(No Model.)

# E. HAWES.

## CAN OPENER AND SHEET METAL CUTTER.

No. 384,973. Patented June 26, 1888.

Fig. 1.

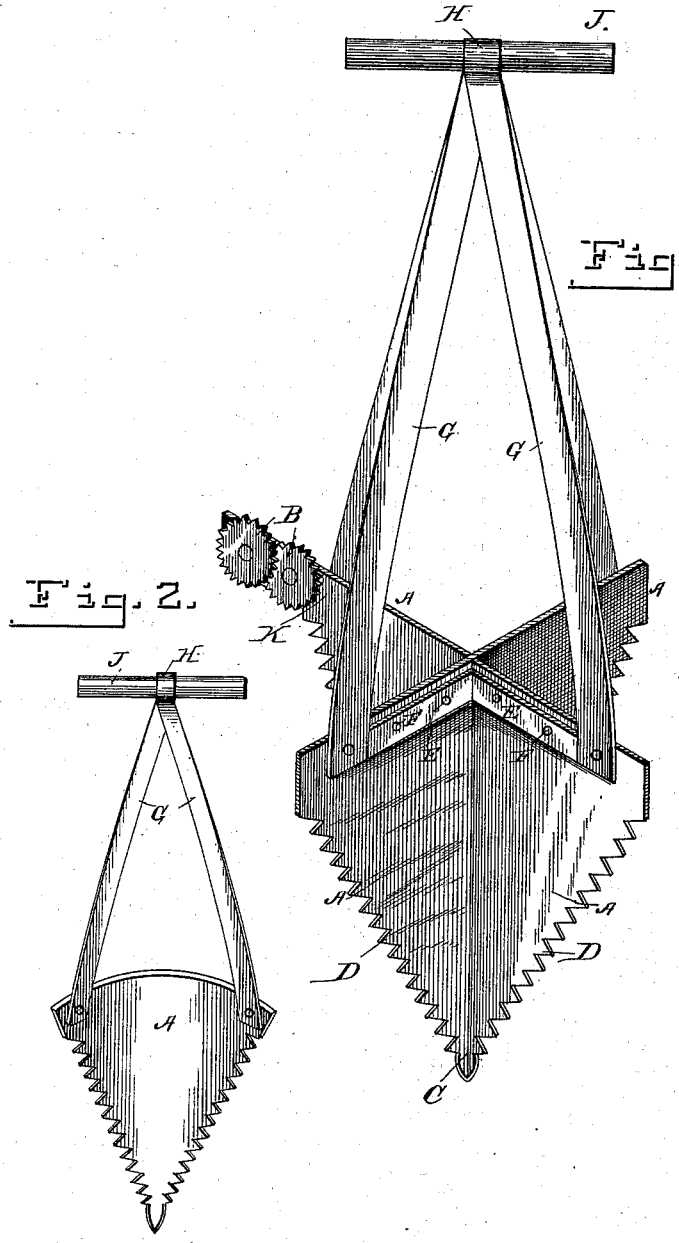


Fig. 2.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELISHA HAWES, OF SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA.

## CAN-OPENER AND SHEET-METAL CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 384,973, dated June 26, 1888.

Application filed August 24, 1887. Serial No. 247,779. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELISHA HAWES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sacramento city, in the county of Sacramento and State of California, have invented a new and useful Can-Opener and Sheet-Metal Cutter, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in can-openers and sheet-metal cutters, of which the following is a full and clear description.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of my invention particularly adapted for opening square cans. Fig. 2 is a similar view of a modified form of my invention adapted for opening cylindrical cans. Fig. 3 is a similar view of another modified form of my invention adapted for cutting a round hole in a can at a single operation. Fig. 4 is another modified form of my invention adapted for opening cans and for cutting sheet metal.

Referring to Fig. 1, A represents a series of four blades or cutters which radiate from a common center, are arranged at right angles, and have their outer edges inclined downward and inward to a point, C. The said outer edges of the blades or cutters are provided with serrated teeth D.

E represents braces which are bent at right angles, and are secured in the angles formed at the upper portions of the blades or cutters A by means of rivets F.

G represents a series of four downwardly-diverging arms, which have an eye, H, formed at their upper ends, and have their lower ends riveted to the outer corners of the blades or cutters. A cross-bar, J, is fitted in the eye H, and serves as a handle by means of which the device may be grasped and manipulated.

One of the blades or cutters is provided at its upper portion with an outwardly-projecting arm or extension, K, which is formed integrally with said blade, and on one side of the said arm or extension are a pair of rotary cutters, B, which overlap each other at their inner edges, and are provided with peripheral serrations or teeth, as shown.

By forcing the device point downward in the top of a can the serrated edges of the blades A cut radial slits in the top of the can, and hence enable the same to be readily opened. By forcing the device far enough downward through the top of the can to cause the rotary cutters B to impinge on one corner of the same the said cutters may be caused to cut the said corner vertically, and thereby lay the body of the can open.

The form of my invention shown in Fig. 2 has a V or wedge shaped cutting-blade, A, which forms the segment of a cone, and is provided with serrations or teeth on its edge. A pair of downwardly-diverging arms, G, have an eye, H, at their upper ends, a cross-bar or handle, J, in said eye, and have their lower ends riveted to the upper corners of the blade A. This form of my invention is adapted to cut a curved slit when forced point downward into the cover of a can or other piece of sheet metal.

The form of my invention shown in Fig. 3 comprises a cylindrical blade or cutter, L, having serrated teeth at its lower edge, a head, M, secured in the upper end of the cylindrical blade, and a standard or handle, N, projecting vertically from the center of said head. This form of my invention is adapted to cut a circular opening in a can-top or other piece of sheet metal when forced downward through the same.

The form of my invention shown in Fig. 4 is an axe or cutter, O, having a V-shaped incision in its lower cutting-edge, thereby forming a pair of wedge shaped cutting points or teeth, P.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A can-opener and sheet-metal cutter having a wedge-shaped blade provided with serrations or teeth on its outer converging edges and adapted to be forced through a can from the point of the blade to its base.

2. A can-opener and sheet-metal cutter having the radial blades A, provided with toothed downwardly-converging edges, substantially as described.

3. The can-opener having the radial blades A, having the downwardly-converging toothed outer edges, and the upwardly-converging arms G, attached to the upper sides of said blades, substantially as described.

4. The can-opener having the radial cutting-blades A, one of which is provided with the projection or extension K, and the rotary cutters B, journaled on one side of said arm or extension and provided with serrated edges, substantially as described.

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