C. M. HERRING.

RAZOR STROPPER.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 7, 1910.

1,041,789.

Patented Oct. 22, 1912.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

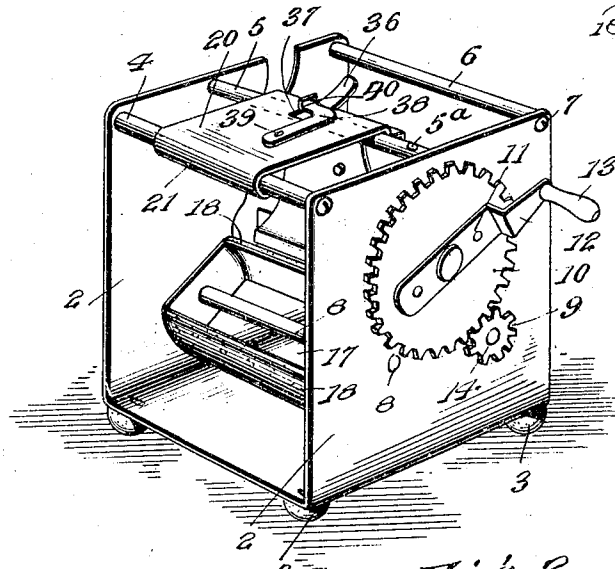



Fig. 7.

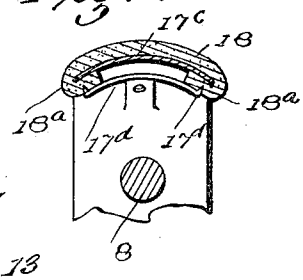



Fig. 8.

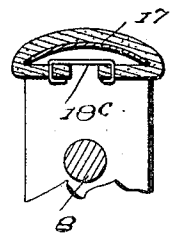
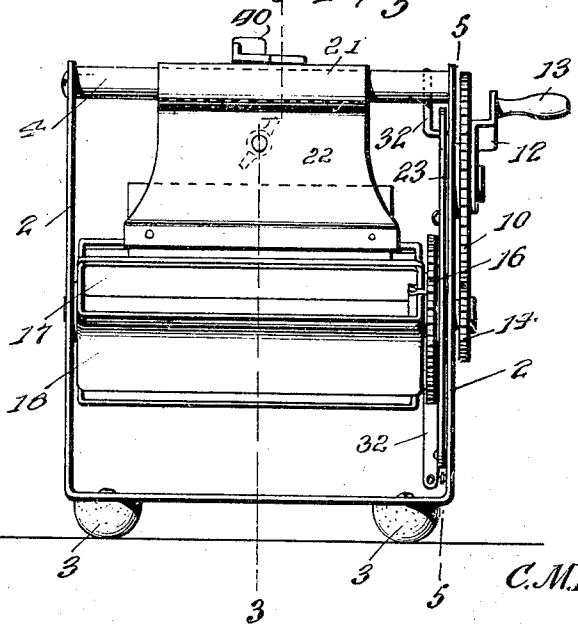



Fig. 2.




Witnesses

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

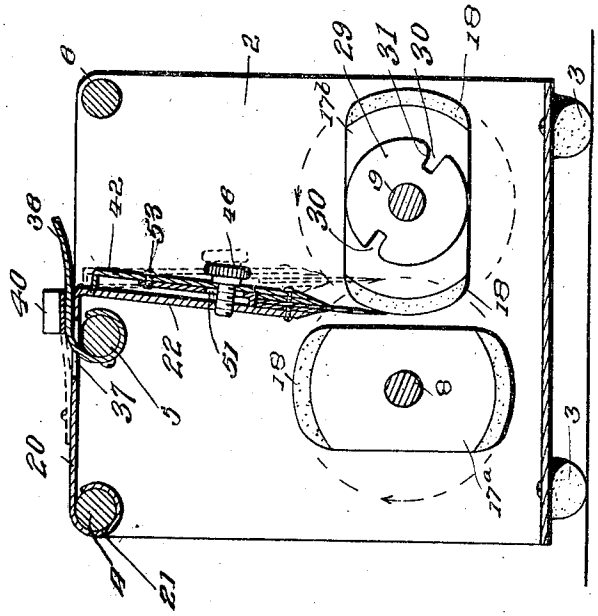
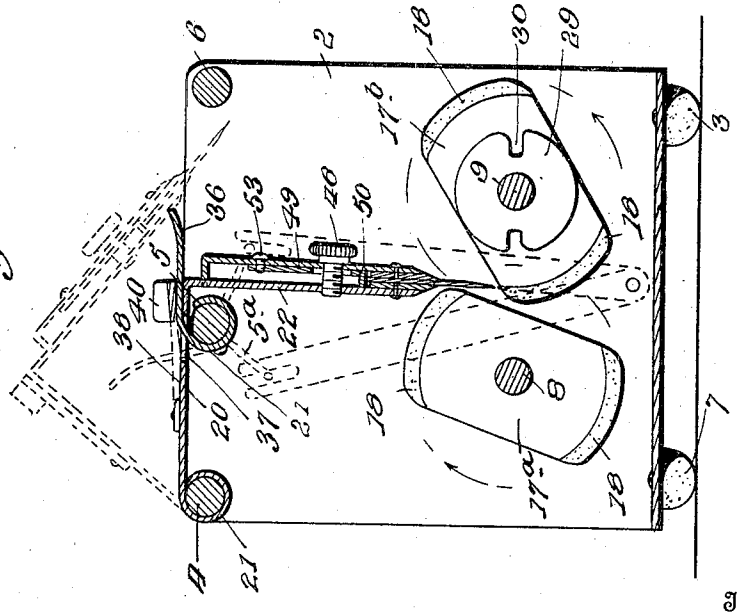



Fig. 5.

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 6.

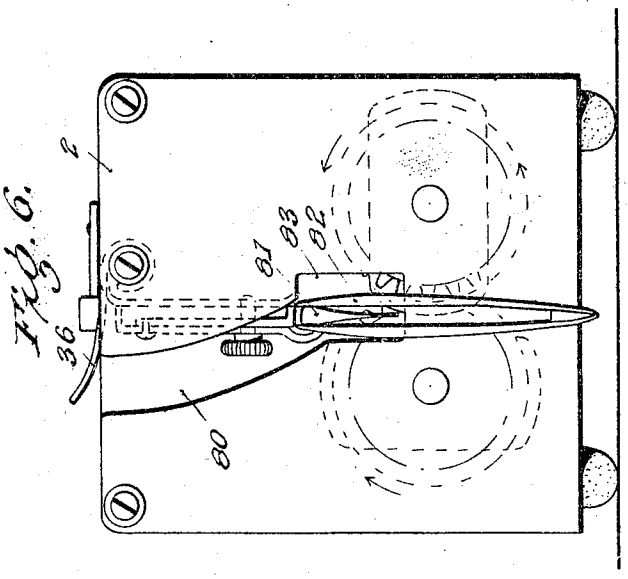



Fig. 5.

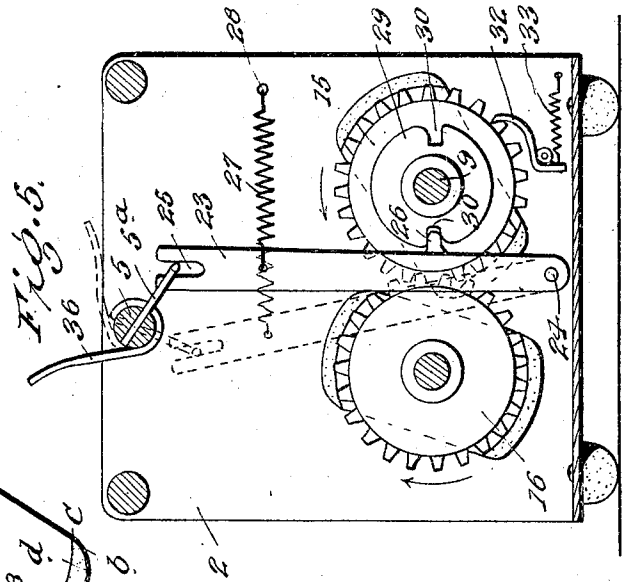
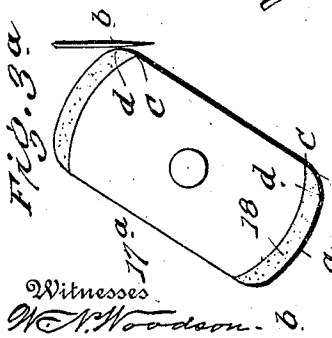



Fig. 3a.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## RAZOR-STROPPER.

1,041,789. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 22, 1912.

Application filed October 7, 1910. Serial No. 585,869.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. HERRING, citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Worth, in the county of Tarrant and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Razor-Stroppers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to machines for sharpening blades, such as razor blades, and the object of the invention is to provide a very simple and easily operated machine so effectively constructed so to quickly and perfectly sharpen a large number of different style and kinds of razor blades, both the safety razor blades and the blades such as are ordinarily found on the old style razor.

A further object of the invention is to provide means for locking the stropping members from action before the blade can be removed from engagement with the stropping members, thus eliminating any chance of cutting the stropping rolls or members when inserting or removing the razor.

A further object is to provide means for stropping alternate faces of the blade and to provide for holding the blade resiliently against the stropping faces of the stropping members.

Other objects will appear in the course of the following description.

For a full understanding of the invention reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my razor stropper with a blade in position to be stropped. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation thereof. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 3ª is an end view of one of the stropping members and a portion of a razor blade showing the relative positions of the stropping member and razor blade at one point in the revolutionary stropping member. Fig. 4 is a like view to Fig. 3 but showing the blade in contact with one of the stropping faces. Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2 showing the position of the locking lever when the rotatable stroppers are locked for movement. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the device showing the side plates and slot provided for the reception of a razor provided with a handle. Figs. 7 and 8 are fragmentary sectional views of a rotatable stropping member showing another means for mounting the leather stropping face.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the accompanying drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring particularly now to Figs. 1, 2 and 3, 2 designates the frame of the machine comprising a substantially U-shaped metal plate provided on its under side with the feet 3 which are preferably of rubber, and have the form of buttons so as to permit the machine to be placed upon any article of furniture and manipulated without marring the furniture and add to the steadiness of the machine. The upper edges of the sides of the frame are connected by the transversely extending spacing rods 4, 5 and 6, which are held in position between the upwardly turned sides of the plate 2 by means of screws 7.

Extending through the sides of the frame and rotatably mounted therein are the shafts 8 and 9, these being arranged parallel to each other and carrying stropping devices, as will be later described. These shafts 8 and 9 are designed to rotate together, but in opposite directions and are intended both to be driven from a common crank. Rotatably mounted to one side of the frame plate 2, preferably to the right-hand side thereof is the toothed gear wheel 10 to which is attached the crank 11, the extremity of the crankarm being offset as at 12 and being provided with a handle 13. The crank-arm 11 is rigidly attached to the face of the gear-wheel 10 so as to rotate the same. Mounted upon the shaft 9 is a pinion 14 which meshes with the gear wheel 10 so that the motion of the gear wheel is transmitted to the pinion 14 and the shaft 9. Rigidly attached to the shaft 9 on the inside face of one of the sides of the frame is the gear-wheel 15 whose teeth mesh with the teeth of a gear-wheel 16 fast on the shaft 8. It will thus be seen that the motion of the gear-wheel 15 will be transmitted by the gear-wheel 16 to the shaft 8 and that this shaft will rotate in the opposite direction to the shaft 9. In the operation of sharpening, the gear-wheel 16 and the shaft 8 will rotate in a clockwise direction and the gear 15 and shaft 9 will rotate in a counter clockwise direction.

Upon each of the shafts 8 and 9 is mounted a rotatable stropper 17ª, 17ᵇ. These stroppers will be described in detail later on. In general, however, each stropper consists of a rectangular frame approxi-

mating the shape of a cylinder having oppositely disposed curved stropping faces covered with stropping material 18. The stropping frames are longer in one direction than the other and the frames are so set that the stropping face of one frame or stropping member acts alternately to the stropping face of the other member, as shown in Fig. 3, the frames projecting, of course, beyond the gears 15 and 16.

The stropping faces on each frame, each follow in the path of the other while in operation. The stroppers are arranged to pass each other and alternately engage with the blade which depends between them and is supported by the devices now to be described.

The blade to be sharpened is supported in a blade holder which is so mounted upon the frame of the machine that it may be moved up out of its stropping position in order for the blade to be inserted or removed, or moved down into the stropping position whereupon the blade will be held midway between the two rotary stroppers in position to have its edge acted upon by both of said stroppers. The particular form of the holder depends upon the particular kind of blade which is to be supported therein, as will be later seen, but generally speaking the blade holder comprises an angular plate 20, one end of which is formed with a tubular sleeve or bead 21 for loose engagement with the transverse rod 4, while the downwardly extending portion 22 of the holder is provided with clamping means whereby the blade may be securely clamped in position. This clamping means varies according to the different kinds of blades to be sharpened.

It is necessary that means be provided for locking the stropping devices in a safety position, when the blade is to be removed or replaced, to prevent injury to the blades or stroppers. To this end I provide the locking lever 23 which is pivoted to the side of the frame 2 near the lower edge thereof as at 24, and which is provided at its upper end with a longitudinally extending slot 25. This locking lever 23 is provided at one side opposite to the shaft 9 with an outwardly projecting detent 26 having a rounded terminal end. A spring 27 is attached at one end to the locking lever 23 and at its other end is attached to a fixed point, as a stud 28, projecting out from the side plate of the frame. This spring 27 acts to draw the lever 23 toward the shaft 9. Mounted upon the shaft 9 exterior to the gear wheel 15 and rigid with the shaft 9 is a cam-wheel 29 having oppositely disposed recesses 30 in its circumference. These recesses are adapted to receive the detent 26 when the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 5. It will be seen from Fig. 4 that one wall of the recess is rounded as at 31, while the other wall of the recess extends outwardly perpendicularly to the face of the cam. It will also be seen from Fig. 5 that when the detent 26 is engaged with one of the recesses 30 the gear wheel 15 is locked from rotation in the direction of the arrow and this locking of the gear wheel 15, of course, locks the gear wheel 16, and thus both of the rotatable stroppers are held from rotation. The backward rotation of the wheel 15 is prevented by a pawl 32 which engages with the teeth on the wheel 15. This pawl is actuated by a spring 33 in any suitable manner. While the pawl will permit a rotation of the gear wheel 15 in the direction of the arrow, it will prevent any backward rotation of the gear wheel and hence, when the detent 26 on the lever 23 is engaged with one of the recesses 30 the gear wheels 15 and 16 are locked from rotation in either direction. In order to automatically throw this locking lever into its locking engagement with the cam-disk 29 when the holder is about to be raised, I make the transversely extending rod 5 rotatable, so that the rod may rock in its bearings in the sides of the frame 2 and provide an arm $5^a$ which projects out radially from one end of the rod 5 and has an angular extremity which engages in the slot 25.

It will be obvious that as the rod 5 is rocked the lever 23 will be moved either into its locking position or into its unlocked position as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 5. The rod 5 is provided at its middle with the outwardly projecting finger 36 which is adapted to project through a slot 37 formed in the angular holder 20. This slot is so placed that the finger will project therethrough when the holder 20 has been moved into its active position. When the holder 20 has been depressed so as to bring the blade into proper position to be stropped the rod 5 is rotated by means of the finger 36 and this rotation will move the locking lever 23 from the position shown in full lines in Fig. 5 to the position shown in dotted lines, and thereby move the locking lever out of engagement with the gear-wheel 15. In order to hold the finger 36 depressed I preferably provide the holder 20 with a latch 38 which is adapted to be moved into such position as to hold the finger 36 depressed. Preferably this latch is L-shaped and is pivoted near one end as at 39, while the other end of the latch is upwardly turned as at 40 to form a means whereby the latch may be easily operated. When the finger 36 has been depressed to the dotted line position in Fig. 5, and the finger 36 locked in its depressed position, the mechanism is in condition for sharpening the blade supported in the holder 20.

It will be seen that the blade is supported

in a plane midway between the shafts 8 and 9. When, now, the crank 11 is operated, the shafts 8 and 9 will be rotated in the directions of the arrows in Fig. 3. A stropping face 18 on one of the rotary stroppers will now engage one side of the blade and force it rearward against the resiliency of the metal of the holder. After the stropper $17^a$ presses the blade, the blade returns to its normal position and is immediately engaged by the stropper $17^b$ and is forced forward against the resiliency of the blade holder. It will be seen that the blade holder is rigidly held in position upon the frame of the machine by means of the finger 36 and the latch 38. The resiliency of the depending portion of the holder acts to resist any lateral movement in either direction of the depending portion caused by the stroppers alternately forcing the depending portion away from its normal position. It will be seen that the normal position of the blade and holder is midway between the shafts 8 and 9 and as the stroppers are rotated the blade is forced outward and the resistance of the resilient holder causes it to bear against the rounded edge of the stroppers at the proper angle to insure a perfect cutting edge to the blade. The pressure of the blade against the stroppers is secured by the resiliency of the portions 20 and 22 of the holder.

The operation of the parts so far described is as follows: In order to insert the blade the latch 38 is turned, releasing finger 36 whereupon the spring 27 will immediately throw the lever 23 toward the shaft 9. This will rock the rod 5 and turn the finger 36 into an upwardly extending position, whereupon the holder may be rotated upon its bearing on the rod 4. The holder is turned over upon the rod 4 and the clamping device upon the holder loosened and the blade inserted. After the blade is clamped between the jaws of the holder the holder is returned to its former position with the portion 22 extending down between the stroppers, the stroppers being locked from any rotation under these circumstances by the engagement of the tooth 26 with the recess 30. The finger 36 is then turned down and latched. The turning down of the fingers rocks the rod 5 and causes the lever 23 to be drawn away from its engagement with the cam-disk 29 and the parts are ready for the stropping operation. The left hand of the operator is placed upon the upper portion of the machine, the transverse bars 4, 5, and 6 and the wide flat plate forming the blade holder affording a rest for the left hand. The right hand is then used to turn the crank, thus rotating the stroppers and bringing them alternately into contact with the opposite faces of the blade.

With the mechanism above described it will be seen that the blade holder cannot be withdrawn from its operative position until the latch finger 36 has been raised, and this finger can only be raised when one or the other of the notches 30 is immediately opposite to the tooth 26. Therefore the parts must be brought to the position shown in Fig. 5 before the holder can be raised from its operative position. When the finger 36 is raised it throws the tooth 26 into the notch 30 locking the stropping members. The parts will remain in this locked position until the finger 36 is again moved down. Unless this finger be intentionally moved down the parts will remain in the position shown in Fig. 5 until the holder is again depressed and locked. The stropping members $17^a$ and $17^b$ are so relatively arranged that they are very slightly beyond the position shown in Fig. 3 when the recess or notch 30 intersects with the tooth 26, and in this position they cannot come in contact with the blade as the holder is rotated to its operative position. Thus the blade cannot be inserted so as to cut the stropping members. It will be seen that the blade can only be inserted or removed when the stropping members are brought to the position shown in Fig. 5, and immediately that finger 36 is turned up so as to release the blade holder the stropping members are locked. It is pointed out, furthermore, that because of the fact that the stropping member $17^b$ has the form in section of a segment of a circle, and that because at the time when the holder is being turned down to its operative position the stropping member $17^b$ is in the position shown in Fig. 5, the stropping member is entirely out of the path of movement of the blade. This would not be the case were the stropping member circular in section. The blade holder would have to be inserted vertically into place between the two stropping members. The blade holder is pivoted to the frame of the machine, the pivotal point being the bar 4. Hence the blade holder can be turned to a position that is convenient to remove or insert the blades and yet cannot be lost or displaced upon the machine itself. It is permanently attached to the machine and is simply locked to the cross bar 5 when in its operative position. The blade holder cannot be raised out of its operative position when it is locked. It would only move in a plane parallel with the plane of rotation of the stropping member. The resiliency of the depending portion 22 of the blade holder permits its lateral movement at the lower end of the plate 22, but the locking of the blade holder to the bar 5 prevents any movement of the upper end of the blade holder. As a consequence the stropping members will always strike at the same point upon the blade and the blade will

not "chatter" nor shift its position relative to the stropping members as the stropping members are rotated.

Particular attention must be paid to the form of the stropping surfaces 18. It will be seen from Fig. 3ª that each stropping face 18 has a middle portion (*a*) concentric to the axis of rotation of the stropper and that the edges of the stropping face are rounded off as at *b*. The blade first comes in contact with the stropping face at *c* at which point the stropper actually begins its work and because of the rounded edges *b* of the stropping face and the rotation of the frame toward and against the blade the pressure against the blade supported in the spring holder is gradually increased until the edge of the blade reaches a point at *d* when the pressure remains uniform until the opposite point *d* is reached, whereupon the blade is gradually relieved of its pressure against the stroppers. At its first contact with the blade the stropping face gently begins its work on the blade, the rounded edge of the stropping face striking at the proper angle onto the blade to give it a perfect cutting edge. The pressure on the blade increases until the smooth flat face of the stropping surface is reached, whereupon the pressure is uniform until the rounded edge *b* is reached, when the pressure is gently reduced until the blade is allowed to pass from the stropping face into contact with the stropping face on the opposed stropper. The peculiar contour of the stropping face 18 is necessary in order to give a proper stropping action upon the blade. It is also to be noted that as the frames supporting the stropping faces 18 turn against the edge of the blade, the spring holder resists any lateral flexure and the blade is resiliently held against the rounded edge and the concentric smooth surface of the stropper tends to give the blade a perfect cutting edge. The pressure of the blade against the stropping faces depends either upon the diameter of the stropping frame or the strength of the spring metal holder 20. By enlarging the diameter of the stropping frame or increasing the resilient strength of the downwardly extended portion 22, a greater pressure against the blades may be secured. The stropping faces 18 are preferably not quite one fourth the circumference of a cylinder thus allowing the stroppers to pass each other.

While the stropping frames 17ª and 17ᵇ may have any desired construction suitable to the purpose, I have shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the frame as made of a single strip of metal bent into a rectangular form, the sides of the frame being concave or convex. The ends of the metal strip are bent at right angles to the sides as shown in Fig. 1. Another way of constructing the stropping frames and supporting the stropping leather faces 18 is shown in Figs. 7 and 8. As shown in Fig. 14, the leather 18 may be bent under or returned upon itself as at 18ª and over the side plates 17ᶜ, the leather being held in place by a clip plate 17ᵇ having spurs which project into the returned edges of the leather, or the leather 18, as shown in Fig. 15, may be simply turned around the side plates 17ᶜ and held by clips 18ᶜ.

The stropping faces 18 may be made of leather or any other suitable material and one stropping face on each frame may be of a relatively gritty material and the other stropping face on the same frame may be of a smooth, soft and finishing quality. This will give a sharp, keen edge to the blade which would not be afforded were the stropping faces all of the same quality. The two frames supporting the stroppers are secured to the shafts and turned toward each other at the top and are so arranged upon the shaft as to allow them to pass each other as shown in Fig. 4 to permit a continuous rotation forcing the stroppers alternately against the blade upon each revolution.

As before stated means must be provided for supporting the blades in such a position as to be acted upon by the oppositely disposed stroppers and preferably the device should be provided with means whereby any of the usual forms of razor blade may be so supported. As these forms are various it is necessary to provide either a holder for the blades, which shall be capable of engaging and clamping any of the ordinary forms of razor blade, or provide separate holders which are particularly adapted to the several specific forms.

While I do not wish to limit myself to any particular form of holder for use with the stropping mechanism described, I have illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4 a form of blade holder or clamp which is applicable to a great number of different blades. The plate 22 forms one of the jaws of this clamp, and supported upon the face of the plate 22 is an opposed clamping plate designated 42, these two plates being drawn together by a thumb screw 46 or other equivalent means and the blade being clamped between them as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. The plate 42 is provided with a flange 42ª at its upper end which contacts with the plate 22 and spaces the plate 42 from the plate 22, and disposed between these two plates 22 and 42 is a gage designated 49 having a flange 50 at its lower edge and vertically movable upon a set screw 53. This gage engages with the upper edge of the blade, and once adjusted and held in position by the set screw 53, all blades of the same kind or width can be readily inserted in the holder and held tightly in position therein by turning the clamp screw 46.

In Fig. 6 I show a form of machine adapted to be used with a razor having a handle. In this form one of the side plates of the frame 2 is formed with a downwardly curved slot 80 to permit the passage of the handle. The blade is designated 81 and the handle of the razor designated 82. It will be seen that the handle projects out from the lower enlarged end 83 of the slot 80, the blade being held in a clamp such as is shown in Fig. 11. The slot 80 is enlarged at 83 so as to allow a rocking or vibrating motion of the handle as the blade is pressed by one stropper or the other in one direction or the other.

It will be seen that my device affords a very convenient, simple, and easily operated machine which is extremely effective for the purpose intended. The blade is acted upon on alternating sides of its cutting edge by the opposite stroppers and is resiliently held against the stropping surface. Furthermore it will be seen that it is subjected at each stroke of the stropping surface, first to the curved edge *b* of the stropping surface and then to the concentric or smooth surface *a* forming the middle portion of the stropping surface. This affords a very much better manner of stropping a razor than if the razor is held against a cylindrical face at all times and held with a practically unvarying pressure against this face. It gives the blade the peculiar pressure which is incident to stropping by hand, this peculiar pressure not being secured by any other automatic razor stropping device known to me.

While I have shown what I believe to be the best form of my invention, I do not wish to be limited thereto, as it is obvious that many changes might be made without departing from the spirit thereof.

Having thus described my invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A razor stropping device including opposed, parallel, rotatable stropping members, each having oppositely disposed, parallel, interrupted stropping faces approximately concentric to the axis of rotation of the corresponding member, the stropping faces of both of said members being arranged to act alternately upon the blade, a frame upon which the stropping members are rotatably mounted, and a blade support comprising a resilient plate mounted upon the frame at its upper end, the free end of the plate depending in a plane intersecting the path of movement of the stropping faces of the stropping members and being yieldable in the direction of the stropping members.

2. A razor stropping device including a supporting frame, a stropping member rotatably mounted in the frame and having oppositely disposed parallel interrupted stropping faces approximately concentric to the axis of rotation of the stropping member, a resilient support pivotally mounted upon said frame and when in operative position extending in a plane intersecting the path of movement of the stropping member, said resilient support being yieldable at its free end in the direction of the stropping member, and means for preventing an upward movement of the blade support.

3. A razor stropping device including parallel rotatable stropping members, each having oppositely disposed parallel interrupted stropping faces approximately concentric to the axis of rotation of the stropping member, the path of movement of the stropping faces of one member intersecting the path of movement of the other member, the major axes of the stropping members being always out of alinement with each other, a frame in which the stropping members are supported, a resilient blade support comprising an angular plate pivotally mounted upon said frame, the angular end of the support when in operative position extending in a plane midway between the axes of the supporting members and coincident with the intersection of said paths of movement of the stropping members, said plate being yieldable at its free end in the direction of the stropping members, and disengageable means preventing the upward movement of the plate.

4. A razor stropping device including parallel rotatable stropping members each having parallel interrupted stropping faces approximately concentric to the axis of rotation, the stropping faces of the members acting alternately and the paths of movement of the stropping faces intersecting, and a blade support comprising a resilient plate extending when in an operative position in a plane coincident with a plane cutting the intersection of the paths of movement, the end of the plate farthest from the stropping members being held from movement away from the stropping members, the free end of said support being resiliently yieldable in the direction of the stropping members.

5. A razor stropping device including a rotatable stropping member having the form of a segment of a circle, a blade holder movable in position to support a blade within the path of movement of said stropping member and parallel thereto, a device for locking the blade holder in operative position, and means for locking the stropping members from rotation when the holder locking device is shifted to an unlocked position.

6. A razor stropping device including a rotatable stropping member having the form of a segment of a circle, a blade holder movable into position to support a blade within the path of movement of said stropping member parallel thereto, and means for lock-

ing the stropping members from rotation when the blade holder is moved from its operative position.

7. A razor stropping device including oppositely disposed rotatable stropping members, a resilient blade holder extending midway between the axes of the stropping members, and means for locking the stropping members against rotary movement in either direction.

8. A razor stropping device, including oppositely disposed rotatable stropping members, a resilient blade holder extending in a plane midway between the axes of the stropping members and having means thereon for supporting a blade with its edge projecting into the paths of movement of said stropping members, means for detachably locking said holder in said position, and means for locking the rotatable stroppers from movement simultaneously with the release of the blade holder from its locked engagement.

9. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, parallel oppositely disposed stropping members having oppositely disposed interrupted stropping faces, the paths of movement of said stropping faces intersecting each other, a resilient blade holder rotatably supported upon said frame and adapted to be turned into or out of a plane cutting the intersection of the paths of movement of said stropping members, means on the frame for locking the holder in said last named position and from rotation but permitting the release of the holder, and means for locking the rotatable stropping members from rotation simultaneously with the release of the holder from its locked position.

10. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, oppositely disposed parallel rotatable stropping members each having opposed faces concentric to the axis of the corresponding member, said faces acting alternately, a resilient blade support pivotally mounted upon said frame and being thereby adapted to be turned into an operative or inoperative position, the said holder when turned in an operative position extending in a plane coincident with the intersection of the paths of travel of the stropping faces of the rotatable members, a latching device for holding the blade holder in its operative position, said latching device being adapted to be moved to release the blade holder and permit it to be turned into its inoperative position, and means for locking the stropping members from movement when the latching device is moved to release the blade holder.

11. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, oppositely disposed parallel stropping members mounted on the frame, means for rotating said stropping members in opposite directions to each other, parallel transversely extending bars on the frame, an angular blade holder of resilient material pivotally supported on one of said bars and adapted to rest upon the other of said bars when turned into operative position, said holder when in operative position having a portion thereof extending in a plane midway between the axes of the rotatable stropping members, said portion being provided with means for clamping a blade thereto, and a latching device mounted on the frame and adapted to detachably engage the blade holder and lock it in its operative position.

12. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, parallel oppositely disposed rotatable stropping members mounted on said frame each having oppositely disposed stropping faces concentric to the axis of rotation of the member, said stropping faces acting alternately, a transverse bar mounted on said supporting frame immediately above said stropping members, a transverse bar parallel to but spaced from said first named transverse bar, an angular blade holder pivotally mounted upon the last named transverse bar and extending over the first named transverse bar and then extending downward in a plane midway between the axes of the rotatable stropping members, means on the depending portion of the holder for clamping a razor blade thereon, and a latch mounted upon the supporting frame detachably engaging the holder to lock it in its operative position.

13. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, parallel oppositely disposed rotatable stropping members each having oppositely disposed faces concentric to the axis of the stropping member, the stropping faces alternately acting, gear wheels intermeshing with each other and rotating with the rotatable stropping members, a rock shaft mounted in the supporting frame immediately above the stropping members, a locking device actuated by the rotation of the rock shaft and engaging the gearing of the stropping members when moved in one direction, but disengaging therefrom when moved in the opposite direction, and a blade holder adapted to engage the blade to be sharpened and depending in a plane midway between the rotatable stropping members.

14. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, parallel rotatable shafts mounted in the frame, intermeshing gear wheels mounted on said shafts, means for giving a rotation to one of said shafts, a stropping member mounted on each shaft, each stropping member having oppositely disposed interrupted faces concentric to the shaft on which it is mounted, the stropping faces of one member during the rotation of said member traversing the intermediate

portion of said stropping member between its stropping faces, a locking lever pivoted to the supporting frame at its lower end and having a detent operatively engaging a stop carried by one of said gear wheels to prevent the rotation of the gear wheel when the lever is moved in one direction, a rock shaft mounted in the supporting frame and having an arm engaging with the end of the lever, a finger on the rock shaft whereby it may be moved, a resilient blade holder pivotally mounted upon the supporting frame and adapted to be moved into a plane extending midway between said rotatable shafts, and means for clamping a blade to be sharpened to said holder.

15. A razor stropping device, including a supporting frame, parallel shafts mounted on the frame, intermeshing gear wheels carried by said shafts, a crank on one of said shafts whereby it may be rotated, oppositely disposed stropping members carried upon said shafts and rotatable therewith, each of said stropping members having the form of a section of a cylinder having parallel sides and oppositely disposed curved stropping faces, said stropping faces acting alternately, the paths of travel of the faces of the respective stropping members intersecting, a disk mounted upon one of said shafts and having a radially extending recess, a lever pivotally mounted upon the supporting frame at its lower end and having a detent adapted to engage in said recess when the lever is moved in one direction, a rock shaft also mounted in the supporting frame and having an arm engaging the upper end of said lever to shift it into or out of locking engagement with the disk when the rock shaft is rotated, a finger projecting from the rock shaft, an angular blade holder pivotally mounted upon the supporting frame at one end, the other angularly extending end of the blade holder being provided with blade clamping devices, said blade holder being adapted to be turned down over the rock shaft with its clamping end extending in a plane midway between the rotatable stropping members, the blade holder being provided with an opening through which the finger on the rock shaft is adapted to project, means on the holder for locking the finger in a depressed position, and a spring acting to shift the locking lever from its locking engagement with the gear wheel and to rotate the rock shaft to turn the finger thereon in a vertical position and permit the release of the blade holder therefrom.

16. A razor stropping device including parallel oppositely disposed stropping members each having the form of a section of a cylinder having parallel sides and oppositely disposed interrupted curved stropping faces parallel with each other, the stropping faces of one member alternately traversing the sides of the other member, the paths of travel of the stropping faces of each member intersecting, the curved faces of the stropping members being concentric to the axis of rotation and the opposite margins of said faces being beveled so as to form faces approximately tangential to the path of movement of the stropping faces.

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

CHARLES M. HERRING. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
R. V. ALLEN,
J. W. TURNER.