No. 653,322. Patented July 10, 1900.

J. STRONG.

TUCKING GUIDE FOR SEWING MACHINES.

(Application filed Feb. 12, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

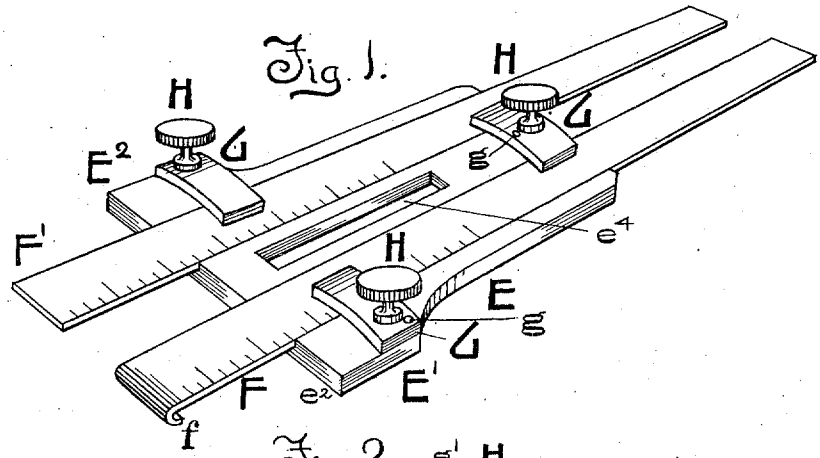


Fig. 2.

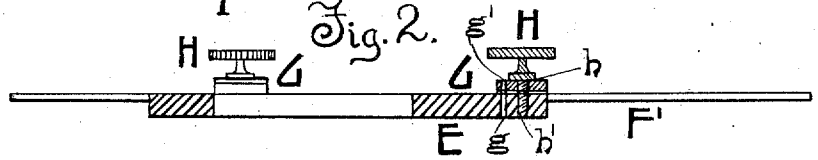


Fig. 3.

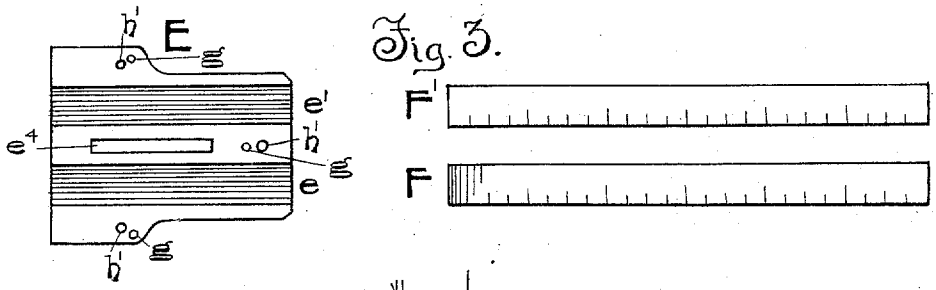
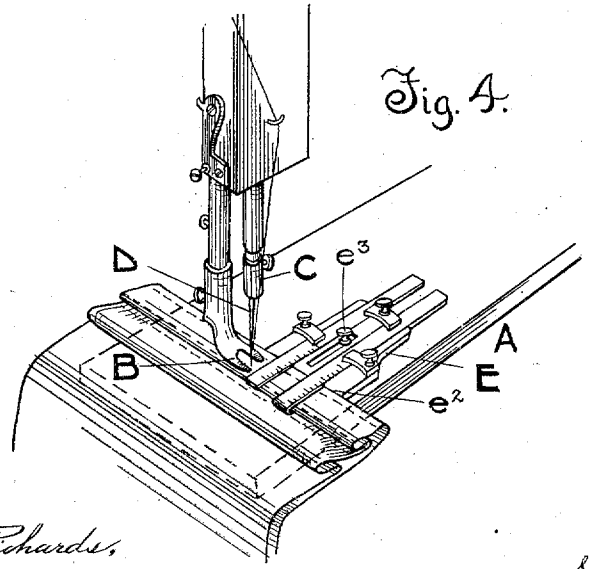


Fig. 4.



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TUCKING-GUIDE FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 653,322, dated July 10, 1900.

Application filed February 12, 1900. Serial No. 4,994. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN STRONG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Waterville, in the county of Kennebec, State of Maine, have invented a new and useful tucker to be used on sewing-machines in the manufacture of skirts, dresses, and other garments where tucks are to be made, of which the following is a specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the tucker embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a longitudinal central section of the same. Fig. 3 represents a detail plan view of the bed-plate and slides. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of the tucker attached to a sewing-machine.

A designates the table of a sewing-machine, B the presser-foot, C the needle-bar, and D the needle, these parts being represented only for the purpose of clearly illustrating the operation and not as forming any part of my improvement.

E designates a bed-plate attached to the said table by adjusting-screw e^3 passing through slot e^4 in the bed-plate and is provided at its front end with lateral extensions E′ E², one on each side, which make this end broader than the remainder of the said plate. In the upper face of the said plate are formed two parallel longitudinal grooves *e* and *e′*, receiving, respectively, a gage-slide F and guiding-slide F′. The former slide is provided with a terminal downwardly-bent gage-hook *f*. The latter slide has a flat end and merely guides the material as the tuck is sewed therein. These slides are adjusted and held by clamping-plates G and clamping-screws H, passing through holes *h* in the said clamping-plates and into screw-tapped holes *h′* of the said bed-plate. Each slide is graduated in inches on its upper face. The said clamping-plates are three in number, two being at the sides of the front end of the bed-plate on the extensions E′ E², while the third is at the rear end of said bed-plate. Each of the two former clamping-plates overlaps one of the said slides, while the third clamping-plate overlaps both slides. By loosening two of the said screws and clamping-plates and tightening them again after the slide on which they bear has been moved into position I am enabled to adjust the said slide and hold it in any position of adjustment. By loosening all three screws and plates both slides are left free to be extended or withdrawn for such adjustment. Each clamping-plate is provided with a hole *g′* to fit on a fixed stud *g* to prevent the said clamping-plate from turning on the screw while in position, as it might do if held only by said screw.

The operation is as follows: The bed-plate E is arranged with its front guiding edge e^2 at a distance from the needle D corresponding to the desired width of the tuck. The fabric to be tucked is folded at one edge to form one tuck and the new edge formed by the fold is placed against the said guiding edge e^2. The presser-foot B is then brought down on the fabric and the fabric is then run through the machine. The fabric is then turned around, bringing the tuck thus formed into the hook *b*. The other side of the material is then folded again and adjusted under the presser-foot, the folded edge being against the guiding edge e^2 of the bed-plate and run through as before, the said edge *e* and hook *f* guiding the fabric at opposite edges of the tuck, as shown in Fig. 4, and the slides F F′ preventing it from rising above the sewing-machine table across which it travels. These guiding and controlling devices thus arranged make the use of the operator's hand almost unnecessary except in first folding the tuck and arranging the fabric in position. The adjustability of the slide F′ is merely to make its operative length correspond to the width of the work, that its guiding and controlling action may be effective. The adjustability of the slide F adapts the position of the hook *f* with relation to the needle so as to gage the intervals between the tucks, the graduations on the two slides F and F′ affording an easy means of measurement. Of course by moving these slides out farther the device will be adapted to make the tucks farther apart, while by withdrawing them so as to bring the hook *f* and the outer end of slide F′ nearer to the guiding edge e^2 of bed-plate E the interval between tuck and tuck will be lessened.

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

In a tucker for sewing-machines, a bed-plate E having a front guiding edge e^2, pins g, screw-tapped holes h', and longitudinal grooves e, e', with gage-slide F having downward terminal hook f and movable endwise in one of the said grooves, guiding-slide F′ movable in the other of said grooves, clamping-plates G for the said slides, clamping-screws H passing through holes in the said clamping-plates and into screw-threaded holes of the said bed-plate, and raised pins rigid with the said bed-plate which enter holes in the said clamping-plates to prevent the latter from turning on the said screws, and thus keep them in position to overlap the said slides and clamp them in position, substantially as set forth.

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