

(Model.)

O. HUFF.
POCKET KNIFE.

No. 294,471.

Patented Mar. 4, 1884.

Fig. 1.

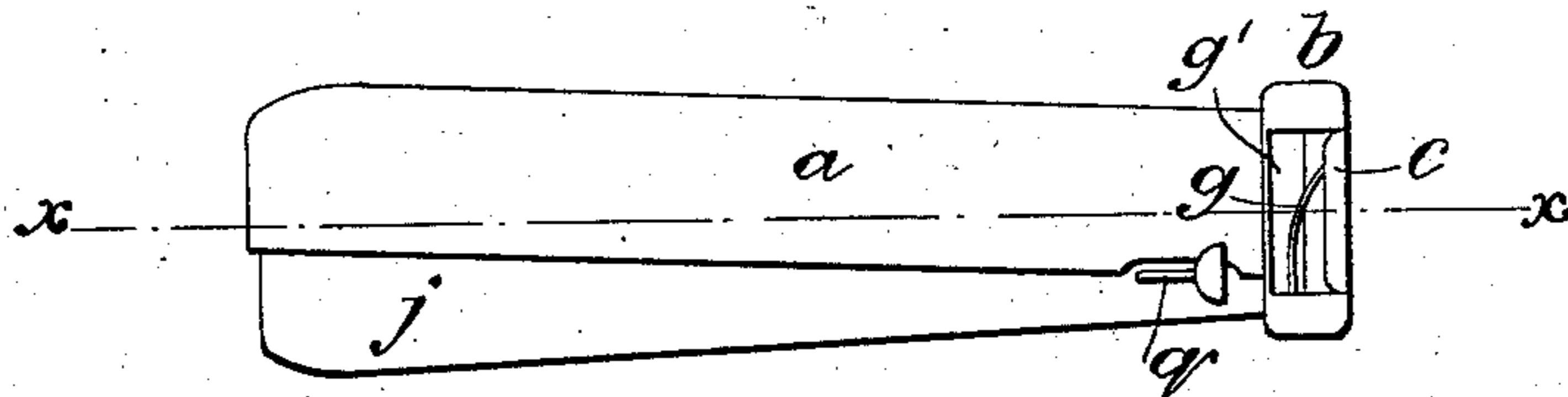


Fig. 2.

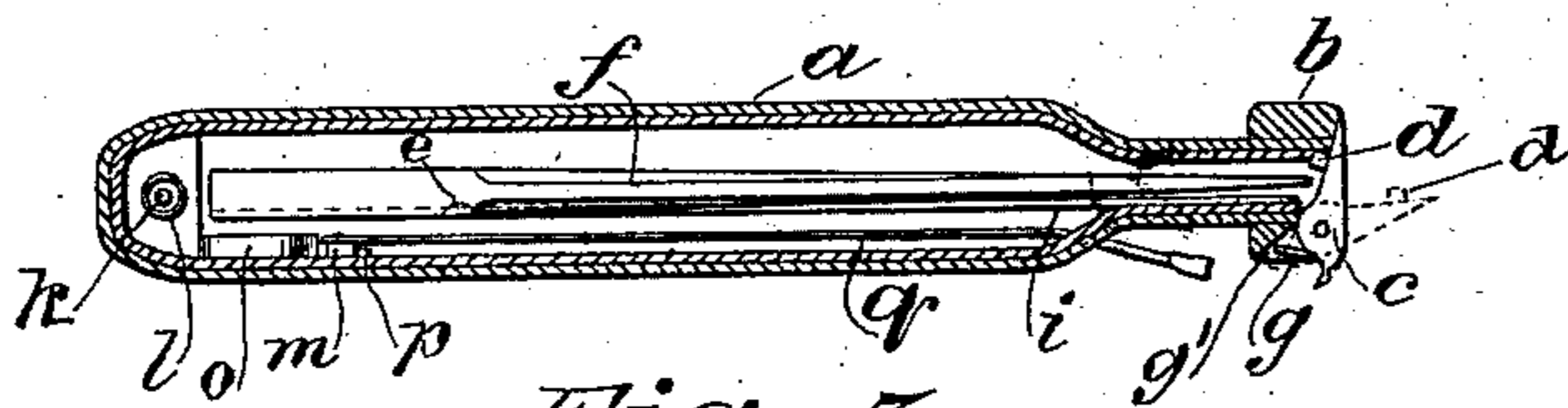


Fig. 3.

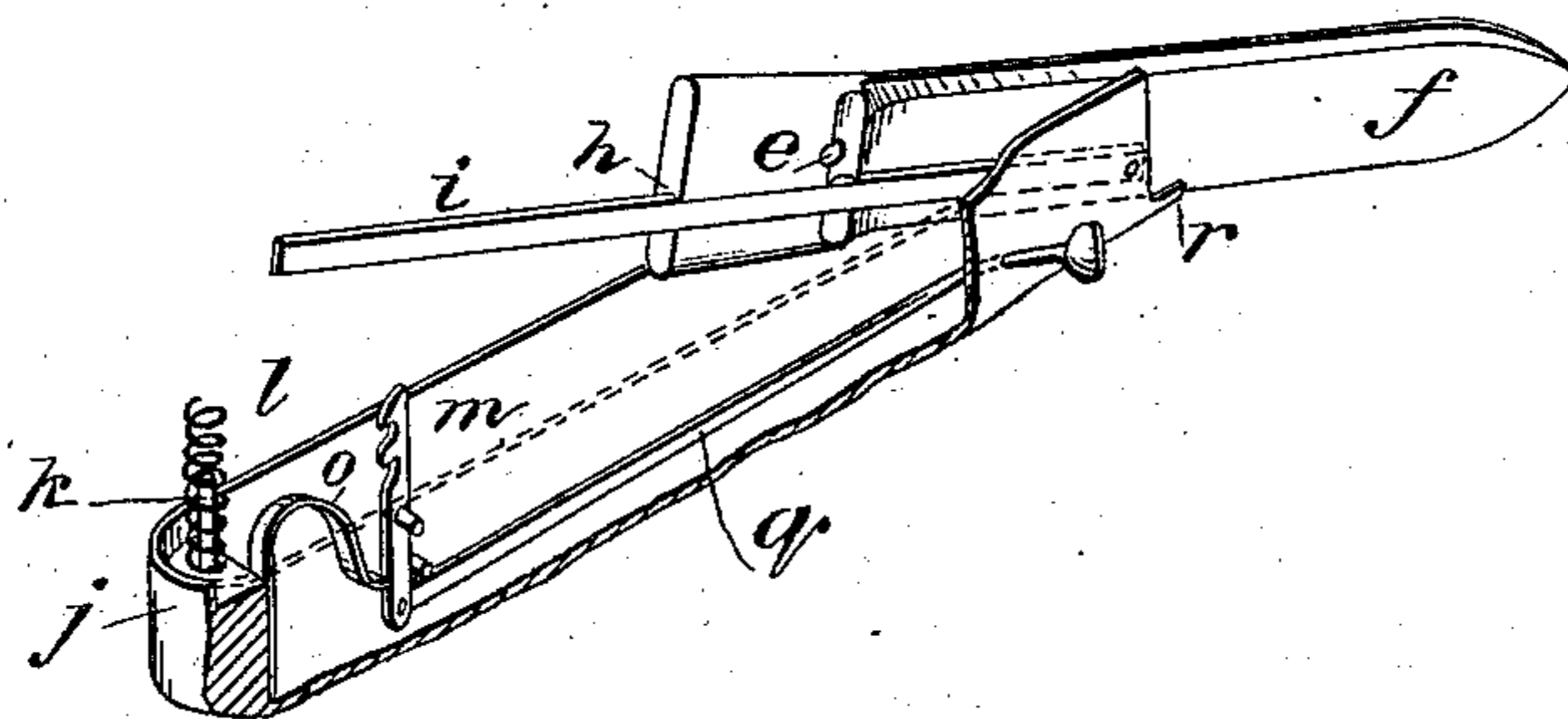
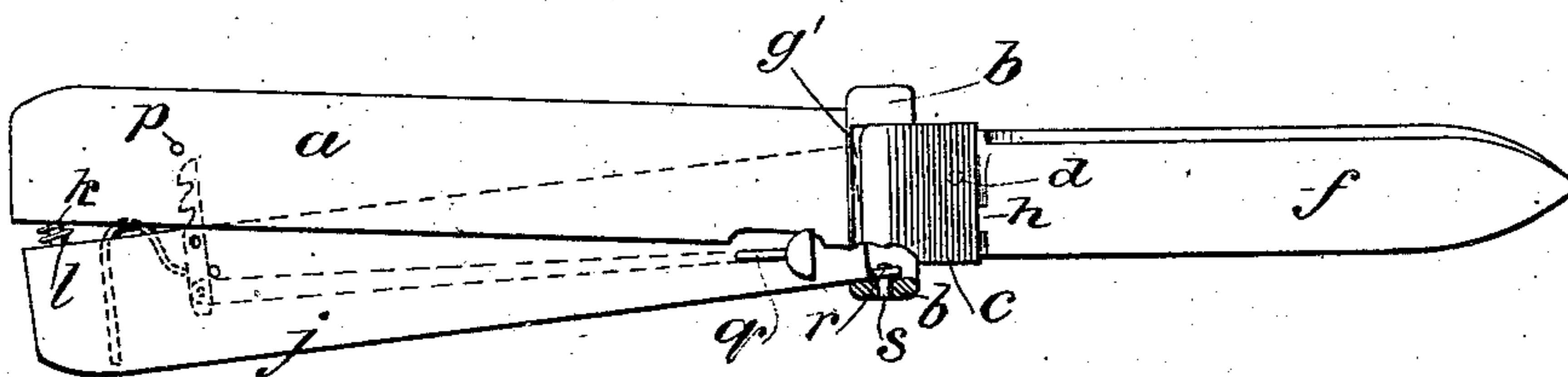


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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ORISON HUFF, OF LYMAN, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND ALMON F. HILL,
OF WOODFORD'S, MAINE.

POCKET-KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 294,471, dated March 4, 1884.

Application filed July 12, 1883. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORISON HUFF, of Lyman, in the county of York and State of Maine, have invented a new and Improved Pocket-Knife, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention consists of a knife of peculiar construction adapted to be opened and closed with one hand.

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

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my new and improved pocket-knife as it appears when closed. Fig. 2 is a sectional plan view of the same, taken on the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a broken perspective view of the blade and lower section of the handle and the operative parts connected thereto removed from the upper section of the handle, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the knife as it appears when open.

The upper section, *a*, of the handle of the knife is formed or provided with the collar *b* at its forward end. This collar is suitably recessed at one side, as shown at *g'*, to receive the cap *c*, which is pivoted in the recess, and formed with the stud *d* for entering the socket *e*, made in the shank of the blade *f*, for locking the blade in position for use, and the cap is acted upon by the spring *g*, placed in the said recess, for pressing it forward to cause the stud *d* to enter the socket *e*, and also to cause the cap to close the end of the section *a* when the knife is closed. The blade *f* is of ordinary construction, except that it is formed with the said socket *e*, and has the dovetailed groove *h* formed in it, adapting the blade to be held by and to slide upon the bevel-edged bar or plate *i*, that is pivoted in the lower section, *j*, of the handle, for preventing the sharp edge of the blade from running in contact with the said section while the blade is being opened and closed. The lower section, *j*, of the handle is made to fit within the upper section, *a*, and is provided with the pin *k* at its rear end, on which the coiled spring *l* is placed for forcing the sections of the handle apart at their rear ends; and this section *j* is also provided with

the pivoted and notched locking-plate *m*, that is pressed rearward at its notched end by the action of the spring *o* upon its opposite end, for causing it to engage (when the sections are pressed together by the hand of the user against the pressure of the spring *l*) with the projection *p*, formed in the section *a*, for holding the sections of the handle together—the position they will occupy both when the blade is in position for use, and also when it is closed within the handle.

Attached to the inner end of the locking-plate *m* is the rod *q*, which reaches forward near to the forward end of the section *j*, and passes through the section to the outside, where it is enlarged to form a thumb-piece, by which it may be easily moved longitudinally backward for operating the plate *m*, for unlocking the sections of the handle for opening and closing the knife. The forward end of the section *j*, where it passes within the collar *b*, is formed with the projection *r*, which is perforated to engage with the pin *s*, fixed in and projecting from collar *b* of section *a*, for pivoting the sections *a j* together, and for constituting a fulcrum, so that when the sections of the handle are squeezed together when the knife is open they will grasp the shank of the blade and hold it firm.

To open the knife, hold it loosely in the right hand and with the thumb press backward upon the projecting end of the rod *q*. This will detach the notched plate *m* from the projection *p* and permit the spring *l* to throw the two parts of the handle open a short distance. The thumb will now be pressed upon the rear edge of the cap *c*, which will turn the cap on its pivots to the position shown in Fig. 4. The forward end of the knife will then be held downward, and the knife given a quick longitudinal downward movement with a sudden stop, which will throw the blade out of the handle into position for use. The thumb will now be removed from the cap *c*, which will be forced forward by the spring *g*, causing the stud *d* of the cap to enter the socket *e*, which will hold the blade against all danger of backward movement. The sections *a j* of the handle will now be pressed together by a slight squeeze of the

hand, which will cause the sections to grasp the shank of the blade and cause the plate *m* to engage with projections *p*, and thus lock the sections in closed position, thus holding the blade with sufficient firmness for use. To close the knife, the sections *a j* of the handle will first be unlocked by pressing backward upon the rod *q*. The cap *c* will then be operated by the thumb to lift the stud *d* out of socket *e*, and then by turning the point of the blade upward it will drop of its own accord back into the handle. The sections of the handle will then be squeezed together and locked, when the knife is ready for the pocket. The sliding outward and inward movement of the blade *f*, it will be seen, is upon the rod or plate *i*, which holds the sharp edge of the blade, so that it will not be dulled by moving against any part of the handle.

I do not confine myself to the use of the handle with a knife-blade, as other tools—such as a screw-driver, flat file, fine saw, chisel, gage, or similar tool—might be used with it, and, instead of using the pin *d* for holding the blade from backward movement when in position for use, a ratchet device might be used for that purpose, either alone or in connection with the stud *d*.

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

1. A knife-handle formed of two hollow sections, *a j*, the upper one having collar *b*, with pin *s* and projections *p*, and the lower one having rear pin, *k*, surrounded by a spiral spring, a pivoted spring-pressed and notched locking-plate, *m*, an operating-rod, *q*, and a perforated projection, *r*, as shown and described.

2. In a hollow knife-handle, the front collar, *b*, carrying a pivoted spring-pressed cap, *c*, in its recess *g'*, and a stud, *d*, on the cap *c*, in combination with a loose blade, *f*, having a socket, *e*, in its shank, whereby the blade may be securely held inside or outside the handle, as described.

3. A hollow handle having the bevel-edged plate *i*, pivoted at its front end, in combination with a loose blade, *f*, having the dove-tailed groove *h*, whereby the blade may slide in or out of the handle without striking its edge, as described.

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Witnesses:

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