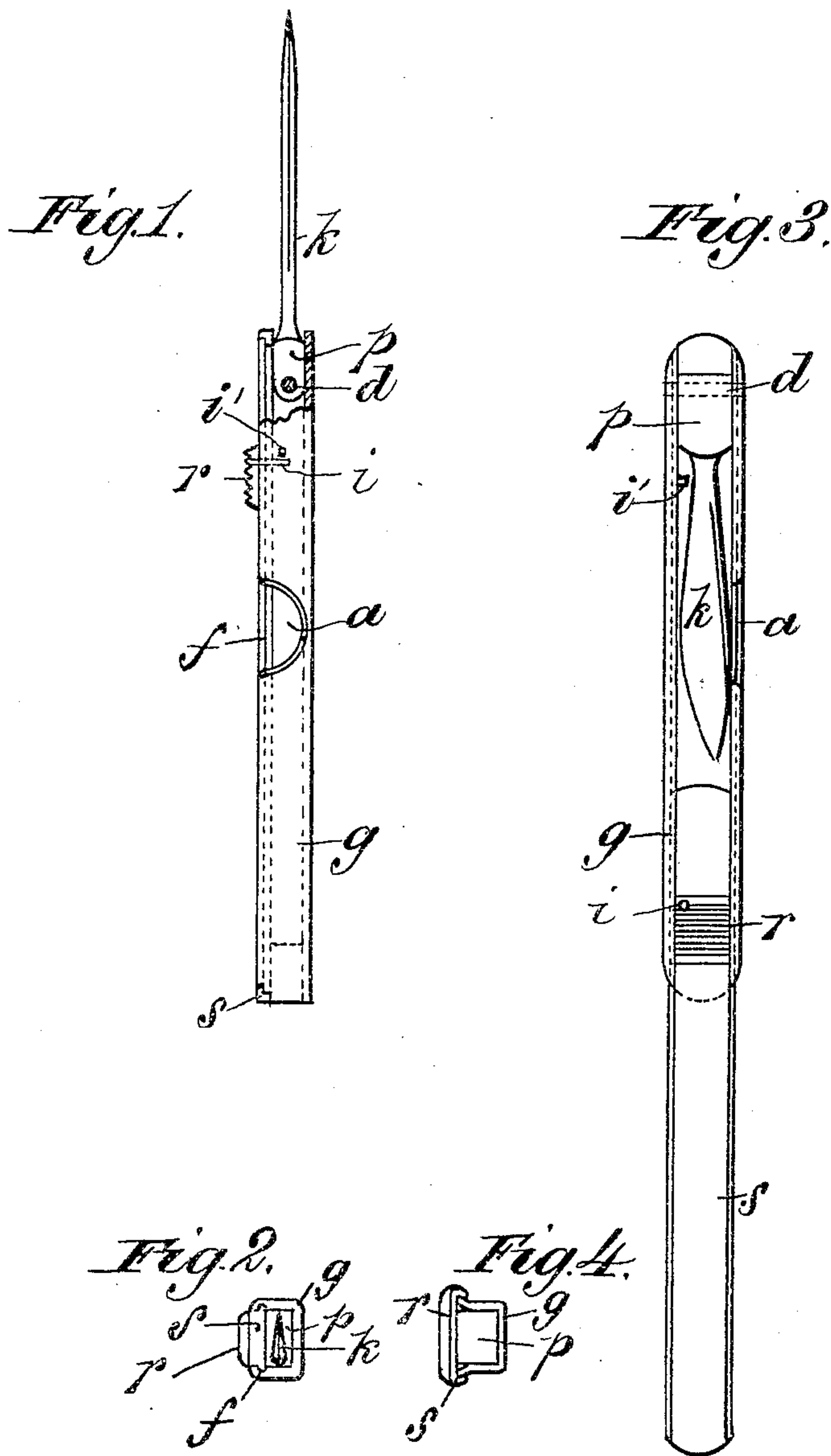


No. 778,684.

PATENTED DEC. 27, 1904.

L. LEWIS.
SURGICAL KNIFE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 22, 1904.



Witnesses.
Robert Emmett,
[Signature]

Inventor.
Leopold Lewis.
By James L. Norris.
[Signature]

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEOPOLD LEWIS, OF STRASBURG, GERMANY.

SURGICAL KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 778,684, dated December 27, 1904.

Application filed August 22, 1904. Serial No. 221,711.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEOPOLD LEWIS, a subject of the Emperor of Germany, residing at Strasburg, Alsace, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Surgical Knives, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a new and improved surgical knife having a sheath-handle.

The knives now commonly employed for surgical purposes are firmly fixed in their handles and are single or combined in sets in a case. In this arrangement it is necessary for one to always carry the entire case, even if only a single knife is to be used. In order to avoid this objection, the present invention has for its object to provide a knife of this character the handle of which also acts as a sheath, which latter permits antiseptic manipulation.

Figure 1 illustrates a side view of the knife in condition for use. Fig. 2 shows a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 shows a side elevation, the blade being closed and the lid of the case open; and Fig. 4 is a top view of a modification.

The blade *k* is adapted to be opened and shut and to this end turns upon a pivot-pin *d* and is mounted in a casing *g*, of metal, which may be closed by means of a sliding or hinged lid *s*. That portion of the knife-blade forming the pivot portion *p* is prismatic in form in order that the lid may be readily slid over this portion whether the knife is open or shut. In the first case the slide *s*, which is feathered, rests upon the prismatic portion in such manner as to firmly hold the blade in the casing, and in this position it is ready for use.

r indicates a roughened portion by means of which the slide is moved. As indicated at *a*, the handle-casing is provided with a cut-away portion which admits of access to the blade to open the same. The pin *i*, carried by the lid and extending into the casing, is for the purpose of preventing the slide *s* from being pulled entirely out of the casing or moved in the direction of the blade further than is necessary. In the former case said pin is adapted to strike against the bottom of the

casing—in the latter against a stop-pin *i'*, secured on the inside of the casing.

As indicated in Fig. 4, the slide is provided with edge portions engaging the outer sides of the casing, whereas in the first-described form it moves in a groove *f*. The pivot-pin *d* can be made removable and the knife-blades arranged to be interchangeable. Instead of a knife-blade an eating implement may be employed.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A knife for surgical purposes having a sheath-handle, a knife-blade pivotally mounted in one end of said handle and adapted to close within the same and provided with flat sides at the pivot portion, and a lid, coextensive in length with the handle, and mounted to slide longitudinally thereon, said lid being slidable outwardly in one direction a distance sufficient to permit its inner end to clear the point of the blade whereby the latter may be opened and being adapted in its closed position to rest upon the flat portion of the blade to hold the same in firm fixed position within the handle.

2. A knife for surgical purposes having a sheath-handle, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on one end of said handle and adapted to close within the same and provided with flat sides at the pivot portion, a lid, coextensive in length with the handle, and mounted to slide longitudinally thereon, said lid being slidable outwardly in one direction a distance sufficient to permit its inner end to clear the point of the blade, whereby the latter may be opened, and being adapted in its closed position to rest upon the flat portion of the blade to hold the same in firm fixed position within the handle, and stops for limiting the movement of said lid in either direction.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LEOPOLD LEWIS.

Witnesses:

IRVIN MELVINE LEWIS,
GUSTAV SD. WEISS.