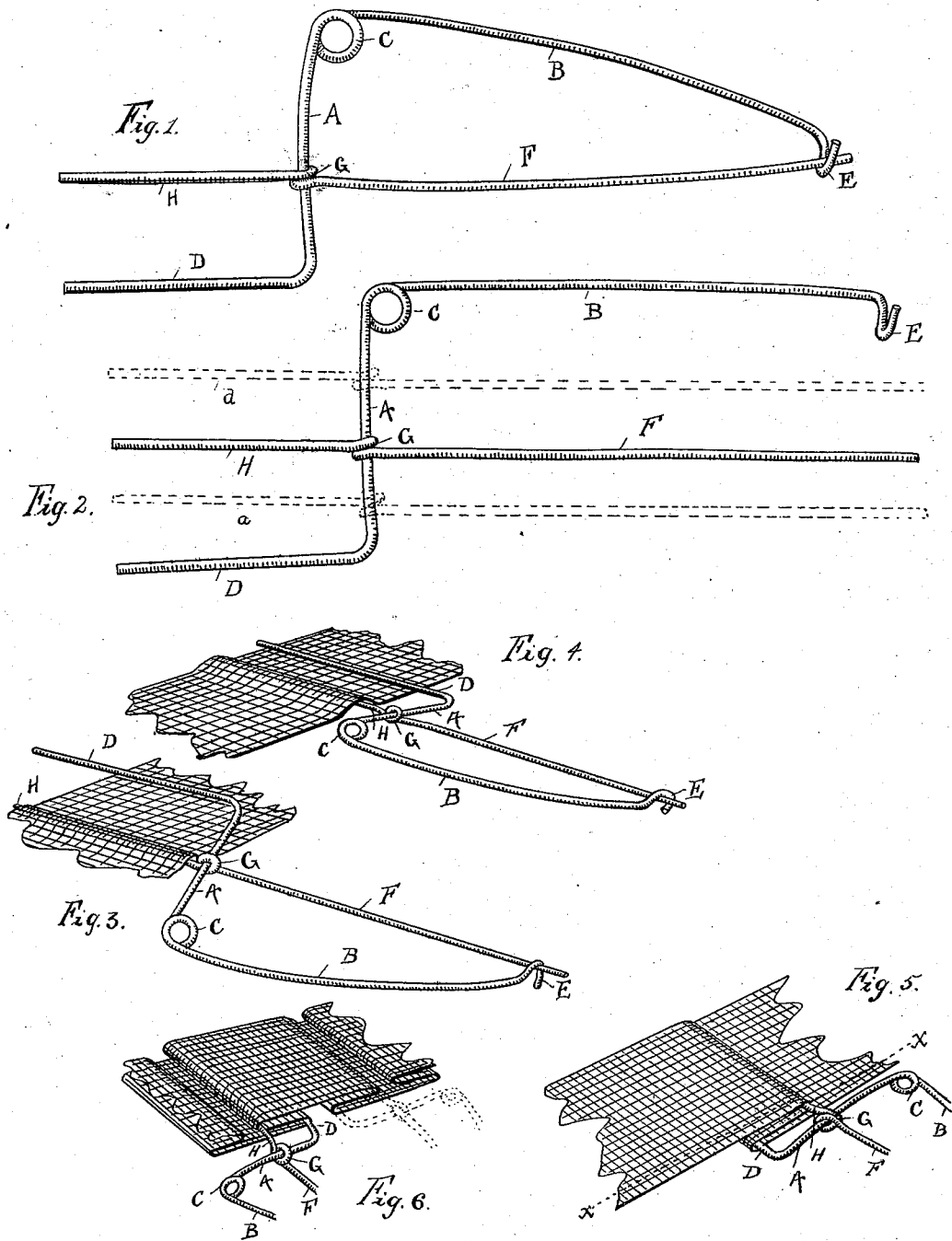


(No Model.)

J. C. HEDGES.
PLAITER.

No. 532,199.

Patented Jan. 8, 1895.



Witnesses.
A. Keithley
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN CLINTON HEDGES, OF EL PASO, ILLINOIS.

PLAITER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 532,199, dated January 8, 1895.

Application filed March 5, 1894. Serial No. 502,376. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN CLINTON HEDGES, a citizen of the United States, residing at El Paso, in the county of Woodford and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Plaiters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in plaiters and has for its object to provide a simple, cheap and effective plaiter to be used by hand and capable of easy adjustment.

In the drawings presented herewith and forming part of this application, Figure 1 is a plan view of the plaiter ready for use. Fig. 2 is also a plan view of the plaiter shown unlocked or ready for adjustment. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the plaiter showing its application or first stage of forming of plait. Fig. 4 is also a perspective view of the device showing a second position. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the device (in part) showing a last position of forming a single plait. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a portion of the plaiter shown in both solid and broken lines and representing the method of using the plaiter in forming a box plait.

The plaiter is made of two pieces of spring wire of suitable size and of about the form shown in the figures, and consisting of a central transverse portion A having at one end the arm D at substantially right angles thereto and at the other end a coil C and an arm B extending therefrom and substantially parallel with the arm D. The said arm B terminates in a hook E, and the other spring wire is loosely coiled about the transverse portion A and comprises the arms H and F substantially parallel with the arms D and B of the other spring wire and the arm F is adapted to engage with the hook E of the arm B before described.

The device is capable of easy adjustment as may be readily seen, whereby any width of plait may be formed.

When the device is unlocked, the wire F may be readily passed back and forth on the wire A as shown by dotted lines *a* and *b* but when the device is locked as shown in Fig. 1, the spring portion B and wire F are sprung

toward each other in the locking and this causes the coil or spiral G of the wire F to bind on the wire A making the said wire F almost immovable until again unlocked. The wire F forms a spring of itself which by the spring formed by the spiral C and portion B makes a very positive lock for the device.

The mode of using the plaiter is best understood by reference to the drawings in which Fig. 3 shows the method of inserting the portion H under the edge of the material to be plaited while Fig. 4 shows the portion D brought down upon the cloth beyond the portion H after which the said portion H is raised carrying the cloth upward and over the portion D and finally laid flat upon the cloth as shown in Fig. 5, leaving a single plait. The plaiter is then withdrawn while the cloth is firmly held beneath the fingers and passed through the machine to stitch the edge at the dotted line *xx*. In forming a box plait the portion H is inserted under the cloth and thrown over to the left and withdrawn and is again passed under the cloth to the right of the plait just formed and is then carried over to the right, forming the box plait all of which is shown in Fig. 6.

The device may be varied to some extent and still acquire the same general results.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A plaiter constructed of two spring wires, one of which wires comprises a central transverse portion A having at one end the arm D at substantially right angles thereto, and at the other end a coil C and an arm B extending therefrom and substantially parallel with the arm D, said arm B terminating in the hook E, the other spring wire being loosely coiled about the transverse portion A and comprising the arms H and F substantially parallel with the arms D and B of the other spring wire, the arm F being adapted to engage with the hook E of the arm B for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN CLINTON HEDGES.

Witnesses:

W. H. CRAIG,
J. R. LOTT.