

(No Model.)

C. H. CURTIS.
FRUIT GATHERER.

No. 405,017.

Patented June 11, 1889.

Fig. 1.

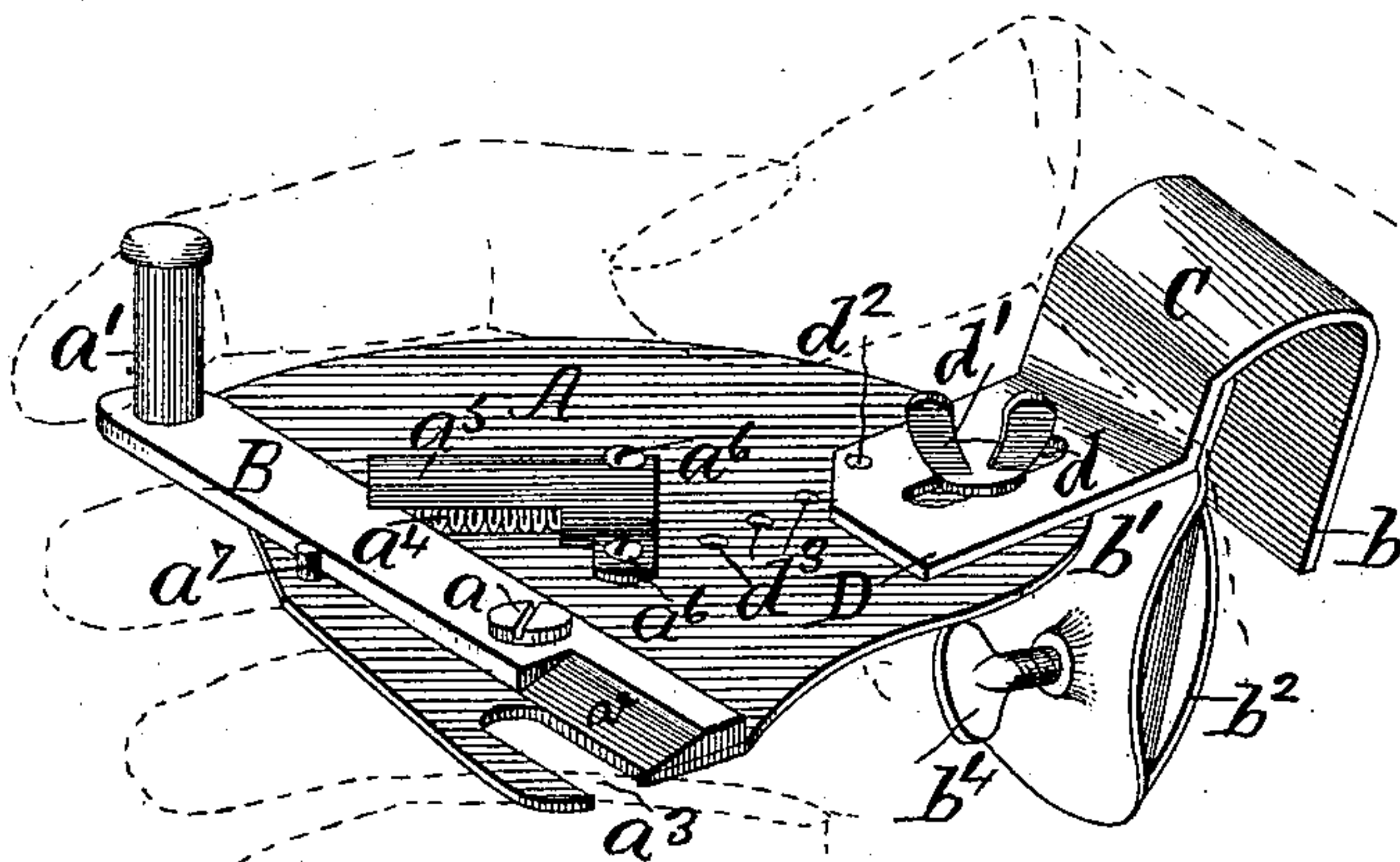


Fig. 2.

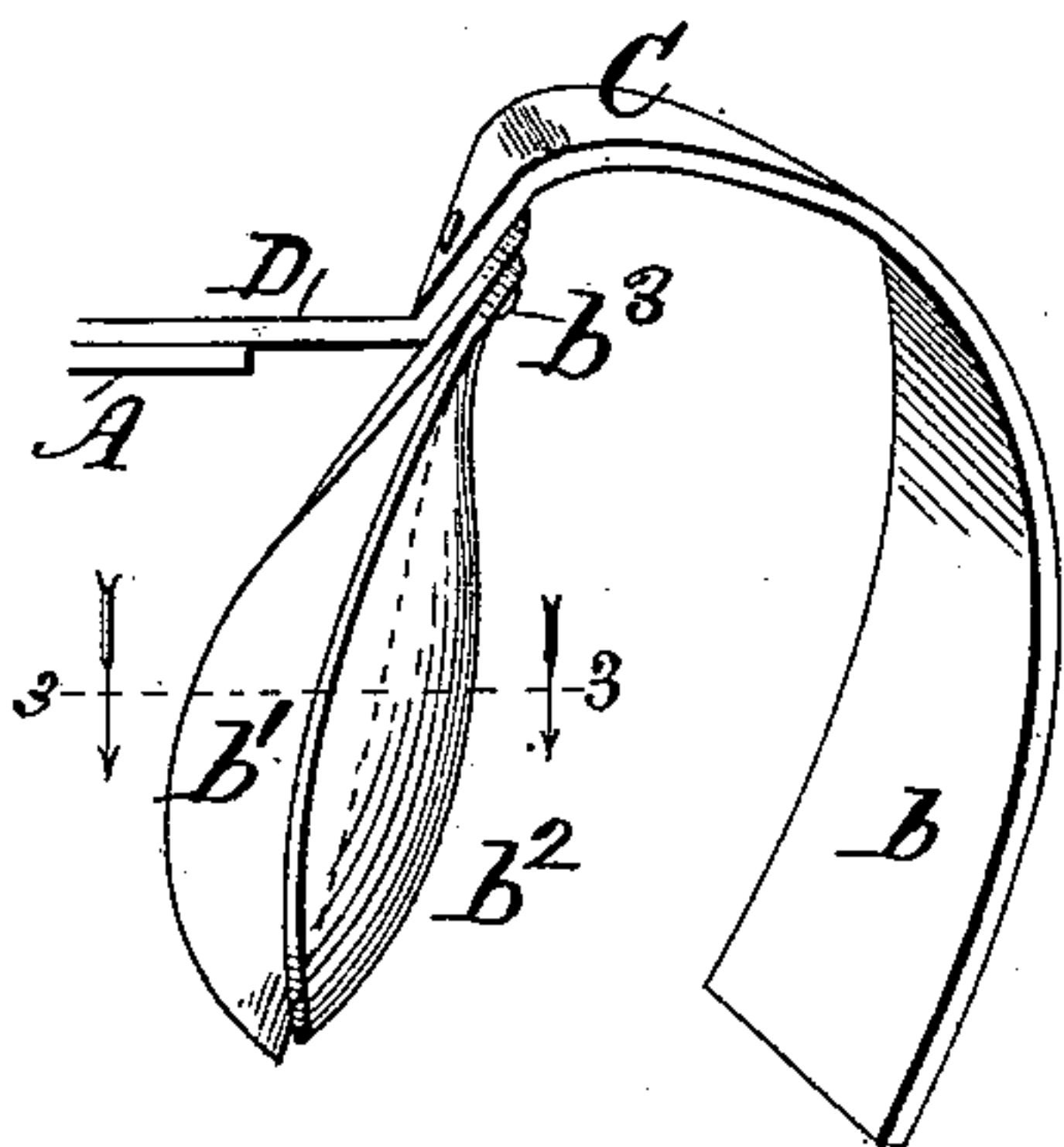
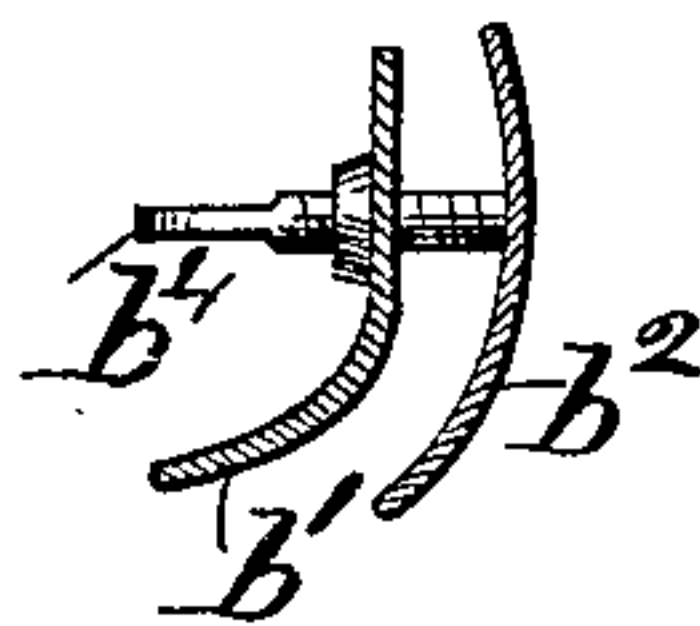


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. CURTIS, OF ASTOR, FLORIDA.

FRUIT-GATHERER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 405,017, dated June 11, 1889.

Application filed September 3, 1888. Serial No. 284,408. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. CURTIS, of Astor, in the county of Lake and State of Florida, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Fruit-Clippers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, that will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

My present invention is an improvement upon the device for which a patent was granted to me June 7, 1887, No. 364,222.

The object of this invention is to improve the means for securing the device to the hand, so that the same may be readily adjusted to fit a hand of any size, and also to change other features from those shown in the patent referred to, whereby the cutting-blade may be more conveniently operated when grasping the orange or other fruit in the same hand to which the clipper is attached.

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a device embodying my improved features; Fig. 2, an elevation and detached view of the clamp for securing the device to the hand; and Fig. 3, a section in plane 3, Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a plate, which may be of a triangular form; B, a cutting-blade pivoted to the upper side of said plate, and C a clamping-strap for securing the device to the hand.

The vibrating cutting-blade B is mounted on the upper side of the plate A, and is pivoted thereto at *a*. The back end of this blade is provided with the post *a'* and the opposite end with the cutting-edge *a''*, which is caused to traverse the notch *a'''* in the plate by means of the forefinger engaging with the post *a'* and drawing inwardly.

The fruit is grasped by the hand to which the clipper is attached, the stem of the orange or other fruit being brought into the notch *a'''* while in the act of grasping, and is then severed from the branch by the movement of the cutting-blade, as described.

The cutting-blade is automatically returned to the normal position by means of the spiral spring *a''''*, held in place with reference to the plate and blade by the cap *a'''''*, attached to said plate by the screws *a''''''*. The pin *a'''''''* forms a

stop for the blade when released from the pressure of the finger.

The clamp C, for attaching the device to the hand, is of a shape or form corresponding to the contour of the palm and back of the hand between the thumb and forefinger, the curved part or back piece *b* passing down over the back of the hand and the part *b'* extending into the palm.

b'' is a concavo-convex plate placed inside of the palm part of the clamp. This plate is loosely suspended from the upper end on the pin *b'''*, so that the lower part may be forced or set into the palm of the hand by means of the thumb-screw *b''''*, having a screw-threaded engagement with the inner or palm part of the clamp.

The clamp C is provided with the lug D for attaching the same to the plate A. This lug has the elongated slot *d*, whereby the clamp may be moved nearer to or farther away from the plate, as the size or shape of the hand may require. The clamp C is adjustably secured to the plate A by means of the thumb-screw *d'* passing through the slot *d* into the plate.

Projecting from the under side of the lug D is the pivot-pin *d''*, which is adapted to engage loosely with any one of a number of perforations *d'''* in the plate A. This provides for a slight lateral adjustment of the clamp. By this construction and arrangement adjustable means is provided whereby the device may be readily made to fit a hand of any size or shape.

It is obvious that but a very slight change would be required to fit the device for use on the left hand instead of the right, as shown. The thumb-screw for compressing the clamp may also be placed on the back part instead of in the palm of the hand.

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

1. In a fruit-clipper, the combination, with the plate A, of a clamping device consisting of the curved back part *b*, the palm part *b'*, shaped to fit the hand between the thumb and forefinger, a concavo-convex plate loosely attached to the part *b'*, a thumb-screw for setting said plate into the palm of the hand, and the lug D, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a fruit-clipper, the combination, with the plate A, of a clamping or attaching device consisting of the parts $b\ b'$, clasp-
5 ing the hand between the thumb and forefinger, and provided with the lug D, and the means described for adjustably securing said clamp in relation to the plate A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a fruit-clipper, the combination, with
10 the plate A, provided with a number of perforations, of a clamp provided with the lug D, having the elongated slot d , the thumb-screw d' , and the pivot-pin d^2 , projecting from the under side of said lug and engaging with said
15 perforations, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. A fruit-clipper consisting, essentially, of the plate A, notched to receive the stem of the fruit, a cutting-blade pivoted to the upper side of said plate and arranged to traverse
20 said notch, a spring for returning said blade to a normal position, a hand-clamp provided with the lug D and the parts $b\ b'$, the palm-plate b^2 , a thumb-screw for adjusting the latter plate, and a thumb-screw for securing said
25 clamp to the plate A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

CHARLES H. CURTIS.

Witnesses:

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