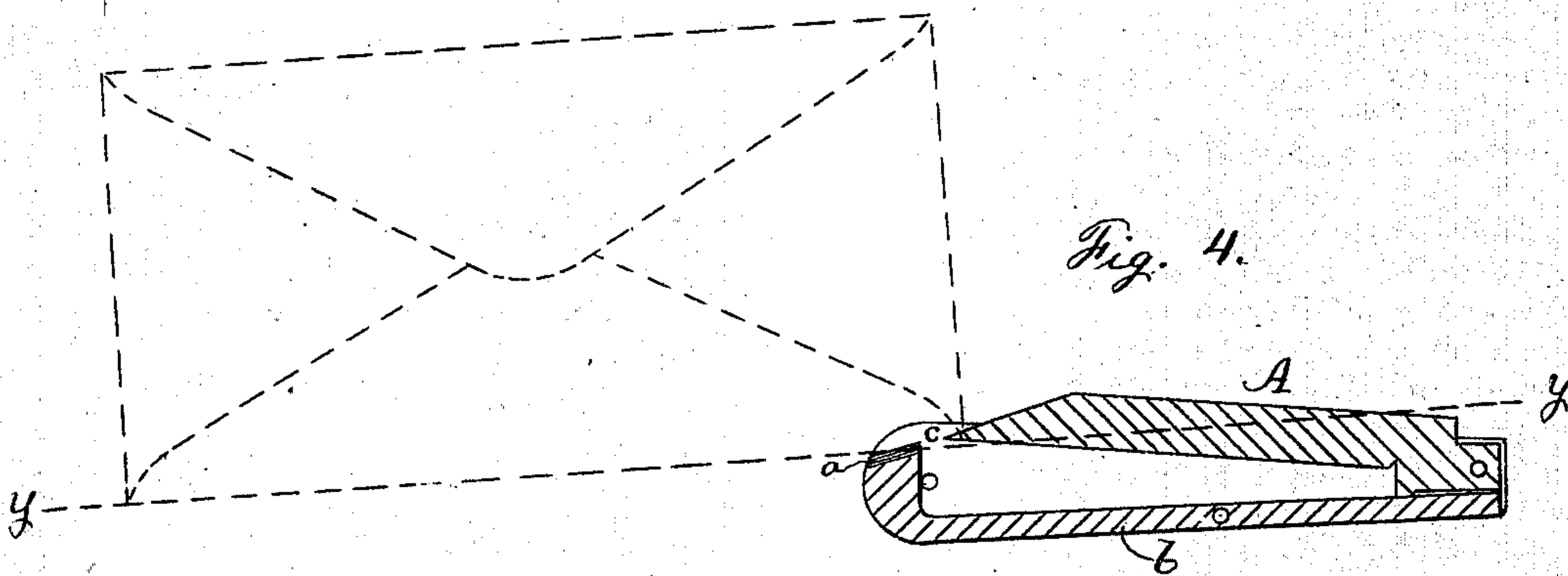
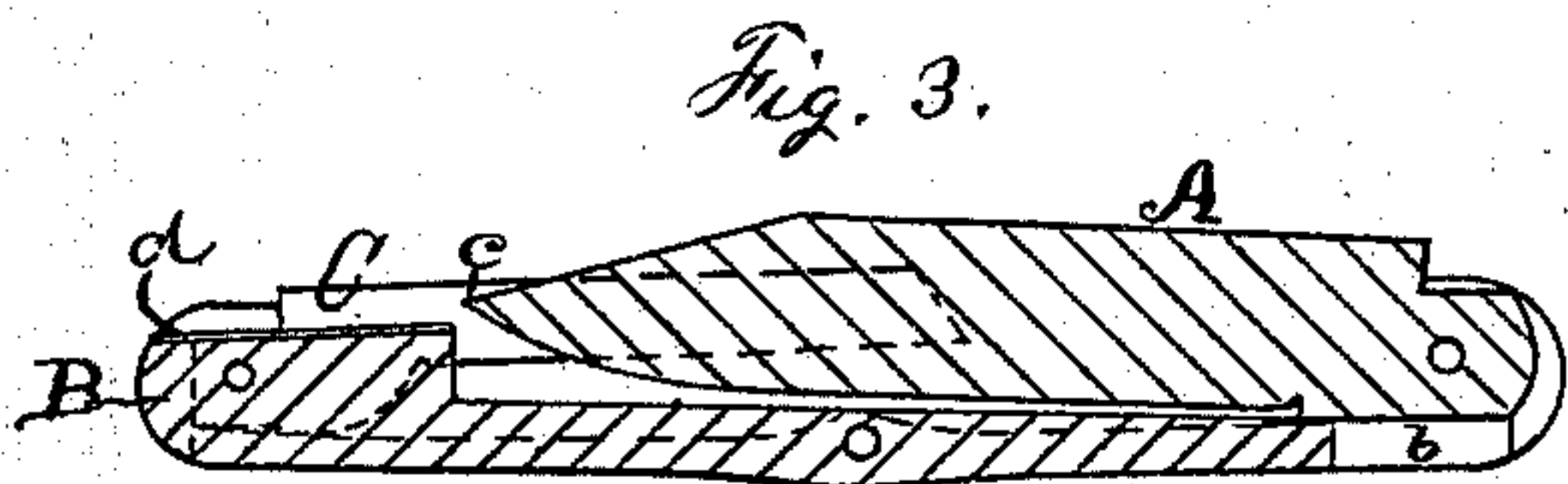
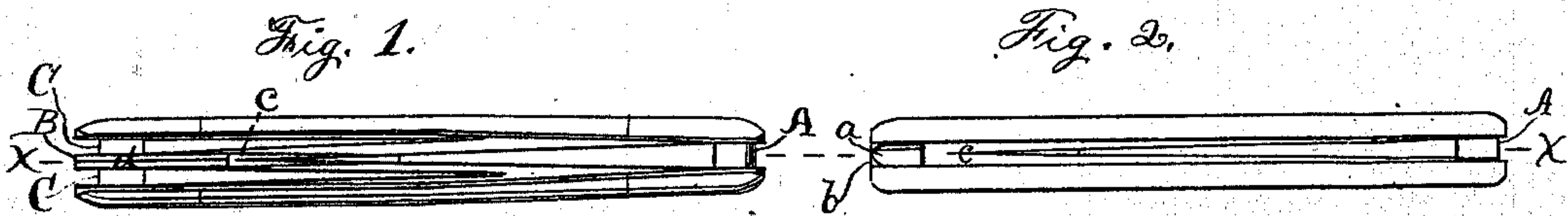


G. S. HASTINGS, Jr.
Envelope Openers.

No. 139,312.

Patented May 27, 1873.



Witnesses.
George W. Watson
Miles L. Peck

Inventor.
Glover S. Hastings Jr.
By James Shepard Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GLOVER S. HASTINGS, JR., OF PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO
HIMSELF AND EDWARD N. PIERCE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN ENVELOPE-OPENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **139,312**, dated May 27, 1873; application filed
November 20, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GLOVER S. HASTINGS, Jr., of Plainville, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a certain Improvement in Envelope-Openers, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists of a new and improved article of manufacture, to wit, a pocket-knife, having the portion immediately opposite the point of one or more of its blades grooved or cut away, so that the ordinary knife-blade, when closed, may be used as a letter opener, as hereafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figures 1 and 2 are top views of the open edge of a pocket-knife, which embodies my invention; and Figs. 3 and 4 are sectional views of the same on line *xx* of Figs. 1 and 2.

In order to apply my invention to a one-bladed knife I either form a groove, *a*, (see Figs. 2 and 4,) at the heel of the spring *b*, or cut said heel entirely away, so that it will fall so far below the point *c* of the blade *A* that a straight line run from the end of the heel or bottom of the groove *a* to the edge of the handle near its opposite end, will cross the blade *A* a little back of its point, as indicated by the broken line *yy* in Fig. 4.

When the blade is open it may be used for all the usual purposes of a pocket-knife, and when closed it may be used for a letter or envelope opener, as follows, viz: Enter the point *c* of the blade *A* in the lower corner of the envelope, as indicated in Fig. 4; then draw it along, taking care to have its lower edge fol-

low nearly on the line *yy*, and the blade will cut said edge of the envelope open.

If desired to apply my invention to a three-bladed knife, (see Figs. 1 and 3,) I insert a piece, *B*, when making the knife, between the two small blades *C C*, of a width which will throw the blades apart sufficient to allow the edge of a filled envelope to pass readily between them. The edge *d* of the piece *B* is brought down below the point *c* of the blade *A* the same distance, as before described, for the heel of the spring *b*, Figs. 2 and 4, and the operation of the knife is the same as before described.

In a similar manner I intend to apply my invention to knives having various numbers of blades.

The convenience of having a pocket-knife which, without scarcely any additional cost, will answer this double purpose, is apparent.

I claim as my invention—

A new and improved article of manufacture, a pocket-knife, having the portion immediately opposite the point of one or more of its blades, grooved or cut away to a distance a little below said point, when said cut-away portion is arranged with an otherwise ordinary pocket-knife handle and its folding-blade, in the manner and for the purpose described.

GLOVER S. HASTINGS, JR.

Witnesses:

ROBERT C. USHER,
EDWARD N. PIERCE.