L. TERRY.

THIMBLE.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1916.

1,263,002. Patented Apr. 16, 1918.

FIG. 1.

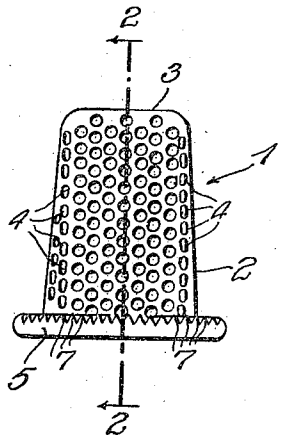


FIG. 4.

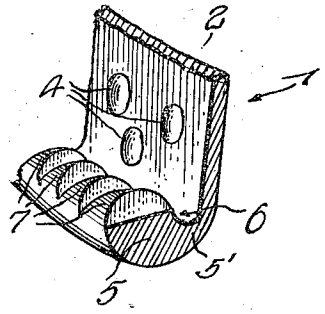


FIG. 2.

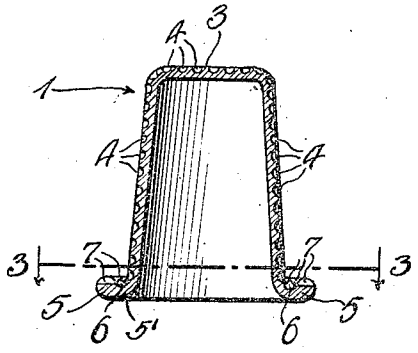
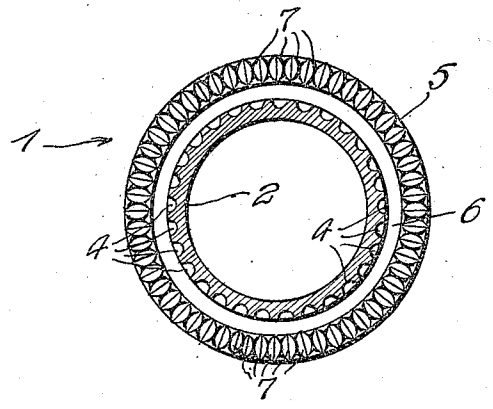


FIG. 3.



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THIMBLE.

1,263,002. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Apr. 16, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONORA TERRY, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Joseph, in the county of Buchanan and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thimbles; and I do 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.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in thimbles, and the primary object of the invention is to prevent the needle from slipping while being forced through an article of apparel, and furthermore to protect the operator's finger, embodying a guard around the open end of said thimble that will absolutely stop the needle.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which is easily and simply constructed, inexpensive to manufacture, and one which will be very efficient in operation.

With these and numerous other objects in view my invention consists of the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter referred to and more particularly pointed out in the specification and claim.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the thimble;

Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, and,

Fig. 4 is a detail perspective showing a portion of the rim.

In describing my invention I shall refer to the drawings in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which the numeral 1 represents a thimble which comprises a conical shell body 2 having a closed convexed end 3, and the outer circumference of the shell and closed end are provided with a plurality of closely spaced indentures 4, the purpose of which is obvious in thimbles of this character.

The conical shell 2 is provided at its open end with a laterally projecting rounded guard rim or bead 5 which projects outwardly from the open edge. This guard or rim 5 is spaced a considerable distance from the open end of the shell by an annular web 5′ integral with both and is rounded.

The guard 5, owing to the fact that it is positioned away from the adjacent portion of the lower end of the shell 2, forms between said shell and the same an annular groove 6 which is smooth and which is adapted to receive a needle should the same slip from the shell when it is being pushed through a piece of fabric. This annular groove 6 extends entirely around the shell and forms an adequate guard that will protect the wearer's finger and prevent the rear end of the needle from being forced from the thimble.

To prevent the rear end of the needle, when the same is forced into the groove of the guard, from slipping around the same owing to the fact that the surface of the groove is smooth, I have provided the upper edge of the rounded guard 5 with a plurality of closely spaced transversely extending notches 7 that extend across the same and which will stop the needle and prevent it from moving around the shell. This will form a quick and efficient stop which operates in coöperation with the guard to protect the operator's finger.

These notches are V-shaped with the upper edges of each notch merging into the upper edges of the adjacent notches to quickly guide the needle into one of said notches to stop the same.

It is to be further observed that the teeth 7 serve to prevent slippage of the needle from the thimble in case it is desired by the user to force the side of said thimble against the needle, rather than the end thereof. It may also be explained that generally when the needle slips from the end of the thimble and is caught by the guard, it will tilt laterally away from the thimble and will thus immediately engage the teeth in question so that further slippage will be prevented.

From the foregoing description of the construction and operation of my thimble, it will be seen that I have provided a simple and efficient thimble of this character which is well adapted to perform the functions for which it is used. The guard with the coöperating notches around its upper end forms a safe and secure protection for the operator's finger and prevents the needle from slipping from the thimble and being forced into the finger. The indentures 4 in the shell and closed end of the thimble

are of considerable depth and are so closely positioned together that immediately upon engagement with any portion of the outer circumference of the thimble, the needle will be positioned in one of the indentures and may be operated at once.

The annular groove 6 which extends around the open end of the thimble between the guard and the shell is of a corresponding depth to the depth of the indentures so that the same will operate in a like manner when the needle has been caught in one of the notches on the upper edge of the guard.

I claim:—

The combination with a sewing thimble, of a web extending outwardly from and completely surrounding the open end of said thimble, and a bead at the front side of said web extending throughout the circumference of its edge and joined integrally thereto, the front side of said bead having V-shaped transverse grooves whose ends open through the side of said bead adjacent the thimble and through the opposite or peripheral side of said bead.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LEONORA TERRY.

Witnesses:
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M. F. ANDREWS.

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