

Just For Openers January-December 2025 1

Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

The *Miami News* did a short feature in its January 11, 1925 issue on a visitor from New Jersey, John L. Sommer.

Sommer, the Florida newspaper said, "has made more presents than perhaps any man in the world. This does not mean that he is a philanthropist but that he is the largest manufacturer in the country of steel advertising novelties and that practically all of his products are given away by the people for whom he manufactures them."

The J. L. Sommer Manufacturing Company of Newark made dozens of small items that companies would brand with their names and give away as premiums, including figural bottle openers, button hooks, key rings, shoe horns, combo kitchen tools/bottle openers, and letter openers.

The company made a point of advertising that its pocket-size products would last longer because they were made out of steel. And it was its vast line of steel products that put it in the same league as the other big branding firms of the day including the Vaughan Novelty Manufacturing Company of Chicago and Brown & Bigelow of St. Paul, Minnesota.

J. L. SOMMER, STEEL AND METAL NOVELTIES FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES.

**Letter Openers, Key Rings, Shoe Horns, Button Hooks, Etc.
93 to 105 CHESTNUT STREET.**

An article in the *Central New Jersey Home News* in New Brunswick, on December 14, 1905 said the manufacturing concern got its start making shoe buttoners or shoe hooks, and expanded from there into the production of shoe horns, cigar box openers, key rings and letter openers. The company, the newspaper said, is "engaged in the production of great quantities of little things."

Although he had been in business at least a decade, Sommer did not incorporate the firm until 1910 "to manufacture novelties, advertising specialties, etc." Capital was \$100,00 and one of the incorporators was Thomas Harding of Newark, a very important player in the success of the firm.

J. L. Sommer Mfg. Co.

Wire, Steel and Metal Novelties

FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES

Letter Openers, Key Rings, Shoe Horns, Button Hooks, Etc.

115 Chestnut Street, Newark, N. J.

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Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

Sommer was granted at least 23 patents from 1894 to 1926, including two buttonhooks that helped launch his branding career. He was awarded Design Patent No. 23,862 dated December 11, 1894 for a buttonhook with an open flat area on the handle for advertising and Design Patent No. 25,602 on June 9, 1896 with a circular flat handle for a company name. In addition he was awarded a similar patent nearly 20 years later for a model with circular diamond design handle, Design Patent No. 48,015 dated October 19, 1915.

DESIGN.
J. L. SOMMER.
BUTTON HOOK, &c.

No. 23,862.

Patented Dec. 11, 1894.

DESIGN.
J. L. SOMMER.
BUTTON HOOK.

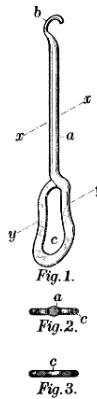
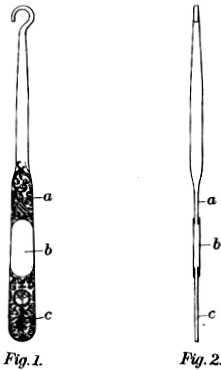
No. 25,602.

Patented June 9, 1896.

DESIGN.
J. L. SOMMER.
HANDLE FOR BUTTON HOOKS OR SIMILAR ARTICLES.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 11, 1915.

48,015.

Patented Oct. 19, 1915.



Attest:
Maximilian A. Hanger
William Boston

Inventor:
John L. Sommer, per
Henry J. Miller, Atty.

Attest:
William A. Bonner
John J. Venter

Inventor:
John L. Sommer, per
Henry J. Miller, Atty.

WITNESSES
Howard P. King
Lester B. Blodgett

Inventor:
John L. Sommer,
per
Russell W. Everett,
ATTORNEY.

His 1894 and 1896 buttonhooks were favorite giveaways for years by shoe stores across the country. For example one 1894 6¼-inches model is marked: SOROSIS SHOE PAT 12-11-94. One figure-8 circular handle hook just over 4-inches is marked: THE NOVELTY SHOE CO. 638 15th ST. DENVER, COLO. and another at 3¾-inches: LE CO DEPT. STORE 223 MAIN ST. ORANGE, N.J. Both are also marked in tiny type: PAT'D 6.9.96. The 1915 model also comes in at 3¾-inches and has a diamond décor.



Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

Sommer took his buttonhooks a step further in 1903, being awarded Patent No. 725,166 for a folding buttonhook with the folded hook designed "to be suspended from a key ring." The hook is just under 2 1/2-inches folded and 4 1/2-inches extended. One is marked: THE WALK-OVER SHOE and stamped in other places: PAT'D 4-14-03, JLS MFG CO NEWARK N.J. It was an in demand branding item for shoe stores.



No. 725,166.

PATENTED APR. 14, 1903.

J. L. SOMMER.
BUTTON HOOK.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 14, 1902.

NO MODEL.

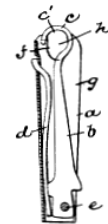


Fig. 2.

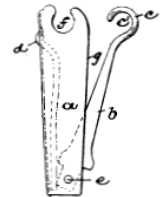


Fig. 1.

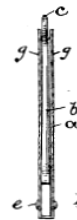


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

WITNESSES:

Henry King
Russell W. Everett

INVENTOR:

John L. Sommer,
BY
Drake & Co.
ATTORNEYS.

DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. HAMMER.

No. 27,949. Patented Dec. 7, 1897.



Fig. 1.

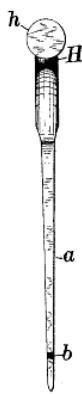


Fig. 2.

Attest.
H. F. Walker
Louise Kirchbaum

Inventor.
John L. Sommer
Henry J. Miller
Atty.

Another early popular product was based on a "hammer" design patent granted Sommer on December 7, 1897 for a five-inch cigar box opener and resealer. Cigar manufacturers branded the knife handle and used it as a premium, included one marked on one side: BILL TIBBS 5C CIGAR. PATENTED DEC. 7. 97 and on the other: BEN-HUR 5C CIGAR. (How does it work? The knife blade is used to break the cigar box seal. The slit in the blade is used to pull out the nail or nails and the hammer is used to pound the nail or nails back in to reseal the box.)



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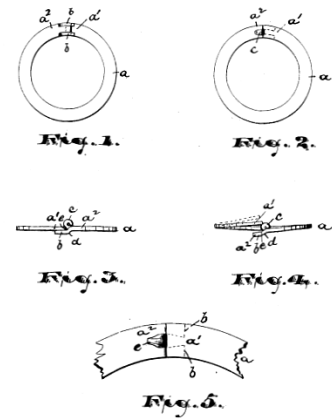
Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

Sommer's smallest branding item came in 1902. On December 16 of that year he was granted a patent for he said was "a simple, cheap, effective, and durable key-ring which will be better adapted for service as an advertising medium." The flat surface of the 1 1/2-inch in diameter ring was perfect for advertising. One example is marked: CHURCH & CO. NEW YORK ARM & HAMMER SODA.



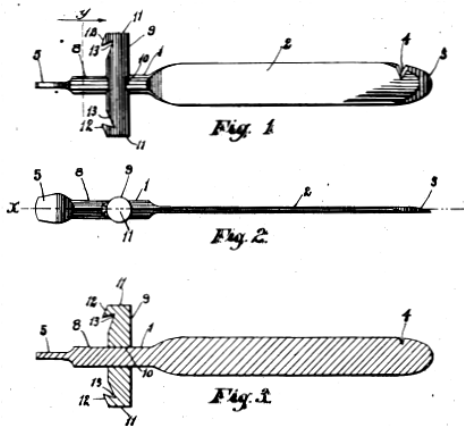
No. 715,892 Patented Dec. 16, 1902.
J. L. SOMMER.
KEY RING.
 Application filed June 23, 1902.
 (No. Model.)



WITNESSES:
Henry Krug
Russell M. Curditt

INVENTOR:
John L. Sommer,
 BY
Drake & Co.
 ATTORNEYS

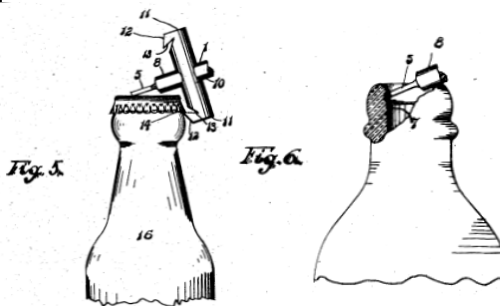
No. 833,944 Patented Oct 23, 1906.
J. L. SOMMER.
BOTTLE OPENER.
 Application filed May 23, 1906
 (2 Sheets-Sheet 1)



WITNESSES:
Pedrich Bernamoff
Ethel B. Reed

INVENTOR
John L. Sommer,
 BY
Russell M. Curditt
 ATTORNEY

No. 833,944 Patented Oct 23, 1906.
J. L. SOMMER.
BOTTLE OPENER.
 Application filed May 23, 1906
 (2 Sheets-Sheet 2)



WITNESSES
Pedrich Bernamoff
Ethel B. Reed

INVENTOR
John L. Sommer,
 BY
Russell M. Curditt
 ATTORNEY.

In 1906 Sommer entered the bottle opener world. He was granted Patent No. 833,944 on October 23 of that year for a device for "extracting or removing stoppers from bottles, particularly the metal caps or stoppers now commonly used."

Sommer said that by resting the end of his opener "on the top of the cap and hooking one of the teeth under the edge of the cap obviously a slight upward movement of the handle of the implement will dislodge the cap from the bottle."

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John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

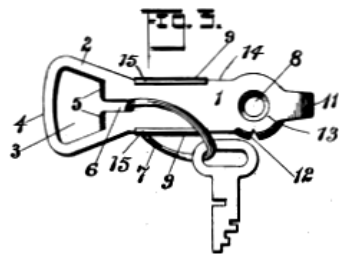
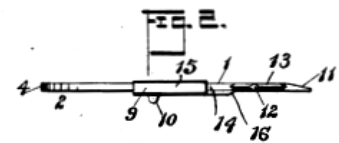
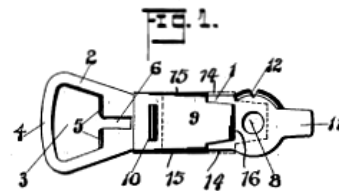


J. L. SOMMER.
COMBINED BOTTLE OPENER AND CIGAR CUTTER.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 26, 1907.

936,678.

Patented Oct. 12, 1909.

Sommer also received a patent for a “combined bottle opener and cigar cutter.” The object of Patent No. 936,678, dated October 12, 1909, he said, was “to provide a device which can be conveniently carried in the pocket, as upon a key-ring, and employed either to open bottles or remove the tips of cigars.”



WITNESSES
Frederick L. ...
Herbert J. R. Lockwood

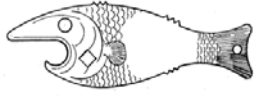

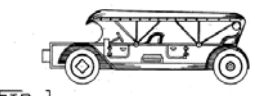

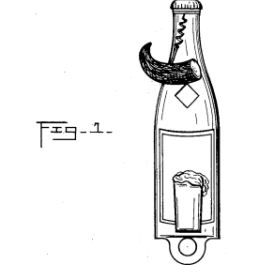





INVENTOR
John L. Sommer
BY
Russell M. Everett
ATTORNEY

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Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

Sommer probably is best known for his pocket size figural bottle openers patented from 1911 to 1914.

<p>DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. BOTTLE OPENER. Application filed Aug. 25, 1911. No. 41,894. Pat. Nov. 7, 1911</p>  <p>Fig-1-</p>  <p>Fig-2-</p> <p>WITNESSES <i>Cornelius Gabrisch</i> <i>Elizabeth M. Kaumann</i></p> <p>INVENTOR: <i>John L. Sommer</i> BY <i>Russell M. Everett</i>, ATTORNEY.</p>	<p>DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. BOTTLE OPENER. Application filed Aug. 25, 1911. No. 41,895. Pat. Nov. 7, 1911</p>  <p>Fig-1-</p>  <p>Fig-2-</p> <p>WITNESSES <i>Cornelius Gabrisch</i> <i>Elizabeth M. Kaumann</i></p> <p>INVENTOR: <i>John L. Sommer</i> BY <i>Russell M. Everett</i>, ATTORNEY.</p>	<p>DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. BOTTLE OPENER. Application filed Sept. 14, 1911. No. 42,305. Pat. Mar. 12, 1912</p>  <p>Fig-1-</p>  <p>Fig-2-</p> <p>WITNESSES <i>Francis E. Blodgett</i> <i>Johannes S. Danforth</i></p> <p>INVENTOR: <i>John L. Sommer</i> BY <i>Russell M. Everett</i>, ATTORNEY.</p>	<p>DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. BOTTLE OPENER. Application filed Sept. 14, 1911 No. 42,306. Pat. Mar. 12, 1912</p> <p>Fig-1-</p>   <p>Fig-2-</p> <p>WITNESSES <i>Francis E. Blodgett</i> <i>Johannes S. Danforth</i></p> <p>INVENTOR: <i>John L. Sommer</i> BY <i>Russell M. Everett</i>, ATTORNEY.</p>	<p>DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. BOTTLE OPENER. Application filed Mar. 3, 1914. No. 45,678. Pat. Apr. 28, 1914</p>  <p>Fig. 1.</p>  <p>Fig. 2.</p> <p>WITNESSES: <i>Howard P. King</i> <i>Janet L. Ayers</i></p> <p>INVENTOR: <i>John L. Sommer</i> BY <i>Russell M. Everett</i>, ATTORNEY.</p>
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The openers range from 3 to 3 1/4-inches with character designs on the topside and branding on the back, like the pitcher. Most have their patent dates in tiny type.

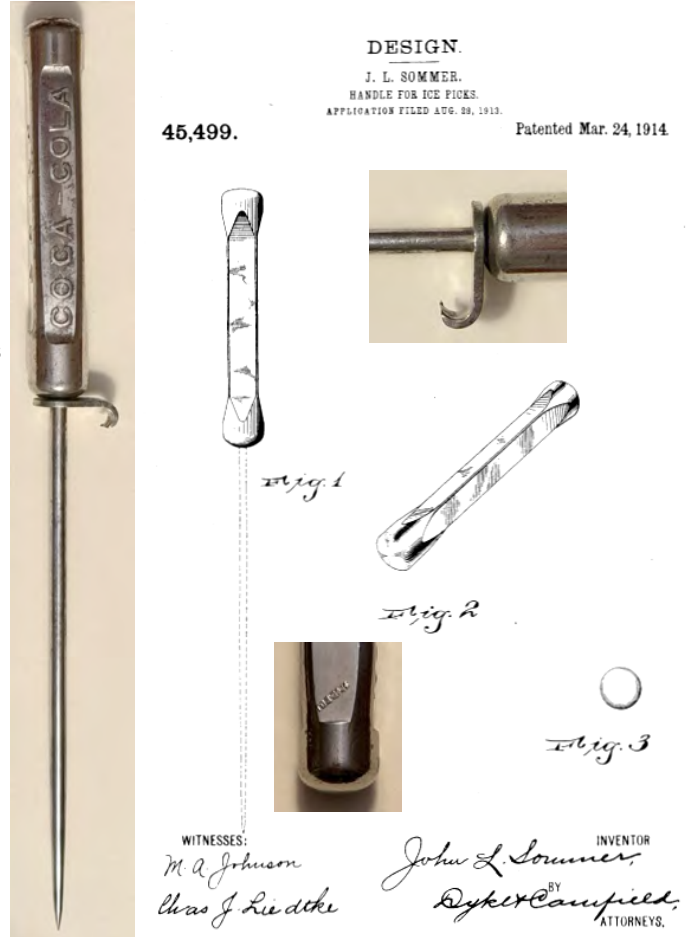
		   	<p>DESIGN. J. L. SOMMER. BOTTLE OPENER. Application filed Jun. 25, 1914. No. 46,298. Pat. Aug 18, 1914</p>  <p>Fig. 1.</p>  <p>Fig. 2.</p> <p>WITNESSES: <i>Howard P. King</i> <i>Mildred E. Brooks</i></p> <p>INVENTOR: <i>John L. Sommer</i> BY <i>Russell M. Everett</i>, ATTORNEY.</p> 
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Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

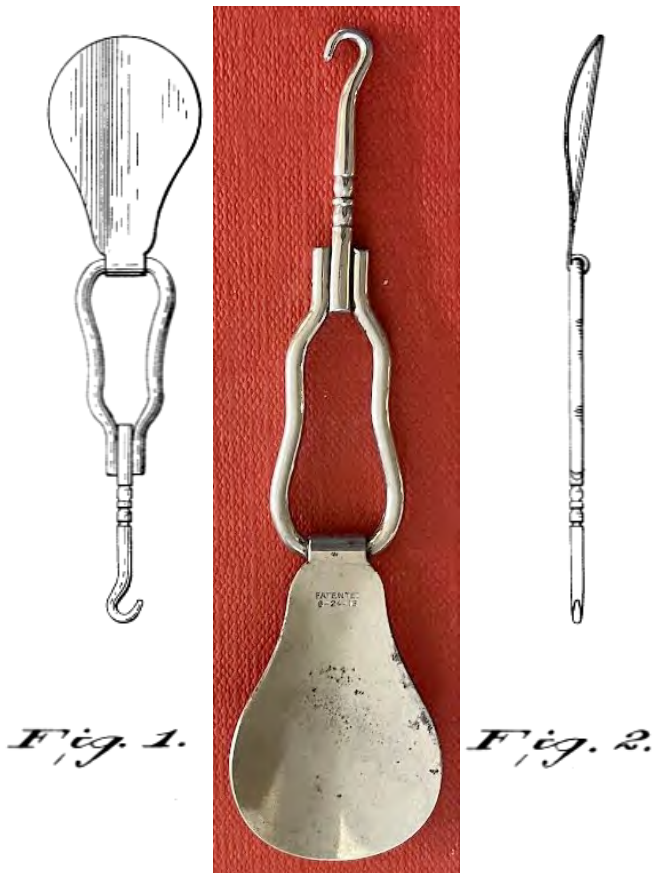
John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

He went at it in a roundabout way, but Sommer also had an ice pick/bottle opener combination. He was awarded Design Patent No. 45,499 on March 24, 1914 for a "handle for ice picks" which turned into a full ice pick with flat handle surfaces for advertising when it came on the market. One example is marked: DRINK / COCA-COLA / IN BOTTLES / LEAKSVILLE, N.C. Later, a small hook was added to the pick at the handle to double its potential usage. One hook model is branded only with its price, 10 cents. Both models are also marked in very tiny type: PATD. 03-24-14.



DESIGN.
J. L. SOMMER.
SHOE HORN AND BUTTON HOOK.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 25, 1914.
Patented Aug. 24, 1915.

47,762.



WITNESSES:
Howard P. King
Mildred E. Brooks

INVENTOR:
John L. Sommer
BY
Russell M. Everett
ATTORNEY



Another combination device patented by Sommer was a "shoe horn and button hook." Design Patent No. 47,762 was awarded to Sommer on August 24, 1915 for the combo tool that could be folded two ways to fit in a pocket. One example is marked only: PATENTED 8-24-15, but most are branded. It is 6 1/2-inches long when fully extended and just over 2 1/2-inches when folded.

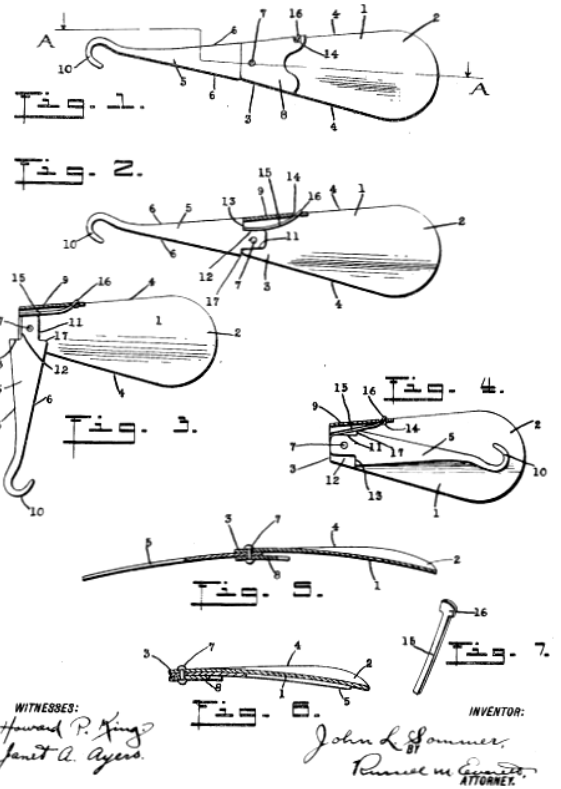
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Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

He followed that combination pocket tool with another one two years later. He was awarded Patent No. 1,242,615 on October 9, 1917 for his "folding shoe horn." Extended it comes in at 5-inches and 2 3/4-inches folded. One is marked: PHYSICAL CULTURE SHOES STYLE PLUS COMFORT, PHYSICAL CULTURE SHOE SHOP, 248 DELAWARE AVE. BUFFALO, and near the hinge: PAT. 10-9-17.

J. L. SOMMER,
FOLDING SHOE HORN,
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 12, 1917.
1,242,615. Patented Oct. 9, 1917.



DESIGN.
J. L. SOMMER.
HANDLE FOR A SCREW DRIVER OR SIMILAR ARTICLE.
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 12, 1917.
54,142. Patented Nov. 4, 1919.

54,142.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Branding also played a major role in the success of another Sommer tool – this one a screwdriver. He was awarded Design Patent No. 54,142 on November 4, 1919 for a small screwdriver with a flat handle for easy advertising. There are two sizes, a few at 8-inches but the vast majority that survive today come in at 3 3/4-inches. One model is marked: FORD LINCOLN-FORDSON SALES & SERVICE on one side and on the other: HAGERTY SALES & SERVICE SUSSEX, N. J. and in tiny type: PAT. 11-4-19.

WITNESS
Howard P. King

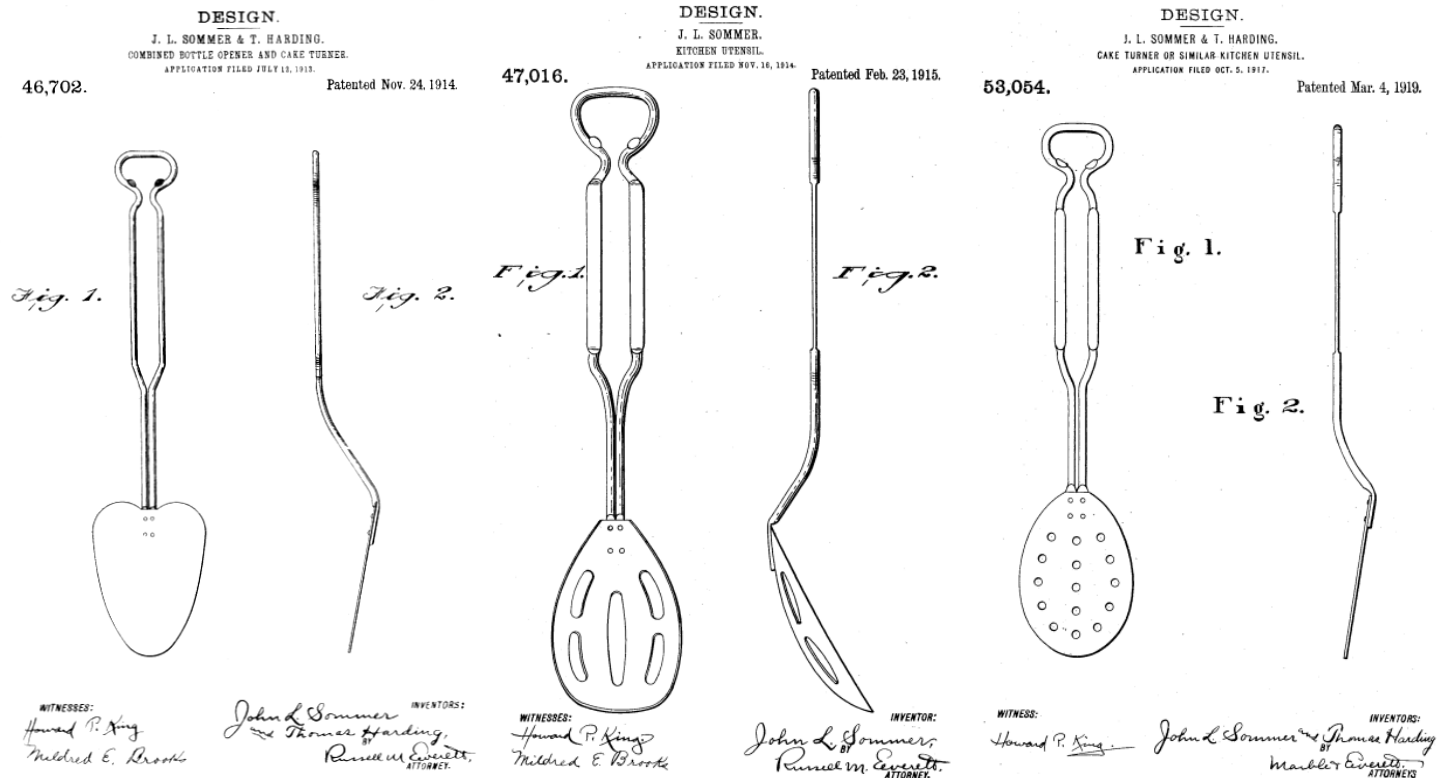
INVENTOR:
John L. Sommer
Mark & Everett
ATTORNEYS.



Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

Sommer shared credit on a patent with his partner Thomas Harding that had considerable impact on American kitchens. It was a “combined bottle-opener and cake turner” in 1914 that ended up not limited to cake turners. He had a similar combination patent in 1915 for a “kitchen utensil” and in 1919 again joined Harding for a combo “cake turner or similar kitchen utensil.”



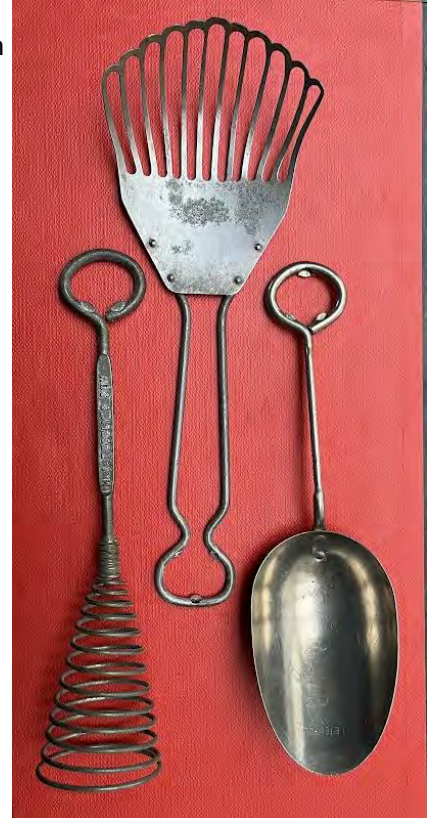
The result of these patents is amazing: cake turners and servers, spatulas, slotted spoons, ladles, potato mashers, and other kitchen utensils were turned over night into combination tools with unlimited branding potential. The two most favored, based on the number offered in online auctions today, were the 1914 heart-shaped cake turner and the 1915 slotted spoon. The cake turner was a branding star but a few came with a floral design for direct sales.



Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

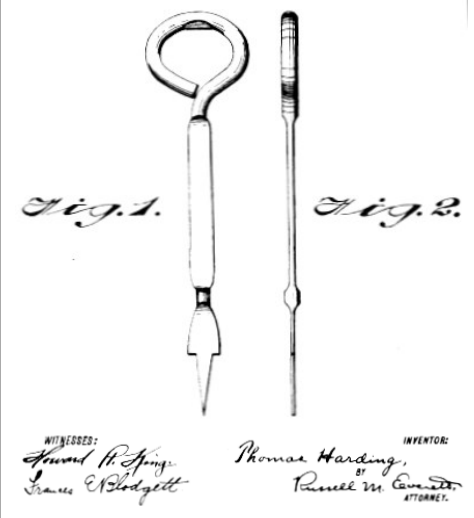
John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

All three pieces shown are marked: JO-BETH-CO. STEEL CUT COFFEE. The down side may be marked in tiny type: J. L. S. MFG. CO. NEWARK, N.J., "PAT. 11-24-14" (Note the 1914 patent date.), no date or just PATENTED. Note the top cake cutter piece is a variation of the heart shaped one shown in the patent. At least ten variations exist with different kitchen tools opposite the opener end. Over the years other combo opener tools appeared, all cool looking, but in all likelihood knockoffs (shown right) if not marked with the patent date of 1914 or the word patented.



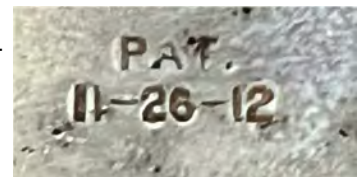
John Harding was listed in various Newark City Directories as secretary/treasure and vice president of the J.L. Sommer Manufacturing Company. He was granted at least 12 patents from 1905 to 1934, nearly all of which he assigned to the company. Most of the patents were for bottle openers or combination bottle opener tools.

DESIGN.
T. HARDING.
COMBINED BOTTLE OPENER & PICK.
 Application Filed Sept. 7, 1912
 No. 43,278. Patented Nov. 26, 1912.



He was granted Design Patent No. 43,278 on November 26, 1912 for a "combined bottle opener and pick" (ice pick and milk bottle cap lifter), which was a top branding seller for Sommer for years.

The 6-inch device is flat in the center for branding and marked in small type near the pick: PAT. 11-26-12. Branded example include: ACKERMAN'S BEER on both sides.



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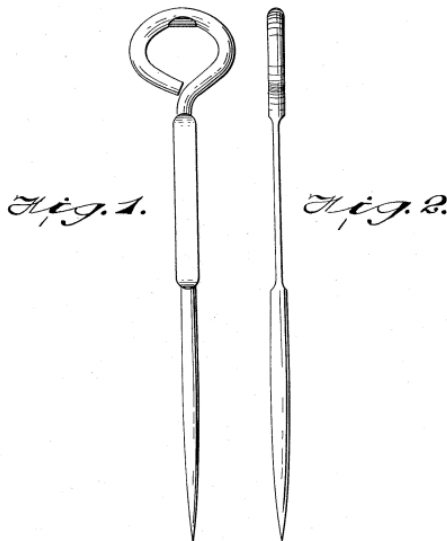
Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

Harding used that patent on a similar pick but with a jar-opening top. The 7-inch device has a half circle top 2 3/4-inches across. One is marked: ARDEN DAIRY, INC. EL MONTE, CALIF. on one side and CERTIFIED MILK on the other. Others, without branding, are marked on both sides: PAT. 11-26-12.



46,311. BOTTLE OPENER AND PICK. APPLICATION FILED JUNE 25, 1914. Patented Aug. 25, 1914.



He had a similar combination opener in his Design Patent No. 46,311 dated August 25, 1914 – an opener with an ice pick. Ice companies loved to brand the 8-inch device.

Harding followed in Sommer's footsteps in 1916 with his own patent for a combination buttonhook/shoe horn. He was awarded Patent No. 1,194,381 on August 15 of that year for a "folding implement." The 3-inch (when folded) all metal implement extends to 5-inches when opened. One model is branded: THE AMERICAN GIRL ARCH SUPPORT SILHOU-WELT SHOES MANUFACTURED BY THE SAM B. WOLF SONS CO. CINCINNATI, OHIO Patd 8-15-16. Ironically, two months later he dropped the "folding" and was awarded Design Patent No. 49,731 for a similar, but one-piece, combo.



WITNESSES:
Howard P. King
Janet A. Ayers.

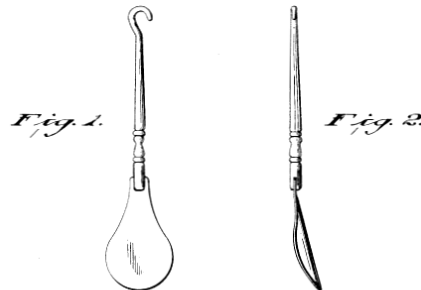
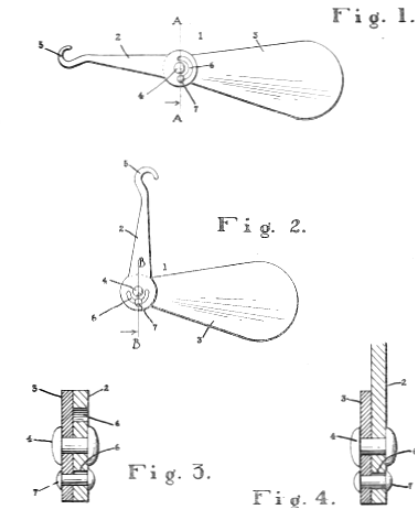
INVENTOR:
Thomas Harding,
BY Russell M. Edwards
ATTORNEY.

Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

1,194,881.
T. HARDING.
FOLDING IMPLEMENT.
APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1915.
Patented Aug. 15, 1916.

DESIGN
T. HARDING.
COMBINED BUTTON HOOK AND SHOE HORN.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 3, 1915.
Patented Oct. 3, 1916.



WITNESSES:
Howard P. King

INVENTOR:
Thomas Harding
BY Russell W. Everett, ATTORNEY.

WITNESSES:
Howard P. King
Janet D. Lyons

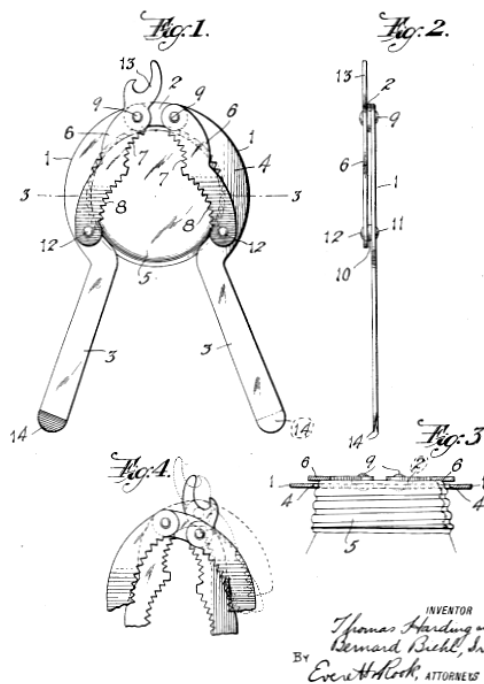
INVENTOR:
Thomas Harding
BY Russell W. Everett, ATTORNEY.



Top: COMPLIMENTS GEORGE BAKER SHOES OF CHARACTER
Bottom: GALESVILLE FAIR HUNTER HARDWARE CO,

June 5, 1923.
T. HARDING ET AL
CAN OPENING WRENCH
Filed April 6, 1922

1,457,774



INVENTOR
Thomas Harding and
Bernard Seibel, Jr.,
BY Everett H. Hook, ATTORNEYS

On June 5, 1923, Harding was awarded Patent No. 1,457,774 for a “can opening wrench.” A close reading of the patent papers indicates the device includes a bottle opener but it obviously was an afterthought. The three-page (one page drawing, two pages text) patent goes into great detail about the strength of the wrench and how it can be adjusted to open any size screw top. The bottle opener rates only one sentence: “Preferably one of the chordal or auxiliary jaw portions is extended at the pivotal end of the wrench and shaped into a bottle opener.”

The 8-inch pliers-like device with four sets of small teeth is usually marked in very small type on an arm **PAT. 4-5-23**. Some models are not branded but most others that survive today are. A rare advertising example is marked: COMPLIMENTS PIONEER BREWING CO. FAIRBANKS, ALASKA.

Special Note: Harding and Sommer were surely working together when the two patent variations above were made with Harding’s shoehorn or buttonhook paired with Sommer’s leg bottle opener patent of 1912.

Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton



On August 14, 1928 Harding was granted Patent No. 1,680,291 for a corkscrew/bottle opener in what was an obvious challenge to one of the most successful pocket size devices of that kind ever made – the Nifty. The patent came 12 years after Harry L. Vaughan of Chicago was awarded Patent No. 1,207,100 dated December 4, 1916 – a patent that provided 17 years of protection – for the branded, multimillion selling Nifty (the embossed name for direct sales.).

The patent drawings are nearly identical (except for a tiny notch to keep the end of the worm in place on Hardings' device) and it is not known why there were no infringement legal actions.

The Daily Screw, The Virtual Corkscrew Museum's Daily Newspaper, edited by Donald A. Bull, on Aug. 14, 2003 quoted a report shedding light on the similar patents. It said Harding's "improved design is a single stamping with worm riveted to it. It is easier, faster and less expensive to manufacture than the Vaughan type which is a double stamping folded over the pivoting worm. Harding has added a notch to secure the worm in the closed position." Side by side comparisons show the Nifty has a skinner stem and there are other slight differences, but overall the Harding model is seen as a knockoff.

Aug. 14, 1928.

T. HARDING
CORKSCREW
Filed Feb. 20, 1926

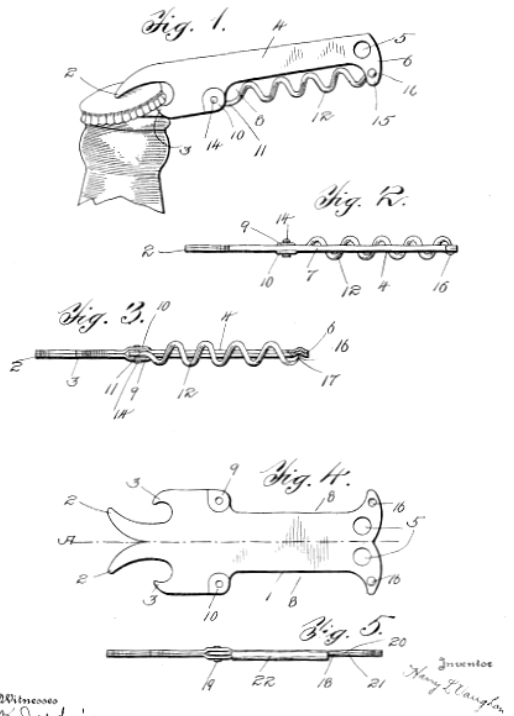
1,680,291



H. L. VAUGHAN
BOTTLE OPENER.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 21, 1915.

1,207,100.

Patented Dec. 5, 1916.



INVENTOR
Thomas Harding,
BY
Everitt & Co.,
ATTORNEYS

Witnessed
R. Jardine,
M. Garboe

Inventor
Harry L. Vaughan

Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton



Harding corkscrew above. Vaughan Nifty five right.



Harding's corkscrew/opener was a branding success but it never came close to the revenue generated by the Vaughan's best-selling Nifty. He followed his Nifty mimic with a wall mount opener Patent No. 1,711,678 dated May 7, 1929. The 2-inch wide device was attached to a wall with four screws. Based on a survey of on-line auction sites it was not a big seller.

May 7, 1929.

T. HARDING
CROWN CAP REMOVER
Filed Jan. 12, 1928

1,711,678

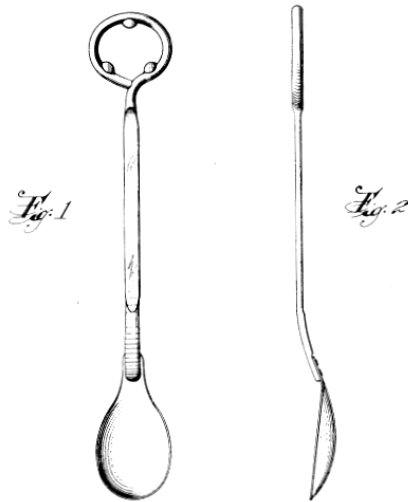


Sept. 22, 1931.

T. HARDING
BEVERAGE SPOON OR SIMILAR ARTICLE
Filed July 6, 1931

Des. 85,178

Harding had more success with his Design Patent No. 85,178 dated September 22, 1931 for a "beverage spoon or similar article," a bottle opener with a spoon on the end, the perfect bar tool.



Sommer manufactured these in various sizes and the branding had strong appeal to hotels. Three examples are marked, top to bottom, **LANSFORD**

INVENTOR
Thomas Harding,
BY
E. H. Cook
ATTORNEYS.

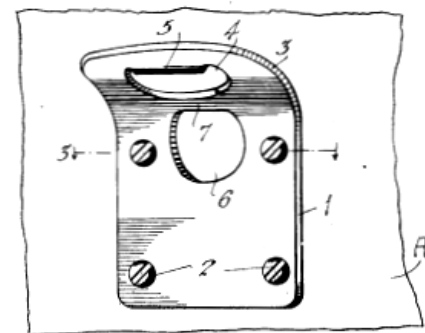


Fig. 1

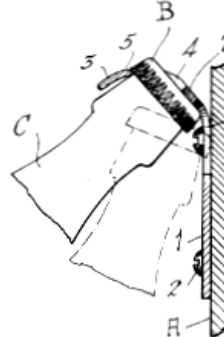


Fig. 2

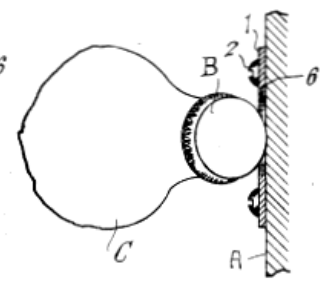


Fig. 3

INVENTOR
Thomas Harding,
BY
E. H. Cook
ATTORNEYS.

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Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

John L. Sommer & Thomas Harding By Don Thornton

BOTTLING WORKS (BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION 1732-1932 PIC OF GEORGE WASHINGTON IN BOWL) / TRY A CASE OF OUR DRY GINGER ALE, BIEBER-POLAR CO. (SLOTTED SPOON) and CARL'S CAFÉ 455-16TH ST. COORS BEER.



Harding rang out his patent career on March 20, 1934 with Design Patent No. 91,778 for a “combination bell and bottle cap remover.” Many of the 3 1/2-inch bells have no markings, but others had branding, many offered as a tourist souvenir at various attractions.

There is very little background available on Harding, other than he was a resident of Newark. However, Sommer merited an obituary in the *Asbury Park Press* on July 6, 1931. The obit said Sommer, who was born in Newark but lived in Asbury Park for the past 20 years, died of a heart attack at the age of 75.

Six years earlier in the 1925 *Miami News* feature, Sommer summed up the success of his firm. He told the newspaper that “over 300 entirely different articles are always in course of manufacture at his plant.” He also said his “business is one of the most fertile fields for invention, as something new is developed every few weeks to fill some long-felt homely need of the housewife or the business man.”

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Combo Opener* Kings, Among Other Things

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March 20, 1934.

T. HARDING

Des. 91,778

COMBINATION BELL AND BOTTLE CAP REMOVER

Filed Jan. 13, 1934

Fig. 1

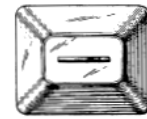


Fig. 2



Fig. 3



*THE TALLY: Sommer had five bottle opener combos while Harding had seven. They shared two of the patents, so the total is 10.

June 5, 1923.

J. L. SOMMER
GARMENT HANGER
Filed Dec. 19, 1918

1,458,113

**Bonus Item: A
"Garment Hanger"**
June 5, 1923 patent
by John L. Sommer.

Fig. 1.

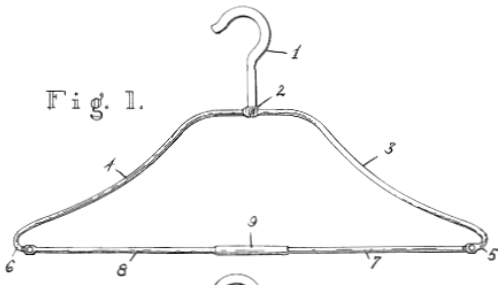


Fig. 2.

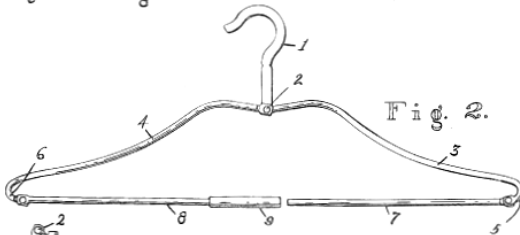


Fig. 4.

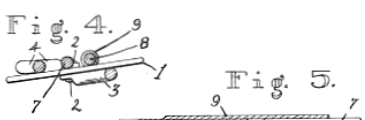
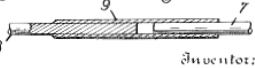


Fig. 5.



Inventor:

John L. Sommer
Patented by Everett
Attorney.



INVENTOR
Thomas Harding,
BY
Harry B. Cook,
ATTORNEY



Marked "W. Y. Burge & Company, Inc. "Where Quality Prevails" / 126 North Sycamore Street. Petersburg, Va."

