

(Model.)

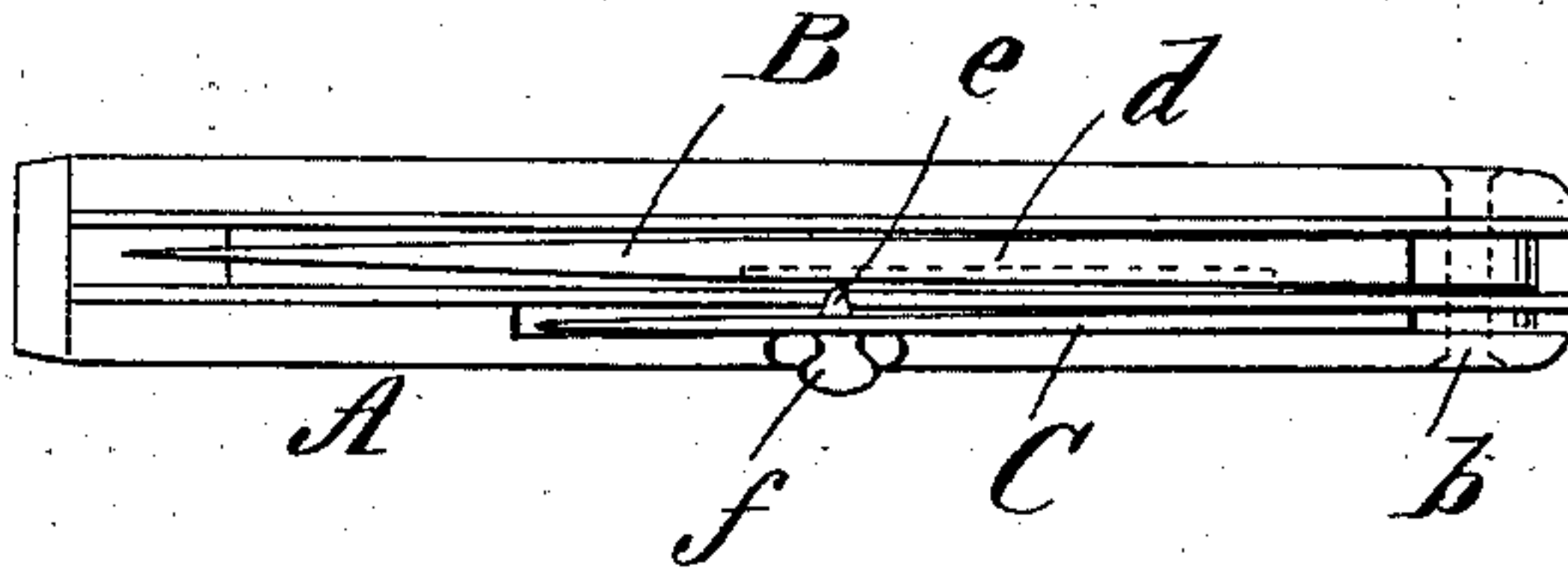
G. W. DUBOIS.

POCKET KNIFE.

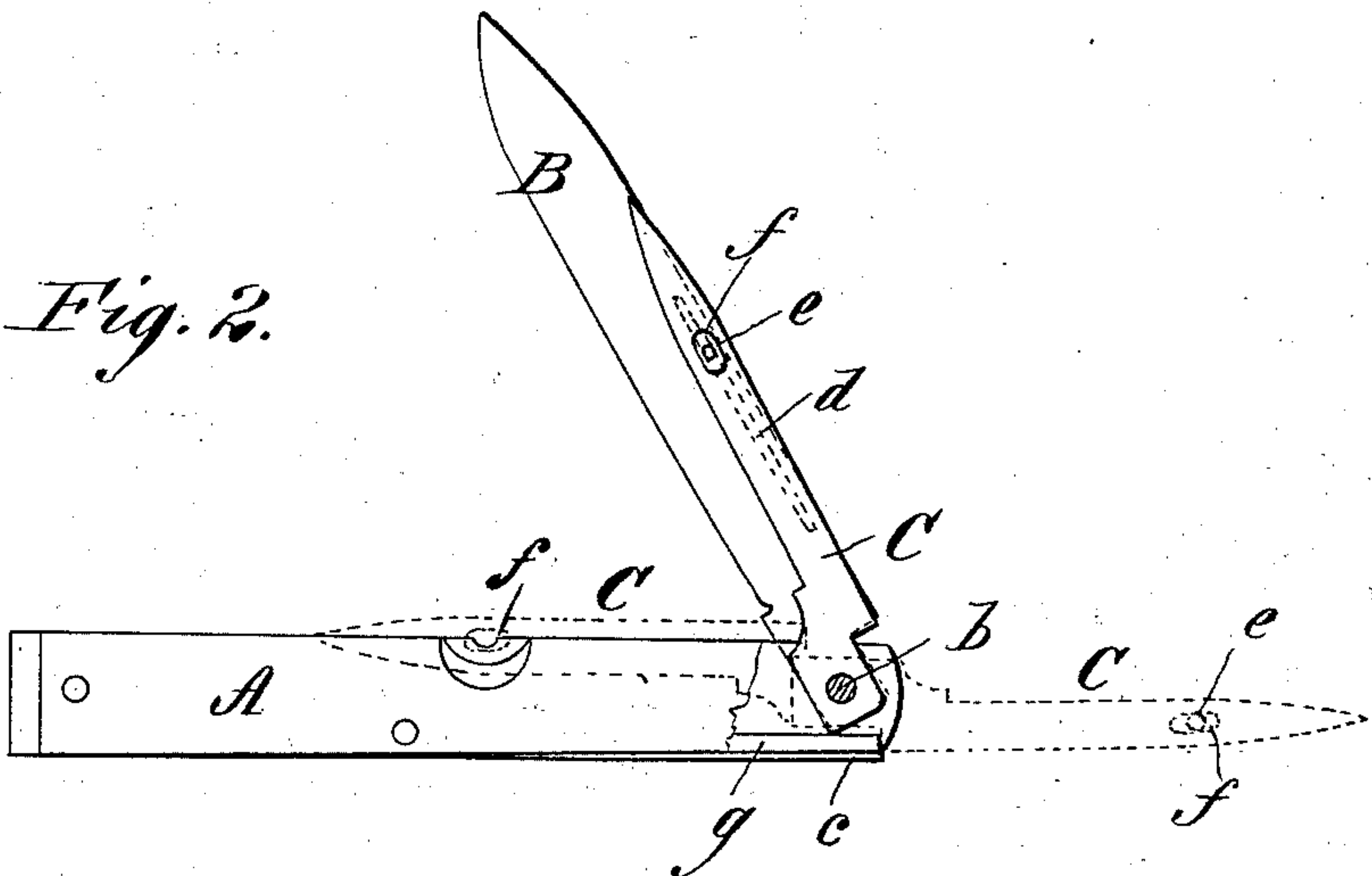
No. 280,150.

Patented June 26, 1883.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

*Donn Twitchell.*  
*C. Sedgwick*

INVENTOR:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. DU BOIS, OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE.

## POCKET-KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 280,150, dated June 26, 1883.

Application filed December 16, 1882. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. DU BOIS, of Wilmington, in the county of New Castle and State of Delaware, have invented certain  
5 new and useful Improvements in Pocket and other Knives, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to knives having one or more pivoted blades which close into the  
10 handle of the knife, the same including pen-knives, clasp-knives, and pocket-knives of various kinds.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification,  
15 in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 represents a face view of a one-bladed knife with a blade-lifter applied, and representing the whole as closed. Fig. 2 represents a side view of the same with the blade-lifter as engaged with the blade and as when  
20 used in the act of lifting it; also showing by dotted lines said lifter, which is here represented as also forming a nail-cleaner, as closed within the handle and as extended for separate use.

A in the drawings indicates the handle of a one-bladed pocket-knife, which handle may be made with an interior metallic boxing in  
30 the usual or any suitable manner.

B is the blade, pivoted by a rivet, *b*, to the handle, and controlled, as usual, by a back-spring, *c*, also provided or formed with the ordinary nail-notch, *d*.

35 C is the pivoted blade-lifter, arranged to shut within the handle near the one side of the blade, and capable of being thrown up and back after the fashion of a pivoted blade. Said lifter, which should be made of steel, is  
40 formed with a lifting stud or projection, *e*, on its side next to the blade and opposite the notch *d* when the blade and its lifter are closed. It is also provided on its opposite side with a protruding knob, *f*, or any other suitable and  
45 projecting lifting attachment, capable of convenient manipulation from the exterior of the handle. Said lifter C is set so that, except when pressed inward toward the blade, its stud *e* will be clear of the blade and not enter  
50 the notch *d*.

To apply the blade-lifter C, supposing the

blade B and said lifter C to be closed, the thumb is first pressed on the knob or lifting attachment *f* to spring the lifter laterally, so that its stud *e* engages with the notch *d* of the  
55 blade, and afterward the lifter, thus held pressed laterally inward, raised by the action of the thumb on the knob *f* to lift the blade B. Said blade-lifter may have its pivot to one side of the pivot of the blade, and only be used to lift  
60 the blade to a position where it will be held half open by its spring *c*, after which the blade may be worked fully open or back in the ordinary way; but it is preferred to arrange the  
65 pivot of the lifter in concentric relation with the pivot *b* of the blade, and to utilize the same rivet for both the blade and lifter pivots, whereby the blade-lifter will have the same radius, or work from the same center, as the  
70 blade, and may consequently be used to wholly open or throw back the blade to its fullest extent. Furthermore, said pivoted blade-lifter may be fitted to work free or loose; but it is preferred to have it controlled by a light back-spring, *g*, similar to the control of the blade  
75 by the spring *c*, as it will then open and close with a snap, and when fully thrown back or open will be held open by its spring for separate use, if required, and when closed will be kept so. Such blade-lifter C may be con-  
80 structed or shaped, as shown in the drawings, to also form a nail-cleaner; or it may be fashioned to form a glove-buttoner or any other appendage that will form a useful adjunct to a knife. The stud *e* on the blade-lifter it is  
85 desirable to make round and blunt, whereby it may be utilized in connection with the forward end of the handle of the knife as a guide, as a margin-scriber for note, letter, or other writing-paper. Where the knife has more  
90 than one blade each of them may be provided with a similar lifter.

A blade lifter or opener applied to a knife, as described, will be found exceedingly useful where the blade is a stiff one, especially by  
95 ladies, many of whom are unable to lift the blades of a good knife with their thumb or finger nails. The motion of operating said lifting device is also such a natural and easy one that the lifter may be used in the dark as  
10 well as in the light; also, when the eyes are fastened upon a book or otherwise occupied,



and the mind differently employed, a simple and intuitive, as it were, motion of the thumb being all that is necessary.

It here should be observed that, neither as regards its purpose or construction is my invention to be confounded with a cam, lever, and spindle device used in combination with a permanently-pivoted blade or blades and blade-spring, for removing at will the tension of the blade-spring from the blade. The invention also equally differs from a combination of the two halves of a knife-handle and blade with a pivoted shoulder and catch, and a locking-rod, whereby the knife cannot be opened until the rod has been withdrawn from the catch and the catch turned half round.

If desired, a separate blade-spring may be dispensed with, and the spring *g* be made sufficiently strong and be suitably constructed to control both the blade-lifter and the blade or blades. In fact, the lifter, which is a positive and mechanical one, does not necessarily require any change in the general construction of the knife, and may be applied to any knife at a mere trifling expense.

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

1. The combination, with a knife-handle and a pivoted blade having a nail-notch, of the elastic lifter *C*, pivoted concentrically with the blade, and having a stud, *e*, adapted to be pressed into the nail-notch, as shown and described.

2. The pivoted lifter *C*, having the stud *e* on one side and the knob *f* on the other, in combination with a knife-blade pivoted in its handle, whereby said lifter may be conveniently manipulated, as described.

3. The combination, with a pivoted knife-blade and its handle, of an engaging and disengaging blade-lifter pivoted to operate from the same center of motion as the blade, substantially as described.

GEO. W. DU BOIS.

Witnesses:

A. GREGORY,  
C. SEDGWICK.