(Model.)

A. J. PHIPPS.

WICK TRIMMER.

No. 280,510. Patented July 3, 1883.

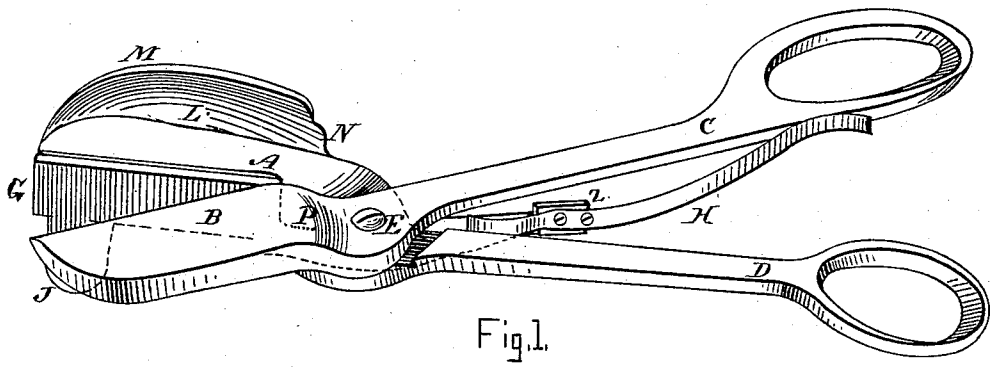


Fig. 1.

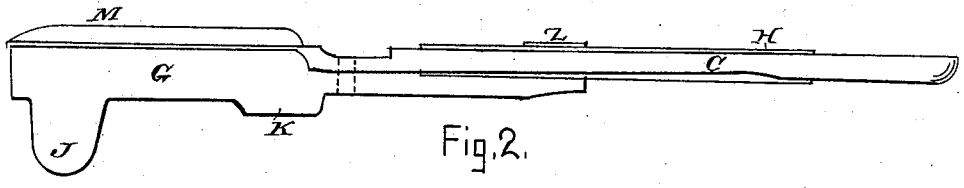


Fig. 2.

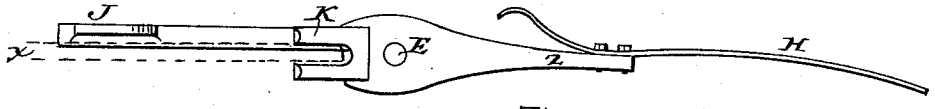


Fig. 3.

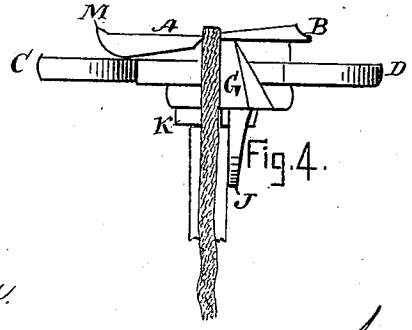


Fig. 4.

Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AZOR J. PHIPPS, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO OSCAR DAVIS, OF SAME PLACE.

WICK-TRIMMER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 280,510, dated July 3, 1883.

Application filed December 18, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AZOR J. PHIPPS, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Shears, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which said invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical perspective view; Fig. 2, a side elevation; Fig. 3, a bottom plan view of the guard and spring; and Fig. 4, an end view, showing the shears in use.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

My invention relates especially to shears designed for trimming the wicks of kerosene lamps and stoves; and it consists in a novel construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed, by which a more effective device of this character is produced than is now in ordinary use.

The nature and operation of the improvement will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters from the following explanation, its extreme simplicity rendering an elaborate description unnecessary:

In the drawings, A B represent the blades, and C D the handles, of the shears, which are centrally pivoted or jointed at E in the usual manner.

Beneath the blades A B, and pivoted or jointed therewith at E, there is a guard or auxiliary blade, G, provided with the spring H, as shown in Fig. 3, one end of said spring resting against the inner side of the handle C, near its outer end, and the other against the inner side of the handle D, near its inner end, as seen in Fig. 1.

Projecting downwardly from the auxiliary blade or guard G there is a flange or stop, J, on that side of the same which is nearest the blade B, and near the joint E there is a bifurcated rest or holder, K, forming a part of said guard, as seen in Fig. 3.

The blade A is provided with a depression, L, and upwardly-projecting flange M, for receiving and holding the carbonized portions of the wick removed in trimming, and is curved or bent downwardly at N, the blade B being curved in a corresponding manner at P, thus forming at this point curved cutting-edges, which round the corners or upper edges of the wick in trimming.

When ordinary shears are used for trimming kerosene lamps and stoves having flat wicks, the wicks are liable to be crowded or forced out of position by the shears and unevenly cut or trimmed, thus causing them to smoke or burn with an irregularly-shaped flame. My invention is designed to obviate this difficulty, and to that end I make use of the guard or auxiliary blade G, by means of which the wick is steadied or kept in a proper position while being cut—a thing which it is very difficult to accomplish when the ordinary shears are employed, especially with wide wicks, such as are used in stoves and large lamps.

In the use of my improvement the edge of the wick-tube is first properly inserted in the holder or rest K and the stop J brought against the side of the tube, the guard G resting on the upper edge of the tube, as indicated by the dotted line *x* in Fig. 3. The handles C D are then closed, the wick being grasped and held between the guard G and blade A until the blade B shuts and cuts the wick, in a manner which will be readily obvious without a more explicit description.

The cutting-edge of the blade A is arranged slightly above the upper edge of the guard G, or so as not to interfere with the action of the blades A B, and the holder K of such a size as to pass loosely over the edge of the wick-tube, the outer end of the guard being kept against the tube by the action of the spring H; but the spring may be omitted and other means employed to hold the guard against the tube, if desired.

In trimming very wide wicks the shears may be applied first to one edge and then the other, but the blades being made of different lengths to suit any sized wick.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

1. The improved wick-trimmers described,

the same consisting of the blades A B, provided with handles C D, in combination with the guard G, provided with the holder K, stop J, and spring H, all constructed, combined, and arranged to operate substantially as set forth.

2. In a wick-trimmer substantially such as described, the depression L and guard M, in combination with the blade A, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

3. The guard G, provided with the rectangular slot or holder K and offset or stop J, for steadying the trimmer on the tube, substantially as set forth.

4. The guard G, projecting beneath the handles C D, as shown at *z*, and provided with the spring H, in combination with the blades A B and pivot E, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:
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