

(No Model.)

L. C. HATHAWAY.
THREAD CUTTER.

No. 581,720.

Patented May 4, 1897.

Fig. 1.

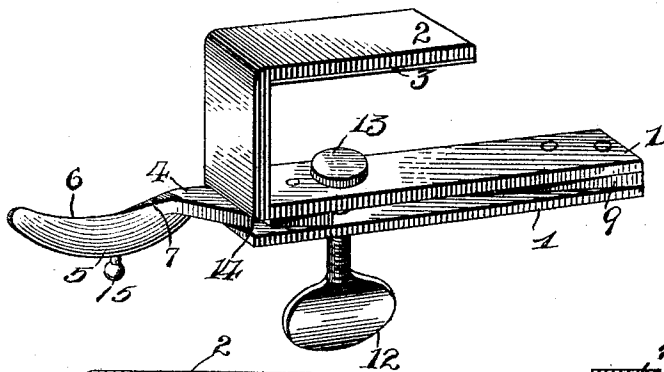


Fig. 2.

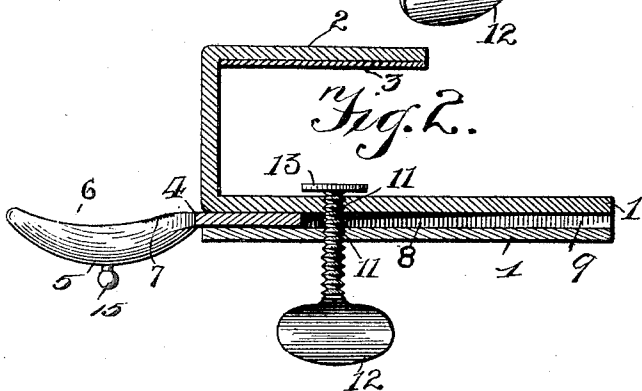


Fig. 3.

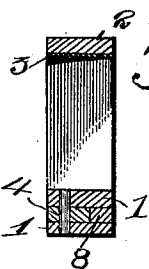


Fig. 5.

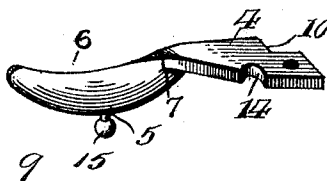
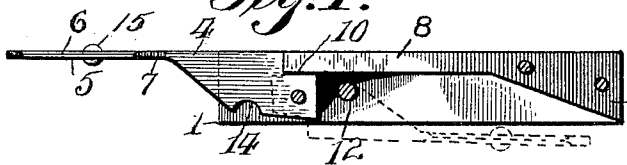


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LYDIA CAROLINE HATHAWAY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

THREAD-CUTTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 581,720, dated May 4, 1897.

Application filed July 14, 1896. Serial No. 599,126. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LYDIA CAROLINE HATHAWAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis, in the State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Thread-Cutter, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to cutters for thread, twine, and the like, and particularly to that class designed for use upon sewing-machines, tables, and other similar objects.

The invention aims to provide a device of the character mentioned which shall be simple in construction and adapted for quick and easy manipulation, so as to place the same either in operative or inoperative position, and, further, to embody in such device simple and efficient means for preparing the thread, when cutting the same, so that the end of the severed portion may be readily passed through the eye of a needle.

To this end the invention consists, substantially, in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter fully illustrated, described, and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cutter constructed in accordance with the present invention, the cutting-blade being in open position. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view of the same. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the cutting-blade.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the figures.

Referring to the drawings, 1 1 designate two parallel plates, which may be formed of any suitable material, and one of said plates is provided with an angular upwardly-extending clip 2, by which the cutter may be secured to a sewing-machine, table, or other similar object. The clip 2, as illustrated, has a strip 3 of rubber or its equivalent fastened thereto at its inner face, and said strip prevents abrasion of the surface to which the cutter is applied when said clip is secured thereon.

The parallel plates 1 1 are spaced a slight distance from each other, and pivoted in such space at one end of said plates is the flattened shank 4 of a segmentally-curved blade 5, the latter having its sides tapered, so as to form at

its outer end a cutting edge 6. Adjacent to the cutting edge 6 the blade 5 is milled to provide a file 7, over which the thread may be drawn prior to cutting the same on the edge 6. By drawing the thread over the file 7 and then severing such thread the end of the severed portion will thereby become pointed, and thus easily passed through the eye of a needle to thread the same.

Arranged longitudinally between the plates 1 1 is a spring 8, one end 9 of which is enlarged, and by means of this enlarged end said spring is secured in any suitable manner, preferably by rivets, between said plates. The other end of the spring normally contacts with the flattened shank 4 of the blade 5, to hold the latter closed, and seats itself against a shoulder 10, formed in said shank, when the blade 5 is opened to its greatest extent, thereby limiting the outward swing of the blade 5 and holding the same in open position.

Working in aligned threaded openings 11, formed in the plates 1 1, is a clamping-screw 12, having one of its ends provided with a disk 13, adapted to bear against the under side of the surface to which the clip 2 is attached, and formed at one side of the flattened shank 4 is a notch 14, in which the screw 12 fits when the blade 5 is closed, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4. By reason of the screw 12 fitting within the notch 14 it will be seen that the former serves as a stop for the blade 5, and said blade will be held in a position to be conveniently grasped when it is desired to swing the same open, a knob 15 being formed thereon to permit such movement.

The operation and advantages of the herein-described cutter will be readily understood by those skilled in the art.

The clip 2 is placed over the edge of a sewing-machine, table, or other similar object and the clamping-screw 12 rotated so as to bind the disk 13 against the under side of the surface to which said clip is applied. The blade 5 is then swung open, as illustrated in Fig. 1, and when it is desired to cut a piece of thread the latter is first drawn over the file 7 and afterward severed by means of the cutting edge 6, the file 7 leaving pointed the severed end, so that the same may be readily passed

through the eye of a needle to thread the same. To close the blade 5, it is simply necessary to swing the same into the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 4, when the screw 12 will pass into the notch 14 and hold the blade in a position to be readily grasped.

From the foregoing it will be seen that I have provided a cutter which is simple in construction and by the use of which much time may be saved in severing thread prior to passing the same through the eye of a needle. The severed end will be pointed by the use of the file 7, and thereby overcome the objections to the method ordinarily employed.

While my improved cutter is especially adapted for use upon sewing-machines, tables, and other similar objects where thread is employed, I wish it to be understood that I do not limit myself to such application, as it will be obvious that the invention may be used to advantage in stores, mills, and other places, and it will further be seen that twine, cord, and the like may be as easily severed as thread. When, however, the cutter is to be used for twine, the file 7 will be dispensed with, but for thread such file will be retained, as illustrated in the drawings.

It will also be understood that the knob 15 is not an essential part of the cutter, and may be omitted without affecting the use of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what

is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. A thread-cutter, comprising parallel plates, one of which has a portion bent up to form a securing-clip, a cutter-blade pivotally and spring held between the plates and adapted when swung out to project forward of the clip end of the plate, and means for securing the plate to a suitable base, said means forming a stop for the cutter-blade to limit its inward movement as specified.

2. A cutter of the class described comprising parallel plates, one of which has one end bent up to form a securing-clip, a cutting-blade having one of its ends provided with a cutting edge, and its other end formed into a flat shank portion pivoted between the said plates, a spring held between the plates adapted to lock the blade in its open and closed position, and a clamp-screw passed through the said plates to oppose the clip portion, said screw forming a stop to limit the inward movement of the blade, substantially as shown for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LYDIA CAROLINE HATHAWAY.

Witnesses:

WM. JONES,
ANNA L. JONES.