

Patented Oct. 24, 1882.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM A. STODDARD, OF DALLAS, OREGON.

CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,398, dated October 24, 1832.

Application filed June 23, 1832. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. STODDARD, of Dallas, in the county of Polk and State of Oregon, have invented a new and Improved Can-Opener, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to facilitate the opening of tin cans.

The invention consists in a can-opener constructed with two levers, of which the upper one carries knives and the lower one a plate for receiving the can, which levers are so connected that when the upper one is depressed the lower one will be raised, and the knives will be forced into the upper end of the can and will cut the same out.

The invention further consists in certain details in the construction and combination of parts, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal elevation of my improved can-opener. Fig. 2 is a front end elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a view of the inner side of one of the blades or knives. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal central sectional view of the same.

A lever, A, is pivoted at one end to two parallel standards, B, resting on and secured to a base, C, and to the free end of this lever A a head is attached, which is surrounded by a sleeve, D, between which and the head the upper ends of the semicircular knives E are passed, these knives being held in place by set-screws F, passing through apertures in the sleeve and resting against the knives. The outer ends of the screws F project from the sleeve, as shown, and serve as checks to prevent forcing the knives too far into the can. A disk, G, provided with a handle, H, is pivoted eccentrically and above the head of the lever A to projections or arms J of the frames B. A lever, K, is pivoted to the bottom of the frames B, below the pivot of the lever A, and to the free end of this lever K a can-receiving plate, L, is attached. A short lever, M, is pivoted to the front ends of the frames B, and the rear end of this lever is connected by means of a link-piece, N, with the lever A, and the front end of this lever M is connected by means of a pivoted link, O, with the lever K.

A spring, P, is attached to the upper edge of the lever K and rests against the lower edge of the lever M, at the front end of the same. The knives E have the greatest height at the middle, and the edges are curved from the ends toward the middle, a point, e, being formed at the middle of each knife, as shown. The spring W is attached to the inner surface of one of the knives E in such a manner that the upper end will be free. When the blades or knives have been forced through the top of the can this spring will catch on that part of the top which has been cut out and will lift the same from the can.

The operation is as follows: The can to be opened is placed in an upright position on the plate L, directly below the knives. By depressing the handle-lever H the head end carrying the knives of the lever A will be forced downward, the plate L will be raised, and, finally, the knives E are forced into the head of the can and cut out this head. As soon as the handle-lever H is released the spring P raises the lever A and lowers the lever K. The knives E can easily be removed in case they are to be sharpened.

It will be understood that I make no claim to the cylindric knives, with their lower edges tapered or inclined rearwardly upon each side of a piercing-point, nor to a projection secured to the inside of each knife above its piercing-point to lift the cut-out part of the can-top.

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

1. A can-opener, constructed substantially as herein shown and described, with a lever carrying knives, a lever carrying a can-receiving plate, and levers for connecting these two levers, and adapted to cause the elevation of the can-carrying lever as the knife-carrying lever is depressed, as set forth.

2. In a can-opener, the combination, with the frames B, of the lever A, the knives E, the lever K, the plate L, the lever M, the links N and O, the spring P, the eccentrically-pivoted disk G, and the handle-lever H, substantially as herein shown and described, and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM A. STODDARD.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. MILLER,
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