Nov. 27, 1923 1,475,301

R. C. HARTLEB

KNIFE

Filed July 18, 1921

Fig. 1.

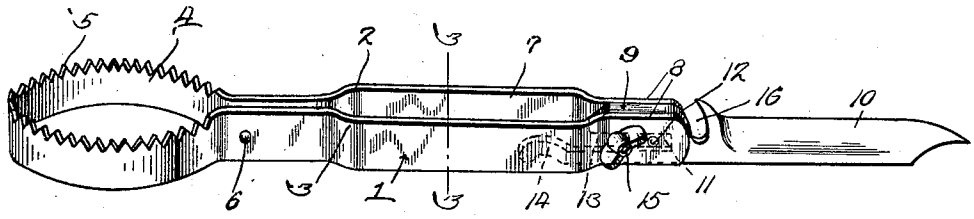


Fig. 2.

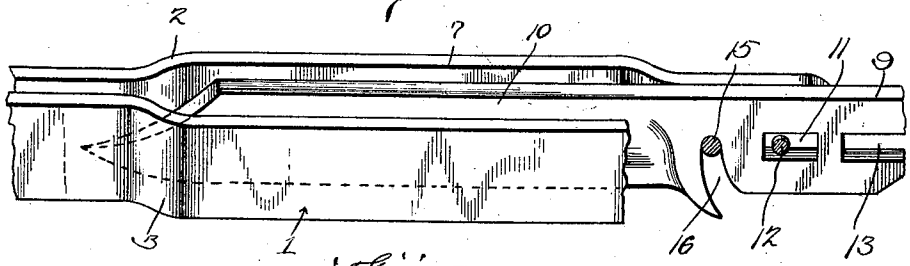


Fig. 3.

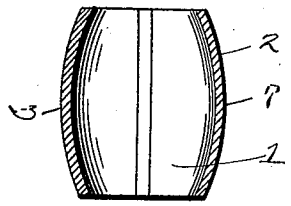
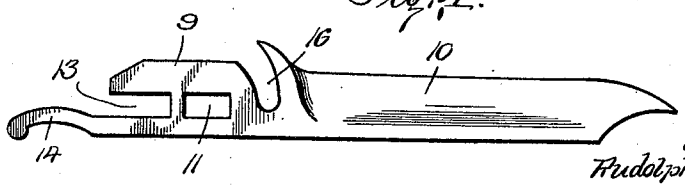


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUDOLPH C. HARTLEB, OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO EMANUEL REINER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

KNIFE.

Application filed July 18, 1921. Serial No. 485,489.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUDOLPH C. HARTLEB, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cambridge, in the county of Dorchester and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knives, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to certain improvements in knives and the principal object of the invention is to provide a cheaply constructed and efficient device of this character which can be conveniently used in cleaning fish.

A further object of the invention is the provision of novel means for locking the blade in either open or closed position.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the following specific description is read in connection with the accompanying drawings which form a part of this application, and in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the blade in open position;

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the blade in closed position and with parts broken away,

Figure 3 is a section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, and

Figure 4 is an elevation of the blade removed from the handle.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, 1 generally represents the body of the device which is constructed of a single piece or strip of sheet metal doubled upon itself to form opposite sides 2 and 3. In the bight or connecting portion of the sides 2 and 3 the body 1 is formed into a circular head or jaw 4, one edge of which is formed to produce the serrations or saw teeth 5 which serve to remove the scales of the fish. Immediately adjacent the jaw or head 4 the sides 2 and 3 are brought together and preferably joined by a rivet 6 which holds the parts against lateral or longitudinal relative shifting. The sides are then widened out so as to produce the handle 7 and the sides 2 and 3 throughout the length of the handle are made concavo-convex with the convex upper face as shown. Beyond the handle and at the opposite end of the sides 2 and 3 from the head 4, the sides are bent inwardly toward one another so as to produce the parallel extensions 8 between which the butt end 9 of the knife blade 10 is pivoted. As shown in Figure 4, the butt end of the blade is provided with a longitudinally extending slot 11 through which the rivet 12 passes. This rivet serves not only as a pivot for the blade but also as a guide to slide the blade into locking engagement, as will hereinafter be made plain. At the rear end of the blade there is formed a longitudinally extending notch or open slot 13 and the blade has its back extended into an operating lever 14 similar to the end of a razor blade.

Extending through the extended sides 8 is a bolt 15 provided with an ordinary wing or thumb nut and this bolt is adapted to engage within the notch 13 when the blade is in open position and in the notch 16 extending laterally into the butt end of the blade, as shown, when the blade is in closed position.

As shown in Figure 1, the blade is in open position and the bolt 15 is arranged in the notch 13. If the bolt 15 is tightened at this time, the blade is locked against longitudinal movement and being engaged by the bolt 12 and the bolt 15, cannot be accidentally closed. When it is desired to close the blade, the thumb or wing nut is released and the blade moved forwardly, the bolt 12 sliding in the slot 11, until the bolt 15 is released from the notch 13 at which time the blade may be folded into the position shown in Figure 2 with its point and edge lying between the side members 2 and 3, as indicated. In this position, the bolt 15 is engaged in the notch 16 which is provided to permit the complete closure of the blade within the handle. If desired now the thumb nut may be operated to tighten the bolt 15 so as to lock the handle in closed position.

In operation the handle is grasped by the operator and the jaw or head with its accompanying saw teeth pulled over the side of the fish which readily removes the scales. The instrument is then reversed in the hands of the operator and the knife blade used for cleaning the fish in the usual manner.

I claim:

1. In a device of the class described, a member having parallel extensions, a slotted blade fitted between said extensions, a pivot pin passing through the extensions

and the slot, said blade having a longitudinal notch aligned with the slot, and a bolt passing through the extensions and adapted to engage in the notch for locking the blade in open position, said blade having a second notch adapted to receive the bolt when the blade is in closed position, said bolt adapted to clamp the extensions upon the blade to hold the same in closed position.

2. A device of the class described comprising a member formed of a single piece of material, blade holding extensions formed at one end, the respective sides of said member being separated adjacent the extensions to form a handle, a blade pivoted between the extensions and adapted to lie in the handle when closed, means permitting longitudinal movement of the blade in the extensions, and means for locking the blade against longitudinal movement.

3. A device of the class described comprising a member formed of a single piece of material, blade holding extensions formed at one end, the respective sides of said member being separated adjacent the extensions to form a handle, a blade pivoted between the extensions and adapted to lie in the handle when closed, means permitting longitudinal movement of the blade in the extensions, means for locking the blade against longitudinal movement, and means coacting with the last named means for preventing closure of the blade when open.

4. In an implement for the purpose indicated, the combination with a handle comprising a pair of opposed sides having extensions, a blade provided with a slot at one end, the extensions being spaced equal to and receiving the slotted end of the blade, a pivot pin passing through the slot and fixed in said extensions, the extremity of the slotted end of the blade having an elongated notch adjacent one end of and aligned with the slot, the slotted end having a curved notch substantially laterally of the blade and having its crotch adjacent to and aligned with the other end of the slot, and clamping means including a bolt fixed in said extensions and with which either notch may engage to hold the blade either open or closed.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

RUDOLPH C. HARTLEB.