(No Model.)

T. J. COWIE.

SAILOR'S JACK KNIFE.

No. 293,634. Patented Feb. 19, 1884.

Fig. 1.

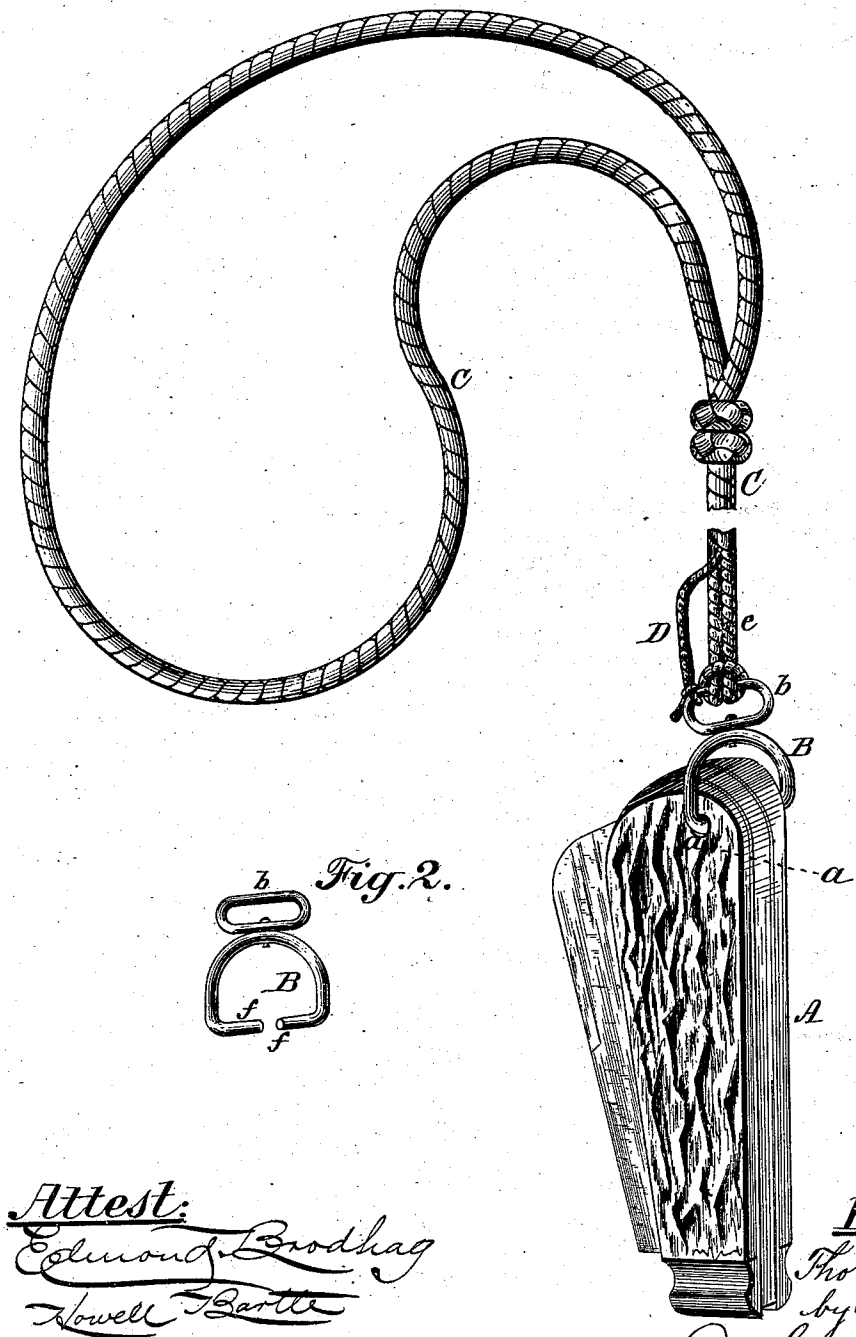


Fig. 2.

Attest:

Edmund L. Brodhag

Howell Bartle

Inventor:

Thos. J. Cowie,

by his Attys

Johnson & Johnson.

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

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS J. COWIE, OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY.

SAILOR'S JACKKNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 293,634, dated February 19, 1884.

Application filed July 23, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS JEFFERSON COWIE, an assistant paymaster in the United States Navy, and a citizen of the United States, at present stationed at Newport, in the county of Newport and State of Rhode Island, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sailors' Jackknives, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to that class of clasp-knives well known as "jackknives," in which there is a hole in the handle to receive a lanyard suspended from a sailor's neck. In such knives the lanyard becomes worn by abrasion against the edges of the hole, and there is no possible way of avoiding the accidental breaking of the worn lanyard and the consequent dropping of the knife to the deck when the sailor is aloft.

The object of my improvements is to avoid the possibility of such accident and to otherwise better the lanyard-connection by attaching the lanyard to a swivel-eye centrally secured on a wire yoke passing through the usual hole in the jackknife-handle, as will be hereinafter more particularly described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a jackknife and lanyard embracing my improvements, and Fig. 2 a detail of the yoke-connection.

The ordinary jackknife A, as used by sailors, has a hole, *a*, through both slabs of the horn handle, at the butt-end thereof. Through this hole a yoke, B, having bent ends *f f*, and preferably made of brass wire, is passed, by causing its bent ends to enter said hole from opposite sides, so as to be capable of a pivotal movement within said hole. To the upper or outside cross-bar of this pivoted yoke there is secured a swivel-eye, *b*, centrally upon said cross-bar in any suitable manner.

The lanyard C is fastened to the swivel-eye *b* by passing its lower loop, *c*, through said eye and its other end through the inserted loop, to form a lark's-head knot. Thus, the fastening of the lanyard being with a swiveling-eye secured in turn to a pivoted yoke-connection, a free movement is given to the suspended knife in every direction, and twisting of the lanyard avoided, an object to be especially desired where a double lanyard is used. The lanyard is in contact with a smooth, round surface, and not liable to become abraded, because the weight of the knife tends constantly to keep the knot tight to the wire of the swivel-eye *b*, and thus the cord is not likely to ever have a movement which could abrade it, even were the wire rough; but to further guard against accident from possible wear of the lanyard, I provide the lanyard with a short branch safety-cord, D, which extends from the loop *c* of the lanyard, and is fastened to the swivel-eye *b*, so as to hang slack and free from any strain whatever. Should the before-described connection break from any cause this branch safety-cord D will hold the knife.

I have described my invention as I prefer it to be practiced; but it is obvious that the safety-cord might be dispensed with, but when attached, as it is, to the swivel-eye and without any strain upon it, there is no possibility of its twisting.

I claim—

In combination with a sailor's jackknife having the usual lanyard-holes through the handle at the butt-end thereof, a swivel, *b*, provided with a yoke, B, having bent ends *f f*, adapted to enter said lanyard-hole *a* in the jackknife-handle from opposite sides, the whole designed to provide a means for proper and substantial securement of the knife to the lanyard, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

THOMAS J. COWIE.

Witnesses:
E. E. WRIGHT,
JAMES A. ERVINE.