

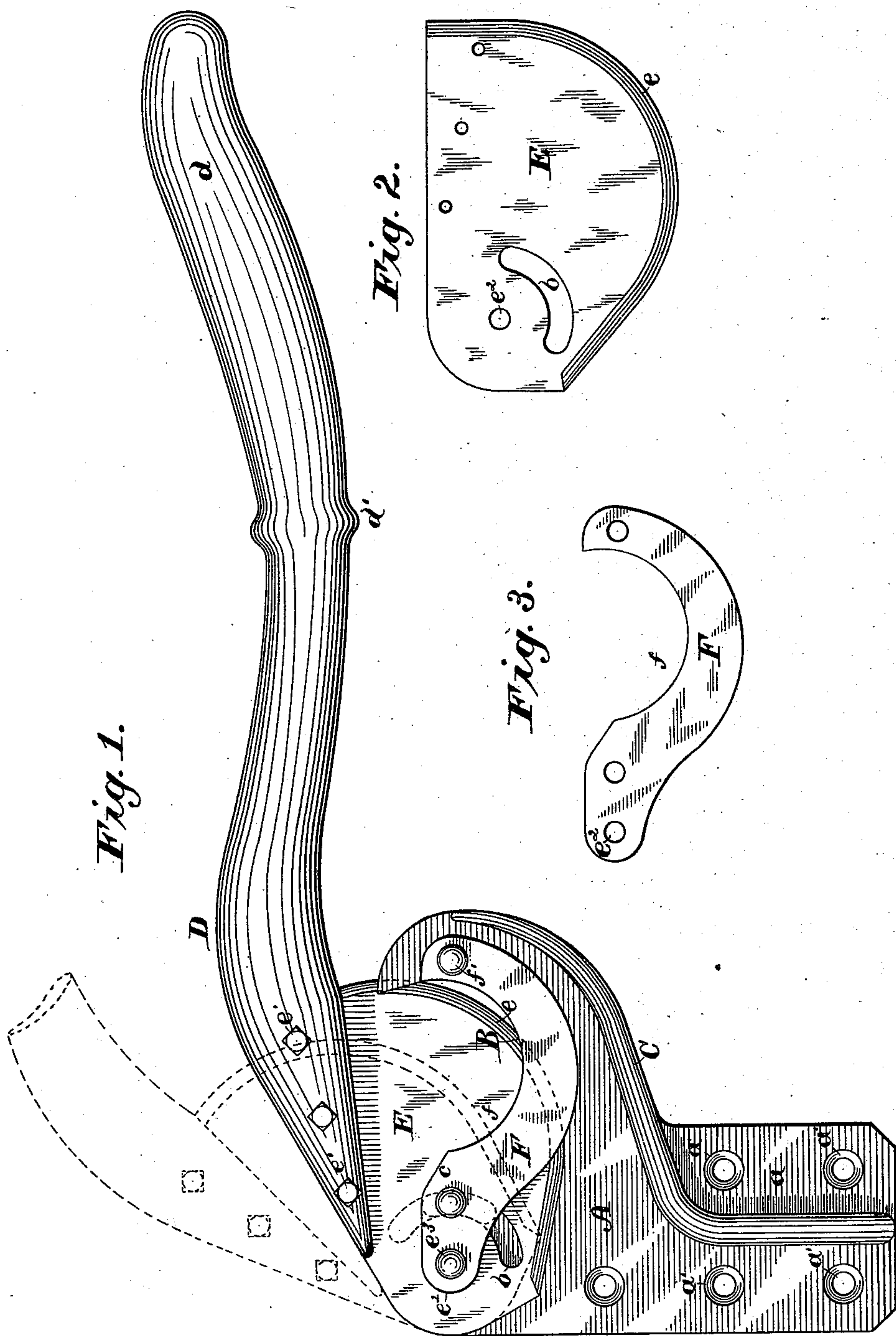
(No Model.)

B. HEATON & P. HOHMANN.

ROPE CUTTER.

No. 378,004.

Patented Feb. 14, 1888.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENTON HEATON AND PHILIP HOHMANN, OF HUMANSVILLE, MISSOURI.

## ROPE-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 378,004, dated February 14, 1888.

Application filed October 14, 1887. Serial No. 252,398. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, BENTON HEATON and PHILIP HOHMANN, both of Humansville, Polk county, Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rope-Cutters, of which the following is a specification.

The object of our invention is to provide a simple, strong, and efficient rope cutter that may readily be attached to any desired object.

Our invention consists, in combination with a rope-support having a curved rope-seat, a guide-plate between which and the support a curved cutting-knife is hinged, and in providing the knife with a curved slot, through which extends a guide-bolt.

The subject-matter claimed is pointed out at the end of the specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of our improved device, and Figs. 2 and 3 are detail views of the cutting-blade and its guide.

The rope-support A is preferably formed of cast-iron. It is provided with an arm, *a*, having screw-holes *a'*, to facilitate in securing it to a rope-reel or any other desired object. At its upper end the support is widened, and in the top a curved rope seat, B, is formed. A strengthening-rib, C, is formed on one side of the casting, extending along the edge of the upper portion, under the rope-seat, and down between the screw-holes. This construction enables us to form the main casting of small thickness, while the rib C gives the requisite stiffness and strength.

The cutting-knife D is formed with a long lever-arm, *d*, bent at its outer end to form a counterbalance, so that when the knife is lifted to the end of its upward movement it will be held open until forced down by the operator. The end of the arm may be rounded to form a handle, and may be provided with a guard-ring, *d'*. The cutting-blade E is formed of thin sheet-steel, having a knife-edge, *e*, and is secured to the lever-arm at its inner end by bolts or rivets *e'*. The end of the lever is split to receive the blade, or it may be provided with

a recess or socket therefor. A pivot-hole, *e<sup>2</sup>*, is formed in the blade near its outer end, through which extends a bolt, *e<sup>3</sup>*, secured also to the rope-support.

*b* indicates a curved slot concentric with the pivot-bolt *e<sup>3</sup>*. A bolt, *c*, extends through the slot, and is secured to the casting A. The curved slot *b* serves as a guide for the knife in its movements and limits its path.

A guide-plate, F, having a curved opening, *f*, that registers with the rope-seat B in the casting A, is secured to the casting by the pivot-bolt *e<sup>3</sup>*, the bolt *c*, and a bolt, *f'*. The cutting-blade works between the casting and the guide F. This guide not only serves to keep the knife in a straight path, but also prevents it from shearing off and insures a clean sharp cut of the rope.

Rope of any size may be cut in this improved device with rapidity and small exertion of power.

The blade is formed to cut the rope gradually. The lower part of the cutting-edge is curved in the arc of a circle much larger than the arc of the side of the cutting-edge next the handle. These two arcs gradually merge into each other, so that as the knife descends the knife will cut through the rope by direct pressure against it and also by a transverse movement through it.

We claim as our invention—

The combination of the rope-support having a curved rope seat therein, the guide-plate secured to the support, and the curved cutting-knife hinged between the support and guide-plate and provided with a curved slot, and a guide-bolt which extends through said slot.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

BENTON HEATON.  
PHILIP HOHMANN.

Witnesses:

W. H. BRIDGES,  
S. BHIG.