

J. G. BESTGEN.
RAZOR STROPPER.

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957,140.

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Fig. 1

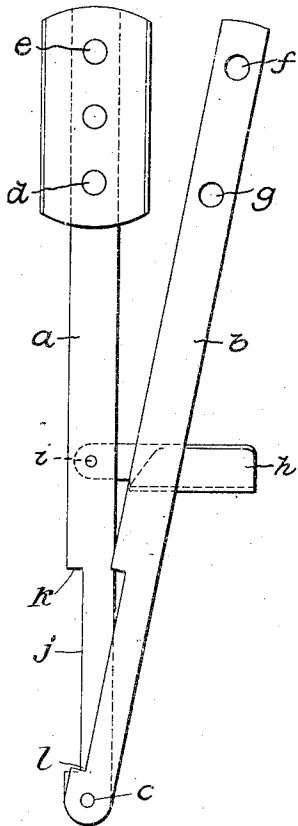


Fig. 2

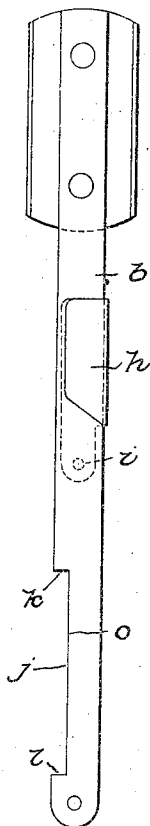


Fig. 3

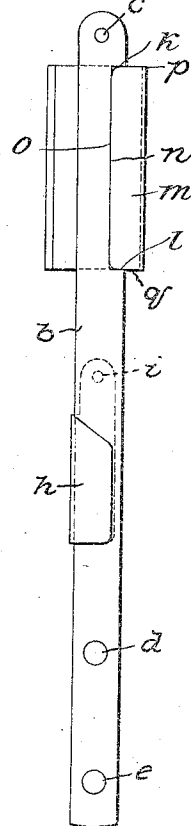


Fig. 4

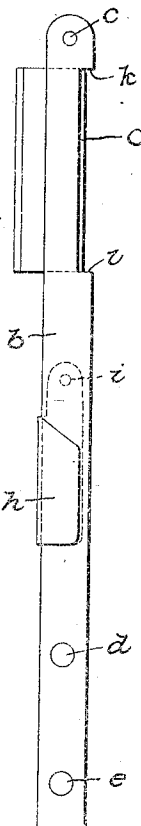


Fig. 5

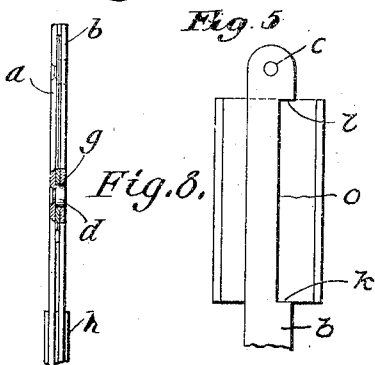


Fig. 6

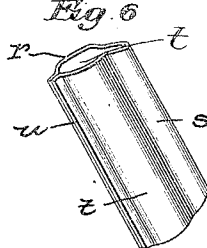
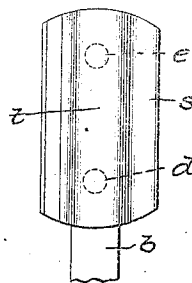


Fig. 7



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RAZOR-STROPPER.

957,140.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. BESTGEN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Quincy, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Razor-Stroppers, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to devices for holding razor blades while honing, stropping or otherwise sharpening the same and has reference more particularly to a holder adapted for use with cutting blades of the "Gillette" type, and with cutting blades wherein one edge thereof is provided with a portion of increased thickness or wherein one edge is provided with a reinforcing member longitudinally thereof.

The object of this invention is, among other things, to provide a holder that will be inexpensive and that will hold the blade at the correct angle to meet the strop or hone irrespective of the type of the blade.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of the novel construction hereinafter set forth in the specification and illustrated in the drawings, it being understood that various changes in form, proportion and construction may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of my application: Figure 1 is a top view of the holder, with the two clamping members separated, in position to receive the blade, a blade of the "Gillette" type being shown in position in the holder; Fig. 2 shows the clamping members locked, a similar blade being in position ready for use; Fig. 3 shows the clamping members locked with a single edge blade in position in the opposite end of the holder ready for use; Fig. 4 is a similar view showing a single edge blade without the reinforced portion or reinforcing member, in position for use; Fig. 5 is a similar view showing a two-edge blade of another style in position ready for use; Fig. 6 is a view of the edge guard; and Fig. 7 is a view similar to that shown in Fig. 2 with the edge guard in position on the stropper. Fig. 8 is an edge view the holder being partly broken away.

The particular embodiment of my invention selected for illustration herein comprises, Fig. 1, a holder having two clamping members *a* and *b*, pivotally connected at one end at *c*, one of the said members, herein *a*, being provided at its free end with the posts *d* and *e*, the other member *b* being provided with cooperating openings *f* and *g* to receive said posts. The clamping member *a* is provided, intermediate its ends, with a locking device *h*, pivoted thereto at *i*, and adapted to engage the member *b*, thereby securely to position and lock the two members. Near their opposite ends, Fig. 1, the members *a* and *b* are cut away at one of their adjoining edges forming a longitudinal recess *j* forming shoulders *k* and *l* at its ends. By means of this recessed portion blades similar to the type shown in Fig. 3 may be securely locked in the holder for stropping or honing. This type of blade is usually provided with a reinforcing member *m* folded over one edge of the blade or a similarly shaped reinforced portion.

By positioning the blade, Fig. 3, so that the edge *n* of the reinforcing member or reinforcing portion of the blade abuts against the edge *o* of the recess *j* the ends *p* and *q* of the reinforced portion or reinforcing member *m* will be positioned between the shoulders *k* and *l* and the blade effectually secured against movement in the holder, after the clamping members are locked. By securing the blades in the manner described the cutting edge thereof is presented to the strop in proper position to be honed or stropped.

When it is desired to use the holder the locking device *h* is turned to one side and the member *b*, having a slight spring tension at its outer end, springs from engagement with the pins *d* and *e* and may, if desired, then be moved laterally from the other member *a*. The blade if of the type shown in Figs. 1 and 2, is then placed in position, one or more of the holes in the blade receiving the posts *d* and *e*. The member *b* is returned to its former position in line with member *a*, the apertures *f* and *g* receiving the posts *d* and *e*, and the locking device *h* is returned to locking position. When it is desired to use a blade similar to that shown in Fig. 3 the clamping members *a* and *b* are separated as above described, the blade is

positioned between said members with the inner edge of the reinforced portion or reinforcing member *m* against the edge *o* of the clamping members, and the ends of said reinforced portion or reinforcing member between the shoulders *k* and *l* of said clamping members. The blade may now be easily stropped or honed. The outer surface of the members *a* and *b* being substantially flat with slightly rounded edges it permits the blade to bear upon the strop at the correct angle.

It will, of course, be evident that a blade of either the single or double edge type, Figs. 4 and 5, not provided with the apertures for receiving the posts *d* and *e* or the reinforced portion or member *m* may be clamped between the pivoted ends of the holder and honed or stropped in a similar manner.

In the specific illustration of my improved device, Fig. 1, the blade is held along a line falling between the opposite edges thereof whereby the two edges of a two-edge type of blade may be sharpened without necessity of unlocking the blade and reversing its position, as is necessary in the case of holders wherein only one edge of the blade is exposed at a time. If desired for any reason, a protector or the like, such as the edge guard *r*, may be slipped over one edge while stropping the other. The guard is preferably formed from a piece of thin metal so folded that along one edge *s*, it fits closely to the sides of the blade. Near the opposite edge the two sides are upset to form a groove *t* sufficiently wide to admit the end of the holder, and again at its extreme opposite edge *u* the two sides are brought close together. This protector is made of spring metal and when slipped over the end of the blade at one edge thereof fits sufficiently tight to remain in position, and by reason of the fact that it embraces the clamping members of the holder and at the same time engages opposite faces of the blade, it contributes to the rigidity and firmness with which the blade is held in and between the clamping members.

The advantage of being able to sharpen both edges of the blade without unlocking and reversing its position is apparent.

It is practicable, according to my invention, to construct a holder without any hinge or locking device that could by any means scratch or injure the surface of the hone or strop; and this is of very material advantage although, of course, not indispensable.

Claims—

1. A device of the class described, comprising clamping members adapted at each of their ends to clamp and position a blade flatwise between them and hinged together at their ends to swing apart in planes substantially parallel with the flat face of said

blade, and locking means intermediate said hinged and clamping ends of said device for locking said members in clamping position.

2. A device of the class described, comprising clamping members provided with blade holding and positioning means at each end thereof and means for locking a blade between said clamping members in different positions.

3. A razor blade stropper, comprising blade holding and positioning means constructed and adapted to engage a razor blade between its opposite edges only to present the blade at the proper angle to the strop for sharpening, leaving both edges exposed, and means intermediate the ends of the clamping members to lock the same to hold the blade in different positions.

4. A razor blade stropper comprising, in combination, blade clamping members hinged together at one of their ends and adapted at their opposite ends to clamp between them a blade to be sharpened, a locking member co-operating with said clamping members intermediate their lengths to lock the same in blade clamping position, and means including said locking member as an element for holding and positioning a blade to be sharpened at or near the hinged ends of said clamping members.

5. A razor blade stropper comprising, in combination, separable blade clamping members, means at one of the ends of said members to hold a blade to be sharpened, locking means to lock said clamping members in blade clamping position, and means including said locking members as an element for locking and positioning an additional blade to be sharpened at or in the vicinity of the opposite ends of said clamping members.

6. A razor blade stropper comprising, in combination, clamping members provided with blade positioning means at different positions thereon and means to lock said clamping members to hold a blade in said different positions.

7. A razor blade stropper comprising, in combination, clamping members provided with means to position and clamp at one of their ends blades of substantially uniform thickness, means to position and clamp at their opposite ends blades not of substantially uniform thickness, and means to lock said clamping members to hold the blade to be sharpened.

8. A razor blade stropper, comprising clamping members provided with means to position between them a blade of increased thickness at its back and locking means for said clamping member.

9. A non-rotatable razor blade stropper comprising, in combination, clamping members provided each with a rectangular recess the ends of which are adapted to engage the ends of the blade to position the same, and

means to lock said members in clamping position to hold the blade to be sharpened.

10. A razor blade holder, comprising separable holding members adapted to receive the razor blade between them, leaving both edges free to be sharpened and means intermediate the ends of the clamping members to clamp the holding members upon and to hold the blade in such position that it will be presented to the strop at the proper angle to be sharpened, said holding members so constructed that the contour of the ends thereof presents no portion to mutilate the surface of the strop.
11. A device of the class described, comprising separable clamping members adapted to engage the blade along the central longitudinal portion thereof and position the same, locking means to lock the blade in position leaving the edges thereof exposed sufficiently to be sharpened and a protector adapted to embrace said clamping members and engage the blade to protect the edge thereof when the blade is locked in position.

12. A razor blade stropper comprising, in combination, clamping members provided adjacent one of their ends each with a recess and provided, respectively, near their opposite ends with studs and cooperating recesses therefor and locking means intermediate the ends of said clamping members to lock the same.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN G. BESTGEN.

Witnesses:

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ROBERT H. KAMMLER.