2 Sheets--Sheet 1.

J. HEWITT.

Smoothing and Fluting Irons and Holders.

No. 135,335. Patented Jan. 28, 1873.

Fig. 1.

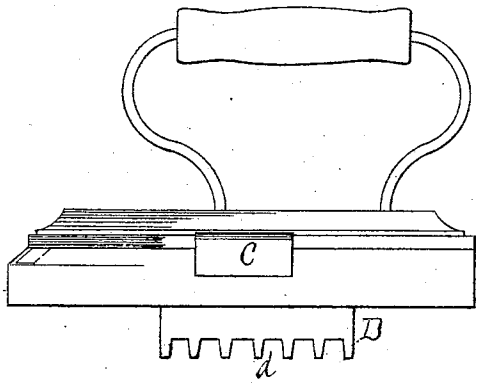


Fig. 2.

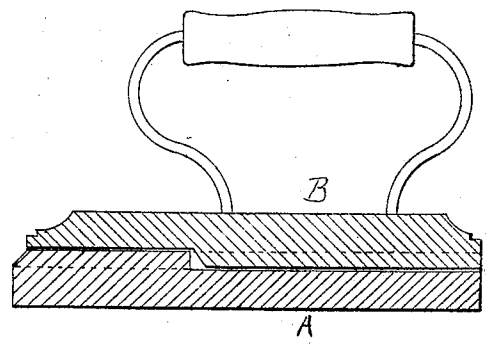


Fig. 3.

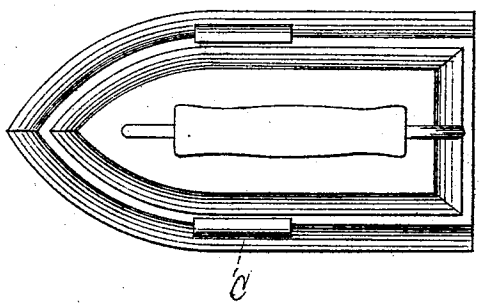


Fig. 4.

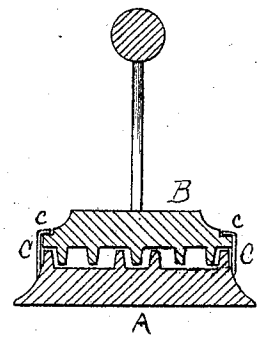


Fig. 5.

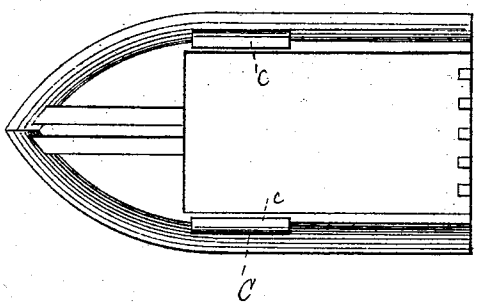


Fig. 6.

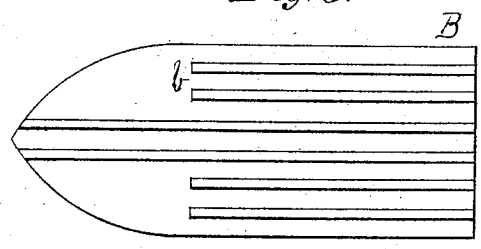
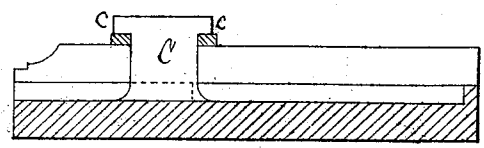


Fig. 7.



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2 Sheets--Sheet 2.

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Smoothing and Fluting Irons and Holders.

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Fig. 8.

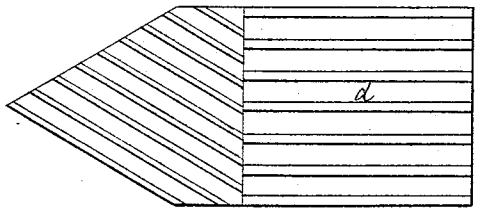


Fig. 9.

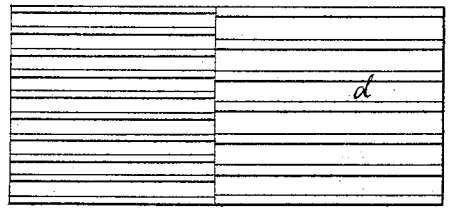


Fig. 10.

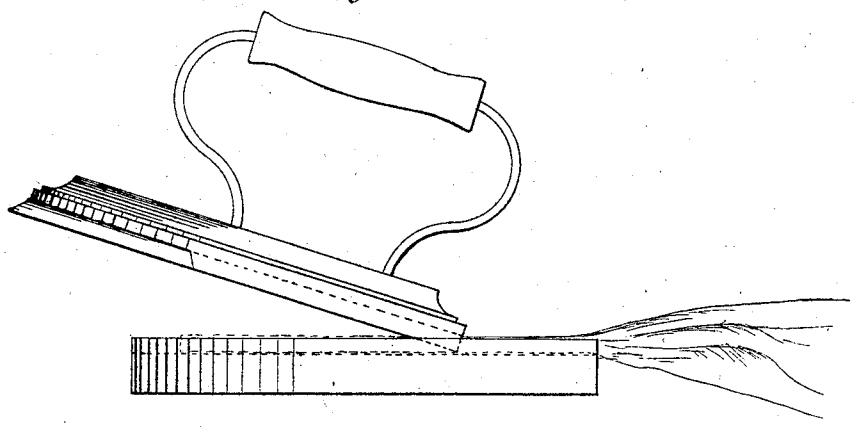
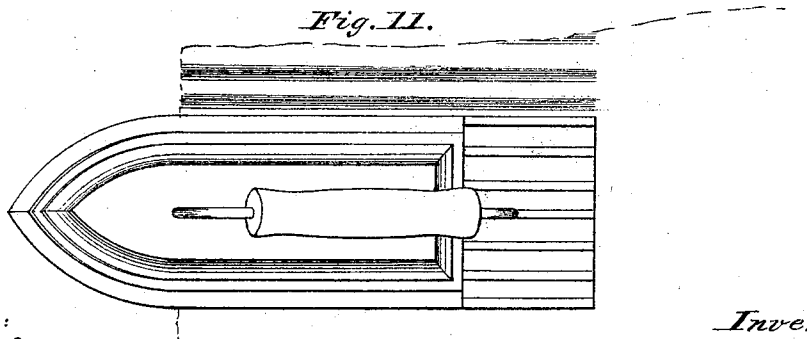


Fig. 11.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HEWITT, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SMOOTHING AND FLUTING IRONS AND HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **135,335**, dated January 28, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HEWITT, of the city and county of Albany and State of New York, have invented an Improved Sad-Iron Fluter and Holder, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and the letters of reference marked thereon making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the sad-iron resting on the independent plate. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view. Fig. 3 is a top view of the sad-iron. Fig. 4 is a rear view. Fig. 5 is a top view of the lower plate. Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the handle-plate. Fig. 7 is a longitudinal sectional view of the lower plate, showing another style of fastening. Figs. 8 and 9 are top views of the independent plate. Figs. 10 and 11 illustrate the handle-plate in the process of fluting.

My improvement consists in furnishing as a new article of manufacture a sad-iron and holder, which, combined, not only furnish an admirable smoothing-iron, but a most perfect and effective fluting-machine; and which combination can be furnished to the trade at a trifling cost in addition to the price of the ordinary smoothing-iron. My improvement consists in constructing the sad-iron in two sections, which are so connected by any suitable attachment as to permit of their being detached at pleasure. The lower face of the handle-plate is corrugated, and which, in connection with a corrugated-faced iron-holder, furnishes the fluting device; and which arrangement permits of the ironing of the ruffle, and by a movement precisely similar to that employed with the ordinary smoothing-iron. My improvement also consists in so elongating the center ribs on the face of the handle-plate that they shall extend throughout its entire length. This permits of the toe of said plate being used, in connection with the corrugated face of the iron-holder, to form a single ruffle, and which is frequently most desirable, especially when in ironing a corner or other like point is to be turned.

The construction and operation of my invention are as follows:

The sad-iron is of the ordinary form, and is constructed of any suitable material and in two distinct and independent sections—the sad-iron plate A and handle-plate B. These are connected by any suitable attachment, C, so as to form a complete sad-iron, care being taken that the attachment is such as to allow of the detachment of the handle-plate, so as to permit, when the sad-iron plate cools, of the ready disconnecting the handle-plate and the securing of the same on another of the series of sad-iron plates which I contemplate using in connection with a single handle-plate, B, and which secures, simply with the cost of the sad-iron plate itself, all the advantages of two, three, or more finished and complete smoothing-irons. Another equally important reason why the plates A B should not be permanently attached, but on the contrary so connected as to permit of the ready detachment of the plate B, is that, when I desire to flute, the plate B is to be used independent entirely of the sad-iron plate A, and which, of course, renders any such connection as a hinge-joint or other such attachment wholly impracticable; and, besides, a hinged joint or other such attachment, which would require a tongue or lip to project from the under face of the handle-plate B, would defeat entirely the chief object my invention is designed to accomplish, and which is to so utilize the corrugated faces *b* of the handle-plate with a corrugated face, *d*, of an iron-holder, D, as to iron the fluting in contradistinction to pressing, as is the general practice. Of course any projection on the under face of the plate B, for attachment or otherwise, would interrupt the forward and backward movement always necessary in all ironing processes.

In the drawing I have shown two methods of attachment—one illustrated at C, Figs. 1, 3, and 5, and the other at C, Fig. 7. The attachment in Figs. 1, 3, and 5 simply consists in providing by any suitable means the plate A with a clasp having clamping-jaws *c c*, under which the handle-plate B slides, and by which it is held in position and direct contact with the sad-iron plate A. The other attachment consists in casting in the sad-iron plate A a tongue, C, which passes up through a slot cast in one of the grooves in the handle-plate B, and which slot passes over the head of the tongue, and the plates are then fastened by any suitable catch passing under the shoulders *c c* of the tongue. This slot in the plate

B offers no obstruction to the ironing process, as hereinbefore referred to. The lower face of the handle-plate is corrugated throughout its entire width, from its heel to where the tapering of the toe commences, the two center ribs of the corrugations extending throughout its entire length, as clearly shown in Fig. 6. This permits of the toe-plate being used in connection with the corrugated holder D to form a single flute, and which is a great desideratum in devices of this character. The upper face of the sad-iron plate A is recessed at its center and corrugated at its ends simply to permit the plates to meet and to be properly secured together when the device is to be used as a sad-iron. D is an iron-holder, and is manufactured out of any suitable material, and is corrugated on one of its upper faces, as clearly shown at *d*, Figs. 1 and 9. These corrugations *d*, as they are to be used in connection with the corrugated face *b* of the plate B, must be a counterpart thereof, so that when the planes of the face of the iron-holder and plate are brought in contact their corrugated faces will mesh together, and which will permit of the ribs of the one passing or traveling freely through the grooves of the other, and which allows the necessary draw movement for the ironing process.

This iron-holder D may be provided with feet or any other attachment desired, provided, always, that the corrugated face remains undisturbed and unobstructed by any feature that would interfere with the free passage of the handle-plate over the same, as is necessary in ironing the flutes.

Instead of a single series of corrugations on the iron-holder, there may be a double set on the same plane, as shown in Fig. 9; or each face may be corrugated and the toe of the iron plate made to correspond, as clearly shown in Fig. 8.

The great advantage of having an iron-holder or independent plate to use in connection with the handle-plate in fluting is that, not being a permanent feature of the sad-iron during the process of ironing, it does not become unduly heated, so the instant you cease work with the smoothing-iron the fluting mechanism is ready for work, no cooling-time for any feature of the same being required. When the plate—that is, the base-plate, and which is the iron-holder in my arrangement—is heated, there is always more or less danger of it burning the material, as, the starched fabric when moistened being more or less gluey, it has the tendency when spread over the ribs to stick, and consequently scorch or tear.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The handle-plate B, corrugated so that its center ribs extend throughout its entire length to permit of the toe of said plate being used to iron a single flute.

2. An iron consisting of the sad-iron plate A and corrugated-faced handle-plate B, when said plates are so connected as to allow of their ready detachment to permit of the corrugated handle-plate being used in connection with the corrugated face *d* of the iron-holder D for ironing fluting, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN HEWITT.

Witnesses:
EDWIN JAMES,
JOHN BROWN.