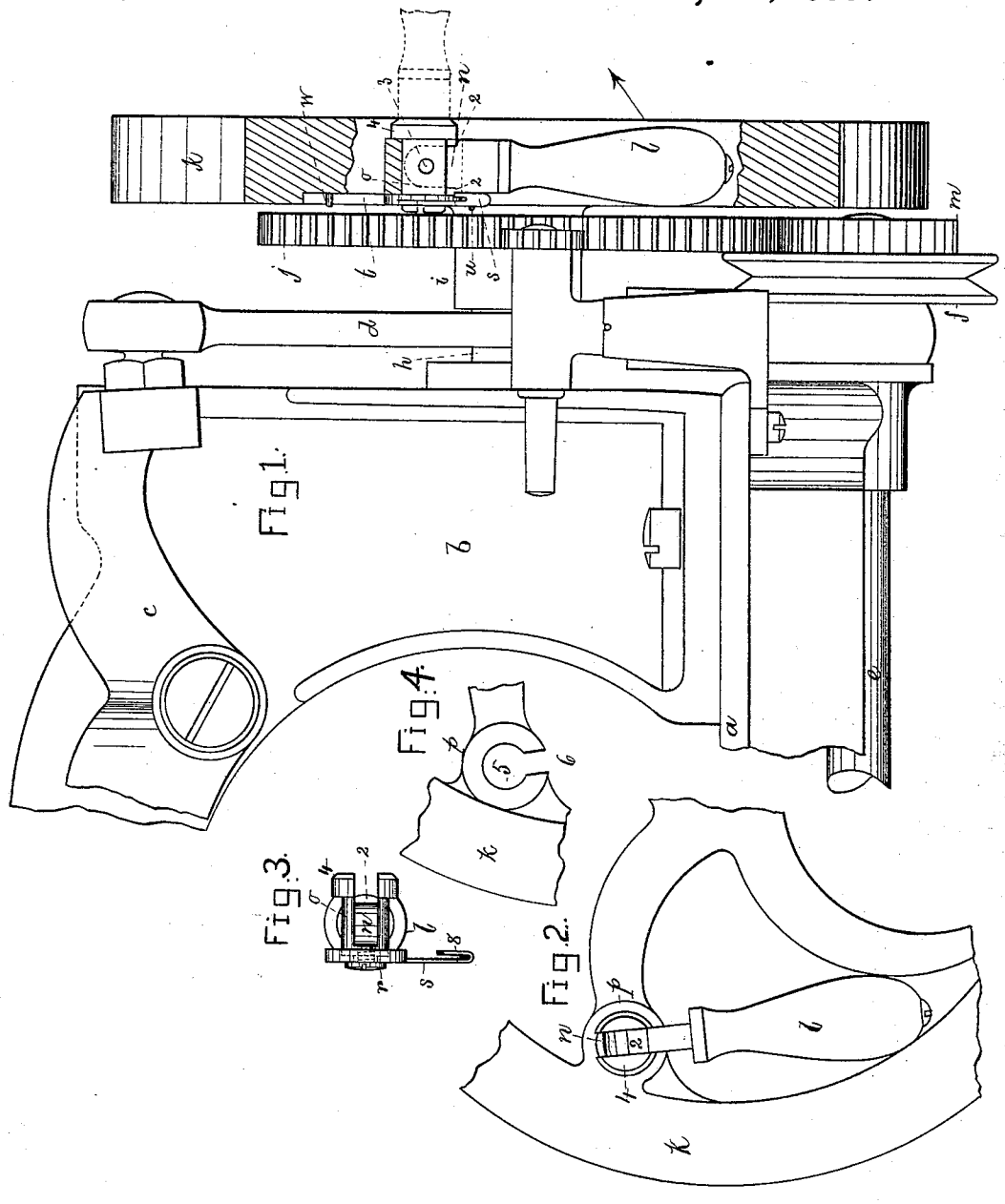
A. STEWARD.
Sewing-Machine.

No. 217,910. Patented July 29, 1879.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AURELIUS STEWARD, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONN., ASSIGNOR TO WHEELER & WILSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SEWING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,910**, dated July 29, 1879; application filed February 12, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AURELIUS STEWARD, of Bridgeport, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Sewing-Machines, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention relates to sewing-machines, and has reference to the means of attaching a driving-handle to the fly-wheel of the machine, so that it may be driven by hand.

Figure 1 represents, in side elevation, the rear part of the frame of the well-known Wheeler & Wilson No. 8 sewing-machine, gearing being added to convert the same into a machine suitable to be driven by hand, the fly-wheel being broken out to show the handle in closed position, or as it will be held when not in use; Fig. 2, a rear elevation of part of the fly-wheel with the handle turned down; Fig. 3, a detail of the handle-holding plug and spring; Fig. 4, a face view of part of the fly-wheel with the handle and its holding-plug removed from the plug-receiving socket in the fly-wheel.

In the drawings, the bed-plate or cloth-supporting surface *a* and the standard *b*, needle-actuating lever *c*, link *d*, hook-shaft *e*, belt-pulley *f*, and needle-bar *g* are supposed to be the same as are such parts in the Wheeler & Wilson No. 8 machine; but it is obvious that my invention might be applied to other machines which it is desired at times to drive by hand and to make readily portable.

At the rear of the standard *b* is attached a proper stud, *h*, upon which is mounted the hub *i* of a toothed wheel, *j*, having fixed with relation to it a fly-wheel, *k*, provided with a handle, *l*, so that as the fly-wheel is rotated, the handle, being turned outward in the direction of the arrow, Fig. 1, the toothed wheel moves with the fly-wheel, and gearing with the pinion *m* on the main under or hook shaft, *e*, will rotate it and set all parts of the machine in operation, in the usual manner.

The handle *l* has at its end a tang, *n*, provided with shoulders 2, which tang is pivoted, at 3, within a slotted plug, *o*, provided with an enlarged head, 4. This plug *o* is fitted to the hole 5 in a portion, *p*, of the fly-wheel *k*, (see Fig. 7,) and is held therein by a screw, *r*; but between the head of screw *r* and the fly-wheel I have placed the friction or holding device *s* for the plug, and as the screw is turned in, the spring end 8 of the holding device *s* is pressed against a recessed or flat portion, *t*, of the fly-wheel at its inner side, while the shoulder of the head 4 of the plug *o* is drawn against the smooth face of the portion *p* of the fly-wheel.

When the holder *s* rests against the stop-pin *u*, projecting from the surface *t* of the fly-wheel, the plug *o* is so turned axially that its slotted central portion is placed in line with the slot 6 in the portion *p* of the fly-wheel, and in said position the tang *n* of the handle *l* is free to pass into the slot 6, and the handle *l* may then be turned down flush against or within the rim of the fly-wheel, as shown in Fig. 1.

When it is desired to run the machine by hand, turn the handle outward from its full-line position and partially rotate the plug, so that the tang *n* can no longer enter slot 6, and then the shoulders 2 will rest on the portion *p*, and the holding device *s*, as the plug is partially rotated axially, will meet the stop-pin *w*, (see Fig. 1,) and the holding device will retain the plug *o* in position against accidental displacement.

The handle, applied as shown, may be readily moved into and out of working position, and, being connected with the machine, can never become lost or misplaced by lack of proper care. Pivoting the handle to the driving-wheel therefore becomes materially important.

The particular devices for pivoting the handle might be varied without departing from my invention.

When in use the center of the handle stands parallel with the supporting-axle of the driving-wheel.

It is obvious this fly-wheel and handle may be used on other machines.

I claim—

The handle and its tang, combined with the plug, the driving or fly wheel provided with the plug-receiving portion, slotted, as described, and with holding devices for the plug, to operate substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

AURELIUS STEWARD.

Witnesses:
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