(No Model.)

H. G. SPRAKER.

PAPER CUTTER.

No. 444,106. Patented Jan. 6, 1891.

Fig 1

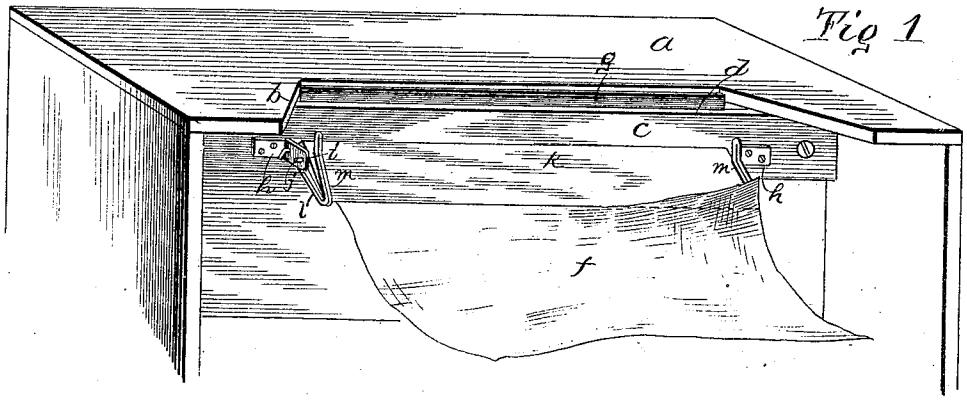


Fig 2

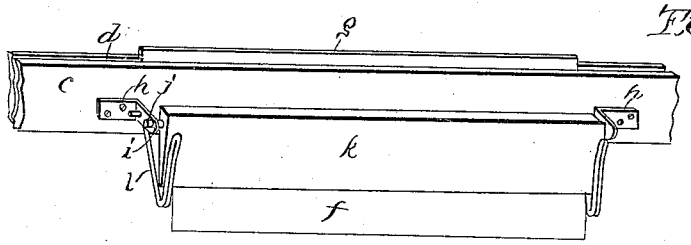


Fig 3

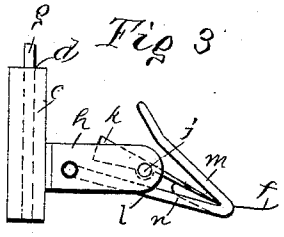
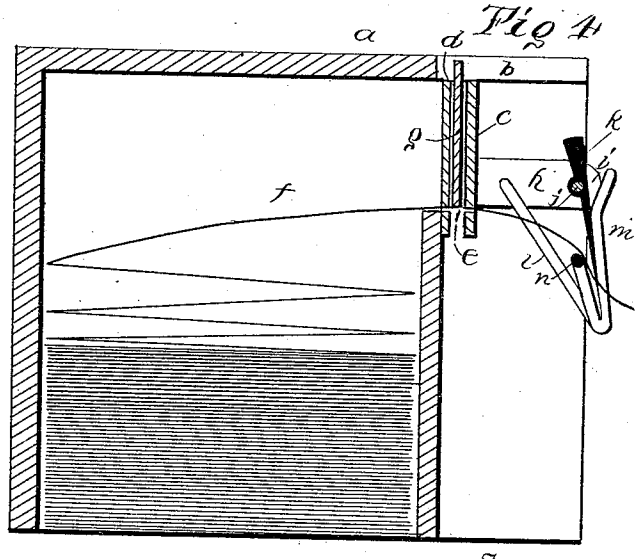


Fig 4



Witnesses:
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per
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY G. SPRAKER, OF RICH HILL, MISSOURI.

PAPER-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 444,106, dated January 6, 1891.

Application filed August 14, 1890. Serial No. 361,980. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY G. SPRAKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rich Hill, in the county of Bates and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Paper-Cutters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to wrapping-paper cutters adapted for use with either roll paper or folded strips or sheets; and the object sought to be accomplished is to produce a simple, cheap, and durable construction and arrangement of parts in which the paper is cut squarely and cleanly off, after which the parts will assume a position leaving the end of the paper projecting, so that it can be easily grasped by the fingers to tear off a second piece.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combinations of parts more fully described hereinafter, and pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my complete device, showing the parts in the position they assume when the paper is being cut off; Fig. 2, a similar view with the parts in their normal position; Fig. 3, an end view, and Fig. 4 a central cross-section.

The reference-letter *a* indicates the top piece of any suitable frame-work to which the device can be attached—such as a store-counter, table, or desk—and this top is cut out at *b* to expose the cutter and allow ready access to the same to facilitate manipulation, a strip *c* constituting part of the frame-work beneath the top *a*, crossing the opening *b*, and being provided with a vertical lengthwise slot *d*, extending through its center and the full length of said opening. A cross-slot *e* is made through the lower part of this strip C and intersects the vertical slot *d*, and the paper *f* is threaded through this cross-slot, as seen in Fig. 4, while a rectangular piece of metal *g* is dropped down in the vertical slot and rests upon said paper where it crosses said slot, acting as a weight to prevent the paper from slipping back and preserve the proper tension.

A pair of angular brackets *h* are secured to the front side of the strip *c*, and in the outer ends of their projecting arms *i* are journaled the pinions *j* of the knife *k*, which is made wedge-shaped, with its upper portion beyond the pivots heavier to overbalance the lower cutting portion, for a purpose hereinafter explained.

Back of the knife-pivots or trunnions, but in line therewith, are pivotally hung the opposite ends of a bent-wire frame *l*, which consists of a pair of V-shaped hooks or loops *m*, formed at its opposite ends by bending the wire up and then doubling it and carrying it back up behind the knife. These hooks inclose the lower portion of the knife at the opposite ends of the same, while the back wire connecting the hooks forms a straight rod *n*, extending across behind the lower edge of the knife, as seen more clearly in Figs. 3 and 4.

After the paper has been threaded through the slit *e* it is passed through between the knife and the wire rod *n*, and it will be seen that upon pulling out the end of the paper it will act to throw up the lower edge of the knife; but the latter being confined at its opposite ends in the hooks *m* strikes against the front arms of the latter and carries them up with it to the position shown in Fig. 1, with the back rod *n* clamping the paper between it and the back side of the knife, when no further upward movement of the parts can take place, and the paper can then be cut cleanly and squarely off. After this has been done the operator strikes the lower edge of the knife with his thumb or finger to throw it down and its weighted upper portion will act to carry it back to its original position, the wire frame *l* being also allowed to drop back and release its hold on the paper; but the latter is held from slipping back by the weight *g*, and hence when the knife and frame drop they leave the end of the paper projecting, so that it can be easily grasped by the operator when another piece is to be cut off. Besides this advantage, the device possesses that of adaptability for at-

tachment to any ordinary counter, table, shelf, or similar structure and can be cheaply made and easily applied.

The paper can either be wound upon a suitable core and hung in bearings secured beneath the counter or used in folded strip or sheet, as seen in Fig. 4, which can be stacked behind the cutter and fed through the latter in the same manner as roll-paper. The advantage possessed by this latter method is that the paper can be more economically and safely shipped and stored.

It is evident that many slight changes which might suggest themselves to a skilled mechanic could be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention, and hence I do not wish to limit myself to the precise construction herein shown.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a paper-cutter, the combination of a pivoted knife, a rod extending across the same, and connections between said rod and knife whereby the movement of the latter causes the rod to clamp the paper between it and the knife, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a paper-cutter, the combination of a pivoted knife, a wire rod arranged behind the same, and hooks at opposite ends of said rods and in which the ends of the knife are adapted to be contained, whereby the upward movement of the latter causes the back rod to clamp the paper between it and the knife, as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a paper-cutter, the combination of a pivoted knife having a weighted upper portion and a wire frame pivoted back of said knife and consisting of a straight rod extending across the latter and having a pair of hooks at its opposite ends confining the ends of the knife, whereby the upward movement of the latter causes the straight rod to clamp the paper between it and the knife, as and for the purpose described.

4. In a paper-cutter, the combination of the frame-work having a slot under which the paper passes and a weight loosely contained within the slot and adapted to rest upon the paper and prevent its slipping back, substantially as set forth.

5. In a paper-cutter, the combination of the frame-work having an upwardly-directed slot intersected by a transverse slot through which the paper is threaded and a weight loosely contained within the first-named slot and adapted to rest upon the paper and prevent its slipping back, substantially as set forth.

6. In a paper-cutter, the combination of a pivoted knife having a weighted upper portion and a weight loosely contained within a vertical slot, across which the paper passes and thence beneath the knife, substantially as described.

7. In a paper-cutter, the combination of a pivoted knife, a wire frame fulcrumed back of the latter and consisting of a straight rod having hooks at its opposite ends confining said knife, and a weight arranged to bear upon the paper and prevent it from slipping back, all arranged and adapted to operate in the manner and for the purpose substantially as described.

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

HENRY G. SPRAKER.

Witnesses:
A. STEWART,
H. GOLDEN.