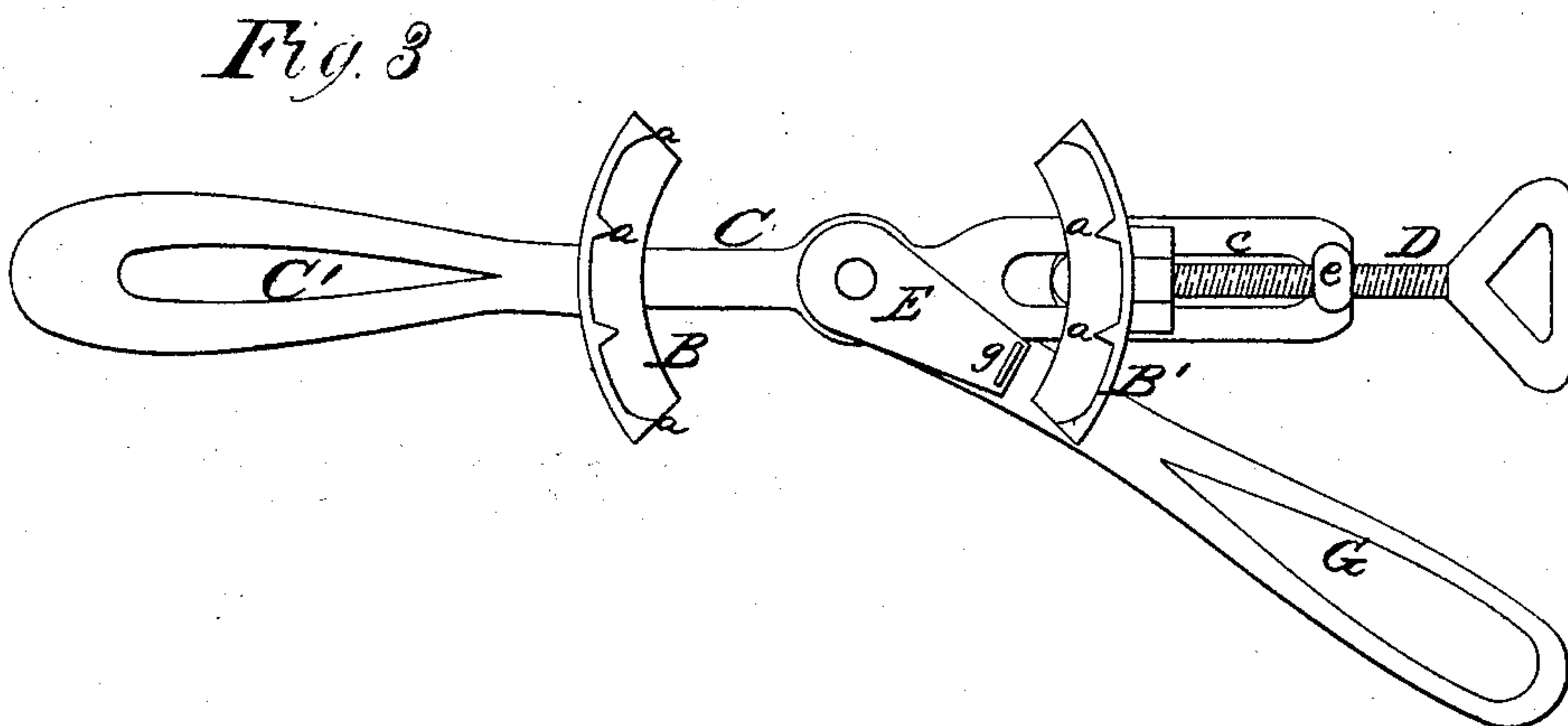
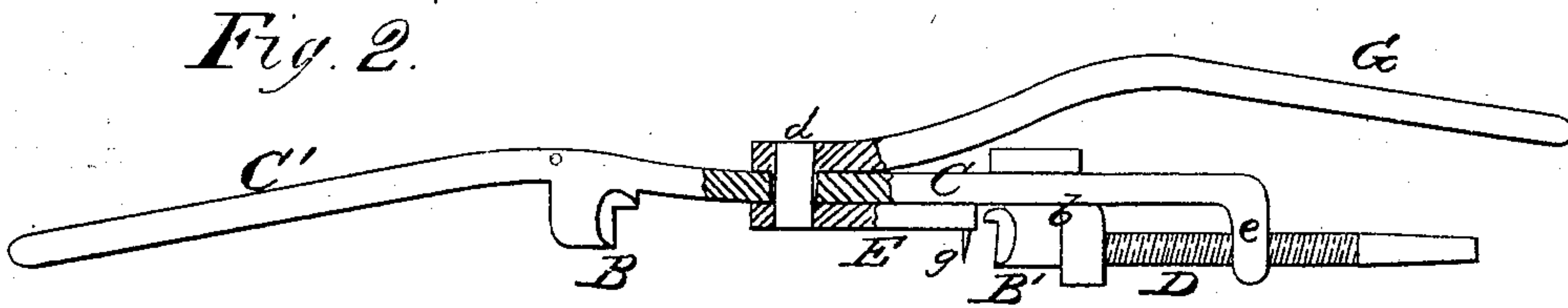
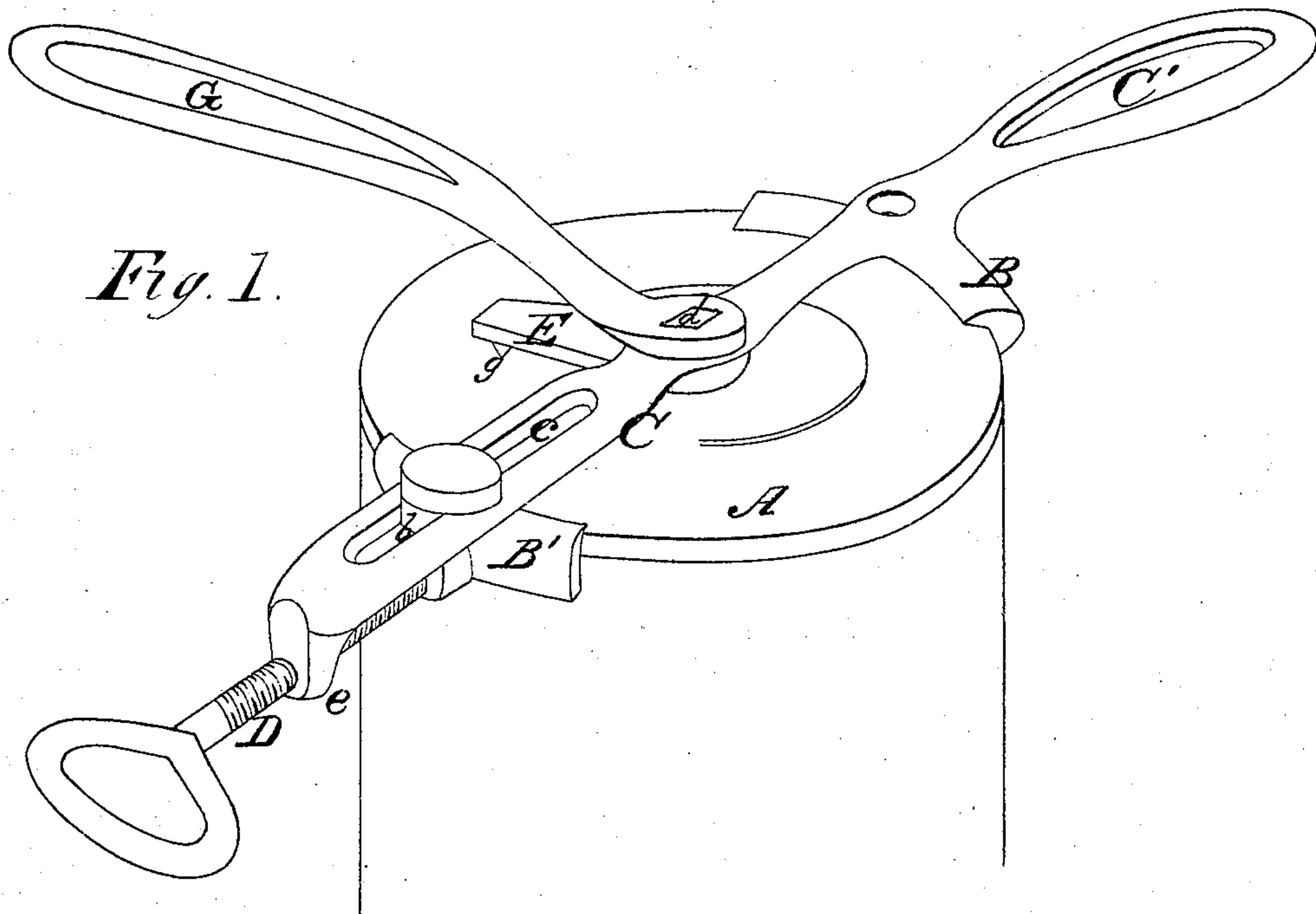


W. H. HOCKENSMITH & G. A. WEANING.

Can-Openers.

No. 151,878.

Patented June 9, 1874.



WITNESSES

Mary S. Utley.
George C. Upham.

BY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. HOCKENSMITH AND GEORGE A. WEANING, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT; SAID WEANING ASSIGNOR TO SAID HOCKENSMITH.

IMPROVEMENT IN CAN-OPENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **151,878**, dated June 9, 1874; application filed May 23, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM H. HOCKENSMITH and GEORGE A. WEANING, of Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Adjustable Can-Openers; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of our can-opener in position for working, and Fig. 2 is a sectional view. Fig. 3 is a plan view.

This invention has relation to cutters for opening metallic preserve cans or boxes; and it consists in the combination of adjustable clamps on a suitable handle with a cutter, which is applied to a circularly-movable arm fixed to the stem of a circularly-movable handle, whereby the device can be firmly clamped to cans of different diameters and the cans securely held while operating the cutter, as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

The following is a description of our improvement:

In the annexed drawings, A designates a preserve-can of a circular form having my improved opener secured to it. B B' designate two segment-shaped clamps, the clamping-edges of which have spurs *a* formed on them for firmly taking hold of the cans. The segment-clamp B is cast with a cross-bar, C, but the clamp B' is cast separate from this bar and applied to it by means of a portion, *b*, working in a long slot, *c*, and adjustable by means of a screw, D, which is tapped through

a lug, *e*. By means of the two clamps B B' and the screw D the opener can be securely applied to cans of different diameters, and by means of a handle, C', which is cast with the cross-bar C, and which is slightly depressed, as shown in Fig. 2. Between the two clamps B B', and secured to a vertical stem, *d*, which is free to turn about its axis in the cross-bar C, is an arm, E, having a V-shaped knife, *g*, applied to it for cutting through the end of a can. The knife-carrying arm E is arranged on the lower side of the cross-bar C, and on the upper side of this bar is a handle, G, which is secured to the stem *d*, as shown in Fig. 2.

When the opener is applied to a can, and firmly secured thereto, a circular piece may be cut entirely or partly out of the head of the can by simply turning the handle G about its axis, as represented in Fig. 1; at the same time the can should be held by grasping the handle C', which affords a very convenient and a strong hold.

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

The cross-bar C, slotted and constructed with a handle, C', and a lug, *e*, in combination with clamps B B', and a cutter-carrying arm, E, on the stem of a circularly-movable handle, G, substantially as described.

In testimony that we claim the above we have hereunto subscribed our names in the presence of two witnesses.

WM. H. HOCKENSMITH.

GEOR. A. WEANING.

Witnesses as to W. H. HOCKENSMITH:

GEORGE E. UPHAM,

JAS. B. LOOMIS.

Witnesses as to G. A. WEANING:

JOHN E. POND,

W. B. HINCKS.