

No. 676,726.

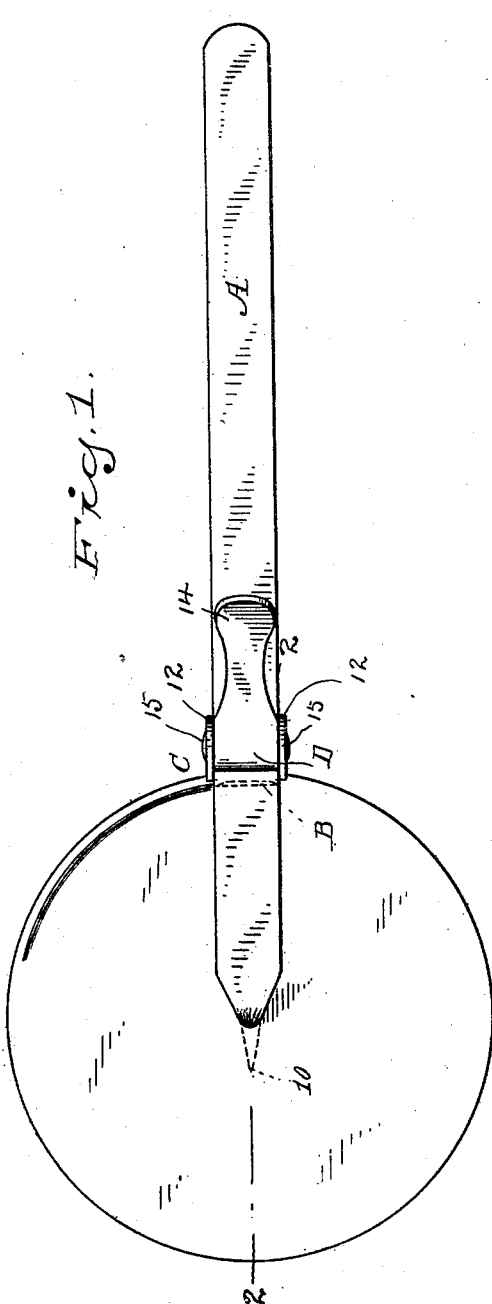
Patented June 18, 1901.

W. H. PLUMB.

CAN OPENER.

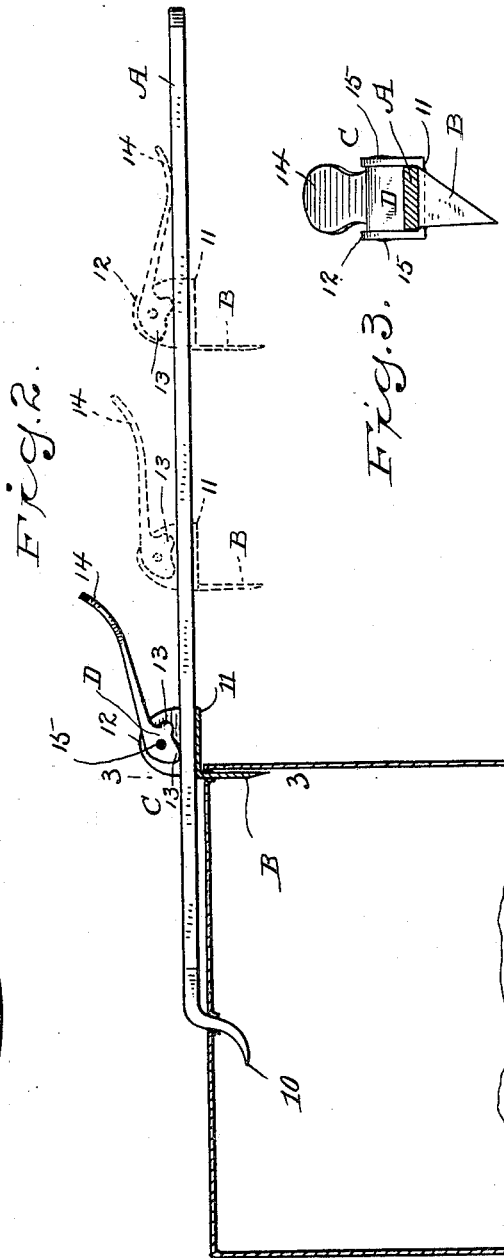
(Application filed Aug. 30, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES.

H. W. Lamb.
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INVENTOR.

William H. Plumb
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. PLUMB, OF ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT.

CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 676,726, dated June 18, 1901.

Application filed August 30, 1900. Serial No. 28,497. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. PLUMB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ansonia, county of New Haven, State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Can-Openers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the class of can-openers which cut a round piece from a can-top by means of a cutter carried by a lever which is provided at one end with a point adapted to pierce the center of the portion of the can-top to be cut out and to serve as a fulcrum for the lever; and my invention has for its object to provide a cutter and a carrier therefor struck up and formed from a single piece of metal and means for conveniently locking and releasing the carrier and cutter, the entire device consisting of but three parts, all of which are simple and inexpensive to make and which are adapted to be assembled in the simplest and least expensive manner possible.

With these ends in view I have devised the novel can-opener which I will now describe, referring to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and using reference characters to designate the several parts.

Figure 1 is a plan view illustrating my novel can-opener in use; Fig. 2, a sectional view on the line 2 2 in Fig. 1, the lever and cam appearing in elevation, the manner in which the carrier and cutter are locked in position by the forward boss of the cam being shown in full lines, and the manner in which the locking of the carrier is effected by the other boss and also the releasing position of the cam being indicated by dotted lines; and Fig. 3 is a section of the lever on the line 3 3 in Fig. 2, the carrier, cutter, and the locking-cam appearing in end elevation.

A denotes the lever, which is provided at its inner end with an offset point 10, which is of suitable size and is so shaped as to adapt it to pierce the center of the portion of the can-top to be removed and to serve as a fulcrum for the lever in the operation of cutting.

B denotes the cutter, and C a carrier therefor, which is adapted to slide on the lever. The carrier and cutter are in practice blanked

out in a single piece from sheet metal, and the carrier consists of a base 11, which lies in a plane substantially at right angles with the plane of the cutter and has upwardly extending therefrom ears 12, between which the cam D is pivoted. This cam comprises two bosses 13, either of which is operative to lock the carrier and with it the cutter to the lever, and a handpiece 14 for convenience in operation, which is ordinarily provided with lugs 15, which pass through holes in the ears and are headed down on the outer faces of the ears to retain the parts in position. A rivet passing through the ears and the cam may be substituted for lugs 15, if preferred.

The operation will be readily apparent from the drawings. The cam is so shaped that when tilted forward by means of the handpiece, as shown in full lines in Fig. 2, or when the handpiece is pressed down into or nearly into contact with the lever, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, one or the other of the bosses 13 will be pressed into firm frictional contact with the upper face of the lever and will thereby lock the carrier and the cutter firmly in position on the lever, so that the latter may be swung around after the point has been inserted into a can-top and the cutter will remove a circular piece therefrom. When the handpiece is in an intermediate position—*i. e.*, in practically a horizontal position, as is also indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2—neither of the bosses 13 will be in engagement with the upper face of the lever, so that the carrier, and with it the cutter, will be free to slide thereon.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. A can-opener comprising a lever having an engaging point, a carrier and cutter formed from a single piece of sheet metal and consisting of a base extending across one side of the lever and having ears rising therefrom past the edges of the lever and having one edge bent downward and forming a cutter in a plane substantially at a right angle to the plane of the ears, one edge of said cutter being straight and in line with one of said ears, and the other edge of the cutter being inclined, the upper ends of the edges of the cutter meeting the base adjacent to the front edges of the ears and means supported by

said ears for clamping the lever against said base.

2. A can-opener comprising a lever having an engaging point, a carrier and cutter formed from a single piece of sheet metal and consisting of a base extending across one side of the lever and having ears rising therefrom past the edges of the lever and having one edge bent downward and forming a cutter in a plane substantially at a right angle to the plane of the ears, one edge of said cutter being straight and in line with one of said ears, and the other edge of the cutter being inclined, the upper ends of the edges of the cutter meeting the base adjacent to the front edges of the ears and a cam pivoted between said ears and adapted to bear on the lever to lock the carrier and cutter in any desired position lengthwise of the lever.

3. A can-opener consisting of a lever having an engaging point, a carrier and cutter formed from a single piece of metal, said carrier being provided with ears, and a cam pivoted between said ears and provided with a handpiece and with two bosses, one of said bosses being adapted to lock the carrier to the lever when the cam is tilted forward and the other when tilted backward and both of said bosses being out of engagement with the lever when the handpiece is in an intermediate position.

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

WILLIAM H. PLUMB.

Witnesses:

ALBERT E. HULL,
DWIGHT S. PARSONS.