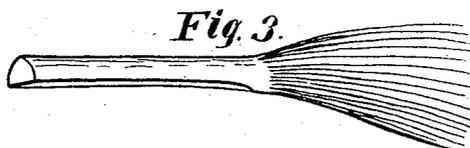
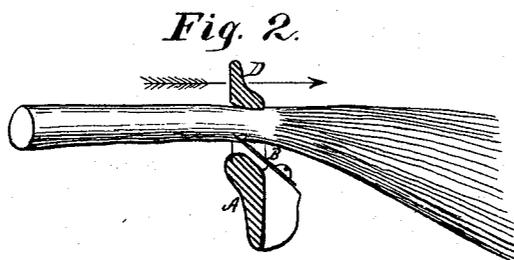
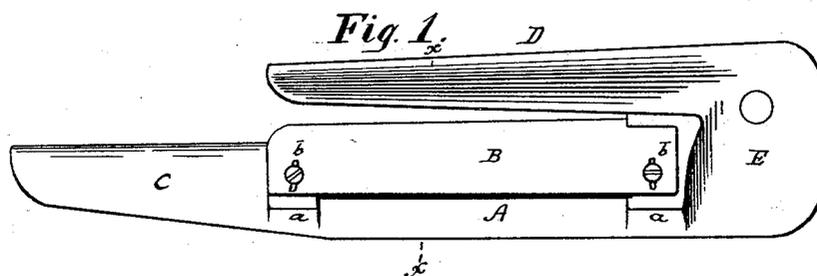


F. GERLING & W. BRODERICK.
Knives for Splitting Broom-Corn.

No. 155,831.

Patented Oct. 13, 1874.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDRICK GERLING AND WILLIAM BRODERICK, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN KNIVES FOR SPLITTING BROOM-CORN.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **155,831**, dated October 13, 1874; application filed January 23, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FREDRICK GERLING and WILLIAM BRODERICK, of Cleveland, county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a Knife for Splitting Broom-Corn, of which the following is a specification:

Our invention relates to an improved knife to facilitate the splitting of broom-corn in the manufacture of brooms, whereby the workman is enabled to uniformly and expeditiously split the corn for the covers or outside layers of corn or straw used in finishing the broom.

To fully understand our invention, we proceed to describe the same in detail, with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which Figure 1 is a top-plan view of the device; Fig. 2, a cross-section on line *x x* of Fig. 1, showing the position of the corn-brush when being split. Fig. 3 is a side view of the corn-brush after being split.

A is a bar, having inclined projections *a a*, on which a knife-blade, B, is secured by screws *b b*. The holes in the said blade for the screws are elongated so as to allow the blade to be adjusted for splitting the corn in various thicknesses. The bar A has a projection, C, for a purpose hereinafter shown. D is a guard, lying over the knife-blade B, between which and the said blade the corn is drawn for splitting the same. The bar A, with its projection C and guard D, is cast in one solid piece, and has a flat base, E, by which it is bolted to a work-bench.

The operation of this is as follows: The

workman takes a small bunch of corn in his right hand, grasping it at the brush, and lays it across the top of the projection C, and with his left hand bears the other end of the bunch of corn down, bending it over the said projection. He then carries the bunch along between the knife B and the guard D, (see Fig. 2,) the front corners of the knife and guard being rounded off to freely admit the corn. He then draws the bunch with his right hand through the knife B, splitting the corn as it is drawn, the waste corn passing between the knife and bar A, and falling to the floor.

Heretofore the broom-maker, when finishing a broom, has used a common knife for splitting the covers for the outside layers of the broom, which has been a slow, tedious operation, and did not split the straw evenly.

With this improved knife the workman is enabled to perform his work more perfectly, with greater ease, and at a great saving of time. It is equally applicable for splitting willows.

Having described our invention, we claim—

A tool for splitting broom-corn, consisting of a bar, A, cutter or knife B, projection C, and guard D, combined and operating as specified.

FREDRICK GERLING.

WM. BRODERICK.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. TIBBETTS,
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