W. J. MORGAN.

BUTTONHOLE STITCHING CLAMP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 19, 1914.

1,129,415. Patented Feb. 23, 1915.

Fig. 1.

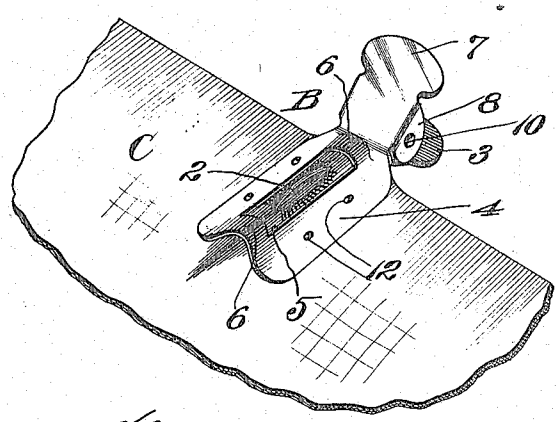


Fig. 2.

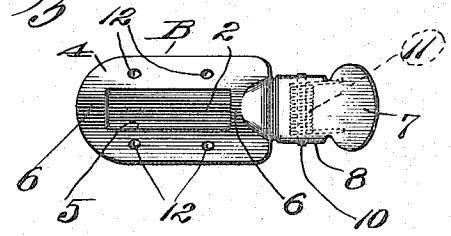


Fig. 3.

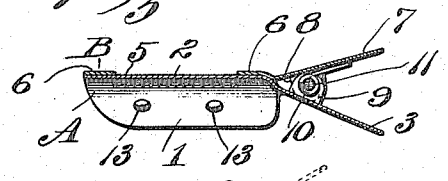


Fig. 4.

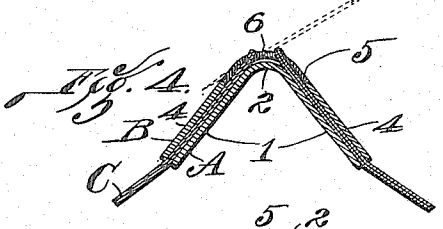
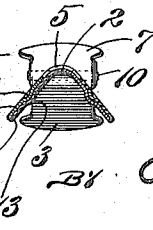


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. MORGAN, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

BUTTONHOLE-STITCHING CLAMP.

1,129,415. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 23, 1915.

Application filed June 19, 1914. Serial No. 846,132.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. MORGAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Buttonhole-Stitching Clamp, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

This invention relates to a certain new and useful implement or clamp for use in hand-working or stitching button-holes and the like. Generally at the present time, so far as I am aware, in hand working or stitching button-holes and the like, the button-hole worker tightly wraps or winds the slitted or cut fabric or material on his or her finger for the purpose of presenting the fabric or goods, with the edges of the particular button-hole slit or cut spread apart, for the insertions of the stitching-needle. Such stitching operations are, however, as is generally well known, exceedingly tedious, are accompanied frequently with more or less painful and serious pricking or sticking of the finger by the stitching-needle, and often result in unattractive, uneven button-holes, the thread-stitches being irregular and nonuniform.

The object of my present invention is to provide a simple, easily made, and readily handled implement or clamp adapted to facilitate the hand working or stitching of button-holes and the like, the objectionable features and difficulties of hand working or stitching button-holes and the like as at present and as above mentioned being entirely obviated. By my new implement or clamp, not only is the finger of the button-hole worker fully protected from injury during the stitching operations, but also the fabric or goods, with the edges of the particular button-hole slit or cut properly spread apart, is firmly gripped and conveniently presented for the ready insertions of the stitching-needle, my new implement or clamp at the same time providing a rule or guide for the thread-stitches, with the result that the worked or stitched button-holes are even, uniform, neat, and attractive in appearance.

With the above object in view, my invention resides in certain novel features of form, arrangement, construction, and combination of parts, all as will hereinafter be described and afterward pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my new implement or clamp, showing the same in operative position in connection with a piece of fabric or material in which a button-hole is being stitched or worked; Fig. 2 is a plan view of my new implement or clamp; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the same; Fig. 4 is an enlarged transverse sectional view through the same, showing a piece of fabric or material operatively clamped or gripped between the jaws thereof as in stitching operations; and Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view through the implement or clamp, looking in the direction of the jaw-operating members or finger-pieces.

Referring to the said drawing, in which like reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views, A indicates the lower or under member and B the upper or top member of my new clamp, both said members being of any suitable, preferably sheet metallic, material. Member A comprises a forwardly extending somewhat longitudinally elongated clamping-portion or jaw 1 having preferably in cross section the shape or form approximately of an inverted V, the apex or crown thereof being presented upwardly and being preferably rounded, as at 2. Projecting rearwardly and obliquely downwardly from jaw 1, is a preferably flat jaw-operating member or finger-piece 3. Member B likewise comprises a forwardly extending somewhat elongated clamping-portion or jaw 4 superposed on, and adapted to match and cooperate with, lower jaw 1, upper jaw 4 having also in cross section the shape or form approximately of an inverted V. At its apex or crown, jaw 4 is longitudinally cut away to provide intermediate its ends an elongated rectangular slot or opening, as at 5, jaw 4 at its apex or crown to each end of opening or slot 5 being also preferably rounded, as at 6—6. Projecting rearwardly and obliquely upwardly from jaw 4, is a similar preferably flat jaw-operating member or finger-piece 7 adapted to coöperate with lower jaw-operating member or finger-piece 3. At its opposite side edges, finger-piece 7 is laterally bent to provide a pair of downwardly-presented lugs or ears 8—8 adapted to register and coöperate with a similar pair of lateral lugs or ears 9—9 presented upwardly from lower finger-piece 3. Having its ends mounted in said

coöperating pairs of ears or lugs 8—8 and 9—9, and pivotally or hingedly fastening members A and B together, is a cross-pin or rivet 10; and coiled on pin or rivet 10 and having its ends resiliently bearing upon the inner faces of said jaw-operating members or finger-pieces 3 and 7, is a coiled spring or the like 11 adapted to yieldingly normally maintain or hold jaws 1 and 4 in closed position or relation with upper jaw 4 at its under face impinging upon the upper face of lower jaw 1.

In use or operation, the cloth or fabric C properly slitted or cut for the button-hole to be made is inserted between jaws 1 and 4, as seen in Fig. 1, jaws 1 and 4 being spread apart against the resiliency of spring 11 by means of finger-pieces 3 and 7, as will be well understood. Jaws 1 and 4, on closing, not only firmly grip the fabric C, but also at the same time spread the fabric at the edges of the button-hole slit or cut and thus through opening or slot 5 conveniently present the fabric at the button-hole slit or cut for the ready insertions of the stitching-needle, as clearly seen and indicated in Figs. 1 and 4; and in so presenting the fabric, the finger of the worker, being beneath and between the side walls of lower jaw 1, which is of a shape or form preferably to easily fit and be held by the fingers, is fully protected from being stuck, and consequently of being injured, by the stitching-needle. Furthermore, as also seen in Figs. 1 and 4, opening or slot 5 in upper jaw 4 affords or provides at its edges a rule or guide for the worker in regulating and determining the size of the thread-stitches, the worker being thus enabled to readily and easily work or stitch the button-hole quickly and with even, uniform stitches, resulting in neat, attractive button-holes. To increase the grip of jaws 1 and 4 on the fabric and thereby prevent any possible slipping of the fabric when therebetween, upper jaw 4 is preferably provided with a plurality of indentations, teeth, or the like 12 adapted to register and coöperate with corresponding recesses, perforations, or the like 13 in lower jaw 1.

I am aware that changes in the form, arrangement, construction, and combination of the several parts of my new implement or clamp may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

The implement or clamp herein described for hand working or stitching button-holes and the like, the same comprising a pair of coöperating superposed jaws pivotally fastened together and adapted to grip the fabric being worked upon therebetween, each of said jaws having approximately the form in cross section of an inverted V and the upper one of said jaws being cut away at its apex to provide intermediate its ends an elongated opening, whereby working access for thread stitches may be had to said fabric upon the lower one of said jaws when said jaws are in closed relation, and means for yieldingly holding said jaws in closed relation, said opening at its edges being also adapted to provide a guide for said thread stitches; substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM J. MORGAN.

Witnesses:
RUTH PETERSON,
E. R. WOODS.