

A.D. 1871 16th JANUARY N° 112

SPECIFICATION OF ROBERT YEATES.

INSTRUMENTS FOR OPENING PROVISION TINS.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,  
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY:  
PUBLISHED AT THE GREAT SEAL PATENT OFFICE,  
25, SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HOLBORN

Price 8d. 1871.

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Instruments for Opening Provision Tins.

LETTERS PATENT to Robert Yeates, of Portobello Road, Notting Hill, in the County of Middlesex, Cutler and Surgical Instrument Maker, for the Invention of "IMPROVED INSTRUMENTS FOR OPENING PROVISION TINS OR METALLIC CASES AND EXTRACTING THE PRESERVED SUBSTANCE THEREFROM."

Sealed the 7th July 1871, and dated the 16th January 1871.

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION left by the said Robert Yeates at the Office of the Commissioners of Patents, with his Petition, on the 16th January 1871.

I, ROBERT YEATES, of Portobello Road, Notting Hill, in the County of Middlesex, Cutler and Surgical Instrument Maker, do hereby declare the nature of the said Invention for "IMPROVED INSTRUMENTS FOR OPENING PROVISION TINS OR METALLIC CASES AND EXTRACTING THE PRESERVED SUBSTANCE THEREFROM," to be as follows, that is to say :-

My Invention has reference to the combination and employment of a guide and guard to cutting lever blades in connection with punches (held or fitted within a handle similar to pocket knives) for opening tins or cases of preserved food, or as separate instruments in wooden handles, as also in the form of scissor forceps in which the tweezer-shaped portions thereof are employed for lifting the preserved fish or otherwise out of the oil contained in the tins whilst the beak or head of the said forceps form the cutters in like manner to the lever blades aforesaid, and consists in forming the said lever blades or forceps with an angular projection to act as a fulcrum for the blade, as also as a guide for direction the knife through the tin with greater uniformity whilst cutting or opening the same.

Secondly. In employing in connection with the above a guard upon the cutters, consisting of a turn or lip for retaining the hold of the said knife or cutter upon the surface of the metal thus being cut through, and thereby preventing the slipping of the blade whilst in operation.

SPECIFICATION in pursuance of the conditions of the Letters Patent, filed by the said Robert Yeates in the Great Seal Patent Office on the 13th July 1871.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, ROBERT YEATES, of Portobello Road, Notting Hill, in the County of Middlesex, Cutler and Surgical Instrument Maker, send greeting.

WHEREAS Her most Excellent Majesty Queen Victoria, by Her Letters Patent, bearing date the Sixteenth day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and seventy-one, in the thirty-fourth year of Her reign, did, for Herself, Her heirs and successors, give and grant unto me, the said Robert Yeates, Her special licence that I, the said Robert Yeates, my executors, administrators, and assigns, or such others as I, the said Robert Yeates, my executors, administrators, and assigns, should at any time agree with, and no others, from time to time and at all times thereafter during the term therein expressed, should and lawfully might make, use, exercise, and vend, within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, an Invention for "IMPROVED INSTRUMENTS FOR OPENING PROVISION TINS OR METALLIC CASES AND EXTRACTING THE PRESERVED SUBSTANCES THEREFROM," upon the condition (amongst others) that I, the said Robert Yeates, my executors or administrators, by an instrument in writing under my, or their, or one of their hands and seals, should particularly describe and ascertain the nature of the said Invention, and in what manner the same was to be performed, and cause the same to be filed in the Great Seal Patent Office within six calendar months next and immediately after the date of the said Letters Patent.

**NOW KNOW YE**, that I, the said Robert Yeates, do hereby declare the nature of my said Invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement and the Drawings therein referred to (that is to say) :-

My Invention consists in the employment and mode of constructing the blades of knives and similar instruments for opening or cutting through hermetically closed tins or cases of preserved substances, so as to enable the said operation to be more safely and uniformly performed than hitherto, by providing the said blades or cutting instruments with angular projecting studs and curves suitable for guiding and controlling the knife in its horizontal and vertical course around the tin, and admit of the said tins or cases under operation being cut through or opened at the top or side, as circumstances may require, employing in like manner scissor forceps (for uniting the cutting action with the extraction of the preserved substances) in one or separate instruments.

And in order that my said Invention may be more fully understood and readily carried into effect, I now proceed to describe the same by the aid of the accompanying Drawings, reference being had to the letters and figures thereon marked (that is to say) :-

Fig. 1 represents an horizontal view of one of my improved instruments and mode of employing the same for punching and cutting through the side of a tin or case fitted in plain wooden handle; Fig. 2, an edge view of the blade with handle removed; Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6, corresponding views showing modifications thereof; Figs. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, similar corresponding views of instruments for cutting vertically through the tins or cases aforesaid, as shown at Figure 8; Fig. 15, horizontal and vertical cutters fitted to an ordinary pocket knife; Figs. 16 and 17, side and edge views of cutting and extracting forceps; Figs. 18 and 19, scissor tongs for lifting fruit or other preserved substances out of the tins aforesaid; and Fig. 20, forceps for removing or extracting preserved fish or otherwise from the said tins or cases. In each Figure the same letters of reference denote similar corresponding parts.

