

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MINER'S KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,068, dated September 1, 1896.

Application filed March 27, 1896. Serial No. 585,078. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. BERGEN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Leadville, in the county of Lake and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Miners' Knives; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a side view of a knife embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same; and Fig. 3 is a side view with the blade partly closed, as in operation.

The object of this invention is to provide a convenient pocket-knife for use by miners and others for the purpose of cutting the fuse employed in blasting and for securing thereon the fulminate or exploding caps, which are necessary where giant-powder or other explosive is used which cannot be exploded by an ordinary fuse.

It is the common practice among miners at present to cut the fuses to the desired length with ordinary knives, and after placing the cap thereon to secure it in place by indenting it upon the fuse. This is commonly done with the teeth or with the candlestick.

The present invention is designed to provide a knife which, while adapted for general use, is also provided with means for facilitating the cutting of the fuse and also for indenting the cap thereon to secure it in place.

With this object in view the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, all substantially as hereinafter described, and pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings the letter A designates the handle, and B the hinged blade, of a pocket-knife, which in general is similar to ordinary knives.

Formed in the upper edges of the handle, at each side of the groove or seat which receives the blade and a short distance from where the blade is hinged, are two transverse semicircular grooves or notches *a b*, while in the blade in position to register with the notch *b* is a notch *c* of similar form. Extending through the blade into the said notch *e* is a pin or punch point *f*, and extending up into the groove or seat of the handle opposite the notches *b* and in line with the pin or punch point *f* is a similar pin or punch point *g*.

The knife is used as follows: The fuse to be cut is laid in the groove or notch *a*, and the knife-blade is closed down upon and through it. The cap is then placed upon the fuse, the blade is opened, and the cap is laid in the notches *b*. The blade is closed down upon the cap and the two pins or punches *f* and *g* inset or indent the cap at opposite points against the fuse, which secures it in place. Owing to the fact that the notch *c* of the blade is very near the heel thereof it does not interfere with the use of the knife for general purposes.

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

The herein-described pocket-knife for miners' use, the same consisting in a handle having in its upper edges, upon each side of the knife seat or groove, the transverse semicircular notches *a* and *b*, the notches *a* being of less diameter than the notches *b*, and a pin *g* projecting into said knife seat or groove in line with the notches *b*, in combination with a hinged blade having near its heel a semicircular notch *c*, adapted to register with the slots *b* and the pin *f* projecting through the blade into the said notch, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEO. M. BERGEN.

Witnesses:

T. O'CONNELL,
A. S. WESTON.