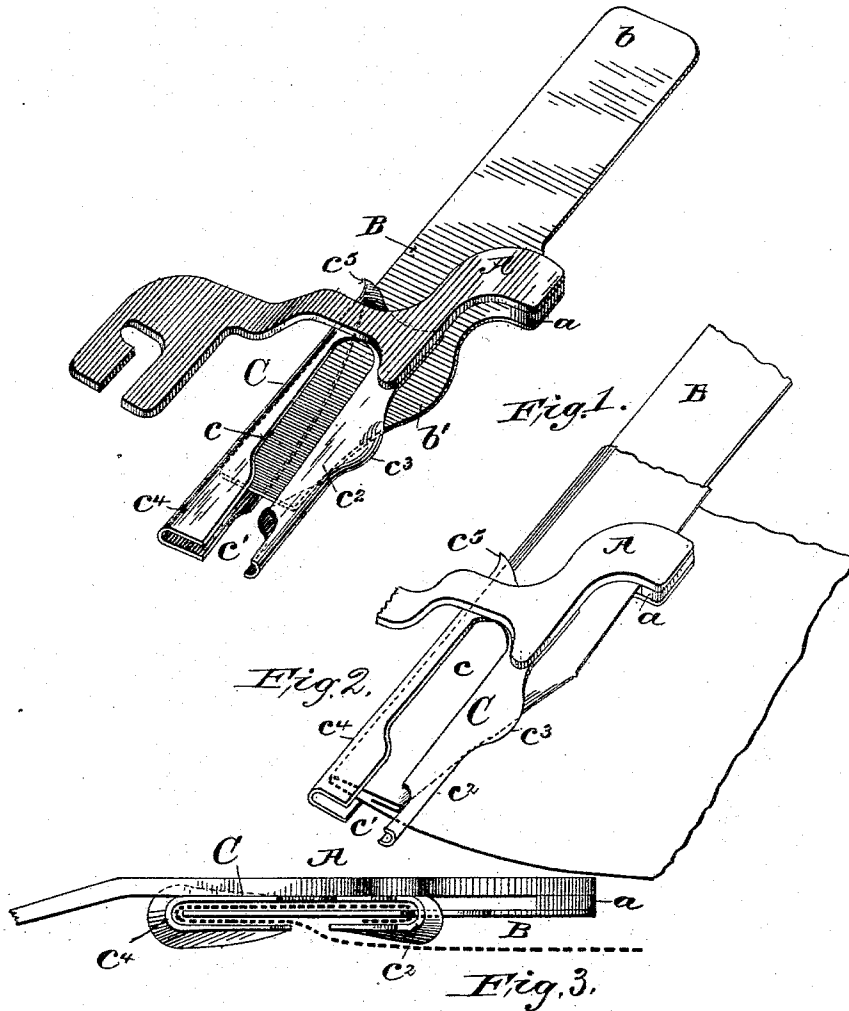


(No Model.)

R. W. S. MITCHELL & J. MURPHY.
HEMMER.

No. 533,546.

Patented Feb. 5, 1895.



WITNESSES:

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HEMMER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 533,546, dated February 5, 1895.

Application filed August 9, 1894. Serial No. 519,809. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ROBERT WESLEY STUART MITCHELL and JOHN MURPHY, subjects of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Passaic, in the county of Passaic and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hemmers; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to that class of devices which are made use of to fold the edge or edges of fabrics whereby to form a hem or hems thereon, and is used either alone or in connection with any of the different forms of sewing machines; its object being to provide a device of this class, which, while simple and comparatively cheap in construction, shall at the same time fold the edge or edges of the fabric in an absolutely uniform manner.

To these ends, the invention consists in certain peculiarities of construction of the hemmer whereby the folding of the edge of the fabric is efficiently accomplished, all as will hereinafter more fully appear.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, Figure 1, is a rear perspective view of the attachment complete, looking from a point above and to one side of the point of operation of a sewing machine needle. Fig. 2, a similar view, but omitting a part of the attaching arm, and showing a piece of fabric in position of folding; and Fig. 3, an enlarged end view of the hemmer looking from the rear, and indicating the fabric by dotted lines.

In the several figures, like letters of reference are employed to designate corresponding parts.

A represents a supporting plate which is or may be provided with a slot or other suitable means whereby it may be secured to a sewing machine or other convenient support. To this plate, and separated from it by a depending lug or spacing piece, *a*, which serves as a guide for the edge of the fabric as it is passed through the hemmer, is secured the guide plate B. This plate is elongated or otherwise provided with an extension, *b*, which, in our

preferred form of construction, is preferably nearly as wide as the distance from the edge of the fabric to the fold or crease first given thereto, and has or may have its corners rounded to avoid catching in the meshes of the fabric. The end of this plate toward which the fabric travels, is preferably reduced in width and one edge is rounded or curved, as at *b'*, for the purpose hereinafter described.

The edge turner C consists of a plate of thin metal which is attached to the plate A and is bent over and under the edges of the plate B a slight distance therefrom, leaving a small space between the turner and such plate through which the fabric is passed as it is fed through the hemmer. The middle portion of the folder is preferably cut away, as at *c*, to form a slit by means of which the finger of the operator may obtain ready access to the fabric being hemmed to push it forward when the fabric is being inserted or otherwise, but this is not essential and may be omitted if so desired.

At the extreme rear end of the folder, or at that end from which the fabric emerges after having been folded, the metal is preferably cut away both above and below the plane of the plate B, as shown at *c'*, to receive the presser foot of the sewing machine, when the hemmer is used in connection therewith.

The side *c²* of the turner, which turns the edge of the fabric under plate B is flared, as at *c³*, said flaring portion extending partially over the rounded part *b'* of the plate B, so as to co-operate therewith in turning said edge of the fabric, while the side *c⁴* thereof which folds the fabric and creases it over the free edge of the plate B, is longer than the side *c²*, in order to obviate the tendency of the fabric to creep out of the proper line of fold and feed, and is preferably flared, as shown at *c⁵*.

In the use of our attachment, the fabric is laid under the extension *b* of the tongue B and carried laterally of the same until its edge abuts against the lug or block *a*, and then passed forward through the hemmer. As it thus passes forward, the flaring portion *c³* of the turner engages with the edge thereof and turns the same under the guide plate B, while

the portion b' of the latter in front of the rounded part keeps the fabric stretched outwardly with the proper tension to insure a smooth fold. At the same time that the edge of the fabric is being thus folded, the crease forming the other edge of the hem is being formed by the co-operation of the side c^4 c^5 of the turner, and the other side of the plate B.

When the attachment is used in connection with a sewing machine, it will be secured thereto in such relation to the stitching devices that the presser foot of the machine will preferably enter the cut-away portion c' of the turner, when the hem will be fed to such stitching devices by the feeding mechanism of the machine in proper position to receive the line of stitching therein. When, on the other hand, the attachment is used to form the folds of a hem without stitching the same, the hemmer will be secured to the sewing machine or other suitable support, or held in the hand, and the fabric, after having been passed over the plate B and through the turner C as above explained, may be drawn through the hemmer by the hand of the operator, or otherwise, while being so guided that the edge thereof which receives the fold is held in contact with the lug or block a .

As thus constructed and arranged, a hemmer is produced which may be used either alone or with a sewing machine, and which, while applicable to the hemming of different kinds of fabric and articles, is especially advantageous in the folding of handkerchiefs and other articles which are to be hemstitched with a given width of hem.

When employed in connection with sewing

machines, the means whereby the hemmer is secured thereto will of course be modified to suit it to the particular form of machine to which it is to be applied.

While in the foregoing we have described what we consider the best form of our invention, we wish it distinctly understood that we do not limit ourselves strictly thereto, as it is obvious that we may modify the same in various ways without departing from the spirit thereof.

Having now described our invention and specified certain of the ways in which it is or may be carried into effect, we claim—

1. A hemmer comprising in its construction the guide plate B, having one end extended with parallel edges, and having the other end provided with the curved portion b' , the edge turner C bent around said plate and having the side c^2 and flaring portion c^3 , to cooperate with the curved portion b' in turning the edge of the fabric, and the side c^4 opposite the side c^2 , substantially as described.

2. The combination with a guide plate B, and an edge turner C, bent around said plate whereby a space is formed between them for the passage of the fabric, of a supporting plate, A, to which such guide plate and edge turner are secured and a guide, a , for the edge of the fabric, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 7th day of August, 1894.

ROBERT WESLEY STUART MITCHELL,
JOHN MURPHY.

Witnesses:

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EDWARD LANNING.