H. APPLEBY.

KNIFE.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 23, 1912.

1,068,093. Patented July 22, 1913.

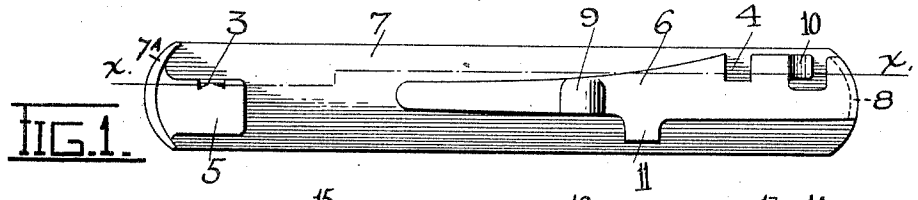


FIG. 1.

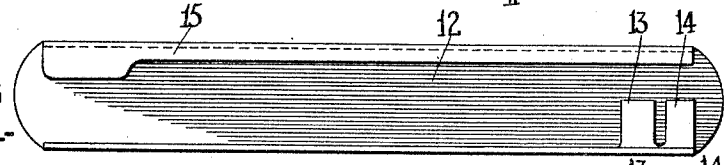


FIG. 2.

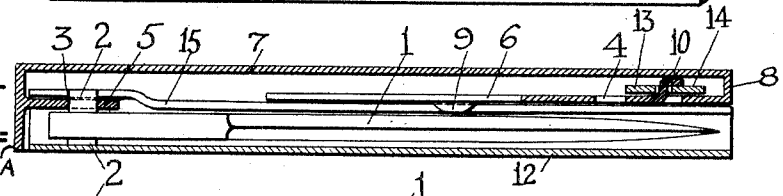


FIG. 3.

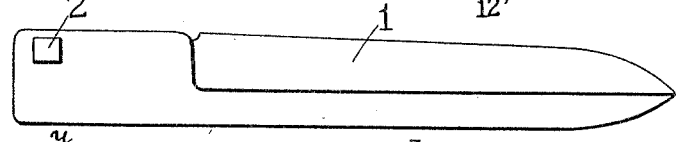


FIG. 4.

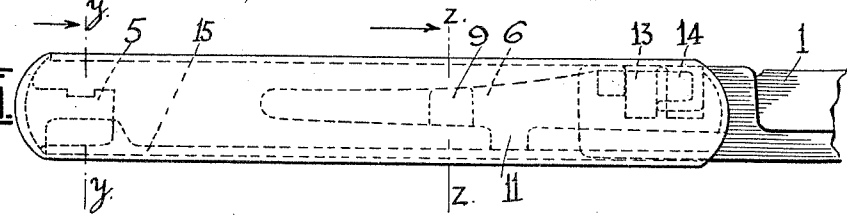


FIG. 5.

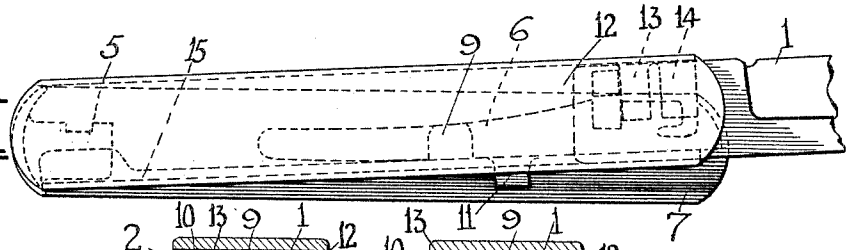


FIG. 6.

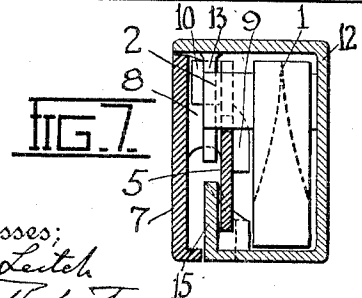


FIG. 7.

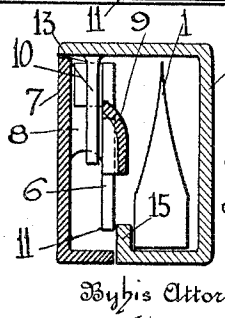


FIG. 8.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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KNIFE.

1,068,093. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 22, 1913.

Application filed December 23, 1912. Serial No. 738,346.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY APPLEBY, a subject of Great Britain, residing at Calgary, in the Province of Alberta, in the Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knives, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to collapsible knives, and more particularly to a type of knife wherein a blade may be sheathed or brought into operative position by a simple one-handed movement, the said movement consisting of sliding in opposite directions the two handle portions consisting of two slidably mounted side or sheathing pieces, the movement being accomplished by the thumb and index fingers; and when the said handle portion is held in a downward position with respect to the blade opening the blade assumes an operative position by gravity. The sheathing is accomplished by inverting the position assumed to unsheathe and at the same time performing the same sliding movement of the two handle portions.

My object is to produce a knife of novel construction that may be cheaply made and which will, at the same time, obviate the trouble incidental to the blade opening of the ordinary knife.

A further object, when used as a hunting or other large type of knife, is to minimize the space required for carrying.

The improvement consists, broadly speaking, of a knife having a blade or cutting portion portably mounted within a handle or sheathing members, the said handle or sheathing members being slidably mounted together and having internal means for releasing and securing the said blade when the said handle or sheathing portions are moved in opposite directions.

Further advantages and a clear conception of the device may be had by reference to the detailed description when read in connection with the drawings forming a part of this application.

In the drawings—Figure 1 represents an inside view of one of the handle or sheathing portions. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the other handle or sheathing portion. Fig. 3 is a sectional plan view on substantially the line X—X of Fig. 1, but of the finished knife, the blade being sheathed. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the blade. Fig. 5 is an external elevation of the knife, the blade being broken but in the operative position. Fig. 6 is an external elevation, the handle or sheathing portions having received the side sliding motion necessary to sheathe or unsheathe the blade, the same being represented in the maximum outward position. Fig. 7 is a transverse section on the line *y*—*y* of Fig. 5. Fig. 8 is a similar view on the line *z*—*z* of the same figure.

Before describing the figures specifically I wish to say that the form of knife here shown is at present preferred. I will, however, expect to make such changes relative to size, proportions, material, number and shape of the blades used and in fact any changes that do not actually depart from the spirit of the improvement as set forth in the annexed claims.

In the drawings, the numeral 1 represents a blade or cutting portion having detent lugs 2—2, said lugs adapted to be engaged by the detent recesses 3 and 4, the former recess being for the sheathed and the latter for the operative position of the blade. The said detent recesses are formed as shown in the inwardly turned members 5 and 6, both of which are integral with the handle portion 7, the member 6 being virtually a flat spring joined to the handle portion 7 by the end piece 8 and having on its surface the raised detent retaining portion 9 and the depressed locking finger 10 and the depending releasing piece 11, the purposes of all three of which will be apparent later. The opposite end of the said handle portion 7 has a flanged retaining portion 7^A as shown. The handle portion 12 forming the opposite wall of the sheath to the portion 7 is provided with engaging fingers 13 and 14 and a flanged engaging portion 15.

The operation of assembling the knife is as follows: The blade or cutting member is placed in the handle portion 12 as shown in Fig. 3 and the enlarged end of the flanged portion 15 slipped under the member 5 and the two side walls 7 and 12 of the sheath or handle moved sidewise similarly to that shown in Fig. 6, but somewhat farther, sufficient to allow the engaging fingers 13 and 14 to engage and slip down between the locking finger 10 and the outer surface of the flat spring portion 6. Before the handle or side wall portions 7 and 12 may be moved to a more extreme position than that shown in Fig. 6 it is necessary to move the raised portion 9 toward the side wall 7 sufficiently

to allow the upturned flanged portion 15 of the side wall 12 to pass. This may be done by the thumb nail engaging the depending piece 11 integral with the said flat spring and raised portion. The assembling is completed by snapping the parts down as shown in Fig. 5. The knife is now held in place by the interlocking parts 5 and 15, and 13, 14 and 10. The blade cannot become disengaged or the parts taken down without a further movement of the parts as viewed in Fig. 6, and this requires the movement of the raised portion as described above.

When it is desired to release the blade to the operative position the two sheathing members are given the side sliding movement before described until the parts assume the position somewhat similar to Fig. 6. This causes the detent recess 3 to release the lug 2 and by tilting the point downward the blade will slide out by gravity. The side members are then returned to their normal positions (Fig. 5) when the detent recess 4 will engage the lug 2 and secure the blade. To sheathe the blade simply reverse the operation.

I claim:—

1. In a knife, the combination of two sheath members, a blade mounted therein, one sheath member having an inwardly turned depressible spring locking member carrying a locking finger and a raised detent retaining portion, said member being disposed parallel to the said sheath member and integral with one end thereof, and a flanged retaining portion at the other end, the other sheath member having flanged sides, and engaging fingers at one end, the several elements aforesaid coöperating to retain the said sheathing members in assembled relation to one another and at the same time allowing a restricted sidewise sliding motion of one member with relation to the other.

2. In a knife, the combination of two sheath members, a blade slidably mounted therein, one sheath member having an inwardly turned depressible spring locking member carrying a locking finger and a raised detent retaining portion, said member being disposed parallel to the said sheath member and connected to one end thereof, and a flanged retaining portion at the other end, the other sheath member having flanged sides, and engaging fingers at one end, the several elements aforesaid coöperating to retain the said sheath members in assembled relation to one another and at the same time allowing a restricted sidewise sliding movement of one member with relation to the other; a detent recess in the said depressible spring member, an inwardly turned member disposed at the other end of the first mentioned sheath member, said inwardly turned member being also provided with a detent recess, and detent lugs on the knife blade, said recesses and lugs coöperating to hold the blade in the sheathed position, the operative position, or to release the same therefrom when the sheath members are given a restricted sidewise movement as described.

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

HENRY APPLEBY.

Witnesses:
E. A. DUNBAR,
H. HANICK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."