

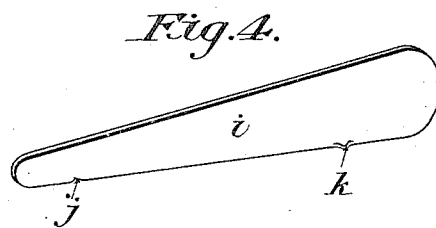
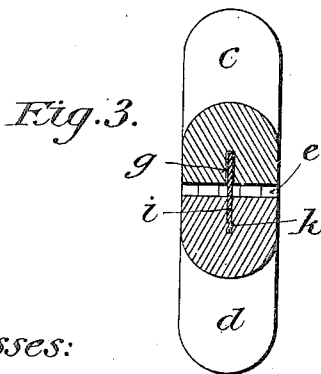
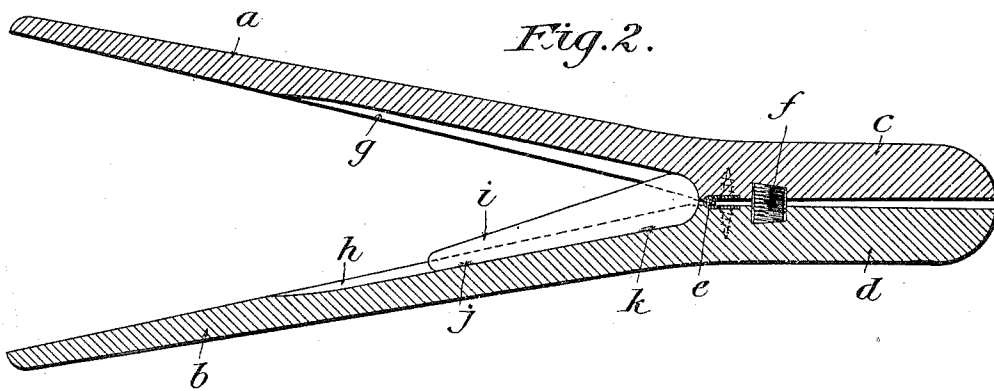
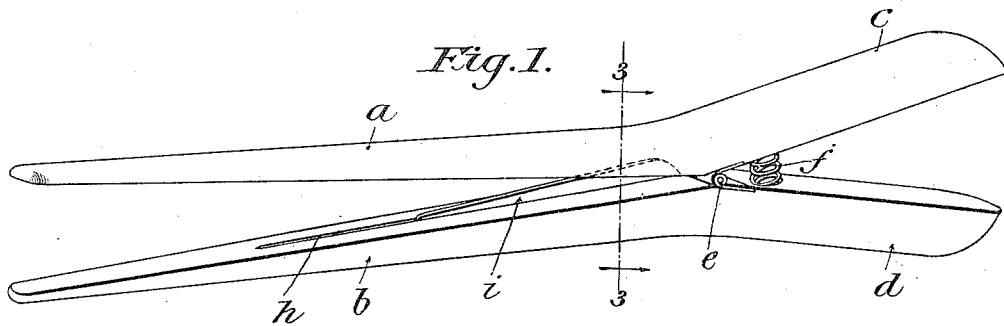
No. 661,274.

Patented Nov. 6, 1900.

A. PIEPER.
GARMENT STRETCHER.

(Application filed Dec. 20, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST PIEPER, OF GLOVERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

GARMENT-STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 661,274, dated November 6, 1900.

Application filed December 20, 1899. Serial No. 740,999. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUST PIEPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gloversville, in the county of Fulton and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Glove-Stretchers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

In the use of glove-stretchers as ordinarily constructed there occurs a lateral movement of the jaws with relation to each other as they are opened or parted, which is undesirable and which has a tendency to stretch the glove-fingers in the wrong direction or out of shape. This difficulty increases with the use of the device and as the hinge wears loose. It is the object of my invention to remedy this difficulty, and to this end I interpose between the jaws and in advance of the hinge an independent flat metallic blade or rib, which coöperates with the jaws throughout their entire range of movement and insures the movement of the jaws in one and the same plane and without liability of relative lateral displacement. In the preferred construction the blade or rib has one edge embedded in one of the jaws rigidly, and its projecting end works in a kerf or groove in the other jaw, and said blade tapers upwardly toward the rear or hinge end of the jaw, so as to insure its engagement with both jaws no matter how wide open they may be spread.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating my invention, in the several figures of which like parts are similarly designated, Figure 1 is a perspective view with the jaws partly opened. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section with the jaws fully opened. Fig. 3 is a transverse section taken substantially in the plane of line 3 3, Fig. 1, looking toward the rear or right-hand side of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the blade or rib detached.

The jaws *a b* may be of wood or other usual material in conventional form and provided with the handles *c d* and connected by a hinge *e*, with a spring *f* interposed between the handles in the rear of the hinge and normally tending to close the jaws *a b*. As to these features, they are all variable within the scope of my invention.

Forward of the hinge I provide in adjacent

faces of the jaws the kerfs or grooves *g* and *h*, respectively, and within one of these kerfs or grooves I secure a flat blade or rib *i* of metal, made in substantially the form shown in detail in Figs. 2 and 4—that is to say, of wedge shape in side view. This blade or rib may be made of any rigid material of sufficient strength to prevent lateral displacement of the jaws in the use of the stretcher. One-half, more or less, of this blade or rib is embedded in one of the jaws and the remainder projects above said jaw and into the kerf or groove of the adjacent jaw. Said blade or rib may be anchored in one of the jaws by means of the opposite lateral dents *j k* before the jaw is finished.

It will be observed that the wider end of the wedge-like blade or rib is arranged next to the hinge, and the result of this arrangement is that even when the jaws are opened to their widest extent, as in Fig. 2, there is a sufficient engagement of the blade or rib with the jaws to insure against lateral displacement of the jaws; but inasmuch as in operation the jaws are spread apart only comparatively slightly, there will be an engagement of both jaws with the blade or rib throughout the greater part of its length, and hence in practice the lateral parting or displacement of the jaws is practically impossible and their working in alinement or in the same plane is insured, and thus the glove may be stretched without liability of deformation.

It will be observed that the blade or rib is independent of the hinge—that is to say, forms no part thereof—and is arranged in advance of the hinge and affects that part of the stretcher where it is most important to preserve alinement. No matter how loose the hinge may wear the blade or rib still retains the jaws in alinement.

What I claim is—

1. A glove-stretcher, composed of complementary jaws, a hinge for uniting them, and a wedge-shape flat-sided blade or rib inserted in a kerf or groove in one of the jaws in advance of the hinge and projecting into a kerf or groove in the other jaw, and in such relation to the pivot of the jaws as to be in constant engagement with the walls of such kerf or groove in all positions of the two jaws, and

thereby adapted to retain the jaws in alignment as well in the opening as in the closing of the implement, substantially as described.

2. A glove-stretcher, comprising complementary jaws, a hinge by which they are connected, an interposed spring, and an independent wedge-shape blade arranged in advance of the hinge in a kerf or groove in one of the jaws and secured therein by lateral
10 dents and projecting above said jaw and into

a kerf or groove in the opposite jaw, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of December, A. D. 1899.

AUGUST PIEPER.

Witnesses:

JAY PAUL,

HENRY C. McLEAN.