No. 715,403. Patented Dec. 9, 1902.

E. N. MANZER.

CAN OPENER.

(Application filed Jan. 29, 1902.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

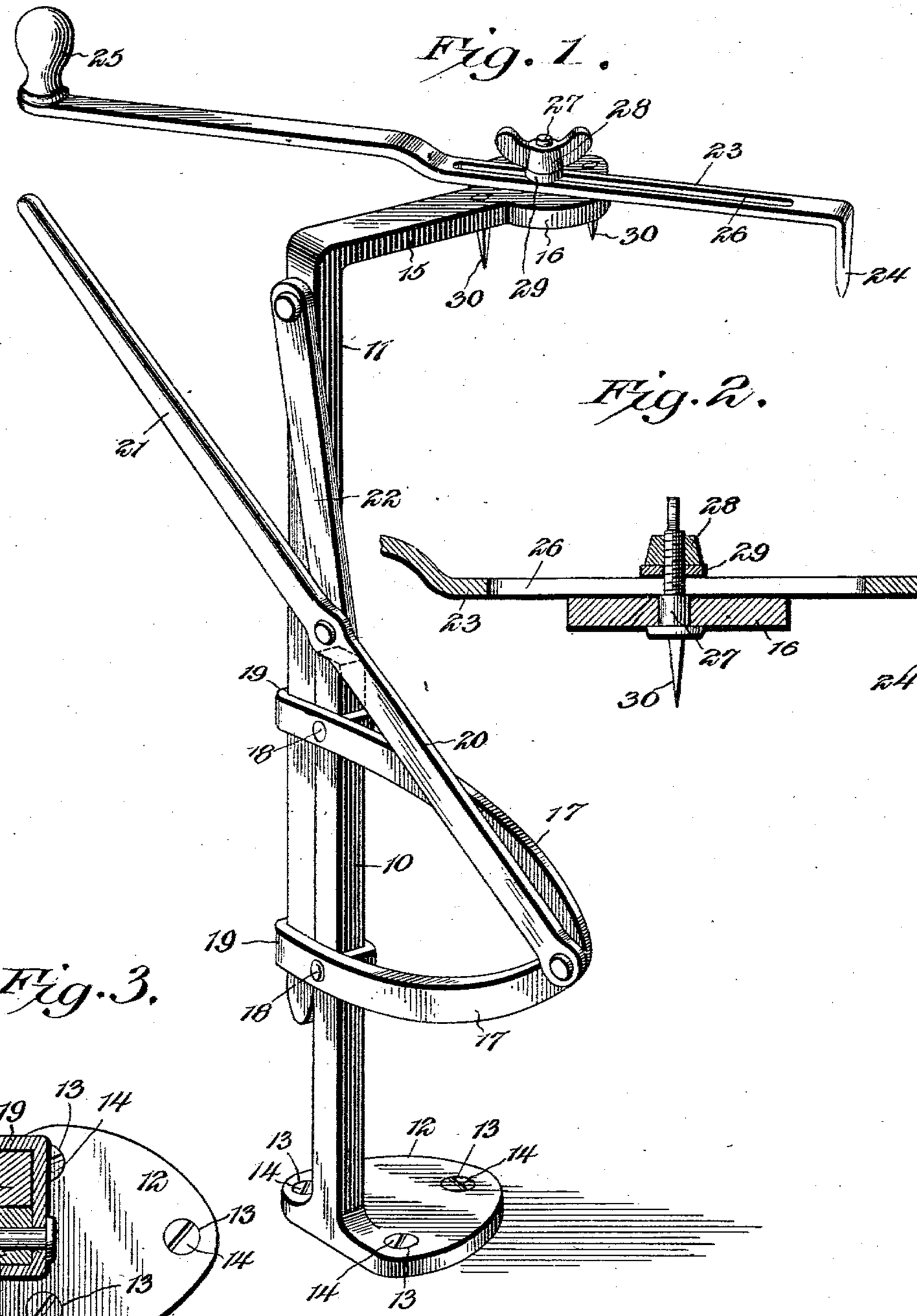

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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EUGENE N. MANZER, OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO A. J. ROBERTS AND W. H. MILLER, OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 715,403, dated December 9, 1902.

Application filed January 29, 1902. Serial No. 91,722. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE N. MANZER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lincoln, in the county of Lancaster and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Can-Opener, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to can-openers; and the object thereof is to provide an improved instrument of this character by means of which the top of a can may be quickly cut; said can being securely held by the device during the cutting operation.

A further object is to provide an opener of the above character which will hold cans of different heights and can be readily adjusted to cut tops of various diameters.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is fully illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete instrument. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the head of the same and the cutter-shank. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view through the standard.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In carrying out the invention as shown a standard is provided comprising slidably-associated sections 10 and 11. The lower section 10 is provided at its lower end with an offset foot 12, having openings 13, arranged to receive screws 14, by means of which the standard may be secured in an upright position to a table or other suitable support. The upper section 11 is slidably mounted on one side of the lower section and projects a considerable distance above the same. This section has an offset arm 15 at its upper end, which arm is provided with a terminal head 16, upon which the cutting mechanism, hereinafter described, is mounted. The upper standard-section 11 can be raised and lowered through the medium of the following-described mechanism. A bracket is mounted upon the lower section, said bracket comprising spaced arms 17, which are arranged in convergent relation toward their outer ends, the spaced ends of said arms being secured, by means of rivets 18 or the like, to the standard-section. The terminals of these arms, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, are looped about the standard-section, so as to form guides 19, in which the upper section 11 slides. A clamping-lever 20 is pivoted at one end to the outer end of the bracket, its other end being formed into a suitable handle 21, and this lever is connected to the upper section by means of a pivoted link 22. It will therefore be seen that when the lever is raised or lowered the upper section, and consequently the cutting mechanism carried by it, will be moved in like manner.

The cutting mechanism is in the form of a shank 23, pivoted intermediate its ends upon the head and having at one end a depending cutter-blade 24 and at its other end an upstanding handle 25. This shank is longitudinally adjustable upon the head, so that the distance between the head 16 and the cutter-blade may be varied. To this end the shank is provided with a longitudinal slot 26, through which is passed a vertically-disposed pivot-bolt 27, that is journaled in the head, said bolt being provided with a thumb-nut 28, by means of which the shank may be clamped against longitudinal movement, a suitable washer 29 being interposed between the nut and the shank. Spaced teeth 30 depend from the head 16 and are arranged to impale the can, and thereby prevent its rotation with the cutter-blade.

The operation of the device will be perfectly obvious. The can to be opened is placed beneath the arm 15, so that the pivot-bolt 27 will be located substantially over the center of the top. The lever 21 is then depressed, thereby lowering the cutting mechanism and impaling the teeth 30 in the top. The cutter-shank 23 having been suitably adjusted to bring the cutter-blade within the edge of the top, it is only necessary to rotate the cutter-shank, consequently making a circular cut through the top.

The advantage for this construction may be summed up as follows: In the first place the machine is inexpensive to manufacture, and by means of it cans of various heights and sizes may be quickly and securely clamped. The radius of action of the cutter may also be easily varied by loosening the thumb-nut

28 and adjusting the cutter-shank longitudinally upon the pivot-bolt.

From the foregoing it is thought that the construction, operation, and many advantages of the herein-described invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art without further description, and it will be understood that various changes in the size, shape, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

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

1. In a can-opener, the combination with a lower standard-section having a securing-foot at its lower end, of an upper standard-section slidably mounted on the lower section and projecting above the same, an offset arm extending from the upper section, a cutting device rotatably mounted upon the arm, and a clamping-lever movably mounted upon one section and having a connection with the other section.

2. In a can-opener, the combination with relatively movable standard-sections, of a bracket secured to one of the sections, a portion of said bracket constituting a guide for the other section, operating means mounted upon the bracket and connecting the sections for moving one of them with relation to the other, and a cutting device mounted upon one section.

3. In a can-opener, the combination with slidably-associated standard-sections, of a bracket having spaced arms that are attached to one of the sections and being provided with guides for the other section, a lever mounted upon the bracket and having a connection with the other section, and a cutting device carried by one section.

4. In a can-opener, the combination with slidably-associated standard-sections, of a bracket having spaced arms that converge at their outer ends, the arms being secured at their spaced ends, said spaced ends being looped about the standard-section and forming guides in which the other section is slidably mounted, a lever mounted upon the bracket and having a link connection with the slidably-mounted standard-section, and a cutting device carried by one of the sections.

5. In a can-opener, the combination with a standard having an outstanding arm, of a pivot rotatably mounted upon the arm, a cutter-shank having a slot through which the pivot passes and in which it is longitudinally movable, means for clamping the shank and pivot against relative movement, a depending cutter located at one end of the shank, and an upstanding handle located at the other end of the shank.

6. In a can-opener, the combination with a standard having an outstanding arm, of a pivot rotatably mounted upon the arm and having a shoulder, a cutter-shank adjustably mounted upon the pivot and longitudinally movable thereon, means for clamping the shank upon the shoulder to hold said shank and pivot against relative movement, and a cutting device carried by the shank.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

EUGENE N. MANZER.

Witnesses:
W. M. MORNING,
C. A. MORNING.