

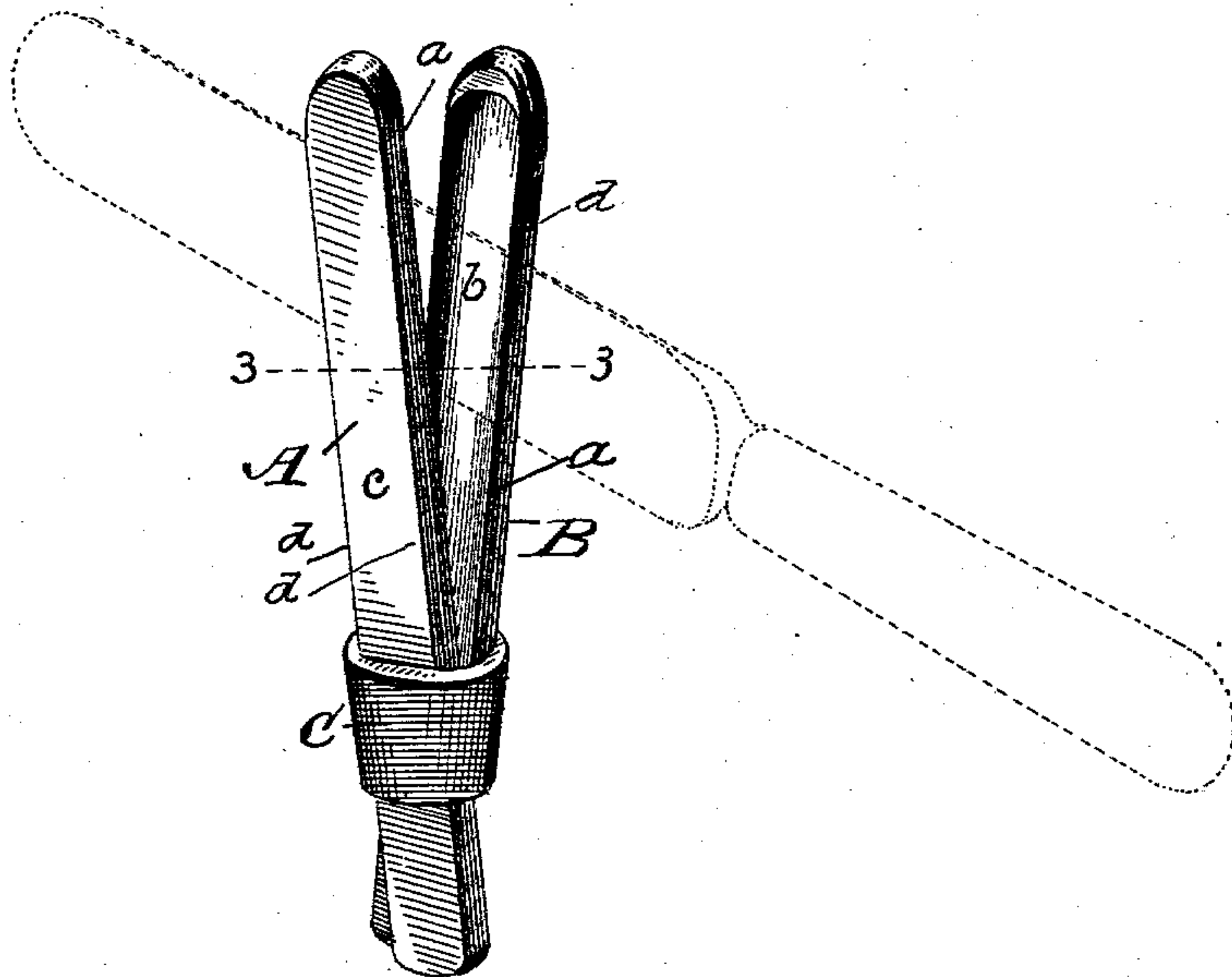
No. 740,840.

PATENTED OCT. 6, 1903.

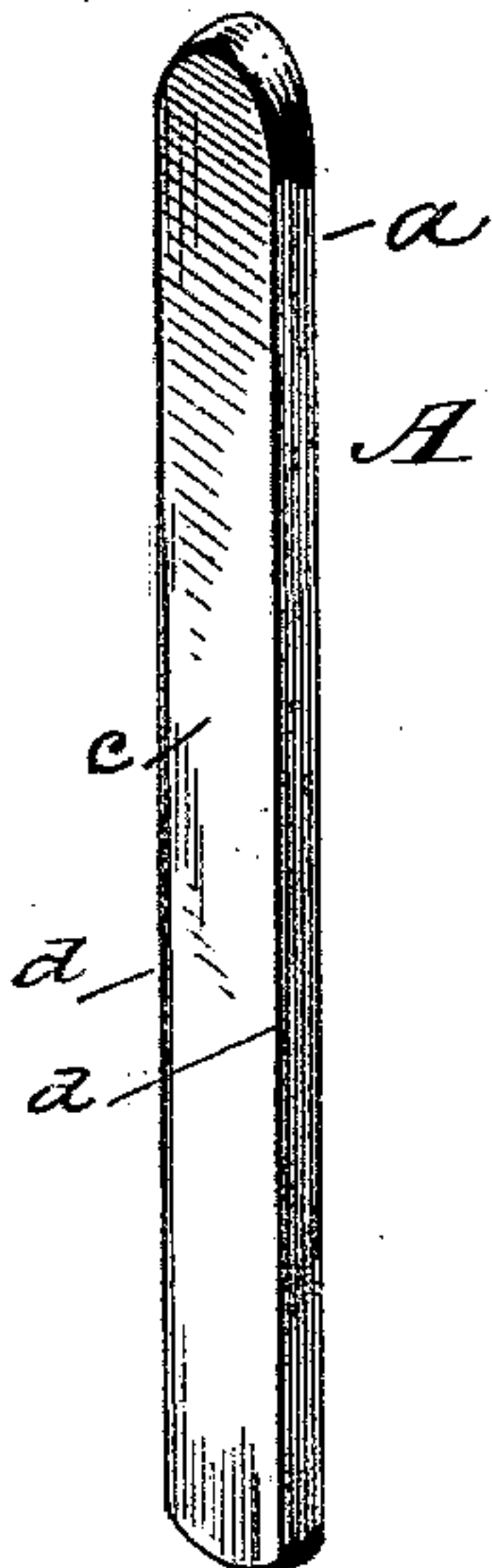
F. FOSTER.  
KNIFE SHARPENER.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 18, 1903.

NO MODEL.

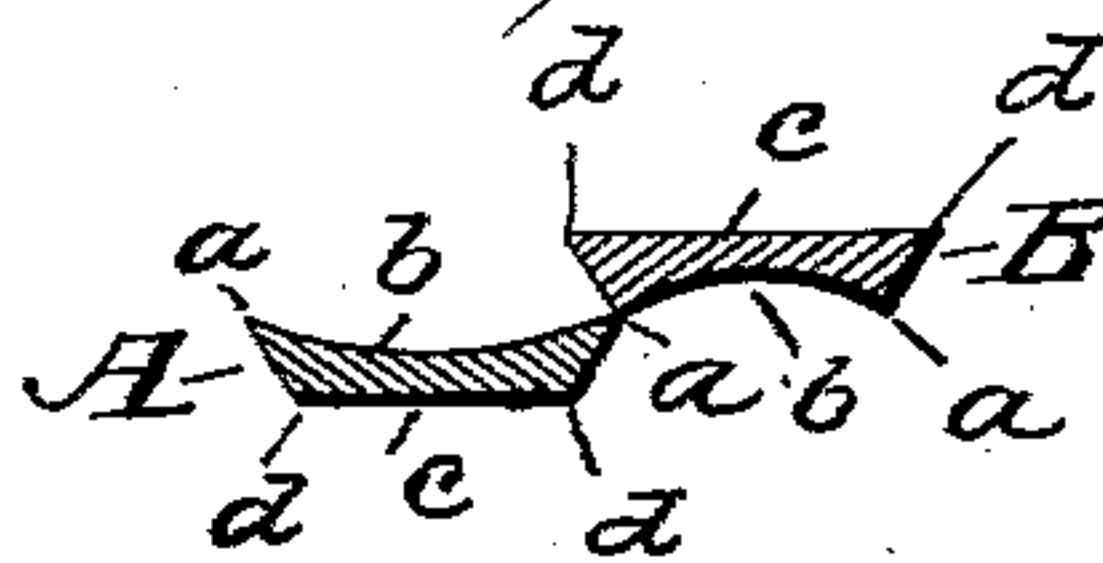
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK FOSTER, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

## KNIFE-SHARPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 740,840, dated October 6, 1903.

Application filed June 18, 1903. Serial No. 162,033. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANK FOSTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knife-Sharpeners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has for its object to provide a simple and effective device for sharpening knives and other cutlery that may be manufactured at a comparatively reduced cost and that will reduce the metal to a sharp cutting edge upon both sides of the knife or other article; and it consists in a device constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a knife-sharpener constructed in accordance with my invention, showing the knife in position in dotted lines in the act of sharpening the same; Fig. 2, a perspective view of one of the sharpening-blades; Fig. 3, a cross-section taken on line 3 3 of Fig. 1.

In the accompanying drawings, A B represent two steel blades, which are not permanently connected together, but, on the contrary, are separable, so that the blades may be reversed when desired. These blades have cutting edges *a*, and one of their faces is concave, as shown at *b*, and the opposite face of the blade perfectly flat, as shown at *c*, the cutting edges being on the side of the concave, giving to the edge a greater wear. The two blades A B are held together by a suitable spring, which in the present instance I have shown in the form of a rubber band C, which is slipped over the ends of the blades. This spring, whatever form it may be, is made adjustable to slide up or down on the blades, so as to give the blades greater or less yielding power against the blade of the knife or other article being sharpened.

The blades A B through the medium of the spring connecting the same together are automatically yielding when the blade of the knife or other article is passed between them.

Although I have shown and described a rubber band to serve as a spring in connecting the two blades together, any suitable spring may be substituted that will admit of its adjustment to regulate the yielding action of the blades. The spring is also capable of being entirely removed and the blades separated and reversed, so as to bring the flat sides or faces in the place of the concave faces, the edges *d* taking the place of the edges *a*, or only one of the blades may be reversed, as found desirable, thereby enabling either the concave face or the flat face of the blade to be brought into position for use, as circumstances may require.

The cutting-blades are not only reversible, but separable, that either blade may be reversed as circumstances require, and the spring is both removable and adjustable for the purpose hereinbefore described, providing a simple and effective sharpener that may be manufactured at a comparatively small cost.

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

1. A knife-sharpener, comprising two reversible cutting-blades and a suitable spring holding them together, said spring being adjustable upon the blades whereby the yielding power thereof may be regulated, and the spring removable to enable the blades to be separated and reversed, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A knife-sharpener comprising two cutting-blades each having their two sides flat and concave respectively, said blades being separable and reversible and yieldable to the blade of the knife passing between them, and means for holding the blades together, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

FRANK FOSTER.

Witnesses:

M. WINTERS,  
H. C. HARGRAVE.