No. 689,354. Patented Dec. 17, 1901.

M. A. COLTON.

HEMMING GAGE.

(Application filed July 30, 1901.)

(No Model.)

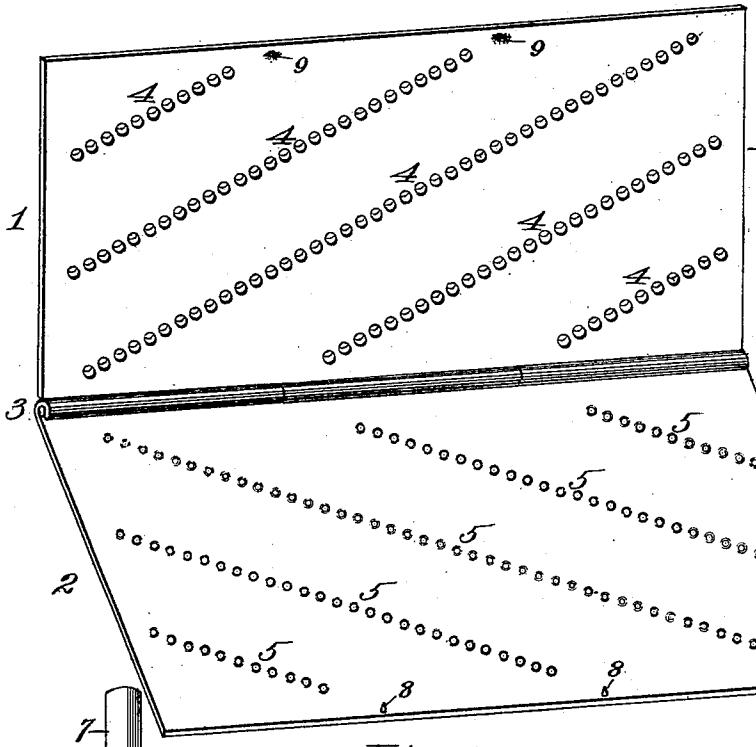

Fig. 1.

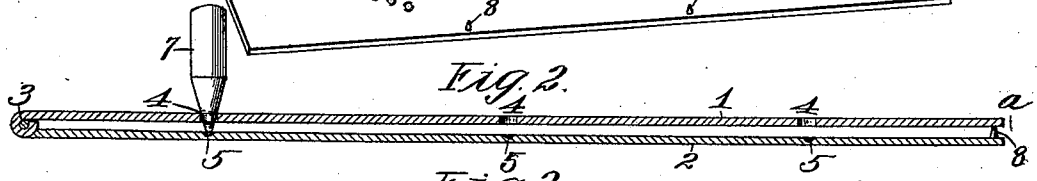

Fig. 2.

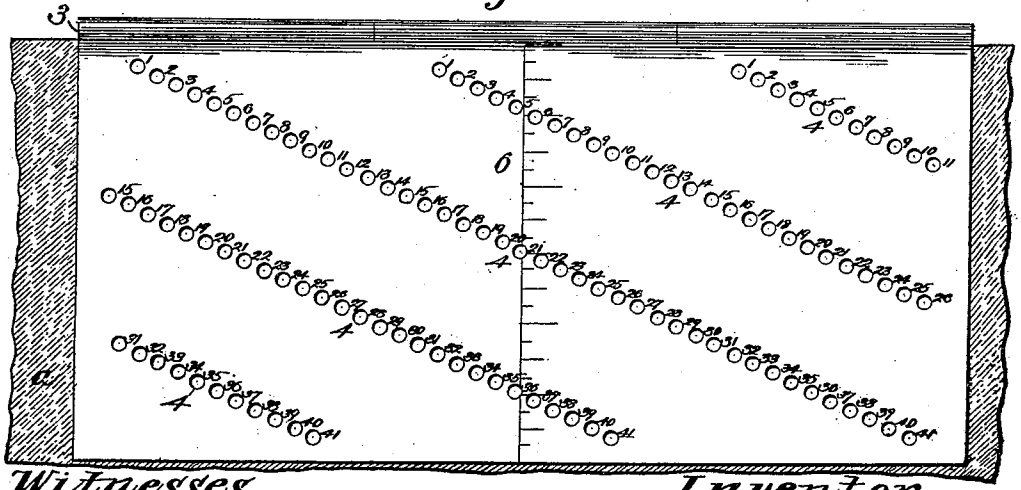

Fig. 3.

Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARIÉ A. COLTON, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS TO ALEXANDER MONTVILLE AND LANDRY HARWOOD, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

HEMMING-GAGE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 689,354, dated December 17, 1901.

Application filed July 30, 1901. Serial No. 70,233. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARIÉ A. COLTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hemming-Gages, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a hemming-gage; and my object is to produce a device of this character whereby uniformity in the depth of hems will be assured and the hemming operation expedited.

A further object is to produce a device of this character of simple, durable, and cheap construction.

With these objects in view the invention consists in certain novel and peculiar features of construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed, and in order that it may be fully understood reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the hemming-gage as arranged to receive the fabric to be hemmed. Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross-section of the same. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the gage as closed upon the fabric to be hemmed.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, where like reference-numerals designate corresponding parts, 1 designates the top plate, and 2 the base-plate, of the gage, said plates being preferably of oblong rectangular form and hinged together at one side margin, as shown at 3, this hinge providing an abutment for a purpose which hereinafter appears. The top plate is provided with parallel series of holes 4, extending from a point near the hinged margin toward the opposite or outer margin and preferably obliquely in order that a greater number of holes may be provided between said margins than if the line extended across the plate at right angles to its length. These holes are numbered, consecutively, "1," "2," "3," "4," &c., beginning with the holes nearest and the same distance from the hinged margin in order that longitudinally-alined holes of the different series shall be correspondingly numbered for a purpose which hereinafter appears.

The base-plate is provided with indentations 5 in its upper side, arranged in oblique series and corresponding in number and relative position to the holes 4, so that when the top plate is folded down parallel with the base-plate, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, said holes 4 and indentations 5 will register. It is to be understood that while the indentations above referred to are desirable they are not absolutely necessary to the operation of the device.

The upper side of top plate 1 is provided with a measuring-scale 6, extending transversely, the inner end of the scale coinciding with the abutment or hinge 3 in order that when the inner edge of the fabric, as at *a*, is fitted properly between the plates and against the abutment the operator can determine at a glance in just what holes to stick the marker 7, which may simply be a pointed instrument to form indentations in the fabric or a pencil to mark the fabric, as shown in Fig. 2. For example, should it be desired to produce a hem an inch and five-eighths deep the operator inserts her marker in each of the holes 21, so as to produce a mark or indentation thereon, according to the kind of fabric. In delicate fabrics, where a pencil-mark would be objectionable, the marker may simply be a pointed piece of wood, which will slightly indent the fabric at the desired points. After the fabric is thus marked the top plate is thrown upward and the fabric slid longitudinally through the device, so as to dispose a different portion on plate 2. The top plate is then folded down and the operation above described repeated, so that eventually the fabric will be provided with a series of marks or visible indentations from one end to the other and a uniform distance from the free edge. The operator then turns up the hem along said line quickly and easily and completes the hem in the usual manner.

A device of this character to be perfectly equipped for use in connection with all sorts of fabrics may be provided with devices for penetrating or pinching the fabric, and thereby eliminating all possibility of slippage. These devices will preferably be in the form of short pins 8 on plate 2 and indentations 9

fabric is clamped between the plates in the manner indicated in Fig. 3.

With the method of hand-hemming in common use it is usually a rather slow and tedious operation to get the hem on the bottom of a skirt, for instance, of uniform depth.

With my improved hemming-gage hand-hemming will be much easier and the work will be accomplished more accurately and quickly, and it will be understood, of course, that the invention is susceptible of modification in minor particulars without departing from the principle and scope or sacrificing any of its advantages. It will be apparent also that this gage can be used to equal advantage for measuring preparatory to cutting goods on the bias and for measuring for ruffles.

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

1. A hemming-gage, comprising two plates connected at one side margin and forming an abutment thereat for the fabric to be hemmed, one of said plates having parallel series of holes extending obliquely of the plate, the holes of each series being longitudinally ing the corresponding holes of the re- series, subst and similar marks identify-

2. A hemming- connected at one side holes of the abutment thereat for the one of said plates having a ser tending from said connected margin toward its opposite edge, and the other a series of indentations registering with said holes.

3. A hemming-gage, comprising two plates connected at one side margin and forming an abutment thereat for the fabric to be hemmed, one of said plates having a series of holes extending from said connected margin toward its opposite edge, and the other a series of indentations registering with said holes, and a marker for insertion through said holes, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

MARIÉ A. COLTON.

Witnesses:
H. C. RODGERS,
G. Y. THORPE.