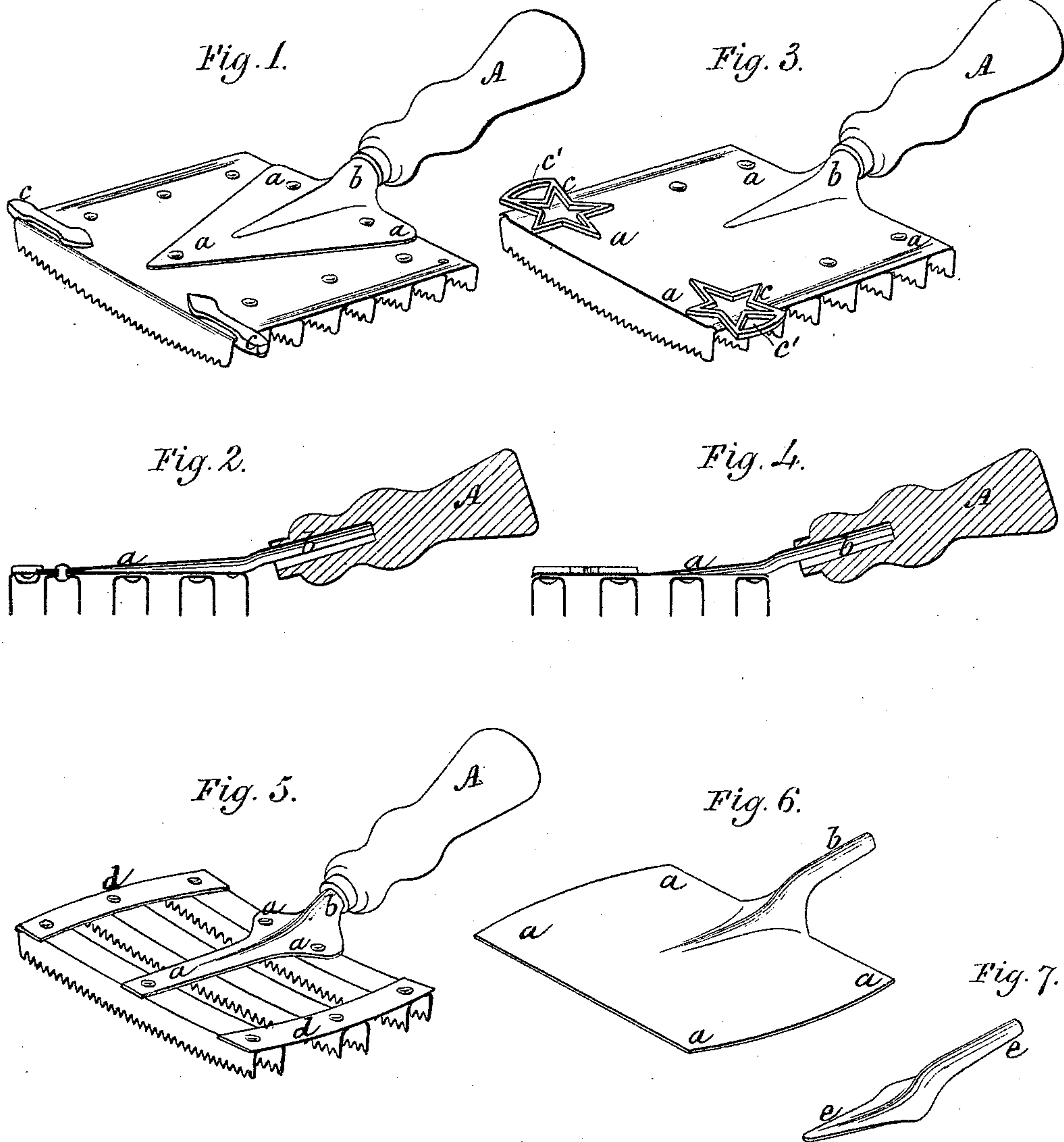


M. SWEET.
Curry-Combs.

No. 151,673.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN CURRY-COMBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **151,673**, dated June 2, 1874; application filed May 15, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILES SWEET, of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Curry - Combs; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents, in perspective, one form of the curry-comb. Fig. 2 represents a section through the same. Figs. 3 and 4 represent similar views of a modification of the curry-comb in question. Fig. 5 represents, in perspective, another form of the curry-comb involving the same general principle in a modified form or shape. Figs. 6, 7, and 8 represent detached pieces of the curry-comb, which will be specially referred to hereinafter.

It is most common to make the trowel and shank portion of a curry-comb of malleable cast-iron. But however carefully the cast-iron shanks may be annealed or made malleable, they will break by the least hard usage, such as "knocking" to rid the curry-comb of dust. I am aware, however, that wrought-iron shanks and trowels have been made by upsetting, and hammering or drawing down the wrought metal. This is too expensive.

My invention consists in curry-combs in which the shank and trowel are made of sheet metal, by which means I avoid the liability of fracture of the shank, and cheapen the manufactured article very materially, while it is as strong and durable as the best. My invention further consists in a knocker or guard for a curry-comb, the portion of which that projects beyond the end of the curry-comb is open, so as to serve the double purpose of a knocker and as a means or device by which the curry-comb can be hung up when not in use.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawings.

In Fig. 1 the trowel *a* and the shank *b* are

represented as formed in one piece, and out of sheet metal. The shank *b* is inserted in the ordinary handle *A*. The back, teeth, and knockers or guards *c* are of the usual form and construction.

In Fig. 3 the trowel *a* and shank *b* are made in the same way as those in Fig. 1, viz: struck up out of a single piece of sheet metal, and only differ from that in Fig. 1 in that the trowel *a* extends over the whole back of the curry-comb, or forms the back of the curry-comb. The shank *b* is inserted in the ordinary handle *A*. The guard or knocker *c*, in this case, is cast in open work, but particularly that portion of it which extends beyond the end of the curry-comb, so that the curry-comb may be hung up by this open part *c'* upon an ordinary nail or peg.

Figs. 2 and 4 represent, respectively, sections through the curry-combs, (shown at Figs. 1 and 3,) and show how far the shank portions *b* enters the handles *A*. If found desirable, a pin or rivet may pass through the handle and shank, or the shank may be lengthened, if so preferred.

In the modification (shown in Fig. 5) the trowel *a* and shank *b* are struck up in the same way, and out of a single piece of sheet metal. The trowel is of a different form or shape, but is a part of the shank, which, as in the above-described plans, is inserted in the handle *A*. The curry-comb, as shown in Fig. 5, is what is termed an open-back comb, and its ends or end bars *d* are made curved or circular, and these end pieces may serve the purpose of guards or knockers, so that the latter, as separate devices, may be dispensed with.

In Fig. 6 I have shown a trowel, *a*, and shank *b* in one piece, and punched out and struck up from very thin sheet metal. In such case a stiffener, *e*, of sheet metal or of malleable iron may be laid under the shank *b*, and with the shank be inserted in the handle. This stiffener needs no special fastening to the trowel or shank; for when laid under the shank and trowel, and the latter is riveted to the bars or back of the curry-comb, and then se-

cured to the handle, the stiffener cannot move out of its place.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim in curry-combs is—

1. The shank and trowel in one piece of sheet metal, punched and stamped up, as and for the purpose described and represented.

2. The knocker or guard, with the opening

c' in its projecting end, to serve the double purpose of knocker and as a device to hang up the curry-comb by, as described and represented.

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