J. H. ROCK & E. E. FREECE.

CLOTH HOLDING DEVICE FOR CUTTING TABLES.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 16, 1915.

1,183,674. Patented May 16, 1916.

Fig. 1.

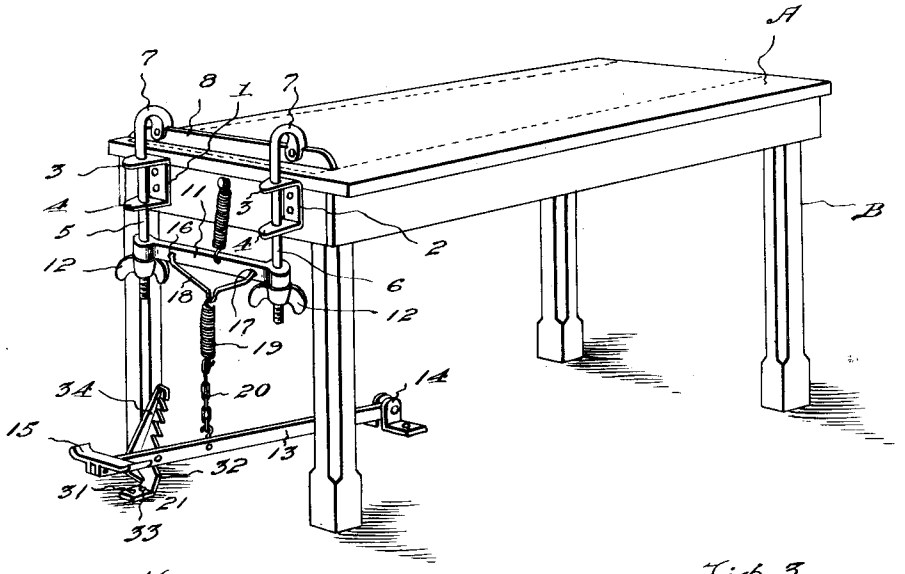


Fig. 2.

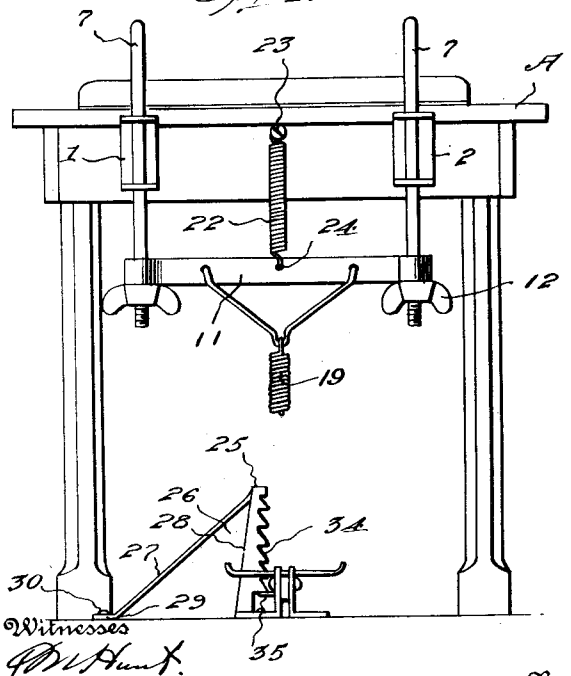


Fig. 3.

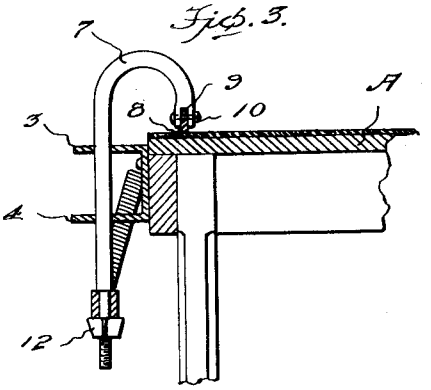
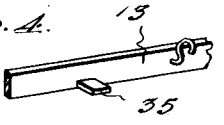


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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CLOTH-HOLDING DEVICE FOR CUTTING-TABLES.

1,183,674. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented May 16, 1916.

Application filed June 16, 1915. Serial No. 34,481.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN H. ROCK and ERNEST E. FREECE, citizens of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Fulton and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cloth-Holding Devices for Cutting-Tables; 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.

The general object of this invention is to insure the positive holding of one end of a bolt of cloth, while the cloth is being spread on the cutting table; also to admit of the expeditious removal of the holding means after the cloth has been spread, so as to permit of the cloth being cut in such a manner that there will be no waste; and to this end the invention consists in the provision of a pair of guides adapted for attachment to one side of the table, and a pair of vertically sliding rods arranged within the guides and having their upper ends provided with a clamping bar which is adapted, when the rods are moved downwardly to engage the cloth and clamp the same against the table top, and operating means adjustably connected to the vertically sliding rods.

Other objects will appear and be better understood from that embodiment of our invention of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part thereof, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the cutting table showing the clamping device attached thereto. Fig. 2 is an end view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a detail view, showing the manner in which the clamping bar is secured to the vertically sliding rod. Fig. 4 is a detail view of an operating lever for operating the vertically sliding rod.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the letter *a* designates the top of an ordinary cutting table and *b* the supporting legs therefor. The cloth clamping device comprises a pair of brackets 1 and 2, located at one end of the table and secured thereto and positioned in spaced relation with each other. The opposite ends of the brackets are bent and extended outwardly to provide ears 3 and 4, on each bracket. The ears are provided with alined openings through which extend vertical rods 5 and 6, each rod having its upper end extending above the table top and curved and bent downwardly in the direction of the table top, as shown at 7. The terminals of the downwardly bent ends 7—7 of the rods are bifurcated and positioned within the bifurcations is a horizontally disposed clamping bar 8, which bar is held by means of headed bolts 9—9 which extend through the respective ends 7—7 of the rods 5 and 6 and have their terminals threaded for the reception of nuts 10—10. The lower ends of the vertically sliding rods 5 and 6 are disposed a considerable distance below the lower ears 4—4 of the brackets and are threaded, and mounted on the lower ends of the rods 5 and 6 is a transversely connecting bar 11, the said bar fitting against the shoulder 11′ formed on the rods 5 and 6, adjacent the lower ends thereof so as to limit the upward movement of the bar 11. The bar 11 is adapted to be adjusted vertically on the rods 5 and 6 and is held in various adjusted positions by means of winged nuts 12, which are threadably received by the threaded lower ends of the rods 5 and 6.

Located beneath the cutting table is an operating lever 13, one end of the lever being pivoted beneath the table as at 14 and its opposite end extending between the supporting legs at the clamping end of the table and projecting a distance therebeyond and provided with a treadle piece 15. The bar 11 is provided with spaced openings 16 and 17, and secured within the openings 16 and 17 are the free terminals of the sides of a V-shaped member 18, the said V-shaped member 18 having its bight portion disposed below the said bar 11 and connected to one end of a contractile helical spring 19. The opposite end of the spring 19 has connection with one end of a chain 20, the opposite end of the chain being detachably connected to a hook 21 carried by the operating lever 13.

From the structure so far described, it will be seen that when the operating lever is depressed the rods 5 and 6 will be drawn downwardly resulting in the clamping bar 8 clamping the goods which has been previously placed thereunder so that the goods will be held from movement during the cutting operation.

In order to return the rods 5 and 6 to their normal positions when the operating lever

13 is released, a contractile spring 22 is provided. This spring 22 has one end connected to a pin 23 carried by the adjacent end of the cutting table, and its opposite end to the bar 11 as shown at 24.

In order to hold the clamping bar in clamping position, a rack bar 25 is provided. This rack is formed from a substantially triangular piece of metal and slitted as at 26 to provide the arms 27 and 28. The arm 27 has its lower end extended laterally as at 29, and said lateral terminal is adapted to rest upon the floor or other supporting surface, and to be secured thereto by means of fastening element 30. The arm 28 has its end slitted to provide the opposite extending flanges 31 and 32, which flanges, like the lateral extending terminal 29 of the arm 27, rest upon the floor or other supporting surface and are secured thereto by means of the fastening element 33. The outer edge of the arm 28 is formed to provide the rack teeth 34 and these teeth are adapted to be engaged by a laterally extending lug 35 carried by the operating lever 13. When the lever 13 is depressed far enough to cause the clamping bar 8 to press against the cloth on the top of the table, the laterally extending lug 35 is engaged in one of the teeth or notches 34, thereby holding the lever against upward movement and the springs 19 and 22 under tension. In this connection, it is stated that the operating lever is adapted to be so mounted at its pivoted end that the said lever will be permitted to be moved laterally from the vertical plane in which it travels so that the lever can readily be moved into engagement with the teeth 34 or disengaged therefrom. As before stated, when the lever is depressed, the springs will be expanded, so that when the lever is released from the rack teeth 34, the said springs will return the lever and rods 5 and 6 to their normal position thereby releasing the clamping bar 8 from engagement with the cloth.

By virtue of the vertical adjustment of the bar 11, the operating end of the lever 13 can be raised and held at various heights so as to accommodate various heights of tables. After the desired amount of cloth has been spread or straightened on the table, the nuts 12 are removed from the lower ends of the rods 5 and 6, and the spring 22 detached from the pin 23, thereby allowing the rods and the clamping bar 8 to be removed from the table, so that the cloth can be cut or trimmed close to the edge of the table, so that there will be no waste of the cloth. By removing the nuts 10 from the bolts 9, the clamping bar can be removed and a bar either of lesser or greater length can be substituted therefor.

Having thus described our invention what we claim as new is:—

The combination with a cloth cutting table having vertically sliding clamping bar supporting rods thereon, a horizontal bar carried by the lower ends of the supporting rods and adjustable thereon, an operating lever disposed below the table, a V-shaped member depending from the horizontal bar, a vertically disposed spring having one end connected to the V-shaped member, and a chain disposed below the spring and having one end connected to the spring and the other end connected to the operating lever.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. ROCK.
ERNEST E. FREECE.

Witnesses:
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W. F. MOORE.