

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. GREGSON.
ROTARY CAN OPENER.

No. 598,065.

Patented Jan. 25, 1898.

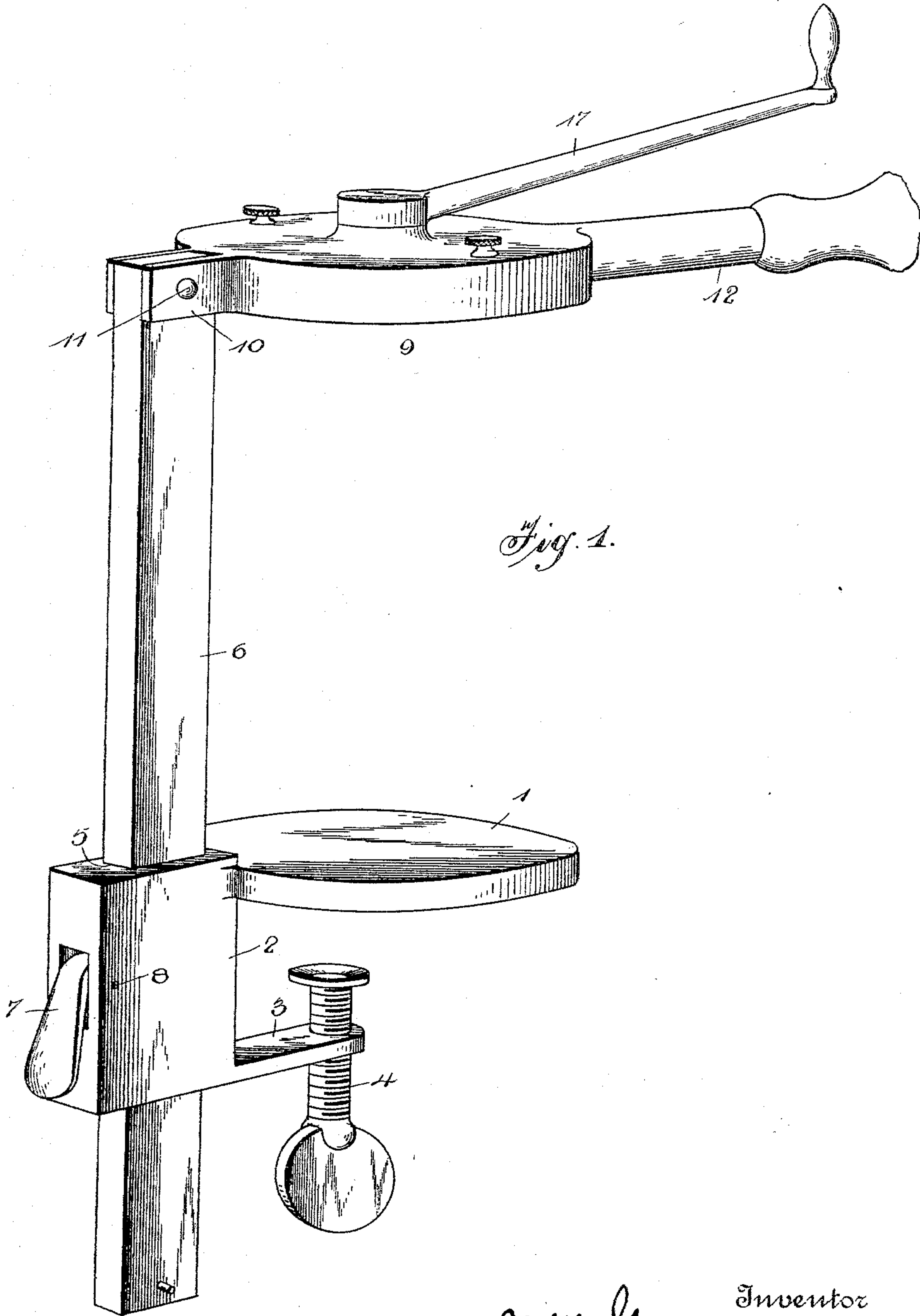


Fig. 1.

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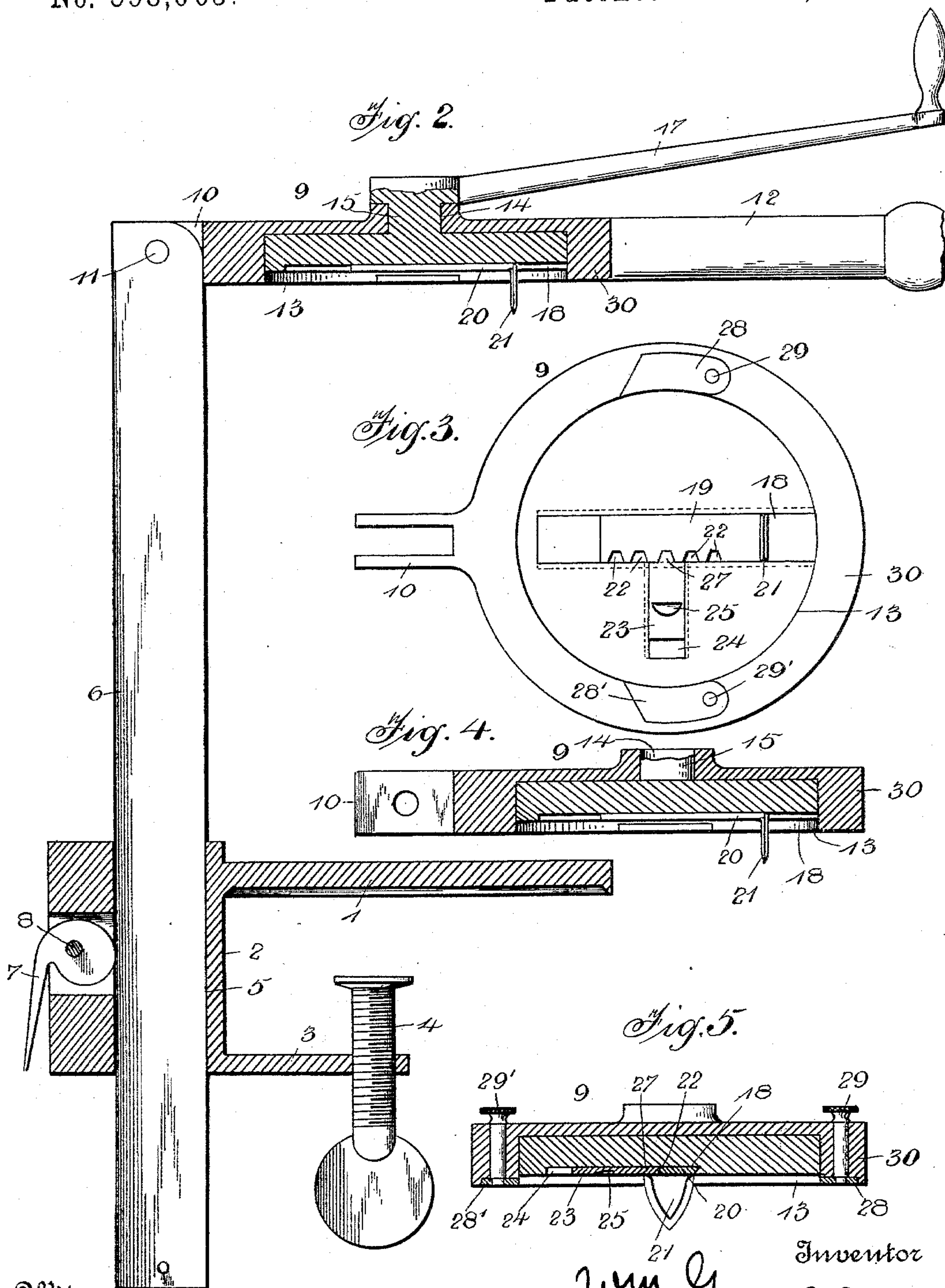
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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ROTARY CAN OPENER.

No. 598,065.

Patented Jan. 25, 1898.



Witnesses
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Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM GREGSON, OF MIER, INDIANA.

ROTARY CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,065, dated January 25, 1898.

Application filed November 10, 1896. Serial No. 611,657. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GREGSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mier, in the county of Grant and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rotary Can-Openers; 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.

My invention has relation to improvements in rotary can-openers; and the object is to produce a simple and durable device for expeditiously opening cans.

To this end the novelty consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of the same, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings the same figures of reference indicate the same parts of the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved can-opener. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of the same. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the clamp and rotary cutter-head. Fig. 4 is a cross-section on the line of the knife-blade, and Fig. 5 is a similar view transverse to the knife-blade.

1 represents the base-plate, cast integral with the vertical jaw 2, from which an arm 3 extends parallel with the plate 1. The outer end of said arm 3 is provided with a thumb-screw 4, by means of which the machine is adjustably secured to the table or other convenient support.

The jaw 2 is formed with a vertical rectangular slot 5, in which is adjustably secured a bar 6, and 7 represents a lever fulcrumed on a rivet 8 in said jaw, the cam-shaped face of which is adapted to bind against the bar 6 and adjustably secure it in position.

9 represents the circular clamp-head, having an integral bifurcated arm 10, pivoted to the upper end of the bar 6 by a bolt or rivet 11. This clamp-head 9 is also provided with an integral lever-handle 12, by means of which it is operated. 13 represents an annular recess in the lower face of said head, and 14 is a central bearing which is journaled in said recess. The upper end of the shaft 15 is pro-

vided with a crank-handle 17, by means of which the cutter-head is rotated. The lower face of said cutter-head is formed with a transverse dovetail recess 18, in which is mounted a cutter-blade 19, having a dovetail shank 20 and a downwardly-projecting knife 21. This knife is V-shaped, and both angles form cutting edges. 22 22 is a series of slots in one side of the shank of said blade, which engage the rectangular end 27 of a sliding dovetail bolt 23, working in a dovetail slot 24 in the cutter-head at a right angle to and in the same plane as the shank of the cutter-blade. 25 represents a thumb-nail notch in said bolt, by means of which it is operated to engage and release the shank of the cutter-blade.

28 28' represent two pawls pivoted on thumb-screws 29 29' in the flange 30 of the clamp-head 9. These are formed with a chisel-shaped point which engages the circular edge of the can and holds it from rotating while the cutter-blade is at work. These pawls are located on opposite sides of the clamp-head, and both point in the same direction, so as to securely hold the can. If the cutter-head be turned either to the right or the left, by means of their thumb-screws they can be adjusted to hold large or small cans.

The operation of the device is very simple. The can is placed on the base-plate 1 and the bar 6 adjusted by means of the lever 7 until the clamp-head 9 rests upon the top of the can and one of the pawls adjusted to hold the can. The lever-handle 12 is then pressed down, which causes the knife 21 to puncture the top of the can, and the handle 17 is then given one complete sweep of a circle, which cuts out a disk from the top of the can, thereby allowing the contents to be removed.

By means of the lever 7 the distance between the plate 1 and the cutter-head may be varied to correspond to the height of different cans, and by adjusting the cutter-blade in or out from the center and locking it in proper position by the bolt 23 the size of the opening that is cut in the top of the can may be enlarged or reduced at will.

Although I have specifically described the construction and relative arrangement of the several elements of my invention, I do not desire to be confined to the same, as such

changes or modifications may be made as clearly fall within the scope of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof.

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

1. A can-opener comprising the base-plate, integral jaw and its arm, the thumb-screw mounted in said arm, and the cam-lever 7 fulcrumed in said jaw, the vertical bar adjustably secured in said jaw, the clamp-head hinged in the upper end of said bar and formed with an annular recess, in combination with a rotary cutter-head mounted in said recess and provided with a crank-handle and a transverse dovetail recess and a cutter-blade adjustably mounted in said recess, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A can-opener comprising a rotary cutter-head formed with a dovetail cutter-blade recess, and a dovetail-bolt recess located at a right angle to the cutter-blade recess, in combination with a dovetail cutter-blade having a series of slots 22 in one side and a dovetail bolt adapted to engage the slots 22 in said

cutter-blade, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. A can-opener comprising the base-plate 1, integral slotted jaw 2, and arm 3, the thumb-screw 4 mounted in said arm, and the cam-lever 7 fulcrumed in said jaw, the vertical adjustable bar 6, mounted in said jaw, the circular clamping-head 9 hinged to the upper end of said bar, and provided with the lever-handle 12 and annular recess 13, the pawls 28 28' mounted on the thumb-screws 29 29' in the flange 30 of said head 9, in combination with the rotary cutter-head 16, mounted in said clamp-head 9, and provided with a crank-handle 17, and the dovetail recesses 18 and 24, and the cutter-blade 19 having slots 22 and the dovetail bolt 23 adapted to adjustably secure said cutter-blade in position, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

WILLIAM GREGSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN A. SPANGLER,

JOHN SAYLORS.