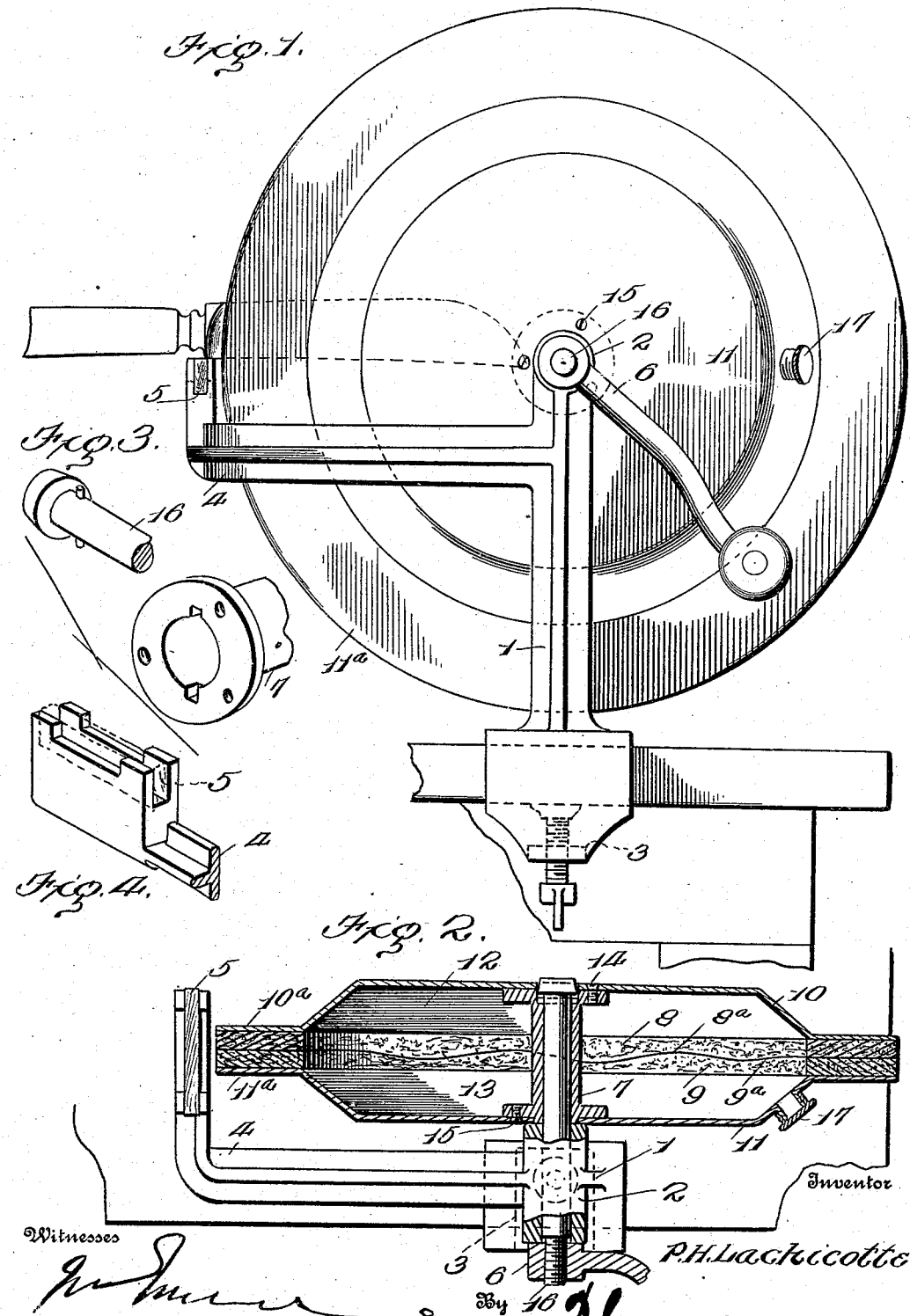


P. H. LACHICOTTE.
KNIFE CLEANER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 16, 1908.

933,313.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP H. LACHICOTTE, OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA.

KNIFE-CLEANER.

933,313.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.

Application filed July 16, 1908. Serial No. 443,874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP H. LACHICOTTE, citizen of the United States, residing at Columbia, in the county of Richland and State of South Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knife-Cleaners, of which the following is a specification.

This invention contemplates the construction of a knife cleaning device designed to quickly remove the tarnish or dirt from knife blades and to leave an improved polish on the knife blades cleaned thereby.

This invention is particularly designed for household use, but it may be employed in restaurants, hotels, or other public eating places, and comprises the construction of a rotary knife cleaner provided with means for feeding abrasive materials to the cleaning parts.

Another object of this invention is the construction of a knife cleaning device particularly suitable for household use which will quickly and effectively clean all of the blade of a knife without scattering the cleaning powder over the garments of the operator, or around the machine.

Another object of this invention is the construction of an improved knife cleaning device provided with sinuous cleaning disks and arranged to be fed by abrasive materials carried in a housing and rotatable therewith.

With these and other objects in view, this invention comprises certain constructions, combinations and arrangements of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings and particularly described in the specification and claim.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved knife cleaner, Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view, Fig. 3 is a detail view of a hub, and, Fig. 4 is a detail view of a guide block.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same reference characters.

In the drawings I have illustrated the type of a knife cleaning device constructed in accordance with my invention and adapted to be supported and used on a kitchen or other table, manufactured and sold at a small cost.

In constructing my improved knife cleaning device, I utilize a frame 1, having a bearing 2 at the upper end thereof, and a clamp 3 at its lower end. The frame 1 is preferably formed with a lateral arm 4 which carries a wooden guide block 5. The bearing 2 is adapted to receive a shaft 6 upon which may be mounted a hub 7 which carries a pair of disks 8 and 9 formed of any suitable material such as felt, leather or cloth. Each of the parts 8 and 9 are formed with wavy or sinuous faces 8^a and 9^a. The hub 7 is also provided with a pair of hollow members 10 and 11, each member being formed with extensions 10^a and 11^a and when joined together forming a compartment 13 for abrasive material. The part 10 is secured to the hub 7 by means of screws 14 and part 11 is secured to the hub 7 by means of screws 15, and the crank 6^a is preferably threaded upon one end of the shaft 6. Each of the parts 10 and 11 is preferably formed with openings normally closed by screw caps 17 which may be removed for disposing abrasive material in the compartment 13. The cleaning disks 8 and 9 may be formed with perforations extending therethrough, or may be formed solid according to the character of the abrasive material employed and the amount of material it is desired to feed to the cleaning disks 8 and 9. The block 5 extends at right angles to the arm 4 and is formed with projections 5^a and 5^b and may be adjustably and removably secured on the arm 4 by any suitable arrangement.

The operation of my improved knife cleaner is extremely simple. The frame 1 is mounted upon a suitable support such as a table by means of the clamp 3, and abrasive material disposed in the compartment 13. When so mounted, my device is in position for use and a knife blade is gradually inserted between the cleaning disks 8 and 9 as they are rotated, the cutting edge of the knife being uppermost. After the knife has been fully inserted it is slowly withdrawn, and one insertion is ordinarily sufficient to thoroughly clean the knife, although should the knife be very dirty more than one insertion might be required. The turning of the cleaning disks 8 and 9 causes the abrasive material contained in the compartment 13 to be forced between the cleaning disks 8 and 9 and the knife blade which is held between the cleaning disks to be oscillated

back and forth by the sinuous faces of the cleaning disks so that the knife blade receives a polish similar to that given by the polishing belts of factories, a movement which may be likened to a stropping action. The disks 8 and 9 may be made removable by forming them in two sections, each section interlocking each other, or by constructing the hub 7 into two interlocking parts as shown in Fig. 2.

It will be seen from the drawings and description, that abrasive material is fed to the cleaning disks by an inner rotary action instead of being received by their moving edge portions through a hopper positioned beneath the same. This arrangement prevents the abrasive material, either in its natural state, or as it comes from a polishing disk charged with dirt, from being thrown upon the garments of a person or an operator, or about the machine. When it is considered that this arrangement protects the moving parts of my improved knife cleaning device from the abrasive powder and thus prevents rapid wear of the parts, its importance will be readily understood.

The rotary movement of the sinuous disk surface will impart a reciprocating horizontal movement to the knife blades, thereby cleaning their edges on the wooden guide block. The cleaning disks 8 and 9 are pref-

erably formed of corrugated annular disks so that the corrugations or sinuous surfaces of one disk will register with those of the opposing disk. The body members 10 and 11 are formed of thin springy metal, or may be formed of heavy non-elastic metal and provided with a spring arranged to press the two parts toward each other.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a device of the character described the combination of a bearing, a shaft rotatably mounted in the bearing with its ends extending oppositely therebeyond, one end of the shaft being threaded and the shaft being formed at its other end with a head, a hub mounted on the shaft to turn therewith and interposed between the head and the bearing, and the hub being formed at its ends with outstanding flanges, side members positively and detachably secured to the flanges, coöperating rings clamped between the edge portions of the side members, and a handle detachably applied to the threaded end of the shaft.

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

PHILIP H. LACHICOTTE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

W. R. COUTURIER,
DEBERT JACKSON.