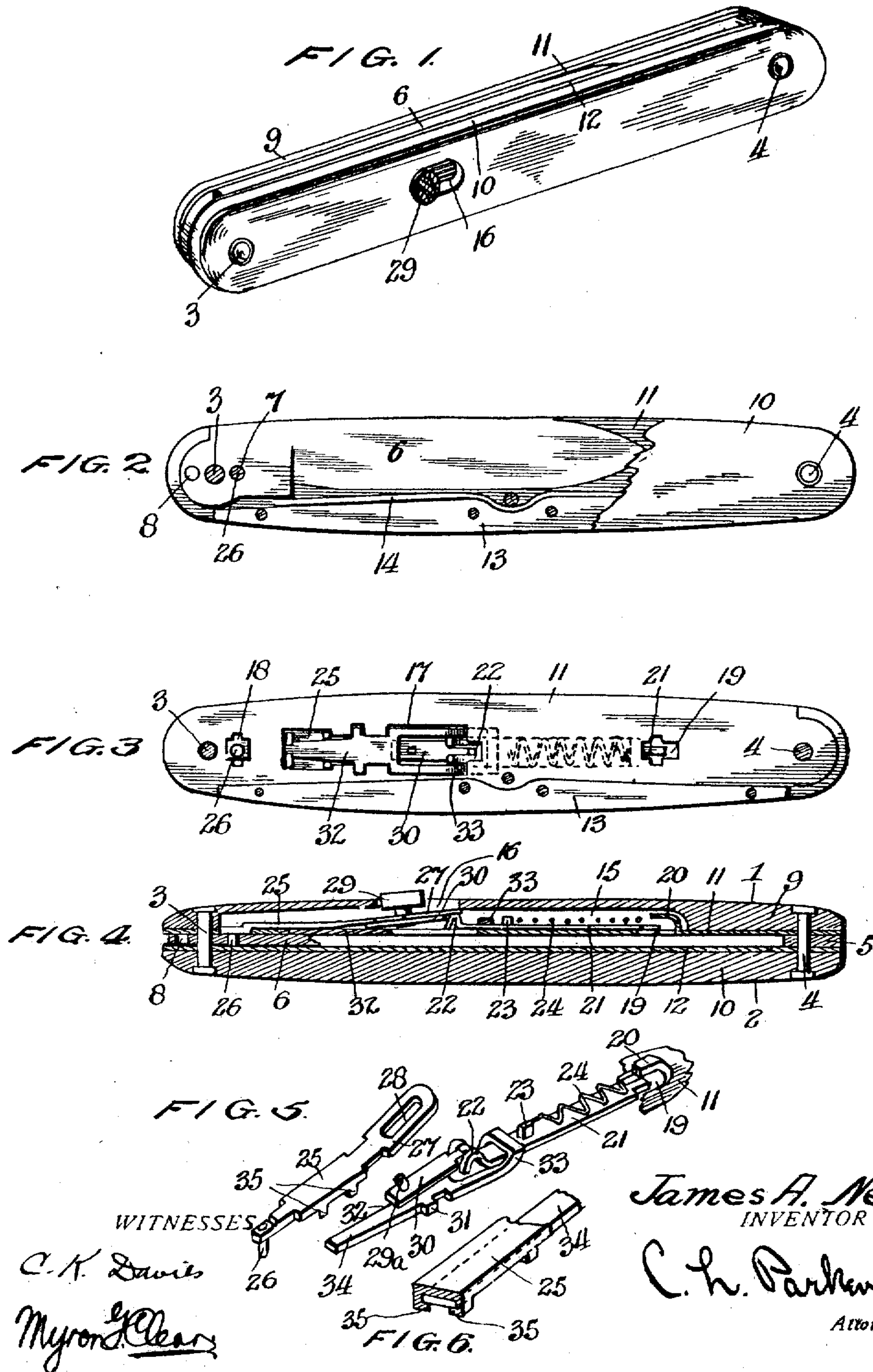


J. A. NELL.
POCKET KNIFE.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 6, 1909.

943,990.

Patented Dec. 21, 1909.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES A. NELL, OF WALDEN, NEW YORK.

POCKET-KNIFE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES A. NELL, citizen of the United States, residing at Walden, in the county of Orange and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Pocket-Knives, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to pocket knives, and more particularly to that character of pocket knives which embody spring actuated, normally locked blades, and depressible side buttons for releasing the same, and the object of my invention is to provide certain improvements in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate my invention, and form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete knife. Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof partly broken away to show the blade therein in its closed position. Fig. 3 is an elevation of one of the side sections, looking at the inner face thereof. Fig. 4 is a central longitudinal sectional view through the knife. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a portion of one of the handle plates, and illustrating in detail the several parts comprising the blade releasing mechanism, and, Fig. 6 is a sectional perspective view of the locking lever, illustrating the manner in which the tail of the spring plate is secured thereto.

In the practical embodiment of my invention, I provide a pair of side sections 1 and 2, secured together in spaced relation at their ends by transverse rivets or pins 3 and 4, the pin 4 passing through a spacing block 5 between said sections, and pin 3 passing through an opening transversely through the butt end of the blade 6, extending between said sections, which blade is provided with diametrically alined openings 7 and 8 upon opposite sides of pin 3.

The sections 1 and 2 each comprise handle pieces 9 and 10, respectively having curved outer surfaces, and flat inner surfaces to which are secured the handle plates 11 and 12 respectively, carrying between them, adjacent one edge, the stationary back piece 13, to which is connected the kick spring 14, bearing against the blade 6 to open the same when released.

The handle piece 11 is provided with a longitudinal channel 15, cored out in its inner surface, and with a slotted opening 16

through its outer surface, communicating with said channel. The handle plate 11, which covers said channel 15, has an enlarged opening 17 therethrough and small openings 18 and 19 longitudinally alined with opening 17, the material from said opening 19 being pressed inwardly within channel 17 to form a tongue 20.

Mounted upon the inner surface of plate 11, and extending between openings 17 and 19, is a longitudinally movable latch bar 21, provided adjacent opening 17 with an angular curved and bifurcated head 22, and with a lug 23 adjacent said head, between which lug 23 and said tongue 20 extends a spring 24, tending to force said latch bar 21 longitudinally toward the opening 17. Mounted also upon the inner surface of plate 11, between openings 17 and 18, is a lever 25, having upon one end thereof an angularly extending locking pin 26, adapted to project through opening 18, and through the blade openings 7 and 8 when said blade is in the closed and open positions respectively. Lever 25 is provided with an angularly projecting opposite end 27, which extends over the head 22 of latch bar 21, as shown in Fig. 4, and is provided with a longitudinal slot 28, adjacent the handle piece opening 16. A press button 29 has its shank 29^a projecting loosely through the lever slot 28, and secured to a plate 30 having a reduced end interfitting the bifurcated latch bar head 22. Thus to press button 29 inwardly, the same is first moved longitudinally in slot 28 until plate 30 pushes latch bar 21 beyond the end of lever 25, when said lever may be rocked and its pin 26 withdrawn from either of the blade openings 7 and 8 in which it may be located.

Mounted upon the outer surface of plate 11, within opening 17, by its central trunnions 31 which engage in depressions in said plate at the sides of said opening, is a spring plate 32, having one end thereof bent inwardly through opening 17 and slotted to receive the headed end of latch bar 21 therethrough, and form a guide 33 for said latch bar. The opposite end of said spring plate forms a tapering tail 34, which engages between and within undercut lugs 35 of the lever 25, thus constituting a spring tending to hold lever 25 flat against the inner surface of plate 11, with its pin 26 extending into one of the blade openings 7 and 8.

From the foregoing description, it will be

seen that the blade is automatically locked in both the open and closed positions. It is thought that the operation of releasing the blade to be opened or closed, has been made clear and will be readily apparent.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A pocket knife comprising a handle, having a hollow portion, a blade pivotally mounted in said handle, a lever mounted in the hollow of said handle and engaging said blade in its open and closed positions, a longitudinally movable and depressible button to release said lever, and a spring controlled latch engaging said lever and releasable upon the longitudinal movement of said button, substantially as described.

2. A pocket knife comprising a handle having a hollow portion, a blade pivotally mounted in said handle, a lever mounted in the hollow of said handle and engaging said blade in its open and closed positions said lever being releasable, by depression thereon, from said blade, a latch engaging said lever to normally prevent movement thereof, and a longitudinally movable button carried by said lever to engage and release said latch by its longitudinal movement before depressing said lever, substantially as described.

3. A pocket knife comprising a handle having a hollow portion, a blade pivotally mounted in said handle, a lever mounted in the hollow of said handle and engaging said blade in its open and closed positions said lever being releasable, by depression thereon, from said blade, a spring controlling said lever, a spring controlled longitudinally movable latch bar engaging said lever to normally prevent movement thereof, and a longitudinally movable button carried by said lever to engage and move said latch bar free of said lever upon its longitudinal

movement, before depressing said lever, substantially as described.

4. A pocket knife comprising a handle, having a hollow portion, a blade pivotally mounted in said handle, a depressibly releasable lever mounted in the hollow of said handle and engaging said blade in its open and closed positions, a spring controlled longitudinally movable latch bar engaging said lever to normally prevent movement thereof, a spring plate having one end thereof secured to said lever, to control the same, and provided with a curved slotted opposite end forming a guide for said latch bar, and a longitudinally movable button carried by said lever to engage and move said latch bar therefrom, upon its longitudinal movement, before the depression of said lever to release the blade, substantially as described.

5. A pocket knife comprising a handle having a hollow portion, a blade pivotally mounted in said handle and provided with openings therethrough upon opposite sides of its pivot, a lever mounted in the hollow of said handle and provided with a pin to enter either of the said blade openings, and having an angular depressible portion, a button extending outwardly through an opening in said handle, and connected to said angular portion of said lever for movement with relation thereto, a spring controlled latch bar in engagement with said lever and movable toward and away from the same, and a member carried by said button for movement against said latch bar to release said lever and permit the depression.

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

JAMES A. NELL.

Witnesses:

GEORGE L. McVEY,
FRANK BOWN.