(No Model.)

J. D. C. WENGER.

FINGER NAIL CLIPPER.

No. 569,903. Patented Oct. 20, 1896.

Fig. 1

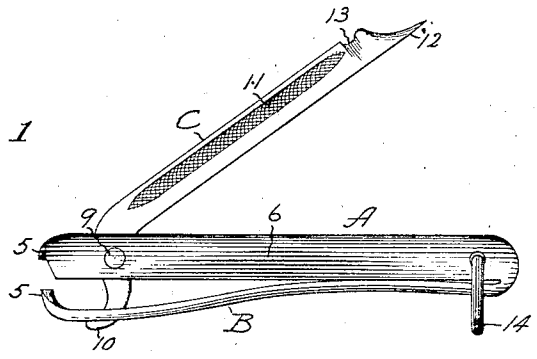


Fig. 2.

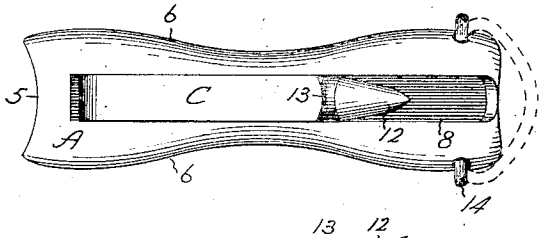


Fig. 3.

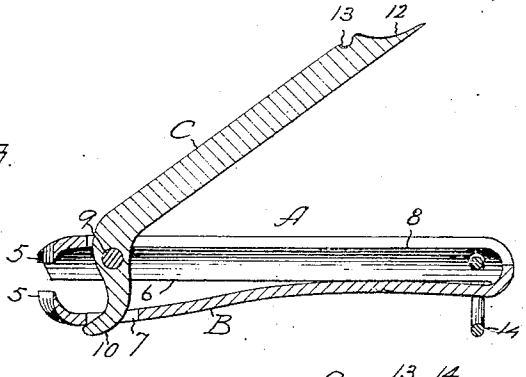
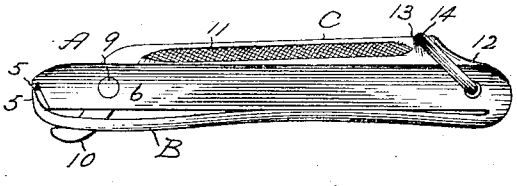


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS D. C. WENGER, OF ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO LEWIS I. COOK AND CHAPEL S. CARTER, OF SAME PLACE

FINGER-NAIL CLIPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 569,903, dated October 20, 1896.

Application filed March 21, 1896. Serial No. 584,242. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS D. C. WENGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ansonia, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Finger-Nail Clippers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in finger-nail clippers or cutters, and the main objects of my improvements are simplicity and economy in construction and general efficiency and convenience in use.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of my clipper with the lever released. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal section thereof, and Fig. 4 is a side elevation with the lever confined for convenience of carrying or storage when not wanted for immediate use.

My implement consists mainly of a rigid member A, a spring member B, and an operating-lever C. The rigid and spring member are preferably formed from a single piece of sheet metal, swaged or struck up into form and doubled upon itself at their junction, which forms one end of the implement. The other end of these members are somewhat curved in plan view and formed with cutting-jaws 5, whose edges shut squarely against each other, as in ordinary cutting-pliers, only the edges are curved in plan view instead of being straight. The member A is made practically rigid by providing its side edges with turned-down flanges 6, while the spring member B is left comparatively flat in cross-section. Near the cutting end of the spring member I form a central perforation 7, Fig. 3, and in the middle of the rigid member I form a longitudinal slot 8, within which I pivot the operating-lever C on any suitable fulcrum—as, for example, the pin 9. The short end 10 of the lever C is, for a short distance, substantially parallel to the body of said lever and extends down through the perforation 7 of the spring member. The tendency of said spring member is to open and throw the lever into the position shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 whenever said lever is released. The said lever may be provided with files, nail-cleaners, or any convenient tools. I prefer to form a plain flat file on one edge and a grooved file 11, as shown, on the other edge. I have also shown said lever as provided with a pointed blade-like nail-cleaner 12 and a transverse groove 13 near the end.

For convenience of carrying in a pocket or for compactness in form when not wanted for immediate use some means should be provided for holding the lever down within the longitudinal slot out of the way and thereby holding the jaws in a nearly-closed position. I have illustrated the implement as provided with the swinging bail 14, the form of which is indicated in plan view by the broken lines in Fig. 2. When turned down, as shown by full lines in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, it will stay out of the way of the lever, but when desired after depressing the lever the bail may be turned over into the transverse groove 13 on the outer side of the lever, as shown in Fig. 4, thereby confining the lever until again wanted for use.

In order to use the implement for clipping finger-nails, the lever is liberated, so that the jaws spring open. The cutting ends are then presented to the nail and the lever depressed to cut or clip off the portion of the nail lying between the cutting-jaws. The implement is then moved along and the operation repeated.

By my improvements a light, neat, and efficient nail-clipper is produced at a small cost. The construction of the lever and jaws gives a powerful purchase, and at the same time the pressure is exerted near the cutting ends of the jaws, so that a spring-jaw may be employed and still make an efficient tool. By constructing the two jaw members of a single piece of sheet metal doubled upon itself they can be produced at a small cost.

I wish it distinctly understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction shown, but reserve the right to use equivalents and to make such changes as may fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of the rigid member, the spring member connected therewith by one end, coacting cutters on the disconnected ends of said members, and the operating-lever pivoted on the rigid member near the cut-

ters and having a short end extended through a perforation in the spring member, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination of the rigid member longitudinally slotted, the spring member connected therewith by one end, coacting cutters at the disconnected ends of said members, the operating-lever pivoted to said rigid member, and means for confining the lever when turned down into the slot of the rigid member, substantially as described and for the purpose specified.

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