

(No Model.)

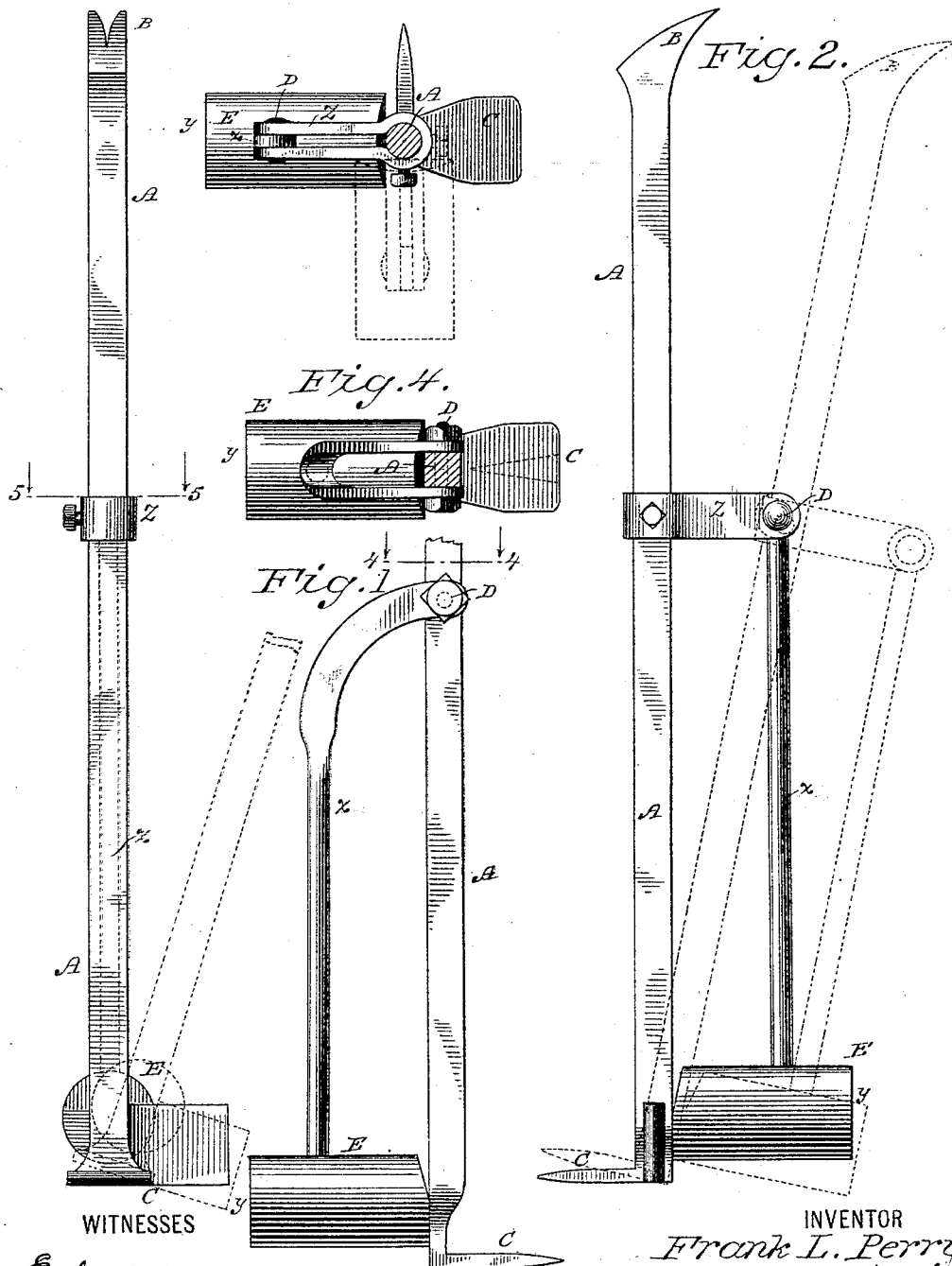
F. L. PERRY.
BOX OPENER.

No. 327,821.

Patented Oct. 6, 1885.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 5.



WITNESSES
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BOX-OPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 327,821, dated October 6, 1885.

Application filed August 3, 1885. Serial No. 173,431. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK L. PERRY, of the city of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented a certain Improved Box-Opener, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple, strong, durable tool which can be cheaply made, and which shall be adapted to perform quickly and efficiently all the work ordinarily incident to opening boxes of merchandise—such as removing straps, cutting nails, drawing nails, missing or avoiding nails, raising covers, raising boxes, &c.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a side view of my improved tool with part of the handle broken off. Fig. 2 is a similar side view showing a slight formal modification. Fig. 3 is a view of a formal modification taken at right angles to Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 4 is an end view taken on the line 4 4 of Fig. 4, showing the bar or handle in section; and Fig. 5 is another end view taken on the line 5 5 of Fig. 3, showing the handle in section.

Referring to the letters upon the drawings, A indicates a bar or lever having upon one end a claw, B, of ordinary curved form for drawing nails, and upon the other end a wedge or blade, C, projecting preferably, as shown, substantially at right angles from the bar. This blade may be slotted or bifurcated, if desired, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 4, the object being that it may straddle a nail when being driven between a box and its cover—for example, to raise the cover. At the same time the cutting-edgesshould be left wide enough, so that each may be used for cutting a nail when desired.

Near the middle of the bar A is hinged or pivoted in any suitable manner, by means of a bolt or a rivet, D, or otherwise, a hammer, E, the object of which is to drive the blade C either for cutting off a nail or for wedging it between the parts of a box to be separated.

I may pivot the hammer-handle x to a sleeve, Z, fitted upon the bar, so as to be capable of turning by applying a little force, or held in place by an ordinary set-screw, as indicated in Fig. 5. In such case there may be two blades on the end of the bar at right angles to

each other, and of different forms for different uses, (or a punch or other tool may be applied,) and either may be driven by the hammer. The hammer pivoted to the bar or lever would be operative and useful without any wedge—for example, with some other tool, like an embossing-tool, a die, or a punch.

The claw and blade should be of steel, as usual, and tempered and adapted to their peculiar uses. They may be an integral part of the bar or lever, or may be secured to it.

It will be readily understood from the drawings that when it is desired to remove a strap—for instance, from the outside of a box—the wedge may be driven in by the hammer between the strap and box, either so as to avoid hitting a strap-nail, or so as to cut it, as may be desired. Then by working the lever, as indicated by the inclined dotted lines, Fig. 3, the strap may be rapidly removed, the wedge being readily slid along under the strap after having once been forced under it. A box-cover can be removed in a similar manner.

The claw end may be used, as usual, to draw nails, or as a mere lever to raise a box slightly to facilitate handling.

I am aware that the individual elements of this device are not new, *per se*; for example, the claw is the same as a claw upon the end of the handle of a tack-hammer, only larger. The wedge is similar in function, although different in its relation to the lever, to that shown in United States Patent No. 41,925, of March 15, 1864. It is also, on account of being at right angles instead of inclined, as in said patent, capable of being used advantageously by a different movement of the lever from the wedge shown in said patent. Thus my lever may be moved to operate the wedge, so as to make the heel or thick part of the wedge (see Fig. 2) as well as either side of it (see Fig. 3) its pivotal point. It is preferable, also, to have the wedge on the bar slightly beyond the hammer, as shown in Fig. 1, so that the hammer will be out of the way, and the wedge may be used as well as the claw for slightly lifting heavy bodies.

It is not broadly new to employ a hammer or driver in connection with a box-opener. I am aware that this has been done in a way different from that I employ, as shown, for

example, in United States Patents Nos. 74,167, of February 4, 1868, 81,855, of September 1, 1868, and 103,330, of May 24, 1870, and also in a way similar to my way, as shown in United States Patent No. 176,333, for a tack-driver and carpet-stretcher. My hammer, it will be observed, strikes a swinging blow—although that is not new—which is practically more effective. Besides, it is double-faced, the object being that by grasping the bar A and hammer-handle *x* the outer face, *y*, of the hammer may be used to drive nails or the like.

I disclaim all that has been known before, as above indicated, and limit my invention to my actual improvements in box-openers.

Having thus described my improved box-opener, what I claim to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A lever-bar for a box-opener having a

claw, B, at one end and a right-angular blade, C, at the other end, in combination with a hammer, E, pivoted to the lever-bar, substantially as set forth.

2. A lever-bar for a box-opener having a claw, B, at one end and a right-angular blade, C, at the other end, in combination with a hammer, E, pivoted to the lever-bar by means of a sleeve, Z, substantially as set forth.

3. A lever-bar for a box-opener having a right-angular blade, C, and a double-faced hammer pivoted to the lever-bar, so that both faces of the hammer may be used, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name.

FRANK L. PERRY.

Witnesses:

MARCUS S. HOPKINS,
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