

(No Model.)

W. E. GINN.
KNIFE SHARPENER.

No. 385,706.

Patented July 10, 1888.

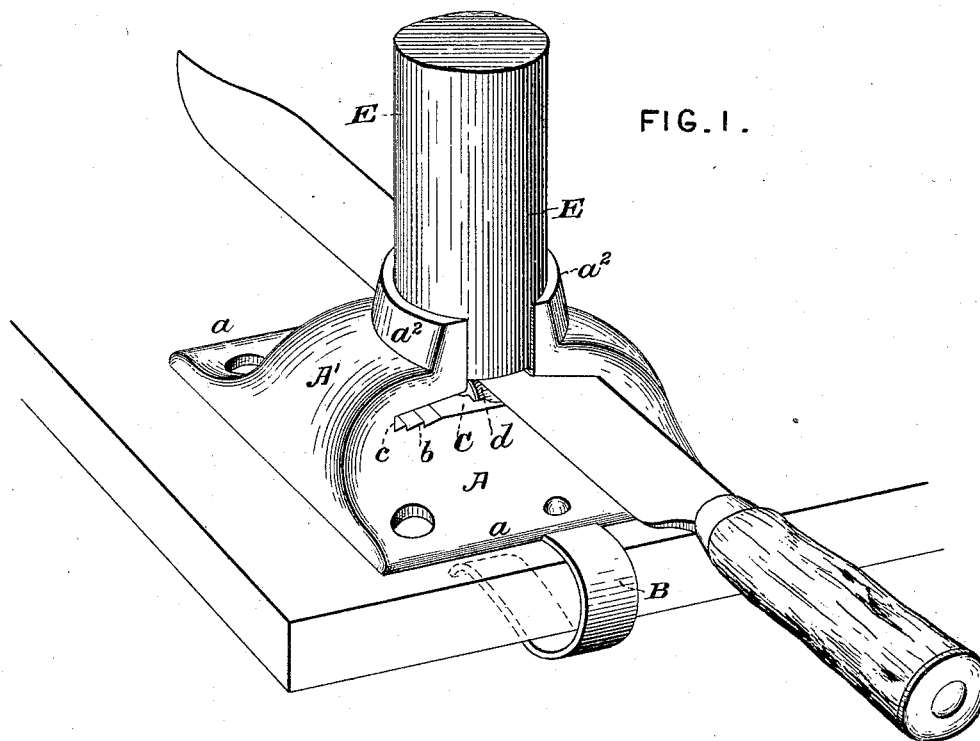


FIG. 1.

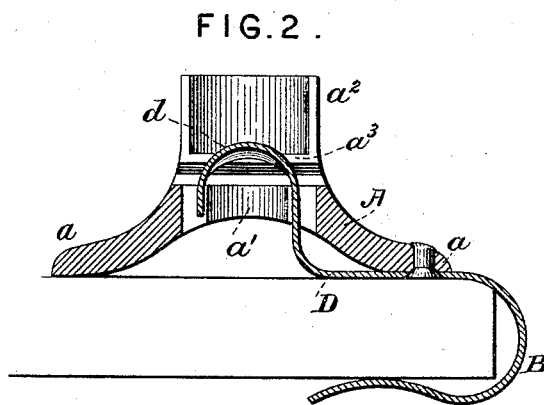


FIG. 2.

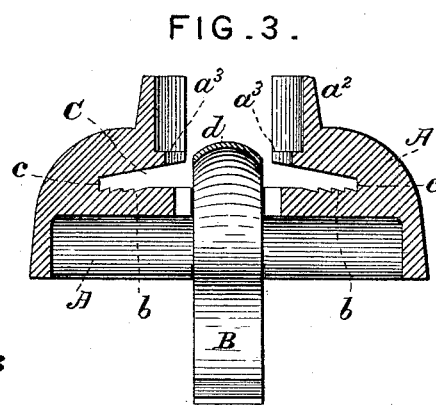


FIG. 3.

Attest:
Geo. T. Smallwood.
Jas. H. McCallahan.

Inventor.
Wm. E. Ginn.
by A. L. Smith & Son.
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. GINN, OF WOODBERRY, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO JAMES G. MOORE, OF SAME PLACE.

KNIFE-SHARPENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,706, dated July 10, 1888.

Application filed March 9, 1888. Serial No. 266,668. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. GINN, of Woodberry, county of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Knife Sharpeners, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention relates to a novel construction of knife-sharpeners more especially designed for domestic or household purposes, but applicable generally wherever frequent sharpening of knives is necessary; and it consists in a novel form or construction of stand or whetstone-holder whereby the knife blade is adapted to be readily reversed for sharpening upon both sides in the manner of applying the holding-clamp to said stand or holder, in a novel arrangement of spring in combination with the stand or holder, and in the manner of applying the whetstone to said stand or holder, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved sharpener with the stone applied as for use. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal vertical section through the holder, and Fig. 3 a vertical transverse section through the same.

A represents the stand or holder having a broad base or foot flanges, *a a*, through which it may be secured to any suitable support—such as a stand or table—by means of screws or other suitable fastenings; but where it is to be used for domestic purposes simply, or where the stand or support is adapted to receive it, I prefer to provide the base with a pendent spring-clamp, B, adapted to grasp the edge of the stand or table and to clamp the holder firmly thereto without the aid of other fastening, so that it can be readily attached to and removed from its support as required. The base is made, preferably, in the concavo-convex form, concave on its lower face, as shown, so as to give the required elevation to the knife-slot C through an upwardly-projecting transverse rib, A', and is perforated centrally of said slot at *a'* to permit a curved projection, *d*, on the free end of a flat spring, D, to pass up through it into the knife-slot, as shown. This spring is shown secured to the

lower concave face of the stand or base A, and may be formed in one piece with the spring-clamp B where the latter is employed; or it may be made separate therefrom and secured to the stand A under any suitable arrangement by rivets or screws, as shown, or otherwise.

The knife-slot C is made, preferably, tapering from its center each way, from the spring end *d* to the ends *c* of the slot, being made of sufficient width or depth at said ends to accommodate the back of the knife-blade and permit it to slide freely and easily back and forth therein, with its end resting on the curved upwardly-projecting end *d* of the spring D.

Immediately above the spring end *d* the stand A has upwardly-projecting curved flanges *a' a'*, approximating together the form of a short upright cylinder, but open on the front and rear sides, and provided at their lower ends with inwardly-projecting foot-flanges *a''*, which serve to support the whetstone E, resting upon end in the socket formed by the flanges *a'*. This cylindrical form of socket is preferred, as it permits the stone to be turned readily as required, and so prevents it from being worn in grooves, as would be the case were the socket and stone polygonal, or in such other form as would prevent the stone from being turned while in use. The stone is thus upheld directly above the curved end *d* of the spring and the edge of the knife, resting on the latter by gravity, aided, as required, by pressure from the otherwise unemployed hand of the operator, who can at the same time, if desired, rotate the stone in its socket, and so prevent the grooving of the stone, as explained.

The walls of the knife-socket may be provided with a series of saw-tooth-shaped shoulders *b*, adapting it to blades of different widths.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a knife-sharpener, a base or stand provided with a knife-slot and a socket or receptacle for the stone, in combination with the centrally-arranged spring, operating substantially as described.

2. The knife-sharpener stand provided with

the horizontal knife-slot and the socket for the stone located above said knife-slot, substantially as described.

3. The knife-sharpener stand provided with
5 the socket for the stone, and the knife-slot crossing the lower end of said socket, in combination with the centrally-arranged spring for upholding the edge of the knife in contact with the stone, substantially as described.

10 4. The knife-sharpener stand provided with the knife-slot and the socket for the stone, in combination with the spring D, and means, substantially as described, for uniting said stand to a support, substantially as specified.

5. The combination, with the perforated 15 base or stand A, having the knife slot C c and the cylindrical socket $a^2 a^2$, of the stone E and the spring D, arranged and operating substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my 20 hand this 3d day of March, A D. 1888.

WILLIAM E. GINN.

Witnesses:

MORRIS SHANKS,
JAS. S. BARTON.