

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

R. AXTEN.  
CAN OPENER.

No. 339,515.

Patented Apr. 6, 1886.

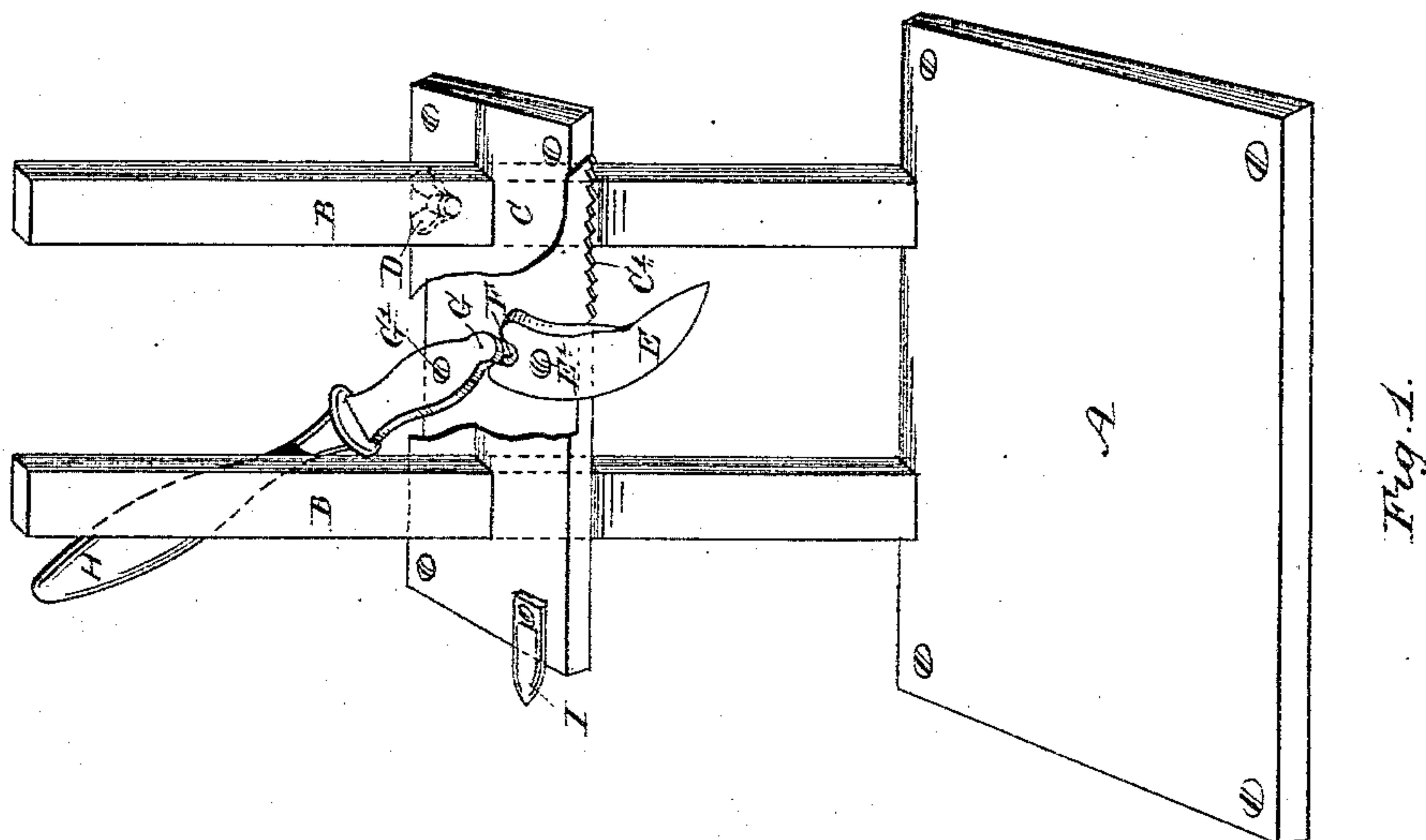


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:  
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Frank. R. Harding

Inventor  
Robert Axten

Attorney.

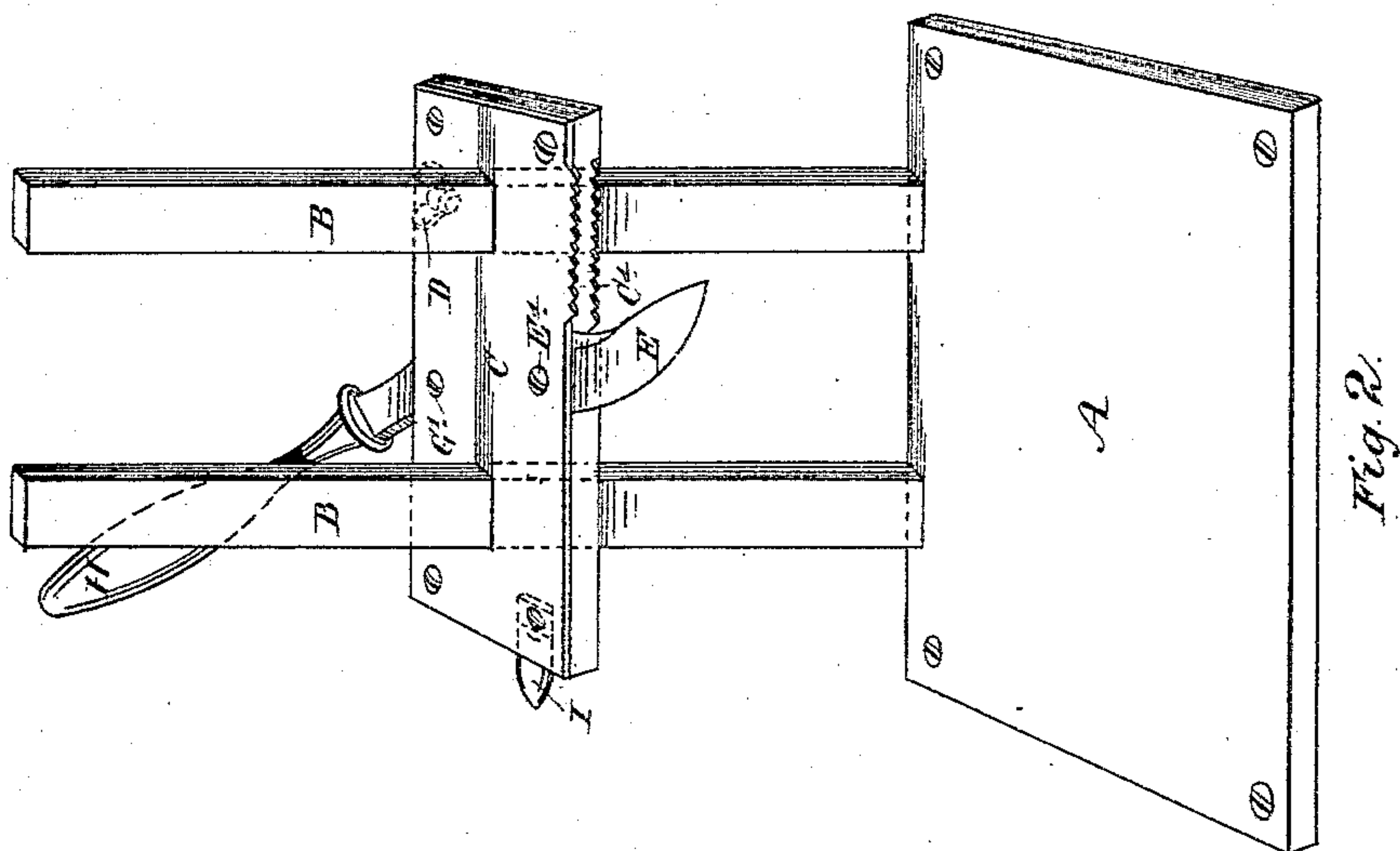
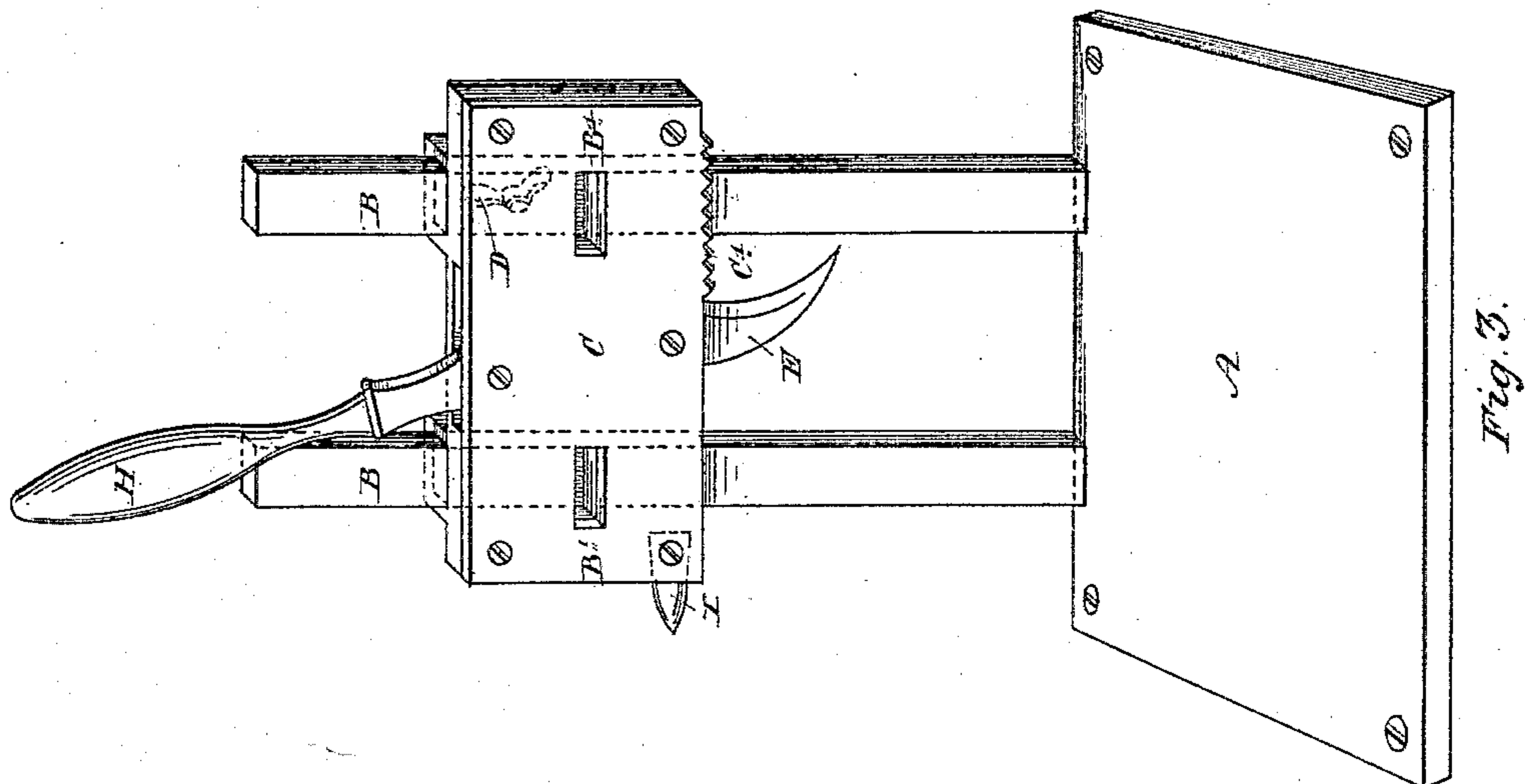
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Chas M. Werle  
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Robert Axten  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT AXTEN, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

## CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 339,515, dated April 6, 1886.

Application filed December 11, 1885. Serial No. 185,375. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT AXTEN, a subject of the Queen of England, residing at London, England, have invented new and useful  
5 Improvements in Tin-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

10 Figure 1 is a perspective view, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a like view, but not in section; and Fig. 3 is a like view of a modified form.

The frame may be made of wood or metal, preferably the latter, and consists of a table,  
15 A, which may be secured to the counter of a shop, or to a table or other suitable thing or place. B B are posts fixed to A, and serving to carry the movable knife-box C, which slides up and down the posts, and may be fixed in  
20 any required position by a thumb-screw, D, or other suitable means, according to the height of the tin to be opened.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the knife-box C and knife E are horizontal, so that a cylindrical tin  
25 standing on end upon the table A would have its top cut off, the cut being made in the cylindrical shell, and not in the flat top.

In Figs. 3 the knife-box and knife are vertical, so that the cut would be in the top and  
30 not in the cylindrical part, this method being preferable where the can contains liquids, some of which would be lost if the cut were made in the side.

It will be observed that in Fig. 3 the knife-box has slots B' at right angles to those which  
35 are in use, so that the box can be lifted off the posts and put on again in a horizontal position, like those in Figs. 1 and 2.

The action of the knife will be understood  
40 by reference to Fig. 1.

The knife E is pivoted at E' in the knife-box C, and has at its back end a jaw, F, with which engages the short lever G, which carries the handle H, by which it is worked.  
45 Lever G is pivoted at G' in the knife-box C, and it will be readily understood that as it is worked about the pivot by the handle H being worked backward and forward a similar movement, but in the opposite direction, is  
50 imparted to the knife E. By this arrange-

ment the handle H and knife E move in the same direction, so that a person standing at the right-hand side in Fig. 1 would make the cut by pulling the handle toward him, which is a more convenient arrangement than if E  
55 and H were in one and centered at E', as then the motion would be reversed.

Instead of the jaw F and tooth G, a pair of toothed segments gearing together may be  
60 used.

I is a pricker, against which the can is pressed so as to make a hole to facilitate the insertion of the knife and save the knife-point.

In use the can is pricked and placed upon the table A, the knife inserted and the can  
65 pressed against the teeth or rough edge C' of the knife-box, which assists in holding it against the cutting-edge. The can is turned around as required until the cutting is finished. The rough edge of the cut is turned  
70 outward, which greatly facilitates the turning out of the contents.

The knife-box C is also preferably made of metal.

Having now particularly described and as-  
75 certain the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is—

1. In a device for opening tins, a pair of rigid uprights, a plate or knife-box moving  
80 thereon, a knife pivoted to said knife-box, and a lever for operating the knife, the parts being combined as set forth.

2. The combination, in a tin-opener, of a pair of rigid uprights, a plate or knife-box  
85 having two pairs of slots or perforations at right angles to each other adapted to engage said uprights, and a knife pivoted to said knife-box and provided with a suitable operating-lever, whereby the knife may be op-  
90 erated either vertically or horizontally, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand in the presence of the two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT AXTEN.

Witnesses:

ALFRED J. BOULT,  
HAROLD WADE.