

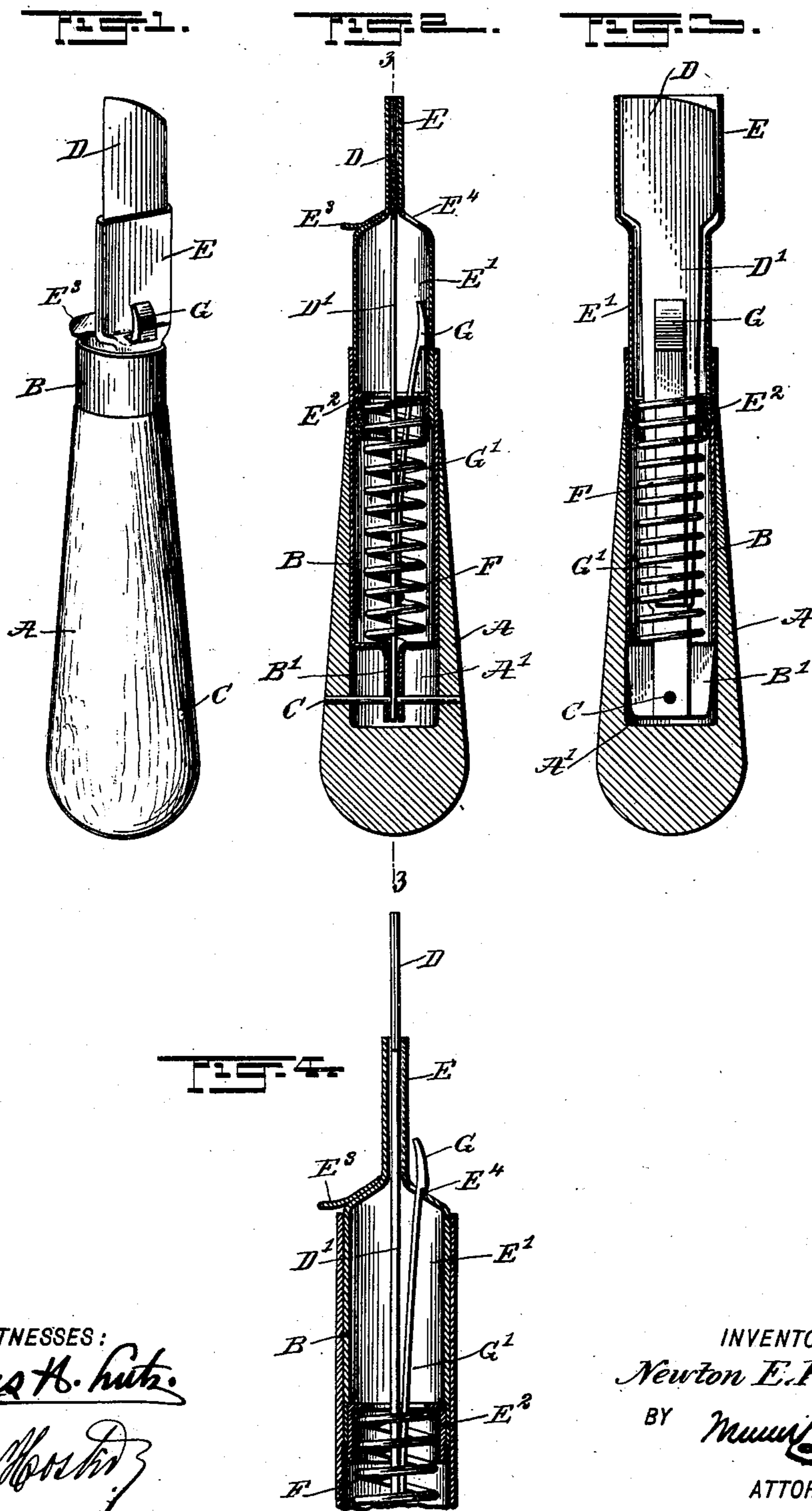
No. 705,441.

Patented July 22, 1902.

N. E. PUTNEY.
KNIFE.

(Application filed Mar. 15, 1902.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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NEWTON EZRA PUTNEY, OF SOUTHBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 705,441, dated July 22, 1902.

Application filed March 15, 1902. Serial No. 98,324. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NEWTON EZRA PUTNEY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Southbridge, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Knife, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to tools—such as knives, awls, and the like—having slidable blades or shanks; and the object of the invention is to provide a new and improved knife which is simple and durable in construction and arranged to enable the user to readily manipulate the knife with one hand to bring the blade into an active cutting position or to conceal the blade to prevent possible injury by persons coming in contact with the knife.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement, showing the knife-blade in an open position. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same, showing the blade concealed. Fig. 3 is a sectional side elevation of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged cross-section showing the blade exposed and locked in position.

The handle A of the knife is formed with a longitudinally-extending recess A', into which fits a metallic lining B, preferably tubular in shape, open at the outer end and contracted at the inner end, as at B', to engage a transverse pin C, secured in the handle A, so as to hold the said metallic lining in position. On the pin C is also secured the inner end of the shank D' of the knife-blade D, adapted to be concealed within a sheath E, formed with a tubular extension E', mounted to slide longitudinally in the lining B. The inner end of this tubular extension E' is provided with a head E², against which presses one end of a coil-spring F, resting at its other end on the bottom of the lining B, the said

spring serving to move the tubular extension E' and its sheath E into an outermost position for the sheath to conceal or inclose the knife-blade D. On the outer end of the extension E' at one side of the sheath E is secured or formed a finger-piece E³, adapted to be taken hold of with one finger of the hand having hold of the handle A, so as to press on the finger-piece, and thereby slide the sheath E and its extension E' inwardly against the tension of the spring F. Now in doing so the sheath E uncovers the knife-blade D.

In order to lock the sheath E and its tubular extension E' in an innermost position, I employ a spring-catch G, adapted to pass through an opening E⁴ in the outer end of the tubular extension E' to engage the wall of the said opening to hold the extension E' and its sheath E in a locked innermost position, as plainly shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The opening E⁴ is located on the side of the sheath opposite the one having the finger-piece E³, so that the operator can press the spring-catch G with another finger of the same hand having hold of the handle A to move the said spring-catch out of engagement with the wall of the opening E⁴ at the time it is desired to release the spring-pressed sheath E and its extension for the sheath to move outward and cover the knife-blade D.

The shank G' of the spring-catch G is riveted or otherwise fastened to the shank D' of the knife-blade D, and the catch is curved to readily enter the opening E⁴ at the time the sheath E and its extension E' is pushed inward by the operator pressing the finger-piece E³, as before explained, so that the spring-catch readily snaps into position on the wall of the opening E⁴ to hold the sheath in an innermost position.

This knife is very serviceable for use in stores to cut twine or for use by carpenters and other mechanics, it being understood that after the knife has been used for its legitimate purpose then the operator presses the spring-catch G to release the sheath E, so that the latter conceals the knife-blade D, and the user can now readily place the knife in a pocket without danger of cutting the same and without danger of possible injury to the user.

The knife is very simple and durable in construction and composed of comparatively few parts not liable to easily get out of order.

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

1. A knife, comprising a handle, a blade fixed therein, a sheath for the blade, having an integral tubular extension mounted to slide in the said handle, a spring-catch for locking the sheath in position at the time the knife-blade is exposed, and a spring pressing the sheath, to move the same over the blade, for concealing the latter at the time the said spring-catch is unlocked, as set forth.

2. A knife, comprising a handle, a blade fixed therein, a sheath for the blade, having an integral tubular extension mounted to slide in the said handle, a spring-catch for locking the sheath in position at the time the knife-blade is exposed, a spring pressing the sheath, to move the same over the blade, for concealing the latter at the time the said spring-catch is unlocked, and a finger-piece on the sheath, located on the side opposite the one engaged by the said spring-catch, to allow the operator to press the finger-piece with one finger of the hand having hold of the handle, while the spring-catch is manipulated by another finger of the same hand, as set forth.

3. A knife, comprising a handle having a

recess, a pin extending transversely through the recess, a tubular lining fitted in the said recess and held on the said pin, a sheath having a tubular extension mounted to slide in the said lining, a spring pressing the said sheath extension, and a spring-catch carried on the shank of the blade, adapted to engage the said sheath extension, to lock the latter in position against the tension of the spring, as set forth.

4. A knife, comprising a handle having a recess, a pin extending transversely through the recess, a tubular lining fitted in the said recess and held on the said pin, a sheath having a tubular extension mounted to slide in the said lining, a spring pressing the said sheath extension, a spring-catch carried on the shank of the blade, adapted to engage the said sheath extension, to lock the latter in position against the tension of the spring, the said spring-catch extending through an opening in the said sheath extension, and a finger-piece on the said sheath extension, located on the side opposite the one engaged by the said spring-catch, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

NEWTON EZRA PUTNEY.

Witnesses:

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