(No Model.)

W. STEIN.

SHELL CUTTER.

No. 389,024. Patented Sept. 4, 1888.

Fig. 1.

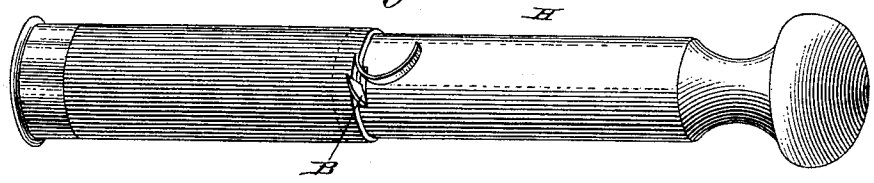


Fig. 2.

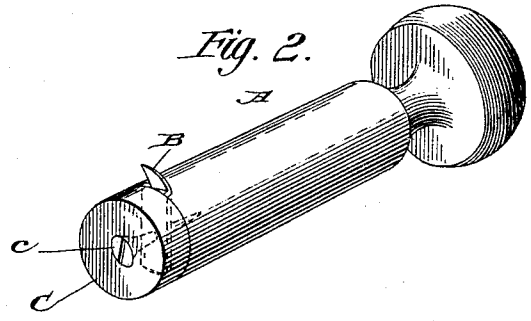
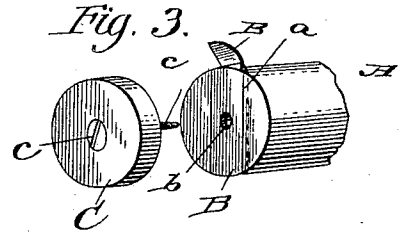


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

J. C. Clark.

C. Sedgwick.

Fig. 4.



INVENTOR:

W. Stein.

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM STEIN, OF CAMDEN, NEW JERSEY.

SHELL-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 389,024, dated September 4, 1888.

Application filed June 7, 1888. Serial No. 276,311. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM STEIN, of Camden, in the county of Camden and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Shell-Cutter, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a shell-cutter of cheap construction, and which shall more expeditiously remove the surplus shell than the cutters now in general use.

The invention consists in the peculiar construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cartridge-shell and one of my improved shell-cutters, illustrating the manner of using the latter. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the shell-cutter alone. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of the same, showing the gage detached; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of cutter, hereinafter referred to.

In constructing a shell-cutter in accordance with my invention, a handle, A, of circular cross-section, as shown, or of other preferred form, and of any desired ornamental design, is provided with a suitable cutter-blade, B, removably fixed to the same to project laterally therefrom.

Although the cutter-blade B may be secured to the handle A in any preferred manner, I greatly prefer the arrangement shown in the drawings, in which the end of the said handle is formed with a transverse recess, *a*, which forms a seat for the tang of the said blade, the latter thus lying flush with the end of the handle, and fixed in place as hereinafter explained. The handle A, at its end beyond the cutter-blade B, is provided with a gage, C, which is preferably of the form of a solid block, as shown, and circular in cross-section, and united to the handle end by means of a screw, *c*, the said screw passing through the gage, through a hole, *b*, in the shank or tang of the cutter-blade, and taking into the end of the handle. Thus the one screw retains both the cutter-blade and gage in place, and by removing the said screw the cutter-blade may be removed for sharpening or be replaced by another.

In operation, the shell having been loaded, the gage is inserted in the end thereof and the implement rotated, whereby the cutter-blade will cut into the shell, paring off the same until the end face of the gage comes to a seat against the wad of the cartridge, sufficient of the shell remaining beyond the wad for crimping. It will be seen, therefore, that the implement cuts the shell completely in a single operation, whereas with the cutters now in general use, when much of the shell is to be removed, owing to a small charge being in the same, it is necessary to successively present the shell to the cutter, removing a portion of the surplusage at a time.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated an adjustable cutter B. The hole *b* thereof is in the form of an elongated slot, and thus the cutter is adjustable laterally to be projected more or less from the handle, as desired. The shell-cutter illustrated can be used for any size of shell by changing the gage-block to 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, or 20 gage.

The cutter-blade is adapted to any sized shell.

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

1. A shell-cutter consisting of a handle adapted to enter a shell and a stationary cutter secured in the handle a short distance from its end, with its blade projecting beyond the surface of the handle, substantially as described.

2. A shell-cutter consisting of a handle adapted to enter a shell, a gage secured to the end of the handle, and a cutter secured to the handle between the end thereof and the gage, substantially as described.

3. A shell-cutter consisting of a handle, a cutter adjustably secured in the handle and projecting laterally therefrom, and a gage detachably secured to the end of the handle, substantially as herein shown and described.

4. The combination, with a handle formed with a recess in its end, of a cutter-blade seated in said recess and formed with a transverse hole in the tang thereof, and a gage-block secured to the handle by means of a screw passing through the said gage-block and blade, substantially as described.

WILLIAM STEIN.

Witnesses:
WM. STEIN, Jr.,
LOUIS E. STEIN.