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TENSIONING DEVICE FOR CROCHETING.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 19, 1916.

1,210,320.

Patented Dec. 26, 1916.

Fig. 1.

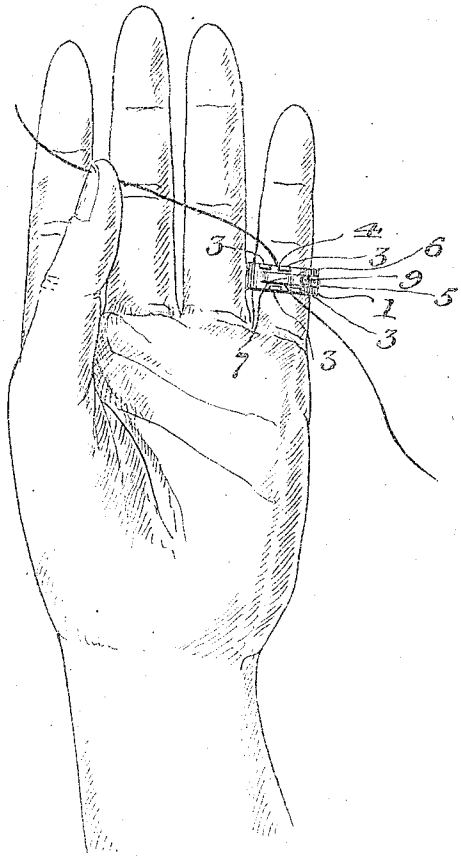


Fig. 2.

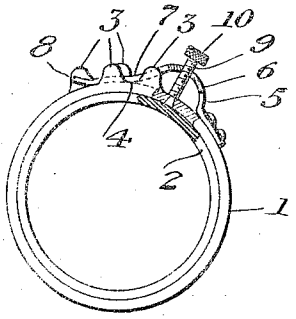
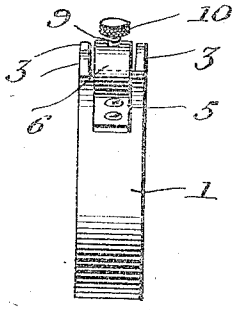


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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TENSIONING DEVICE FOR CROCHETING.

1,210,320. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 26, 1916.

Application filed July 19, 1916. Serial No. 110,174.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK STEWART HUGHES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pine Grove, in the county of Schuylkill and State of Pennsylvania, have invented new and useful Improvements in Tensioning Devices for Crocheting, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a device adapted to be used when crocheting or knitting for holding the thread or yarn under the proper tension to facilitate the operator in crocheting close or open work and thus obviating the necessity of winding the thread about the finger.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a device of the above described character in which the tensioning means is adjustable to obtain the desired amount of tension for the particular kind of work.

Another object of this invention is to provide a device of this character which is in the form of a ring to permit the convenient application of the device to a finger, the ring being formed with guide fingers which are arranged at an angle to each other to cause the thread when placed therein to be disposed diagonally of the ring and thus presenting a greater bearing surface for the tensioning device.

Another object of this invention is to provide a device of this character which contains the desirable features of simplicity, durability and efficiency and furthermore a device which may be manufactured at nominal cost.

Other objects of the invention will appear as the specification is read in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the device showing the same when in applied position upon the hand; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the device; Fig. 3 is an edge elevation of the device.

Referring to the drawings in detail, my invention comprises a metal finger ring 1 which is lined with a rubber coating 2, the rubber preventing the slipping or rotating of the ring upon the finger when in use. This ring may be made of any suitable size and of such a width as to substantially support the tensioning means. The ring 1 is provided upon its opposite edges with radially extending fingers 3, the fingers upon each edge being arranged in spaced relation to each other to provide a groove 4 in which the thread is adapted to be placed. The fingers upon one edge are disposed at an angle or diagonally of the fingers upon the remaining edge so that when the thread is placed within the grooves 4 the same will be disposed diagonally of the ring for a purpose which will be hereinafter described.

Riveted to the outer periphery of the ring and at one side of the fingers 3 is one end of a leaf spring 5, the spring extending circumferentially of the ring and having that portion adjacent its secured end bent outwardly as at 6. The remaining portion of the spring is inclined gradually toward the ring as at 7 so as to normally engage the surface of the ring at a point between the fingers 3, the free end of the spring 5 being bent outwardly as at 8, to facilitate the ready insertion of the thread upon the ring. It will be seen from the foregoing construction that the free end of the spring resiliently engages the outer periphery of the ring at a point between the fingers.

In crocheting or knitting patterns of different designs in which the close or open stitch is used, it is necessary that the tension of the thread according to the character of the pattern which is being worked, that is to say, in crocheting or knitting open work such as a shawl or the like, only a minimum amount of tension is required in holding the thread while the same is being worked, whereas in crocheting close work such as lace or the like, a maximum amount of tension is required in order to hold the thread taut so as to cause the loops of the thread to snugly engage each other as will be understood. To obtain this desirable tensioning means, I provide the leaf spring 5 with a screw 9 which is threadedly mounted within the spring and has its inner end rotatably mounted within the ring. The screw extends through the arch portion 6 of the spring and has its outer end provided with a milled head 10. It will be seen from this construction and arrangement that upon rotating the screw 10 within the ring, the spring will travel upon the screw, the free end of the spring moving toward or away from the ring whereby the tension or pressure of the spring upon the ring may be varied according to the direction of rotation of the screw.

In operation, the ring is placed preferably upon the little finger of the hand, the thread being passed beneath the spring and

into the grooves 4 whereupon the spring 5 will exert its tension upon that portion of the thread which is disposed between the fingers 3, thereby holding the thread under tension during the use of the same. The guide fingers 3 being arranged diagonally or at an angle to each other, the thread disposed between the fingers extends diagonally of the ring thus giving a greater surface upon which the spring may bear. In the event that the spring does not exert the desired amount of tension or vice versa, the screw may be adjusted as has been described.

It is thought from the foregoing taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, that the construction and operation of my device will be apparent to those skilled in the art, that minor changes in size, shape and proportion and minor details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:—

1. A tensioning device comprising a ring having a series of radial fingers formed on opposite edges thereof and offset with relation to each other, a leaf spring secured to the ring beyond the fingers and having its free end resting upon the surface of the ring between the fingers, and a spring adjusting element engaging the ring and spring intermediate the secured end of the spring and the adjacent finger.

2. A tensioning device including a ring or like member, having a series of radial fingers formed on opposite edges thereof, and offset with relation to each other, and a leaf spring secured to the ring beyond the fingers and having its free end resting on the surface of the ring between the fingers, that portion of the spring between the fingers being of less width than the similar dimension of the space between the fingers, whereby to permit the application of the thread beneath the free end of the spring, and to a position between the fingers.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK STEWART HUGHES.