J. B. RIVENBARK.

RIPPER FOR SEWING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 7, 1913.

1,067,550. Patented July 15, 1913.

Fig. 1.

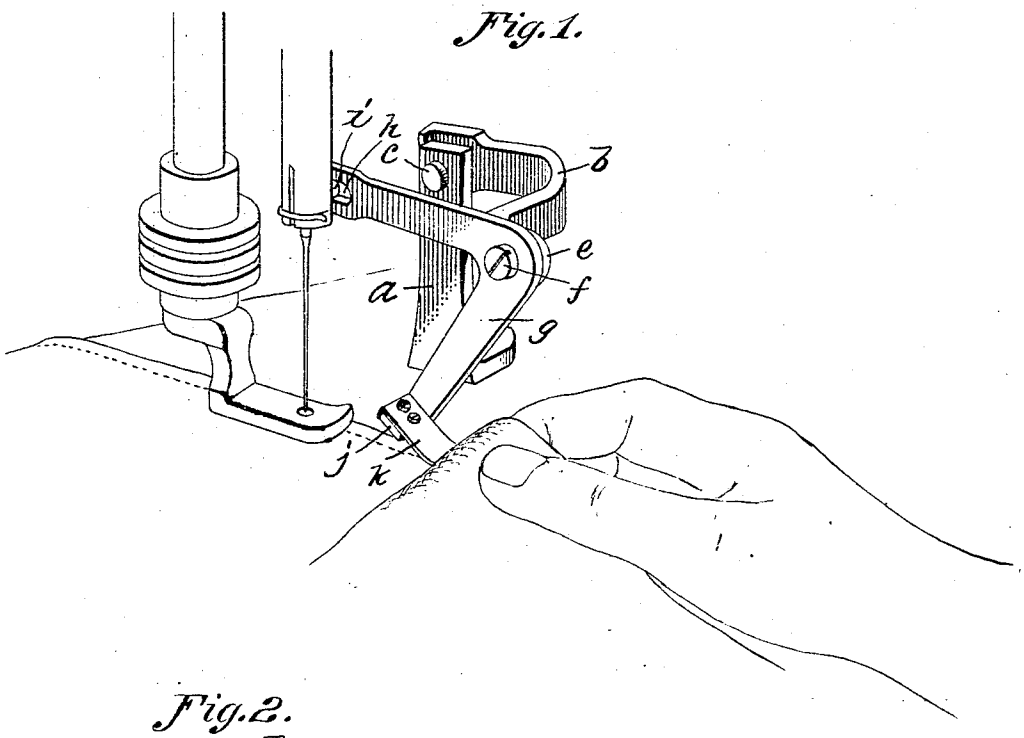
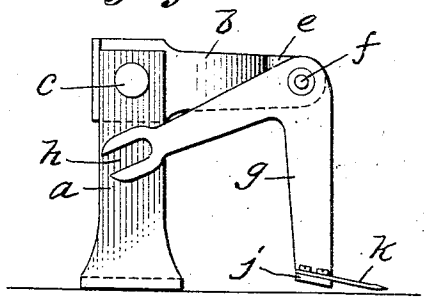


Fig. 2.



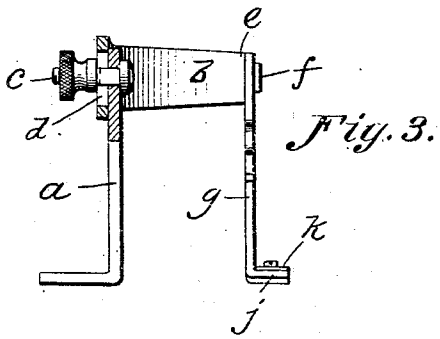
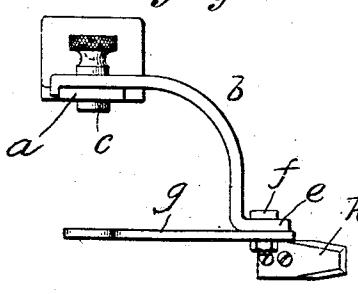


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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JULIA B. RIVENBARK, OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA.

RIPPER FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

1,067,550. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented July 15, 1913.**

Application filed January 7, 1913. Serial No. 740,674.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIA B. RIVENBARK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Norfolk, county of Norfolk, State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rippers for Sewing-Machines, of which the following is a full and clear specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my device applied to a sewing machine; Fig. 2 a side elevation thereof; Fig. 3 a vertical sectional view; and Fig. 4 a plan view of my improved device.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple attachment which may be readily attached and detached and which when in place on the machine will utilize the reciprocations of the needle bar for operating a ripper blade and also utilize the regular feed mechanism of the machine for drawing the seam to be ripped against the edge of the reciprocating ripper blade, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

In the drawing *a* designates a suitable standard adapted to be rigidly but detachably attached to the top of the sewing machine at one side of the needle bar. Mounted upon this standard is a bent arm *b*, the means for mounting this arm consisting of a suitable screw provided with a thumb-nut *c*, the arm being provided with a vertical slot *d* for the purpose of vertical adjustment of the arm *b*. At its free extremity the arm *b* is formed into a flat faced ear *e* and to one face of this ear is pivoted by means of a suitable screw pivot *f*, a bell crank lever *g*, one of whose arms depends toward the machine top and the other of whose arms extends rearwardly, toward the needle bar. The rearwardly extending arm is provided with an open slot *h* which is adapted to be engaged over the projecting head of the usual needle securing screw *i* of the needle bar. The depending arm of the bell crank has a lateral extending ear *j* upon the upper face of which is removably fastened the flat ripper blade *k* whose forward edge faces away from the needle bar and lies in a horizontal plane and works close to the machine top and is made very sharp. This blade is removable in order to permit blades of various sizes and kinds to be substituted and in order further to permit the blade to be removed and sharpened. It will be observed that the reciprocation of the needle bar causes a simultaneous reciprocation of the ripper blade and further that the usual feeding mechanism of the sewing machine draws the seam to be ripped against the edge of the ripper blade.

To start the ripping action it is necessary first to rip by hand a short distance of the seam so that the lower fabric may be started through the feed mechanism and the ripper blade will lie in the line of the seam to be ripped. It is preferred that the needle of the machine shall be removed during the ripping action.

The vertical adjustment permits the device to be adapted to various kinds of work.

It will be understood that this device is adapted to rip overlap seams and that the under ply passes under the presser-bar and ripper blade and that the upper ply is grasped by the thumb and finger of the operator.

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

1. A ripper attachment for sewing machines consisting of a standard or support, a laterally projecting arm mounted thereon, an angle lever pivotally mounted on said arm and having one of its arms adapted for engagement with the needle bar and the other of its arms provided with a ripper blade having a horizontal cutting edge, substantially as set forth.

2. A ripper attachment for sewing machines consisting of a supporting means, an angle lever pivotally mounted on said supporting means, the axis of its pivot being horizontal, one of the arms of said angle lever being adapted for connection to the needle bar and the other of its arms extending downwardly to near the sewing machine top and provided with a ripper blade having a horizontal cutting edge facing away from the needle bar.

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

JULIA B. RIVENBARK.

Witnesses:
ELLIOTTE E. MACKENZIE,
C. J. RIVENBARK.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."