

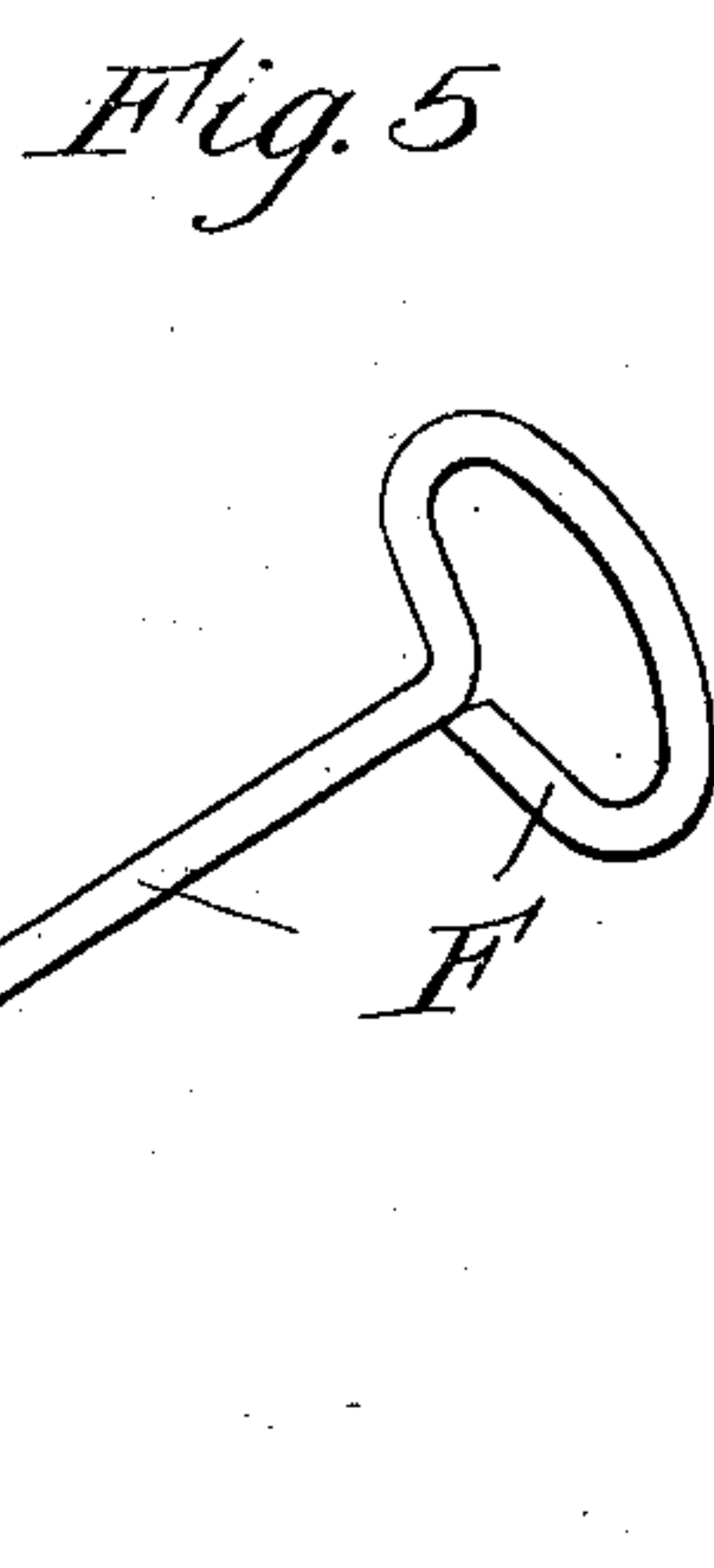
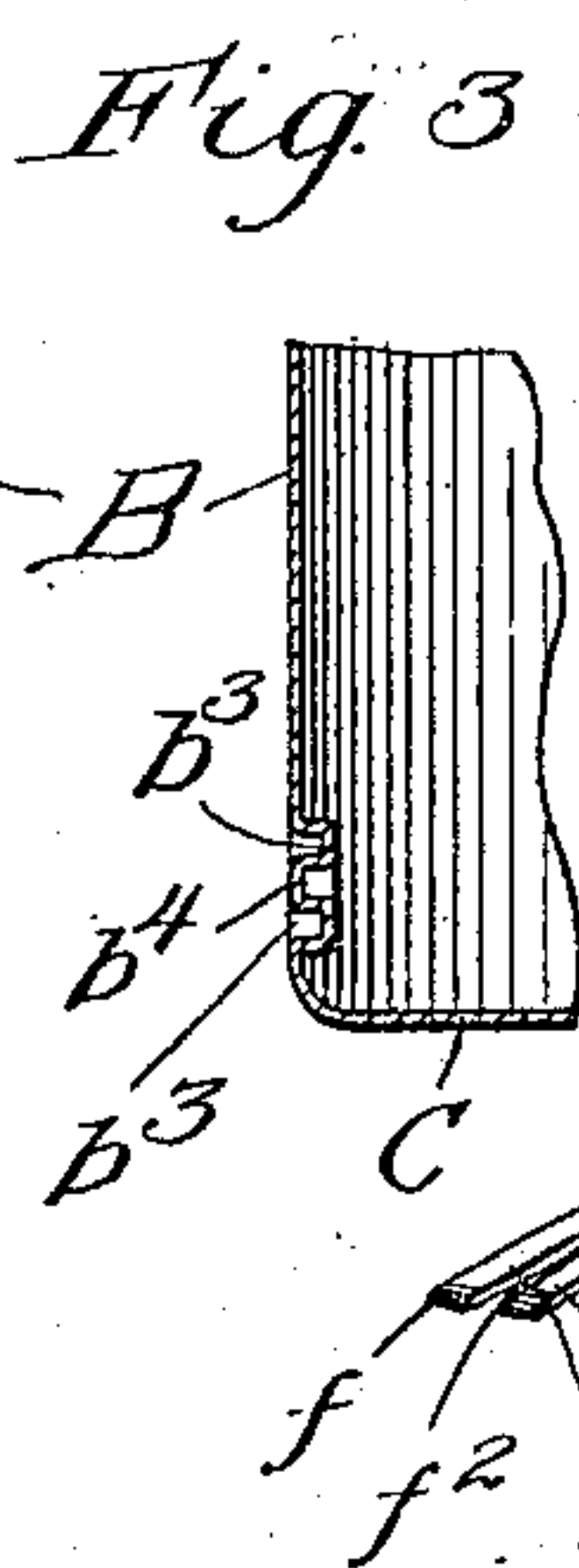
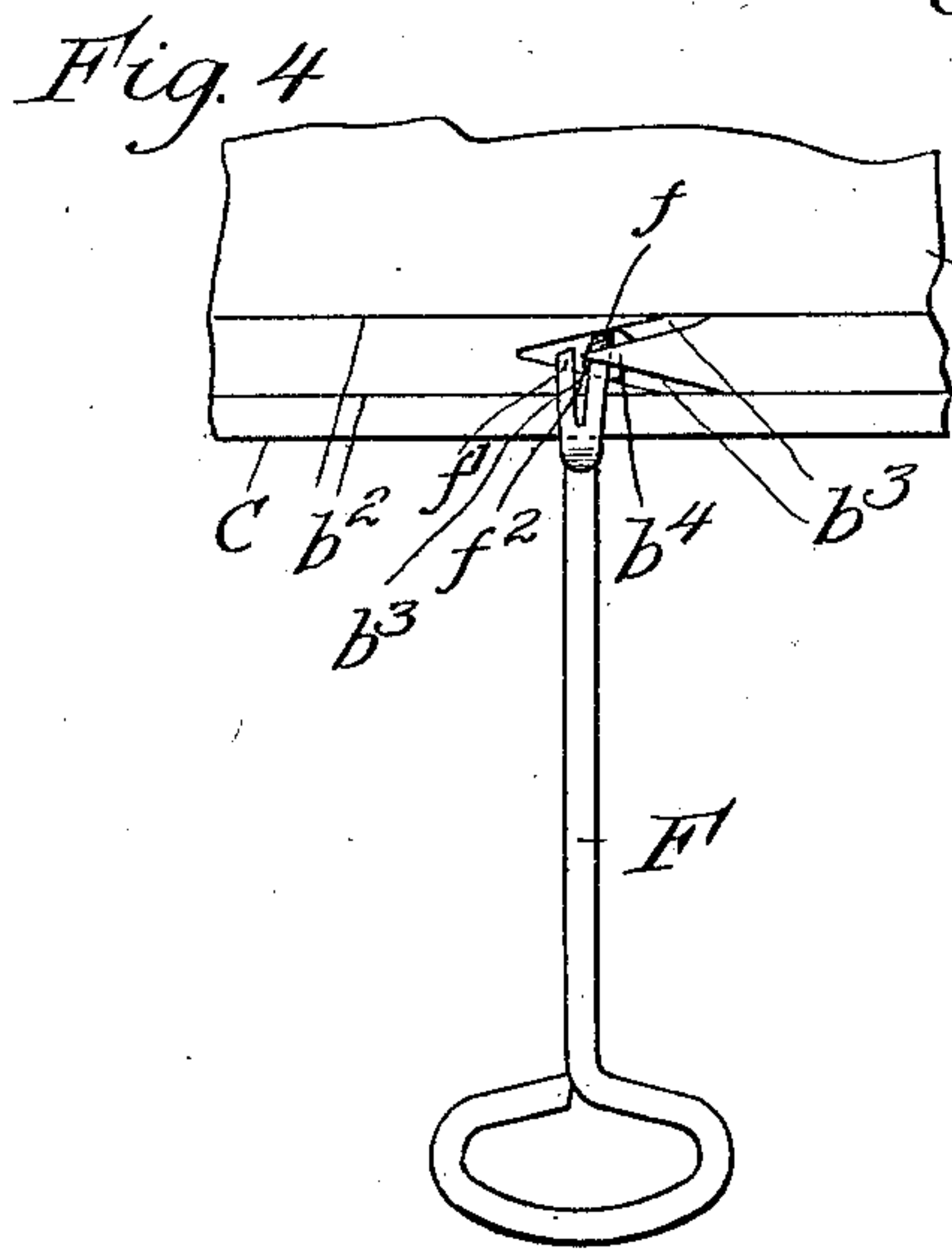
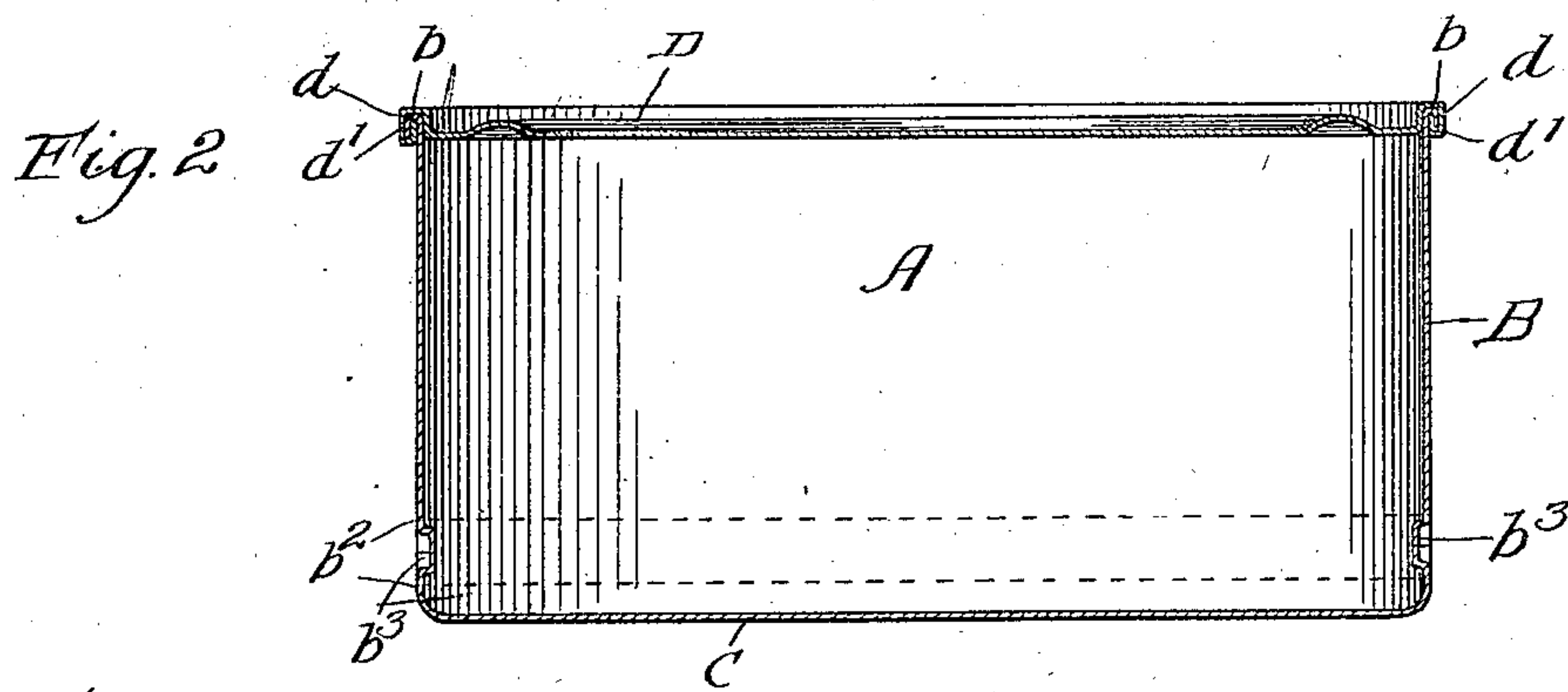
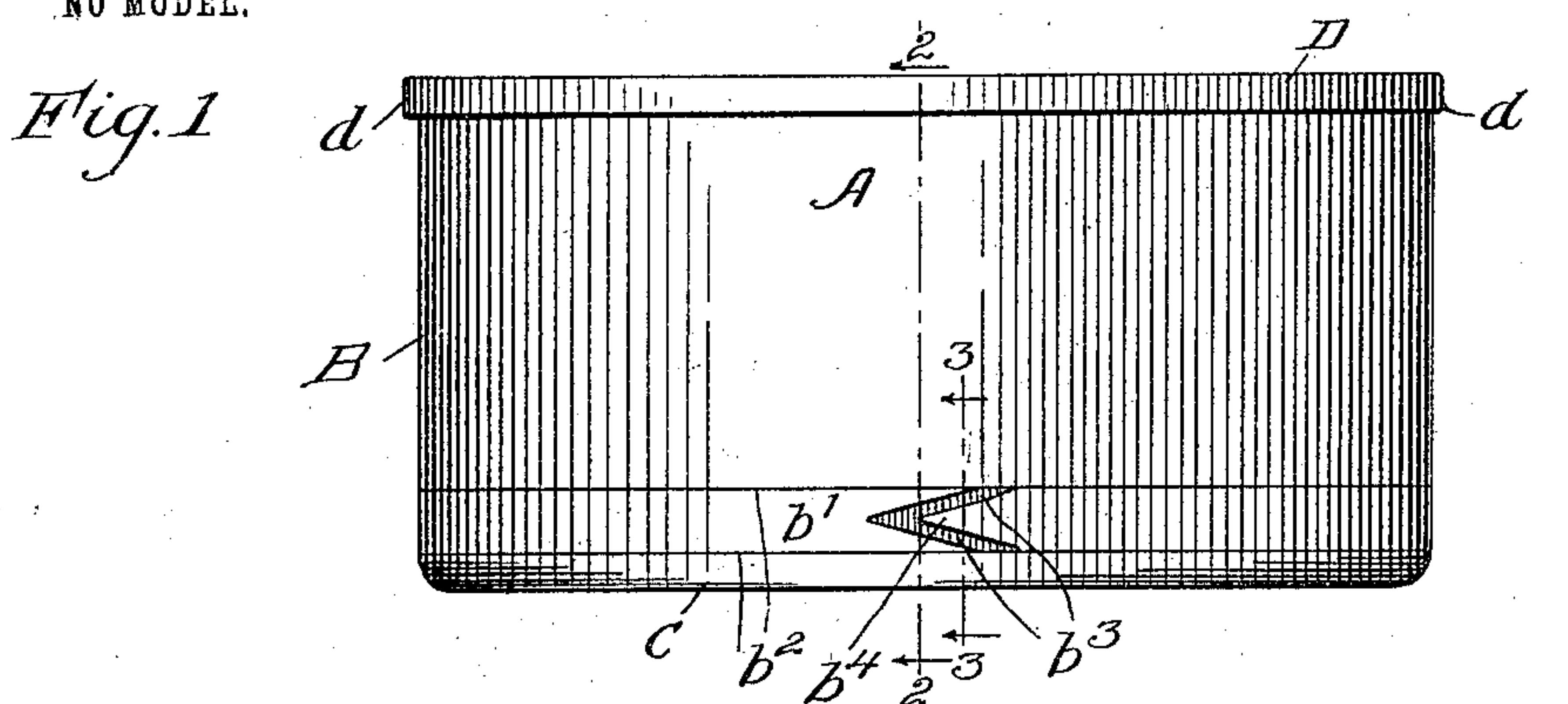
No. 725,384.

PATENTED APR. 14, 1903.

W. H. WELLS.
KEY OPENING CAN.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 20, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:

Wm. Geiger
A. M. Munday.

Inventor:
William H. Wells

By Munday, Evans & Leacock.
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. WELLS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO AMERICAN CAN COMPANY, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY, A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

KEY-OPENING CAN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 725,384, dated April 14, 1903.

Application filed January 20, 1903. Serial No. 139,748. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. WELLS, a citizen of the United States, residing in Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Key-Opening Cans, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in key-opening cans.

Heretofore the bodies of key-opening cans have been provided with tearing-strips marked off by parallel weakened lines and having projecting tongues at the side seam of the can-body to start the winding of the tearing-strip on the key, the projecting tongues being sometimes made in a separate piece from the can-body and sometimes integral with the can-body. In this latter case a larger blank is required for the can-body.

The object of my invention is to provide a key-opening can of a simple, economical, efficient, and durable construction having the customary tearing-strip marked off by parallel weakened lines on its body and by means of which the necessity for providing the body with a projecting tongue may be obviated or avoided and by which also a seamless can-body may be provided with a key-opening tearing-strip.

My invention consists in the means I employ to practically accomplish this important object or result—that is to say, it consists in a key-opening can having a can-body provided with a tearing-strip marked off by parallel weakened lines, the tearing-strip having an offset portion, preferably sunken or in the form of a groove, extending across the same adapting it to be severed by a sharp or chisel pointed key, and thus form a beginning for the winding of the tearing-strip about the key.

It further consists in providing the tearing-strip with two grooves or offsets extending across it at an angle to each other, so that the portion of the tearing-strip between these angle grooves or offsets when severed by the sharp or chisel pointed key will give the tearing-strip a free or tongue-like portion for beginning its winding about the key.

It further consists in a seamless can-body

having a key-opening tearing-strip having a grooved or offset portion for insertion of a chisel-pointed key.

It further consists in a key-opening can having a tearing-strip having a plurality of grooves or offsets for insertion of a sharp or chisel pointed key at different points of its circumference, so that in case of failure to properly start the winding at one groove or offset portion the can may still be opened at its other grooved or offset portion.

It further consists in the novel construction of parts and devices and in the novel combinations of parts and devices herein shown or described.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a key-opening seamless can embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a section on line 2 2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a section on line 3 3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail elevation showing the can after the grooved or offset portion of its tearing-strip is severed by the sharp or chisel pointed key and the key in position for beginning the winding, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of the key.

In the drawings, A represents a key-opening can having, preferably, a seamless body B, integral with its head or bottom C, the body B and head C being drawn up in one piece out of a single sheet-metal blank by suitable dies.

D is the cover of the can, the same being preferably secured to the can-body by a double seam d , formed by interfolding the seaming-flange b on the can-body with the seaming-flange d' on the cover D, thus forming a solderless can.

The can-body B is provided near one end, preferably its bottom end, with a key-opening tearing-strip b' , marked off by the parallel weakened lines $b^1 b^2$. This tearing-strip b' is provided with an offset portion b^3 , preferably in the form of a narrow groove, extending across, or partially across, it to enable a sharp or chisel pointed key, as F, to be readily inserted through the body of the can and the tearing-strip severed at its grooved or offset portion. Preferably the tearing-strip is provided with two grooves or off-

sets $b^3 b^3$, extending at an angle to and meeting each other, as will be readily understood from Figs. 1 and 4, so that when the tearing-strip is punctured or severed at both these angle grooves or offsets the tearing-strip will have a free or tongue-like portion b^4 to facilitate the beginning of its winding about the key. The key F has a sharp or chisel-like point f and edge f' , the edge being inclined to further facilitate its insertion through the grooved or offset portion of the tearing-strip. The key is also provided with a slot f^2 to receive the tearing-strip or the free or tongue-like portion b^4 thereof in winding the tearing-strip about the key.

To insure certainty in opening the can, I prefer to provide the seamless can-body B with a plurality of angle grooves or offsets $b^3 b^3$ at different points of the circumference of the can, as illustrated in Fig. 2, where such grooves or offsets are located diametrically opposite each other.

Although my invention is specially designed and adapted for use upon seamless can-bodies, it may of course be used upon can-bodies having the customary side seams.

In my invention, at the angle grooves $b^3 b^3$, where the tearing-strip is to be severed by insertion of a sharp or chisel pointed key, the can-body has but a single thickness, thus enabling it to be thus severed.

I disclaim as not in my invention the construction shown and described in the J. Zimmerman patent, No. 486,522, of November 22, 1892, and in the L. C. Sharp patent, No. 716,163, of December 2, 1902, in both of which the cans are provided with projecting tongues at the seams or joints thereof.

I claim—

1. In a key-opening can, a can-body provided with a tearing-strip marked off by par-

allel weakened lines, and having a transversely-extending offset portion adapting it to be severed by a sharp or chisel pointed key and thus form a beginning for the winding of the tearing-strip about the key, substantially as specified.

2. In a key-opening can, a can-body having a tearing-strip provided with two offsets extending at an angle to each other, so that the portion of the tearing-strip between these angle offsets when severed will give the tearing-strip a free or tongue-like portion for beginning its winding about the key, substantially as specified.

3. In a key-opening can a seamless can-body provided with a key-opening tearing-strip having a transversely-extending narrow groove across the same adapting it to be severed by the insertion of a sharp or chisel pointed key to form a beginning for the winding of the tearing-strip about the key, substantially as specified.

4. A seamless can-body having a tearing-strip provided with meeting offsets extending at an angle to each other to give the tearing-strip a free portion for beginning the winding when severed at such meeting angle offsets, substantially as specified.

5. A key-opening can having a tearing-strip marked off by weakened lines and provided with an offset for insertion of a sharp or chisel pointed key, substantially as specified.

6. A key-opening can having a tearing-strip provided with meeting grooves extending at an angle to each other across the tearing-strip, substantially as specified.

WILLIAM H. WELLS.

Witnesses:

EDMUND ADCOCK,
H. M. MUNDAY.