

J. C. VITTUM.
Needle-Threader for Sewing-Machines.

No. 128,341.

Patented June 25, 1872.

Fig. 1

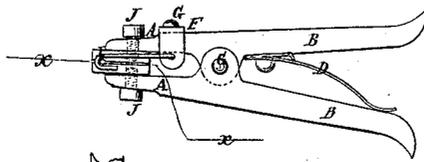


Fig. 2

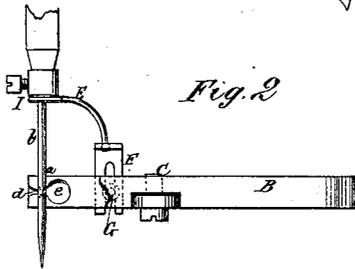
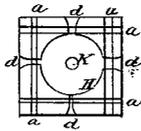


Fig. 3



Witnesses:

A. W. Almqvist
M. A. Graham

Inventor:

J. C. Vittum

PER

Munnell
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. VITTUM, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN NEEDLE-THREADERS FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 128,341, dated June 25, 1872.

Specification describing a new and Improved Needle-Threader, invented by JOHN C. VITTUM, of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania.

My invention consists of an instrument similar to a nippers, with the handles so pivoted that the jaws are caused to pinch together with a spring, said jaws having grooves perpendicular to the handles for gripping the needle, and other grooves traversing them for introducing the thread, and an adjustable gauge to act in connection with the lower end of the needle-post to cause the needle to be gripped in the first-mentioned grooves, so that the eye will come in the line of the other grooves which are to guide the thread to said eye.

Figure 1 is a top or plan view of my improved needle-threader. Fig. 2 is a side elevation with one of the jaws broken off, and Fig. 3 is a face view of an adjustable plate with several grooves of different sizes, which I propose to arrange on the jaws for adapting the instrument to needles of different sizes.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents a pair of nipping-jaws on the ends of handles B pivoted together at C, so as to be pressed together by a spring, D. Said jaws have a groove, *a*, along the face perpendicular to the handles, adapted to gripe the needle *b*, as shown in the drawing. They also have another groove, *d*, perpendicular to *a*, and traversing it and extending into a cavity, *e*, behind groove *a*. At the outer ends the grooves *d* are flaring so as to form a kind of bell-mouth between the two jaws. E is a wire gauge, attached to one of the jaws by a slotted plate, F, and a set-screw, G, so as to be adjusted in the lengthwise direction of the grooves for gripping the needle, and the outer end terminates in a hook, I, in such relative position to the jaws as to hook on to the nee-

dle immediately under the needle-post when the needle is nipped in the grooves *a*. Said gauge, being properly adjusted, will, when so placed against the end of the needle cause the eye to come exactly in the line of the thread-guiding grooves *d*, so that the thread presented in said groove will be guided through the eye into the chamber *e*, behind where it will project sufficiently to be nipped between the jaws, when they are taken off the needle and allowed to close together behind it on said thread, so that it can be drawn through by the nippers as far as wanted.

In order to have several grooves *a* of different sizes to correspond with the different-sized needles used, I propose to have plates H, such as represented in Fig. 3, with as many grooves *a* and *d* as there are sides, attached to the jaws by a screw, J, screwing into the hole K at the center, so that by shifting said plates around on said screw the groove *a* corresponding to the size of the needle to be threaded, may be brought to the front position for use. Said plates may be square, octagonal, or of other form, as preferred.

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

1. A needle-threader, comprising the nipper-jaws A, handles B, spring D, and a gauge, E, the said jaws having the needle-grooves *a*, thread-guiding grooves *d*, and the cavities *e*, and all combined substantially as specified.

2. A detachable plate, combined with the jaws, and provided with needle-grooves, thread-grooves, and cavities, substantially as specified.

JOHN C. VITTUM.

Witnesses:

ROBT. S. FRAZER,
D. B. OAKS.