

(No Model.)

J. H. FISHER.
CAN OPENER.

No. 399,252.

Patented Mar. 12, 1889.

Fig. 1.

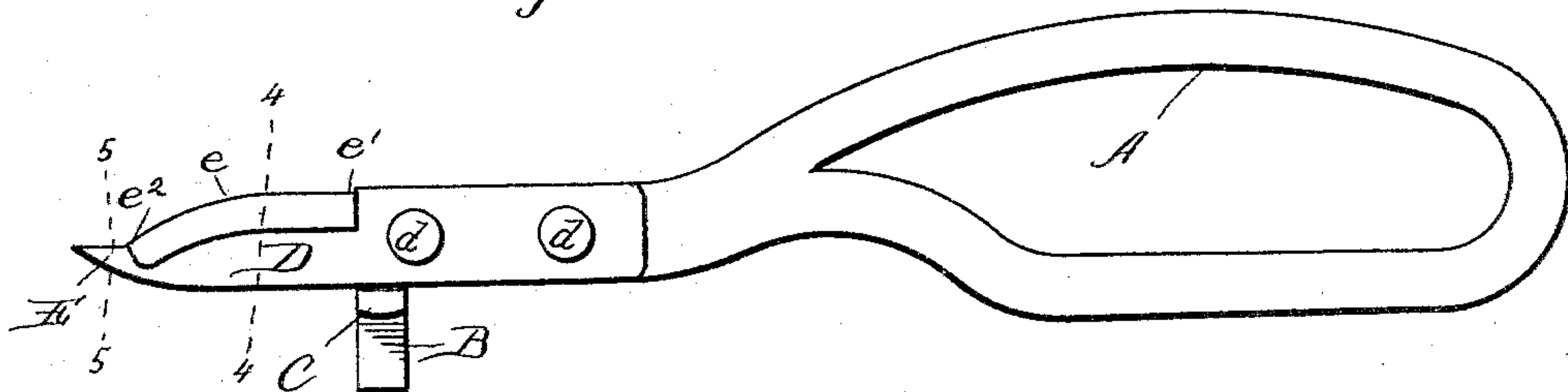


Fig. 2.

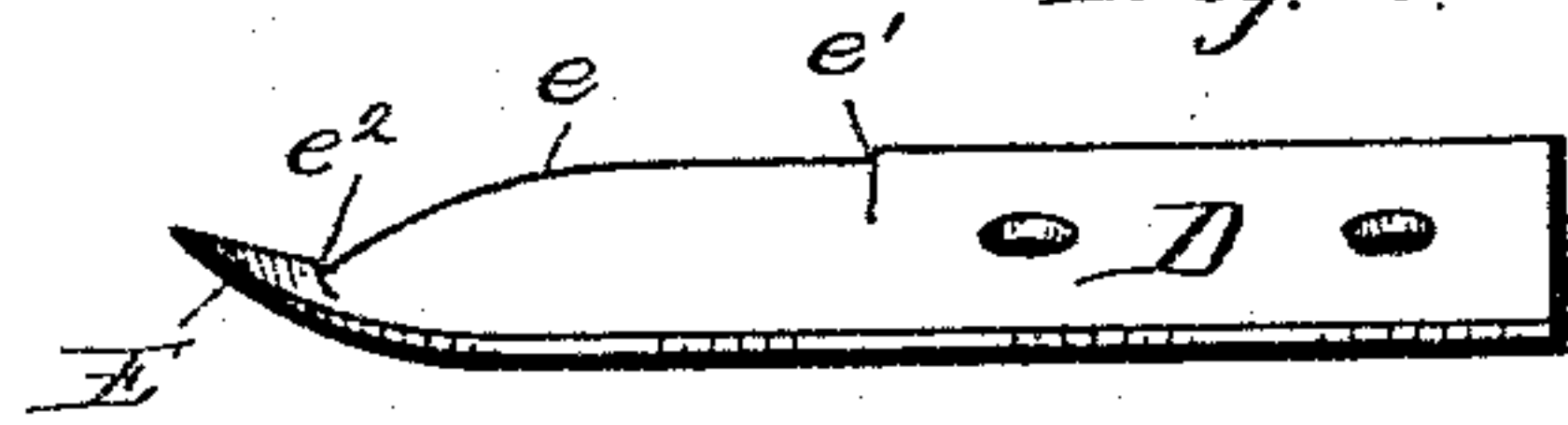


Fig. 3.

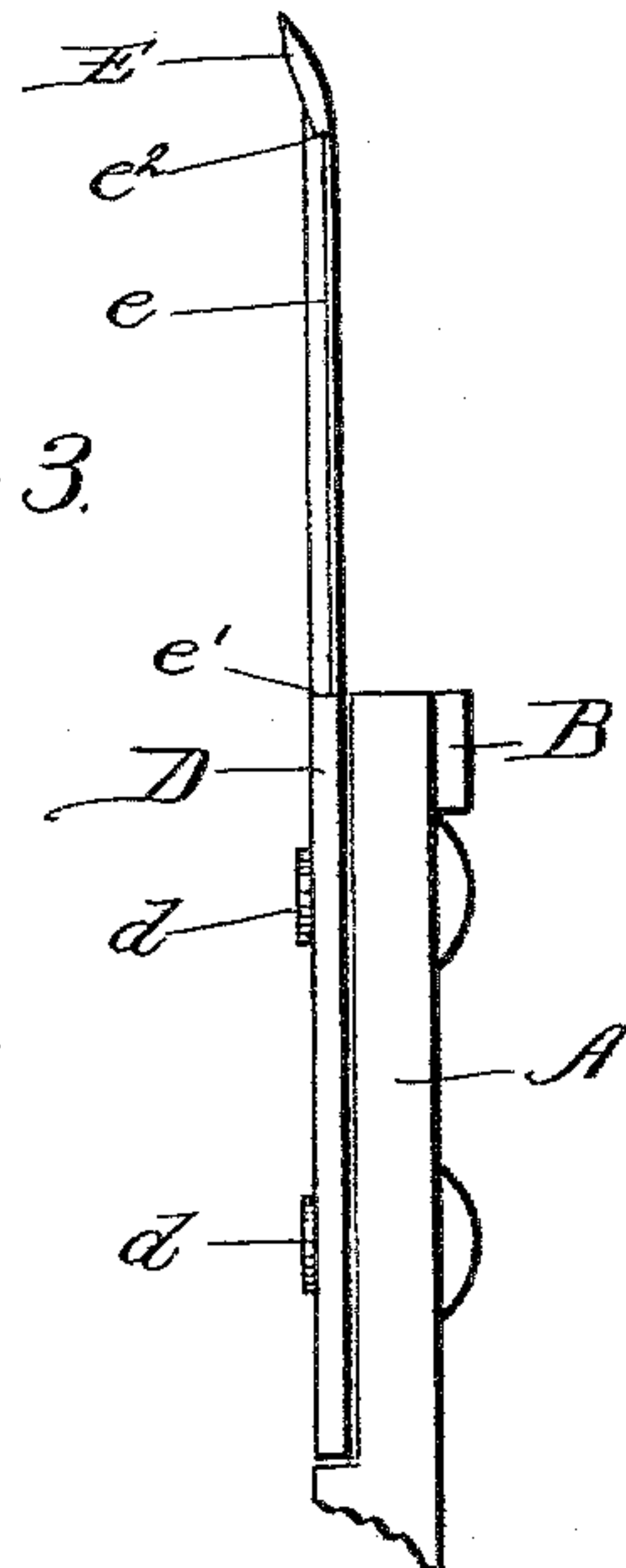


Fig. 4.

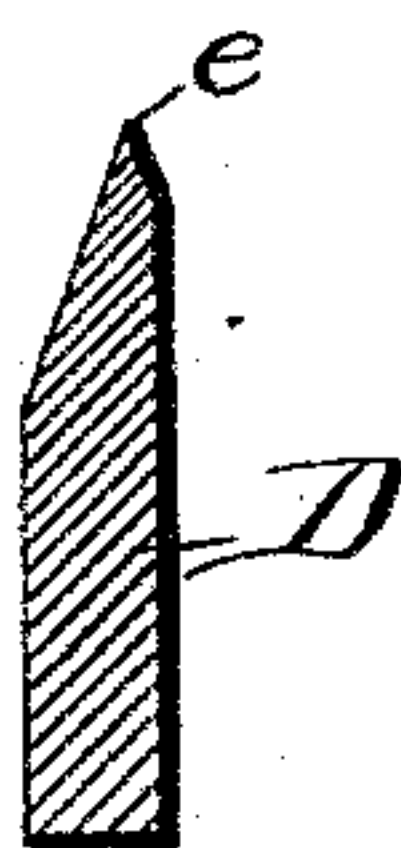
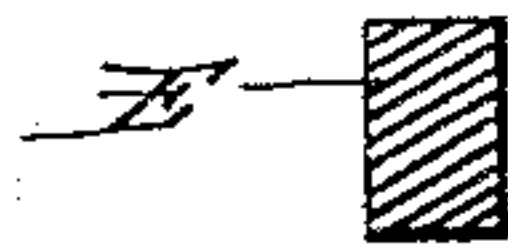


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH HYDE FISHER, OF DEERFIELD, ASSIGNOR TO ARTHUR J. SANDS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 399,252, dated March 12, 1889.

Application filed December 3, 1888. Serial No. 292,452. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH HYDE FISHER, a citizen of the United States, residing in Deerfield, in the county of Lake and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of can-openers having a blade sharpened upon its upper edge and operated in cutting after the manner of a lever of the first order, it being provided with a handle and a rest or shoulder adapted to find support upon the can and act as a fulcrum, and located between the blade and handle. As heretofore constructed, each time the handle is pressed down the entire blade is apt to be forced up through the tin being cut, so that after each cut it escapes from the slit and must be reinserted below the tin preparatory to the next cut, and unless very much care is used the opener is liable, when it thus escapes, to slip and hurt the hands of the person using it. To prevent this escape of the opener after each cut, and to retain its point below the tin, is the object of my invention, and such object is accomplished by providing the blade upon its severing side with a blunt or non-cutting point—that is to say, by providing it upon said side with a cutting-edge throughout a portion of its length and an unsharpened portion at the point. This unsharpened point, when it comes in contact with the under surface of the tin being severed, stops the cutting operation and notifies the operator that the limit of the cutting stroke has been reached. This occurs without any withdrawal of the point from the can, and as a consequence the positioning of the blade for the next cut will consist simply in moving the device forward. With this blunt point the opener need not be entirely withdrawn from the interior of the can until all the severing desired is completed.

This and other features of the invention are fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the can-

opener complete. Fig. 2 shows the side of the cutting-blade the reverse of that shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan or edge view of the cutting-blade, and Figs. 4 and 5 are enlarged cross-sections thereon at lines 4 4 and 5 5 of Fig. 1.

In said drawings, A represents the operating-handle, and B a guide affixed thereto and intended to rest against the edge of the can as the cutting proceeds, so that the line of severation may conform to the outline of the can.

C is a rest or shoulder on the side of the guide, which is intended to bear upon the top surface of the can and form the fulcrum upon which the opener works or oscillates.

D is the cutting-blade, and may be secured to the handle by rivets *d*, or in any other suitable manner. The cutting-edge of this blade is shown at *e* and extends from *e'* to *e''*, leaving beyond *e''* a point, E, which, however, is not sharpened so as to be able to sever the tin with its upper edge. In practice I prefer to leave it of its original thickness, as such thickness is sufficient to stop the cutting when the point comes in contact with the tin. Of course the very extremity of the point is beveled off from all sides, so it may serve as a puncturing-point and be capable of being jabbed through the metal of the can at starting. I sometimes bend this point E laterally, as shown at Fig. 3, as thereby I accomplish desirable results. For instance, in the case of round cans the extremity of the point will not be cutting into the side wall of the can, as would be the case if it were not deflected and the can were opened on a line immediately adjoining the side wall, and in all styles of cans it permits the cutting of the can in closer proximity to the side wall than would be practicable without it.

I claim—

1. The can-opener, the blade whereof is provided with an upper sharpened edge, *e*, and a point, E, blunt upon its upper edge, substantially as set forth.

2. The can-opener consisting of a handle, a blade having an upper cutting-edge and a

non-severing point, and a shoulder between the blade and handle adapted to rest upon the top of the can and act as a fulcrum, substantially as specified.

- 5 3. The can-opener consisting of a handle, a blade having an upper cutting-edge and a non-severing point, and a shoulder between

the blade and handle adapted to rest upon the top of the can and act as a fulcrum, and a side guide, B, substantially as specified.

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Witnesses:

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