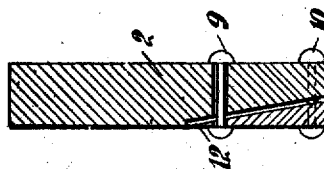
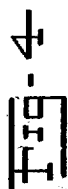
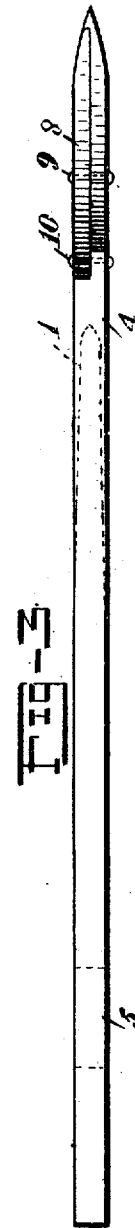
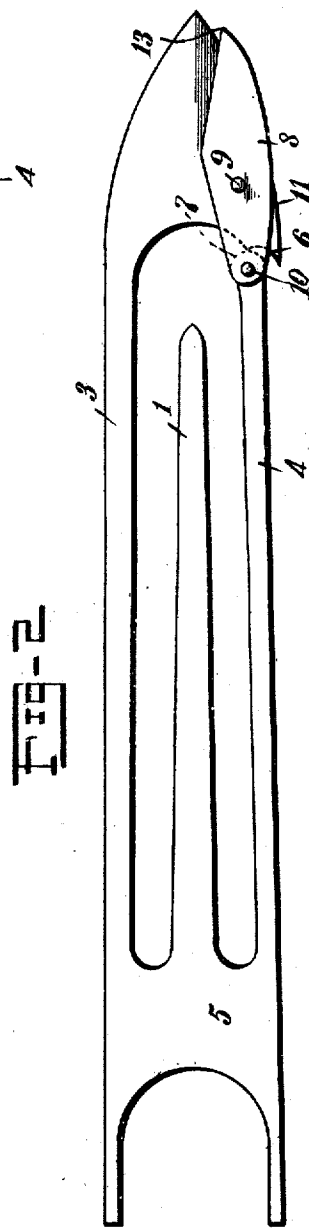
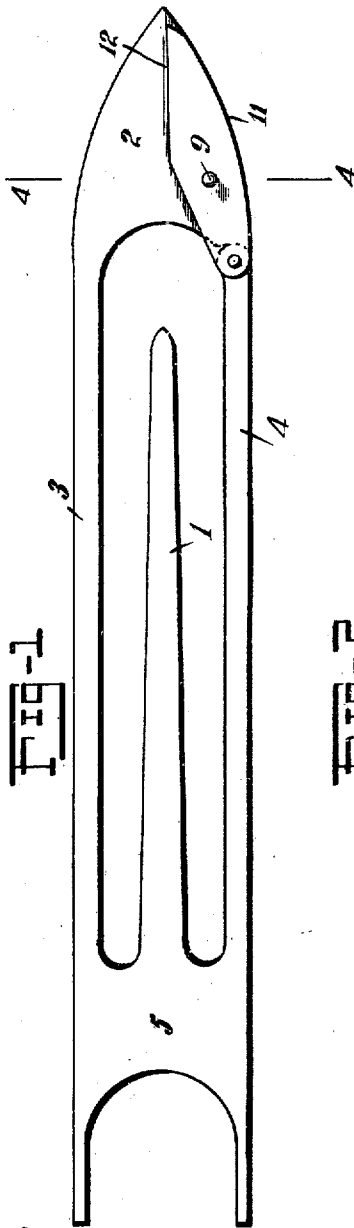


W. J. MAY.
FISHERMAN'S NEEDLE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 14, 1909.

954,319.

Patented Apr. 5, 1910.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM JACKSON MAY, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

FISHERMAN'S NEEDLE.

954,319.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 5, 1910.

Application filed August 14, 1909. Serial No. 512,270.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM JACKSON MAY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and Improved Fisherman's Needle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to needles such as used by fishermen for repairing their nets or seines.

After making a haul, the fishermen usually find that at certain points their nets are torn and after each haul it is necessary to hang up the nets and inspect them thoroughly so as to locate and repair the net where the mesh has been broken. These nets are usually hung over frames supported on posts set in shoal water, and the fishermen in making the repairs pass around the net on a foot board just above the surface of the water. When the broken place has been repaired with cord it is always necessary to cut the cord, this necessitates the constant use of a knife.

The object of this invention is to produce a needle having a special construction including a knife which can be readily operated when desired. Under normal conditions the edge of the knife does not protrude from the body of the needle so that the blade is held in an inoperative position.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of parts to be more fully described hereinafter and particularly set forth in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a fisherman's needle constructed according to my invention and showing the knife blade in its normal position; Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the blade in its operative position; Fig. 3 is an edge elevation of the device; and Fig. 4 is a cross section upon an enlarged scale taken on the line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

Referring more particularly to the parts, 1 represents the tongue of the needle which projects toward the head 2, being located on the central axis of the needle between the main bar 3 and the bar 4. The bar 3 is integral with the head 2, and the butt 5 of the

needle. The bar 4 is integral with the butt 5, but is severed from the head on the rounded or curved edge 6, which edge forms a seat for the rounded end 7 of this bar. The resiliency of the bar 4 tends to hold it in the position shown in Fig. 1, with its end resting on the seat, as will be readily understood.

On the side of the head 2, a knife blade 8 is attached by means of a pivot pin 9, and the butt end of this blade projects toward the rear of the needle, and lies over the end of the bar 4 to which it is attached loosely by means of a pivot pin 10. The outer edge 11 of the blade conforms closely to the adjacent edge of the head 2, and the blade is provided with a straight cutting edge 12 which normally lies near the central axis of the blade, as shown in Fig. 1. The twine, which is used in repairing the net is attached to the needle in the usual manner, and the needle is manipulated so as to repair the net. When it is desired to cut the cord the bars 3 and 4 are compressed; the bar 4 will then move inwardly, as indicated in Fig. 2. This rotates the butt end of the knife inwardly so that the tip of the knife projects across the edge of the head. In this way an angle 13 is formed in which the cord may be received so as to be cut off by the blade. It should be understood that the pin 10 does not fit tightly in its opening in the blade so that there is enough lost motion at this point to permit the blade to swing on its pivot.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent,—

1. A fisherman's needle having a head and a butt, a side bar rigidly connecting said head and said butt, a second side bar opposite said first side bar connected with said butt and unattached to said head, and a blade pivotally mounted on said head and connected with said second bar.

2. A fisherman's needle having a head and a butt, a resilient bar extending from said butt toward said head, and a blade pivotally mounted on said head and attached to said resilient bar, said bar affording means for actuating said blade.

3. A fisherman's needle comprising a head and a butt, a pair of bars connecting said head and said butt, one of said bars being unattached to said head, free to move laterally, and integral with said butt, and a blade pivotally mounted on the side of said head having a cutting edge adapted to project

across the edge of said head when said blade rotates, said blade being connected with said unattached bar.

4. A fisherman's needle having a head, a
5 blade pivotally mounted on said head and having an edge normally completely superposed on said head, and a movable member extending longitudinally of said needle connected with said blade and affording means
10 for rotating said blade so that said edge projects across the edge of said head and forms a cutting angle with the edge of said head.

5. A fisherman's needle having a head and having a butt for retaining the thread, and 15 a knife pivotally attached on said head and having a cutting edge coacting with the edge of the head to cut the thread in mending the net.

In testimony whereof I have signed my 20 name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM JACKSON MAY.

Witnesses:

E. B. ELLIS,

H. W. KAISER.