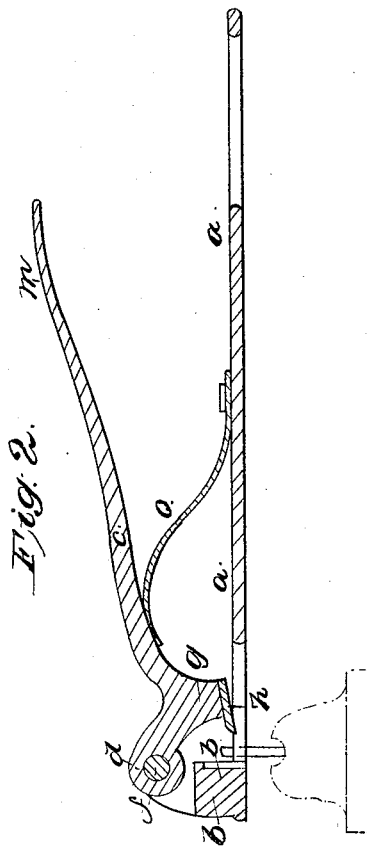
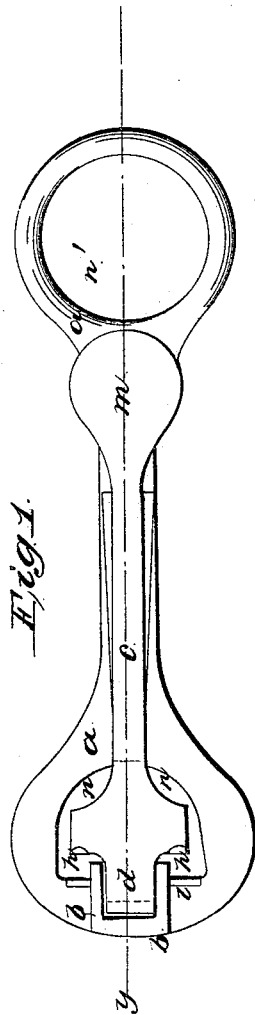


W. R. Brooks,

Wick Trimmer.

N^o 53,403.

Patented Mar 27, 1866.



Witnesses:

Wm. Brown
Glas. Tins etc

Inventor:

W R Brooks
By *Payl*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. BROOKS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVED WICK-TRIMMER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 53,403, dated March 27, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. BROOKS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Trimmers for Lamp-Wicks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

In the burning of kerosene and other oils for illuminating purposes the importance and necessity of an even trimming of the wicks to the lamps used are too well known to all persons to need a particular enumeration herein, and there has long been a desire for the production of some suitable and simple implement by which the wicks could be not only readily, but always evenly, trimmed, and with but little trouble.

To produce such an implement is therefore the object of the present invention, which consists in a peculiar and novel arrangement of a cutting device, as will be hereinafter described.

In the accompanying plate of drawings, Figure 1 is a plan or top view of my improved wick-trimmer. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal vertical section in plane of line *y y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

a a in the drawings represent the bottom or frame piece of the trimmer, having at one end a fixed standard, *b*, which may be either attached thereto or formed as a part thereof; *c*, a lever-handle, hung by one end, *d*, to and upon a fulcrum-pin, *f*, of the standard *b*, and extending therefrom over the frame *a* in the direction of its length, to which lever, and upon the under side of the projecting arm *g* of the same, is secured, by means of screws or in any other proper manner, so as to be detached therefrom when desired, a knife-blade, *h*, with its cutting-edge toward the fixed standard *b*, against the plate *l* of which it comes to a bearing when the outer end, *m*, of the handle-lever is depressed.

In each end of frame *a* is an aperture, *n n'*, through one of which, *n'*, when the trimmer is to be used, the thumb of the right hand is passed and placed upon the outer end of the handle-lever, and then the plate by its other end set upon the top end of the wick-tube with the projecting end of the wick against the plate *l* of the same, the wick having previously been sufficiently raised in its tube in the ordinary manner, when the lever is depressed, bringing the knife against and cutting the wick, as is evident, the lever-handle then being retracted by means of the bent spring *o*, secured at one end to the frame *a*.

From the above it is manifest that by means of my improved trimmer, arranged as described, the wicks of lamps can be readily and evenly cut, the advantages of which are many and apparent.

The plate *l*, against which the knife-blade comes to a bearing, I prefer to make of soft metal, such as copper, so that the edge of the knife will not be injured thereby, and also the knife is made of curved shape in the direction of its length in order that the wick shall be cut in a rounding shape from end to end, as it is found by practice to give a much better frame than if cut straight.

I am aware that Letters Patent were granted January 3, 1865, to H. F. Bond, and June 20, 1865, to C. L. Topliff for lamp-trimmers having levers and sliding knives. This therefore I do not claim; but my invention is superior to those of Bond and Topliff in that guideways are dispensed with and the knife attached directly to the lever.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the frame *a b*, lever *c g*, spring *o*, and knife *h*, when said knife is attached directly to the lever, and all arranged to operate as and for the purpose herein specified.

WM. R. BROOKS.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH GAVETT,
SAML. W. RICHARDS.