

No. 845,521.

PATENTED FEB. 26, 1907.

L. H. CARLSON.
CLAM AND OYSTER OPENING MACHINE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 21, 1906.

Fig. 1.

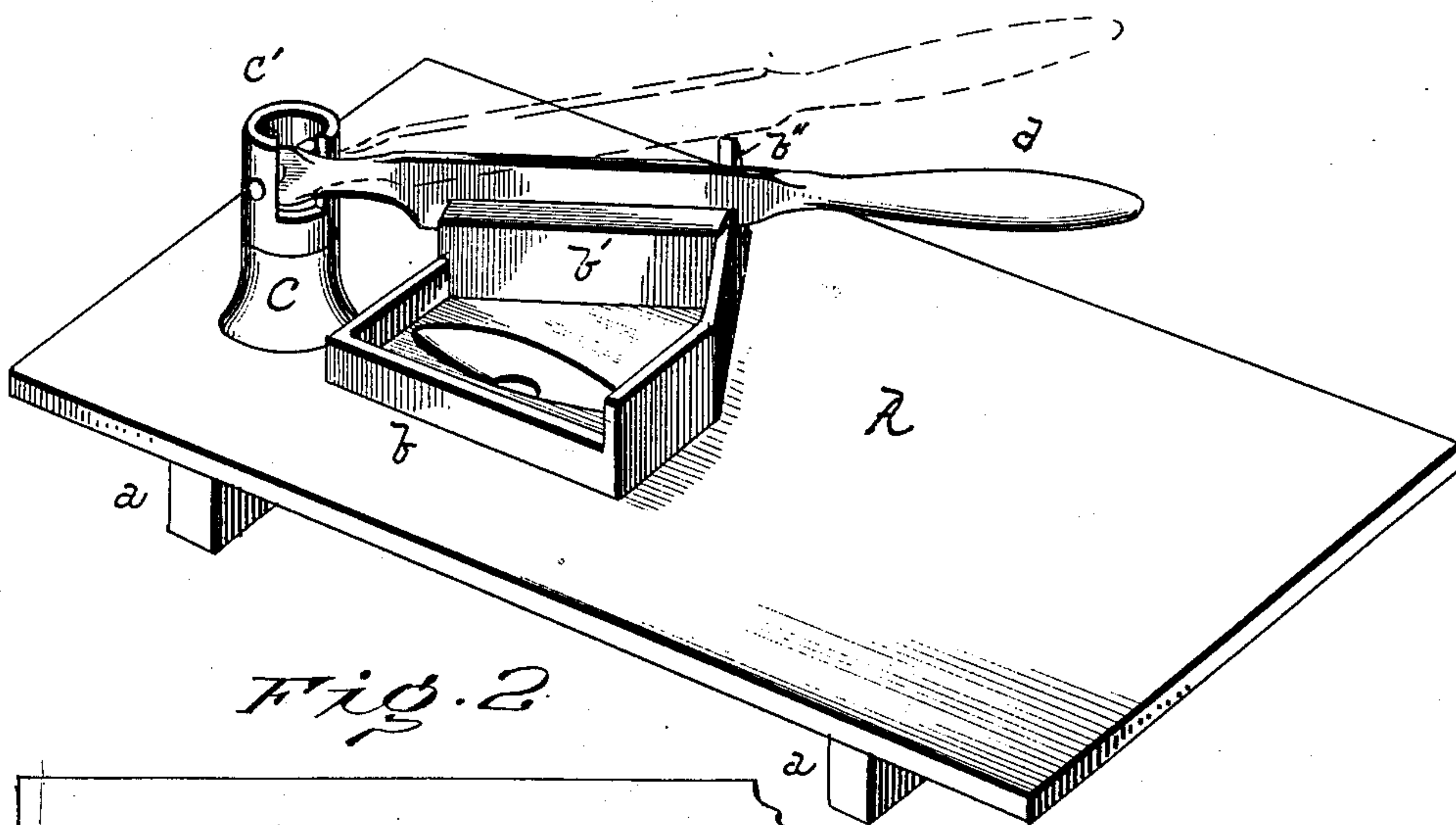


Fig. 2.

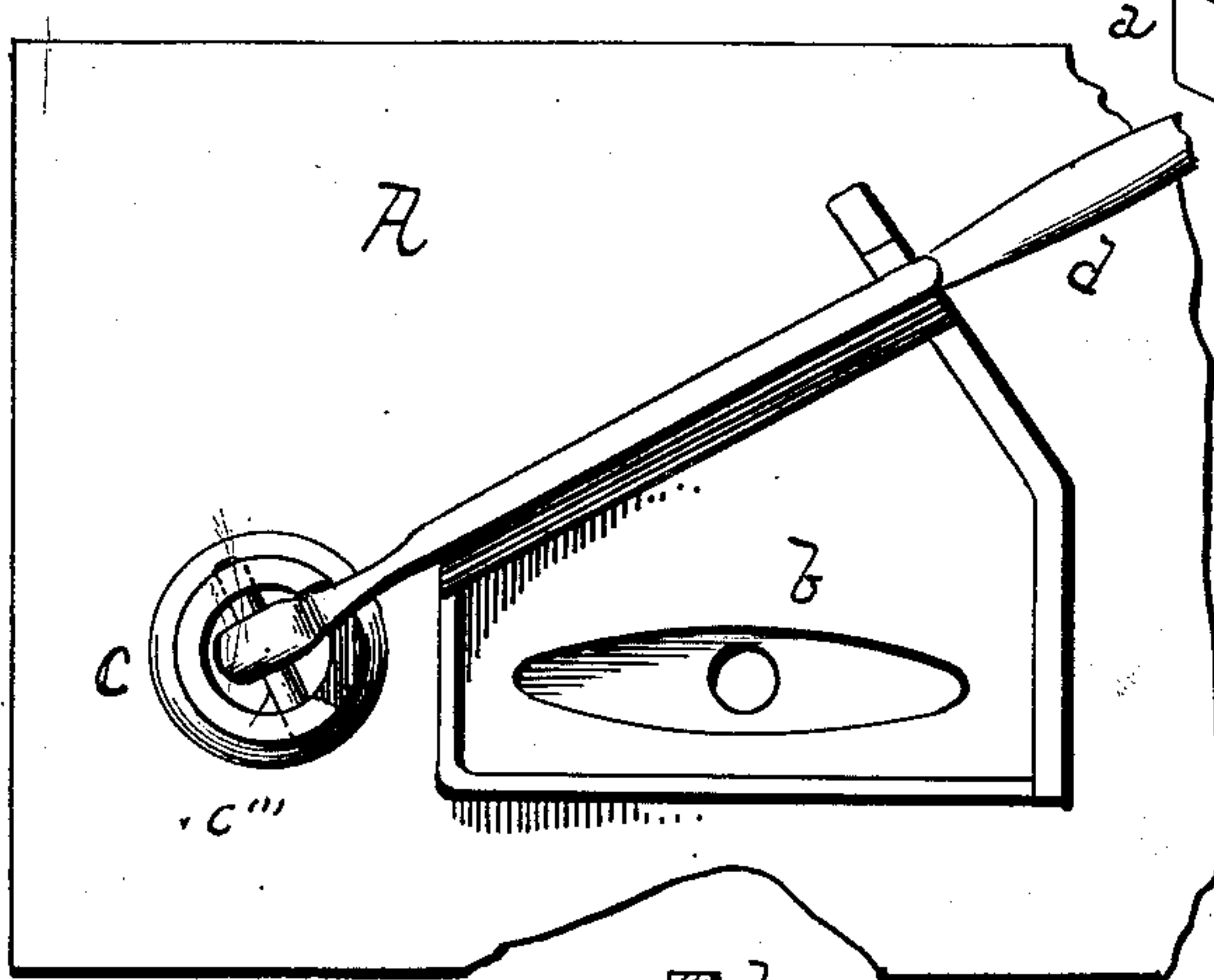


Fig. 3.

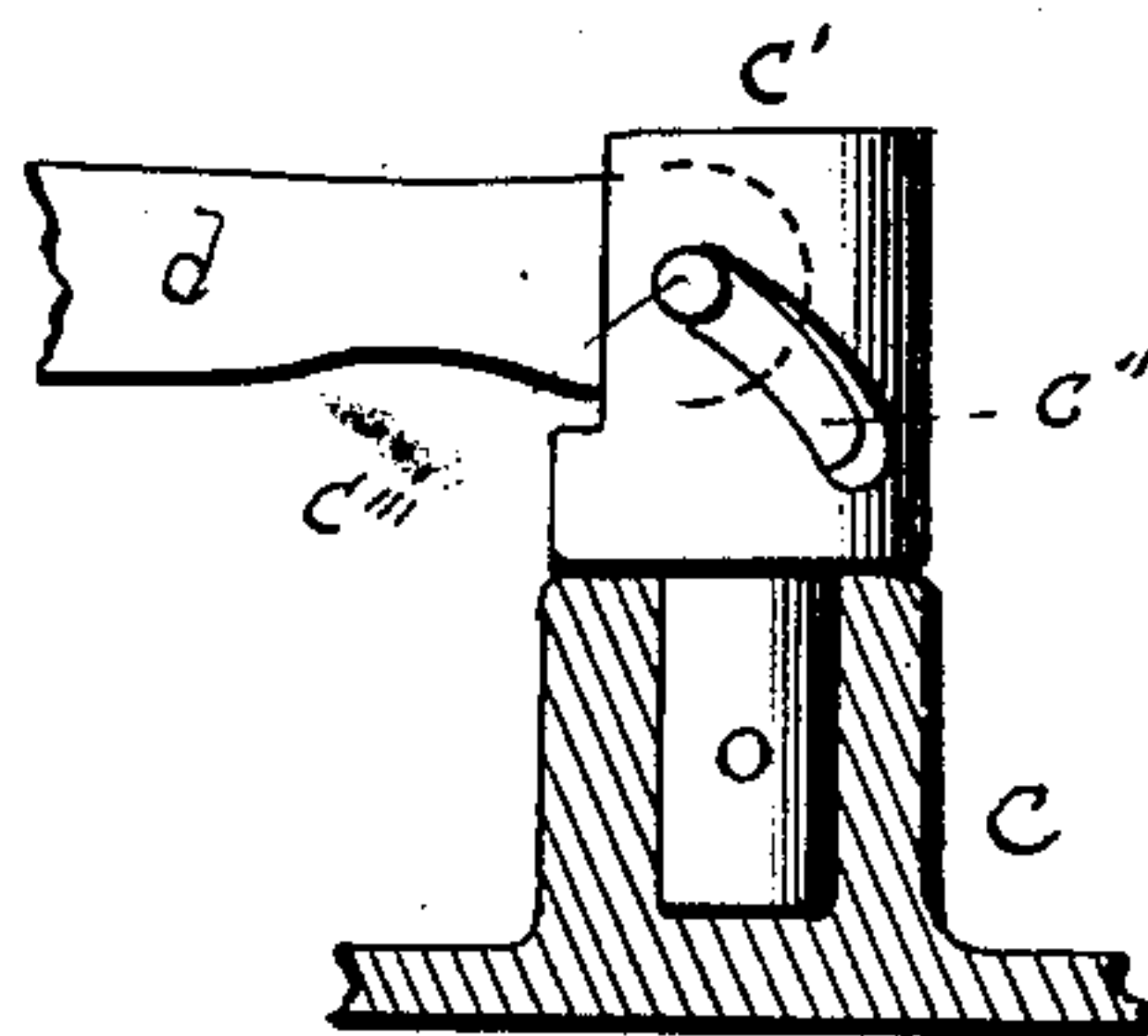


Fig. 4.

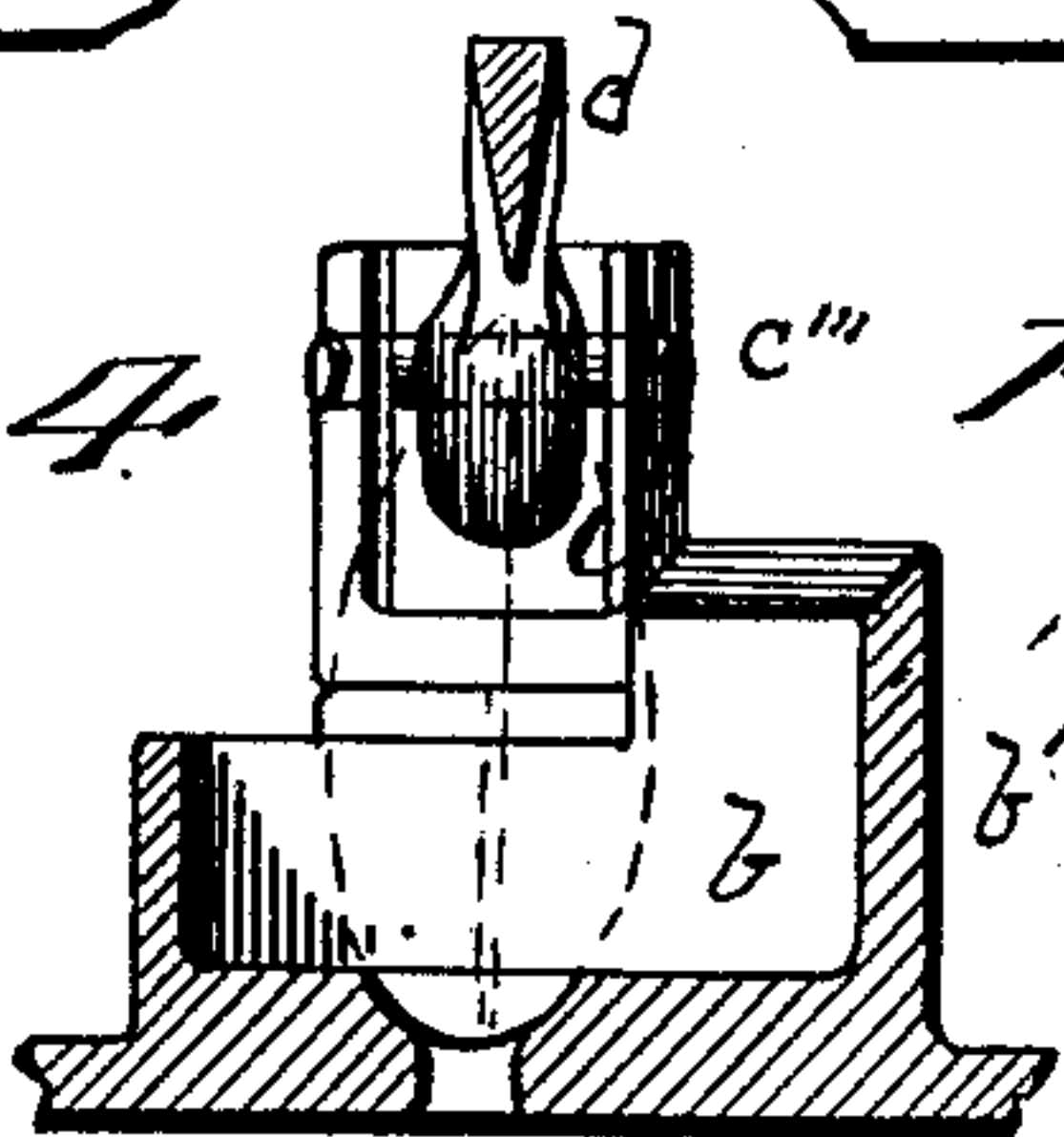
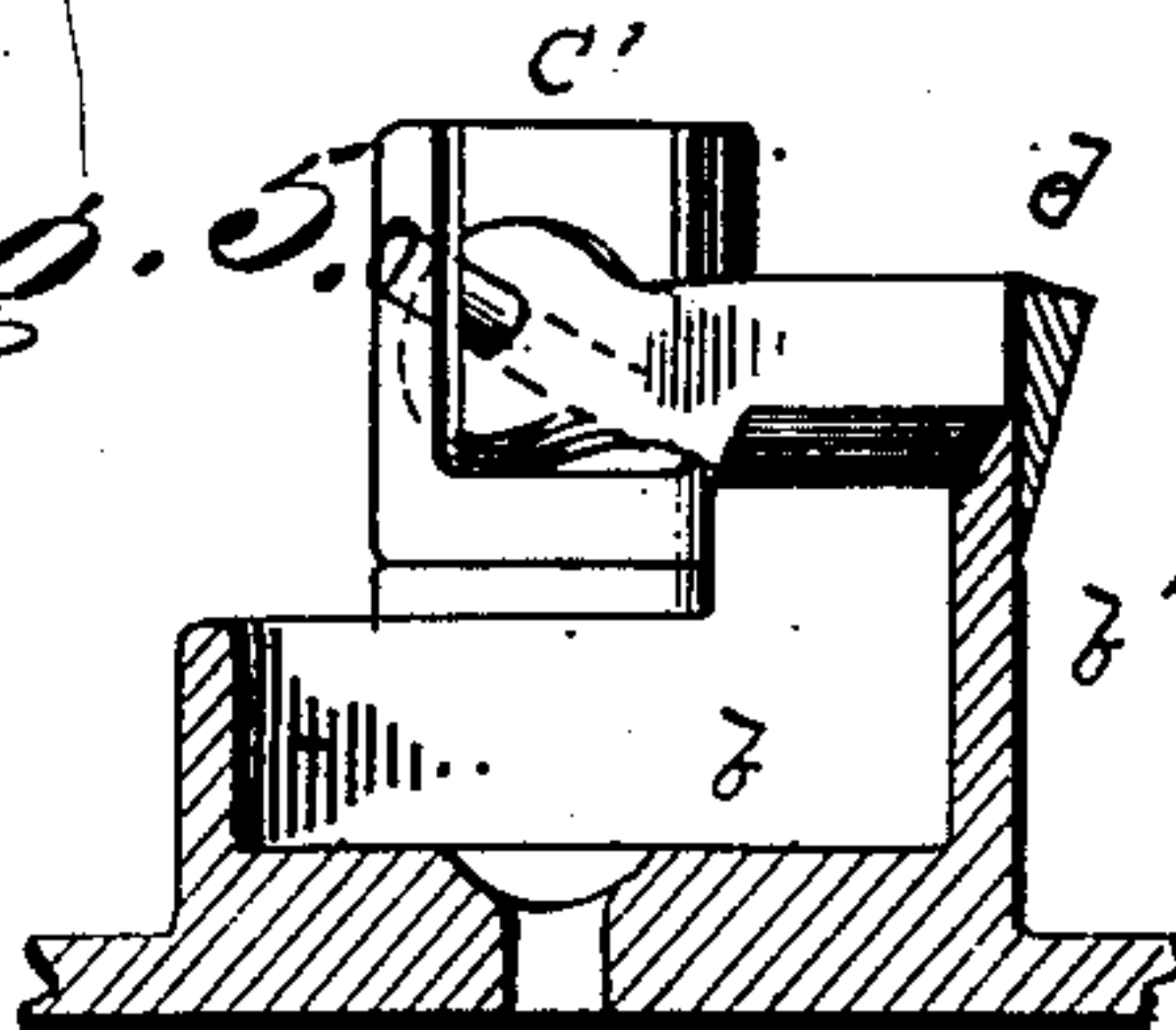


Fig. 5.



Inventor

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LARS HENNING CARLSON, OF LORAIN, OHIO.

CLAM AND OYSTER OPENING MACHINE.

No. 845,521.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 26, 1907.

Application filed July 21, 1906. Serial No. 327,161.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LARS HENNING CARLSON, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Lorain, county of Lorain, and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Clam and Oyster Opening Machine.

My invention relates to improvement in machines for opening clam and oyster shells more quickly and easily than heretofore.

The advantages of my invention consist of its cheapness, ease of operation, cleanliness, and the saving of all the liquor from the shells opened. I attained these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a top or plan view of same with part of bed-plate and end of handle broken off. Fig. 3 is detailed view of post, showing oblique slot in same. Fig. 4 is cross-sectional view of my invention with dotted lines indicating position of oyster or clam shell ready to be opened by depression of knife-blade; and Fig. 5 shows sectional view of my invention with the inner side of knife perpendicular with the shear edge b' , as hereinafter explained.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents a bed-plate supported by the parts a of sufficient height to admit of any suitable receptacle being placed under the bed-plate to catch the liquor running from the shells as opened.

Preferably the bed-plate and all parts of my invention are made of metal and of suitable size to accommodate the largest shells to be operated on and of sufficient strength for the purposes intended. To the top of the bed-plate and rigidly secured thereto is a holder b , concaved or with edges projecting upward on all sides, the back edge extending high enough and beveled to form a shear edge used in conjunction with the knife d . The end nearest the handle of the knife extends high enough to form a rest for the handle and prevents depressing the knife too far. A stop b'' extends up on the back side to bring the knife in right position to form a shear cut with the edge b' . A post c is also secured rigidly to the bed-plate A . In the top of this post is secured the hollow standard c' , cut away in front to receive the knife and provided with a round hole on one side and an oblique slot c'' on the opposite side to receive a pin c''' , extending through the inner end of

the knife-blade. The knife-blade d is wedge-shaped and the outer end provided with a handle. In the bottom of the holder b and extending through the bed-plate is a suitable hole to permit the liquor to escape from the holder. The oblique slot c'' is cut on such an angle as to bring the side of the knife next the operator perpendicular with the shear edge b' when used in connection therewith.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The oyster or clam shell can first have the edge trimmed off by the knife and shear edge b' then set upright, its back resting in the holder b , the knife edge then depressed between edges of the shell, forcing same open a suitable distance, the liquor from the inside running down through the hole in the bottom into a proper receptacle.

Having fully described my invention and its operations, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, an element having an upper shear edge mounted on said base, a knife-blade pivotally connected to said base to swing in a vertical plane above said base, and means forming said pivotal connection whereby the knife-blade may also be swung in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge.

2. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, a holder for a shell-fish on said base, an element having an upper shear edge mounted on said base at one side of said holder, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on said base to swing in a vertical plane above said holder, and means forming said pivotal connection whereby the knife-blade may also be tilted sidewise from above said holder to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge.

3. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, a holder for shell-fish on said base, said holder having inclosing walls rising from said base, one of said walls having an upper beveled shear edge, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on said base to swing in a vertical plane above said holder, and means forming said pivotal connection whereby the knife-blade may also be tilted sidewise from above said holder to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge.

4. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, a holder for a shell-fish on said base,

said holder having two side walls rising from said base, said side walls being inclined in a horizontal direction with respect to each other, and one side wall having an upper beveled shear edge, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on said base at approximately the intersection of the plane of one side wall and a plane parallel with the other side wall, to swing in a vertical plane parallel with one side wall, and means forming said pivotal connection whereby the knife-blade may be swung into the plane of said other side wall and simultaneously tilted to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said beveled shear edge.

5. An opener for shell-fish, consisting of a base, a holder for shell-fish on said base, said holder having inclosing side and end walls rising from said base one of said side walls having a beveled upper edge, a knife-head pivotally connected with said base to swing in a vertical plane over said holder and means forming said pivotal connection whereby the knife-blade may also be moved sidewise and turned to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge, one of said end walls being positioned to limit the vertical and guide the sidewise movement of said blade, and a stop on said wall to limit the said sidewise movement of the knife-blade at the proper position for cooperation with said beveled edge.

6. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, an element having an upper shear edge mounted on said base, a knife-blade pivotally connected to said base to swing in a vertical plane above said base, said pivotal connection consisting of two cylindrical pivot-lugs projecting from the opposite sides of said knife near one end thereof, a hollow cylindrical standard mounted on said base, an opening in the side of said standard through which the end of the knife extends, a round opening in one wall to receive one of said pivot-lugs, and an inclined slot in the opposite wall to receive the other pivot-lug, whereby the knife-blade may also be swung in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge.

7. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, a holder for shell-fish on said base, an element having an upper shear edge mounted on said base at one side of said holder, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on said base, to swing in a vertical plane above said holder, said pivotal connection consisting of two cylindrical pivot-lugs projecting from the opposite sides of said knife near one end thereof, a hollow cylindrical standard mounted on said base, an opening in the side of said standard through which the end of the knife extends a round opening in one wall to receive one of said pivot-lugs, and an inclined slot in the opposite wall to receive the other pivot-lug, whereby the knife-blade may also

be tilted sidewise from above said holder to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge.

8. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, a holder for shell-fish on said base, said holder having inclosing walls rising from said base, one of said walls having an upper beveled shear edge, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on said base to swing in a vertical plane above said holder, said pivotal connection consisting of two cylindrical pivot-lugs projecting from the opposite sides of said knife near one end thereof, a hollow cylindrical standard mounted on said base, an opening in the side of said standard through which the end of the knife extends, a round opening in one wall to receive one of said pivot-lugs, and an inclined slot in the opposite wall to receive the other pivot-lug, whereby the knife-blade may also be tilted sidewise from above said holder to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said shear edge.

9. An opener for shell-fish consisting of a base, a holder for a shell-fish on said base, said holder having two side walls rising from said base, said side walls being inclined in a horizontal direction with respect to each other, and one side wall having an upper beveled shear edge, a knife-blade pivotally mounted on said base at approximately the intersection of the plane of one side wall and a plane parallel with the other side wall, to swing in a vertical plane parallel with one side wall, said pivotal connection consisting of two cylindrical pivot-lugs, projecting from the opposite sides of said knife near one end thereof, a hollow cylindrical standard mounted on said base, an opening in the side of said standard through which the end of the knife extends, a round opening in one wall to receive one of said pivot-lugs, and an inclined slot in the opposite wall to receive the other pivot-lug, whereby the knife-blade may be swung into a plane of said other side wall and simultaneously tilted to swing in a plane inclined to the vertical so as to cooperate with said beveled shear edge.

10. An opener for shell-fish, consisting of a base, a holder for shell-fish on said base, said holder having inclosing side and end walls rising from said base, one of said side walls having a beveled upper edge, a knife-head pivotally connected with said base to swing in a vertical plane over said holder, said pivotal connection consisting of two cylindrical pivot-lugs projecting from the opposite sides of said knife near one end thereof, a hollow cylindrical standard mounted on said base, an opening in the side of said standard through which the end of the knife extends, a round opening in one wall to receive one of said pivot-lugs, and an inclined slot in the opposite wall to receive the other pivot-lug, whereby the knife-blade may also be moved sidewise and turned to swing in a plane in-

clined to the vertical so as to cooperate with
said shear edge, one of said end walls being
positioned to limit the vertical and guide the
sidewise movement of said blade, and a stop
5 on said wall to limit the said sidewise move-
ment of the knife-blade at the proper posi-
tion for cooperation with said beveled edge.

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

LARS HENNING CARLSON.

Witnesses:

ANTHONY NIEDING,

IDA M. HARTMAN.