B. F. EVELETH & H. KRUEGER.

DEVICE FOR CUTTING BUTTER IN TUBS.

No. 185,822. Patented Jan. 2, 1877.

Fig. 1.

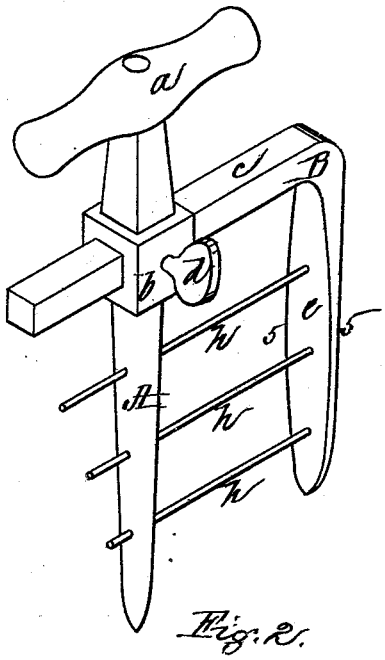
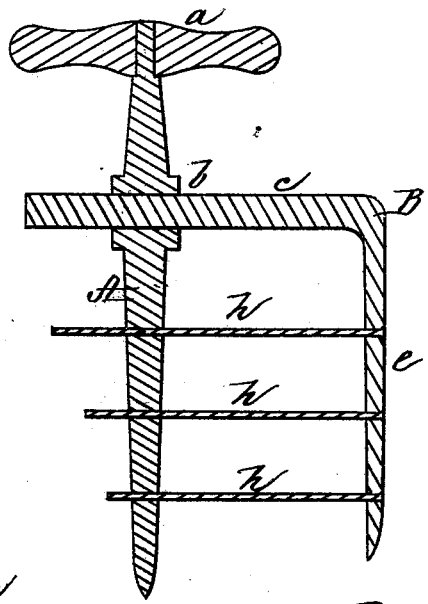



Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. EVELETH AND HENRY KRUEGER, OF BOSTON, MASS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN DEVICES FOR CUTTING BUTTER IN TUBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,822**, dated January 2, 1877; application filed November 17, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN F. EVELETH and HENRY KRUEGER, both of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a Device for Cutting Butter in Tubs into Layers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our butter-cutting device. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section through the center of the same.

The ordinary method of cutting tub-butter into layers is by means of a wire, provided with a handle at each end, which method is objectionable for the following reasons: The tub must first be inverted so as to allow of the butter being detached therefrom, which operation is attended with considerable inconvenience, and the lump is liable to become broken or otherwise injured thereby, and the brine or pickle to be spilt and wasted, beside which, as the wire, when drawn through the lump, is merely guided by the eye of the operator, it is quite difficult to cut a layer of uniform thickness throughout; furthermore, trouble and delay are experienced in fitting the tub in place over the butter when so cut into layers.

To avoid the above-mentioned difficulties is the purpose of our invention, which consists in a device composed of a central vertical spindle provided with a handle and a socket for the reception of an adjustable bent portion, provided with a series of horizontal wires, and having one or both of its edges beveled; the center of the butter, while in the tub, being penetrated by the central or vertical spindle, which simultaneously causes the wires to sink into or enter the butter, and the adjustable bent portion passing down into the tub in contact with its inner surface, so that the beveled edge makes a path around the outside of the lump, carrying with it the series of parallel horizontal wires, by which means each layer is cut of an even and uniform thickness throughout, without the inconvenience of removing and replacing the tub, and without the liability of spilling and wasting the brine, &c., incident to the method of cutting butter into layers, as heretofore.

To enable others skilled in the art to understand and use our invention, we will proceed to describe the manner in which we have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A represents a vertical central spindle of metal, provided with a handle, *a*, at its upper end by which it can be rotated in either direction, the main portion of the spindle being tapered, and its lower end pointed, as shown. A short distance below the handle is a rectangular opening forming a socket, *b*, for the reception of the horizontal portion *c* of a bent arm, B, which slides therein, and is held in place by a clamping-screw, *d*. The other portion *e* of the bent arm B is bent at, or nearly at, right angles to the horizontal portion *c*, and is beveled off at one or both of its edges 5, the outer face of this portion *c* being curved to avoid obstruction from any staves that may project inside of the tub. *h h* are wires, the outer ends of which are permanently secured to the portion *c* at suitable distances apart, the inner ends of these wires sliding freely through holes formed in the central spindle A.

When it is desired to cut the butter within the tub into layers the point of the spindle is centered in the upper surface of the butter, and the horizontal portion *c* of the bent arm B is slid out in its socket till the lower end of the portion *e* comes into contact with the inside of the tub, when the horizontal portion *c* is securely held in place by turning the clamping-screw *d*, after which the central spindle A, together with the wires *h*, are pressed down into the butter, the portion *e* being carried simultaneously down into contact with the inside of the tub, being made sufficiently flexible to adapt itself to the taper of the same. The opposite ends of the handle *a* are now grasped by the operator and the device is rotated on the spindle as a center, the wires cutting through the body of the butter and dividing it into a series of separate and independent layers, each of which is of a uniform thickness throughout.

The cutting device may now be removed by drawing the wires up through the passage which they made in entering, or they may be drawn up through the butter at any other point, should it be desired to cut the layers

vertically into sections of any required size, the necessity of a knife for this purpose being dispensed with.

The bent arm may be rigidly secured to the central spindle, if desired, but the device would then only be adapted for cutting butter contained in one and the same sized tubs, but we prefer to make it adjustable, as thereby a single instrument will answer for cutting butter contained in tubs of different sizes.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The central vertical spindle A, in combination with the bent arm B, and wires *h*, constructed to operate substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

Witness our hands this 9th day of November, A. D. 1876.

BENJ. F. EVELETH.
HENRY KRUEGER.

In presence of—
N. W. STEARNS,
P. E. TESCHEMACHER.