

A. Barbain,  
Box Opener.  
N<sup>o</sup> 83,022. Patented Oct 13, 1868.

Fig 1

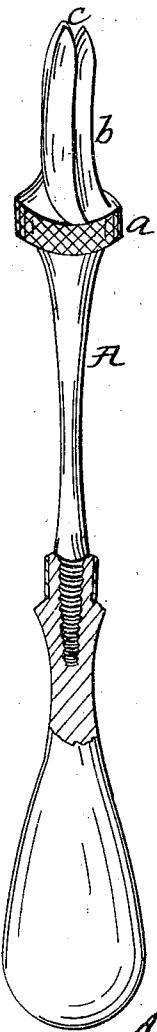


Fig 2



Witnesses:

W. Bailey  
Wm H. McClellan

Inventor:

Arthur Barbain  
by J. Hollon  
his attorney



ARTHUR BARBARIN, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

*Letters Patent No. 83,022, dated October 13, 1868.*

IMPROVEMENT IN BOX-OPENER.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

*To whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ARTHUR BARBARIN, of New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans, and State of Louisiana, have invented a certain new and improved Tool for Opening Cigar-Boxes and other articles; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective and partly sectional view of a tool made in accordance with my invention.

Figure 2 is a top view of the same, with the blade in section.

The tool which is the subject of this application, is intended principally to meet the wants of cigar-dealers, who, as it is well known, have frequent occasion to open and close boxes containing cigars, tobacco, &c. It is my object to combine, in one device, the means by which such boxes may be readily opened, and reclosed and fastened. To this end I form, upon a metal shank, A, a shoulder or projecting flange, a, of circular or other suitable form, and of sufficient dimensions to serve all the purposes of a hammer for driving nails or tacks. When this hammer is circular in form, its periphery should be roughened or corrugated, as represented in the drawings, so as to prevent its slipping from the nail or other object which it strikes. If, however, it is square or angular, these corrugations may be dispensed with. Beyond the hammer a, the shank is flattened, so as to form a blade, b, the shape of which in cross-section I prefer to make as shown in fig. 2. This blade extends a suitable distance beyond the hammer, and its end is rounded, so that it may be inserted with as little difficulty as possible between the parts of the box or other article to be separated, and

in the end is cut a nick or notch, c, which serves to draw the nails or tacks by which the box is fastened. This nick or notch may, of course, be located in any other suitable part of the blade.

To open a cigar-box, the blade of the tool is inserted between the cover and the top of the box, and the tool is then twisted or turned, so as to raise the cover and loosen the nails, which may be lifted out, if desired, by means of the nick c. After the box has been inspected, it can be reclosed and fastened, the head a being used as a hammer for driving the nails or tacks.

The tool may also be used as an oyster-opener, the hammer a serving to break the shell of the oyster sufficiently to allow the opening-blade, which in this instance need not be provided with the nick c, to be inserted between the two parts. When employed for this purpose, the tool should be made of suitable size and strength, and the handle may be of metal, and formed of one piece with the shank.

I am aware that Letters Patent, No. 41,925, have been heretofore issued to W. M. Keague, for a tool for opening boxes, and I lay no claim to a tool such as described by him, as the one, the subject of the present patent, is intended for many uses for which that of the said Keague is not adapted.

What I claim, therefore, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described tool for opening cigar-boxes and other articles, as a new article of manufacture.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification before two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR BARBARIN.

Witnesses:

M. BAILEY,  
EDM. F. BROWN.