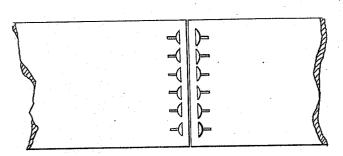
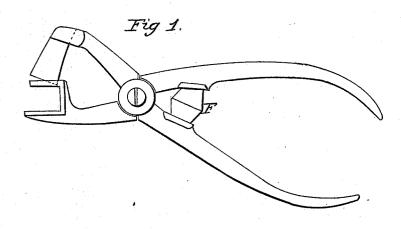
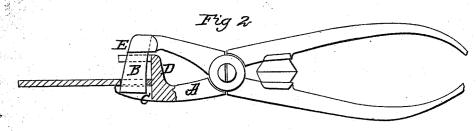
## II.M. Meston, Belt Punch, Nº 81,717, Patented Sep. 1, 1868.

Fig 3.







Witnesses; Mm a.Mogan Q. C. Moottor

Inventor; D. M. Westen per muniffs attorneys

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

D. M. WESTON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO GREENE, TWEED & CO., OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BELT-PUNCHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 81,717, dated September 1, 1868.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID M. WESTON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Punches for Belts and for other Purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

ing part of this specification, in which—
Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved punch. Fig. 2 represents the same in the position it occupies after having been forced through a belt and before being withdrawn from the same, with a part broken away. Fig. 3 represents in red a belt which has been punched by my improved punch and united by studs, such as patented to Blake, for which it is particularly designed.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The nature of this invention relates to improvements in punches for punching the holes in belts for lacing them together, and for punching other articles.

It consists of an improved construction of the jaws of a common hand-punch, whereby the distance of the hole to be punched from the edge of the material may be readily gaged and the material disengaged from the punch after the hole has been formed; also, an improved arrangement of the spring for opening the jaws, as will be more fully described on reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

The jaw A, against which the cutter or punch B operates, is slotted or bifurcated in the end, as shown at C, and provided with a bracket, D, which serves as a gage to limit the distance of the cut from the end or edge of the article to be punched.

The bracket D is provided with a right-angled projection, E, which is also bifurcated or

slotted to allow the punch to pass through, and which serves as a guard to strip the article which has been punched from the punch, which may be of any suitable form to suit the required form of the hole.

F represents a rubber spring interposed between the handles, near the joint, the ends resting in sockets provided for the same in the handles. The said sockets may be formed in casting the handles, and are of sufficient depth to retain the spring in position after it is inserted, the shoulders of the handles at the joint preventing them from opening too far. In punching belts of leather or rubber, which are sometimes very thick and hard, the frictional adherence of the punches in the same is very great and requires a spring of considerable power to accomplish the withdrawal of them.

In the use of the steel springs as commonly applied to punches of this character I have found considerable objection when used for punching heavy material, as they soon become loose in the connection with the handle, whereby the loose end slips out of place, and they also soon lose their elastic quality.

I find the use of rubber springs according to my arrangement to give much more satisfactory results. They can also be readily replaced when desired.

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

The belt-punch having its lower jaw, A, slotted at C for the passage of the cutter B of the upper jaw, and provided with the gage D, carrying the slotted guard E, all operating as described, the jaws being opened by the tension of the rubber spring F, held in sockets or recesses of the handles, as herein set forth and shown.

D. M. WESTON.

Witnesses:

JOHN ALISON FRASER, ALEX, F. ROBERTS.