H. REESE.

TREADLE.

No. 173,059. Patented Feb. 1, 1876.

Fig. 1.

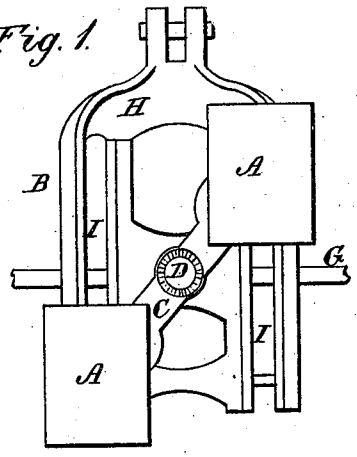


Fig. 3.

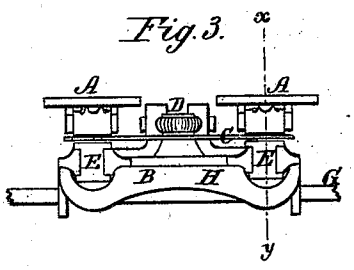


Fig. 4.

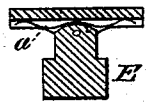


Fig. 2.

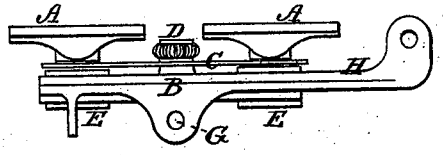


Fig. 5

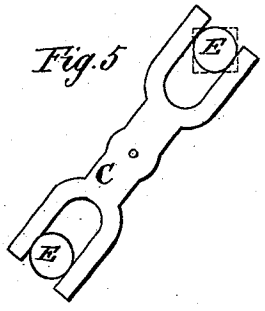


Fig. 6.

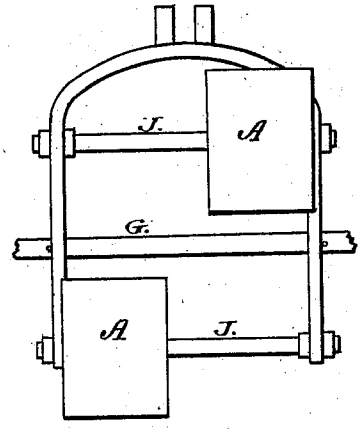
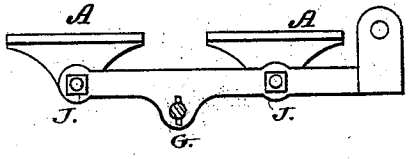


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY REESE, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN TREADLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **173,059**, dated February 1, 1876; application filed December 27, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY REESE, of Baltimore city, State of Maryland, have invented a new and Improved Treadle; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the treadle; Fig. 2, a side view of the same; Fig. 3, an end view; Fig. 4, a sectional detail of the independent treadle, with its spring and block; Fig. 5, a detail of the bar C. Figs. 6 and 7 are, respectively, a plan and side view of a modification of the invention.

The object of this invention is to lessen the fatigue of operating sewing-machines and other devices run by treadle-power, by means of a peculiar construction of treadle, which permits the movement of the latter to be made without bending the ankles, and enables the operator to run the machine with a very light expenditure of muscular power. This result I accomplish by the peculiar construction of two independent treadles, hinged or pivoted upon opposite sides of the fulcrum of the main treadle, and held in proper horizontal position by means of springs arranged adjustably, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawing, A A represent two independent treadles, pivoted to the sliding blocks E E, and arranged upon opposite sides of the fulcrum-rod G, upon which the main treadle H is pivoted. Said treadles A have, at their point of connection with the block E, springs *a*, which hold the plane of the independent treadles parallel with the main treadle, thus preventing them from toppling over, and yet allowing the independent treadles to oscillate upon their pivots to compensate for the motion of the main treadle, by means of which arrangement the bottom of the foot is always kept parallel with the floor, and the tiresome strain upon the ankle-joint obviated. The blocks E, upon which the independent treadles are pivoted, are contained in guideways I of the main treadle, and are adjustable to or from the fulcrum to give a greater or less stroke, an easier or stronger movement, or for the purpose of changing the position of the feet from the right foot forward to the left foot forward, or vice versa. This adjustment is effected by a bar, C, which is detachably fastened to the center of the main treadle by a set-screw, D, and has each end bifurcated. The said bar extends diagonally across the main treadle, and its bifurcated ends receive the upper portion of the sliding blocks, so as to hold the treadles in any position in which the bar C may be clamped. Figs. 6 and 7 show different views of another arrangement for adjusting the treadles for different lateral distances between the same, or for different feet foremost. In this case the adjustment is effected by pivoting the independent treadles A upon the guide-bars J J parallel with the fulcrum-rod G, and adjusting the said treadles laterally upon said guide-bars.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with the main treadle, having guides, of the independent adjustable treadles A, and pivoted guide-blocks, or their equivalents, as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination, with the sliding block E and the pivoted treadle A, of the spring *a*, as and for the purpose described.

3. The main treadle, having guideways I, in combination with the bar C, having bifurcated ends, the set-screw D, sliding blocks E, and the pivoted independent treadles A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

HENRY REESE.

Witnesses:

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THOS. L. REESE.