

B. GARVEY.  
Sewing-Machine Needle.

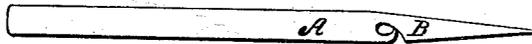
No. 17,272.

Patented May 12, 1857.

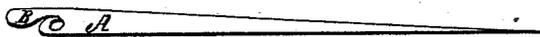
*Fig: 1.*



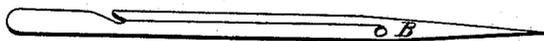
*Fig: 2.*



*Fig: 3.*



*Fig: 4.*



*Witnesses:*

*Geo. B. Francis*  
*Richard A. Owen.*

*Inventor:*

*Benjamin Garvey.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN GARVEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN NEEDLES FOR SEWING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 17,272, dated May 12, 1857.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN GARVEY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Needle for Sewing; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure I is a view of the needle with the eye at the head, and having a slit leading into the eye from the direction of the point. Fig. II is a view of the needle with the eye near the point, and a slit leading into the eye from the direction of the point. Fig. III is a view of the needle with the eye farther from the head than in Fig. I, and having a part of the shank projecting beyond the eye to guide the thread into the slit and so into the eye, the slit being made from the direction of the head; and Fig. IV is a view of the needle having its eye near the point, and a slit leading from the direction of the head into the eye and beginning at any distance from the eye.

In each of these figures the part marked A is the part containing the eye. B is the part which guides the thread into the eye, and then confines the thread in the eye, and the opening between A and B is the slit or passage for the thread, herein referred to.

The nature of my invention consists in making a slit or passage into the eye of a needle for the purpose of admitting the thread by its right or middle, instead of pushing it through the eye end foremost, so that the blind and others may thread their needles with ease by aid of the sense of touch alone.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed more fully to explain its construction and operation.

I make my needles in the usual manner, of any size or shape, and having the eye in any part of the needle. The eye may be punched or drilled, and the slit leading into it may be cut by a chisel or by a fine saw, the form and direction of the slit being modified to suit the use for which the needle is intended. The needle may then be ground, pointed, and polished in the usual manner, when it will be fit for use. It may then be threaded by straining the thread across the part marked B and moving it in the direction of the eye until it enters the slit, when its pressure forces the parts A and B asunder sufficiently to admit it into the eye, the parts A and B then springing back to their original position, and the thread is held in the eye.

Now, I do not claim any peculiar process for making such needles. Neither do I claim an open-eyed needle, nor a needle with a spring attached to any part of it; but

What I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A sewing-needle having a self-closed eye, with a slit leading outwardly and made to terminate at a point more or less remote from the eye, through which slit the thread may be forced into the eye, in the manner and for the purposes substantially as described in my specification.

BENJAMIN GARVEY.

Witnesses:

GEO. B. GRANNISS,  
RICHARD M. OWEN.