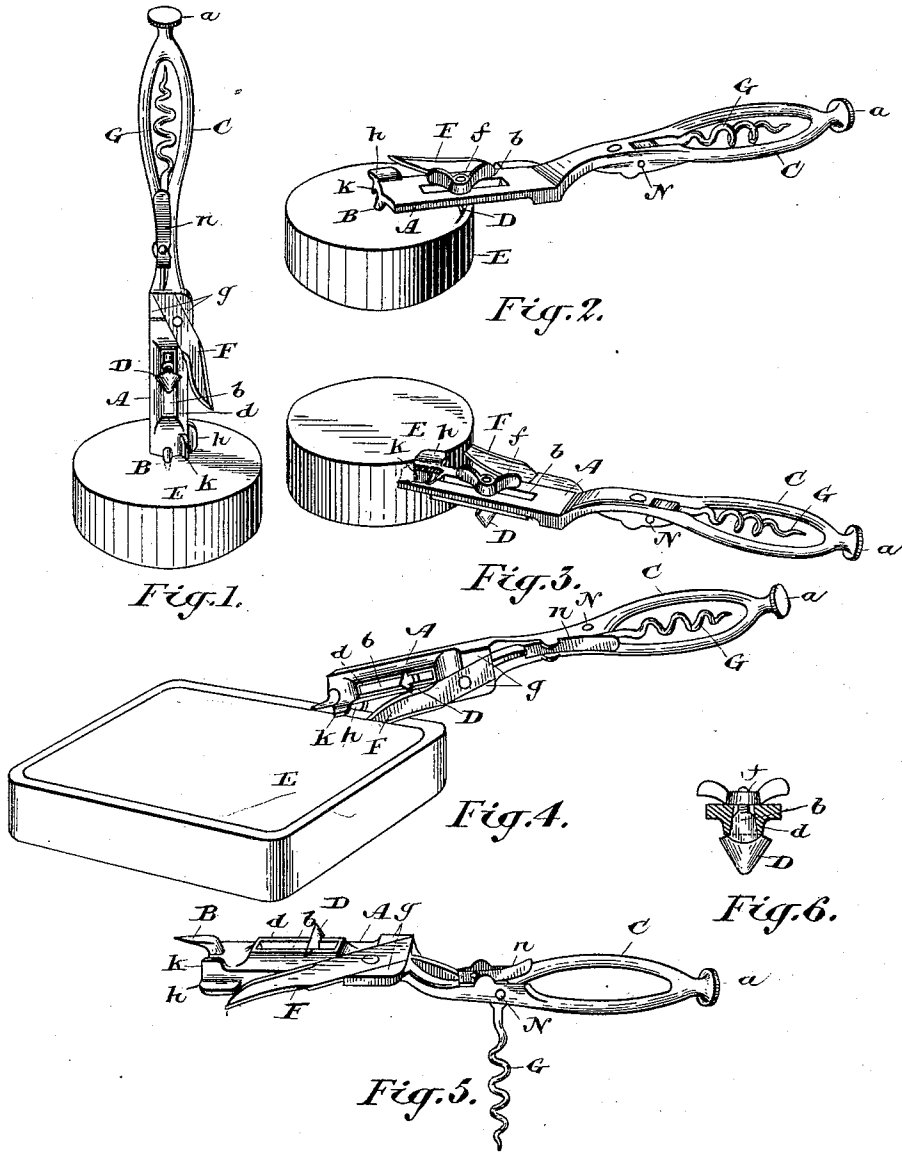


(No Model.)

E. E. WOOD.  
CAN OPENER.

No. 434,818.

Patented Aug. 19, 1890.



Witnesses.

F. B. Feshustonaugh  
W. A. McMillan

Inventor:

Edwin E. Wood  
by Donald C. Ridout of  
Attys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELGIN EDGAR WOOD, OF TORONTO, CANADA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
BENJAMIN WESTWOOD, OF SAME PLACE.

## CAN-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 434,818, dated August 19, 1890.

Application filed April 11, 1890. Serial No. 347,493. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ELGIN EDGAR WOOD, inventor, of the city of Toronto, in the county of York, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented a certain new and Improved Can-Opener, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my improvement is to provide a can-cutter that can be used for cutting different styles of cans conveniently; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction, arrangement, and combinations of parts, as hereinafter more particularly described, and then definitely pointed out in the claim.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved can-opener in the position it will be when the incision is first being made. Fig. 2 is a view of it in operation for cutting a circular hole. Fig. 3 is a view of it making a straight cut around the top of a circular can. Fig. 4 shows the instrument cutting in a straight line parallel with the edge of a rectangular can. Fig. 5 is a view of the instrument with its corkscrew set ready for use. Fig. 6 is a detail showing cutter screwed in position.

A is a plate having a sharp point B on one end and a handle C at its other end, a head *a* being formed in the end of the said handle C. A slot *b* is made in the plate A, and a wall *d* is formed on the bottom of the plate A, surrounding the slot *b*, which slot is tapered, as indicated, so that the body of the arrow-head-shaped cutter D will be jammed and held rigidly in position when its nut *f* is tightened. The wall *d* not only forms a substantial bearing to receive and hold the tapered body of the cutter D, but it also supports the plate A clear of the top of the can, where the cutter is in operation.

In order to bring the cutter D into operation an incision is made in the center of the can by placing the point B in the desired position, as indicated, and hammering the head *a*. The cutter D is adjusted in its slot *b* to a point that will enable it, when pressed down in the position as indicated in Fig. 2, to make a hole the desired size, and the point of the cutter D is pressed into the tin and the handle C moved, so as to cause the cutter to revolve on its point B. Owing

to the tapered or arrow-head-shaped cutter D, the edge of the hole made in the can E is turned down, so as to form a round smooth edge around the said hole. A knife F is held angularly on the bottom side of the plate A, ribs *g* being formed, one on each side of the said knife, to hold it in its desired position. The cutting-edge of the knife F is curved outwardly, as indicated, so that when the plate A is rocked on its fulcrum the cutting-edge of the said knife will act quickly and satisfactorily upon the tin. A ledge *h* extends above and projects beyond the edge of the plate A, so as to form a support for the said plate when the knife F is brought into action, as shown in Fig. 3. A ledge *k* projects below the bottom surface of the plate A, to form a wide fulcrum to steady the instrument while the knife F is operating in the manner shown in Fig. 3. The ledge *k* also acts as a fulcrum when a straight cut is made on a line with the ledge of a rectangular can, as shown in Fig. 4. In this case the ledge *h* acts as a guide to keep the cut on a straight line parallel with the edge of the can.

An opening is made in the handle C, in which a corkscrew G is placed, the said corkscrew being pivoted in the said handle at N, and a spring *n* is provided for the purpose of acting on the corkscrew G, in order to hold it either open or closed, as required.

What I claim as my invention is—

As a new article of manufacture, the here-in-described can-opener, comprising the plate A, having a point B and ledges *h k* at one end and open perforated handle C and a flat head at the other, the plate A having a tapered slot *b*, the arrow-headed cutter D having a shank to fit the slot, and a wing-nut fitting a screw-thread on said shank, a cutter F, set diagonally in a socket formed by ribs *g* on plate A, a corkscrew G, pivoted to the handle and folding in the opening therein, and a spring *n*, to hold the corkscrew in its desired position, all constructed and arranged substantially as shown and described.

Toronto, February 8, 1890.

ELGIN EDGAR WOOD.

In presence of—

CHARLES C. BALDWIN,  
E. CUMMINGS.